**Title:** The Relation Between Income and Mental Health among Older Adults of West Virginia

**Authors:** Hannah M. Decanio

**Support Team:** Daniel Liedl, Laura Bernstein, & Dr. Kristina M. Hash

**Purpose:** Residents of West Virginia have faced many adversities, including poverty, lack of access to health care/treatment, and worsened health status (McGarvey et al., 2010). This study examined the association between poverty and mental health among older adults (65+) living in WV.

**Methods:** Data from the 2018 BRFSS were used to examine income levels and the frequent (14+) poor mental health days.

**Results:** Results showed the likelihood of having poor mental health days tends to be more prevalent in lower income levels χ2 (7, *N* = 1470) = 53.57, *p* < 0.0001. 9.5% of residents whose income was $35,000 ≤ $50,000 had frequent poor mental health days compared to the 33.6% of residents who had an income < $10,000.

**Discussion/ Conclusions:** The findings address the role of poverty and mental health among older adults in WV. Limitations include lack of specifying what poor mental health means.