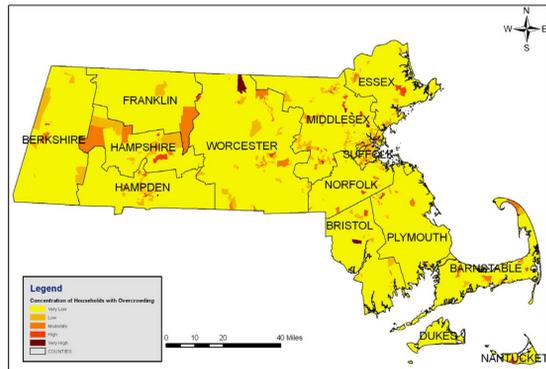
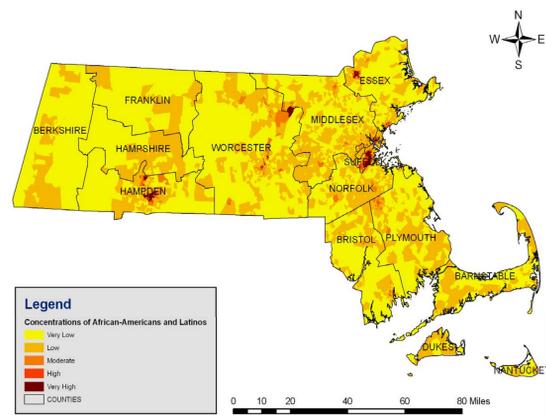


Concentrations of Households at Risk of Homelessness in Massachusetts Census Block Groups

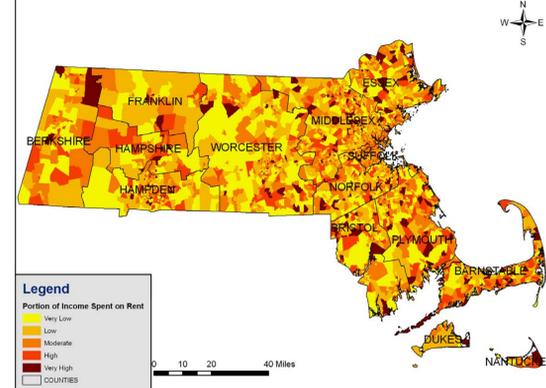
Housing Overcrowding



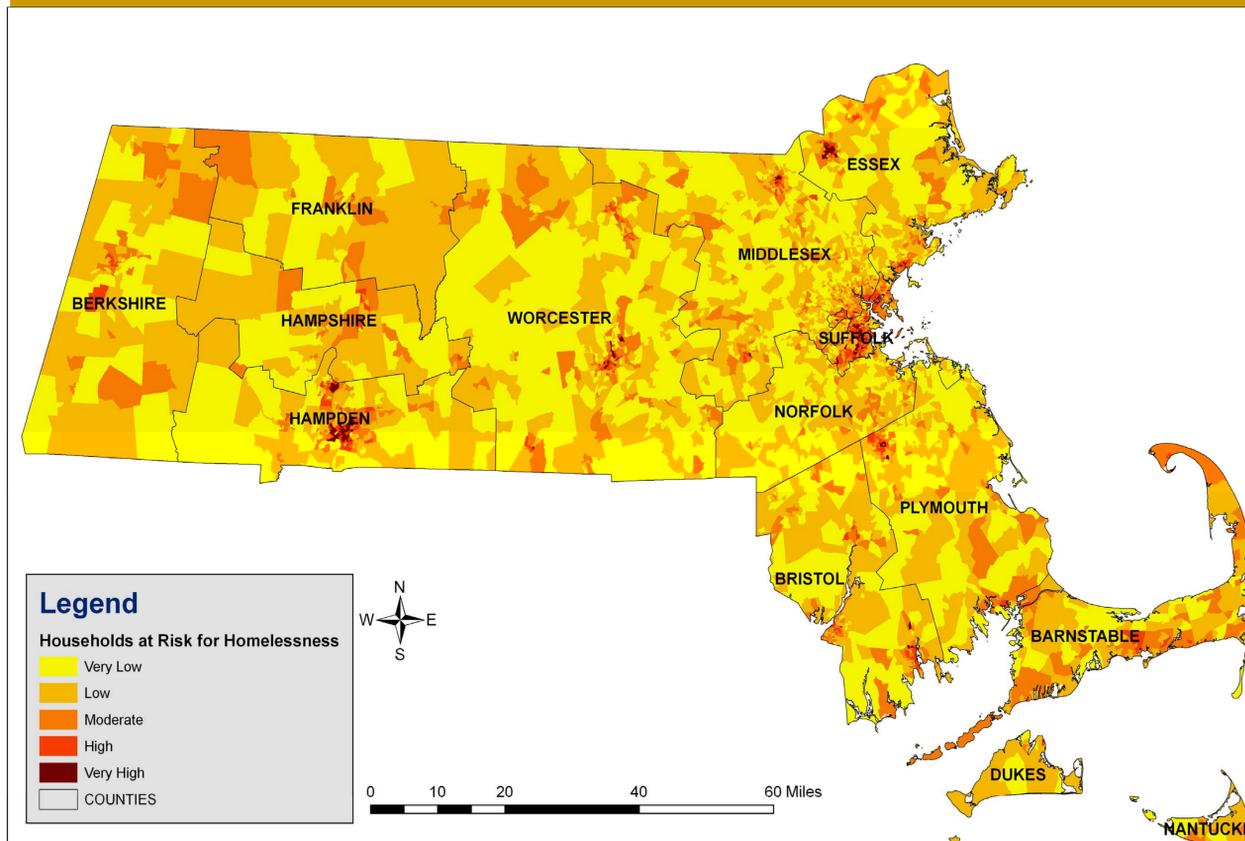
Concentration of African-Americans and Latinos



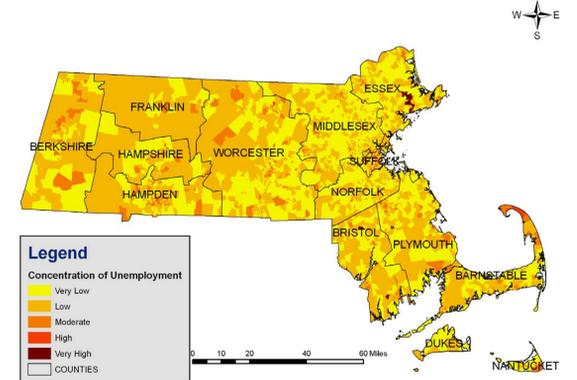
Concentration of Housing Cost Burden



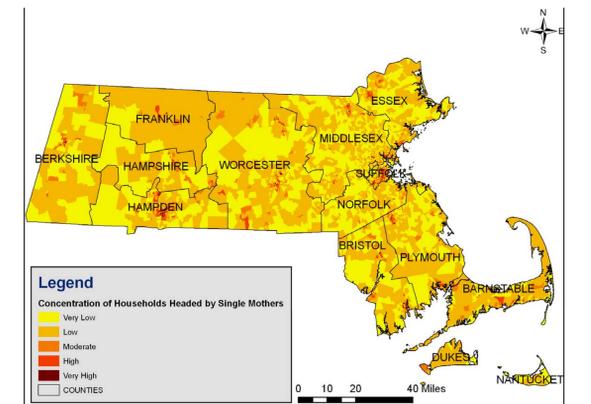
Households at Risk for Homelessness in Massachusetts



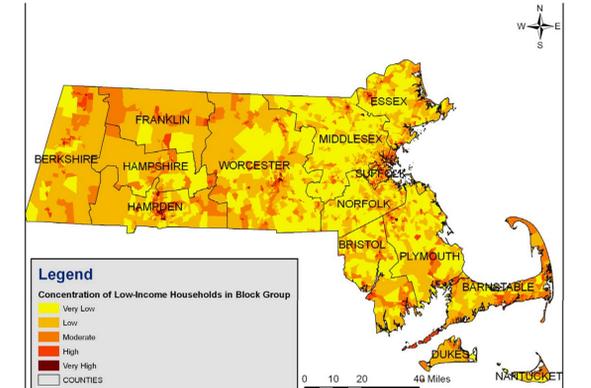
Concentration of Unemployment



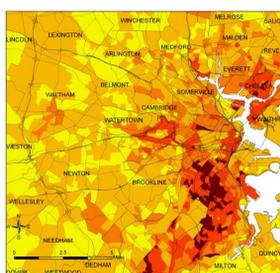
Concentration of Households Headed by Single Mothers



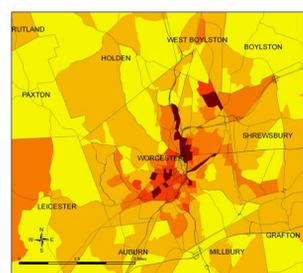
Concentration of Low-Income Households



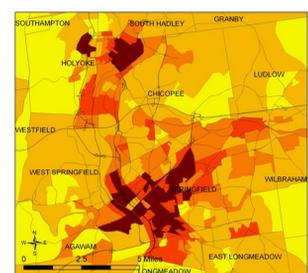
Risk of Homelessness In the Greater Boston Area



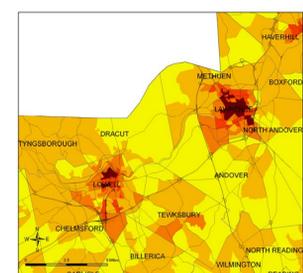
Risk of Homelessness In the Greater Worcester Area



Risk of Homelessness In the Greater Springfield Area



Risk of Homelessness In the Lawrence/ Lowell Area



Project Description: Previous research has shown a correlation between certain demographic and housing characteristic and homelessness. These characteristics include: income, unemployment rates, high housing cost burden, housing overcrowding, concentration of African-Americans and Latinos, and concentrations of households headed by single mothers. In this project those characteristics were mapped by census block group for the state of Massachusetts in order to highlight the location of these high risk households. These factors do not cause homelessness but do contribute to vulnerability when personal crisis arise. These maps show areas that could be targeted for eviction and homeless prevention programs and funding.

Findings: The analysis of this Census data shows that 329,210 individuals, within 82,946 households and 209 Census Block Groups, live in areas with a very high concentration of risk of homelessness. Public policy makers and social service planners must taken into account the geographic concentration of these households when planning and implementing homeless prevention programs.

Limitations: Limitations of these findings include 1) variables are evenly weighted in this study while in reality some factors may have stronger correlations than others and 2) there are several non-demographic factors which put people at risk of homelessness but are excluded from this study including incidence of domestic violence, mental health concerns, addictive illness, and broken social networks.