

Big and Small Data for Understanding the Demographics and Health of People Experiencing Homelessness in King County

BIOGRAPHY



Zack W. Almquist is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, Adjunct Associate Professor of Statistics, and Senior Data Science Fellow at the eScience Institute at the University of Washington. Before coming to UW in 2020, Prof. Almquist held a Research Scientist position at Facebook, Inc., and Assistant Professor of Sociology and Statistics at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Almquist is a recipient of the American Sociological Association's Section on Methodology's Leo Goodman Award. He also received the NSF's CAREER Award and the ARO's Young Investigator Program Award. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Mathematical Sociology. His research centers on the development and application of mathematical, computational, and statistical methodology to problems and theory of social networks, demography, homelessness, and environmental action and governance.

ABSTRACT

In this talk, I will cover three major projects I am working on to improve the measurement of people experiencing homelessness. (1) Employing network-based sampling methods to improve the estimation of the total number of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness, as well as their demographic profile. (2) A large-scale project to understand the sleep experience of people experiencing homelessness and to help evaluate different sleeping situations (e.g., tiny homes, shelters, tents, etc). And (3) a spatiotemporal analysis of environmental hazard exposures and health risks to people experiencing homelessness in Seattle, Washington, through the historical records and databases of REACH Evergreen Treatment Services, the largest unhoused provider in Seattle, WA.