Data 227 HW4 Q2

Map of 2010 NYC by Unemployment Rate
Source:

UnempRate
☐ < 8.017 (57)
☐ [8.017, 10.575) (66)
☐ [10.575, 14.483) (44)
☐ [14.483, 56.981) (27)
☐ >= 56.981 (1)
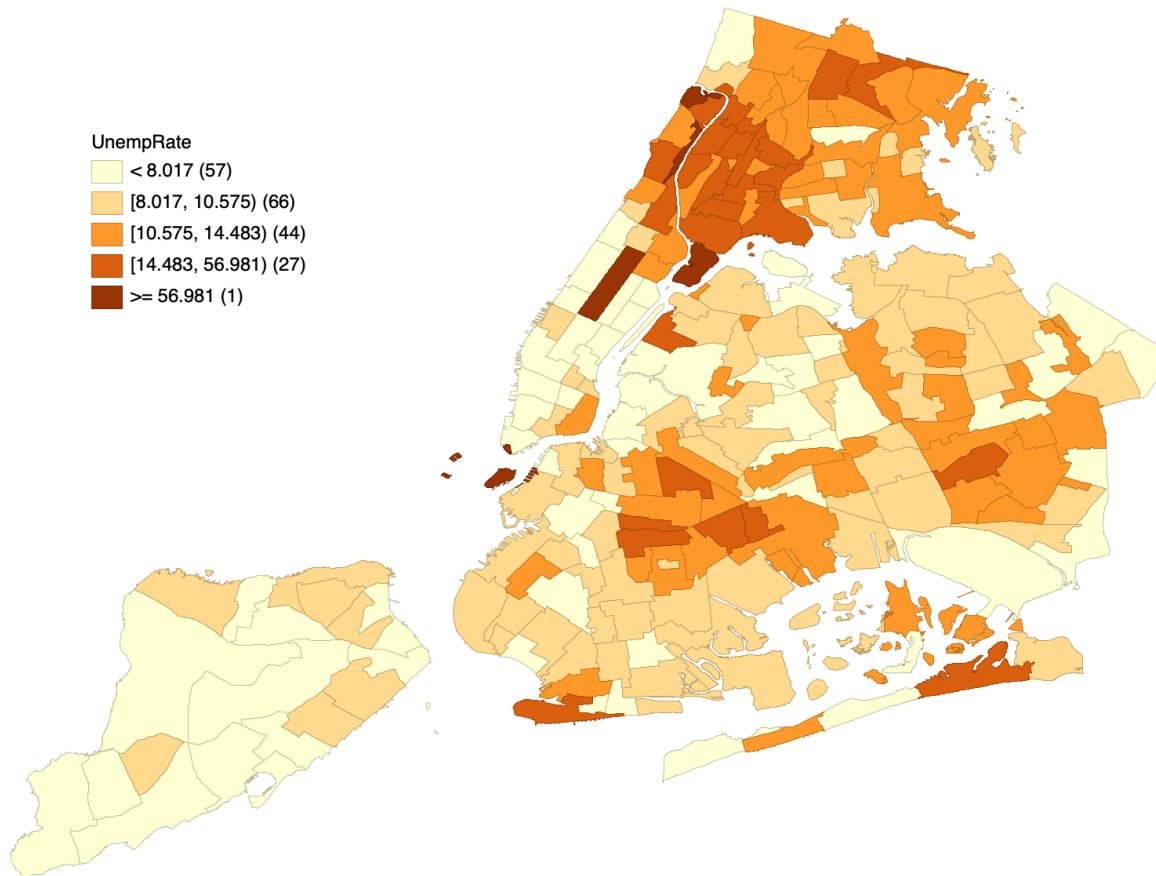
Caption: The above map is of the unemployment rate in New York City by census tract in 2010, as determined by the US Census 2008-2012 American Community Survey Five-year estimates. The tracts are broken into five categories, from less than 8% unemployment to over 50% unemployment, although the one district in that final category is a special case. This was made in GeoDa, using the Natural Breaks tool for making choropleth maps.

Analysis: The map above shows what unemployment rates were like in NYC census tracts during the worst parts of the Great Recession, so although the rates are quite high in some places, they are certainly much lower now. However, the map does display some of the same spatial patterns in unemployment that New York City sees today. For one, midtown and lower Manhattan tend to have the lowest unemployment rates, while the south Bronx tends to have the highest unemployment. Some things have likely changed, such as Staten Island having much lower unemployment than parts of central Brooklyn, since the latter has seen more dramatic increases in high-paying jobs and property values over the past decade. In general, there seem to

be many pockets across the city of particularly high and low areas of unemployment, with few examples of tracts multiple bins apart bordering each other. Finally, there is the issue of the one tract with over 56% unemployment. This tract appears to combine Central Park and Randall's Island, as well as other non residential areas across the city, together. It's unclear why the census decided to do this or how they're determining unemployment in these places - it might be due to high numbers of homeless people living in these areas. Overall, it leads to a massive outlier in the data and one difficult to group for the map.