
Using GIS to Develop an Education Model for Alternative High Schools

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ESRI Ed User Conference, San Diego, CA 2008

Background & Objectives



Background

- There is a large population of underserved students in Boston
- ABCD – Action for Boston Community Development
 - University High School - behavioral
 - William J. Ostiguy High School – substance abuse
- The City of Boston is implementing an “Enterprise GIS”

Objectives

- Develop a GIS education model for alternative high schools
- Build a bridge to careers in the GIT industry



Implementation

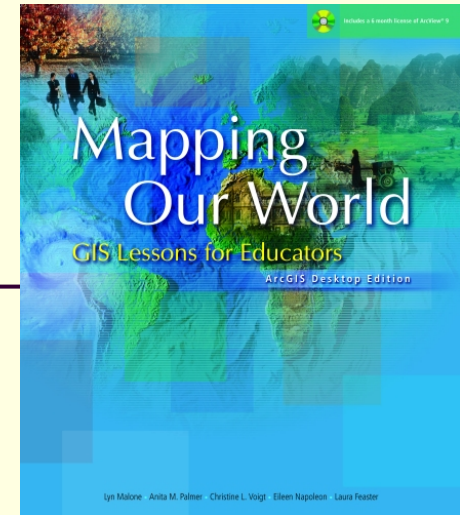
■ Healey Public Service Grant

■ Course Development

- Textbook: *Mapping Our World - GIS Lessons for Educators*, by ESRI
- Chapter selection to teach both physical and cultural geography
- Basic geographic concepts: size & shape of Earth, projections, lat/long

■ In-class

- Geography taught simultaneously with software application, ArcGIS
- Working with Massachusetts crime data - crime with guns



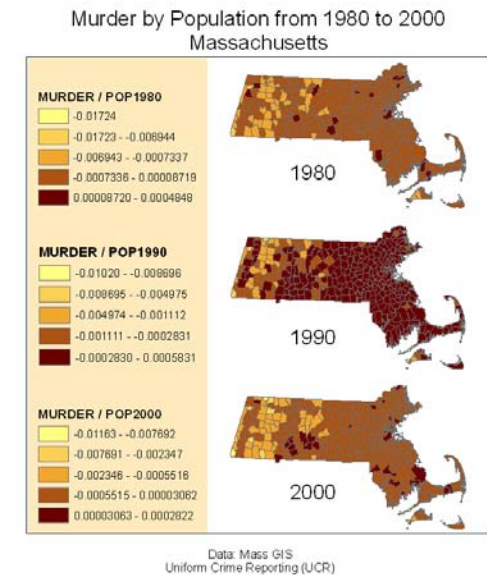
Results & Future Work

Results

- Student Engagement
 - One student willing to use GIS in real estate as her career goal.
- Dissemination of GIS application and Geographic principals
 - how they combine to answer questions or solve real life problem

Future Work

- Apply for external funding to improve and extend our model
- Expand to include marketing, health care, law enforcement and emergency response



Acknowledgements

- **ABCD**

- Kathleen Flynn, Mark Isenberg, Mellisa Malone & Marvin Puckerine, ABCD

- **UMass Boston**

- Professors John Looney & Yong Tian, UMass Boston
- Office of Research and Sponsored Program (ORSP)

- **ESRI EdUC 2008 conference organizers**