

# Access to Health Care and Health Care Delivery

## Geographer's perspective

- Examines the factors influencing spatial inequalities in health and inequalities in access to health care

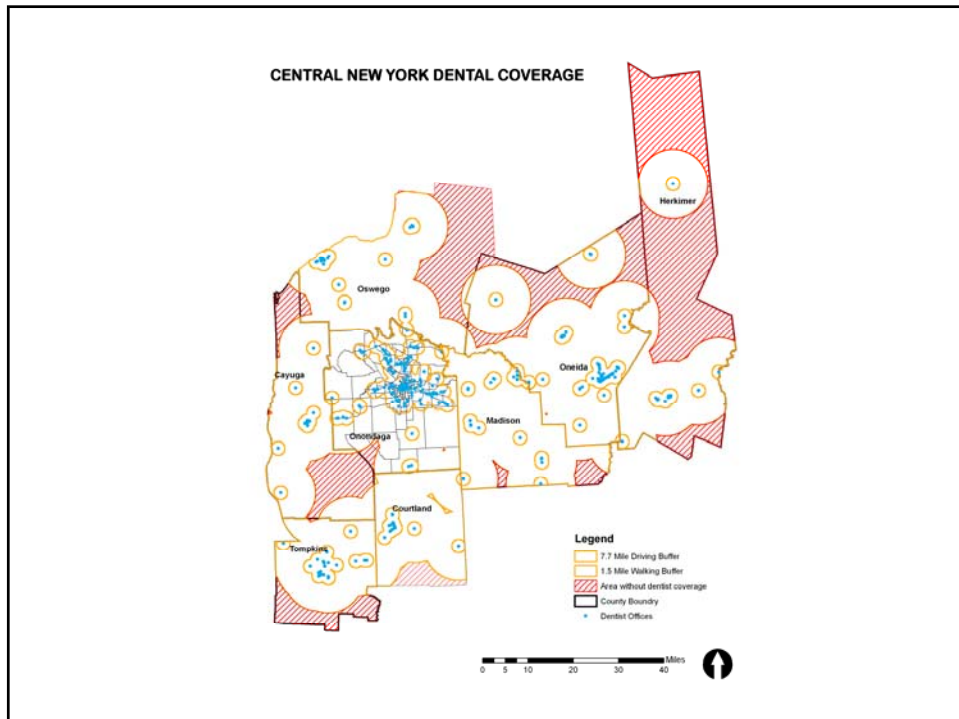
- The geography of health care examines:  
*where* the *providers* are & why they are there.  
*where* do *consumers* seek &/or receive care, & why there.
- Rural people & places are often underserved esp. re: physician shortages.
- Inequity in distribution of resources  
What is inequity? That certain populations remain underserved (even though there are several ways to define *underserved*). Another way to look at equity-- that each person is satisfied with the service they receive from the practitioner.

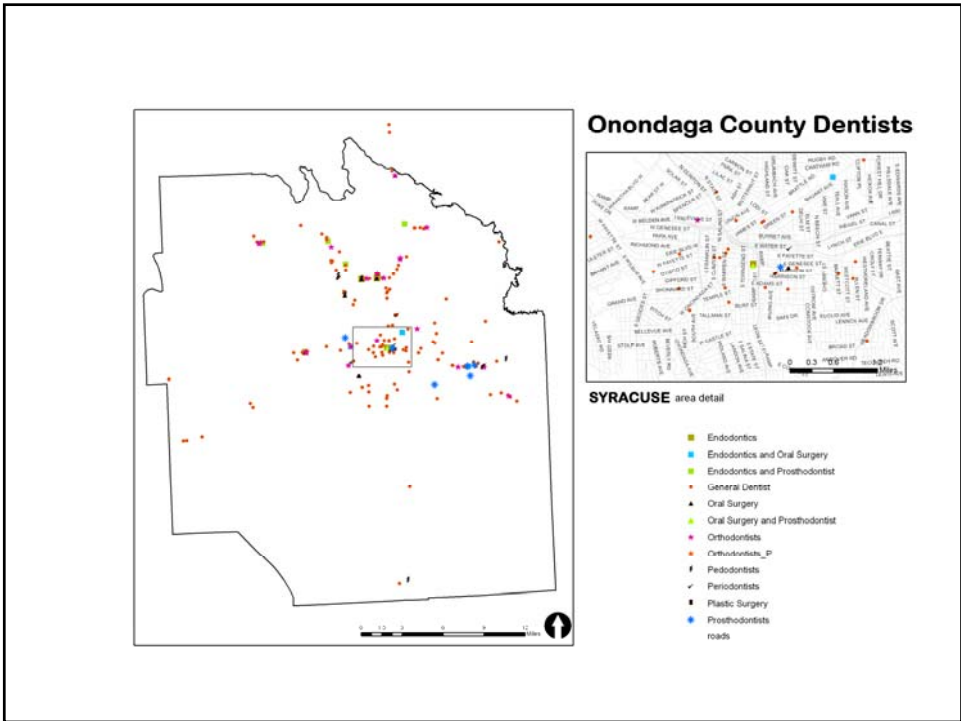
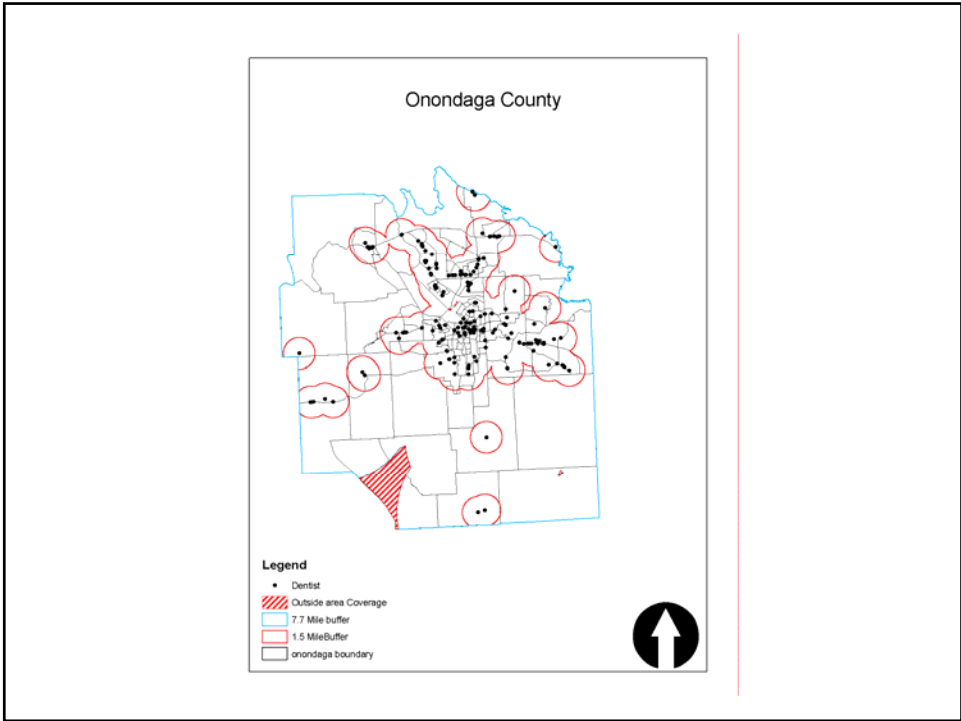
- **DISTANCE** is an important factor in accessibility & utilization of health care resources. There's absolute distance, which is counted in miles, km, etc.
- In societies where **TIME** is more important than distance, we can look at time distance- the time it takes to reach a facility
- Other types of distance:
  - perceived distance- a patient's idea of how far away a facility is
  - social distance- gap between patient & provider in terms of social status or beliefs about illness
  - economic distance- the ability to pay for services

## Healthcare Accessibility

- Geographic distance to health care a significant challenge in Syracuse?
  - Syracuse is only 4 X 7 miles
  - Exception: dental care?
- Time/distance challenge for those dependent upon public transport or in rural areas
  - Public transport is virtually nonexistent in rural areas and cumbersome in Syracuse
- Economic and social distance more critical
  - Inability to pay/lack of insurance, inability to navigate Medicare or Medicaid bureaucracies

# Dental Care



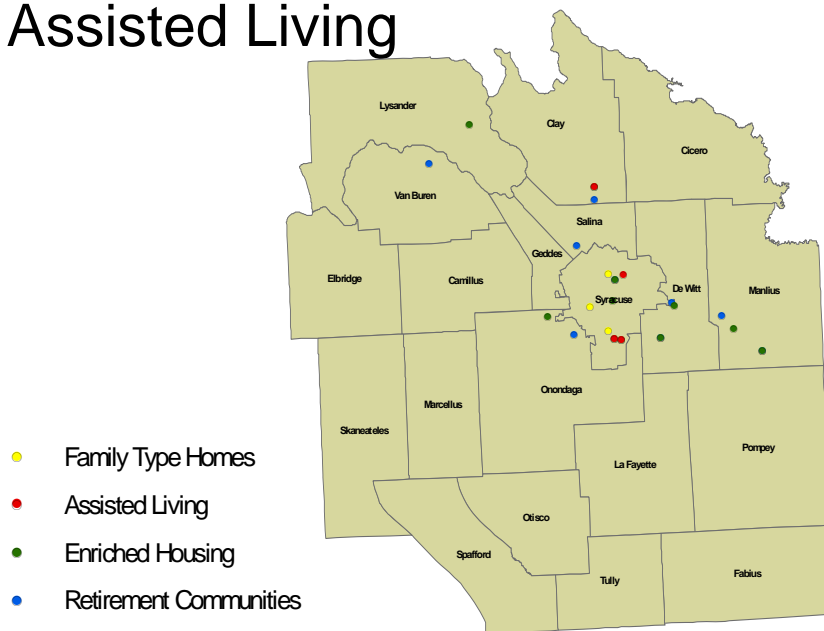


## Dental Care Access

- Geographic access issues for rural population
- Access to specialists, pediatric providers and providers that accept Medicaid problematic for all?

Seniors

## Assisted Living



## Assisted Care

- Minority presence in longterm care facilities extremely low

# Food Security

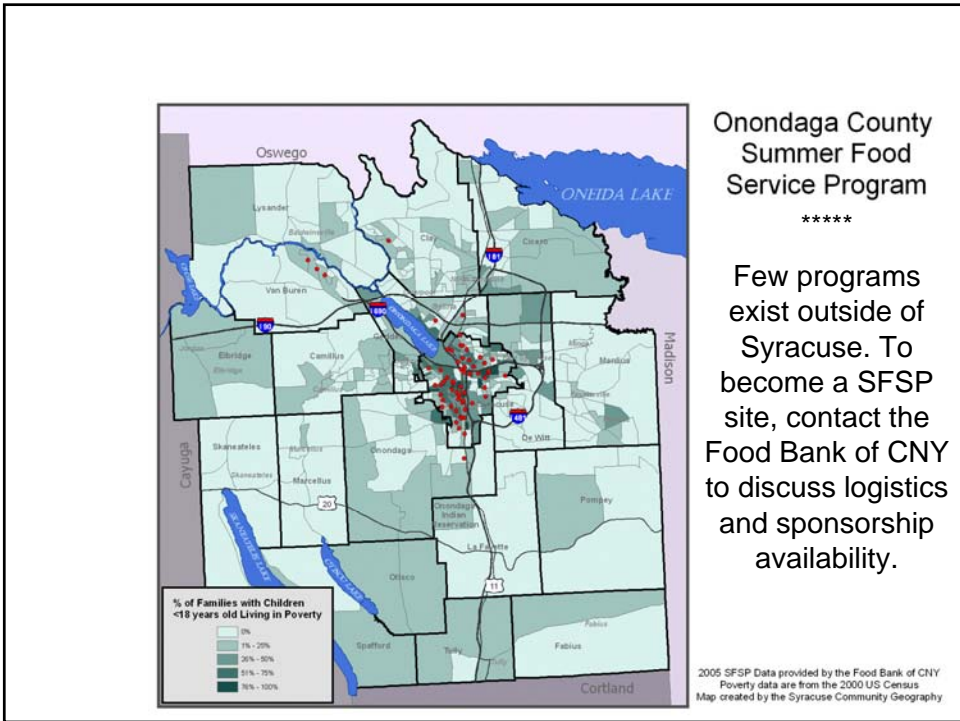
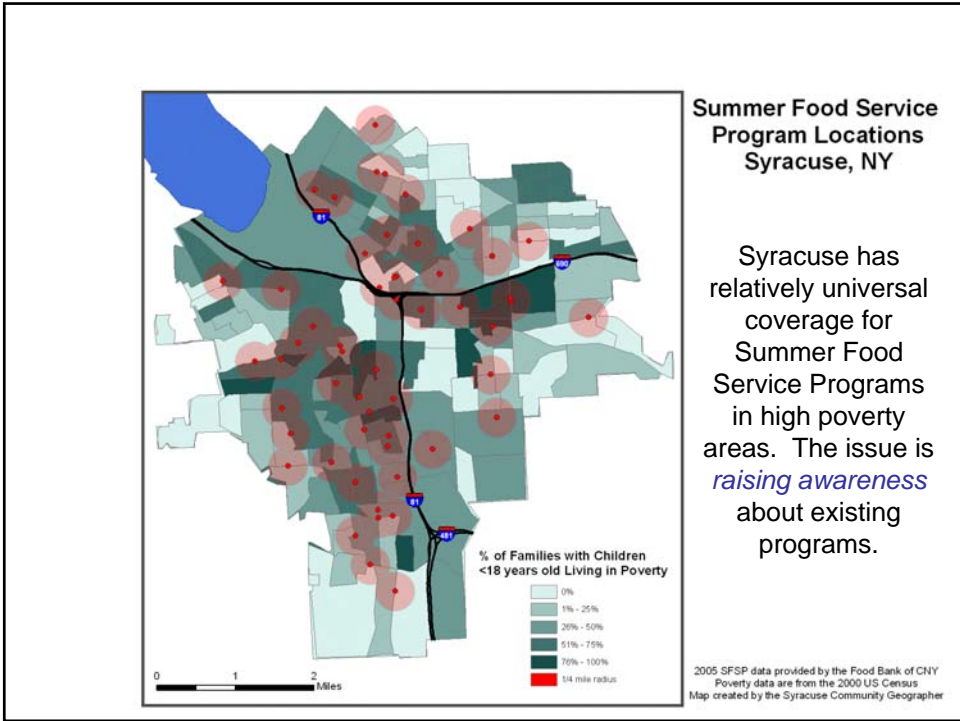


## Onondaga County Farmers' Markets

### Farmers' Market Nutrition Program

The FMNP provides checks to Women, Infants and Children (WIC) recipients and to Seniors in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for the purchase of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables.

- 1) Camillus Farmers' Market  
Municipal Building, 4600 W. Genesee St.
- 2) Downtown Syracuse Farmers' Market  
S. Salina and Washington Sts.
- 3) Eat Well Play Hard Farmers' Market  
Bayberry Plaza, 7608 Oswego Rd.
- 4) Eat Well Play Hard Farmers' Market  
375 W. Onondaga St.
- 5) Skaneateles Farmers' Market  
Allyn Arena, Jordan and E. Austin Sts.
- 6) Syracuse/CNY Regional Market Authority  
2100 Park St., I-81 Exit 23
- 7) Elbridge Farmers' Market  
Fire Department Lawn, Main St., Rt. 5
- 8) Manlius Farmers' Market  
Behind Sno-Top, Off Arkie Albanese Way
- 9) Market Days at Marcellus Park  
Platt Rd.

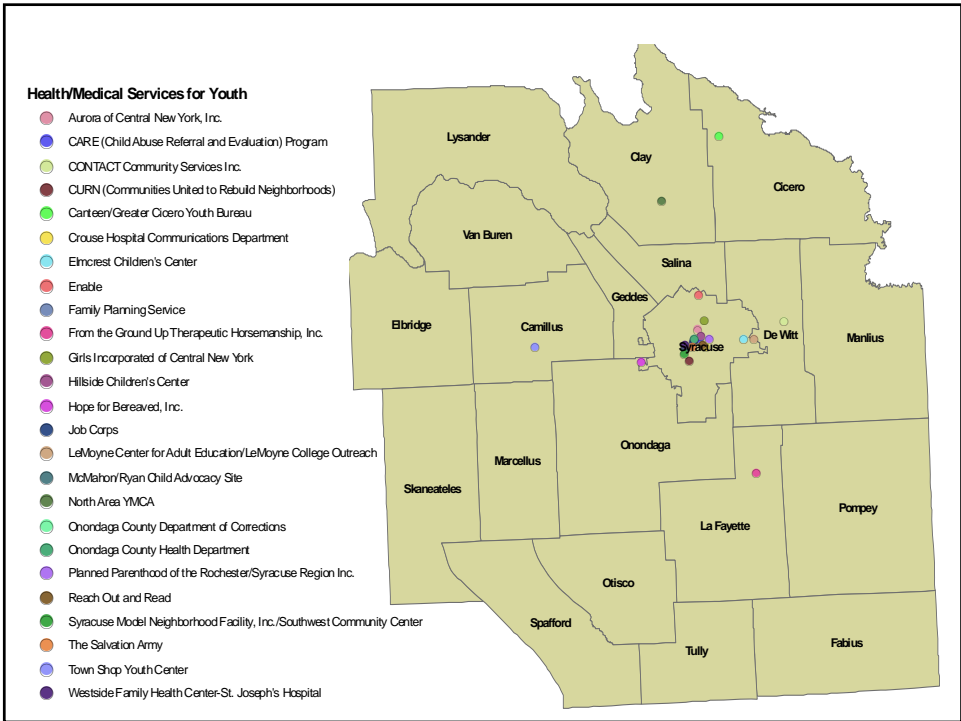
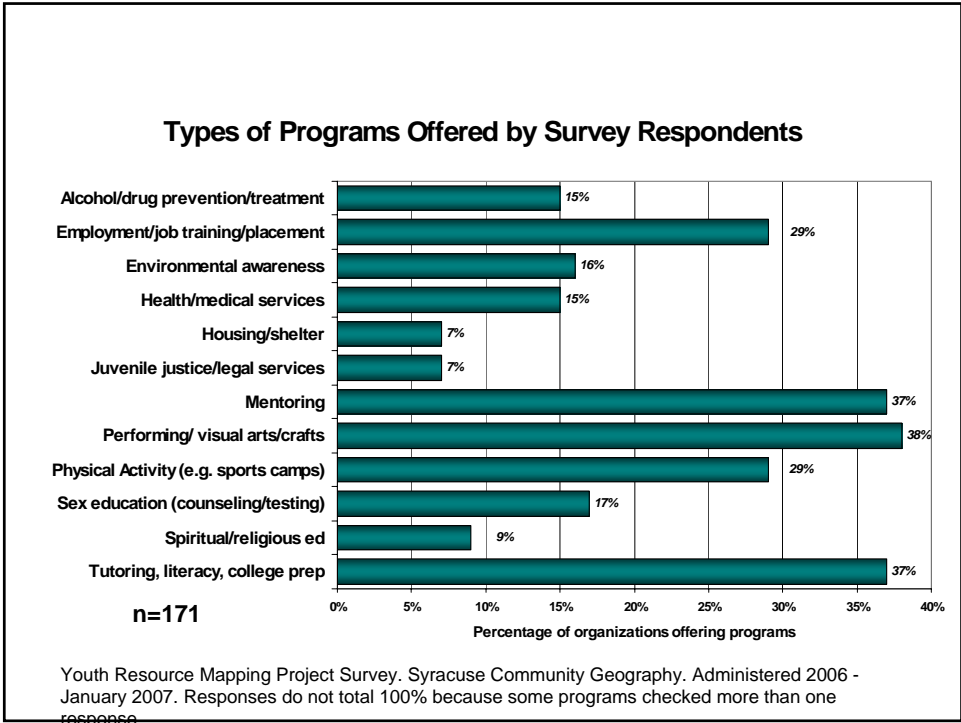


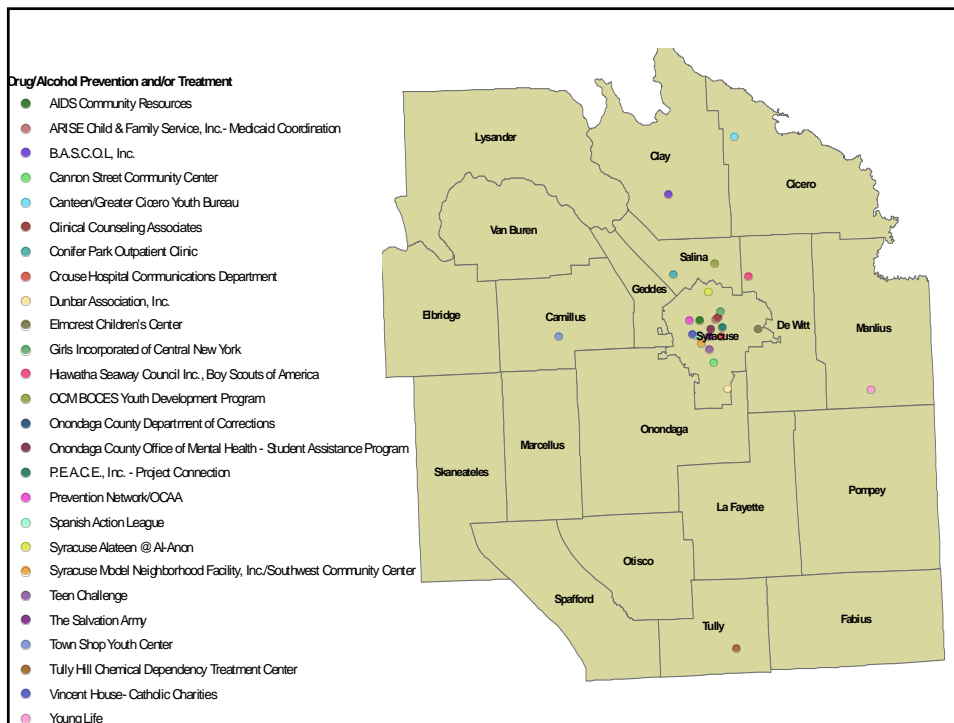
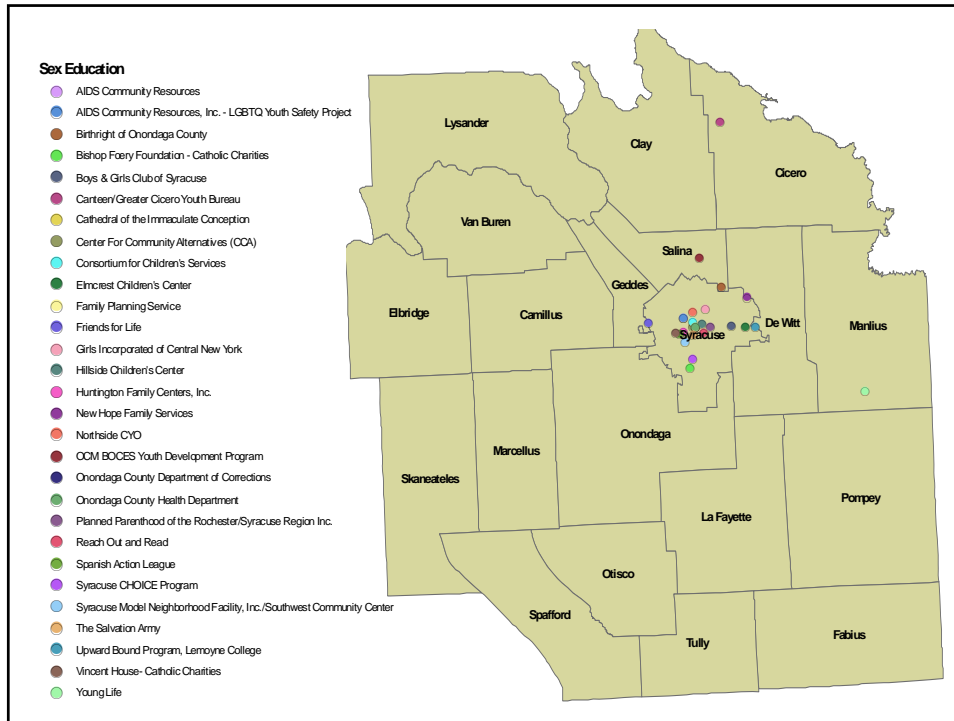


## Food Security/Obesity

- Access to fresh produce
  - Google example for grocery stores
- Access vs. personal choices
  - Portion of income spent on food
- Pantries and soup kitchens not most reliable source of nutritious foods
  
- Access to green spaces and inexpensive recreational activities
- Walkability of neighborhoods

Youth





## Teen Childbearing

- Birth records for babies born to adolescent mothers, ages 10 -19 years residing in Onondaga County during the period January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2005.
- Sexually transmitted infection (STI) incidence reported for adolescent females and males, ages 10-19 during the period January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2005.

- **What Are Health Disparities?**
- "Health Disparities" are defined as population-specific differences in the presence of disease, health outcomes, or access to health care. Six clinical issues (Diabetes, Cardiovascular disease, Infant mortality, HIV/AIDS, Cancer screening and management, and Immunizations) were chosen because they represent a major portion of health problems in low income, rural, and urban communities and in people of color. Two other major conditions for which the Surgeon General has devoted attention are asthma and oral health."

## Health Disparity/Inequality Data

- Top causes of death by race, SES status

Total	All Causes (Blacks, NYS)	20,975
	Diseases of the Heart	6,671
	Malignant Neoplasms	4,712
	AIDS	931
	Diabetes Mellitus	912
	Cerebrovascular Disease	820

### Access to Health Care in America (1993) Institute of Medicine

[http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record\\_id=2009&page=31](http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=2009&page=31)