

Racial inequality in federal housing programs: a welfare geography approach

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Abstract

Six federally subsidized housing programs are evaluated as to the housing subsidies they provided white and minority households in Jacksonville, Florida. The housing subsidy is divided into its spatial and a spatial parts, the locational subsidy and the housing structure subsidy. The housing structure subsidy is assumed to be identical within any housing program. Principal components analysis of twenty selected variables and a component weighting technique are used to derive surrogate measures for the locational subsidies of census tracts. Subsidized minority households consistently received lower locational subsidies than subsidized white households in all six housing programs. Minority households did receive higher locational subsidies in all the programs when they were located in census tracts dominated by white, as opposed to black, households.

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