

Homeless in New York City



Previous Work

- Why are health and social problems concentrated in some but not other neighborhoods?
- What about poverty leads people to harm themselves or others? (social problems)
- What is the pathway between adverse neighborhood conditions and the spatial concentration of health and social problems?

Stress as a Pathway

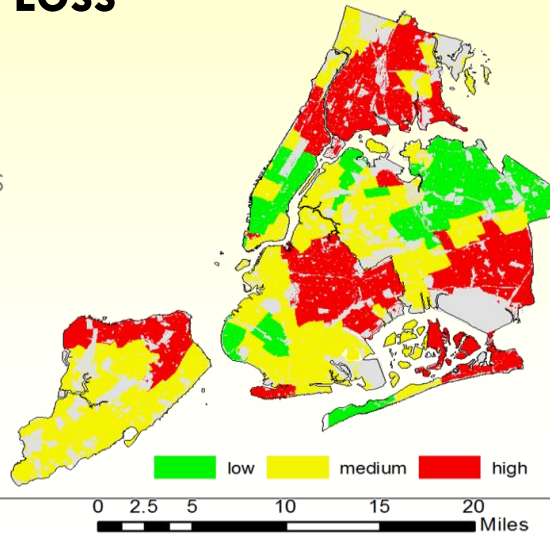
- **Well Known:** Exposure to severe loss can create health and social problems for individuals
- **Less Well Known:** What happens to communities in which large numbers of people living in close proximity regularly suffer multiple resource losses at the same time
- **The CLI Corrective:** Aggregates individual experiences, and helps to understand why health and social problem amasses in certain areas

The Community Loss Index

- I. Loss or removal of household members due to
 - Foster care placement
 - Incarceration
 - Long-term hospitalization
 - Untimely deaths (e.g., murders, suicides, and accidents)
 - II. Loss of financial assets due to
 - Unemployment (job loss)
 - Foreclosure (loss of housing)
- All** six losses are:
- Unpredictable and uncontrollable
 - Appear at the high end of the stress spectrum

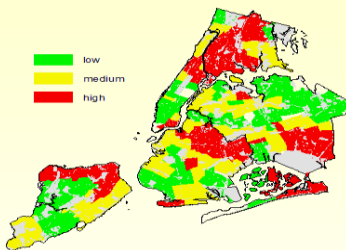
Citywide Accumulated Community Loss

- The aggregation of
- Foster care placements
 - Incarcerations
 - Long-term hospitalizations
 - Untimely deaths
 - Foreclosures
 - Unemployment

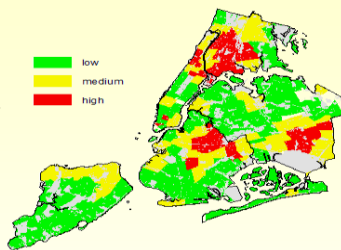


Citywide Distribution of Losses

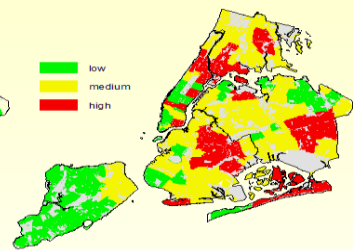
Foster Care Placements



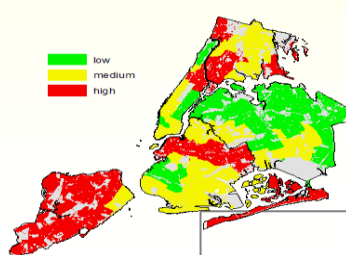
Incarcerations



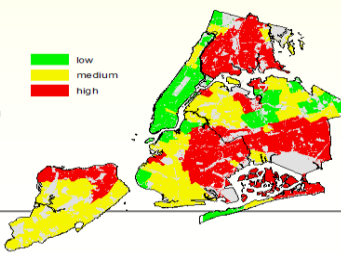
Longterm Hospitalizations



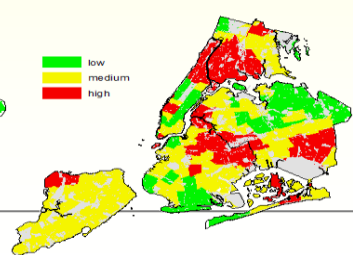
Premature Deaths



Foreclosures



Unemployment



Application of the CLI

- Effectively captures a previously unrecognized component of community life and poverty
- Disrupts the view of poverty as a uniform experience
- Can help communities and public officials to
 - Unpack poverty in the context of place
 - Understand how community loss varies by geography & demographics (place & persons)
 - Work together to fine-tune intervention for change based on actual community needs

Invitation by DHS



Needing a bed

People in homeless shelters in New York City each night, '000



Source: Coalition for the Homeless

Research Question

- What causes / explains / predicts homelessness?

Research Question

- What causes / explains / predicts homelessness?
- Your turn! Suggestions please

Indicators

- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety
- Early warning signs

Indicators

- Economic conditions
 - Extreme poverty
 - Unemployment
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety
- Early warning signs

Indicators

- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
 - Cost of rent → □ Change over time
 - Subsidized housing
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety
- Early warning signs

Indicators

- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
 - Building violations
 - Bad landlords
 - Vermin
 - Crowding
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety
- Early warning signs

Indicators

- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
 - Evictions
 - Foreclosures
 - Vacancy rates
 - Subsidized conversions
- Neighborhood safety
- Early warning signs

Indicators

- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety
 - Shots fired
 - Violent crime locations
 - Location of arrests
 - Police harassment
- Early warning signs

Indicators

- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety
- Early warning signs
 - Doubling-up
 - Once-shot deal
 - Utility cut-offs
 - Domestic violence
 - Rezoning

Data Sources

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> US Census | <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor's Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NYU Furman Center | <input type="checkbox"/> DHS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NYC Dep of Buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> DCP (PLUTO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 311 complaints (DOITT) | <input type="checkbox"/> NYPD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NYC Dep of Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> taxbills.nyc |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DOHMH | <input type="checkbox"/> johnkrauss.com |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Advocate | <input type="checkbox"/> iquantnyc.tumblr.com |

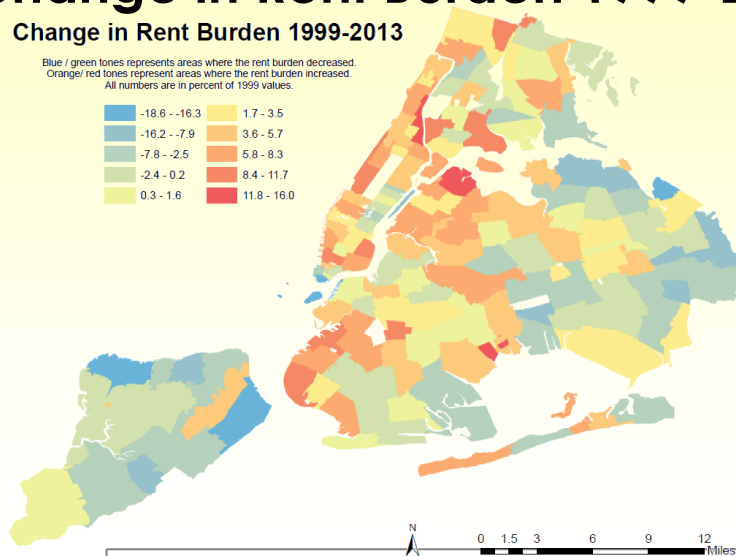
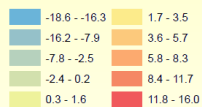
What Did Not Get Used

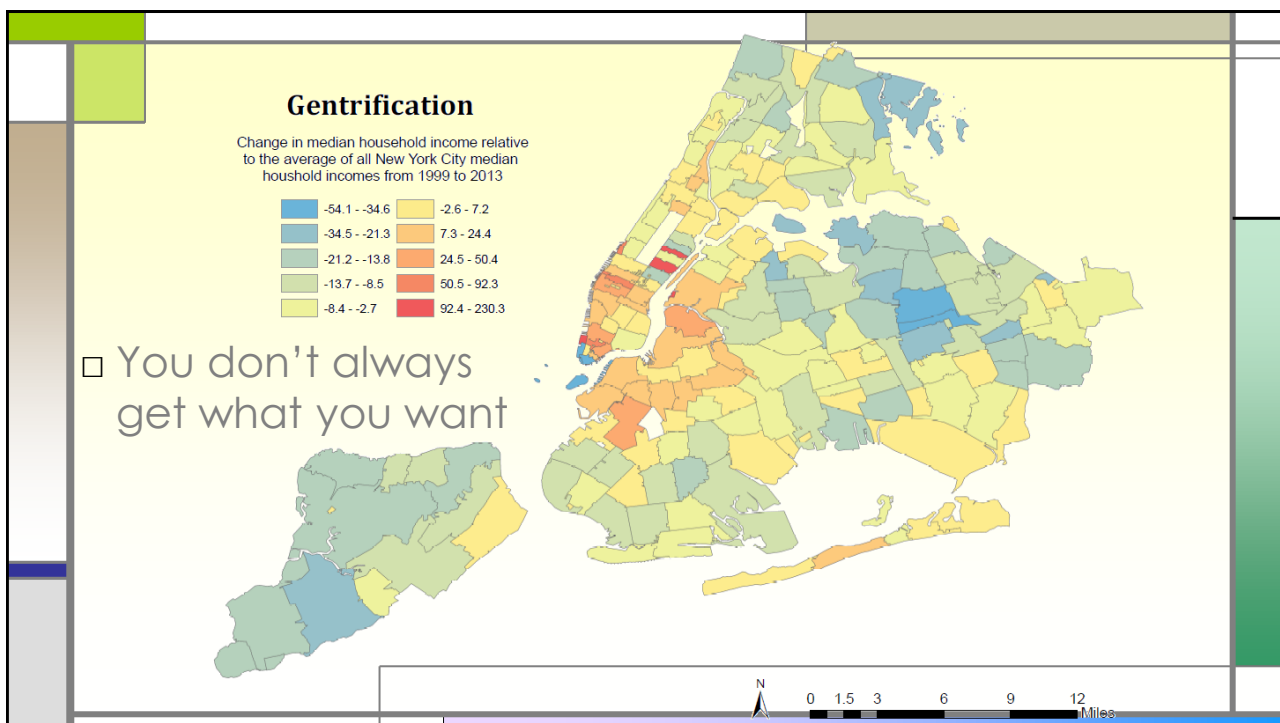
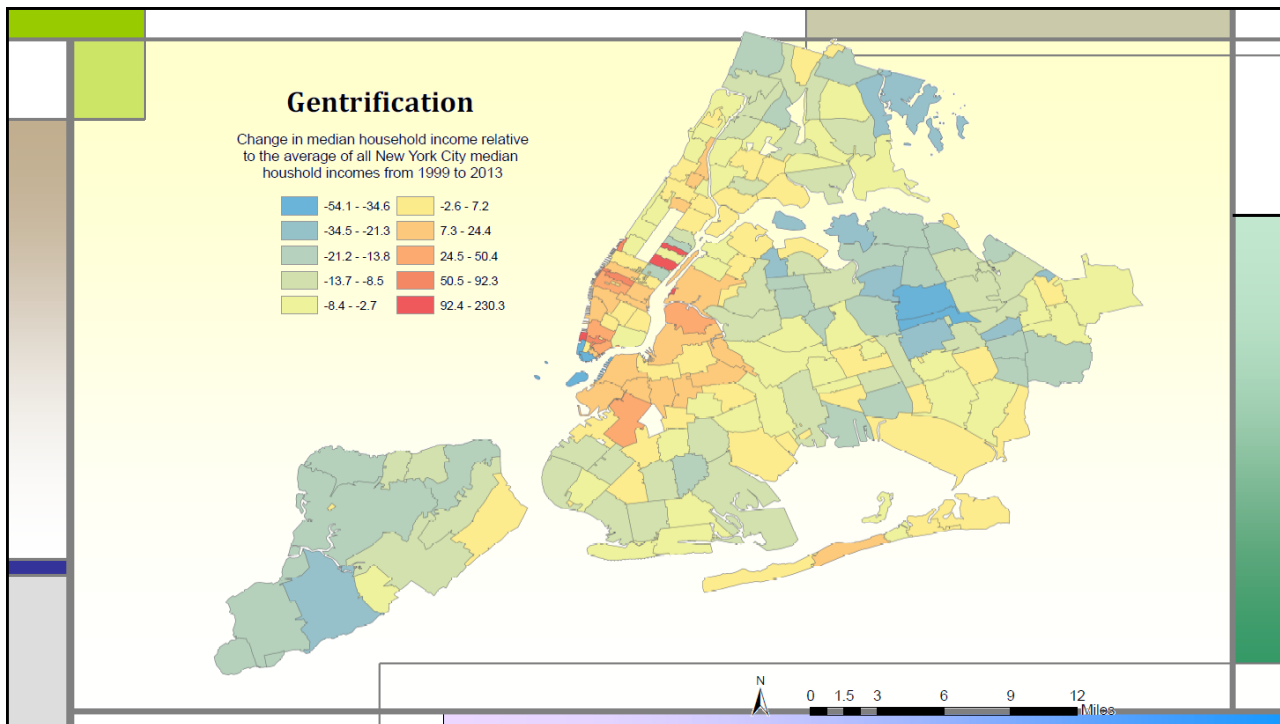
- Utility cutoffs
- Change in rent burden
- Gentrification

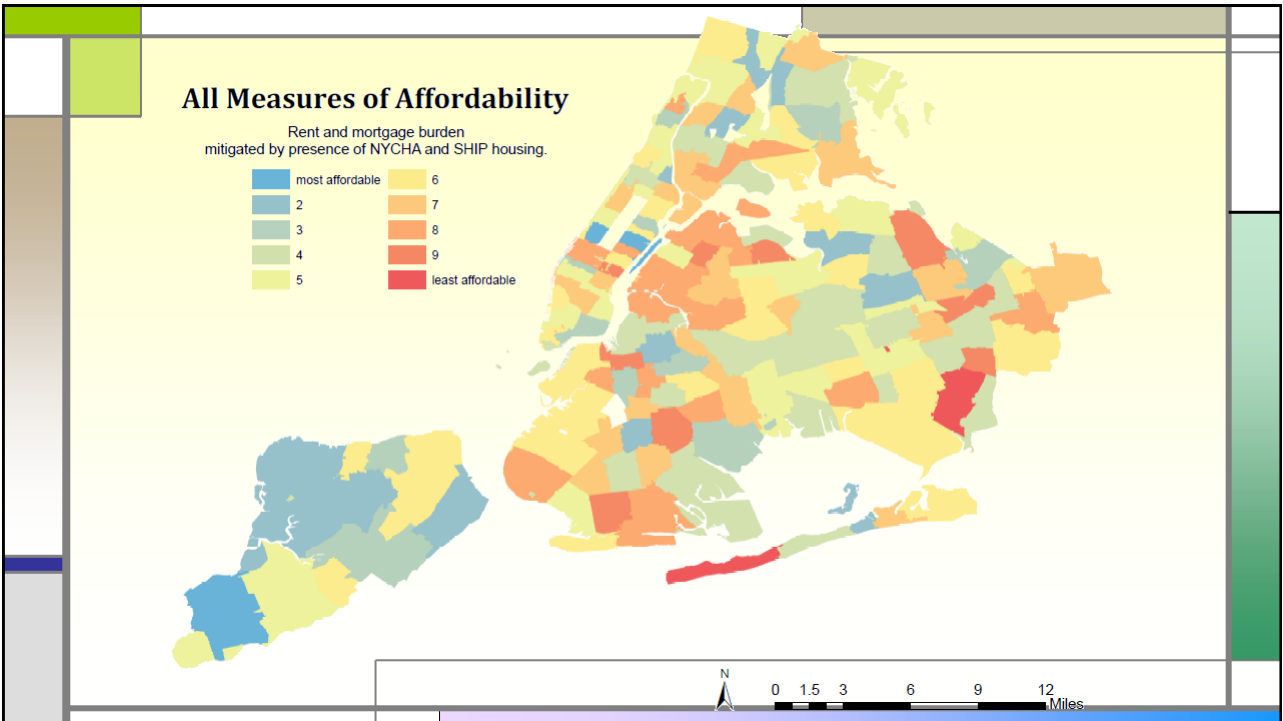
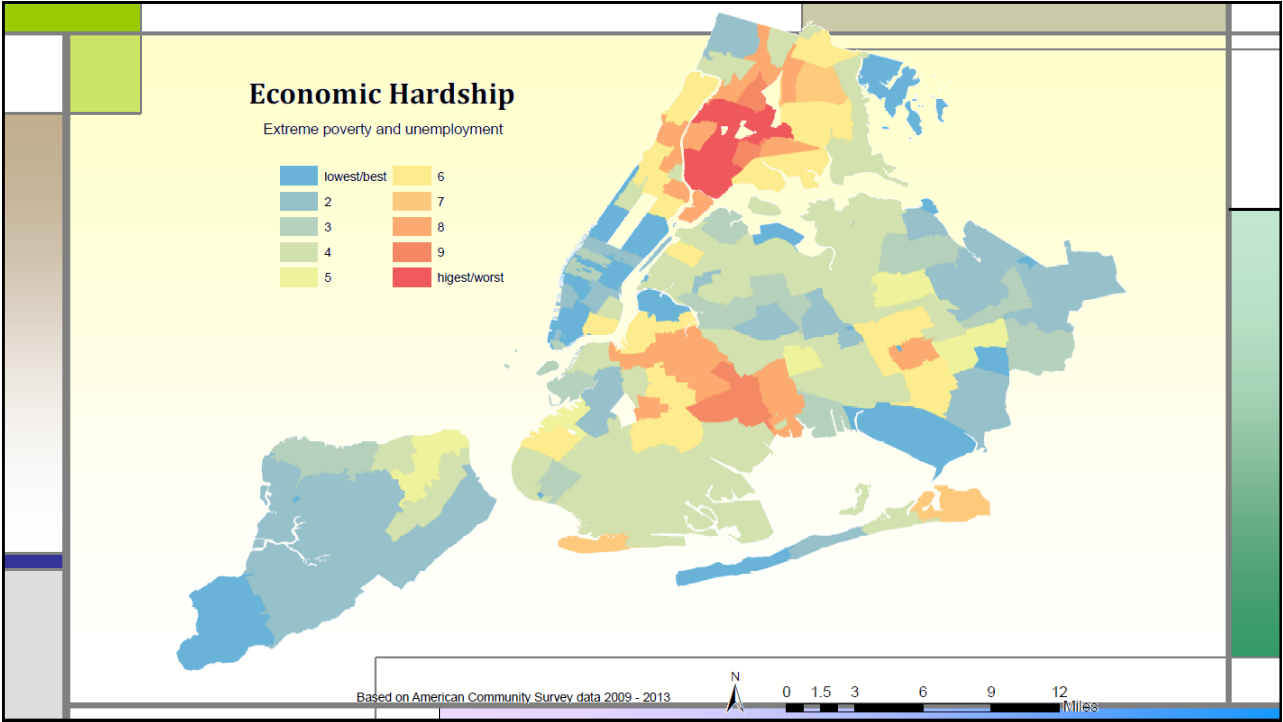
Change in Rent Burden 1999-2013

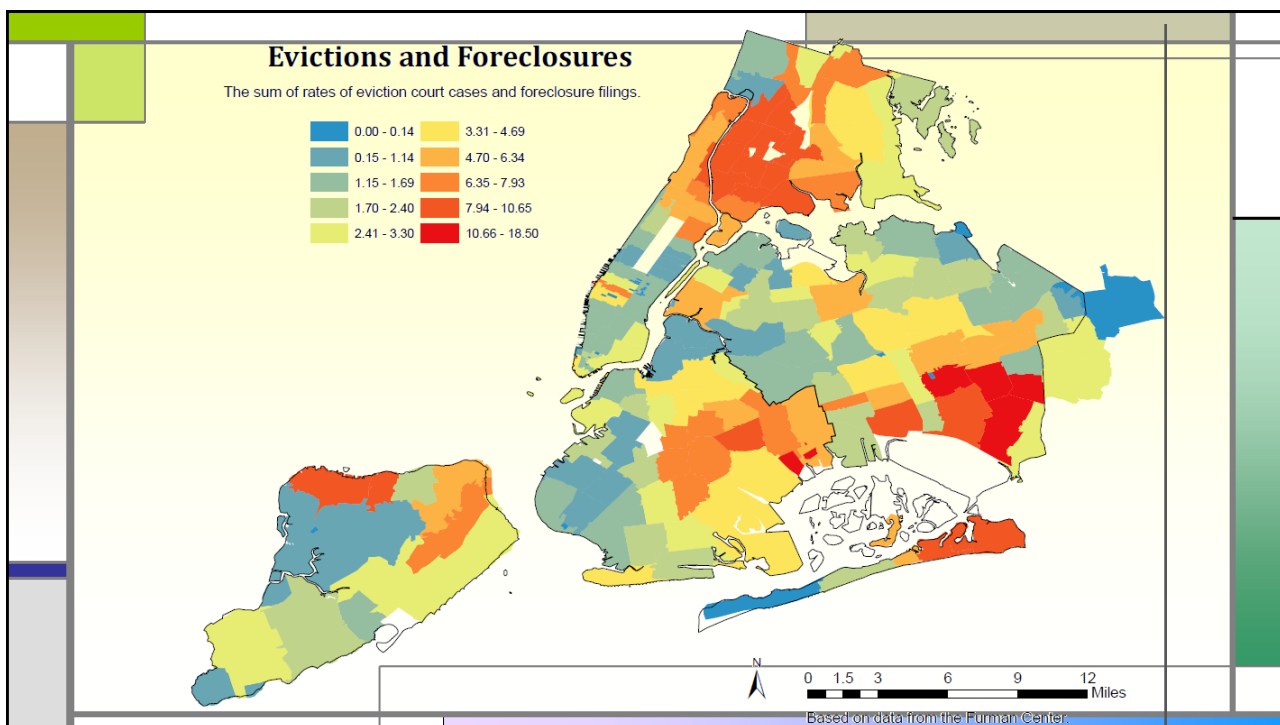
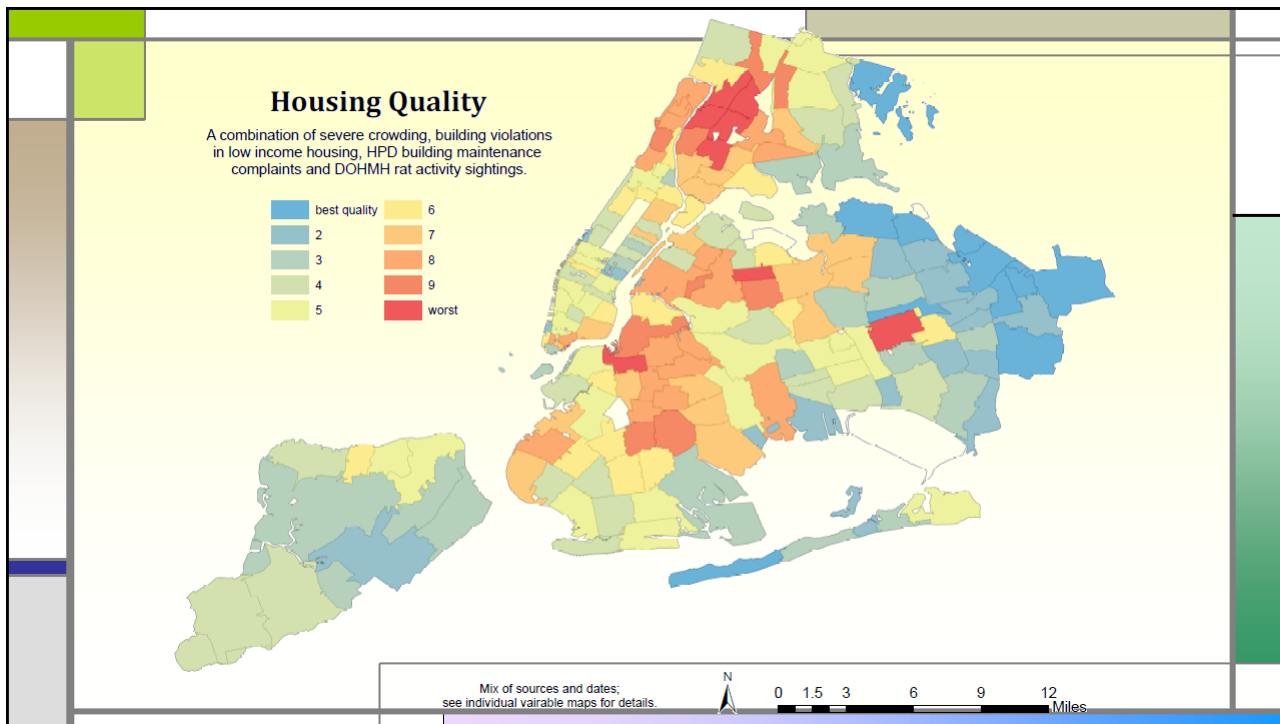
Change in Rent Burden 1999-2013

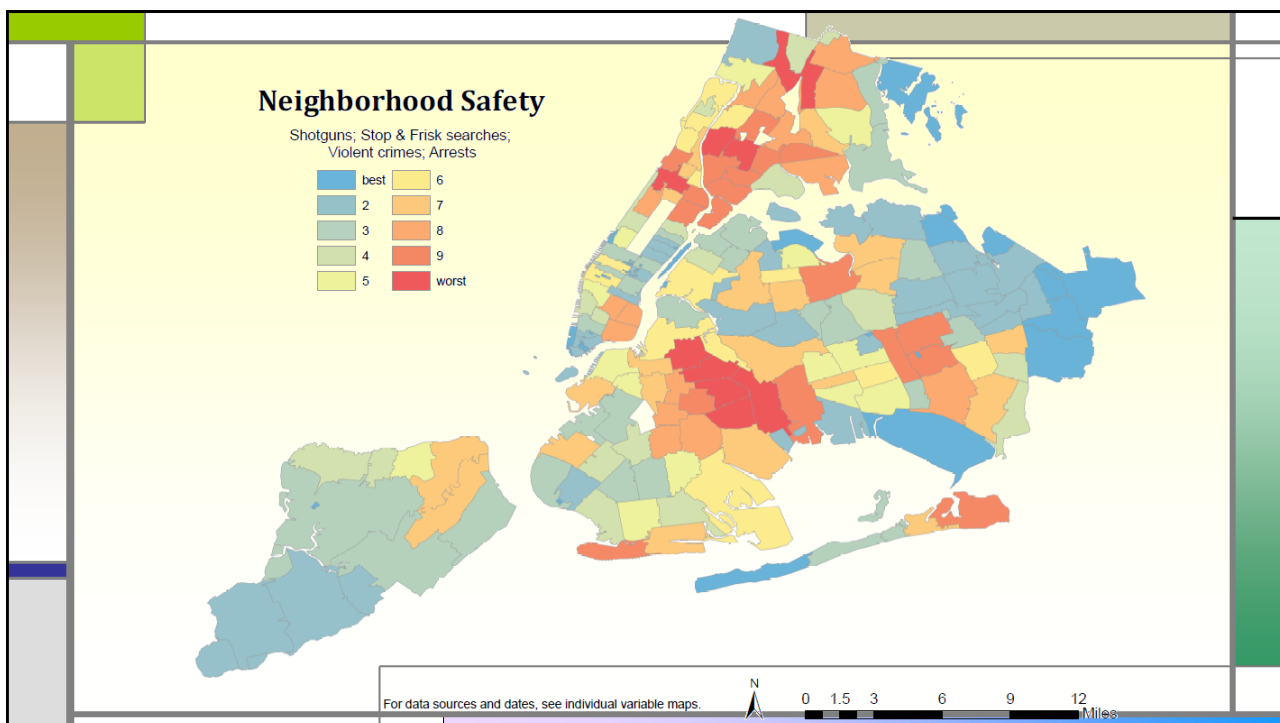
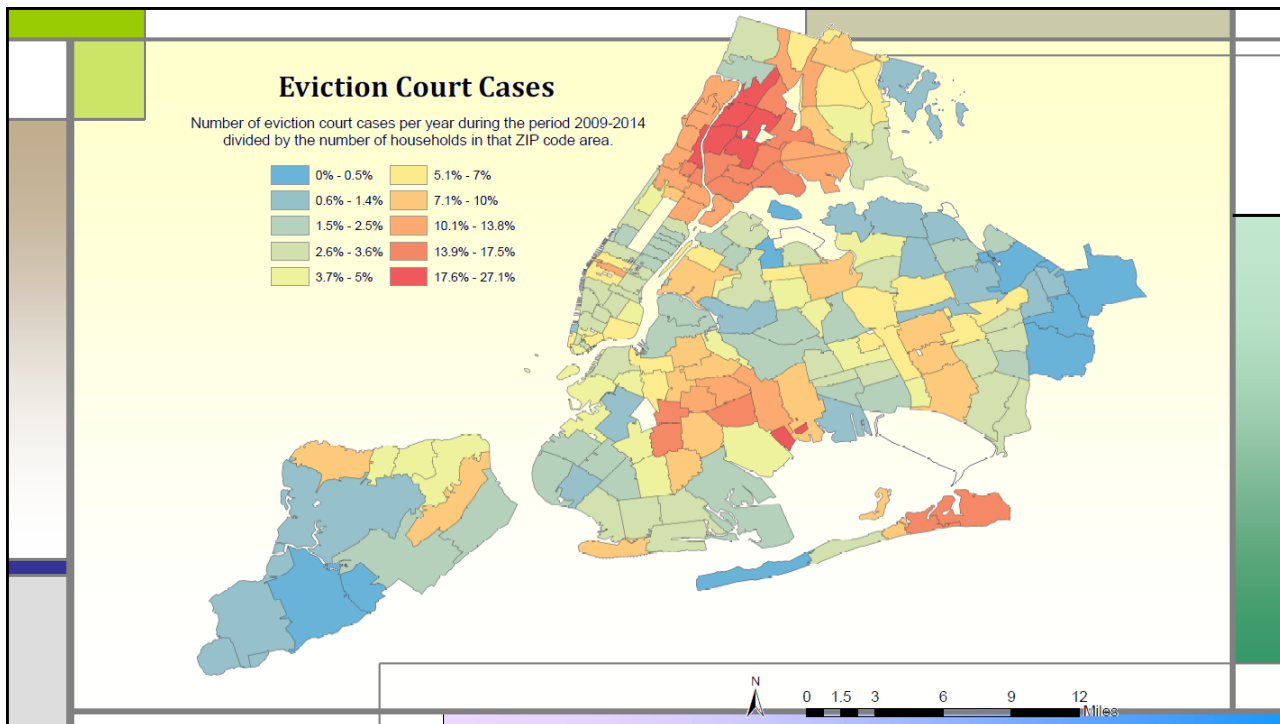
Blue / green tones represents areas where the rent burden decreased.
Orange / red tones represent areas where the rent burden increased.
All numbers are in percent of 1999 values.

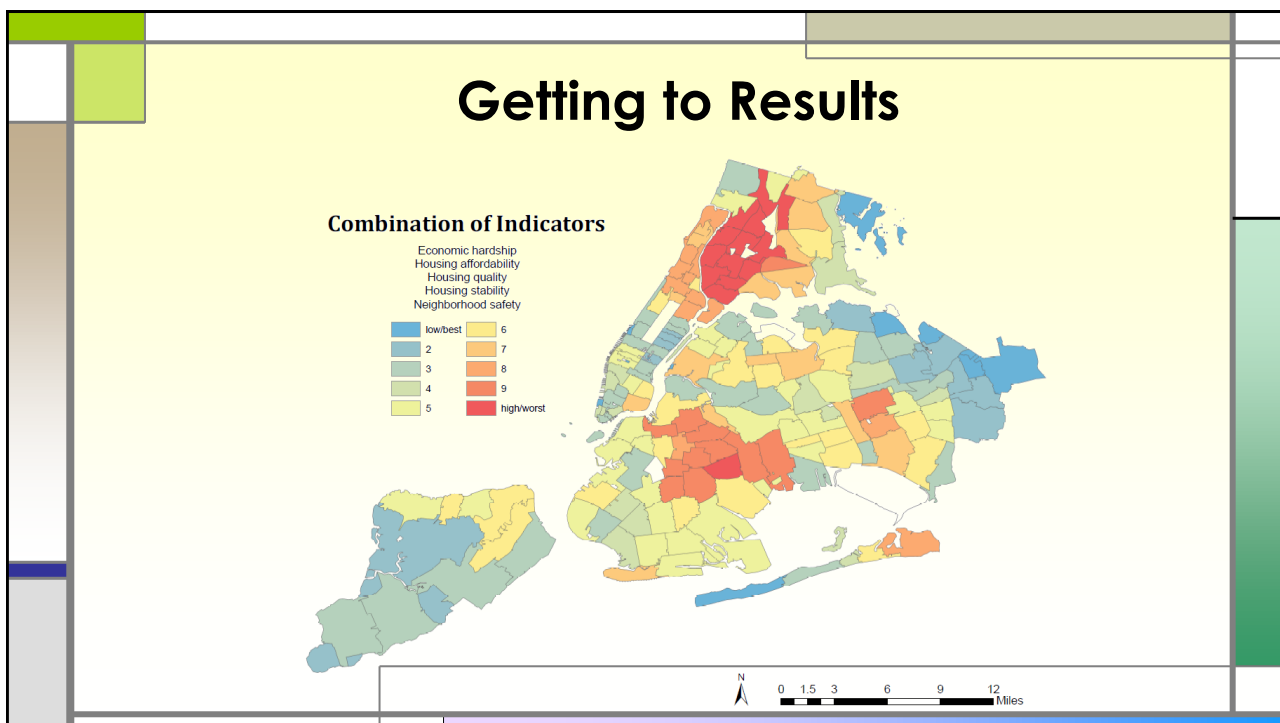
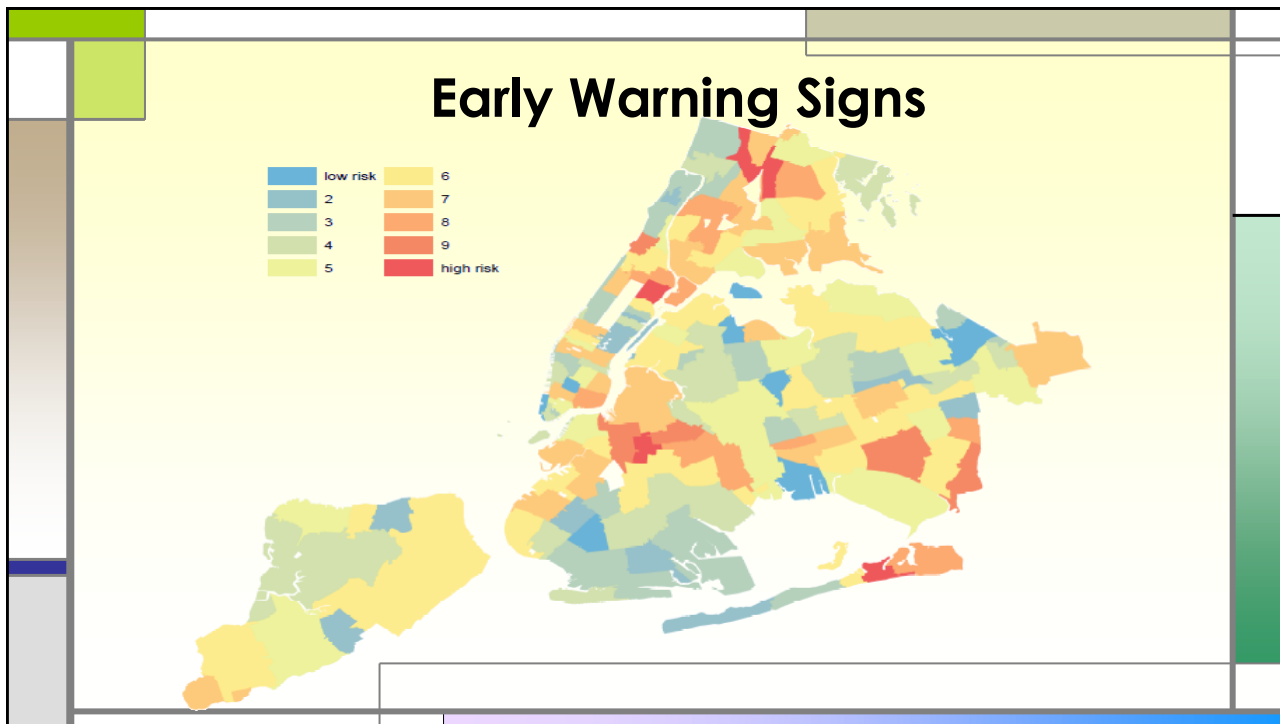








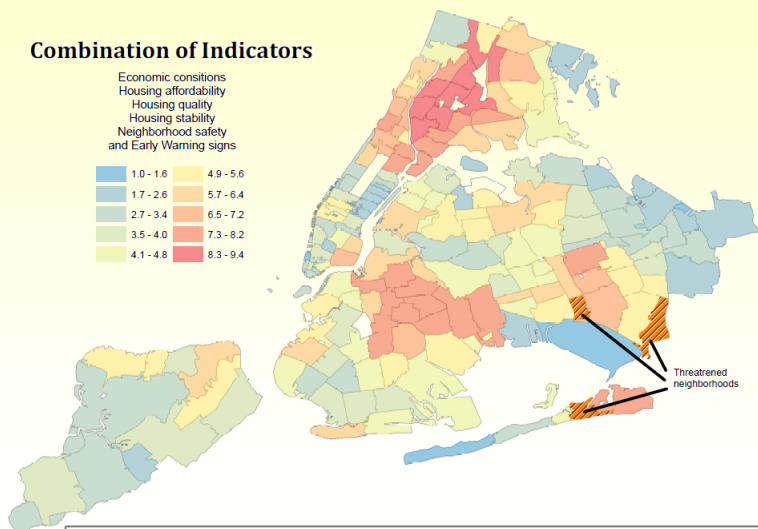
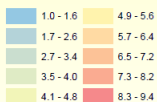




Threatened Neighborhoods

Combination of Indicators

Economic conditions
 Housing affordability
 Housing quality
 Housing stability
 Neighborhood safety
 and Early Warning signs



Neighborhoods are considered to be threatened if the value of their combination of indicators increases with the inclusion of early warning signs.

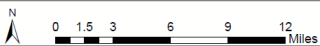
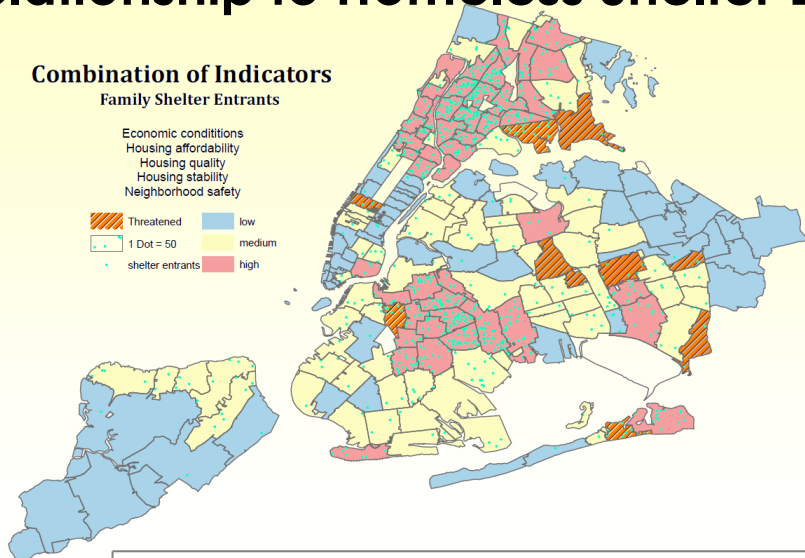
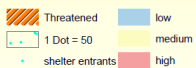


.. in Relationship to Homeless Shelter Entries

Combination of Indicators

Family Shelter Entrants

Economic conditions
 Housing affordability
 Housing quality
 Housing stability
 Neighborhood safety



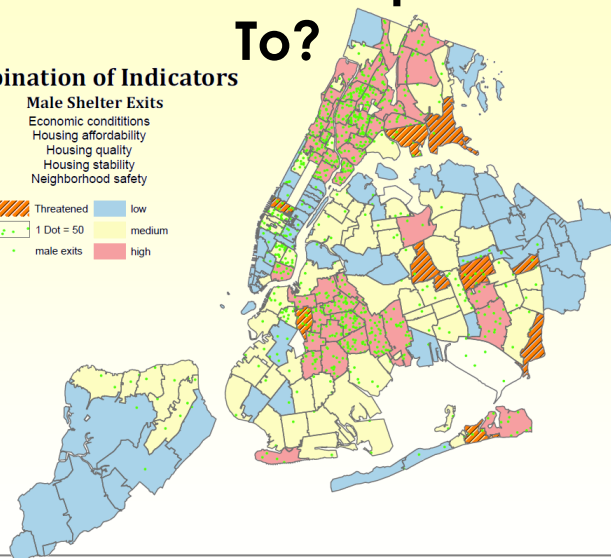
Where Are Shelter Occupants Released To?

Combination of Indicators

Male Shelter Exits

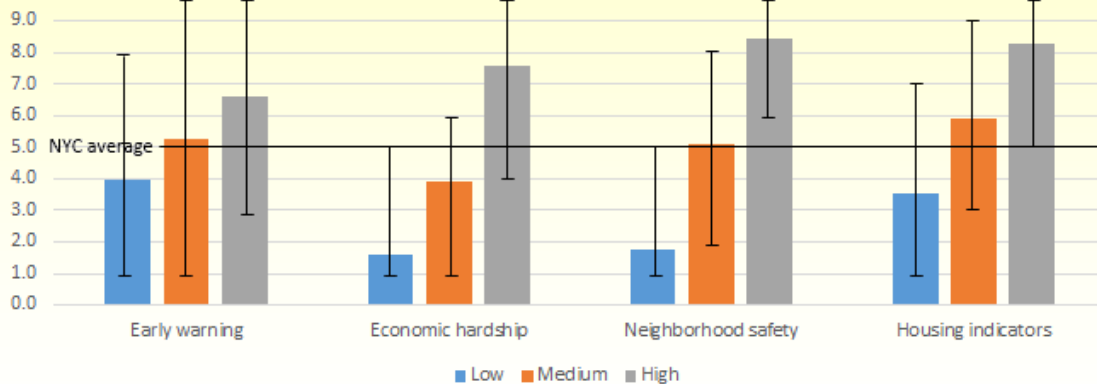
- Economic conditions
- Housing affordability
- Housing quality
- Housing stability
- Neighborhood safety

- Threatened
- low
- 1 Dot = 50
- medium
- high



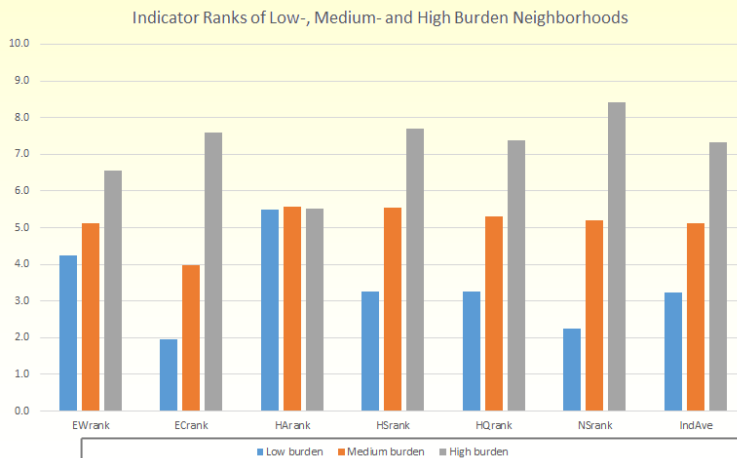
Classifying Neighborhoods

Indicator Ranks of Low-, Medium- and High-burden Neighborhoods

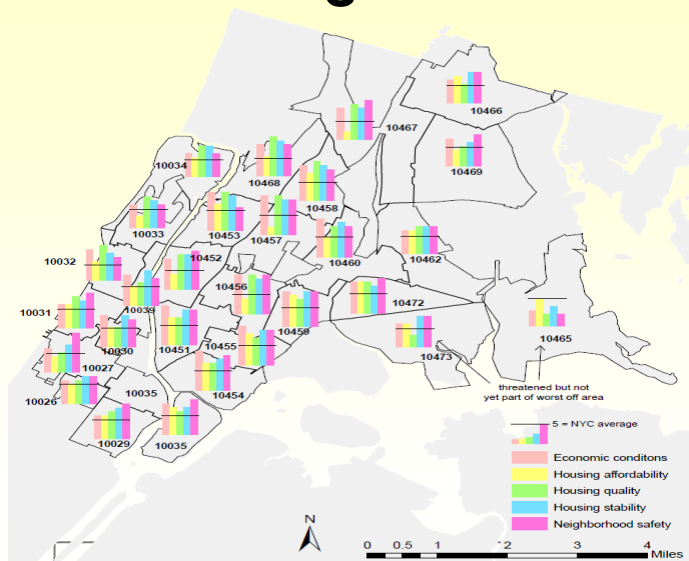


.. and here for something interesting

- Is there anything that strikes you as odd here?



Drilling Down



Southern Tier of Neighborhood Burdens



Conclusions

- Homelessness is not going to go away
- Jamaica and Rockaways are threatened
- Evictions are an excellent predictor of homelessness
- The role of zoning changes will have to be studied further