

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY, FAIRFAX, VA.

REPORT ON

AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING

DEVELOPMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The provision of affordable housing remains a pivotal concern for metropolitan areas worldwide, with Chicago serving as a notable example. Addressing this imperative, our project embarks on an examination of an extensive dataset delineating affordable rental housing developments across diverse community areas within the city. This dataset comprises essential details, including community area names and numbers, property types, addresses, and geographic coordinates. Utilizing rigorous statistical analysis and advanced visualizations, our goal is to comprehensively explore Chicago's affordable housing landscape. Through meticulous examination of distribution patterns and trends in the dataset, we aim to shed light on the nuanced complexities of the city's affordable housing market, informing decision-making in housing policy and planning.

Our project's main objectives involve utilizing a variety of statistical methods to identify significant patterns and trends within Chicago's dataset of affordable rental housing developments. From basic descriptive statistics to advanced spatial analysis, every aspect of our approach is meticulously tailored to ensure clear, comprehensive, and accurate findings. Our overarching goal is to furnish stakeholders with a thorough understanding of the city's affordable housing landscape, supported by diverse visualization techniques for geographic and spatial analysis.

DATA ANALYSIS

The analysis involved gathering data from housing management entities in Chicago, followed by meticulous data cleaning. Exploratory data analysis was conducted using various visualization techniques to understand property type distribution, identify outliers, and examine relationships. The findings revealed a diverse range of housing properties across different community areas, with multiple management companies involved, and spatial analysis provided insights into geographic distribution and accessibility.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

- Can we identify clusters or patterns of property types across different community zones?
- Are there specific geographical areas with a higher density of affordable housing units?
- Is there a correlation between the number of units and the type of property in the affordable rental market?

DATASET:

Our dataset is about Affordable Rental Housing Developments in the city of Chicago. The size of the dataset is about 115KB.

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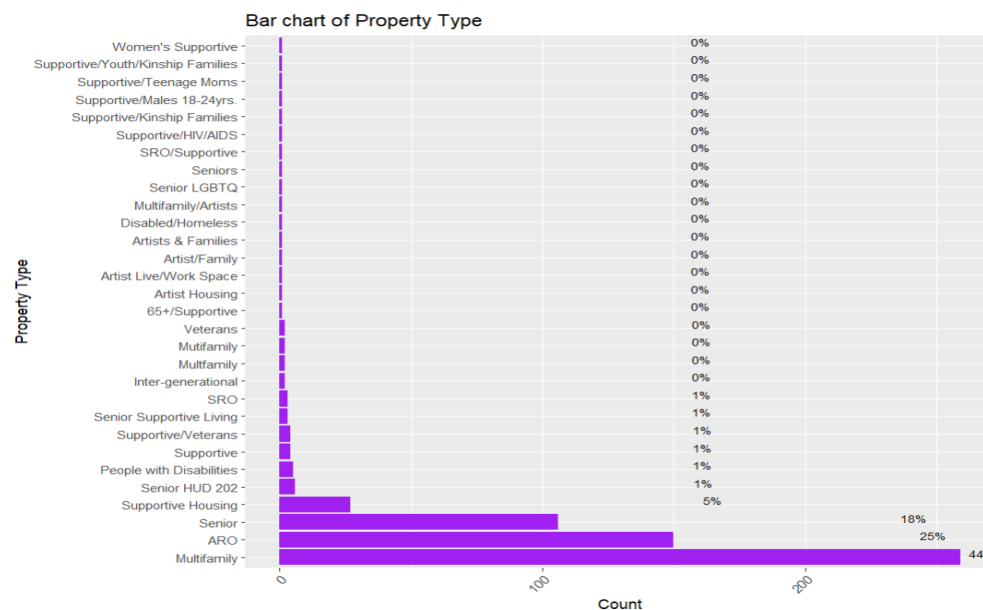
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Within the dataset, there are 14 columns and 593 rows detailing affordable rental housing developments in Chicago. Each column contains specific information such as housing area names and numbers, property types, addresses, and phone numbers. Furthermore, details include regarding management companies, unit counts, and geographic coordinates (X and Y, latitude, and longitude, Location). Notably, the zip code column may have integer formats. This dataset enables comprehensive analysis of Chicago's housing landscape, allowing examination of spatial distribution, demographics in the city.

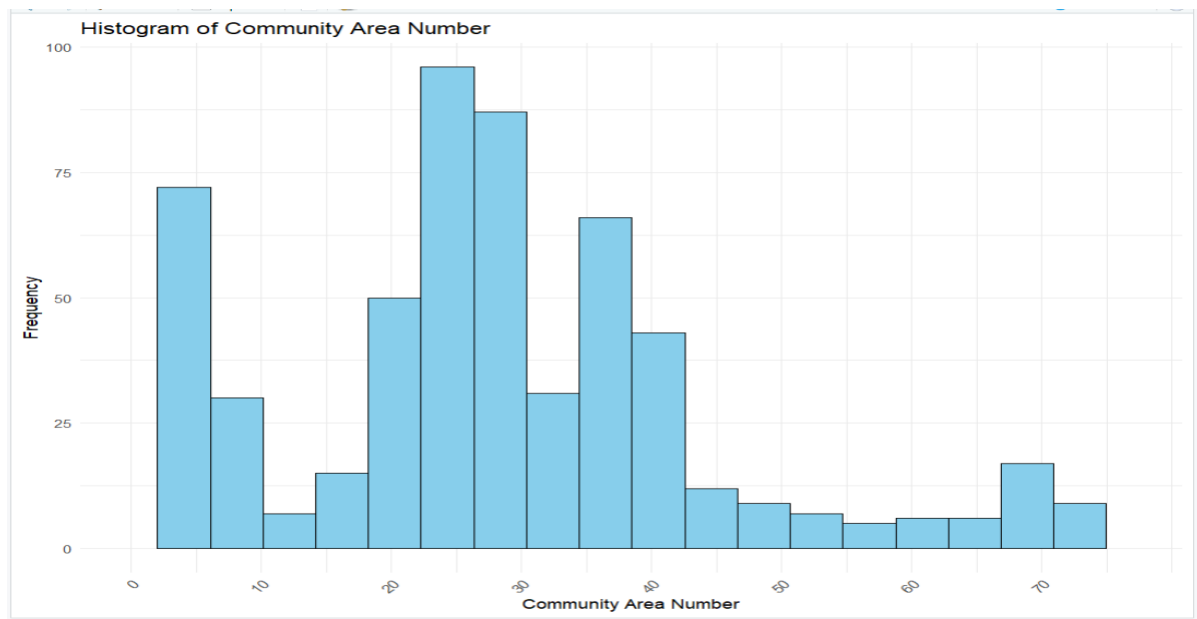
RESULTS:

BAR GRAPH



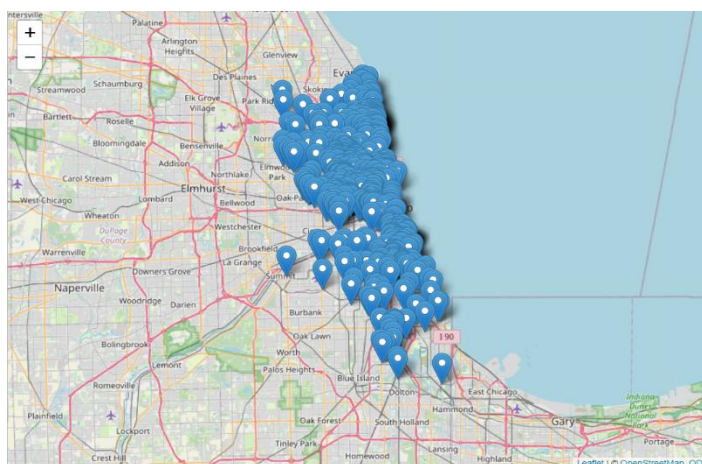
The bar chart titled "Bar chart of Property Type" delineates the distribution of supportive housing units across various property types. The analysis reveals that a significant proportion of supportive housing units are classified under the category of Multifamily (44%), ARO (25%), followed by Senior (18%) and Supportive Housing (25%). Conversely, minimal percentages are attributed to specific demographic groups such as Supportive Veterans, Supportive/Teenage Moms, Supportive/Males 18-24yrs, and Senior LGBTQ individuals, implying a potential scarcity of supportive housing options tailored to these populations. The prevalence of ARO properties underscores a concerted effort to provide affordable housing, while Senior Supportive Housing underscores support for elderly individuals. The percentage of the individual property type is displayed on the right side of the bars.

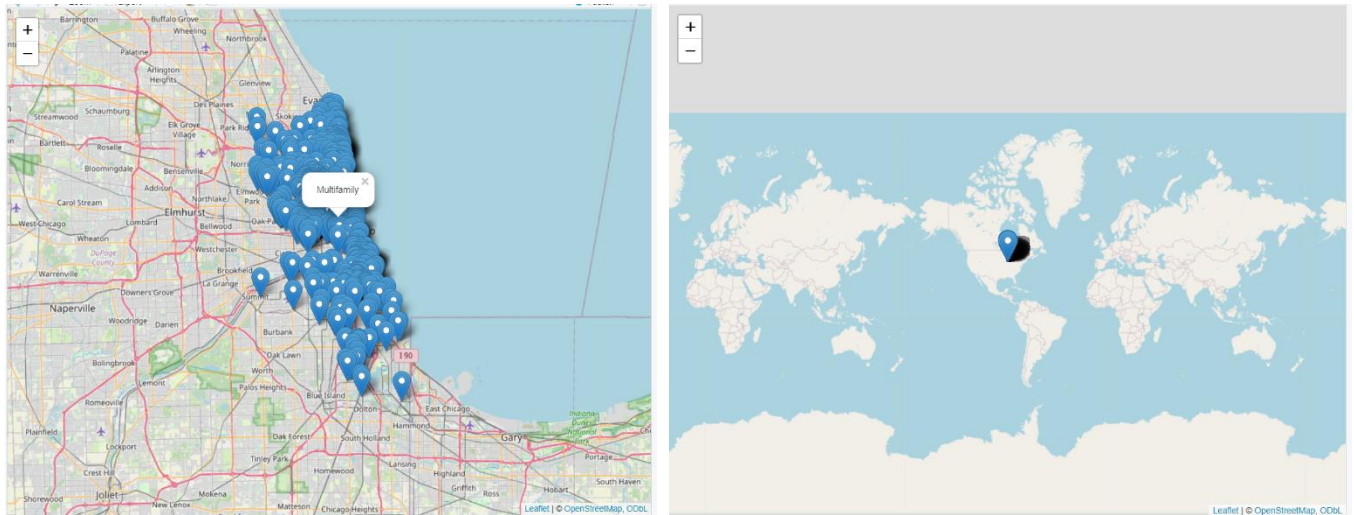
HISTOGRAM:



The histogram displays how community area numbers are distributed, indicating their occurrence across different areas. It shows the x-axis ranging from 0 to the highest community area number, with labels spaced at intervals of 10 for clarity. This visualization offers insights into the prevalence and distribution patterns of housing developments across various community zones, aiding in the analysis of geographic concentration and dispersion within the dataset.

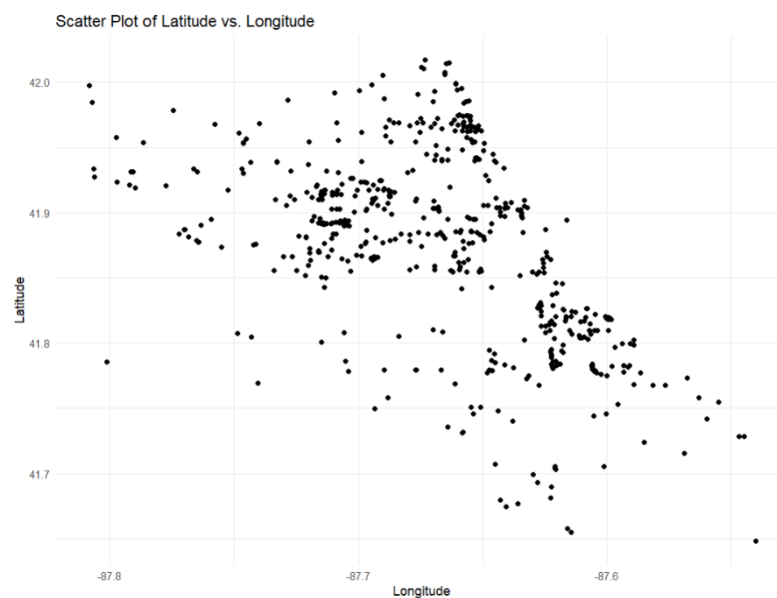
GEOSPATIAL :





This interactive visualization that uses leaflet library enables exploration of the geographic arrangement of affordable rental properties throughout the Chicago city, offering insights into their spatial patterns within the city's neighborhoods. The interactive Leaflet map offers an immersive platform for users to explore how affordable housing developments are distributed across Chicago's neighborhoods. Through features like panning and zooming, users can focus on specific regions or areas of interest within the city, enabling a detailed examination of the geographic patterns of affordable housing availability. This functionality reveals insights into the disparities and concentrations of affordable housing across different neighborhoods, providing valuable information for understanding local housing dynamics. Additionally, the map allows users to click on individual markers to access more details, such as the property type of each housing development (An example is given in which it has 'Multifamily' Property Type). This added functionality enhances the map's usefulness by providing deeper insights into the characteristics of affordable housing options in various parts of the city. Users can gain a better understanding of the local housing landscape and identify trends or patterns that may inform decision-making processes.

SCATTER PLOT:

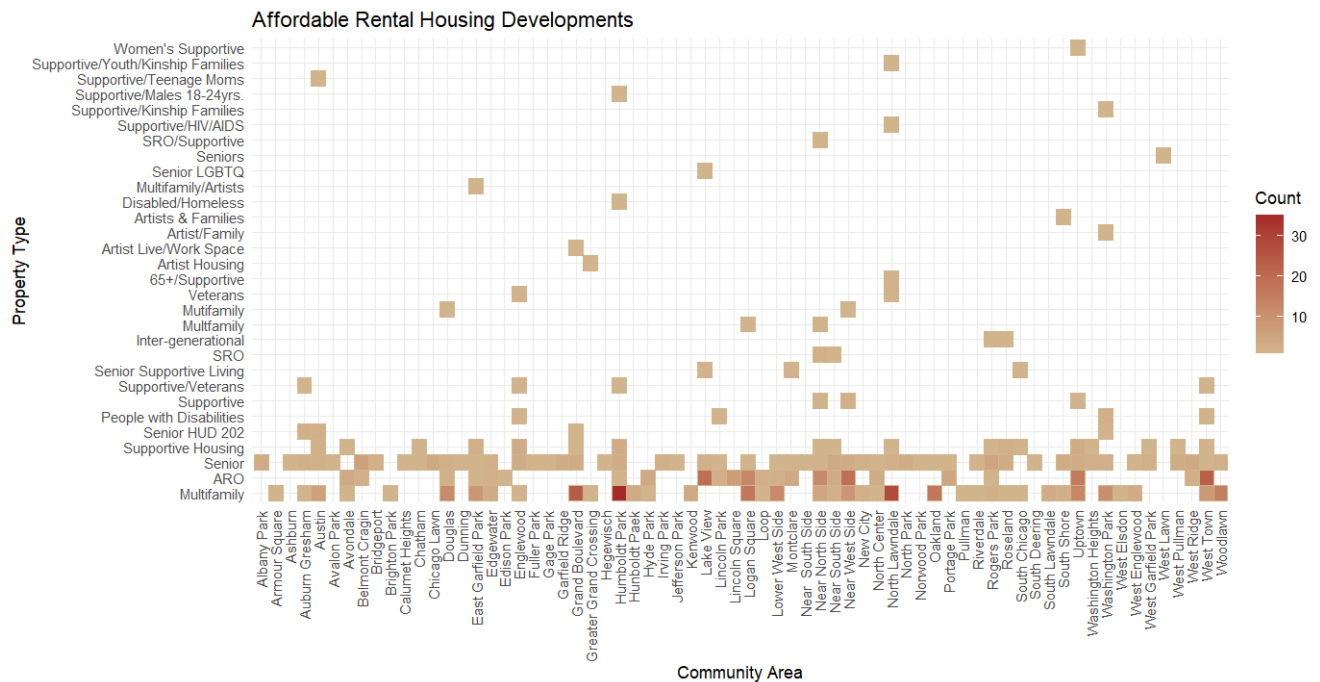


A scatter plot visually depicts the correlation between two continuous variables by plotting data points on a Cartesian plane. Specifically, it illustrates the relationship between latitude and longitude coordinates in a dataset. This visualization is crucial for analysing spatial patterns and distributions, as it presents geographical data points in a two-dimensional format. Each point on the plot represents a unique location identified by its latitude and longitude coordinates, providing insights

into the spatial arrangement and grouping of observations. The plot's labelled axes and title

enhance clarity and context, facilitating the interpretation of geographical relationships within the dataset.

HEATMAP:



The heatmap created visually illustrates the number of affordable rental housing developments categorized by property type and community area in Chicago. Each cell in the heatmap corresponds to a unique combination of property type and community area, with color intensity indicating the count of housing developments. Community areas are represented on the x-axis, while property types are depicted on the y-axis, facilitating easy comparison across different areas. Darker colors represent higher counts, allowing for the identification of predominant property types in specific community areas same less darker color represent lower counts. Heatmaps are valuable tools for detecting patterns and trends within datasets.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our analysis of affordable rental housing in Chicago, supported by diverse visualizations like bar graphs, histograms, scatter plots, heatmaps, and geospatial maps, has revealed critical insights. These insights inform housing policy and urban planning, addressing key research questions about property distributions, spatial trends, and correlations between property types and unit counts.

REFERENCES

- [1] "City of Chicago - Affordable rental housing developments," Apr. 19, 2024.
<https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/affordable-rental-housing-developments>

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