

CORRELATIONS BETWEEN UNEMPLOYMENT AND HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA

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February 25, 2025

RESEARCH QUESTION: RAPID REVIEW

- My key question is whether there is a correlation between homelessness rates and unemployment rates in California.
- This will require me to calculate the rate of homelessness and unemployment rates in different California counties.

DATA COLLECTION: WHERE IS THE DATA COMING FROM?

- Numbers are needed for each county's homeless population, general population, and unemployment rates.
 - Population data is provided by the US Census Bureau and the California Department of Finance.
 - Unemployment data is provided by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics.
 - Homelessness data is provided by the Office of Policy Development and Research.
- This data is collected through the US Census, the Current Population Survey, and annual homelessness counts.

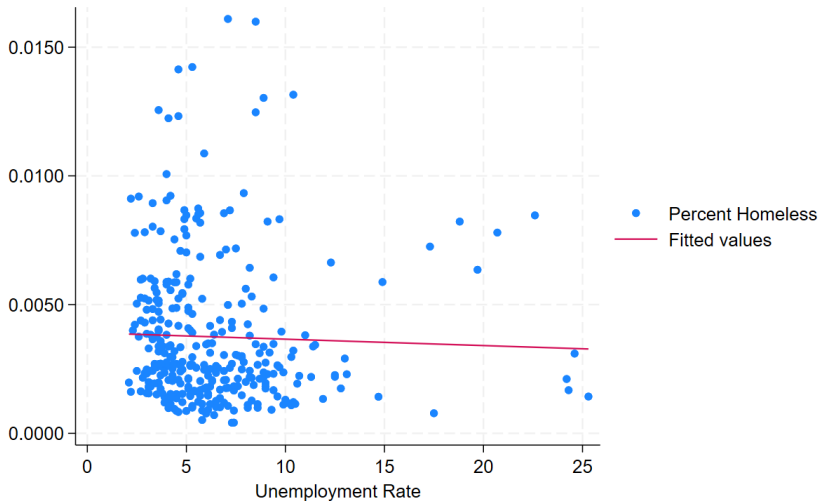
DATA COLLECTION: CONSOLIDATION

- Data from all of these sources were condensed to calculate the rate of homelessness and unemployment in 30 California counties from 2013 to 2023.
- Condensing this created several challenges in combining different reports.

EARLY RESULTS: WHAT DOES THE DATA SAY?

- The data has shown that there is no correlation between rates of homelessness and rates of unemployment.
 - Stata provides a correlation rate of -0.0324 implying that the relationship is practically nonexistent.
- Scatter plots of the data also imply no relationship.

DATA COLLECTION: GRAPHICAL ILLUSTRATION



RESEARCH HURDLES: PROBLEMS AND NEXT STEPS

- The results of my data collection will change my next steps.
- I will further prove a lack of correlation by analyzing what happens in employment shocks. What happens to homelessness when employment spikes?