

# PATTERNS OF SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION FOR REPORTED GRAFFITI IN SAN FRANCISCO

SPATIAL ANALYSIS USING ARCGIS 10  
GEOGRAPHY 41502 (USP 502) — GIS & APPLICATIONS  
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

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## Graffiti in San Francisco - Problem

### ❖ Problem

- The City of San Francisco spends more than \$20M annually for graffiti removal. Their goal: Zero Graffiti.
- Focus of study is *reported* graffiti (herein referred to as "GRAFFITI"), i.e., the subset of graffiti that exists AND is reported to the City for removal.
- PSU Geography Professors David Banis and Hunter Shobe are exploring how GIS analysis can help the City target their graffiti abatement efforts.

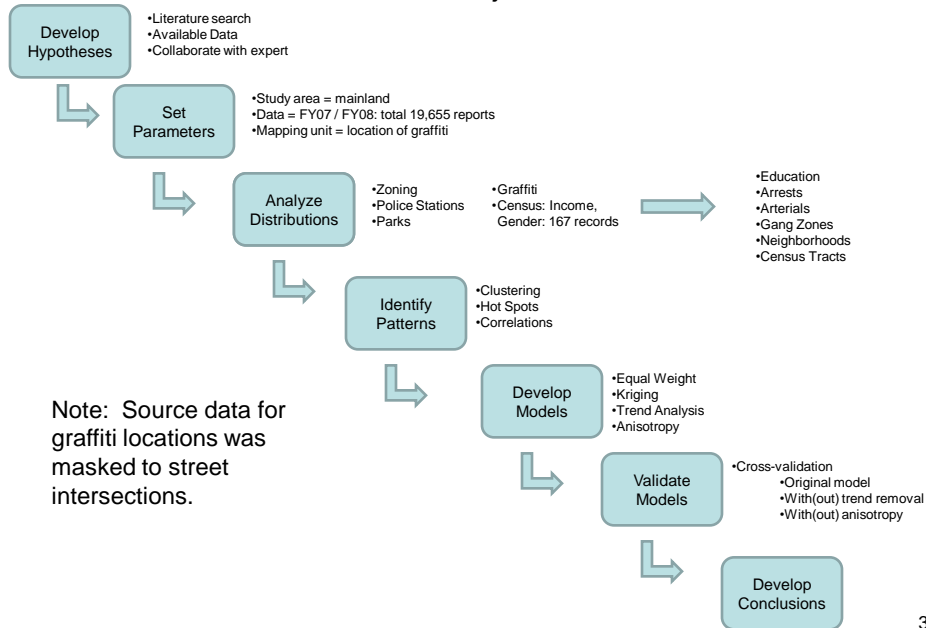
### ❖ Project Hypothesis: The distribution of reported graffiti is spatially correlated with one or more of the following available datasets:

- Arrests
- Arterials
- Education
- Gender
- Income
- Parks
- Police stations
- Watched streets
- Zoning
- Other?



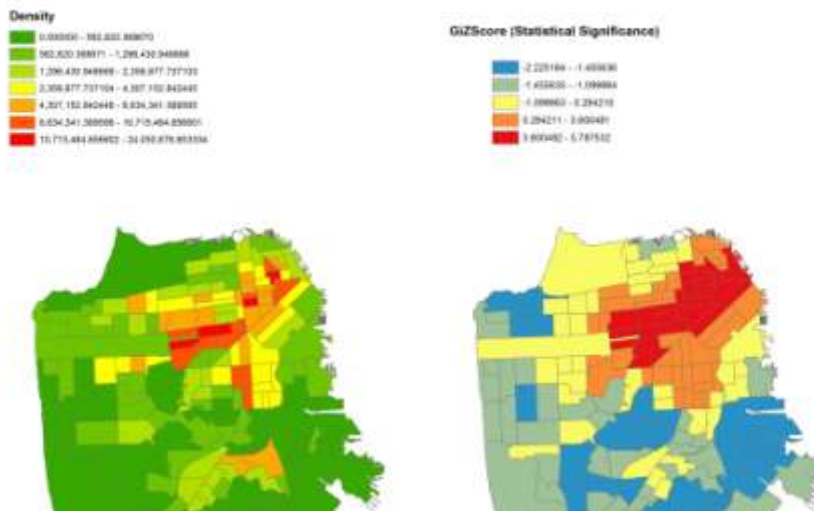
Norteño Tag.jpg  
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/seacomstle/1571162862/>

## Graffiti in S.F. – Our Project Methods and Data



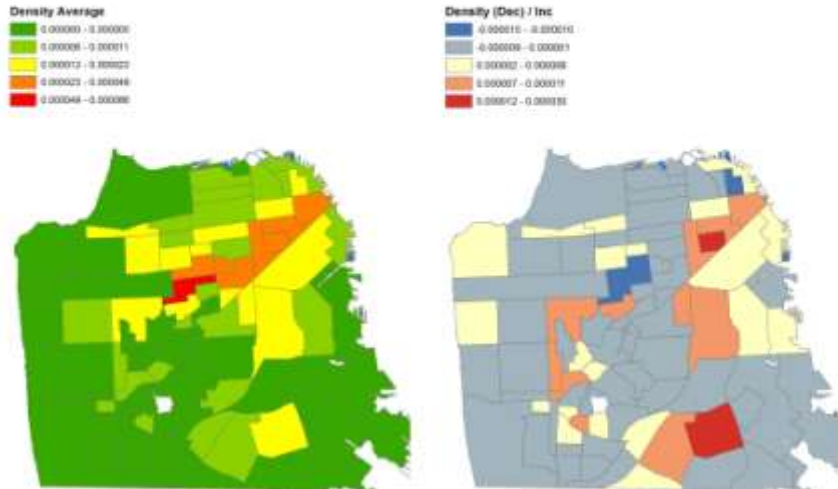
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## Graffiti: Density by Census Tract FY07-FY08



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## Graffiti: Density by Neighborhood FY07-FY08



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## Graffiti in San Francisco – Mapping Units

- ❖ Selected administrative boundaries were deemed 'arbitrary' relative to graffiti locations:
  - Supervisor District
  - Neighborhood
  - Census Tract
- ❖ Reported graffiti locations were the GIS analysis unit of choice.

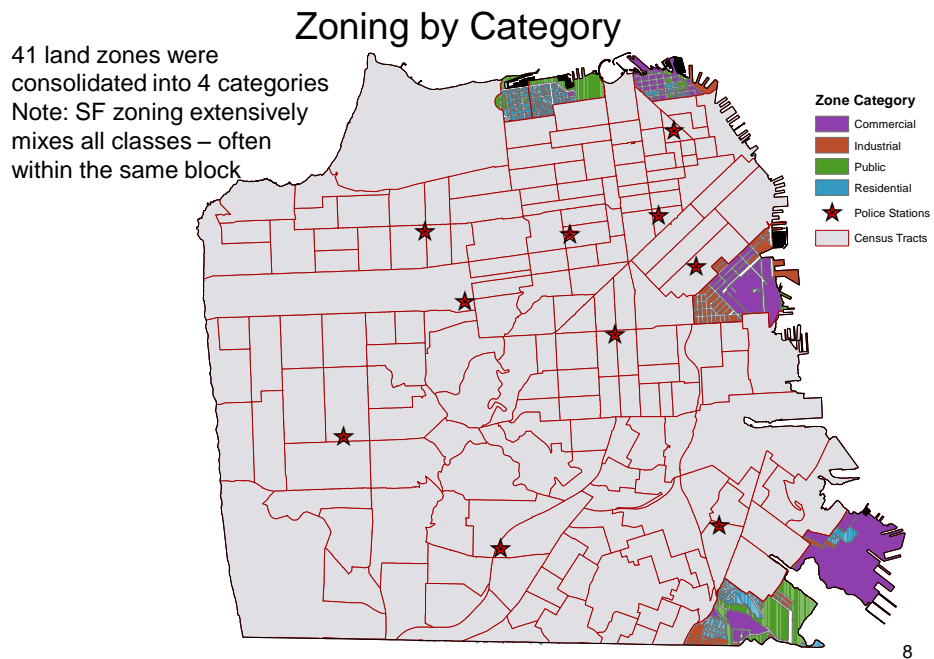


6

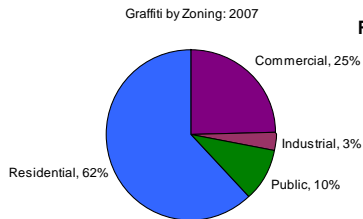
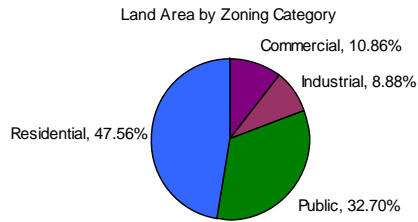
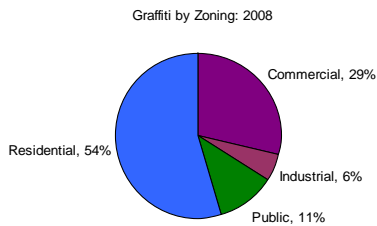
## Graffiti in San Francisco – Analyze Distributions

- ❖ Zoning
- ❖ Police Stations: compare distance to graffiti and arrests
- ❖ Gender
- ❖ Income
- ❖ Parks
- ❖ Arrests: compare distribution of graffiti vs. that of arrests
- ❖ Arterials
- ❖ Gang Injunction Zones
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Watched streets

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## Relationship of Graffiti Reports and Zone Category



**Relative Likelihood of Graffiti + Report per Zoning Category**

	2007	2008
Commercial	3.05	3.06
Industrial	0.24	0.38
Public	0.30	0.32
Residential	1.15	1.11

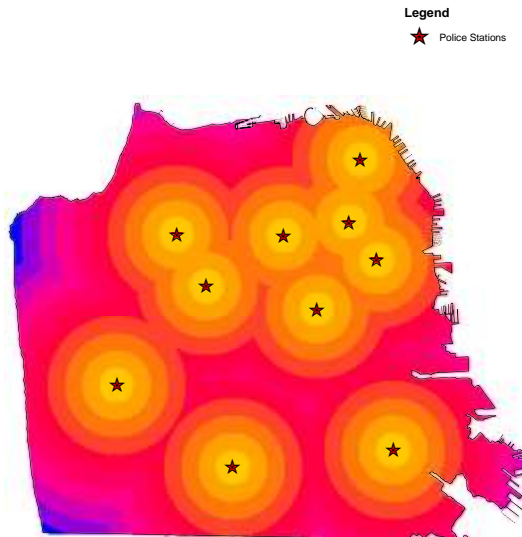
**Conclusion: Strong correlation between zone type and reports**

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## SF Police Station Locations

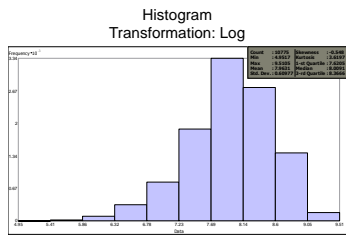
Zone	Zoning Near P.S.	Zone % of Total Land	% of reports / Zoning
Commercial	20%	11%	33%
Industrial	8%	9%	3%
Public	39%	33%	11%
Residential	33%	48%	53%
	100%	100%	100%

**Conclusion: Police station locations are largely independent of zoning**

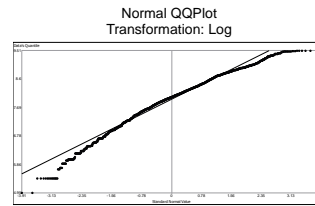


10

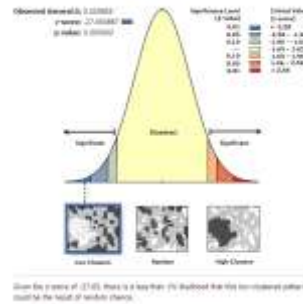
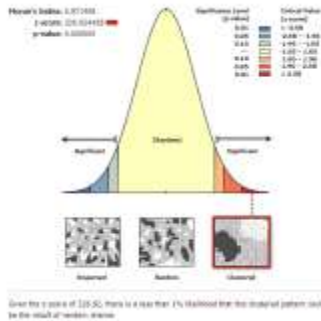
## Graffiti: Distance from Police Stations



Data Source: FiscalSRPublic08 selection Attribute: distance\_f

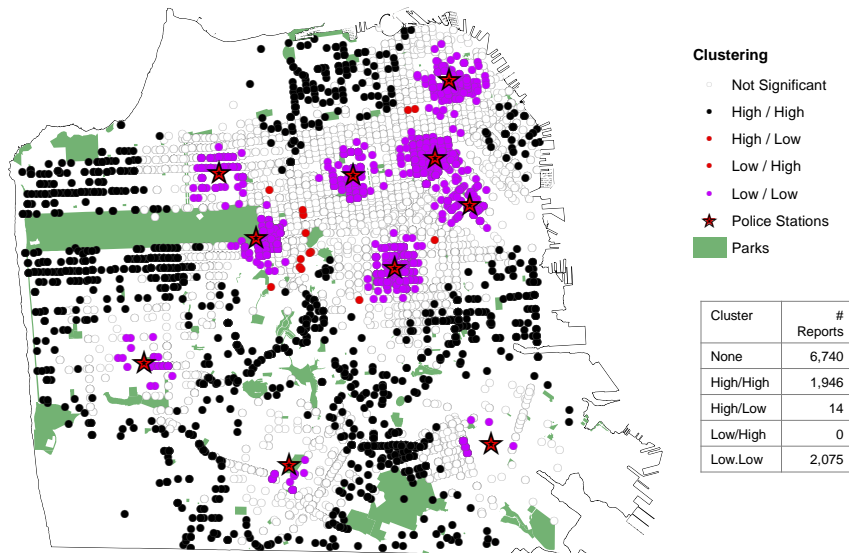


Data Source: FiscalSRPublic08 selection Attribute: distance\_f



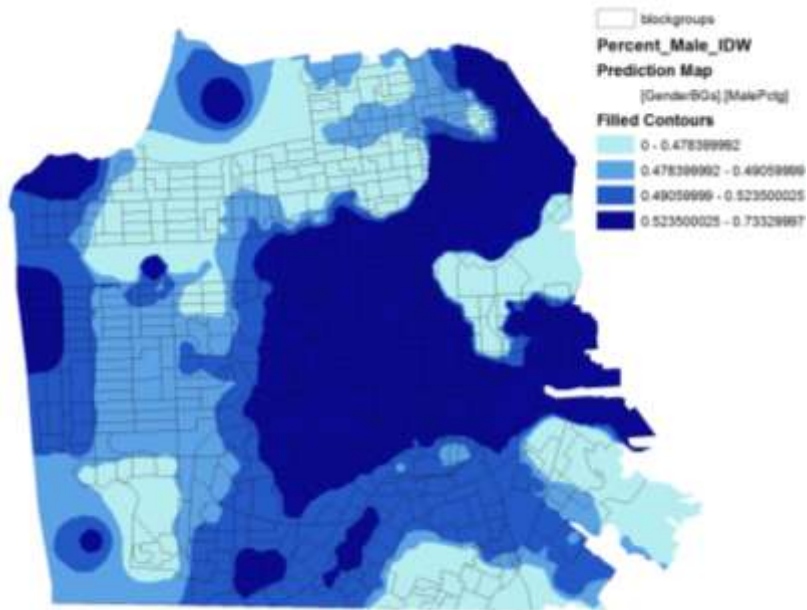
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## Anselin Local Moran's Clusters: (log) Distance from Police Stations



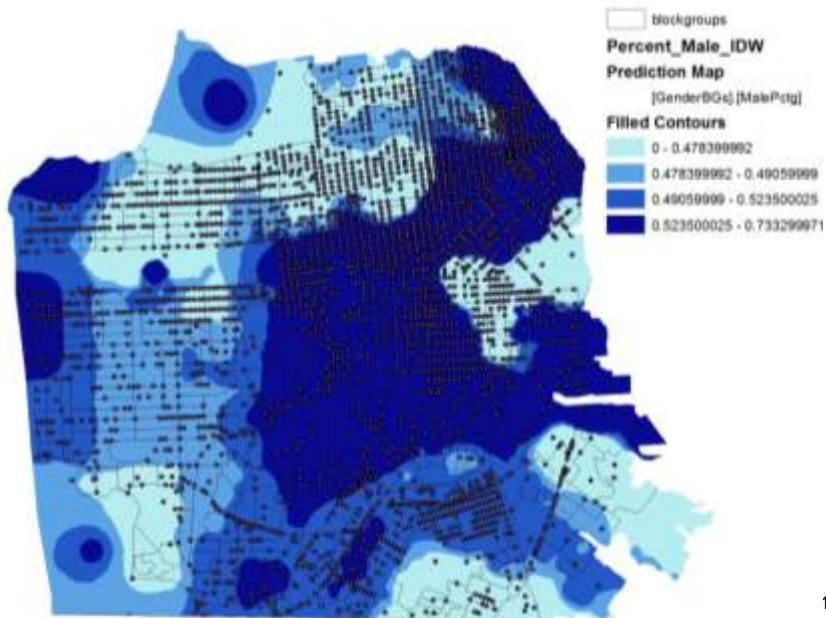
12

## Percentage of Males



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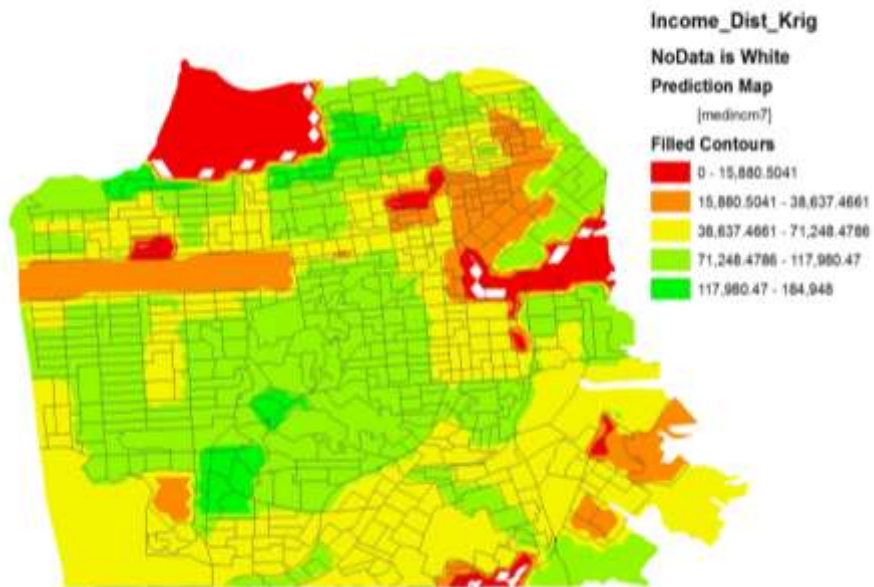
## Percentage of Males and Graffiti Points



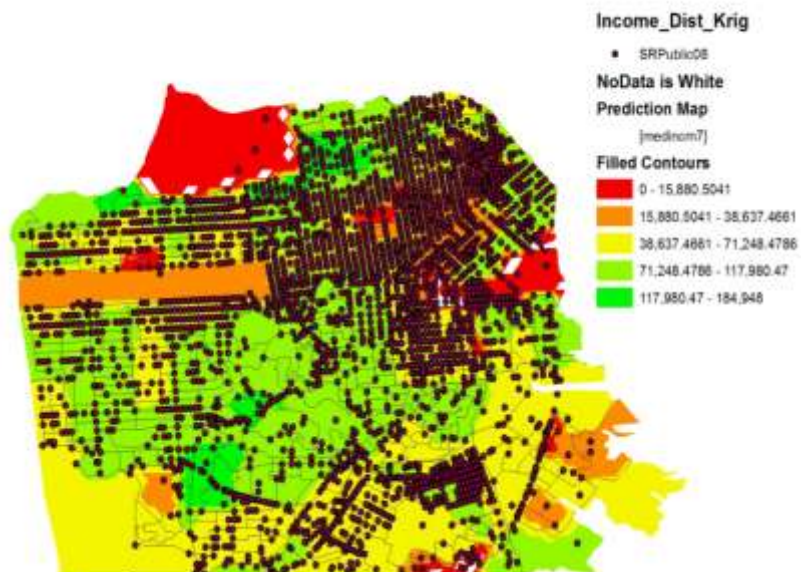
14



## Income Distribution



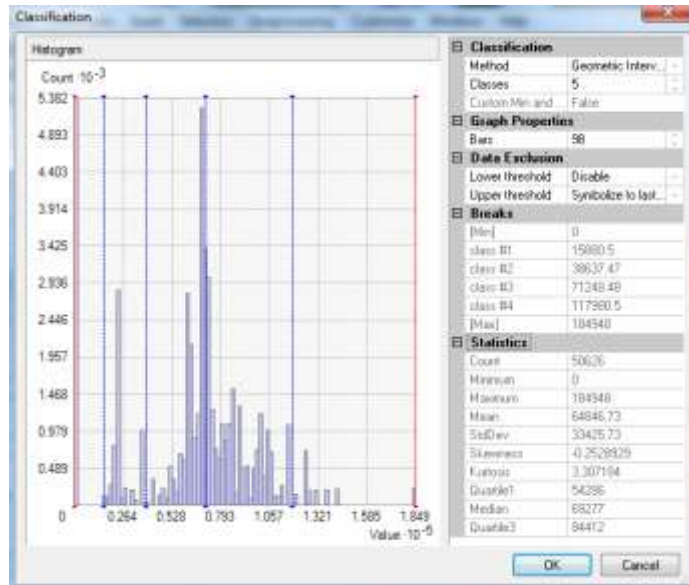
## Income and Graffiti Points





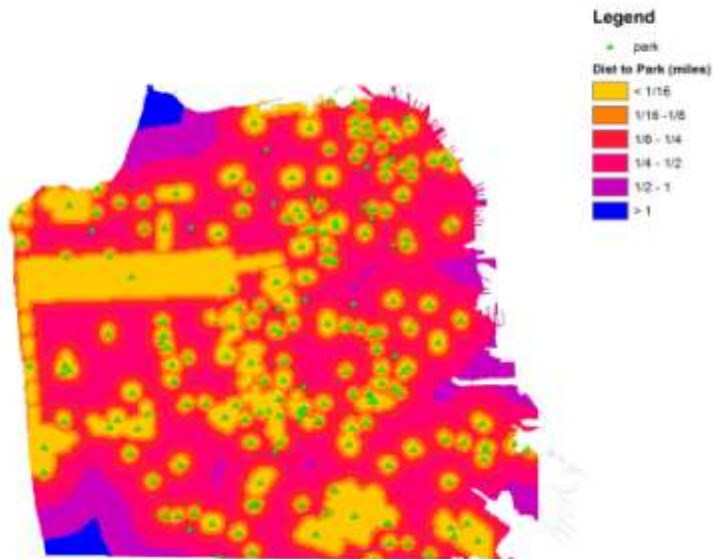
## Income Statistics

Income statistics appear to show a relatively normal distribution



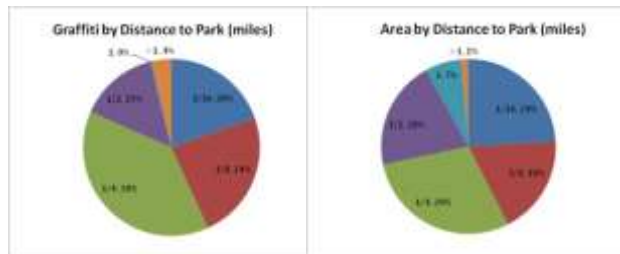
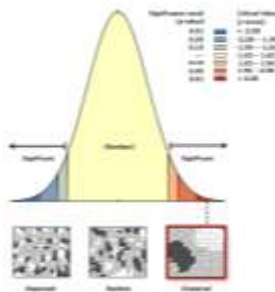
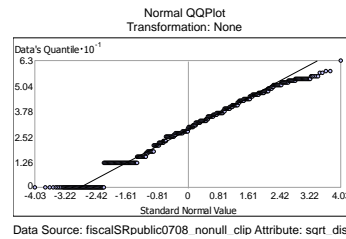
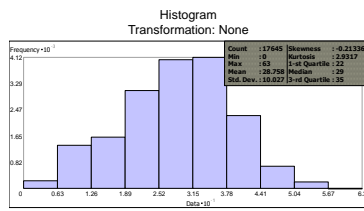
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## Graffiti: Distance to Parks



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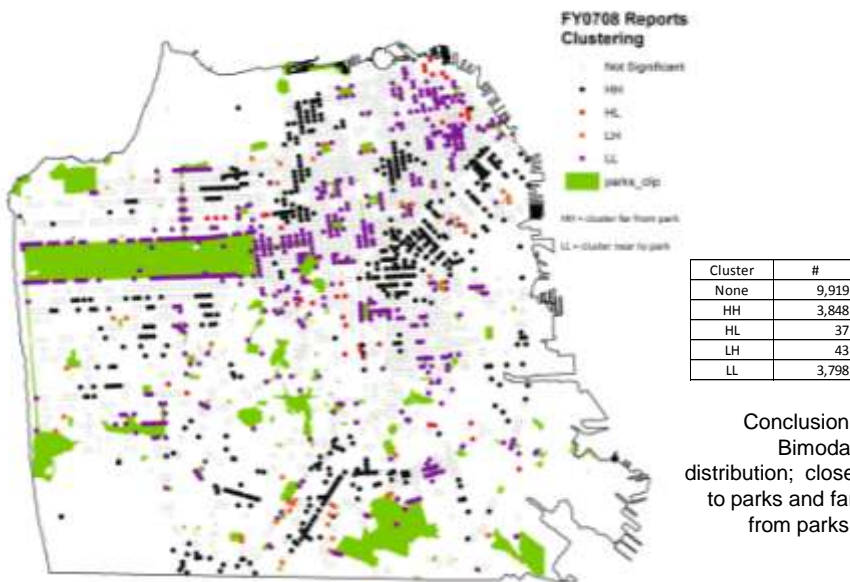
## Graffiti: Distance to Parks



Given the z-score of 319.49, there is a less than 1% likelihood that this clustered pattern could be the result of random chance.

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## Clusters: (sqrt) Distance from Parks



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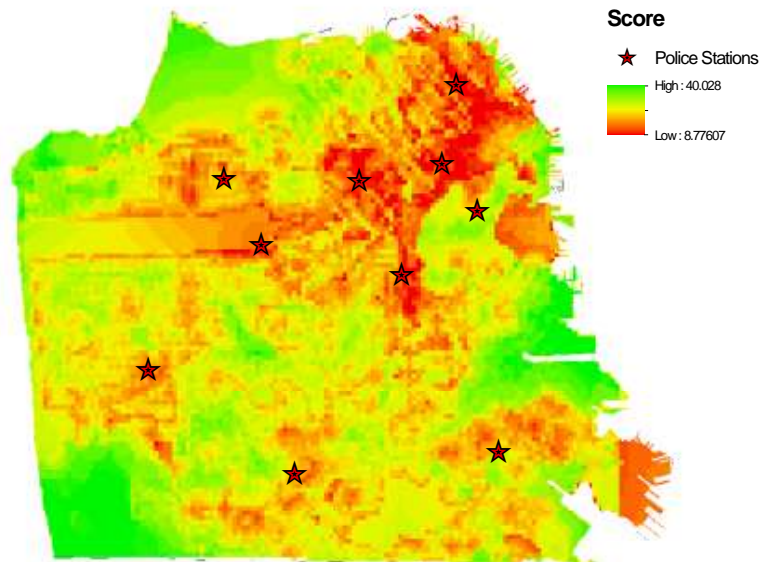
## Graffiti in San Francisco – Model

GRAFFITI: Which factors were analyzed?			
feature	source	model	correlation?
Graffiti Reports	city	yes	control
Zoning	city	yes	residential; negative to industrial and public
Police Stations	city	yes	negative, distance to police station
Parks	city	yes	positive, closer to parks
Income	census	yes	negative to income
Gender	census	yes	positive to % male population
Education	census	no	no obvious relationship
Arrests	city	no	slightly positive; not statistically significant
Arterials	city	no	positive; consider transit routes
Gang Zones	city attorney	no	no obvious relationship

- ❖ For each selected factor, data was normalized and classified into 10 levels
- ❖ Selected factors were combined into a single model
  - ❖ No weighting was indicated from literature search or discussion with expert
  - ❖ Initial model was built using equal weights

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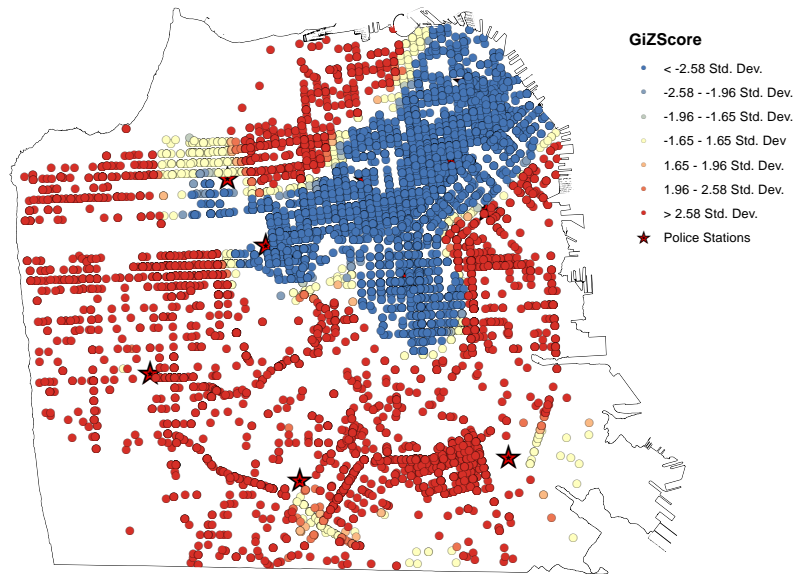
## Explanatory Model: Equal Weights



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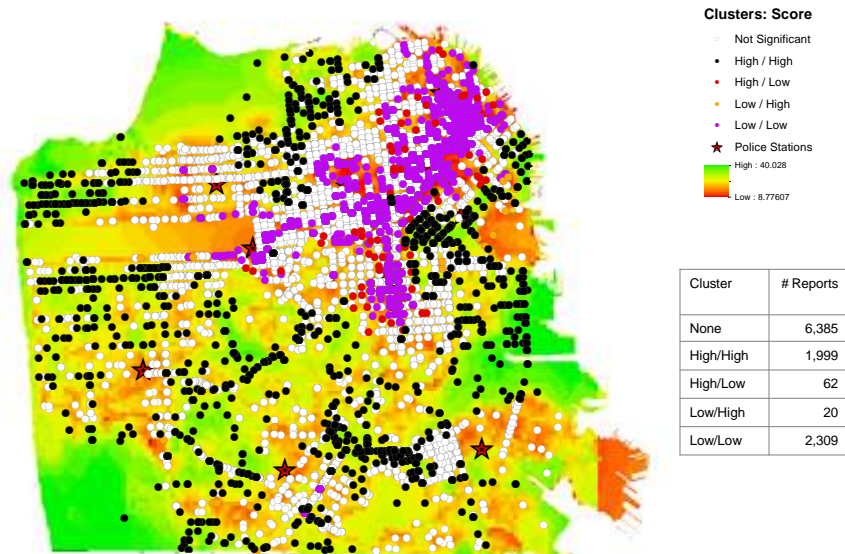


## Model Cluster Significance: Getis-Ord Gi



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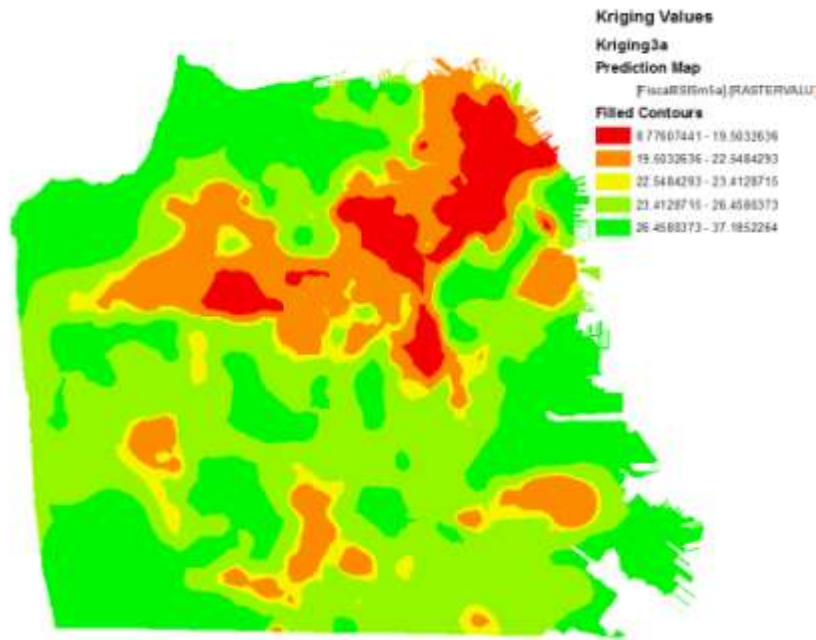
## Clustering: Anselin Local Moran's



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## Kriged Map of Model



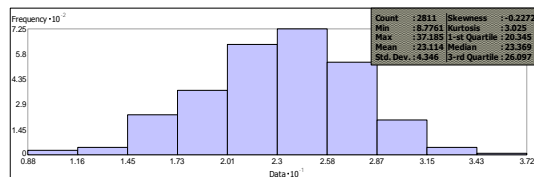
### Kriging

Creating an ordinary predictor kriged map, it was found that, given equal weights, our model appeared strongly predictive.

-The histogram showed a neat normal distribution, with a difference in median and mean values of only .255

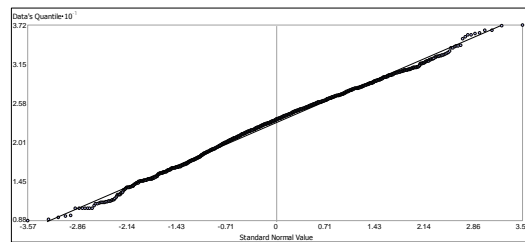
-The QQ Plot also showed a very strong connection between the data and a standard normal set of values

Histogram  
Transformation: None



Data Source: Fiscal8SISm5a Attribute: RASTERVALU

Normal QQPlot  
Transformation: None



Data Source: Fiscal8SISm5a Attribute: RASTERVALU



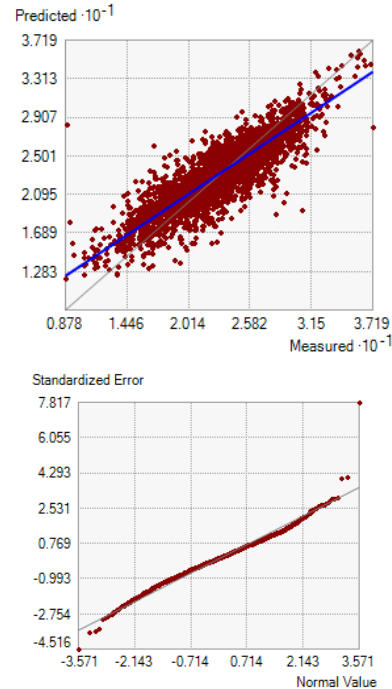
## Cross-validation

When contrasting measured versus predicted values, the model appeared quite accurate, as shown by the yellow line in the picture.

With 2811 samples examined, a mean error close to 0, a root-mean-square error and average standard error relatively low, and a root-mean-square standardized error nearing 1, this model would appear to be strongly predictive.

Mean error:	-0.01106
Root-Mean-Square:	2.16624
Average Standard Error	2.39799
Root-Mean-Square Standardized	0.90815

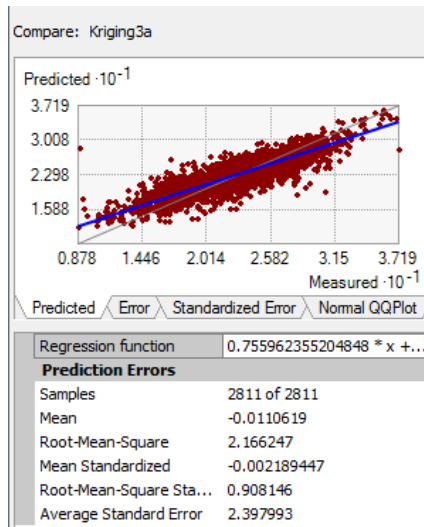
The QQPlot shows prediction errors and their closeness to a normal distribution.



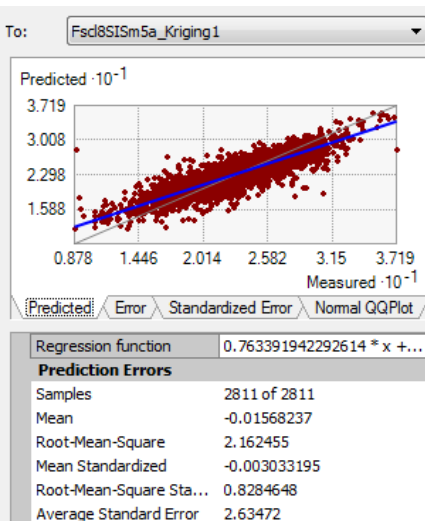
## Comparing Models



### With trend removal



### Without trend removal



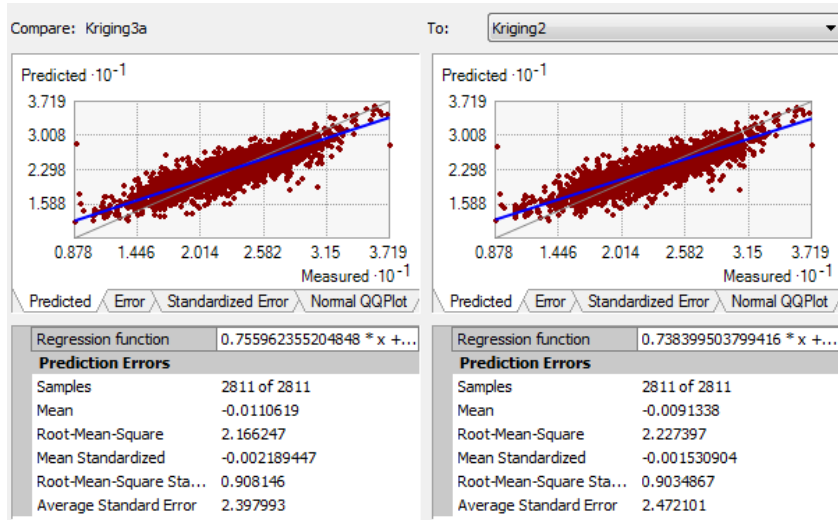
30

## Comparing Models



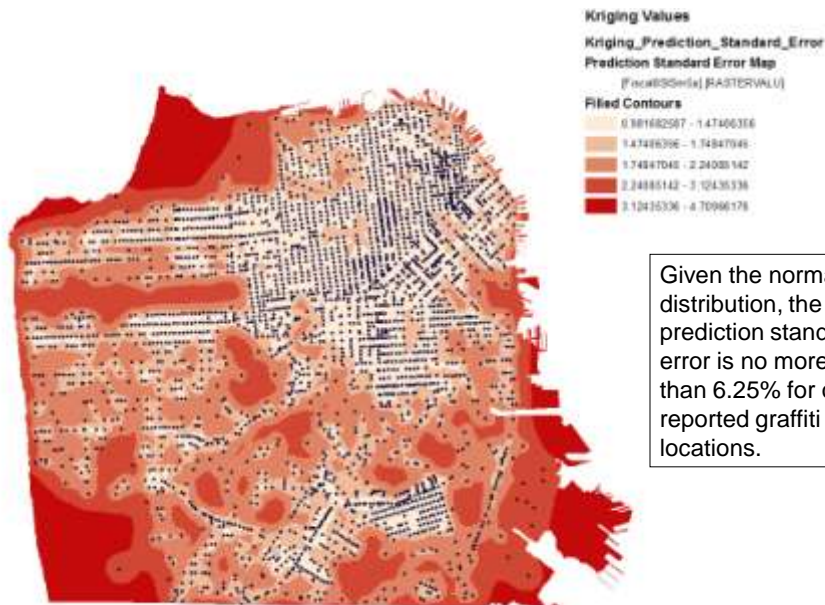
With trend removal

With trend removal and anisotropy



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## Prediction Standard Errors



Given the normal distribution, the prediction standard error is no more than 6.25% for our reported graffiti locations.

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## Graffiti Reports in San Francisco – Considerations

External factors:

- ❖ Sampling/reporting bias
  - Relationship between graffiti and graffiti reports is unexplored
  - How do physical and environmental factors affect occurrences of graffiti?
  - How do social and administrative factors affect the reporting of graffiti incidents?
- ❖ Limited prior research available on factors correlated with occurrences of graffiti
- ❖ No information on long-term recorded trends, or on comparative weightings of factors

Project factors:

- ❖ Limited (potentially correlated) data available to analyze
  - E.g.: Transit lines, locations of bars, police beats, location of donut shops
- ❖ Masking of report locations affected analysis
- ❖ Insufficient data for interpretive predictive analysis
- ❖ Additional analyses should be performed
  - Factors should be analyzed for independence
  - Regression analyses should be performed to improve factor weightings

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## Reported Graffiti in San Francisco – Conclusions

- ❖ We developed a strong predictive model of graffiti reports in San Francisco
- ❖ Our model concludes the following factors strongly predict higher numbers of reported graffiti:
  - Land zoning (highest for commercial property, lowest for industrial)
  - Increasing distance from police stations
  - Increasing as the percentage of resident males increases
  - Increasing as income decreases
  - Decreasing distance to parks
- ❖ Our model includes conventional assumptions of graffiti causes (low income neighborhoods, distance from police stations) with unconventional results discovered through spatial analysis (percentage males)
- ❖ Only one of these factors is amenable to modification by City Council: distance to police stations
  - Additional research should be performed to validate the model and study the impact of increasing the number of police stations

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## Graffiti in San Francisco – References

- [1] J. Zou, "Graffiti in New York City: Part I « Statistical Fantastic," 23 February 2010. [Online]. Available: <http://statzou.wordpress.com/2010/02/23/graffiti-nyc/>. [Accessed: 05-Mar-2011].
  - [2] J. Zou, "Graffiti in New York City: Part II « Statistical Fantastic," 23 February 2010. [Online]. Available: <http://statzou.wordpress.com/2010/02/23/graffiti-in-new-york-city-part-ii/>. [Accessed: 05-Mar-2011].
  - [3] Jennifer Hung, Kevin Ly, and Victor Ngo, "Graffiti In The Urban Everyday: Comparing Graffiti Occurrence With Crime Rates, Land Use, And Socioeconomic Indicators In Vancouver, BC", April 19th, 2010. University of British Columbia, Geography 270 (201): Introduction to Geographic Information Science
- "City agencies as a whole spend \$20 million..." Katy Gathright, "City's Struggle Against Graffiti Tries Rewards, Murals and Profiling", 3 August 2010. [Online]. <http://sfpublicpress.org>

Graffiti diagram on slide 2: Norteño Tag.jpg, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/xoconostle/1571162862/>

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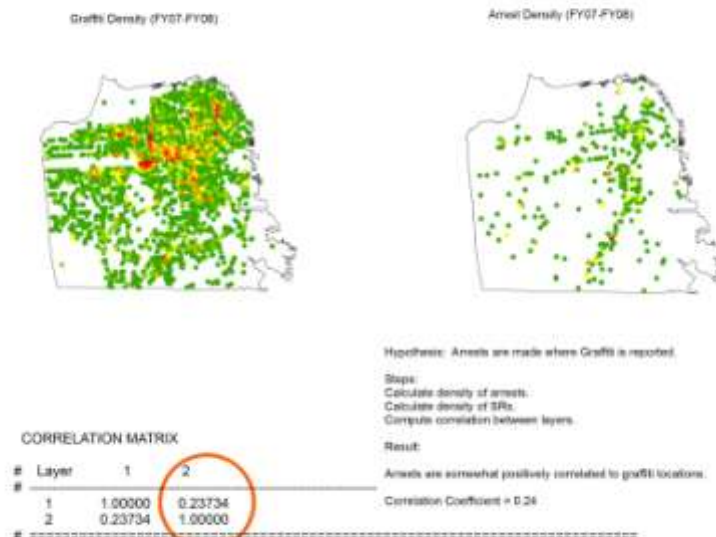
## Other Analyses Performed (but not used in our model)

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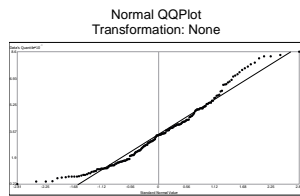
## Relationship of Graffiti and Arterials



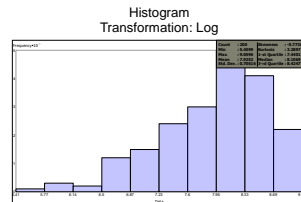
## Relationship of Graffiti and Location of Arrests



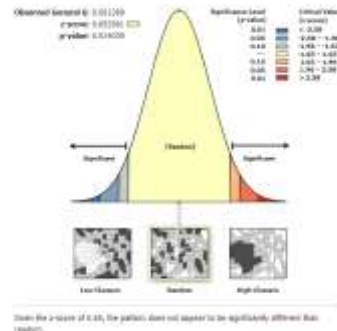
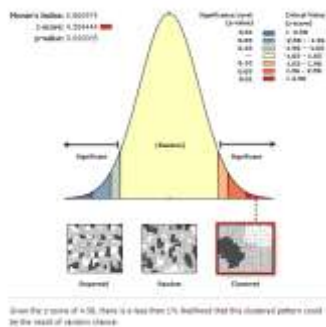
## Arrests 2008 / Distance to Police Stations



Data Source: Arrests2008Locdp Attribute: RASTERVALU

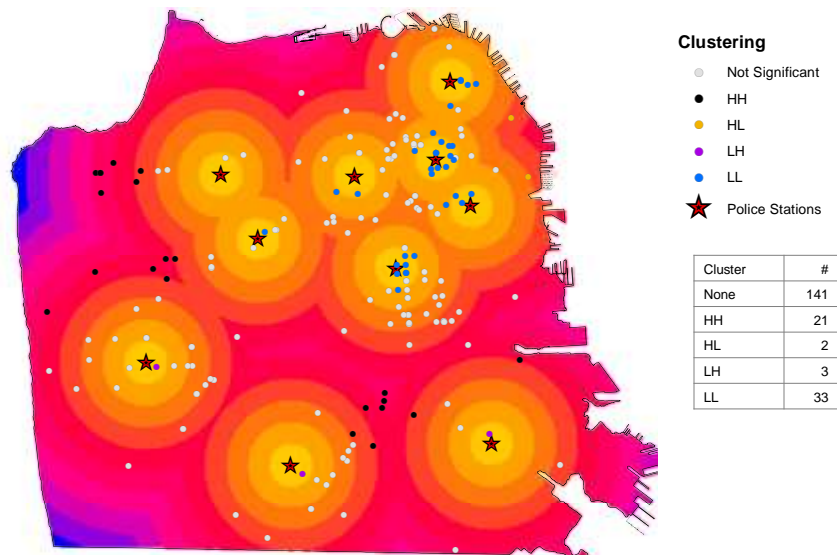


Data Source: Arrests2008Locdp Attribute: RASTERVALU



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## Arrest Clustering: (log) Distance to Police Stations



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BACKUP

ZONE	SHORTNAME	DISTNAME
PUBLIC LANDS:		
P	PUBLIC	PUBLIC
P-W	PUBLIC-WTR	PUBLIC-WATER BODY
RESIDENTIAL:		
CRNC	CTN-RES/NEIGH COM	CHINATOWN- RESIDENTIAL/NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL
DTR	DTN- RES	DOWNTOWN- RESIDENTIAL
RC-3	MED DEN RES-COMM	RESIDENTIAL- COMMERCIAL, MEDIUM DENSITY
RC-4	H DEN RES-COMM	RESIDENTIAL- COMMERCIAL, HIGH DENSITY
RED	SOMA RES ENCLAVE	SOUTH OF MARKET RESIDENTIAL ENCLAVE
RH-1	1-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, ONE FAMILY
RH-1(D)	1-FAM-RES-DETACHED	RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, ONE FAMILY- DETACHED
RH-1(S)	1-FAM-RES-SEC UNIT	RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, ONE FAMILY- SECONDARY UNIT
RH-2	2-FAM RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, TWO FAMILY
RH-3	3-FAM RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- HOUSE, THREE FAMILY
RM-1	LO DEN RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- MIXED, LOW DENSITY
RM-2	MOD DEN RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- MIXED, MODERATE DENSITY
RM-3	MED DEN RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- MIXED, MEDIUM DENSITY
RM-4	H DEN RESIDENTIAL	RESIDENTIAL- MIXED, HIGH DENSITY
RSD	SOM-RES SERVICES	SOMA RESIDENTIAL- SERVICE

ZONE	SHORTNAME	DISTNAME
<b>COMMERCIAL:</b>		
C-2	COMMUNITY BUSINESS	COMMUNITY BUSINESS
C-3-G	DTN GENERAL	DOWNTOWN GENERAL
C-3-O	DTN OFFICE	DOWNTOWN OFFICE
C-3-OSD	DTN OFFICE (SPEC DEV)	DOWNTOWN OFFICE (SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT)
C-3-R	DTN RETAIL	DOWNTOWN RETAIL
C-3-S	DTN SUPPORT	DOWNTOWN SUPPORT
C-M	HEAVY COMMERCIAL	HEAVY COMMERCIAL
CCB	CTN COM BUSINESS	CHINATOWN COMMUNITY BUSINESS
CVR	CTN VISITOR RETAIL	CHINATOWN VISITOR RETAIL
HP-RA	HP-RED PLAN	HUNTERS POINT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN
MB-O	MBAY OFFICE	MISSION BAY OFFICE DISTRICT
MB-OS	MBAY OFFICE SP	MISSION BAY OFFICE SPACE
MB-RA	MBAY RED PLAN	MISSION BAY REDEVELOPMENT PLAN
NC-1	NEBO COMM CLUSTER	NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL CLUSTER
NC-2	SMALL SCALE NCD	NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL SMALL SCALE
NC-3	MODERATE SCALE NCD	NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL MODERATE SCALE
NC-S	SHOPPING CENTER NCD	NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL SHOPPING CENTER
NCD	NEBO COMM DIST	NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL DISTRICT
SPD	SOMA SOUTH PARK	SOMA SOUTH PARK
SSO	SOMA SERV/2ND OFFICE	SOMA SERVICE/ SECONDARY OFFICE
<b>INDUSTRIAL:</b>		
M-1	LIGHT INDUSTRIAL	LIGHT INDUSTRIAL
M-2	HEAVY INDUSTRIAL	HEAVY INDUSTRIAL
SJ	SOMA SERV/LT INDUS	SOMA SERVICE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL
SLR	SOMA SERV/LT IND-RES	SOMA SERVICE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL RESIDENTIAL

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## Zoning: Supporting Statistics

	# Reports	Shape_Area	% of reports	% of total land	Expected Reports
Commercial	3,698	369,430,319	33%	10.86%	1,207.75
Industrial	376	71,555,923	3%	8.88%	987.55
Public	1,168	148,020,345	11%	32.70%	3,636.60
Residential	5,879	705,199,347	53%	47.56%	5,289.20
	11,121	1,294,205,934	100%	100%	11,121.10