

Introduction

When reading through the dataset, I noticed that there are a series of questions related to how the organization has changed compared to the start of the COVID pandemic. This triggered my interest on how the pandemic has influenced the non-profit organizations. Also I have friends who have worked in different nonprofits in different cities, so I am interested in how different areas will affect the influence of the pandemic.

Research Question

How did the COVID-19 pandemic affect the financial condition of U.S. nonprofits differently across urban, suburban, and rural communities?

Proposal Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted nonprofit operations nationwide, but its impact likely varied depending on community type and resource access. This study aims to investigate whether nonprofits located in rural areas experienced greater financial strain—measured through revenue loss, staff reduction, and program suspension—compared to their urban and suburban counterparts.

Using the **National Survey of Nonprofit Trends and Impacts (Spring 2021)** dataset, I will analyze variables related to organizational finances (e.g., Decreased overall expenses, Reduced the number of programs or services), location context (RURALURBAN), and years of operation (YEARSWORKED). Weighted analyses will control for sampling differences (WEIGHT_COMPLETE_ONLY).

I will employ descriptive statistics to map financial impact distributions and logistic regression to model the likelihood of major financial distress (e.g., >25% revenue decline) by rurality. The findings will reveal the impact of the pandemic towards the non-profits and will potentially offer policymakers and funders toward more equitable recovery support and long-term capacity building in these areas.