

Urban Density and COVID-19

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has raised concerns about urban density. The frequent use of sidewalks, limited space in buildings and public areas make physical distancing difficult, increasing the risk of contagion. On the other hand, the idea that density is unhealthy is an oversimplification and misleading when it comes to COVID-19. This study aims to provide quantitative analysis on whether density - the defining feature of cities - promoted the spread of COVID-19.

Expectation:

- Review of literature on urban density and public health.
- Collecting city level data on confirmed cases and spread speed of COVID-19.
- Quantitative analysis on the relationship between urban density, as quantified by population density on the spread of COVID-19, while controlling for other factors such as quality of life.

Suggested Literature:

Felipe Carozzi, Sandro Provenzano and Sefi Roth (2020) Urban Density and Covid-19 .

William C. Wheaton and Anne Kinsella Thompson (2020) Doubts about Density: Covid-19 across Cities and Towns

Betreuung: Prof. Dr. Bing Zhu .

