Supplemental Handout – Neighborhood Effects and Smoking during Pregnancy in Maine: The Influence of Social and Community Context

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Concentrated Disadvantage:

- Data Source: American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau
- Standardized measure of disadvantage, calculated using five variables:
 - o Percent of individuals living below the poverty line
 - o Percent of individuals on public assistance
 - Percent female-headed households
 - Percent unemployed
 - o Percent less than 18
- Z scores are calculated for each variable by census tract
- All five z scores are averaged for each census tract, which became that census tract's Concentrated Disadvantage Index Score
- The Concentrated Disadvantage Index Scores for each census tract are divided into quartiles:
 - 1 = Low Concentrated Disadvantage
 - 2 = Medium-Low Concentrated Disadvantage
 - 3 = Medium-High Concentrated Disadvantage
 - 4 = High Concentrated Disadvantage
- High Concentrated Disadvantage is associated with risky health behaviors and adverse health outcomes

For more detailed methods, please visit the AMCHP Life Course Indicators Online Tool at: http://www.amchp.org/programsandtopics/data-assessment/Pages/LifeCourseIndicators.aspx. Concentrated Disadvantage is listed under "Community Wellbeing."

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