MEASURING SOCIAL DISPARITIES: A MODIFIED APPROACH TO THE CWI

by

DONALD J. HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology and Center for Social & Demographic Analysis University at Albany, SUNY
Email: DonH@albany.edu Phone: (518) 442-4668

- OVERVIEW -

- Group-Specific Summary Measures
- Group-Specific Disparity Measures
- Examples of Major Results
- Immigrant Disparities
- SES Disparities
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Ken Land, Vicki Lamb, Sarah Mustillo for sharing race-ethnic data they compiled to assess disparities
- Foundation for Child Development for supporting this research
- Co-author Suzanne Macartney
Slide 4. Group-Specific Summary Measures

(Current = Figure 22 from Land, Lamb & Mustillo)
(Proposed = Figure 1 from Hernandez & Macartney)

* **Current Approach**
  * First year = 100 for each group
  * Later years = % change from group baseline
  * Trend in change from group baseline

* **Proposed Approach**
  * First year = % difference from total population baseline
  * Later years = % difference from total population baseline
  * Trends in levels & disparities for each group
Slide 5. Group-Specific Disparity Measures
(Current = Figure 25 from Land, Lamb & Mustillo)
(Proposed = Figure 2 from Hernandez & Macartney)

**Current Approach**
* First year disparity = 100 for each group
* Later = % change from grp baseline disparity
* Trend in change from group baseline disparity

**Proposed Approach**
* First year =
  Difference from whites in baseline year
* Later years =
  Difference from whites in current year
* Trend in disparity (vis-a-vis whites) for each group
OVERALL DISPARITY FAVORS WHITES
(1988...25 point gap, narrowed to 19 points, or by 26%)

Disparity Favors Blacks
* Safety/Behavioral (**expanded**)
* Emotional/Spiritual (little change)

Disparity Favors Whites
* Economic well-being (**narrowed**)
* Health (**narrowed**)
* Educational attainment (little change)
* Community connected (**narrowed**)
* Social relationships (**expanded**)
Slide 7. Black-White Disparities in Economic Well-Being and Health (Figures 12 & 13 from Hernandez & Macartney)

**Figure 12…Economic well-being**
- 25% reduction in Black disadvantage
- Due mainly to 39% reduction in poverty gap

**Figure 13…Health**
- 15% reduction in Black disadvantage
- Due to reduced gaps in most indicators which
- More than counter-balanced increased obesity gap

**Figure 14…Safety/Behavioral**
* Reversal and expansion, to 23 point disparity favoring Blacks
* Due mainly to 60% narrowing teen birth rate

**Figure 17…Social Relationships**
* 18 point expansion in Black disadvantage
* Due mainly to 30 point expansion in residential mobility disparity
Slide 9. Hispanic-White Disparities
Overall and in Each Domain
(Figure 19 from Hernandez & Macartney)

**OVERALL DISPARITY FAVORS WHITES**
(20 point gap, narrowed to 16 points, or by 19%)

Disparity Favors Hispanics
* Emotional/Spiritual (little change)

Disparity Favors Whites
* Economic well-being (**narrowed**)  
* Health (little change)  
* Safety/Behavioral (**narrowed**)  
* Educational attainment (little change)  
* Community connected (little change)  
* Social relationship (**narrowed**)

(Figure 19 from Hernandez & Macartney)
Slide 10. Hispanic-White Disparities in Economic Well-Being and Health
(Figures 20 & 21 from Hernandez & Macartney)

* Figure 20…Economic well-being
  * 28% reduction in Hispanic disadvantage
  * Due mainly to 41% reduction in poverty gap

* Figure 21…Health
  * Small 3 pt. reduction in Hispanic disadvantage
  * But, 33 pt. expansion in Hispanic advantage in activity limitations
  * Counter-balanced mainly by 19 pt. expansion in Hispanic disadvantage in obesity

**Figure 22...Safety/Behavioral**
* 12 point reduction in Hispanic disadvantage
* Due mainly to 29% narrowing teen birth rate

**Figure 25...Social Relationships**
* 10 point reduction in Hispanic disadvantage
* Due to narrowing of Hispanic single parent families and residential mobility
Slide 12. Immigrant Disparities: Next Steps

Indicator values sometimes differ greatly by IMMIGRANT GENERATION and COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

*Immigrant classifiers are…*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mostly Available for</th>
<th>Mostly Not Available for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic well-being</td>
<td>Safety/Behavioral (MTF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Education (NAEP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community connect</td>
<td>Emotional/Spiritual (MTF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Indicator values can differ greatly by MOTHER’S EDUCATION

Mother’s education classifiers are available for 5 domains…all except…

* Education (NAEP)

* Community connectedness (age 18+ indicators)
Slide 14. Socioeconomic Disparities: Family Income Quintile, Next Steps

Indicator values can differ greatly by FAMILY INCOME QUINTILE

Family income quintiles are available for

- *Economic well-being (3/4)*
- *Health (3/6, Vital Stats)*
- *Safety/Behavioral (1/6, MTF, Vital Stats)*
- *Education attainments (None, NAEP)*
- *Community connectedness (1/5, age 18+)*
- *Social relationships (All, 2/2)*
- *Emotional/Spiritual (None, MTF, Vital Stats)*
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Meeting on “Review of the Child Well-being Index”
Brookings Center on Children and Families &
Foundation for Child Development
Washington, D.C., May 10, 2006