SVI Toolkit - Exercise 1 Create SVI Maps for Your State and County

Learning Objectives:

- 1. Quick orientation to RStudio
- 2. Learn how to access the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) data
- 3. Create SVI map for region of interest

Part 1: Getting Started in R

Create a designated folder for your data files.

Download your files. Download exercises 1-3 and the "SVI_2024_analytic.RDS" file. Save these 4 files in a folder on your computer's desktop named "SVI Project". Be sure that this folder is located on your local computer's drive and not on any type of cloud service to avoid issues with loading your data and saving your files. This is the folder you will set as your working directory for each of these exercises.

Set up your working directory.

Your working directory is the default location where R will look for files (e.g., your analytic data file) that you may want to use and where it will put all the files you save.

You can copy and paste the file path from your finder or explorer windows where you can access your files.

TIPS:

- 1. Make sure that all slash symbols are converted to the "/" direction if you copy and paste your file path from your computer. This is especially salient for PC users.
- 2. Keep your file path simple. Start with using your "desktop" folder or another that is easy to find instead of a folder buried very deep in many other folders
- 3. Make sure you include your path in quotes!
- 4. Use the hashtag "#" symbol to make comments and notes in your code. Similar to taking notes, use this syntax to make your code clear and easy to follow (e.g., describing the code being run)

```
Here is an example of how your code may look. NOTE: you must make sure all of
the "\" symbols are converted to "/" if you copy and paste your file path fro
m your computer. This is especially important for PC users.
Problem: Uh oh! This one won't run! Check direction of slashes
setwd("C:\Users\janedoe\Desktop\SVI Project")
Solution:
setwd("C:/Users/janedoe/Desktop/SVI Project")
```

Now you try! setwd("Your file path here")

Install R Packages for Today's Exercise

R Packages are containers for collections of R code that have a specific purpose or use. There are lots of R packages out there and the ones you use will depend on what you are working on in R.

TIPS:

- 1. You only need to install packages once after downloading R and RStudio, but you do need to load them each time you use RStudio with the "**library()**" function. Remove the #s if you need to install, otherwise run the code below.
- 2. When you update R and RStudio on your computer, you *will* need to install your packages again.
- 3. Type >?nameofthepackage in the console to see a description and key info about the functions of the packages.

Today, we will need the following packages:

Use the code below to **install each of the packages** you need for this exercise You only need to perform this task once after installing or updating R and RStudio.

```
#install.packages("tidyverse")
#install.packages("tidycensus")
#install.packages("tigris")
#install.packages("sf")
#install.packages("tmap")
#install.packages("tmaptools")
#install.packages("RColorBrewer")
#install.packages("spdep")
#install.packages("rgeos")
#install.packages("spgwr")
#install.packages("rio")
#install.packages("knitr")
#install.packages("webshot")
#install.packages("webshot2")
```

Use the code below to **load each of the packages** you need for this exercise. Y ou need to perform this task each time you use R and RStudio.

```
library(tidyverse)
library(tidycensus)
library(sf)
library(tigris)
library(tmap)
library(tmaptools)
library(RColorBrewer)
library(spdep)
library(spgwr)
library(gridExtra)
library(rio)
library(webshot)
library(webshot2)
library(rmarkdown)
```

Part 2: Examining the SVI Data

Before getting started with an analysis, you will need to bring your file named "SVI_2024_analytic_file.RDS" from your computer where your R working directory is routed, into the RStudio environment with the **readRDS** function. This function also renames the file "data" and reconfigures it into an R dataframe that will be stored in your R environment. Make sure that you have your working directory set as described above and that your analytic file is within that folder on your computer. Once you have loaded your data into your R environment, use the **head** function to familiarize yourself with the data.

data <- readRDS(file = "SVI_2024_analytic_file.RDS")</pre>

#Check the columns included in your dataset with the head function.

#Here is another way to load in your data with the "here" function in the "rio" package. This code can be helpful if you are having trouble changing the location of your working directory. NOTE: If you use the readRDS function successfully, you do NOT need to also run the rio::import function below and vice versa.

#data <- rio::import(here::here("SVI_2024_analytic_file.RDS"))</pre>

Check the columns included in your dataset with the head function. Checking your column headers with the head function allows you to see the variables in your dataset. Notice this dataset include FIPS codes, state, state abbreviation, county, crude depression prevalence from CDC PLACES 2021, overall SVI percentile rankings, and SVI theme percentile rankings. The "data" object that you created includes information for all census tracts within the United States.

head(data)

Part 3: Create your first SVI maps with the tmap package

The following exercises will show you how to work with spatial data from the SVI.

You can complete this exercise using the dataset for the entire United States (U.S.), OR you can create a data subset with just the state and/or county you are interested in. Use the code below to learn how subset by a variable of choice. For this exercise, we will be using the STATE variable.

Subset your data to your state and county of choice.

#You can type in your state of interest in the quotation marks of the code. Make sure that you write the full name of the state and spell it correctly. Use the head function to check that the function was run correctly.

```
my_state <- data[data$STATE=="Georgia",]
head(my_state)</pre>
```

Here is a snippet of what you will see once you've run the head function. Check to confirm that your state of choice is shown in the "my_state" dataset that you have created with the code above.

Simple feature collection with 6 features and 11 fields
Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON
Dimension: XY
Bounding box: xmin: -82.45868 ymin: 31.46925 xmax: -82.04858 ymax: 31.966
18
Geodetic CRS: NAD83
FIPS STATE ST_ABBR COUNTY
21224 13001950100 Georgia GA Appling

Now, subset your specific county of interest from the my_state dataset that we have created. my_county <- my_state[my_state\$COUNTY=="Fulton",] head(my_county)

Here is what you will see once you've run the head function. Confirm that. your county of choice is listed.

```
## Simple feature collection with 6 features and 11 fields
## Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON
## Dimension: XY
## Bounding box: xmin: -84.40086 ymin: 33.77975 xmax: -84.34806 ymax: 33.813
13
## Geodetic CRS: NAD83
## FIPS STATE ST_ABBR COUNTY
## 22474 13121000100 Georgia GA Fulton
```

Create your maps.

state svi theme4 map

Now that you have created a single state and a single county dataset, we will use the code below to visualize the data on a map. We will start by creating a thematic map of the overall SVI scores for census tracts in your state and county of choice. In the code, you can also replace the "svi_overall" variable with one of the SVI theme variables by simply typing in the name of the theme variable (e.g., "svi_theme1" or "svi_theme2").

```
#SVI Overall Map
state svi overall map <- qtm(my state, fill = "svi overall")</pre>
county svi overall map <- qtm(my county, fill = "svi overall")</pre>
#SVI Theme 1 - Socioeconomic Status Map
#Characteristics: Below 150% poverty, unemployed, housing cost burden,
no high school diploma, no health insurance)
state svi theme1 map <- qtm(my state, fill = "svi theme1")</pre>
county_svi_theme1_map <- qtm(my_county, fill = "svi_theme1")</pre>
#SVI Theme 2 - Household Characteristics Map
#Characteristics: aged 65 or older, aged 17 or younger, civilian with a
disability, single-parent households, English language proficiency)
state svi theme2 map <- qtm(my state, fill = "svi theme2")</pre>
county_svi_theme2_map <- qtm(my_county, fill = "svi_theme2")</pre>
#SVI Theme 3 - Racial & Minority Status Map
#Characteristics:(Hispanic or Latino (of any race); Black and African
American, Not Hispanic or Latino; American Indian and Alaska Native, Not
Hispanic or Latino; Asian, Not Hispanic or Latino; Native Hawaiian and Other
Pacific Islander, Not Hispanic or Latino; Two or More Races, Not Hispanic or
Latino; Other Races, Not Hispanic or Latino)
state_svi_theme3_map <- qtm(my_state, fill = "svi_theme3")</pre>
county svi_theme3_map <- qtm(my_county, fill = "svi_theme3")</pre>
#SVI Theme 4 - Housing Type & Transportation
#Characteristics:(multi-unit structures, mobile homes, crowding, no vehicle,
qroup quarters)
state svi theme4 map <- gtm(my state, fill = "svi theme4")</pre>
county svi theme4 map <- qtm(my county, fill = "svi theme4")</pre>
#Print Your Maps (Note: you can add a # sign in front of a line of code if yo
u do not want to print certain map)
tmap options(check.and.fix = TRUE)
#Code for Printing State Maps
state_svi_overall_map
state svi theme1 map
state svi theme2 map
state_svi_theme3_map
```

#Code for Printing County Maps

county_svi_overall_map county_svi_theme1_map county_svi_theme2_map county_svi_theme3_map county_svi_theme4_map

(note: your maps may render slightly differently depending on system settings)

Example of State and County Maps for the Overall SVI:



Stylize and format your maps to distinguish each SVI theme.

You may notice that it is difficult to tell your maps apart before adding titles, bolder borders around census tracts, and colors that correspond to themes. The next portion of this exercise will help us to format the size and shape of the maps and keys, to stylize the maps with colors that correspond to the official SVI themes (e.g., "BuGn") for the Overall SVI), and to add titles for the maps and keys, respectively.

#Install and load the "RColorBrewer" package for coloring your map. #install.packages("RColorBrewer")

library(RColorBrewer)

```
#County
   county_svi overall map <- tm_shape(my county, bbox = bbox new) +</pre>
     tm_polygons(col = "svi_overall", title = "Overall SVI Percentile",
breaks = c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "BuGn", border.col = "black") +
     tm layout(legend.outside = T,
              title = "[County Name] Overall SVI Percentile Rankings by
Census Tract 2020",
              title.position = c('center', 'bottom')
#State
     state svi overall map <- tm shape(my state, bbox = bbox new state) +</pre>
     tm_polygons(col = "svi_overall", title = "Overall SVI Score",breaks =
c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "BuGn", border.col = "black") +
       tm layout(legend.outside = T,
               title = "[State Name] Overall SVI Percentile Rankings by
Census Tract 2020",
              title.position = c('center', 'bottom'),
              main.title.position = "center")
#Print
county_svi_overall_map
state svi overall map
```

Example of Stylized State and County Maps for the Overall SVI:





#County county svi theme1 map <- tm shape(my county, bbox = bbox new) +</pre> tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme1", title = "Socioeconomic Status") Percentiles", breaks = c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "Greens", border.col = "black") + tm_layout(legend.outside = T, title = "[County Name] Socioeconomic Status SVI Rankings by Census Tract 2020", title.position = c('center', 'bottom') #State state_svi_theme1_map <- tm_shape(my_state, bbox = bbox_new_state) +</pre> tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme1", title = "Socioeconomic Status") Percentiles", breaks = c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "Greens", border.col = "black") + tm layout(legend.outside = T, title = "[State Name] Socioeconomic Status SVI Rankings by Census Tract 2020", title.position = c('center', 'bottom'), main.title.position = "center") #Print county_svi_theme1_map state_svi_theme1_map

Example of Stylized State and County Maps for SVI Theme 1:



```
#County
   county_svi_theme2_map <- tm_shape(my_county, bbox = bbox_new) +</pre>
     tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme2", title = "Household Characteristics")
Percentiles", breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0), pal = "Oranges", border.col
   "<mark>black</mark>") +
     tm layout(legend.outside = T,
               title = "[County Name] Household Characteristics Percentiles
Rankings by Census Tract 2020",
               title.position = c('center', 'bottom')
#State
   state svi theme2 map <- tm_shape(my state, bbox = bbox new state) +</pre>
     tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme2", title = "Household Characteristics
Percentiles", breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0), pal = "Oranges", border.col
  "black") +
     tm_layout(legend.outside = T,
               title = "[State Name] Household Characteristics Percentile
Rankings by Census Tract 2020",
               title.position = c('center', 'bottom'),
               main.title.position = "center")
#Print
county_svi_theme2_map
state_svi_theme2_map
```



Example of Stylized State and County Maps for SVI Theme 2:



```
county_svi theme3_map <- tm_shape(my_county, bbox = bbox_new) +</pre>
      tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme3", title = "Racial and Ethnic Minority
Status Percentiles", breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.0), pal = "Purples",
border.col = "black") +
      tm_layout(legend.outside = T,
                title = "[County Name] Racial and Ethnic Minority Status
Percentiles Rankings by Census Tract 2020",
                title.position = c('center', 'bottom')
#State
    state_svi_theme3_map <- tm_shape(my_state, bbox = bbox_new_state) +</pre>
      tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme3", title = "Racial and Ethnic Minority
Status Percentiles", breaks = c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "Purples",
border.col = "black") +
      tm layout(legend.outside = T,
                title = "[State Name] Racial and Ethnic Minority Status
Percentile Rankings by Census Tract 2020",
                title.position = c('center', 'bottom'),
                main.title.position = "center")
#Print
county_svi_theme3_map
```

Example of Stylized State and County Maps for SVI Theme 3:

state_svi_theme3_map



```
#County
   county_svi_theme4_map <- tm_shape(my_county, bbox = bbox_new) +</pre>
     tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme4", title = "Housing Type and
Transportation Percentiles", breaks = c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "Blues"
         border.col = "black") +
     tm layout(legend.outside = T,
               title = "[County Name] Housing Type and Transportation
Percentiles Rankings by Census Tract 2020",
               title.position = c('center', 'bottom')
#State
   state_svi_theme4_map <- tm_shape(my_state, bbox = bbox_new_state) +</pre>
     tm_polygons(col = "svi_theme4", title = "Housing Type and
Transportation Percentiles", breaks = c(0,0.25,0.50,0.75,1.0), pal = "Blues"
        border.col = "black") +
ر
     tm_layout(legend.outside = T,
               title = "[State Name] Housing Type and Transportation
Percentiles Rankings by Census Tract 2020",
              title.position = c('center', 'bottom'),
              main.title.position = "center")
#Print
county_svi_theme4_map
state_svi_theme4_map
```

Example of Stylized State and County Maps for SVI Theme 4:



Change your SVI variables from continuous to categorical.

So far, we have considered the SVI as a continuous variable only. It has also been treated as a categorical variable in the literature, which is often easier to interpret. The following code creates a variable called "SVI_overallcat", which categorizes the SVI percentile rankings into quartiles in new datasets called "my_county_qrt" and "my_state_qrt".

#The mutate command will categorize the continuous SVI percentile rankings into quartiles in a new variable (e.g., "svi_overall_cat". The following code will update the county and state datasets to include this new variable.

```
my county qrt <- my county %>%
  mutate(svi overallcat = cut(svi overall,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme1cat = cut(svi_theme1,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme2cat = cut(svi_theme2,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme3cat = cut(svi_theme3,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25,0.5,0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme4cat = cut(svi_theme4,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4))
         )
my state_qrt <- my_state %>%
  mutate(svi overallcat = cut(svi overall,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme1cat = cut(svi_theme1,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25,0.5,0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi theme2cat = cut(svi theme2,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme3cat = cut(svi_theme3,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25,0.5,0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4)),
         svi_theme4cat = cut(svi_theme4,
                               breaks = c(0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, Inf),
                               labels = c(1,2,3,4))
         )
#Verify that you've added the categorical variables to your datasets.
head(my county qrt)
head(my_state_qrt)
```

Create interactive maps.

Now that we have a categorical SVI variable, let's create a new map with interactive features! You may have notice that it is difficult to see some polygons in your state map because they are so small. Creating this map will allow you to view the entire state and zoom in on areas of interest within RStudio. (NOTE: This function is for within R or an HTML format and cannot be tested in this PDF file.) FIPS codes for the census tract will be visible when you scroll over a tract with your cursor. Use the code below.

```
#Overall SVI
overall state cat map<-tm shape(my state qrt) + tm fill("svi overallcat", sty
le = "cat", palette = "BuGn") +
  tm_layout("Overall SVI Quartile",
            legend.outside = T) + tm polygons(border.col = "black")
#SVI Theme 1
theme1_state_cat_map<-tm_shape(my_state_qrt) + tm_fill("svi_theme1cat", style</pre>
= "cat", palette = "Greens") +
  tm layout("SVI Theme 1 Quartile",
            legend.outside = T) + tm polygons(border.col = "black")
#SVI Theme 2
theme2_state_cat_map<-tm_shape(my_state_qrt) + tm_fill("svi_theme1cat", style</pre>
= "cat", palette = "Oranges") +
  tm_layout("SVI Theme 1 Quartile",
            legend.outside = T) + tm_polygons(border.col = "black")
#SVI Theme 3
theme3 state cat map<-tm shape(my state qrt) + tm fill("svi theme1cat", style
= "cat", palette = "Purples") +
  tm_layout("SVI Theme 1 Quartile",
            legend.outside = T) + tm polygons(border.col = "black")
#SVI Theme 4
theme4_state_cat_map<-tm_shape(my_state_qrt) + tm_fill("svi_theme1cat", style</pre>
= "cat", palette = "Blues") +
  tm layout("SVI Theme 1 Quartile",
            legend.outside = T) + tm polygons(border.col = "black")
```

#As a nice feature, the package tmap_tools helps to make maps interactive The tmap_mode("view") code sets the plot to interactive viewing. Then, the following lines of code allow you to print each of your interactive maps for viewing in RStudio.

tmap_mode("view")

overall_state_cat_map
theme1_state_cat_map
theme2_state_cat_map
theme3_state_cat_map
theme4_state_cat_map

NOTE: If you receive an error message when printing your maps, try running the code below:

tmap_options(check.and.fix = TRUE)

Stylized Interactive State Map Preview:



Reset your code back to normal (non-interactive) plots prior to continuing.

For the remainder of this exercise, set the mode back to simple plots using the code below (as needed).

#For the remainder of the exercise, set the mode back to plot.

NOTE: Run this before using other functions in R! If you forget to, you may encounter some error messages that prevent you from continuing in RStudio. tmap_mode("plot")

tmap mode set to plotting

Learn about your state and county with descriptive statistics.

The next set of examples show how to run descriptive statistics on your SVI dataset. For example, which county in your state has the highest (continuous) overall SVI value?

The summary function provides descriptive statistics for the continuous and categorical variables in your dataset. For continuous variables, minimum, maximum, median, mean, first and third quartiles, and the number of missing values are printed. For categorical variables, the number of records at each level of the variable are printed, in addition to the number of missing values.

summary(my_state_qrt)

##	FIPS	STATE	ST_ABBR	COUNTY
##	Length:2791	Length:2791	Length:2791	Length:2791
##	Class :character	Class :charact	er Class :chara	cter Class :character
##	Mode :character	Mode :charact	er Mode :chara	cter Mode :character
##				
##				
##				
##				
##	LOCATION	depression	svi theme1	svi theme2
##	Length:2791	Min. :13.50	Min :0.0004	Min. :0.0006
##	Class :character	1st Qu.:18.80	1st Qu.:0.3514	1st Qu.:0.2283
##	Mode :character	Median :20.90	Median :0.6247	Median :0.4865
##		Mean :20.82	Mean :0.5753	Mean :0.4817
##		3rd Qu.:22.70	3rd Qu.:0.8129	3rd Qu.:0.7269
##		Max. :35.10	Max. :0.9998	Max. :0.9992
##		NA's :1544	NA's :11	NA's :8
##	svi theme3	svi theme4	svi overall	geometry
##	Min :0.0000	Min. :0.0000	Min. :0.0003	MULTIPOLYGON :2791
##	1st Qu.:0.4095	1st Qu.:0.1584	1st Qu.:0.2633	epsg:4269 : 0
##	Median :0.6306	Median :0.4060	Median :0.5407	+proj=long: 0
##	Mean :0.5970	Mean :0.4325	Mean :0.5164	1 5 6
##	3rd Ou.:0.7998	3rd Ou.:0.6840	3rd Ou.:0.7701	
##	Max. :0.9959	Max. :0.9998	Max. :0.9999	
##	NA's :7	NA's :10	NA's :11	
##	svi overallcat sv	vi theme1cat svi	theme2cat svi the	me3cat svi theme4cat

1 1 :750 :660 1 :493 1 :310 1 :869 2 2 2 ## 2 :632 :538 :685 2 :638 :677 :731 ## 3 :719 3 :803 3 3 :932 3 :617 4 4 :946 4 4 :900 4 :530 ## :769 :617 NA's: 11 ## NA's: 11 NA's: 8 NA's: 11 NA's: 98 ## ## #Which county has the highest overall SVI? my_state %>% slice_max(svi_overall) ## Simple feature collection with 1 feature and 11 fields ## Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON ## Dimension: XY ## Bounding box: xmin: -84.41833 ymin: 33.67293 xmax: -84.39752 ymax: 33.686 46 ## Geodetic CRS: NAD83 STATE ST_ABBR COUNTY ## FIPS LOCATI ON ## 1 13121007400 Georgia GA Fulton Census Tract 74, Fulton County, Georg ia depression svi_theme1 svi_theme2 svi_theme3 svi_theme4 svi_overall ## ## 1 19.6 0.9791 0.9923 0.9394 0.9993 0.9999 geometry ## ## 1 MULTIPOLYGON (((-84.41823 3... #Which county has the lowest overall SVI? my_state %>% slice_min(svi_overall) ## Simple feature collection with 1 feature and 11 fields ## Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON ## Dimension: XY xmin: -84.42951 ymin: 33.82031 xmax: -84.40742 ymax: 33.840 ## Bounding box: 19 ## Geodetic CRS: NAD83 STATE ST ABBR COUNTY LOC ## FIPS ATION ## 1 13121009804 Georgia GA Fulton Census Tract 98.04, Fulton County, Ge orgia depression svi_theme1 svi_theme2 svi_theme3 svi_theme4 svi_overall ## 4e-04 0.0376 0.2857 3e-04 ## 1 NA Ø ## geometry ## 1 MULTIPOLYGON (((-84.42951 3...

#Try using these functions with other variables and see what you find!

Create map of the prevalence of crude depression in your state and county.

Finally, create a map demonstrating the prevalence of crude depression in the United States, or your state and county of interest using the code below. Do you observe any similarities between your depression map and your overall SVI map (e.g., do areas where there is high SVI also have high depression)? Any differences?

```
tm_shape(my_county_qrt) +
  tm_fill("depression",
            style = "quantile",
            palette = "YlOrRd",
            legend.hist = T) +
  tm_layout(legend.outside = T) +
  tm_polygons(border.col = "black")
```



#Note in tm_fill, the argument legend.hist = T which displays a histogram of the trait being mapped.

```
#You can also try looking at these data with your state map.
tm_shape(my_state_qrt) +
   tm_fill("depression",
        style = "quantile",
        palette = "YlOrRd",
        legend.hist = T) +
   tm_layout(legend.outside = T) +
   tm_polygons(border.col = "black")
```

