

The Role of Connected Communities and Technology Access on Perceived Health in Southern Arizona

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Our digital, physical, and biological worlds are converging impacting economy, social well-being, and physical health.



Southern Arizona

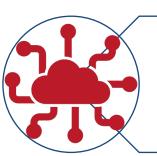
Southern Arizona is a unique geographic location which contributes to population health.



Population is quickly growing and aging

Cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes are leading causes of mortality

\$18.6B economic burden



Technology landscape rapidly advancing

Determine relationship between SDOH, technology access, and perceived health in SAZ using geographic information systems (GIS) analysis

C3: Connected Community Classification



Final *SDOH score* from PCA component named and cut into deciles to represent classifications



A C3 score of 10 indicates more connected communities while a 1 indicates more isolated communities

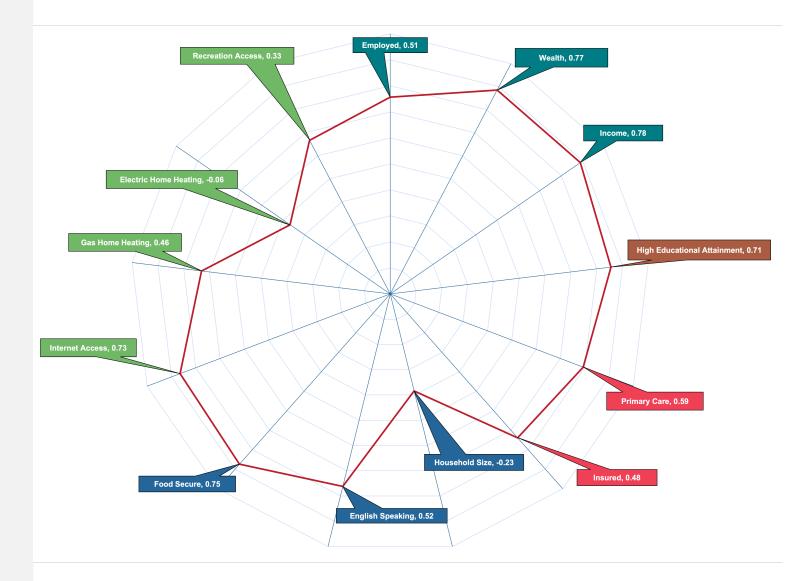


118 Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTA) in Southern Arizona with available and complete data



Analyzed using ArcGIS Pro + STATA 17

Skiba MB, et al., Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, 2024.



COMMUNITY FORUM

Moran's I: 0.29 Z-Score: 2.47 P-value: 0.01

Blythe

C3 Significantly Clusters

Technology access is **positively** associated with perceived health

Good Overall Health	SAR Coefβ(95%Cl)
Smartphone	0.84 (-0.10, 1.79)
Tablet	1.58 (0.40, 2.75)*
Laptop/Desktop	1.95 (0.57, 3.34)*

Spatial autoregressive (SAR) models adjusted for health behaviors. *All significant p-values <0.001

C3 *directly* effects technology access and *indirectly* effects perceived health

SAR Coefβ (95%Cl)	Smartphone	Tablet	Laptop/Desktop
C3 (Direct)	1.74	3.24	2.80
	(1.00, 2.48)*	(2.44, 4.05)*	(1.76, 3.84)*
Good Overall Health	0.01	0.02	0.16
(Indirect)	(-0.05, 0.08)	(-0.05, 0.10)	(0.07, 0.25)*

Spatial autoregressive (SAR) models adjusted for health behaviors. *All significant p-values <0.001

C3 and technology *directly* effect health behaviors

Health Behavior	SAR Coef B (95%CI)	P-Value
Low Fruit/Veg Intake	-0.35 (-0.51, -0.19)	<0.001
Physically Inactive	-0.32 (-0.48, -0.16)	<0.001
Obese	-0.20 (-0.35, -0.06)	0.005
Smoking	-0.34 (-0.62, -0.07)	0.01
Alcohol Use	0.77 (0.49, 1.06)	<0.001

Spatial autoregressive (SAR) models adjusted for demographics, technology access, and rurality

Connected communities with greater access to technology have better population health.



Data to Action

Research, Programs, and Policies for:

Internet Access

Food Security

Educational Attainment Health Insurance Coverage

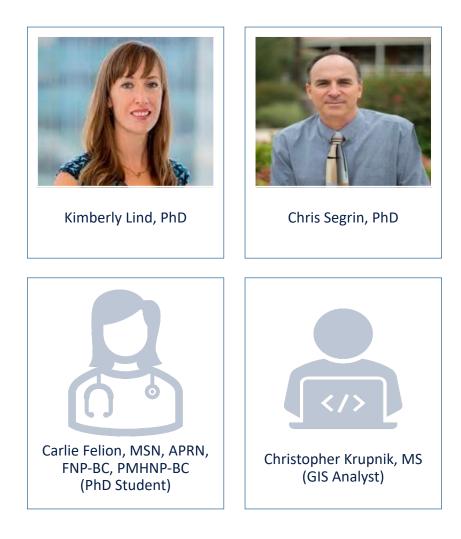
Population Engagement in Protective Health Behaviors Better Population Health Outcomes

Acknowledgments

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MAKING ACTION POSSIBLE

for Southern Arizona





WHITE PAPER: SOUTHERN ARIZONA

MANUSCRIPT: FOUR CORNERS



Thank you!

Let's stay connected:



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