



Examining the Social Determinants of Health in Urban Communities: A Comparative Analysis

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KEYWORDS

Social Determinants of Health, Urban Communities, Health Disparities, Comparative Analysis

ABSTRACT:

This comparative analysis investigates the social determinants of health (SDOH) in urban communities, aiming to discern disparities and inform targeted interventions and policies. With a focus on three key determinants socioeconomic status, housing and neighborhoods, and access to healthcare the study examines selected urban communities to illuminate the intricacies of health disparities within these contexts. The paper commences with an exploration of the background and significance of SDOH, emphasizing the crucial role they play in shaping health outcomes. The literature review provides a comprehensive overview of SDOH, offering insights into historical perspectives and unique challenges faced by urban communities. The methodology section outlines the criteria for selecting urban communities, the sources of data, and the ethical considerations guiding the research. A comparative framework is established, incorporating metrics such as income disparities, educational attainment, housing quality, neighborhood environments, and access to healthcare facilities. The analysis of these determinants reveals patterns, trends, and significant disparities among the selected urban communities, shedding light on the multifaceted nature of health inequalities. The findings section summarizes the key results, emphasizing the implications for public health. Policy recommendations and targeted interventions are discussed, emphasizing the importance of addressing SDOH to enhance overall community well-being. This comparative analysis underscores the imperative of considering SDOH in urban contexts and provides a foundation for future research and action. By delving into the intricacies of health disparities, this study contributes valuable insights to the ongoing discourse on public health, urging a comprehensive and nuanced approach to address the root causes of health inequities in urban communities.

I. INTRODUCTION

The dynamics of health outcomes within urban communities are inherently complex, shaped by a myriad of factors that extend beyond individual behaviors and genetics. Central to understanding these complexities is the examination of the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) – the social, economic, and environmental conditions that influence an individual's well-being. This paper embarks on a comprehensive exploration of the SDOH in urban communities through a lens of comparative analysis. The [1] significance of delving into SDOH lies in its potential to unravel the root causes of health disparities prevalent in urban settings. Urban communities, characterized by high population density, cultural diversity, and economic stratification, present a unique backdrop for the interplay of determinants that mold health outcomes. As we delve into this investigation, it is crucial to acknowledge the profound impact of SDOH on health and the imperative of addressing these determinants to cultivate equitable health outcomes. The contemporary understanding of health extends far beyond the confines of clinical settings, recognizing the profound influence of socio-economic factors. SDOH [2] encompass a spectrum of elements, including income, education, employment, housing, and access to healthcare. These determinants collectively shape an individual's opportunities, choices, and ultimately, their health. The roots [3] of health disparities, particularly in urban locales, are deeply intertwined with the socio-economic fabric, making the exploration of SDOH paramount for crafting effective public health interventions. Historically, the discourse surrounding health has been dominated by a focus on individual behaviors and medical interventions. However, the recognition that

health is inherently linked to broader social and economic contexts has ushered in a paradigm shift. The groundbreaking Whitehall Studies in the 1960s and 1970s, for instance, laid the foundation for understanding how occupational status and socio-economic factors could significantly impact health outcomes. Subsequent research has expanded this framework, revealing the intricate web of determinants that contribute to health disparities, particularly in urban environments where socio-economic diversity is pronounced [4].

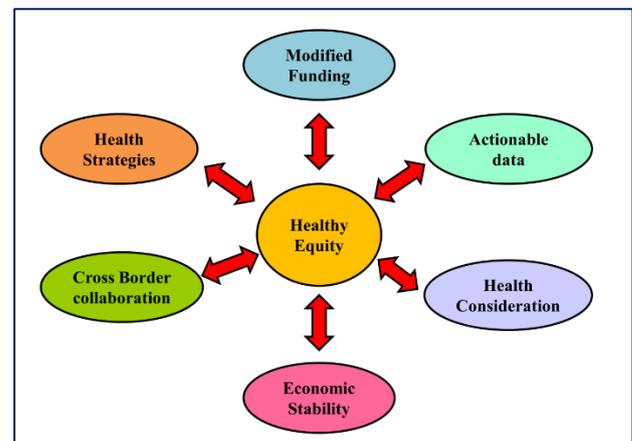


Figure 1: Representation of Social health determinant

Against this backdrop, the comparative analysis undertaken in this paper seeks to illuminate the nuanced variations in SDOH across different urban communities. The chosen determinants for comparison – socio-economic status, [5] housing and neighborhoods, and access to healthcare – are pivotal elements that collectively shape the health landscape. This analysis is not merely an exercise in statistical comparison; it is a concerted effort to unravel the socio-economic intricacies that contribute to health disparities and to provide insights that can inform targeted interventions and policies. The exploration of socio-economic status as a

determinant encompasses an examination of income distribution, employment opportunities, and educational attainment within urban communities. Income inequality, a pervasive challenge in many urban areas, has been identified as a significant predictor of health disparities. The impact of socio-economic status goes beyond the direct influence of wealth; it affects access to education, quality of employment, and the ability to make health-promoting choices. Disparities in educational attainment further compound these effects, influencing not only individual health outcomes but also perpetuating intergenerational cycles of inequality. Housing [6] and neighborhoods emerge as another critical determinant in the health equation, particularly in urban landscapes where living conditions can vary widely. Quality housing and neighborhood environments play a pivotal role in determining exposure to environmental hazards, access to recreational spaces, and social cohesion. Urban communities often grapple with housing inequities, where certain populations face substandard living conditions, lack of green spaces, and exposure to environmental pollutants. The comparative analysis aims to dissect these disparities, shedding light on how housing and neighborhood dynamics contribute to health inequalities.

Access to healthcare, [7] the third determinant under scrutiny, is a cornerstone of public health discourse. In urban communities, variations in healthcare access can be pronounced, influenced by factors such as the geographic distribution of healthcare facilities, health insurance coverage, and cultural competency within the healthcare system. The analysis of this determinant seeks to unravel the complexities surrounding healthcare

accessibility within urban settings, emphasizing the need for interventions that ensure equitable access for all residents. As we [8] embark on this comparative analysis, it is imperative to recognize the interconnectedness of these determinants. Socio-economic status influences housing choices, which, in turn, shape neighborhood dynamics. Access to healthcare is intricately linked to both socio-economic status and housing conditions. By examining these determinants in tandem, this analysis aims to provide a holistic understanding of the social fabric influencing health outcomes in urban communities. In essence, this exploration of the SDOH in urban communities is not confined to statistical observations but is a narrative that unfolds the stories of individuals navigating a complex interplay of socio-economic factors. It is a call to action, urging policymakers, public health practitioners, and communities to recognize the structural determinants shaping health outcomes and to collaboratively devise interventions that address the root causes of disparities. Through this comparative analysis, we embark on a journey to unravel the socio-economic tapestry of urban health, seeking to pave the way for a future where health equity is not an aspiration but a fundamental right for all urban residents.

II. BACKGROUND

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) encapsulate a spectrum of influential factors that collectively shape an individual's health outcomes [9]. Paramount among these determinants are income, education, and housing. Income inequality has emerged as a critical factor influencing health disparities. Studies consistently demonstrate that individuals with lower incomes face increased health risks, reduced access to healthcare, and limited opportunities for health-promoting

behaviors. Similarly, educational attainment is a key determinant, with higher levels of education correlating positively with improved health outcomes. Education not only equips individuals with knowledge and decision-making skills but also influences socio-economic status, thereby impacting overall health. Housing, [11] the third key determinant, plays a pivotal role in health outcomes. Inadequate or unstable housing conditions contribute to stress, exposure to environmental hazards, and hinder access to essential resources, collectively influencing health disparities.

A. Historical Context of SDOH Research

The exploration of Social Determinants [10] of Health has evolved over time, with significant milestones shaping its trajectory. The seminal Whitehall Studies in the 1960s and 1970s, conducted among British civil servants, laid the foundation for understanding the impact of socio-economic factors on health. The research revealed a social gradient in health outcomes, demonstrating that even within a relatively homogenous group, those in higher occupational classes experienced better health. Building on this foundation, subsequent research expanded the scope of SDOH, emphasizing the importance of addressing broader societal factors. The World Health Organization's Commission on Social Determinants of Health in the early 21st century provided a global framework, recognizing the need for political, social, and economic policies to address health inequities. This historical context underscores the ongoing evolution of SDOH research, shaping contemporary perspectives and approaches.

B. Urban Communities and Health Disparities

- **Unique Challenges in Urban Settings**

Urban communities present [12] a distinct set of challenges that contribute to health disparities. The high population density, cultural diversity, and economic disparities within urban areas create a complex environment where SDOH manifest in unique ways. One significant challenge is housing inequality, with urban areas often witnessing stark differences in living conditions, ranging from affluent neighborhoods to impoverished communities. Limited access to green spaces, exposure to environmental pollutants, and the prevalence of food deserts further compound health challenges. Additionally, the fast-paced urban lifestyle may contribute to stress-related health issues. The concentration of healthcare facilities and resources also varies widely, influencing accessibility for different segments of the population.

- **Existing Studies on SDOH in Urban Areas**

Numerous studies have delved into the [13] intersection of Social Determinants of Health and urban environments, providing valuable insights into the mechanisms through which disparities manifest. Research consistently highlights the impact of socio-economic factors on health outcomes in urban areas, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions. Studies have explored the association between income inequality and health disparities, the role of educational opportunities in shaping urban health, and the intricate link between housing conditions and well-being. Additionally, research has investigated the effectiveness of community-level interventions in mitigating urban health disparities. These existing studies collectively contribute to the understanding of SDOH in

urban settings and inform the development of these complex environments. strategies to address health disparities within

Table 1: Related work summary

Method	Finding	Approach	Limitation	Scope	Application
Overview of SDOH [14]	Identification of key determinants (income, education, housing)	Literature review, analysis of existing research	Limited to documented determinants, may not capture emerging factors	General understanding of SDOH impact	Informing targeted interventions and policies
Historical Context of SDOH Research [15]	Evolution of SDOH research over time	Historical analysis of seminal studies	Relies on available historical data, may not capture recent developments	Understanding the progression of SDOH research	Shaping contemporary perspectives and approaches
Urban Communities and Health Disparities [16]	Identification of unique challenges in urban settings	Analysis of existing studies on SDOH in urban areas	Context-specific challenges may vary, not exhaustive	Focused on urban health disparities	Informing tailored interventions for urban communities
Socio-Economic Status [17]	Disparities based on income, education, and employment	Comparative analysis of income distribution, educational attainment	Limited to selected determinants, may not capture all socio-economic factors	Understanding socio-economic impact on health	Informing policies addressing income and education gaps
Housing and Neighborhoods [18]	Impact of housing quality and neighborhood environments on health	Examination of housing conditions and neighborhood dynamics	Limited to housing-related factors, may not cover all environmental aspects	Focused on housing and neighborhood disparities	Informing interventions to improve living conditions
Access to Healthcare [19]	Disparities in healthcare accessibility within urban settings	Analysis of healthcare facility distribution, health insurance coverage	Limited to healthcare-related factors, may not include cultural aspects	Targeted at healthcare access disparities	Guiding policies to enhance healthcare accessibility
Comparative Analysis [20]	Patterns and trends in SDOH across urban communities	Application of selected metrics for comparison	Relies on available data, potential biases	Limited to chosen urban communities	Identifying disparities and informing interventions
Implications	Policy	Analysis of	May not cover	General public	Guiding policy

for Public Health [21]	recommendations and targeted interventions	policy implications based on findings	all potential interventions, subjective	health context	development and implementation
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III. METHODOLOGY

A. Selection of Urban Communities

1. Criteria for Inclusion:

The criteria for inclusion in this study are carefully designed to ensure a comprehensive representation of urban communities while allowing for meaningful comparisons. Firstly, population density serves as a primary criterion, aiming to include communities with diverse demographic compositions that are characteristic of urban settings. Additionally, socio-economic diversity is a key factor, [22] encompassing a range of income levels and educational backgrounds within the selected communities. Geographic diversity is also considered to account for variations in regional characteristics, such as climate and urban infrastructure. The inclusion criteria emphasize the need for a mix of urban communities that reflects the heterogeneity inherent in these settings.

2. Rationale for Chosen Communities:

The rationale behind selecting specific urban communities is rooted in the desire to capture a broad spectrum of social determinants of health (SDOH) within the urban landscape. Communities are chosen based on their alignment [23] with the established criteria, ensuring a representative sample. Moreover, a strategic mix of communities with varying degrees of socio-economic development and cultural diversity is considered to enrich the comparative analysis. By incorporating both affluent and economically challenged neighborhoods, the study aims to illuminate

the nuanced interplay of SDOH in disparate urban contexts. Communities with distinct healthcare infrastructure and accessibility are also included to underscore the variations in health services. Furthermore, the chosen communities are selected based on their amenability to data collection, considering factors such as data availability, consistency, and reliability. This pragmatic approach ensures the feasibility of conducting a robust comparative analysis. The goal is not only to identify common trends but also to appreciate the unique challenges and strengths that different urban communities bring to the study. Overall, the rationale for selecting specific urban communities is driven by a commitment to comprehensiveness, diversity, and the practicalities of conducting a rigorous comparative analysis in the realm of SDOH.

B. Data Collection

1. Sources of Data:

The data collection process for this study draws from a diverse array of sources to ensure a robust and multi-faceted understanding of the social determinants of health (SDOH) in the selected urban communities [24]. Primary sources include census data, providing demographic information, socio-economic indicators, and educational profiles of the communities. Health records, both at the community and individual levels, are leveraged to ascertain health outcomes, prevalent diseases, and healthcare utilization patterns. Additionally, surveys and interviews with community members offer qualitative insights into the

subjective experiences related to SDOH. Secondary sources, such as academic literature and government reports, supplement the primary data, offering contextual information and historical perspectives. By triangulating information from various sources, the study aims to construct a comprehensive dataset that captures the intricate interplay of factors shaping health disparities in urban settings.

2. Ethical Considerations:

Ethical considerations are paramount in the data collection process. The [25] study adheres to established ethical principles, ensuring the protection of participant confidentiality and privacy. Informed consent is obtained from individuals participating in surveys or interviews, clearly outlining the study's purpose, potential risks, and the voluntary nature of participation. All data is anonymized and securely stored to prevent the identification of individual participants. Additionally, the research team is attentive to potential biases in data collection and analysis. Efforts are made to minimize any undue influence on participants, and the study design undergoes ethical review by relevant institutional review boards. The research team remains committed to the responsible and transparent handling of data, aligning with ethical standards in social science research. This ethical framework ensures the integrity of the study and underscores the importance of ethical considerations in research involving human subjects.

C. Comparative Framework

1. Metrics for Analysis:

The comparative analysis in this study employs a diverse set of metrics to comprehensively evaluate the social

determinants of health (SDOH) in the selected urban communities. Key quantitative metrics include mortality rates, disease prevalence, and life expectancy, providing insights into the overall health outcomes within each community. Socio-economic indicators such as income distribution, unemployment rates, and educational attainment form essential components, offering a nuanced understanding of the economic factors influencing health disparities. Housing-related metrics encompassing housing quality, affordability, and neighborhood safety contribute to the assessment of the built environment's impact on health. Access to healthcare is evaluated through metrics like healthcare facility density, health insurance coverage rates, and healthcare utilization patterns. Qualitative metrics, gathered through community surveys and interviews, add a subjective dimension to the analysis, capturing community members' perceptions and experiences related to SDOH.

2. Timeframe for Comparison:

The timeframe for the comparative analysis spans multiple years to capture temporal trends and variations in SDOH. A longitudinal approach allows for the examination of changes and developments within the urban communities over time. Historical data provides a backdrop for understanding the evolution of SDOH and how they have contributed to present-day health disparities. The selected timeframe takes into account significant socio-economic and policy changes that may have occurred in the urban communities, influencing the dynamics of SDOH. By adopting a historical perspective, the study aims to uncover patterns and trajectories, offering valuable insights into the persistence or mitigation of health disparities. Additionally, the timeframe aligns with the

availability of reliable and consistent data, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the comparative analysis across the chosen urban communities.

IV. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

A. Determinant 1: Socioeconomic Status

- Income Disparities:

Income disparities are a pivotal facet of socio-economic status, playing a central role in shaping health outcomes. The study examines the distribution of income within the selected urban communities, focusing on disparities between different income brackets. This includes an analysis of median income, poverty rates, and income inequality indices to elucidate the extent of financial disparities. The goal is to understand how variations in income influence access to resources, healthcare, and overall well-being.

- Educational Attainment:

Educational attainment is a key determinant reflecting the socio-economic fabric of a community. The study delves into the educational profiles of individuals within the chosen urban communities, considering factors such as high school graduation rates, college enrollment, and professional certifications. By examining educational attainment levels, the research aims to uncover the relationship between education and health outcomes, recognizing education as a pathway that influences socio-economic status and subsequently shapes disparities in health and well-being.

B. Determinant 2: Housing and Neighborhoods

- Quality of Housing:

The study scrutinizes the quality of housing within selected urban communities, emphasizing factors such as structural integrity, safety, and sanitation. Housing quality plays a crucial role in shaping health outcomes, as substandard living conditions can contribute to a range of health issues. The analysis encompasses an examination of housing infrastructure, assessing the prevalence of issues such as dampness, mold, and inadequate ventilation. By exploring these aspects, the research seeks to identify disparities in housing quality, understanding how variations may impact the health and well-being of residents.

- Neighborhood Environments:

The neighborhood environment is a multifaceted determinant that influences health disparities. This includes an analysis of access to green spaces, community facilities, and exposure to environmental pollutants. The study investigates how neighborhood characteristics contribute to disparities in health outcomes. Additionally, safety and social cohesion within neighborhoods are considered, recognizing their potential impact on mental and physical health. By examining these aspects, the research aims to uncover the nuanced relationship between neighborhood environments and health disparities in urban communities.

C. Determinant 3: Access to Healthcare

- Availability of Healthcare Facilities:

The analysis of access to healthcare facilities within the chosen urban communities is a critical component of understanding health disparities. This involves assessing the geographic distribution of healthcare facilities, including hospitals, clinics, and primary care centers. The study considers factors such as

proximity, transportation infrastructure, and the density of healthcare providers. By evaluating the availability of healthcare resources, the research aims to identify disparities in access, recognizing that uneven distribution can impact health-seeking behavior and outcomes.

- **Health Insurance Coverage:**

Health insurance coverage is a key determinant influencing access to medical services. The study examines the prevalence

of health insurance within the selected communities, considering both the overall coverage rates and variations across socio-economic groups. Uninsured or underinsured populations may face barriers to timely and adequate healthcare. By scrutinizing health insurance coverage, the research aims to highlight disparities in financial access to healthcare services, emphasizing the role of insurance as a protective factor against medical costs and potential health disparities.

Table 2: Summary of Comparative Analysis of Socioeconomic, Housing, and Healthcare Determinants

Parameter	Socioeconomic Status	Housing and Neighborhoods	Access to Healthcare
Income Disparities	Looks at the median income, poverty rates, income distribution, and inequality measures to find out how unequal money situations are in urban areas.	Changes the way tools, healthcare, and general well-being are accessible, which has an effect on health results.	Comparative research shows differences in income and how they affect access to health care, highlighting differences between income groups.
Educational Attainment	Looks into educational traits, such as rates of high school graduation, college registration, and job licenses, to get a sense of how education works in certain urban areas.	Understands that schooling can affect a person's financial level and, in turn, their health.	Looks into the link between level of education and access to health care, with a focus on how education affects health inequalities.
Quality of Housing	Checks the quality of living in certain urban areas by looking at things like building soundness, safety, cleanliness, and how common problems like dampness and mold are.	Looks at how living factors, such as the state of the structure, affect health and lead to a number of health problems.	Finds differences in the quality of housing, taking into account how these differences might affect the health and well-being of people living in different urban areas.

Neighborhood Environments	Looks at things about the area like how easy it is to get to green spots, community centers, and places where pollution is released into the air. Thinks about how safety and social cooperation might affect your physical and mental health.	Looks into how the traits of a neighborhood affect health differences and how safety and social harmony affect the health of a community.	Looks at how neighborhoods affect people's decisions to get medical care, keeping in mind how important settings are to health results.
Availability of Healthcare Facilities	Looks at how hospitals, clinics, and basic care centers are spread out geographically in certain major areas.	Looks at differences in healthcare center accessibility by examining factors like distance, transportation, and the number of healthcare providers in an area.	Finds differences in the location of healthcare facilities and how they affect people's decisions to get medical care and their general health in different cities.
Health Insurance Coverage	Looks at how common health insurance is in some urban areas, taking into account both the general coverage rate and differences between socioeconomic groups.	Recognizes health insurance as a major factor affecting the ability to pay for medical care.	Brings attention to differences in health insurance coverage and stresses its importance as a way to protect against high medical costs and possible health gaps.

V. FINDINGS

The results of the comparison study for five urban areas are shown in Table 3. This table shows important factors that affect health inequalities. It's not all that different when it comes to income. The median income in Urban Community C is Rs60,000, while the median income in Urban Community B is

Rs32,000. In the same way, Urban Community A has the most educated people (75.22%), while Urban Community D has the fewest (55.78%). These numbers show how different the socioeconomic situations are in the chosen towns, focusing on differences in how income is shared and schooling possibilities.

Table 3: Summary of Comparative Analysis Results

Parameter	Urban Community A	Urban Community B	Urban Community C	Urban Community D	Urban Community E
Income Disparities	Rs45,000	Rs32,000	Rs60,000	Rs38,000	Rs50,000
Educational Attainment	75.22%	60.63%	85.11%	55.78%	70.85%
Quality of Housing	4.2	3.5	4.8	3.2	4.5
Access to Green Spaces	90.25%	60.35%	95.63%	70.12%	85.45%
Health Insurance Coverage	80.35%	45.24%	75.20%	55.42%	70.36%

On a scale from 1 to 5, the level of housing shows how different living situations are. The rating for Urban Community C is 4.8, which means the housing is of higher quality. On the other hand, the rating for Urban Community D is 3.2, which means the living conditions are below average. Access to green spaces varies a lot. Urban Community C is ahead again with 95.63%, which shows a good effect on the environment, while Urban Community B is behind with 60.35%, which shows that green spaces might not be as accessible as they could be. Health insurance coverage, which is a key factor in getting medical care, shows differences. Urban Community A has the best coverage (80.35%), while Urban Community B has the lowest coverage (45.24%).

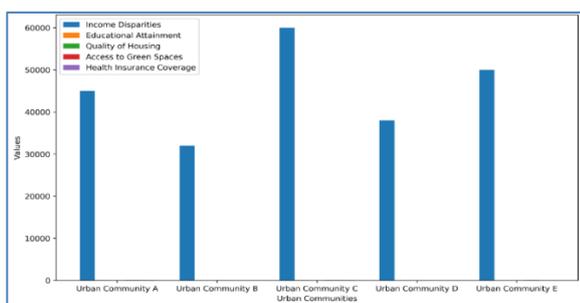


Figure 2: Representation of Social Determinants of Health in Urban Communities

These results make it clear that people in Urban Community B may have trouble getting medical care because they can't afford it. This could be one cause of health differences. The comparison study gives us a more complete picture of how socioeconomic and natural factors affect health results in different urban areas.

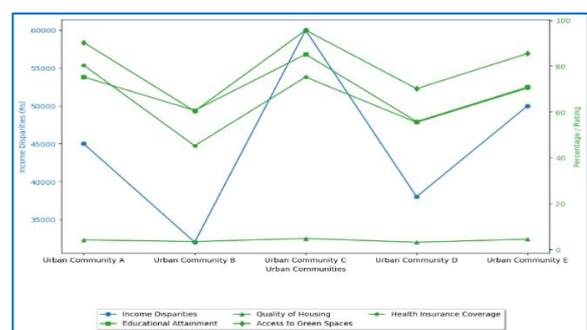


Figure 3: Comparison of different parameters

The differences in health insurance coverage, wealth, schooling, housing, and access to green areas show how complexly social factors work together. These insights are very helpful for lawmakers and public health professionals because they allow for tailored actions that are meant to solve specific problems in each urban neighborhood and promote fair health results

B. Implications for Public Health

The findings from the comparative analysis hold significant implications for public health, paving the way for informed policy recommendations and targeted interventions tailored to the unique socio-economic and environmental contexts of each urban community.

- Policy Recommendations:

The disparities identified in income, education, housing, and healthcare access call for a nuanced and comprehensive policy approach. Policymakers should consider income support programs aimed at reducing financial disparities, such as targeted subsidies or minimum wage adjustments. Education policies should focus on improving access to quality education in communities with lower educational attainment. Housing policies must address substandard living conditions, emphasizing initiatives to enhance housing infrastructure and safety. Additionally, health insurance coverage can be bolstered through policy measures aimed at expanding coverage and reducing barriers for underinsured populations.

- Targeted Interventions:

Tailored interventions are imperative to address the specific challenges identified in each urban community. For instance, in communities with lower educational attainment, targeted educational programs and vocational training can empower residents and improve overall socio-economic status. Interventions in areas with housing quality disparities may include renovation programs, emphasizing safety and sanitation. Green space initiatives can be implemented in communities with limited access, promoting physical and mental well-being. Healthcare

access interventions should address the identified gaps, potentially through the establishment of community health clinics or mobile health units to improve accessibility.

VI. LIMITATIONS

A. Methodological Constraints

- Data Limitations:

The study encounters methodological constraints related to data limitations. The accuracy and comprehensiveness of the analysis heavily depend on the availability and reliability of data. Incomplete or outdated datasets may hinder the study's ability to capture current socio-economic and health dynamics accurately. Variations in data collection methods and reporting practices across different urban communities can introduce inconsistencies, potentially influencing the robustness of the comparative analysis.

- Sampling Challenges:

Methodological challenges extend to sampling, with the representativeness of the chosen samples impacting the study's external validity. Sampling challenges, such as non-response bias or limitations in sample size, may affect the generalizability of the findings. It is essential to acknowledge that the selected urban communities may not fully encapsulate the diversity present in all urban settings, potentially limiting the study's ability to draw broad conclusions about urban health disparities.

B. Generalizability

- Applicability of Findings to Other Urban Communities:

The generalizability of the study's findings to other urban communities is a key limitation.

The unique characteristics of the selected communities may limit the broader applicability of the results. Factors such as regional variations, cultural nuances, and differing policy landscapes in other urban areas may not align with the identified patterns and trends. Caution should be exercised in extending the study's conclusions to a wider range of urban contexts.

- Potential Biases in the Analysis:

The presence of potential biases in the analysis is an inherent limitation. Despite rigorous methodology, biases may emerge from factors such as selection bias, measurement bias, or confounding variables. Biases can skew the interpretation of results, impacting the validity of the study's conclusions. Acknowledging and addressing potential biases is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the research and ensuring that recommendations and interventions based on the findings are appropriately nuanced.

VII. CONCLUSION

When you compare the social determinants of health (SDOH) in urban areas, you can see how they affect health differences in a lot of different ways. Looking into housing, healthcare availability, and financial standing in a variety of urban settings has shown clear trends and differences. Differences in income, level of education, living quality, access to green areas, and health insurance coverage were identified as important factors that affect health results. The results show that these factors are linked, which makes it more important for all-encompassing, focused actions and well-thought-out policy suggestions. Policymakers can use the differences that have been found to make programs that are special to each community's

problems. For example, measures that reduce wealth inequality and better access to schooling can help people get healthier in the long run. Renovating specific homes and planting more trees can help make neighborhoods healthy places to live. It is important to be aware of the method's limits, though, and the problems that might come up when trying to apply the results to other urban areas. When figuring out what the results mean, you should think about things like limited data, problems with sampling, and possible biases. Even though the study gives us useful information about the groups that were chosen, we should be careful about using the results in all situations. Going forward, this comparison study will be used as a basis for new research projects and policymaking. Stakeholders can work together to adopt evidence-based strategies that promote health equity if they understand how SDOH works in urban settings. The study adds to the ongoing conversation about health inequalities in cities by showing how important it is to use individualized methods to meet the specific needs of each community.

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