**Race, Wealth, and Educational Spending in St. Louis Area School Districts**

The Saint Louis region is one of the most divided metropolitan areas in the country. Saint Louis County, for instance, has a population of just over a million people, yet more than 88 municipalities. For those that have made homes and raised families here, nowhere is that division more evident than in the “high school question,” in which one’s answer speaks volumes to both their demographic and economic circumstances.

This project utilizes data from the U.S. Census Bureau and linear regression to model the relationship between indicators of wealth (i.e., household income, home value, and poverty rates) and the racial makeup of school districts in Saint Louis County and Saint Charles County. We hypothesized that as the concentration of Black residents increased, indicators of wealth would decrease, and subsequently, so would school district spending per student. While the analysis yielded a clear correlation between race and wealth, the same could not be said about race and district spending, suggesting a more complex relationship between each of these factors.