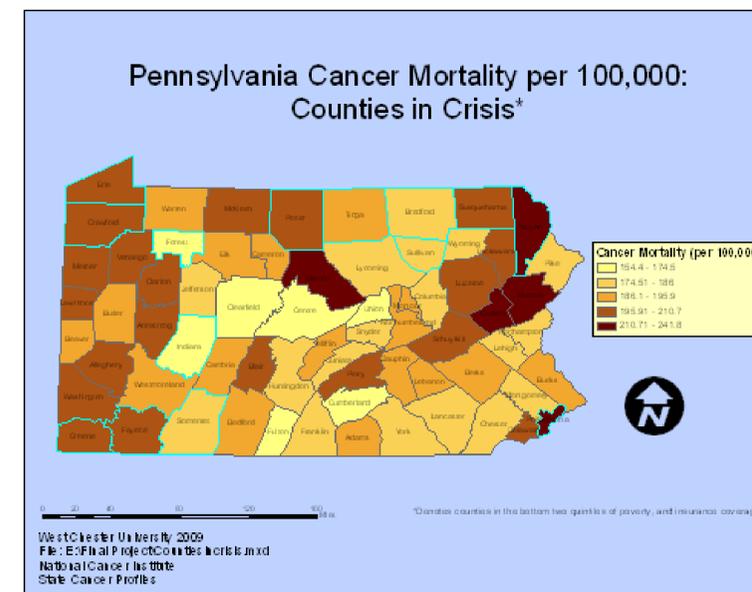
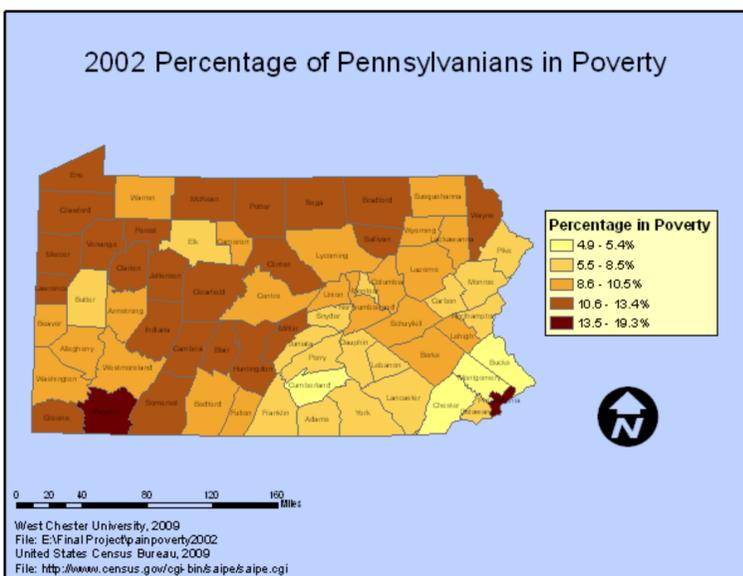
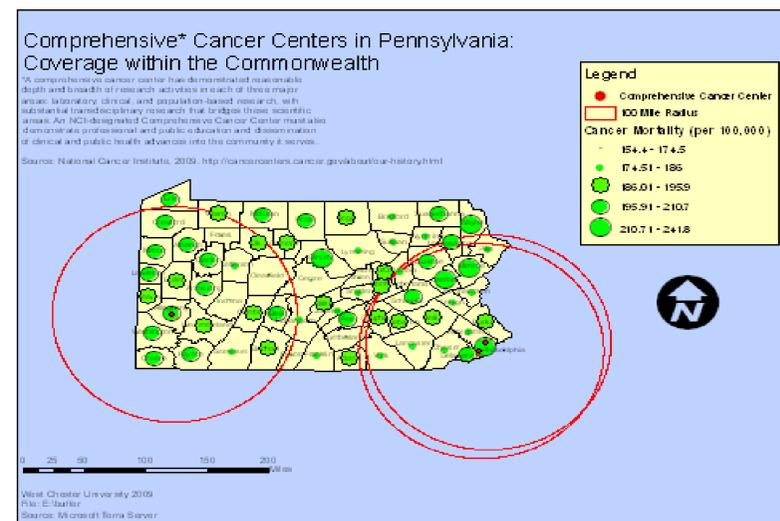
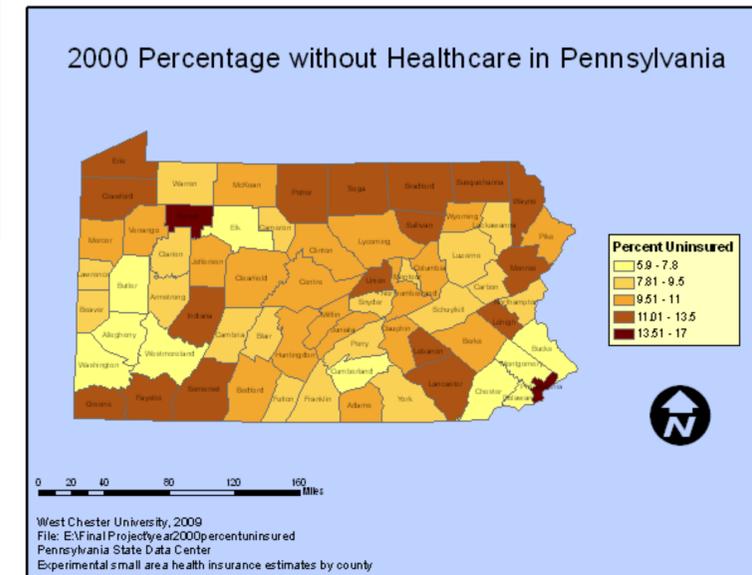
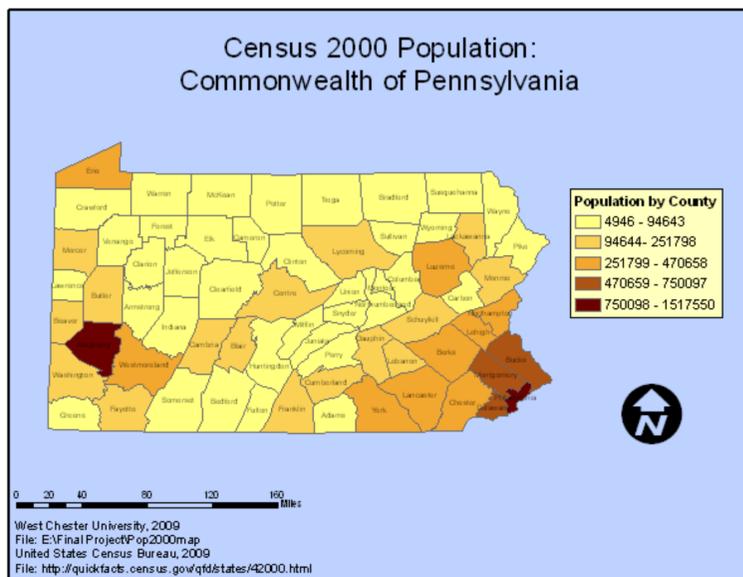


Cancer and Poverty in Pennsylvania

While Pennsylvania's poverty and Percentage Uninsured levels are considerably better than National averages^{1,2}, Cancer mortality is high³, and many Pennsylvanians in Philadelphia and some rural Counties remain uninsured, and more vulnerable to the economic impact associated with catastrophic illnesses such as Cancer. We will attempt to establish a link between poverty and lack of insurance with Cancer mortality and will isolate areas that could benefit the most from augmented state attention.

	Percent in Poverty	Percent Uninsured	Cancer Mortality (per 100,000)
United States	12.7	15.7	189.8
Pennsylvania	9.6	9.9	198.5
Philadelphia	19.3	17	241.8



- With these data, a broad correlation across the Commonwealth between poverty, lack of healthcare and Cancer mortality cannot be established.
- Regional correlations are seen in Philadelphia, the Northern Tier, Southwestern, and Great Lakes regions of the state.
- **Philadelphia, with 1.5 million residents has the most present need for assistance**
 - With two top tier Cancer Treatment Centers in the city, focus should be on prevention, diagnostics, and increasing healthcare coverage, not research.
- **Western PA counties in crisis should do the same, but should focus more on improving their research capabilities, thereby improving cancer centers.**

Citations:

1. United States Census Bureau, Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates (SAIPE): 2002, Retrieved July 24th, 2009 http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/PA_Stats/SAIPE_Data/SAIPE_State_County/State_County_2002.htm
2. United States Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimate, 2002, Retrieved July 24th, 2009 http://pasdc.hbg.psu.edu/pasdc/PA_Stats/SAHIE/sahie00cty.html
3. National Cancer Institute, 2009, State Cancer Profiles, <http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/cgi-bin/quickprofiles/profile.pl?42&001>