Spatial Structure of Accommodation Costs in the Madison Area

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Abstract

The spatial structure of accommodation costs in the Madison areas with respect to the direct distance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus was investigated using GIS and spreadsheet software. Major factors influencing the spatial variation of accommodation costs were discussed.

The spatial structure of accommodation costs indicated that the preferred and convenient locations for students were within two kilometres from the campus boundary. Factors such as proximity to social amenities, commercial centres, recreation parks and accessibility generally appeared to have significant impacts on the spatial structure of accommodation costs beyond two kilometres distance from the campus boundary.