Shannon Monnat, Ph.D.

Dr. Shannon Monnat is the Lerner Chair for Public Health Promotion, Associate Professor of Sociology, and Co-Director of the Policy, Place, and Population Health Lab in the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. She also has research affiliations with SU's Center for Policy Research and Center for Aging and Policy Studies, Penn State's Population Research Institute, University of New Hampshire's Carsey School of Public Policy, Stanford University's Center on Poverty and Inequality, and University of Wisconsin's Institute for Research on Poverty. She received her PhD in Sociology in 2008 from the University at Albany. Monnat's research interests lay at the intersection of place, policy, and population health. Much of her research focuses on trends and geographic differences in health and mortality, with special interest in rural people and places. She is a leading national expert on social, structural, and spatial determinants of opioid and other drug use and overdose. Her most recent research has focused on trying to understand why substance-related mortality rates are higher in some places than others. Her leadership in this area is evidenced by her appointment to the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Rising Midlife Mortality Rates and Socioeconomic Disparities and her consultation related to opioids and other rural health issues for several government agencies (USDA, ONDCP, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime). She has authored over 70 publications and has presented her research at Congressional briefings and to numerous academic, public, and policy audiences. Monnat has been the PI or co-PI on several large federal agency and foundation grants, including the National Institutes of Health, United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. Dept of Justice, and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.