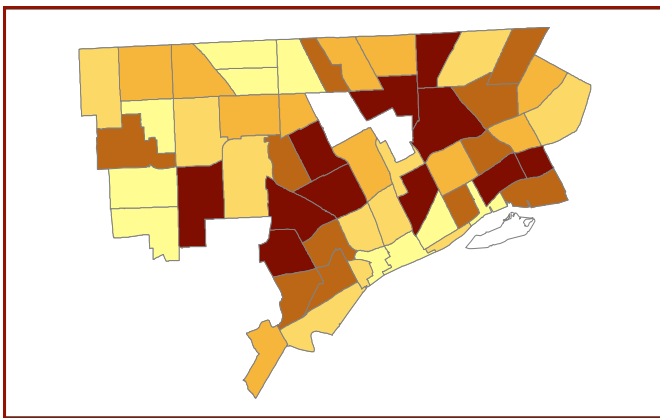




Neighborhood Evaluation Study

As part of the Detroit Neighborhood Health Study, we visited all 54 Detroit neighborhoods last summer. We randomly selected groups of blocks within each neighborhood to observe for influences on stress to residents. These influences could either add to or relieve stress. We used a checklist of 19 questions. For example, we looked to see if certain streets have boarded up houses, community gardens, litter, etc.

Over the past few months, we have begun to examine the neighborhood assessments we completed in June and July. We looked at certain conditions that seemed to be the most important in showing the differences within and between city neighborhoods, these were: building conditions, street noise and traffic volume, and street and sidewalk conditions. We then made maps to show how these conditions vary throughout Detroit. See below for a map of building conditions. The darker shaded areas show neighborhoods where more stress causing influences were found.



Our next step is to examine the relationship between the neighborhood conditions we consider most important and any health problems among the people who live in different areas of Detroit. Our goal is to see if the condition of a person's neighborhood influences his or her health status.

Meet Dr. Jorge Delva



As a DNHS Co-Investigator, Dr. Delva provides expertise in conducting social research in Detroit and works closely with the neighborhood assessment team.

Dr. Delva has a Master's degree in Social Work and a PhD in Social Welfare from the University of Hawaii. He is a Professor in the School of Social Work and is Co-Director of the "Vivian A. and James L. Curtis School of Social Work Research and Training Center", a Center that aims to conduct multidisciplinary research to understand and eliminate health disparities.

You are Important To Us

We appreciate your ongoing participation in the study and don't want to lose track of you. If you have not already done so, please keep us updated on any changes in your address or phone number. You can report your changes on our toll free line 1-888-812-9285. Be sure to mention the name of the study and your study ID # if you call.