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Document Title: Neighborhoods and Crime: Collective Efficacy and Social Cohesion in Miami-Dade County, Executive Summary

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2. At the level of individual perceptions, what are the important relationships between perceptions of collective efficacy and related constructs and other important perceptual outcomes, such as perceptions of incivilities, satisfaction with the police, and fear of crime?
3. Do the relationships between perceptions of collective efficacy and related constructs and other key variables vary between neighborhoods? In other words, is there heterogeneity in the impact of perceptions of collective efficacy in different social contexts? If so, how does the impact of perceptions of collective efficacy vary and what are potential explanations for this heterogeneity?
4. What variables predict perceptions of collective efficacy and related constructs? Do a person's activities within the neighborhood influence the degree to which they perceive it to function properly?
5. Is there local variability in collective efficacy and other related constructs within neighborhoods? What strategies are available for modeling this variability?

Methods

To answer these research questions, we collected data from eight neighborhoods across Miami-Dade County: Brownsville, Bunche Park, East Little Havana, Seminole Wayside Park, Ives Dairy Estates, Kendall Hammocks Park, Auberdale, and Coral Reef Park. These neighborhoods were purposively selected to represent a diverse cross-section of neighborhoods from across Miami-Dade County and vary in terms of demographic characteristics, socioeconomic status, geographic location in the county, and previous patterns of crime. Neighborhood boundaries for these areas were created in consultation with officially designated boundaries, similarities in demographic and socioeconomic characteristics reflected in Census data, common land use (such as schools and parks) that serve as central focal points for the surrounding neighborhood, distinct "breaks" in land use (e.g., moving from predominately residential to commercial property, change in residential housing stock or quality), and transportation/hydrology boundaries. The map below illustrates the locations of the selected neighborhoods.

