Demographic Trends around Martin Luther King Jr. Streets in United States Cities

RaeLynn Butler
Haskell Indian Nations University
2007 GIS Day
November 14, 2007
Introduction

• Does the name of a public street provide more than just a name?
• Could a toponym actually influence socio-economic trends within a place?

The objective of this research is to observe patterns in demographics collected from U.S. Census Bureau Blocks adjacent to Martin Luther King Jr. Streets (Boulevards, Lanes, Avenues, etc.) in eight U.S. Cities.
Methods

Geographic Information Systems was used to analyze the frequency of per capita income and ethnicity variables in Census Blocks around MLK Streets in the following cities:

- Bronx, New York
- Chicago, Illinois
- Berkeley, California
- Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Denver, Colorado
- Los Angeles, California
- Portland, Oregon
- Washington, District of Columbia

GIS technology provided tools that helped express the different variables simultaneously, resulting in information rich, multivariate maps.
Results

Demographics of Martin Luther King Streets in the United States, Portland, Oregon

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000
Map designed by RaeLynn Butler
Demographics of Martin Luther King Streets in the United States, Bronx, NY

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000
Map designed by RaeLynn Butler

Per Capita Income 2000
- 6508 - 7747
- 7748 - 9664
- 9665 - 13994
- 13995 - 19488

Census Ethnicity 2000
- WHITE
- BLACK
- HISPANIC
- OTHER

Map designed by RaeLynn Butler
Questions?