

Formative work and preliminary results using RDS: New Orleans after Katrina

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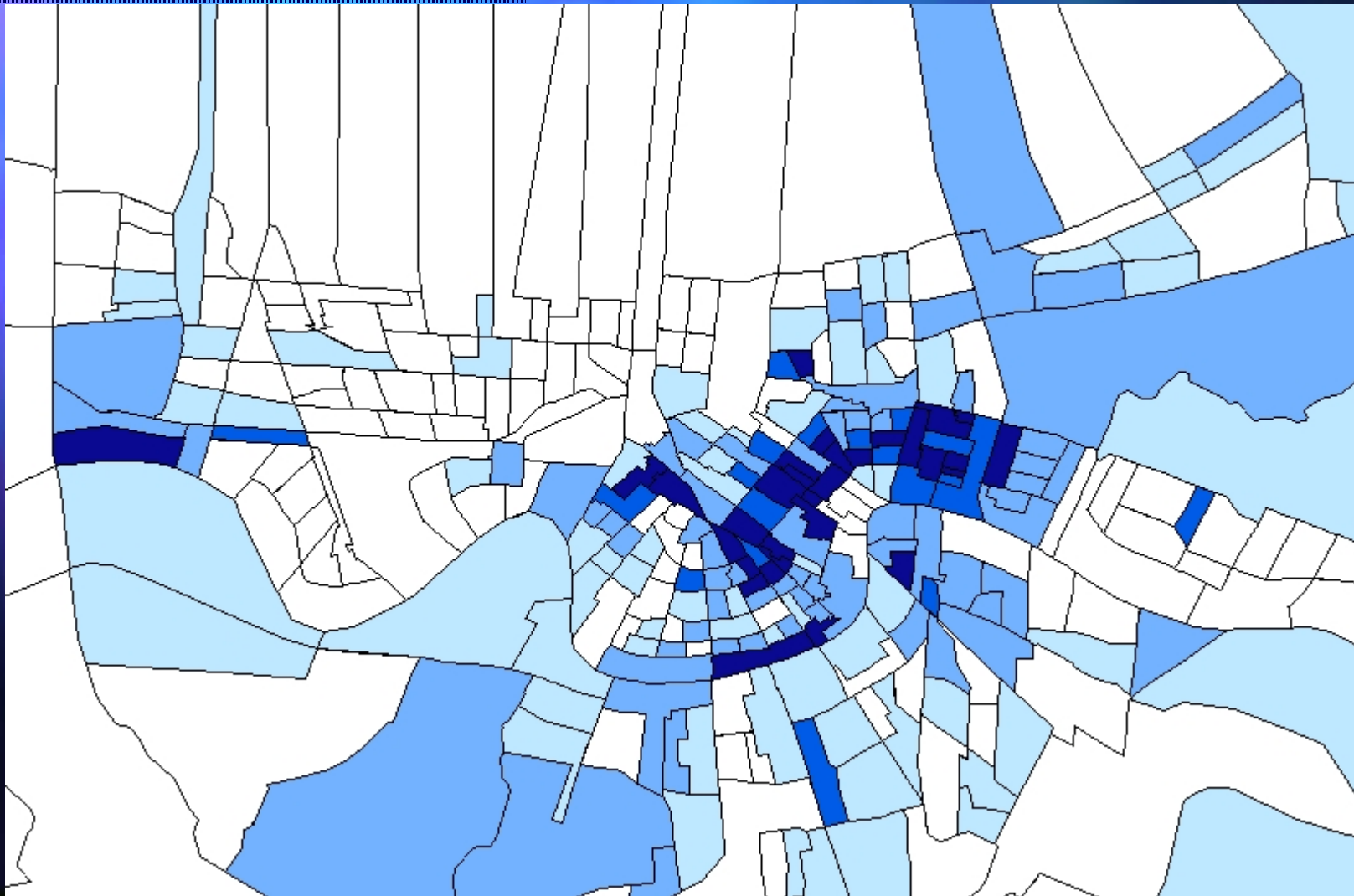
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Introduction

- Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing levee failure has become one of the deadliest and costliest disasters in the U.S.
- The effects on public health efforts such as HIV/AIDS prevention have been seriously disrupted.
- Stated purpose of HIV Surveillance Program is to provide accurate disease data, which are critical for planning HIV prevention and services activities in N.O. and throughout the State.
- In order to accomplish this, increased efforts have been necessary both at the Macro and Micro (Global/Local) levels

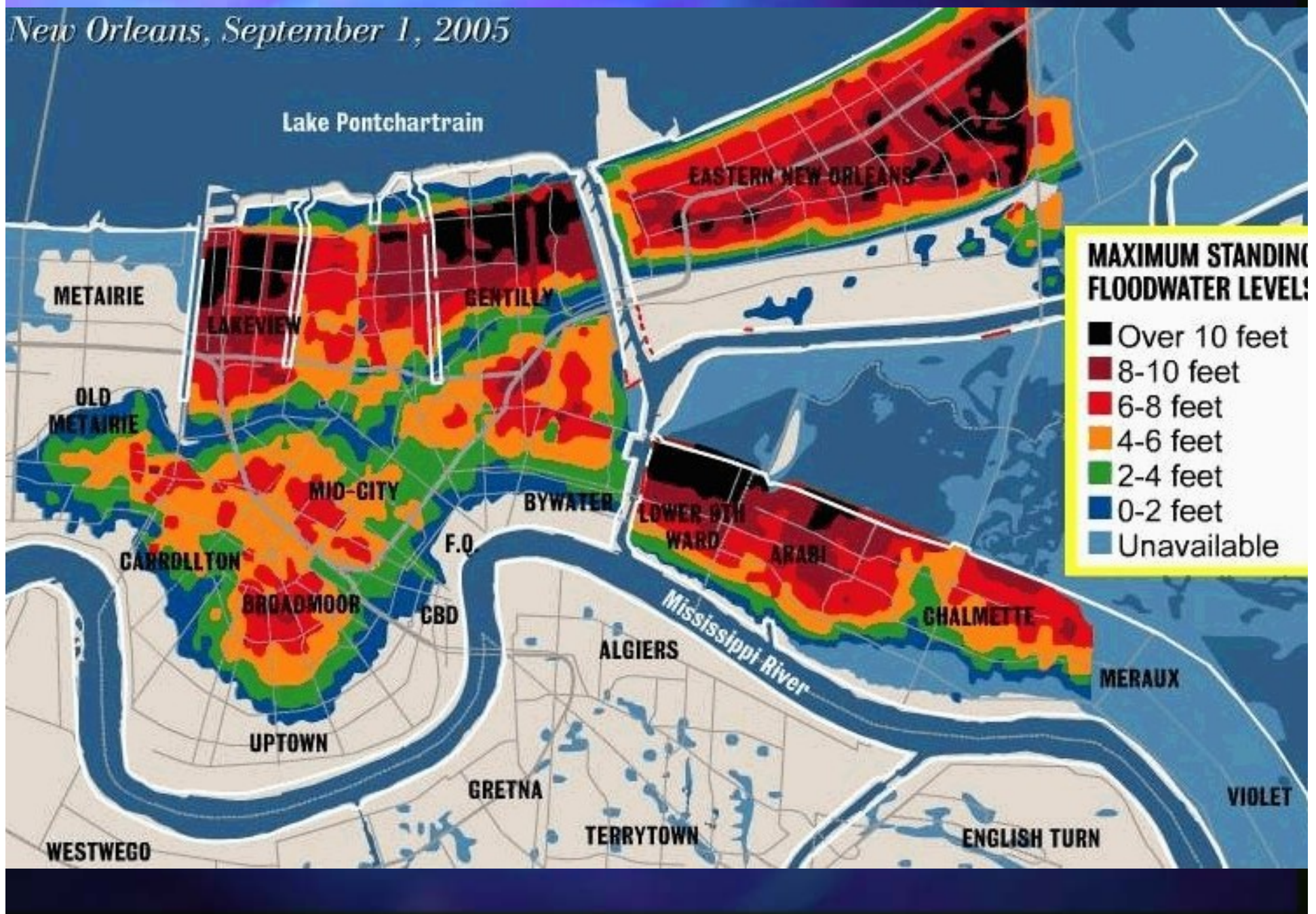
National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS)

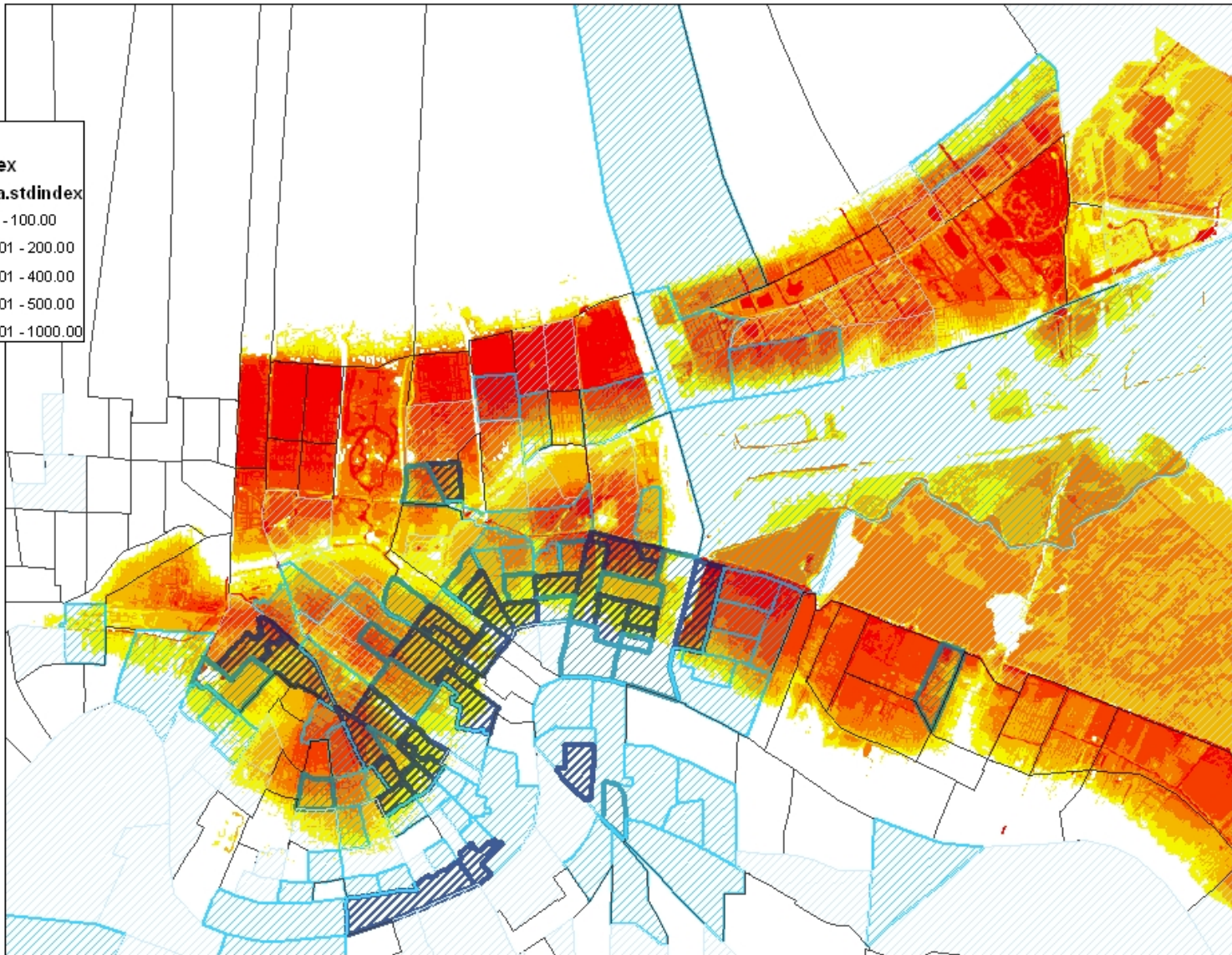
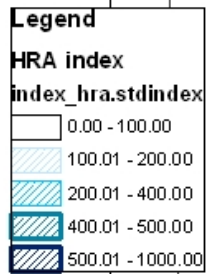




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New Orleans, September 1, 2005





NHBS Formative Activities

- Systematic Social Observations
- Brief Street Interviews
- Focus Groups

Social Observation Methods

- Locally developed instrument designed to assess:
 - Residential and commercial viability
 - Physical order/disorder
 - Social order/disorder
 - Potential survey locations
- Three independent observers
 - 80% windshield / 20% walking

Social Observation Results

- 42 tracts observed +23 drive-thrus
- Over 16,000 housing units rated
 - 53% livable, 34% unlivable, 13% in progress
 - 44% likely occupied

Housing Viability











Recovery

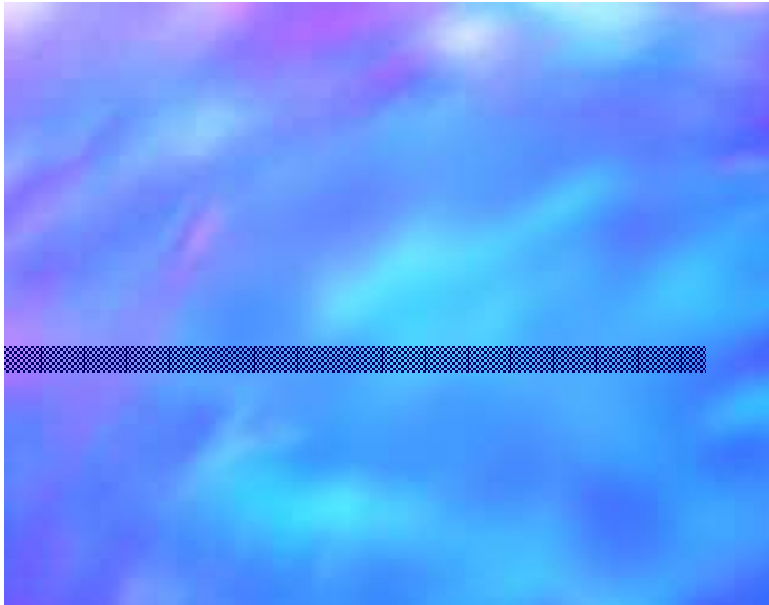


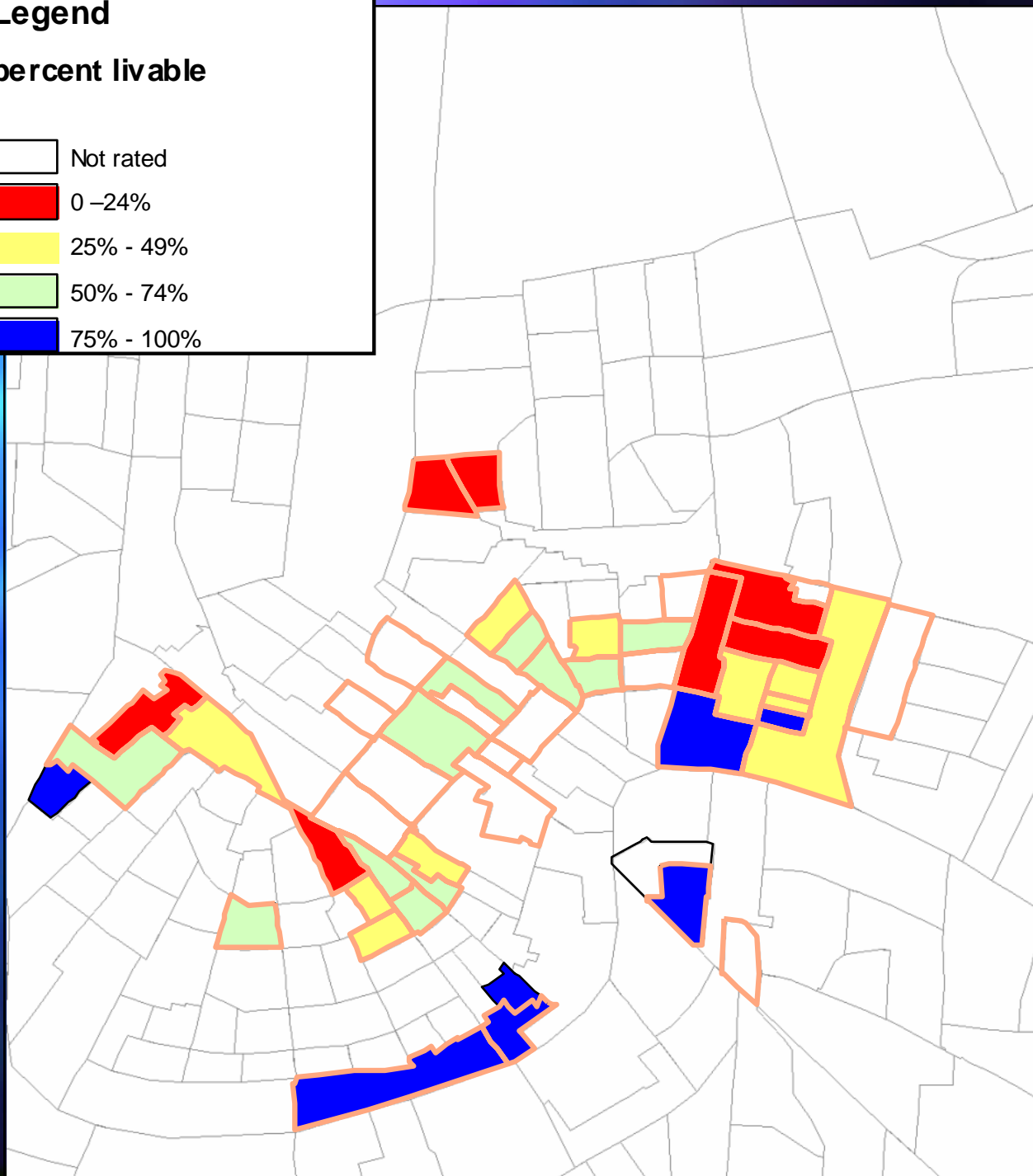
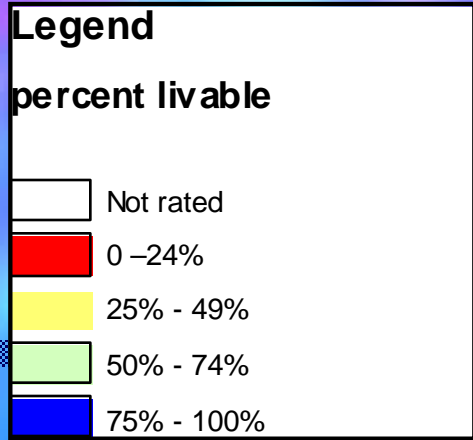
Activism



Debris



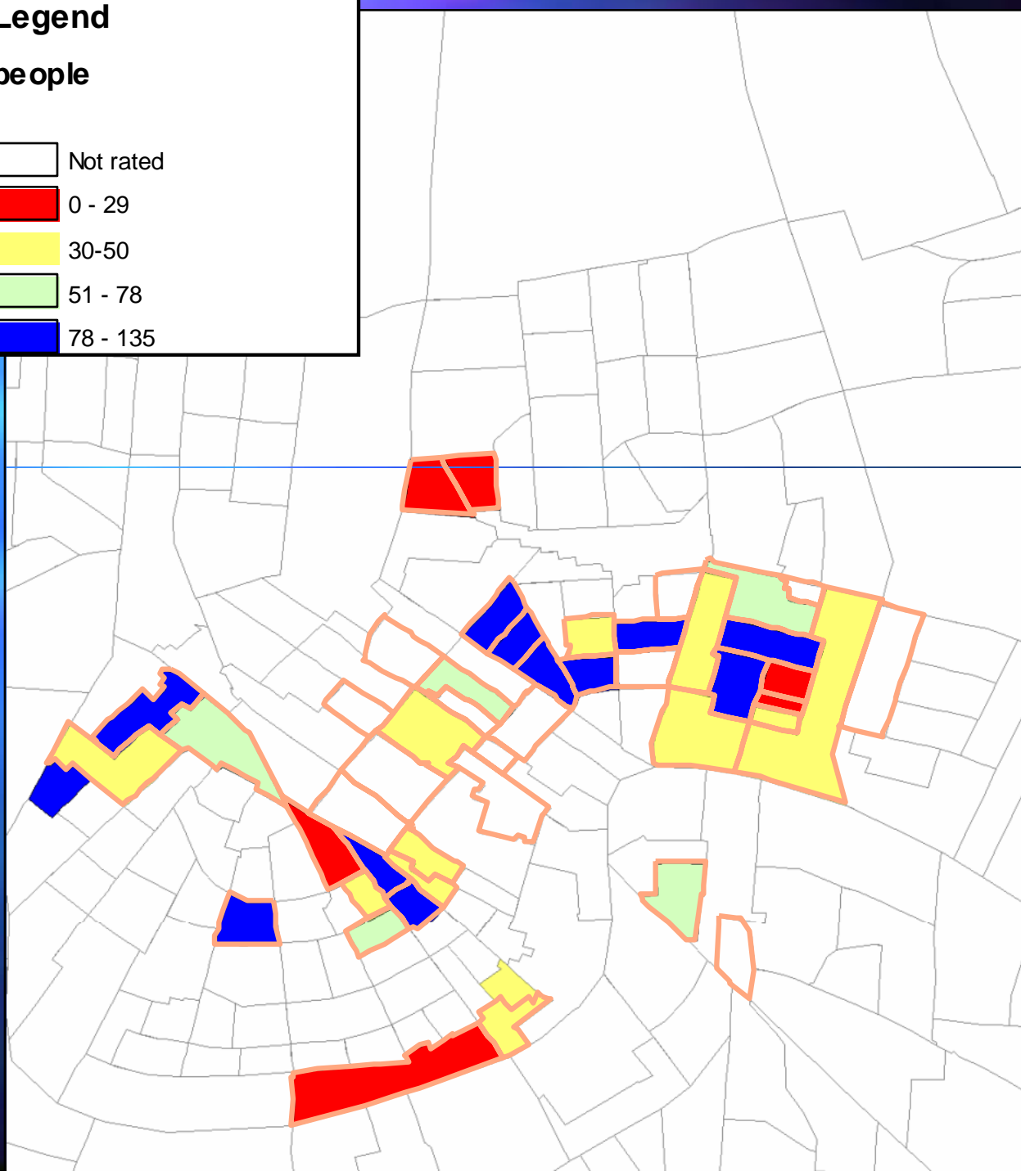




Legend

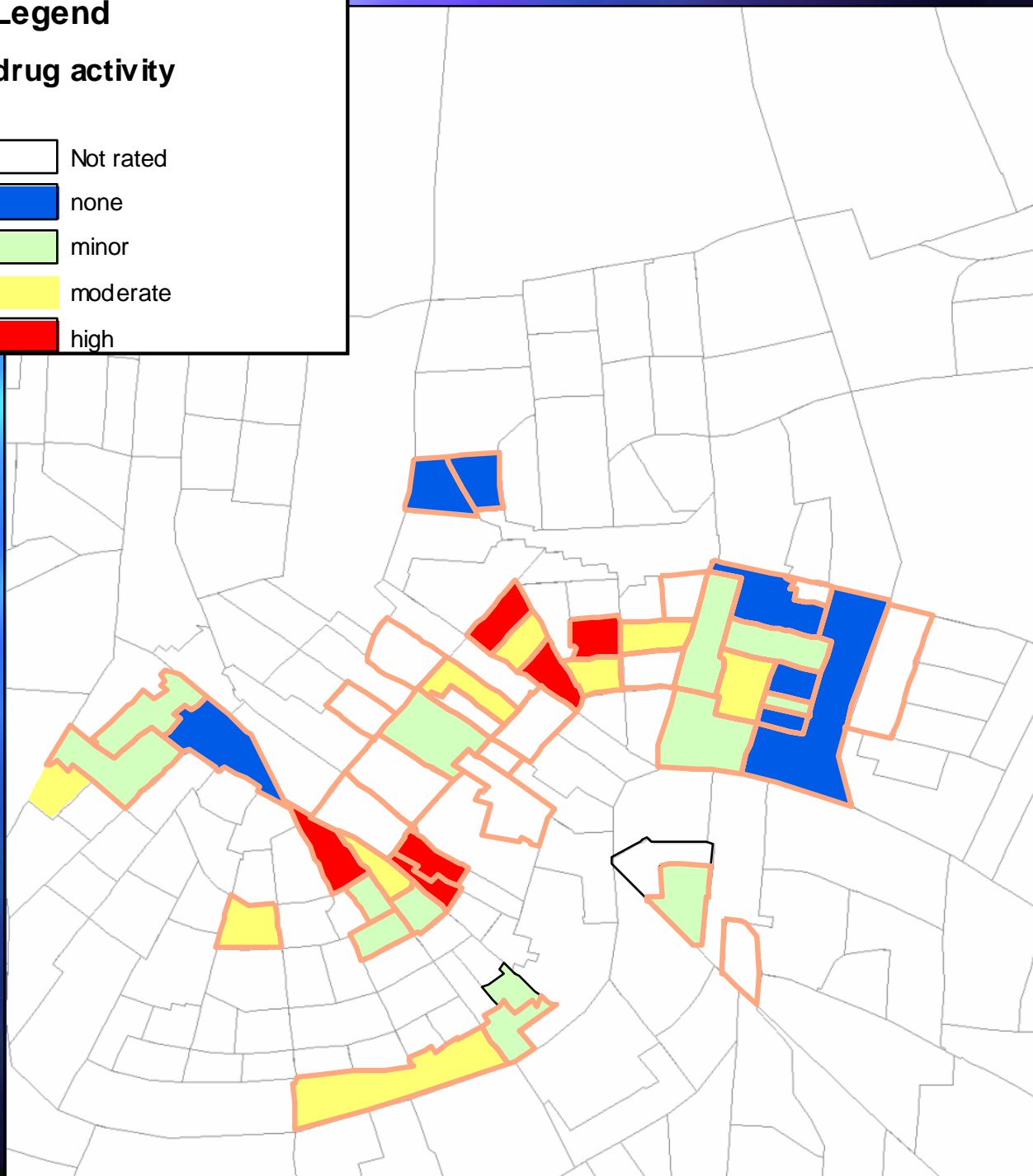
people

- Not rated
- 0 - 29
- 30-50
- 51 - 78
- 78 - 135








Legend
drug activity

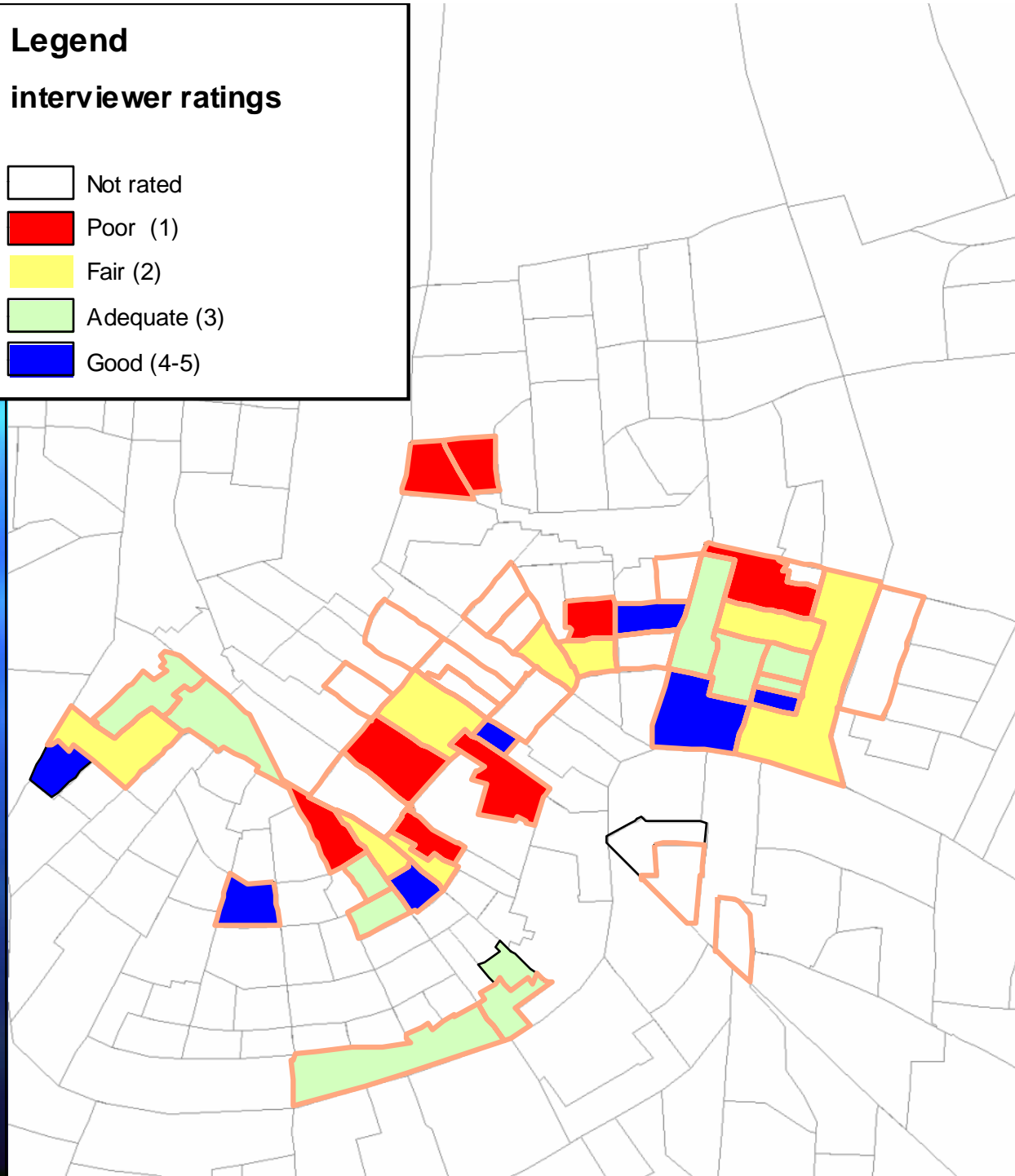
Not rated	Not rated
none	none
minor	minor
moderate	moderate
high	high



Legend

interviewer ratings

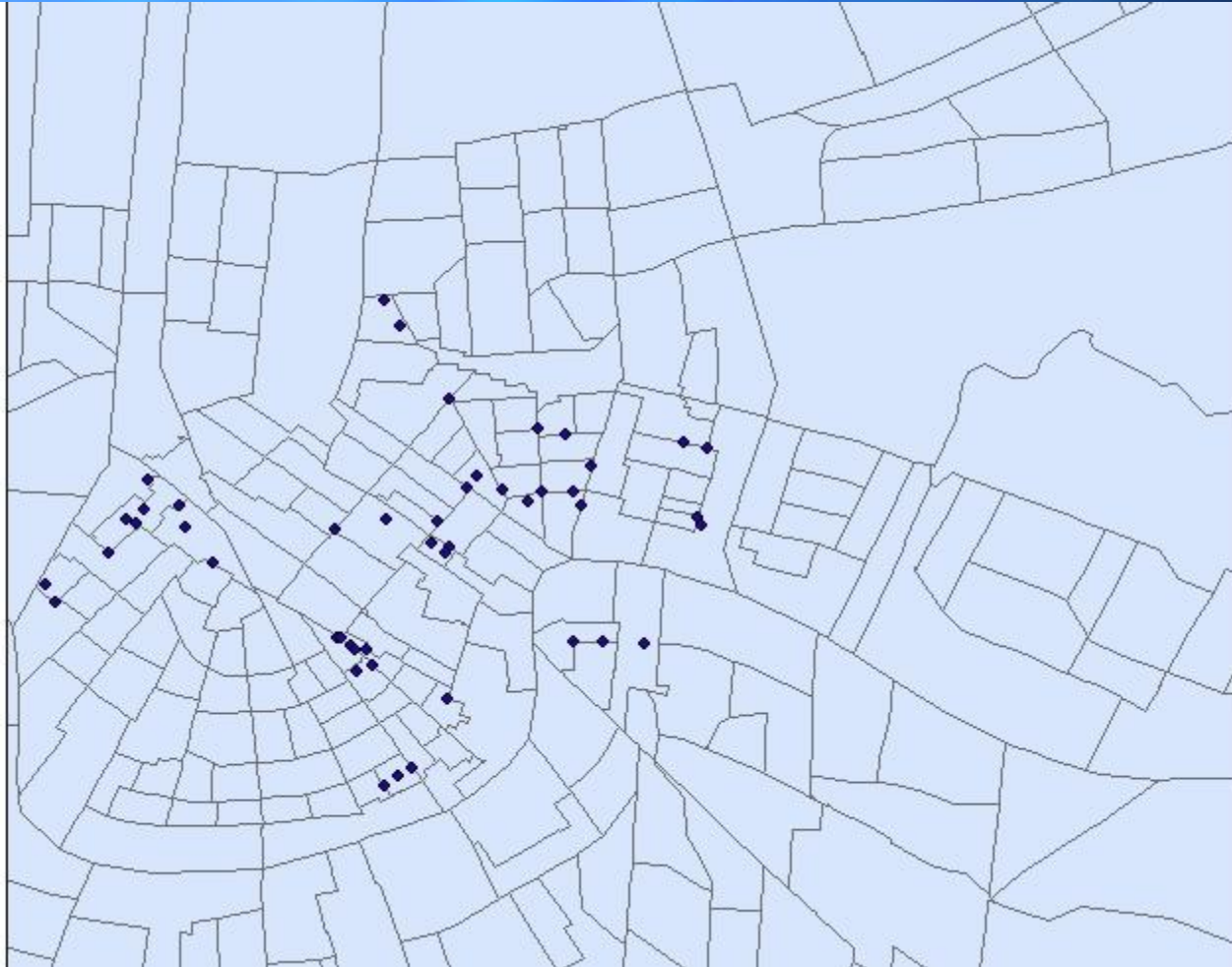
-  Not rated
-  Poor (1)
-  Fair (2)
-  Adequate (3)
-  Good (4-5)



Street Intercept Methods

- Locally developed testing instrument designed to assess
 - Network/neighborhood characteristics
 - Local organization presence
 - Neighborhood recovery
 - Knowledge of health care/services
 - Ability to recruit NHBS participants
 - Post-Katrina priorities

Intercept locations



Street Intercept Results

- 50 approaches 94% acceptance rate
- 76% reported some (slow) recovery
- Specific recruitment sites identified
- Influential community members
 - “No one”, drug dealers, older residents
- Important priorities
 - Family, housing, survival, health (n=1)
- Health issues
 - No health care/facilities, HIV/STI/family planning, environmental, drugs, mental illness
 - 82% named specific health care facility
 - 25% named HIV testing location
- 100% reported fewer neighborhood contacts

Focus Group Methods

- Four ad-hoc focus groups with 20 residents
- Two groups with organization members and directors
 - HIV/AIDS Prevention CBOs
 - New Orleans planning and community organizations

Focus Group Results

Residents

- Neighborhood destabilization/dispersion
 - Rent/damage/housing scarcity
- Intra-neighborhood conflict
 - "Old-timers" vs "new strangers"
- Health care concerns
 - " you don't wanna get stabbed around here"
- "Officious Interloper Fatigue"
 - "up there in Vermont or wherever... , the only thing black is the bears"
- Institutional distrust
 - "Are you with FEMA?"

Focus Group Results

Organizations

- HIV/AIDS CBOs
 - Lack of facilities
 - “Our clients have greater need and are now living closer to the edge”
 - Greater connection with client-base
 - “... I feel like I have even more empathy than I had before. And the clients they can sense this”
- Community organizations
 - Systemic issues facing residents and orgs
 - Cultural change
 - Elevated risk behaviors

Assessment Summary

- Overall slow recovery but some clear distinctions between neighborhoods
- Health care not top priority but residents have clear concerns
- Research fatigue may be issue
- Data and techniques useful for Prevention

Acknowledgements

- Louisiana HIV/AIDS Program staff
 - Franda Thomas – Region I Prevention Coordinator
- CDC-NHBS staff
 - Amy Lansky, Liz DiNenno, Abu Abdul-Quader
- New Orleans NHBS staff
 - Michelle Ashton – project supervisor
 - Theo Cameron – interviewer
 - Jimmy Chase - interviewer