Aysha Sumaiya and Jenna Mehls

Write up

Objective
Our team has analyzed the SHIP Life Expectancy 2015-2017 dataset from the Maryland Department of Health. The main objective was to study how life expectancy has changed and varies across diverse ethnic groups and jurisdictions. To achieve this, we utilized various charts and visualizations in Tableau.

Approach
Our initial step was to download the dataset in CSV format from the Maryland Department of Health website. Then, we examined the data to understand it better and identified different objectives. We narrowed down the objectives and determined that our primary focus would be the dataset from 2015-2017. We each decided to create our own graph and later compare it with each other to see what our findings were.

Chart
We used several charts to represent our findings. One of the main charts we used was a geographic map chart that demonstrates the trend of life expectancy in 2015-2017 in various jurisdictions and race/ethnicity in Maryland. We also used a bar chart to show the distribution of life expectancy for Black (Hispanic & Non-Hispanic) and White (Hispanic & Non-Hispanic). Another chart we used was a treemap to illustrate the life expectancy by race/ethnicity in the top 10 counties.

Analysis
Our analysis showed that the overall life expectancy in Maryland has improved over the years. However, there are discrepancies across ethnic groups, with African Americans having a lower life expectancy than other groups. Additionally, we found that life expectancy varies across different jurisdictions, with some areas having higher life expectancies than others.

Experience
This semester-long project allowed us to learn about data visualizations, problem solving, and new technology exploration. When we started the project, neither of us were very experienced with the Tableau software. We met in the beginning of the project to define our goals, thesis, and dive into better understanding the software. After several meetings, we knew how to navigate Tableau and manipulate our data to display our thesis. Overall, this project greatly broadened our knowledge of data visualization and Tableau software. We also gained skills in problem solving and communication.

Jenna's link:
https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/jenna.mehls/viz/EffectofRaceonLifeExpectancyofMarylandResidents/Dashboard1#1

Aysha's Link:
https://public.tableau.com/shared/J2T3Q4JQQ?:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link