

# Class Meeting Notes

## Tuesday September 8, 2020

PSCI 233W “Innovation in Public Service”

Stu Jordan

[stuart.jordan@rochester.edu](mailto:stuart.jordan@rochester.edu)

### Topics

Residential Segregation by Race in Monroe County

- Resources for Visitors
- What do we mean by “segregation”?
- Data from the American Community Survey -- Racial Composition of Census Tracts in Monroe County

### How to Use This Doc

This sheet is meant outline the material we cover in class and provide visuals, notes, links and other materials to help you learn. It breaks the material we cover into sections, with each section headed in large blue letters just like the “How to Use This Doc” text above.

Each section has a designated space for to take your own notes. To take notes, you’ll need to create your own copy of this document. Either by downloading a version or making a copy in whatever cloud platform you’re using.

### Resources for Visitors

What you’ll learn by listening in to this class today will be a very incomplete picture of the causes, extent and impacts of residential segregation by race and wealth in Monroe County. If you’d like to learn more, here are three additional resources that are great places to get started:

ACT Rochester’s report [\*Hard Facts: Race and Ethnicity in the Greater Rochester Area\*](#).

[\*This video of Shane Wiegand’s presentation Racist Policy and Resistance in Rochester\*](#), which reviews the local history of policies and practices that built Monroe County into a place starkly segregated by race.

[\*Confronting Racial Covenants: How They Segregated Monroe County and What To Do About Them\*](#), By UofR Alum (and Penfield, NY native) Conor Dwyer Reynolds, reports findings of research on racial covenants in Monroe County.

If you have any questions, or are looking for connections to further resources, feel free to email me at [stuart.jordan@rochester.edu](mailto:stuart.jordan@rochester.edu).

## What Do We Mean by 'Segregation'

### When you say 'segregation', are you talking about...

- ...an outcome?

*(for instance, a substantial difference in the racial composition of two adjoining neighborhoods)*

- ...or a process?

*(for instance, "steering" by real estate agents of white clients to predominantly white neighborhoods, and black clients to predominantly black neighborhoods.)*

### When you say 'segregation', are you talking about...

- ...a policy or practice that specifically and intentionally excludes black, brown or non-white persons from certain spaces or amenities?

*(for instance, designation of public certain schools as "whites only" by a local Board of Education.)*

- ...or do you mean any policy or practice that has the effect of excluding black, brown or non-white persons, regardless of intent?

*(for instance, drawing of local school boundaries so that some schools are fed by predominantly white neighborhoods, and others are fed by predominantly black neighborhoods.)*

### When you say segregation, are you talking about...

- ...A pattern of separation by race that is clearly disadvantageous to most or all black, brown or non-white persons and clearly advantageous to most or all white persons?

*(for instance, neighboring school districts, one predominantly white, the other predominantly black, in which per-pupil spending in the predominantly white district is substantially higher than in the black district.)*

- ...Any pattern of separation by race, even if its differential impacts are mixed or ambiguous?

*(for instance, neighboring legislative districts, one majority-black, one majority-white, where the majority-black legislative district enables the frequent election of black representatives to the legislature.)*

## Data From the ACS

## Data Source

Table ID S0601, ACS 2018 5-year estimates.

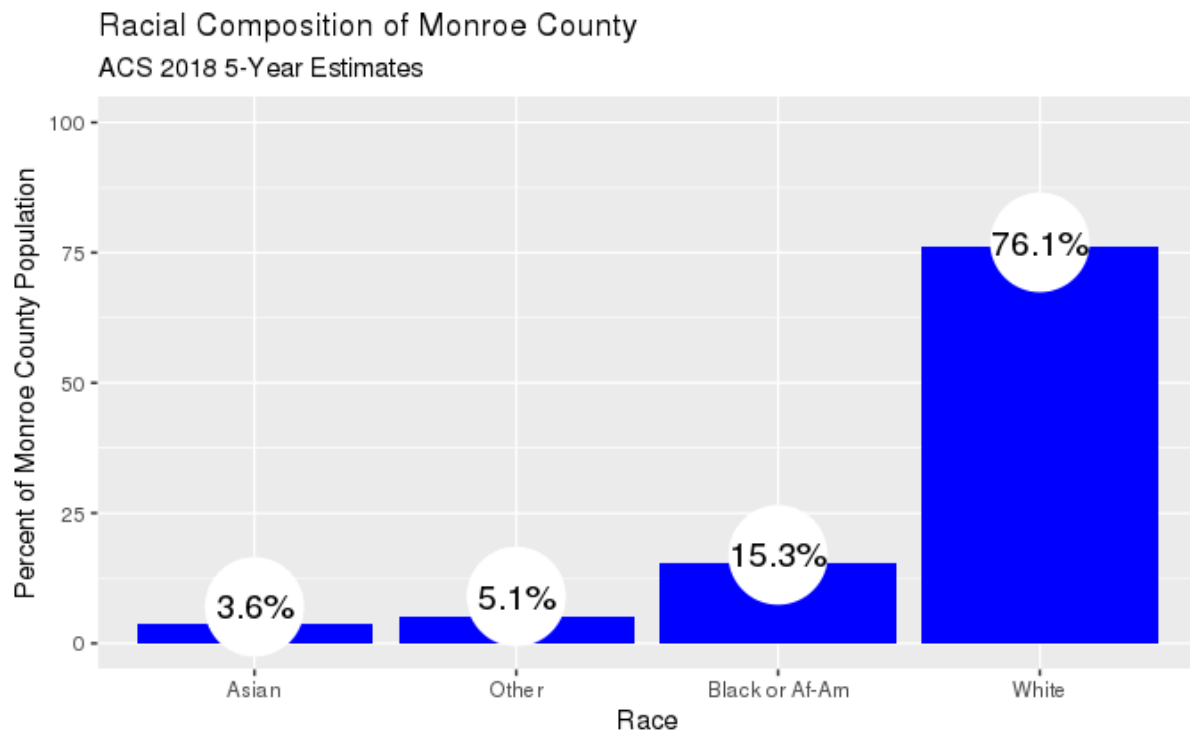
(Go to [data.census.gov](https://data.census.gov), search 'S0601', and then filter the resulting table to choose all census tracts in a county of your choice!)

## Geography: Municipalities and Census Tracts in Monroe County

See Slides 1 through 3 at [This ArcGIS Online Presentation](#).

## Racial Composition by Tract..."Representative" and "Non-Representative" Tracts

About 15% of Monroe County residents identify as Black or African-American...



If the county were not segregated, would the composition of each tract be roughly the same as the composition of the county as a whole?

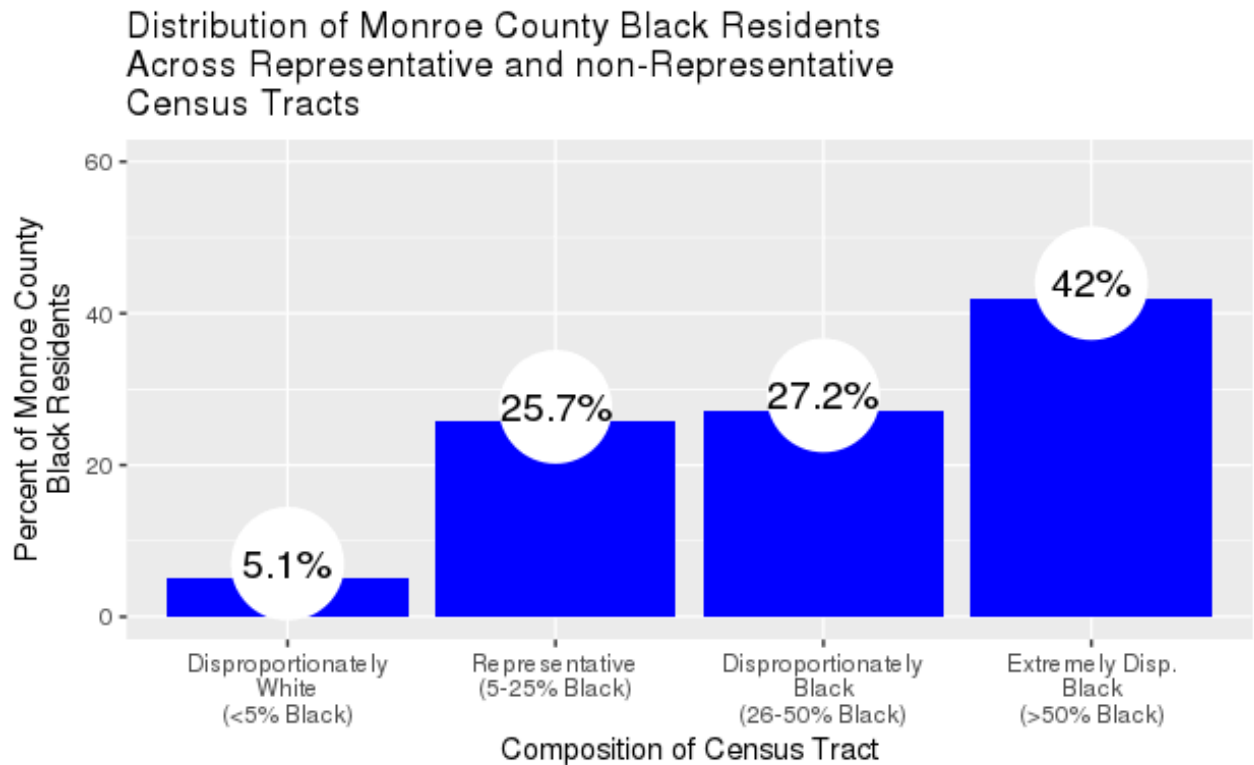
Classify tracts as follow:

- Disproportionately White Tracts: <5% of residents black.
- Representative tracts: 5% - 25% of residents black.
- Disproportionately Black Tracts: 25% - 50% residents black.
- Extremely Disproportionately Black Tracts: >50% of residents black.

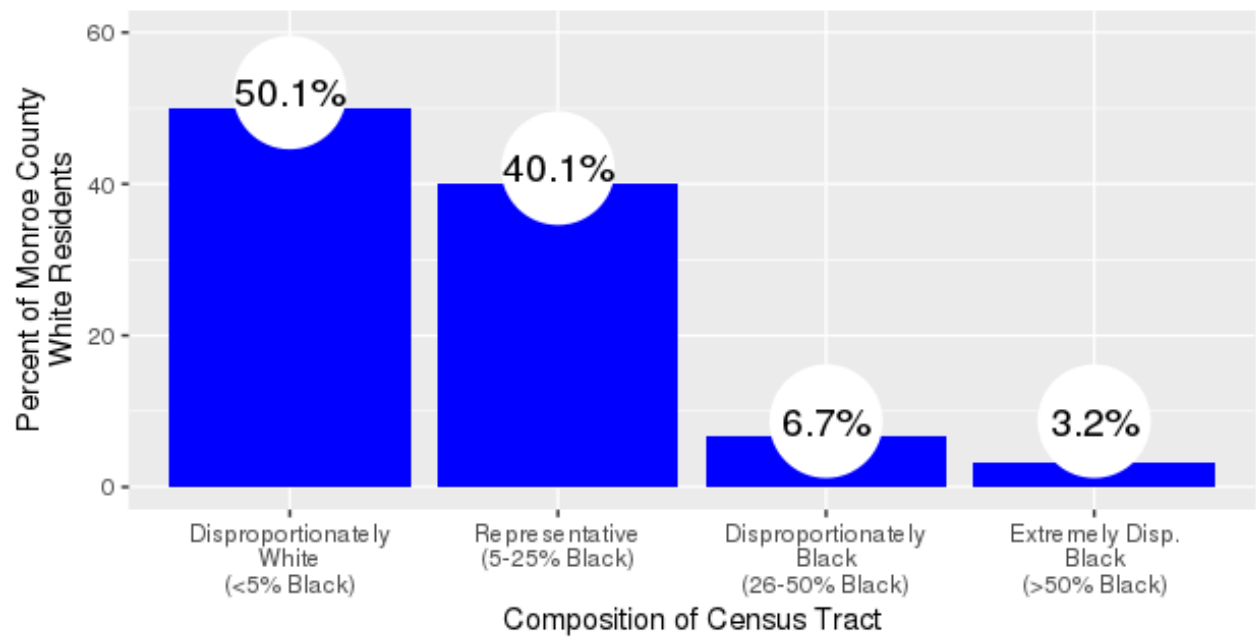
## The Distribution of “Representative” and “Disproportionate” Tracts Across Physical Space

See Slides 4 through 7 at [This ArcGIS Online Presentation](#).

## The Distribution of “Representative” and “Disproportionate” Tracts across Persons



Distribution of Monroe County White Residents  
Across Representative and non-Representative  
Census Tracts



ACS Data...Does it Demonstrate Segregation?