



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY HEALTH & AIR QUALITY

Assessing Urban Heat Island Distribution and
its Intersections with Air Quality to
Understand Converging Vulnerabilities

Shea Rousseau

Carlo Gomez

Gabi Colombo

Tyler Padua

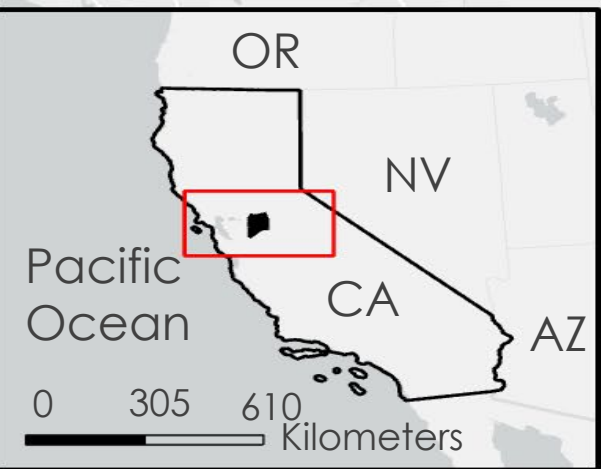
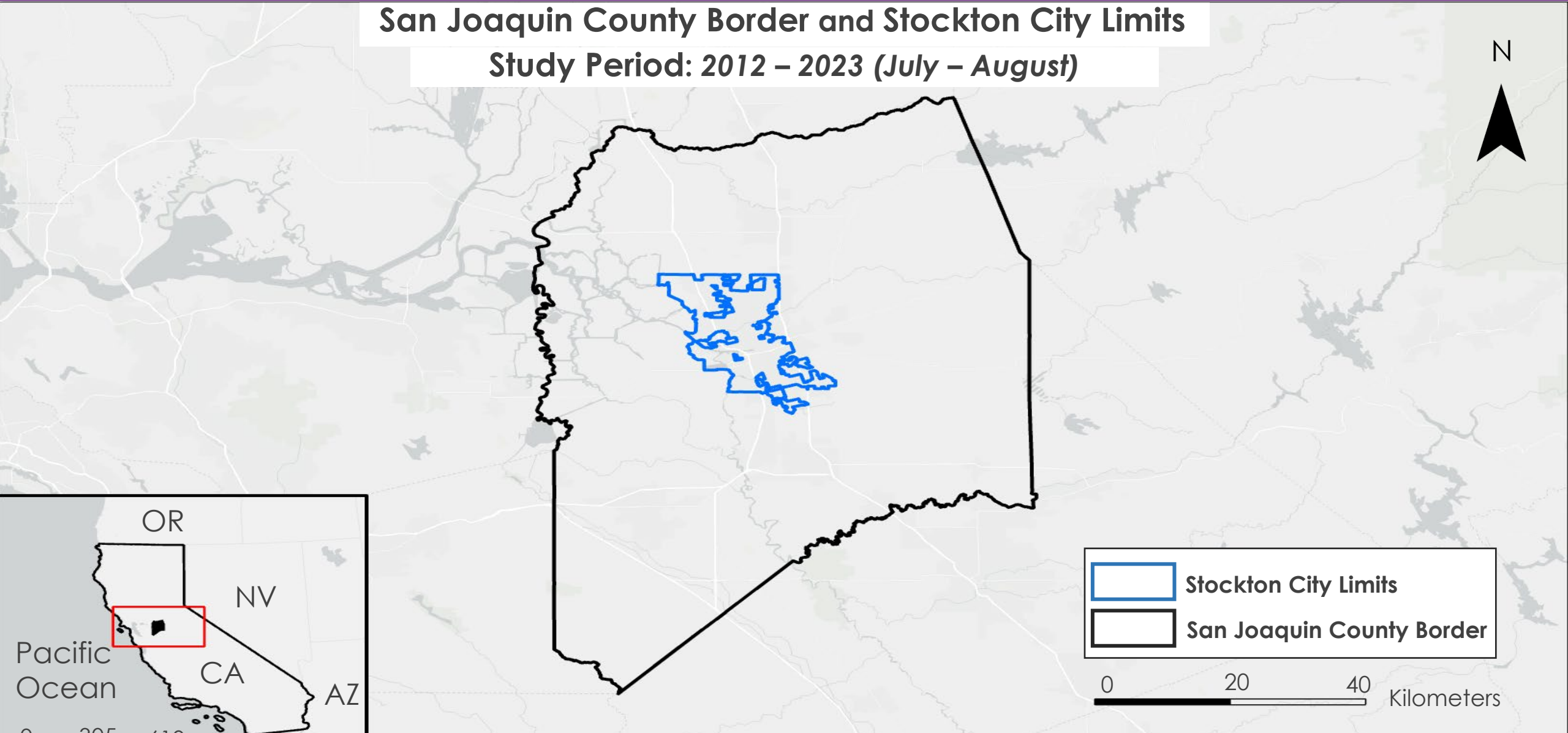



Study Area & Study Period


San Joaquin County Border and Stockton City Limits

Study Period: 2012 – 2023 (July – August)

N

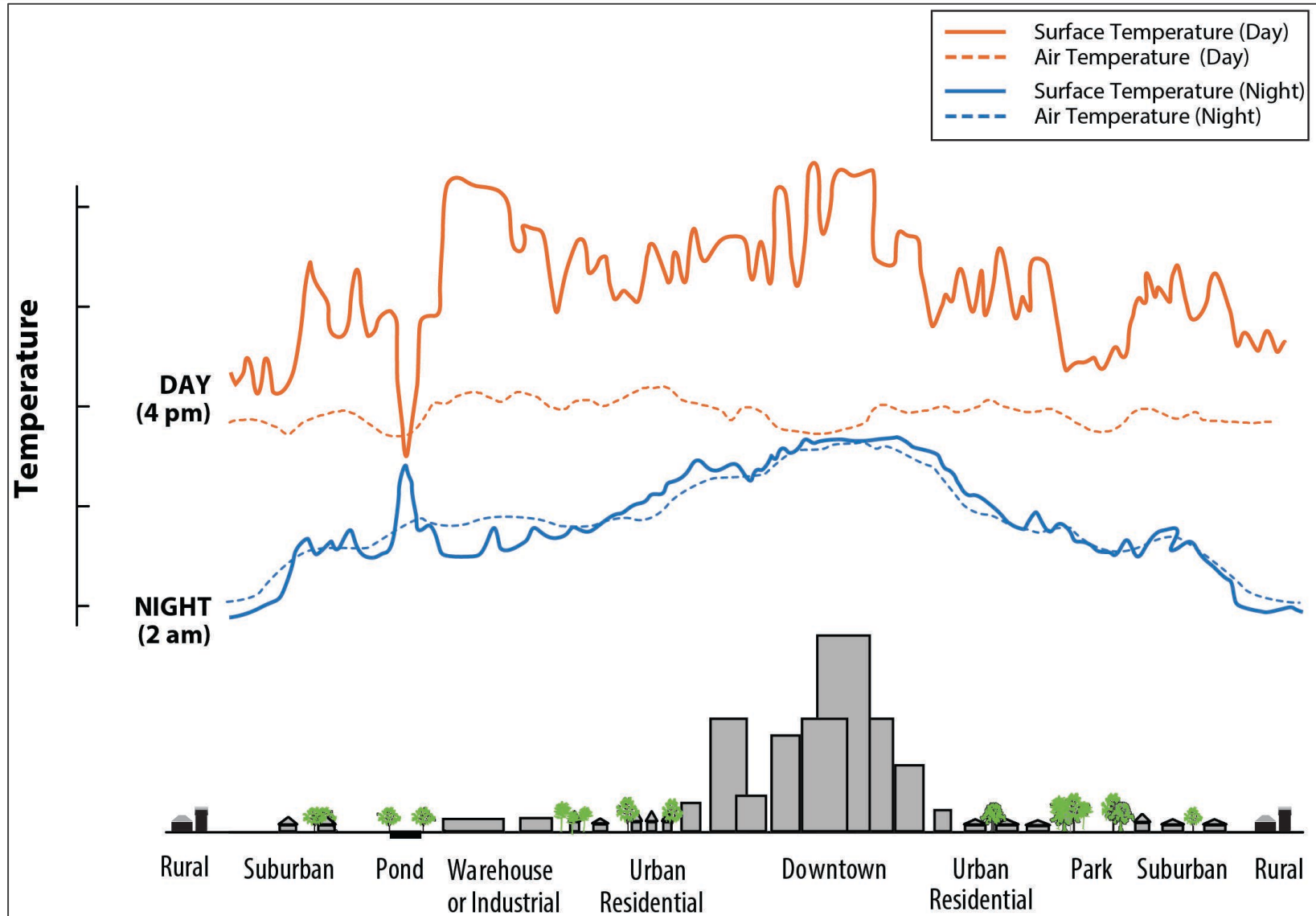


 Stockton City Limits

 San Joaquin County Border

0 20 40 Kilometers

Urban Heat Island (UHI) Effect



- Areas with dense infrastructure experience increased temperatures
- Tree canopy coverage provides a natural barrier against solar heat

Little Manila Rising (LMR)

Partner Objectives



Community Development



Air Quality



Urban Forestry

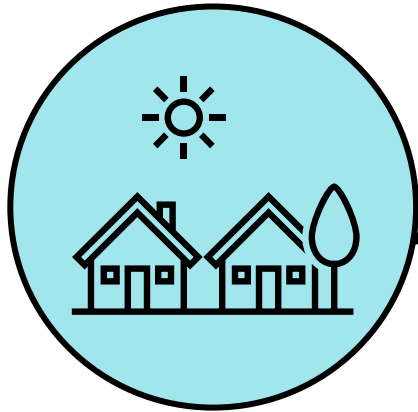


Environmental Justice

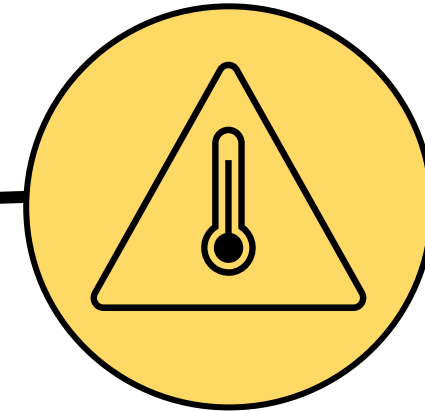


Image Credit: Kenny Chang

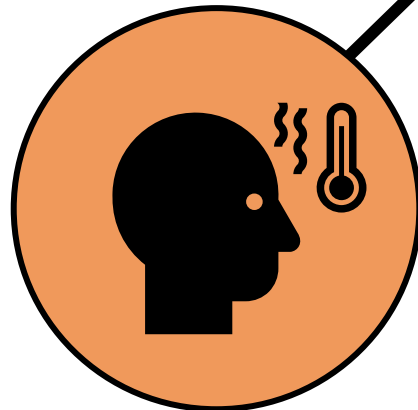
Community Concerns



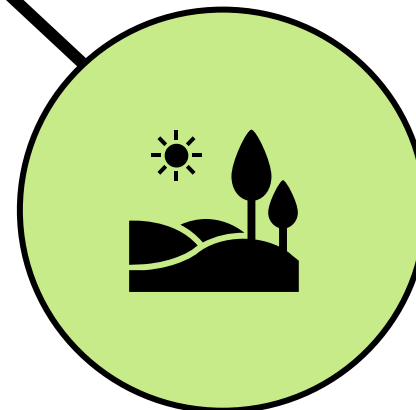
Disenfranchisement



Increasing Temperatures



Social & Health
Vulnerability

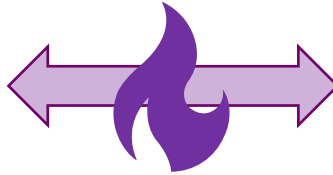


Urban Tree Canopy
Cover

Term I Summer 2023

Identified Converging Vulnerabilities Between Poor Air Quality and Regional Burning

PM2.5(AOD)



Particulate pollutant

Is a proxy for:

NO₂



Exhaust emission

Census tracts with greater social vulnerability are exposed to statistically higher concentrations of NO₂.

Project Objectives



Social Vulnerability Analysis

Produce a social vulnerability index (SVI) based on sociodemographic variables



Project Objectives



Social Vulnerability Analysis



Heat Analysis



Identify areas of extreme heat within San Joaquin County and map them against the socially vulnerable regions



Project Objectives



Social Vulnerability Analysis



Heat Analysis



Air Quality Analysis

Locate neighborhoods experiencing increased concentrations of NO₂, taking note of overlap with our SVI



Project Objectives



Social Vulnerability Analysis



Heat Analysis



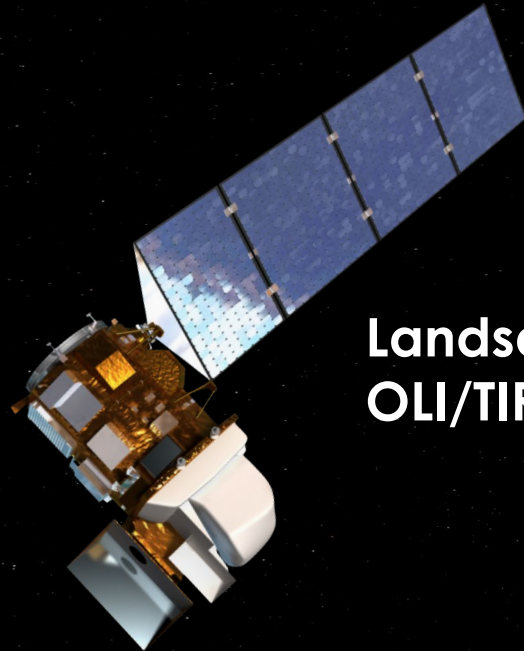
Air Quality Analysis



Community Outreach

Create a brochure with GIS products and descriptions to help inform the impacted community

Earth Observations



**Landsat 8
OLI/TIRS**



Sentinel-5 Tropomi

Methods: Social Vulnerability Map

Data

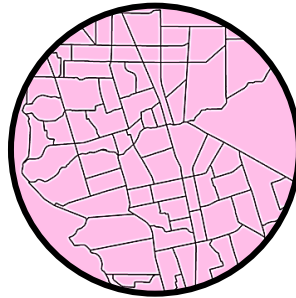
Data Processing

Product

EPA EJSCREEN
Variables

Excel

Census Tracts



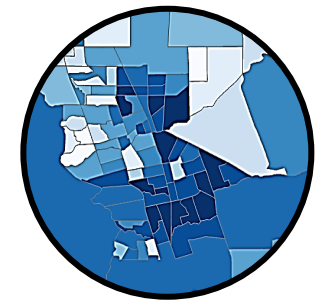
+

Social Vulnerability Index



ArcGIS
Pro

Social
Vulnerability Map



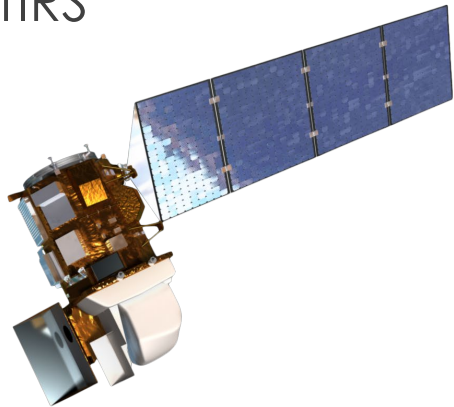
Methods: Urban Heat Exposure

Data

Data Processing

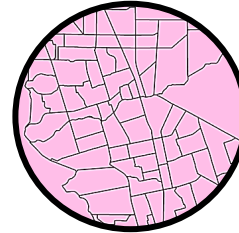
Product

Landsat 8
TIRS



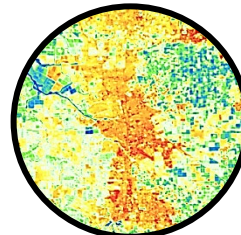
GEE

Census Tracts



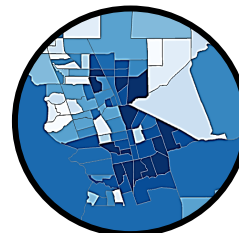
+

Average LST Map



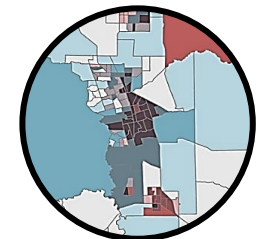
+

Social Vulnerability Map



ArcGIS
Pro

Heat
Vulnerability Map



GEE = Google Earth Engine
NIR = Near Infrared Wavelength

Methods: Air Quality Exposure

Data

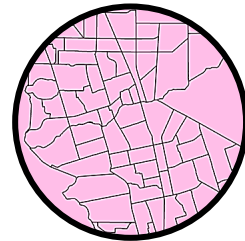
Sentinel-5
TROPOMI



ArcGIS Pro
and QGIS

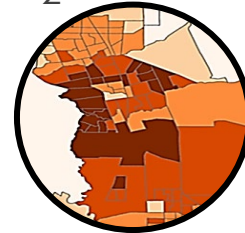
Data Processing

Census Tracts



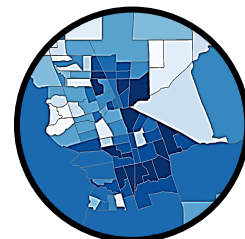
+

Average NO₂ Concentration Map



+

Social Vulnerability Map



Product

Air Quality
Vulnerability Map



Methods: Indicator of Green Vegetation (NDVI)

Data



GEE

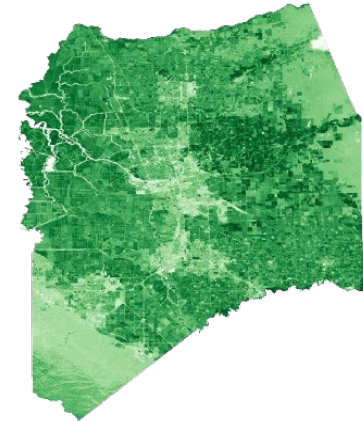
Data Processing

Filters:

Date Range
Cloud Mask

$$\text{NDVI} = \frac{(\text{NIR} - \text{Red})}{(\text{NIR} + \text{Red})}$$

Product

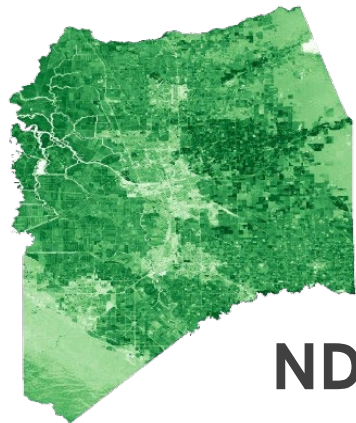
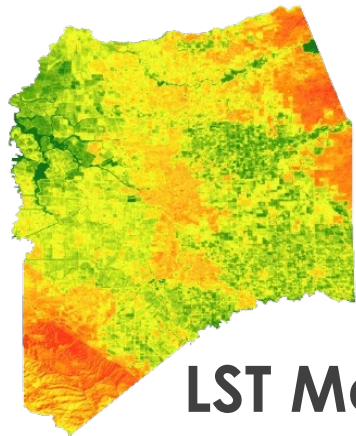


Normalized Difference
Vegetation Index

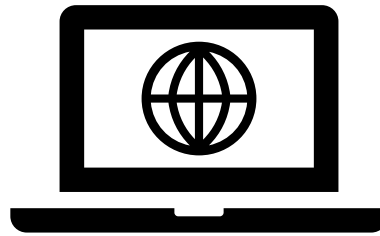
GEE = Google Earth Engine
NIR = Near Infrared Wavelength

Methods: Correlation Analysis

Data

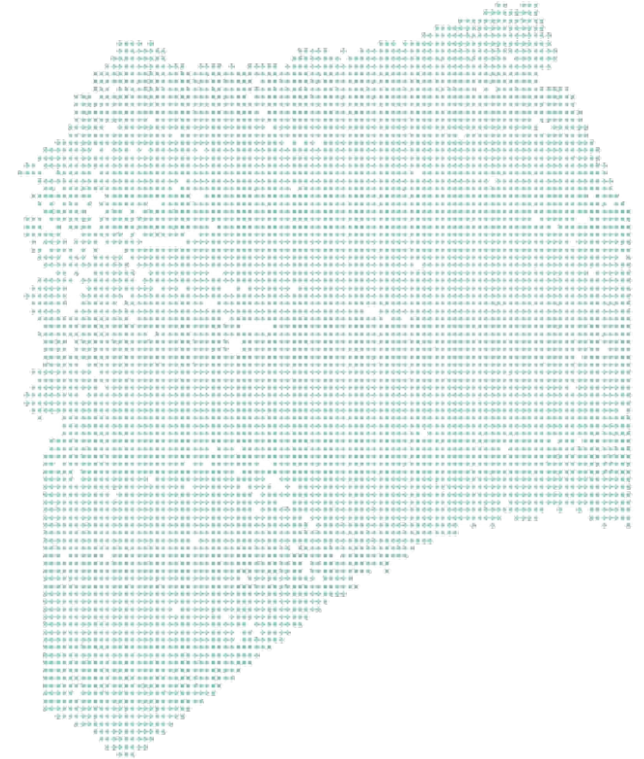


Data Processing



ArcGIS 2.4.2

Product



NDVI = Normalized Difference Vegetation Index
LST = Land Surface Temperature

Methods: Land Cover

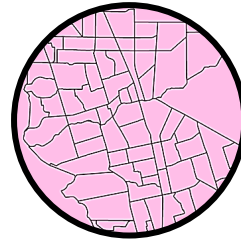
Data



ArcGIS Pro

Data Processing

Census Tracts



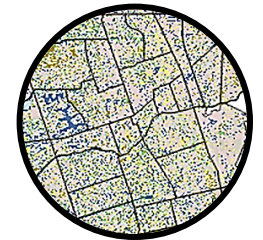
+

Extracted NAIP Mosaic

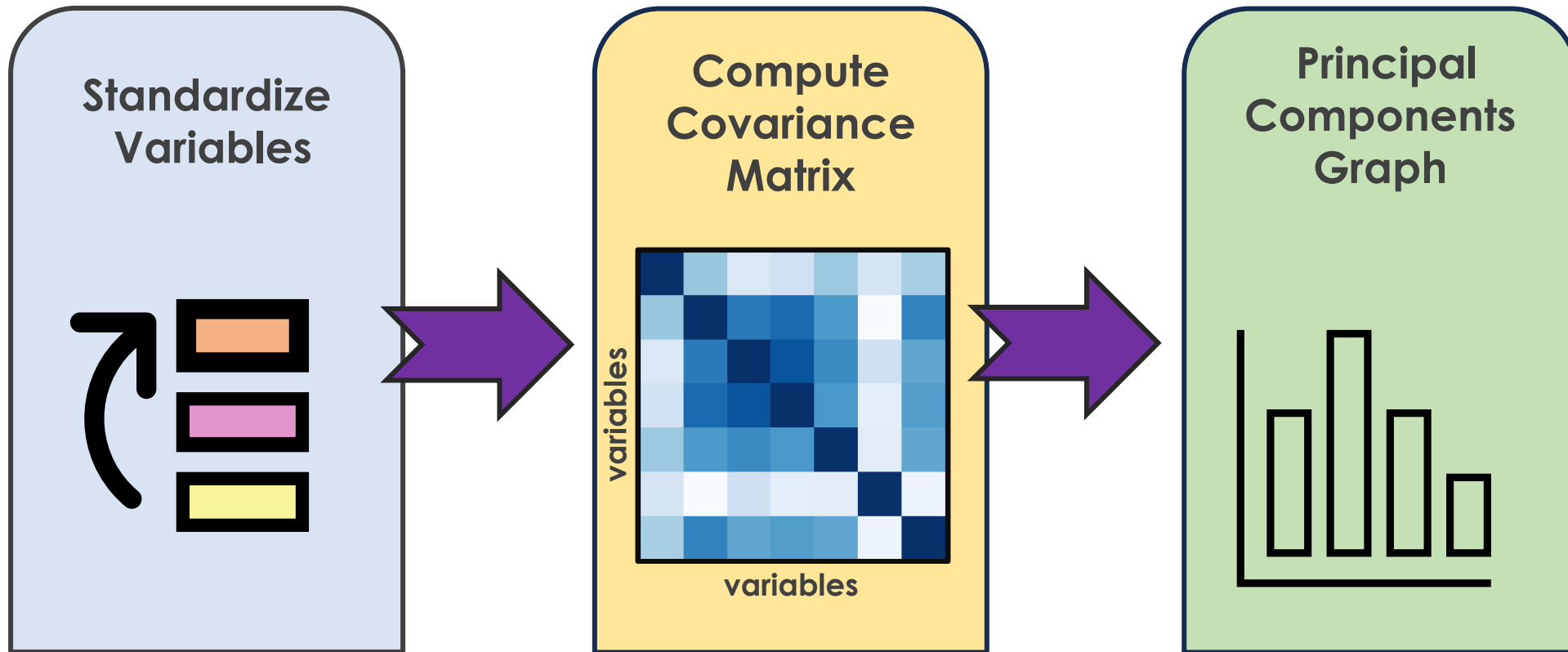


Product

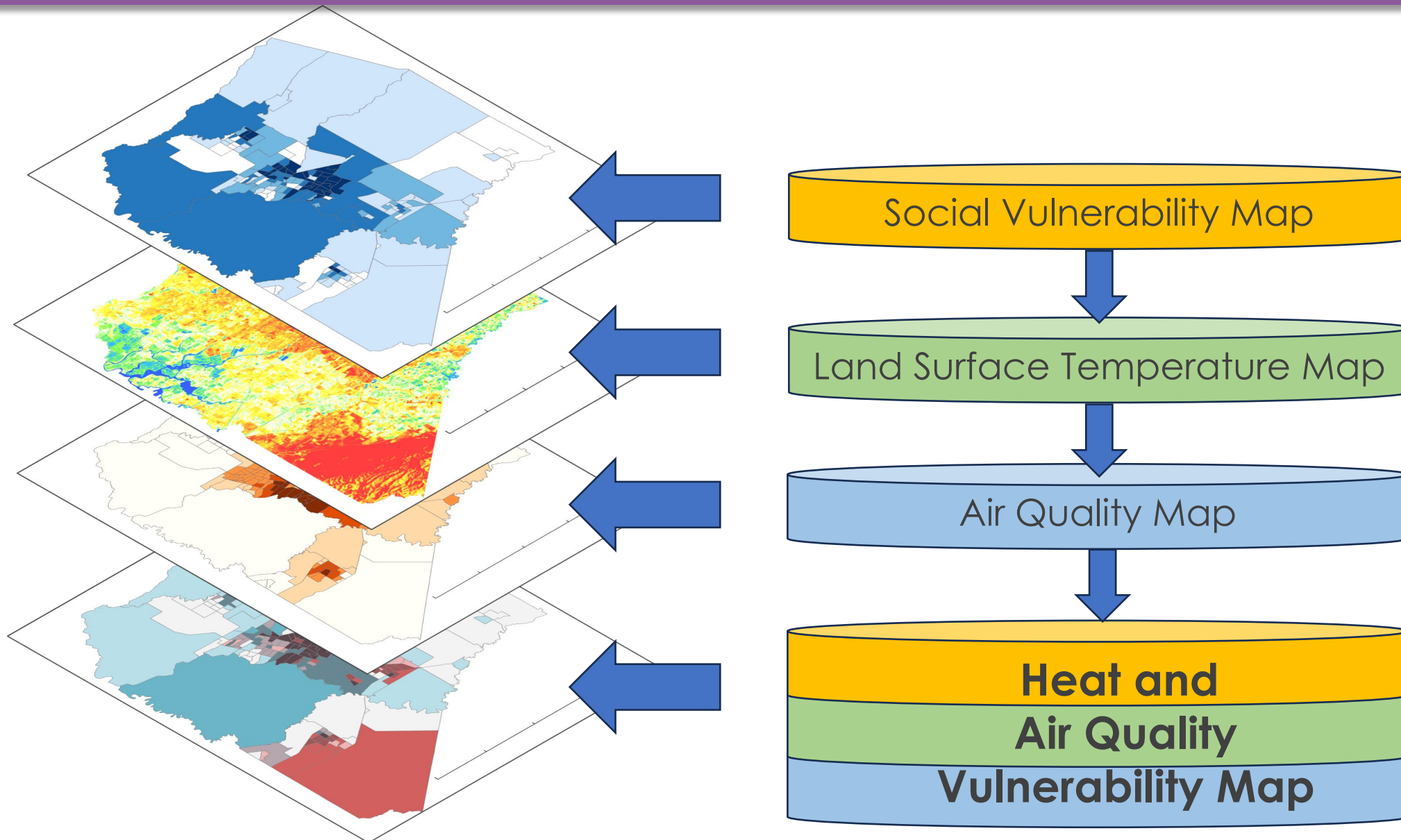
Land Cover
Classification
Maps



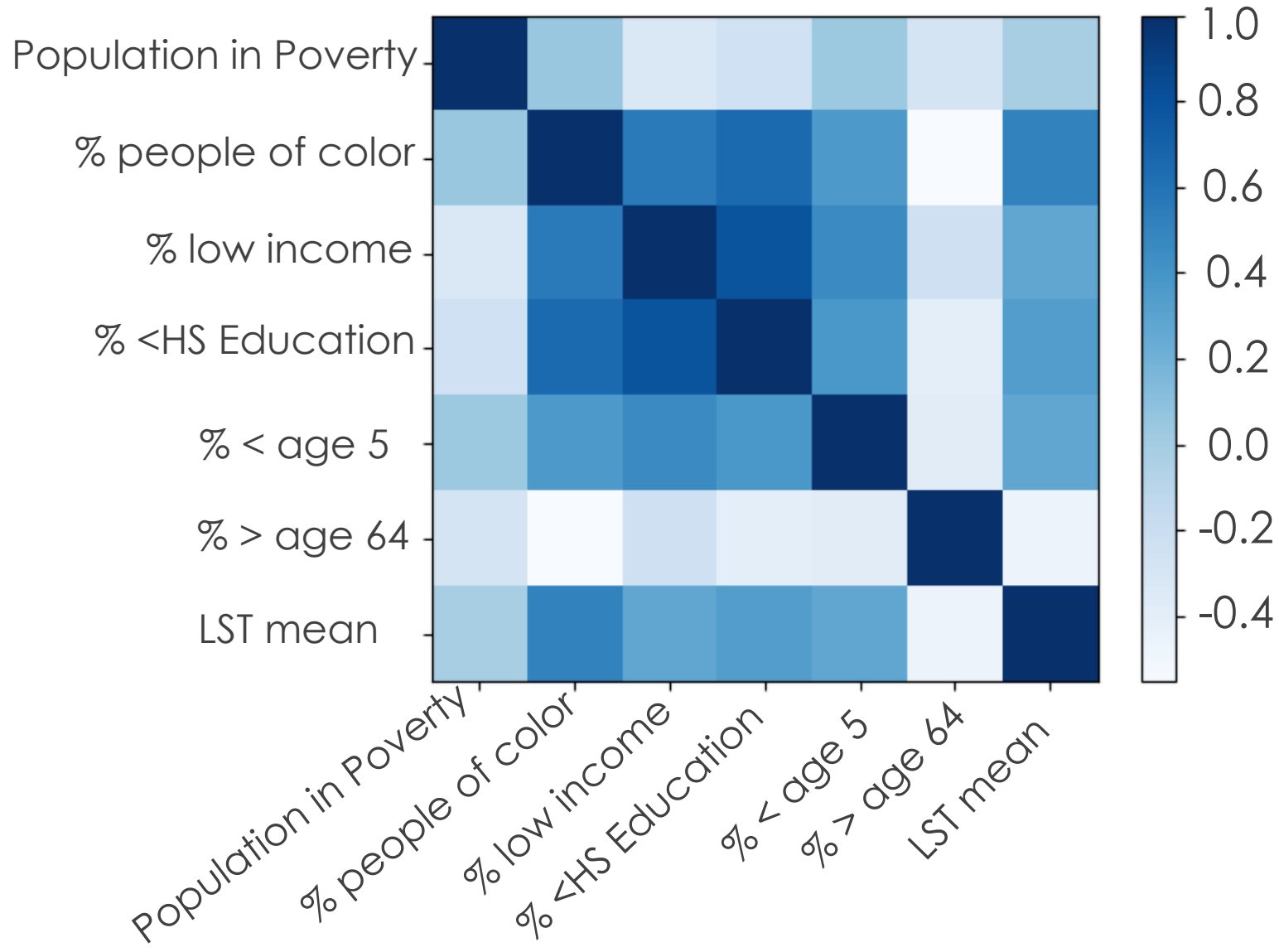
Methods: Principal Component Analysis



Methods: Heat and Air Quality Analysis

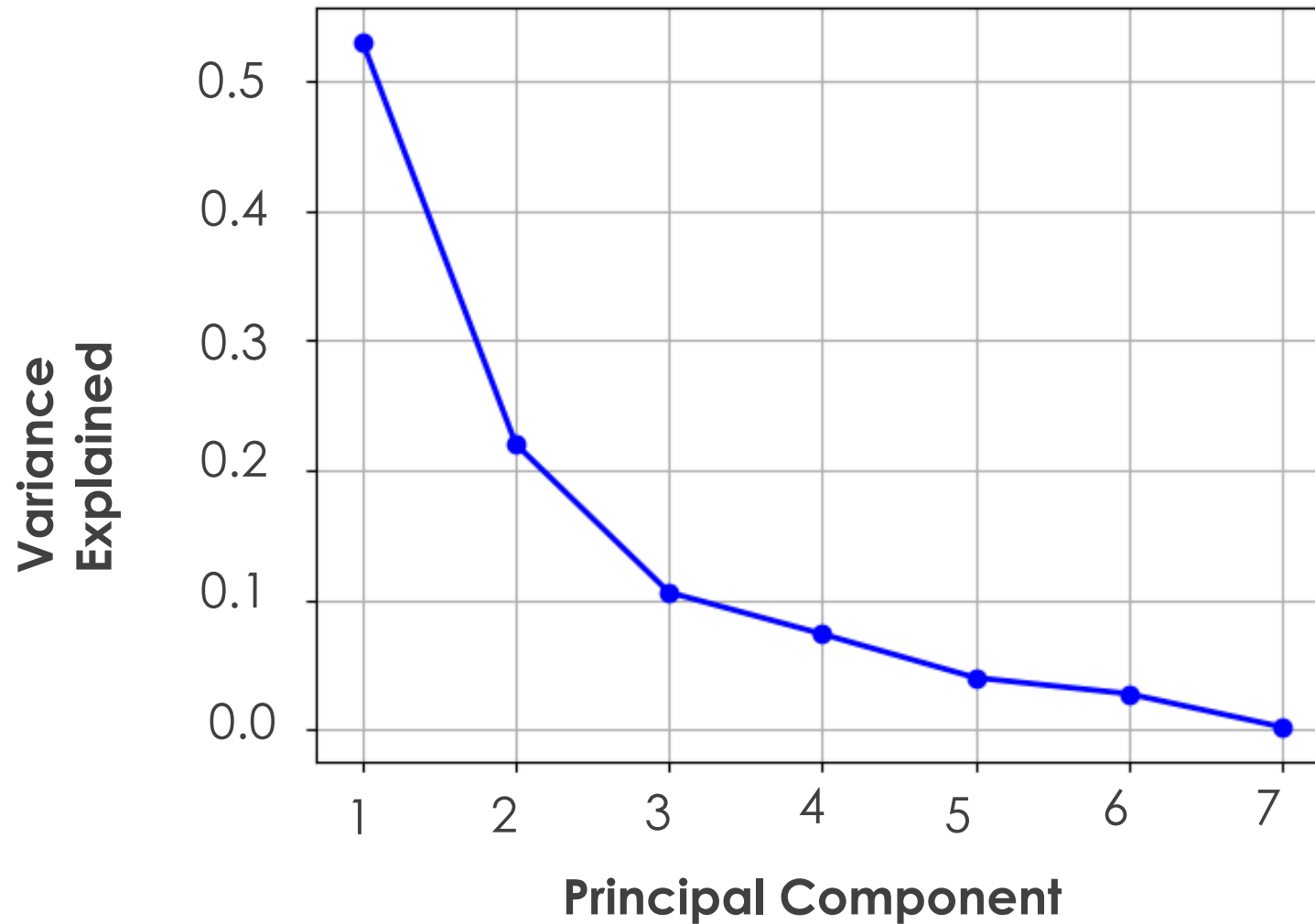


Results: Principal Component Analysis: Part 1

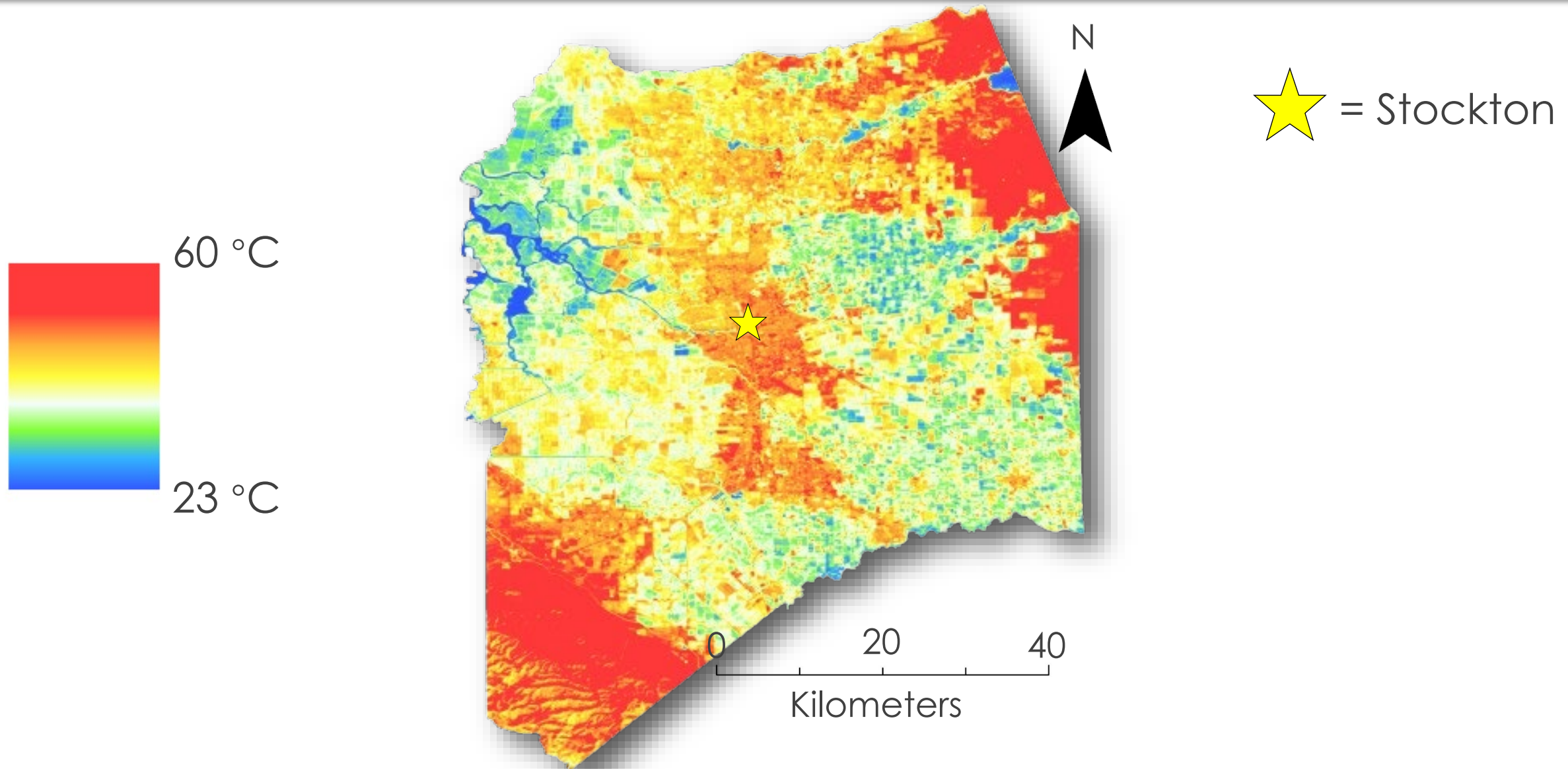


Results: Principal Component Analysis: Part 2

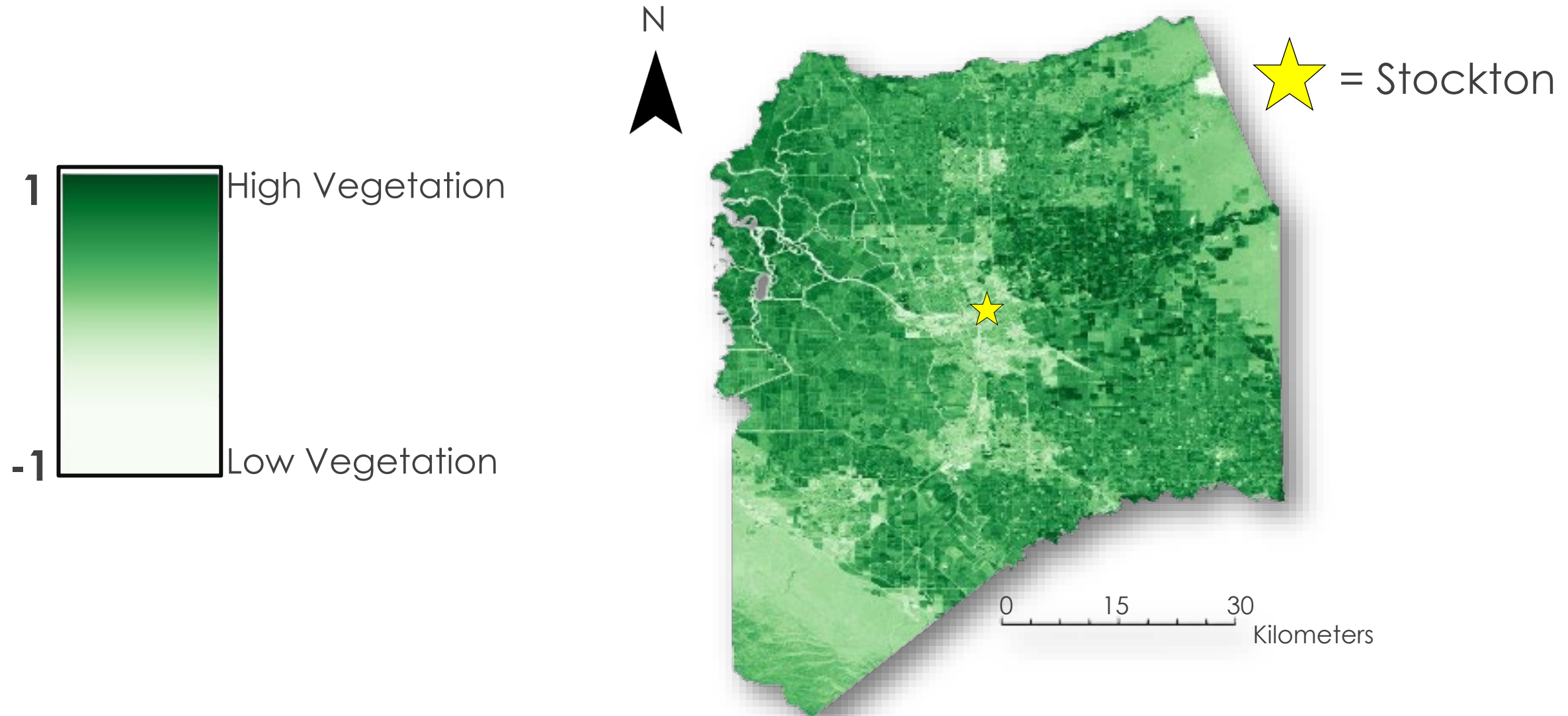
Scree Plot



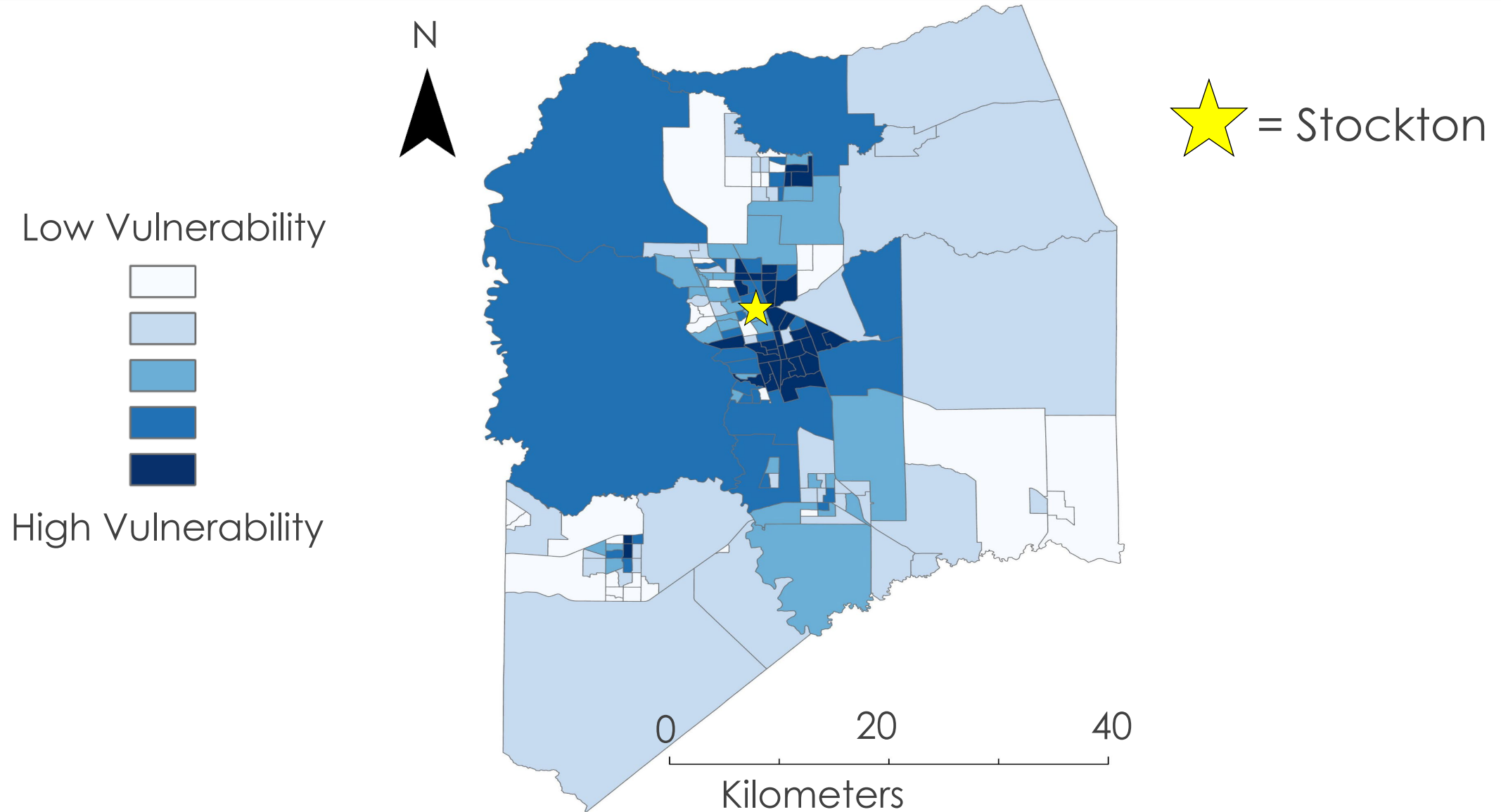
Results: Raw Land Surface Temperature Map



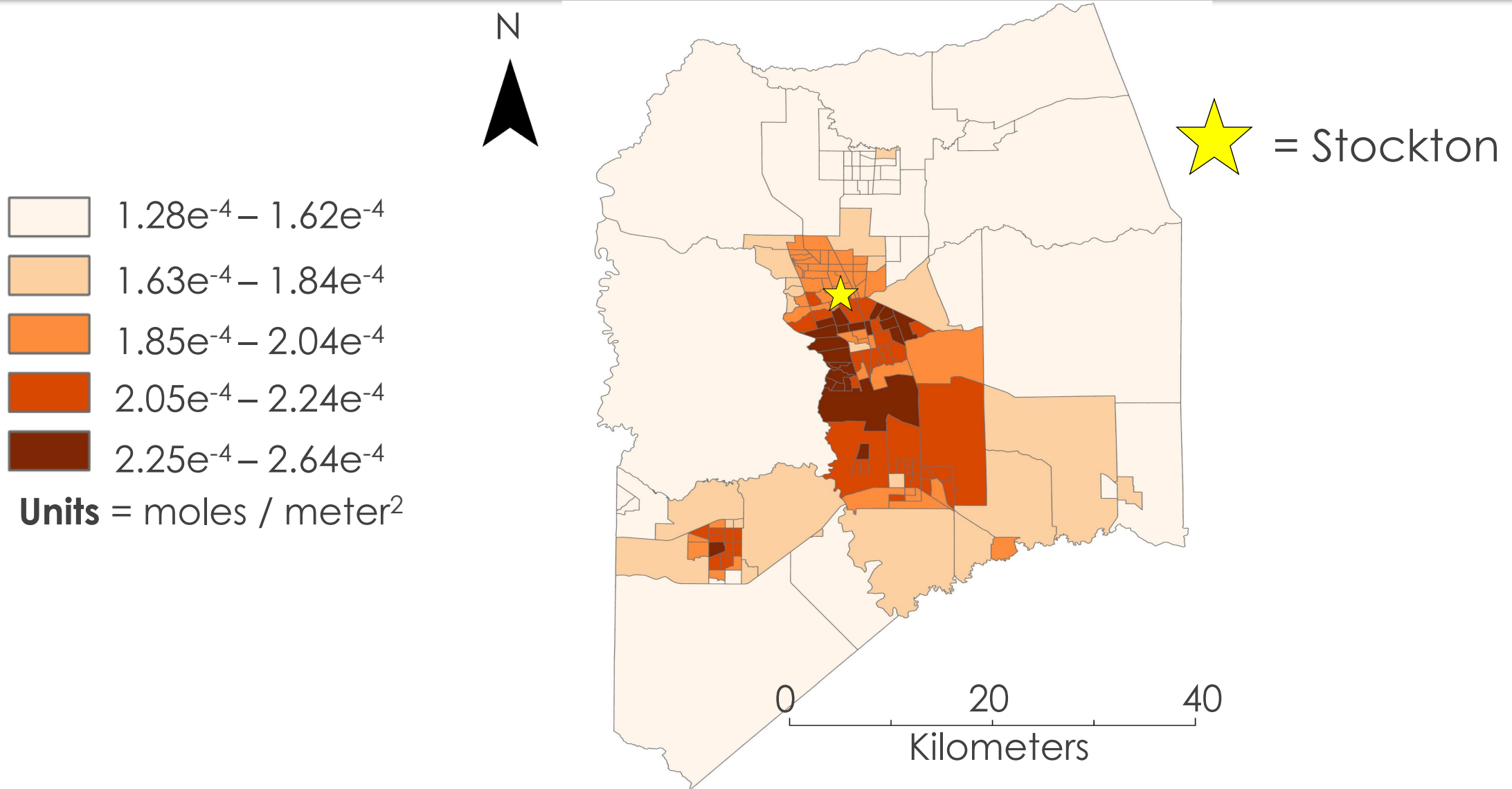
Results: Indicator of Green Vegetation (NDVI)



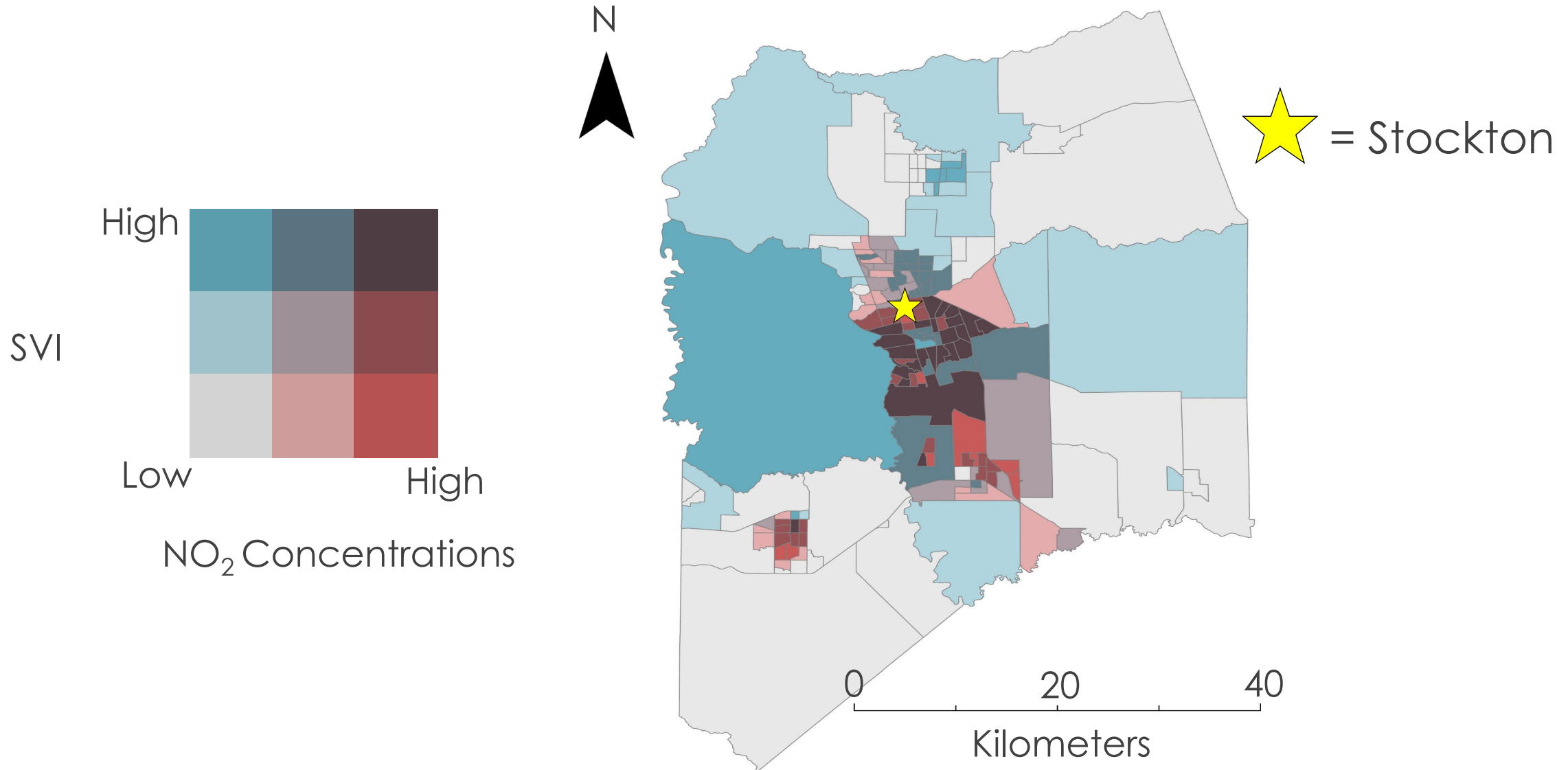
Results: Social Vulnerability Map



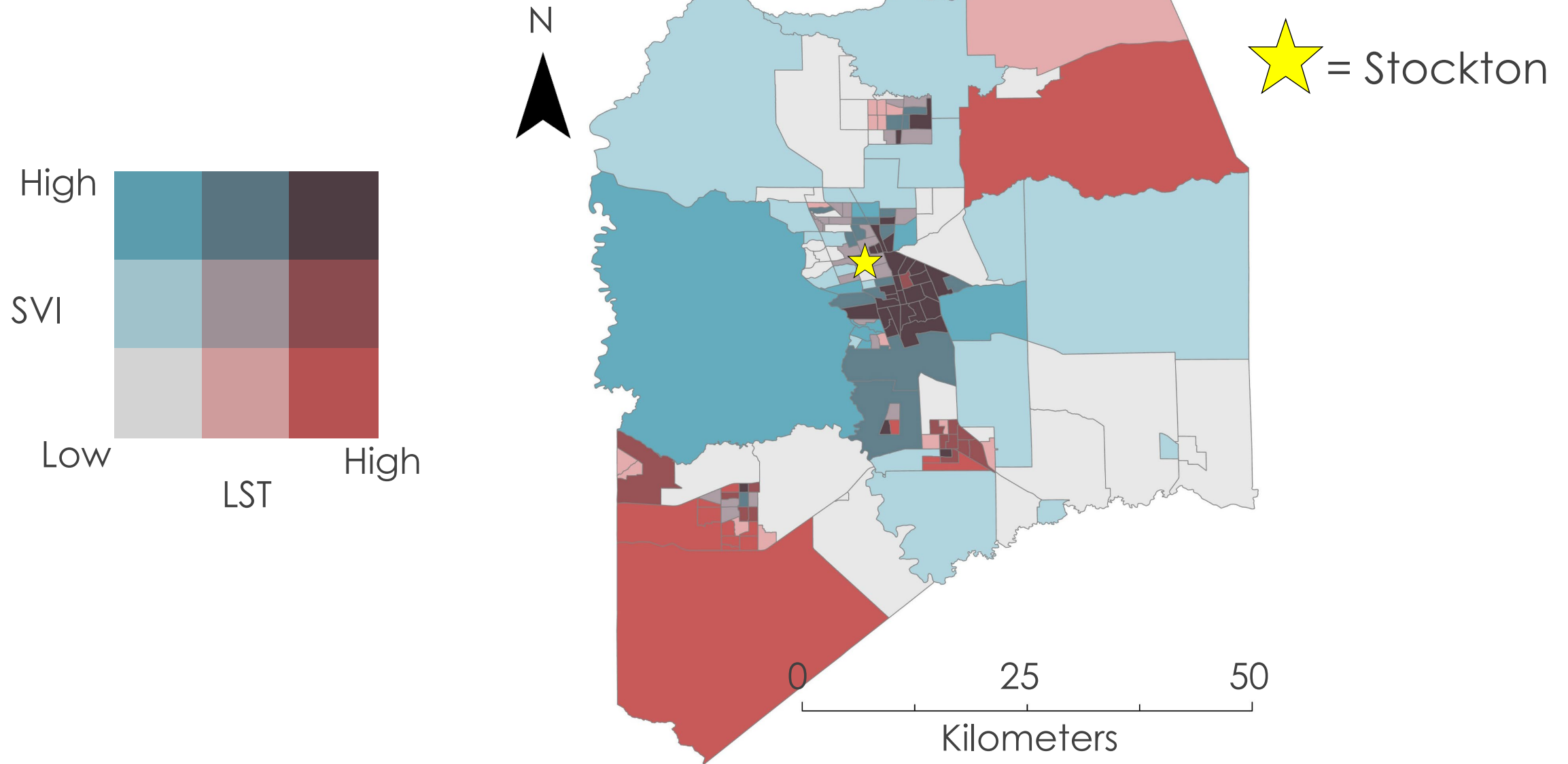
Results: NO₂ Concentrations



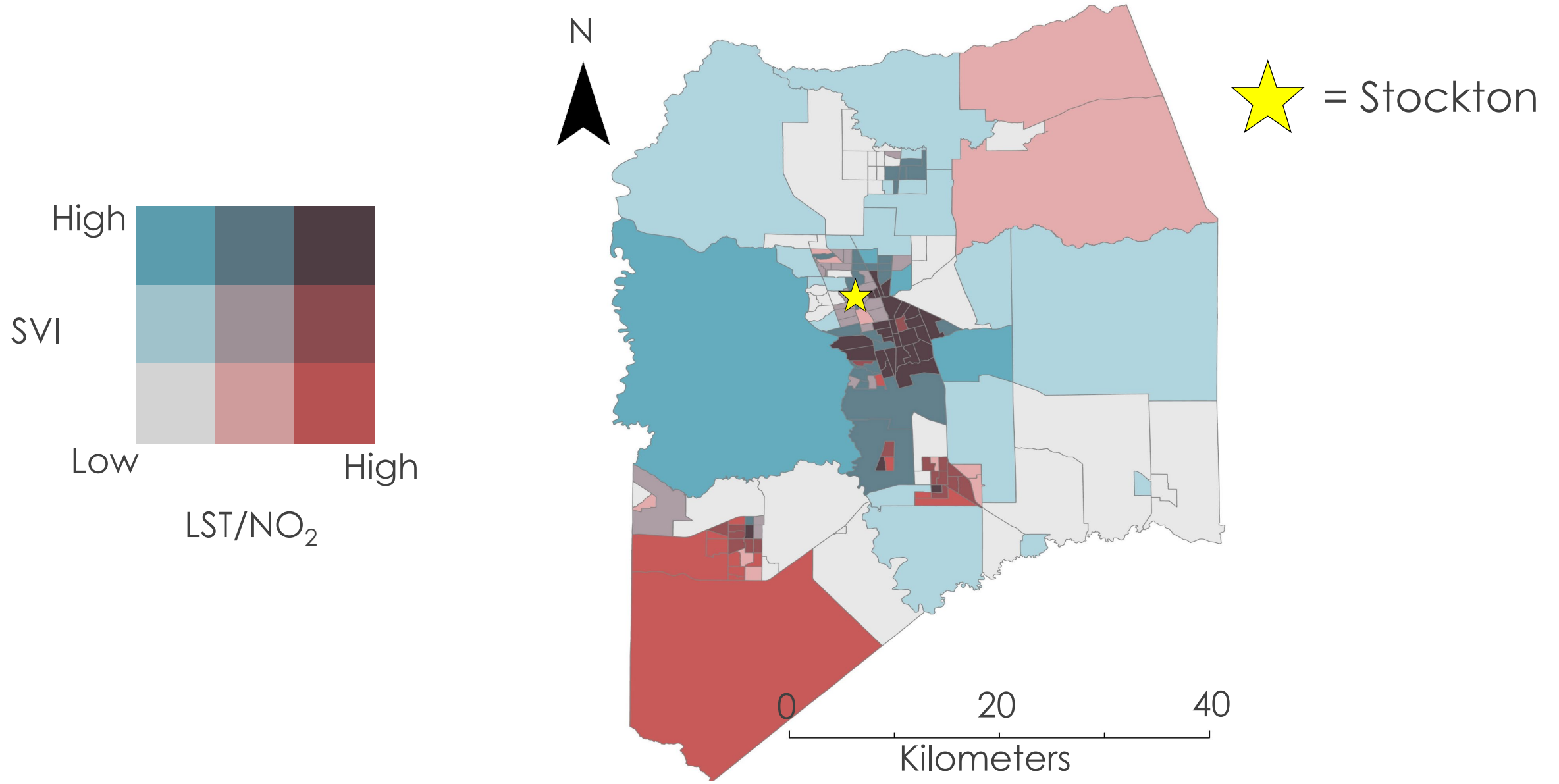
Results: Air Quality Vulnerability



Results: Heat Vulnerability Map



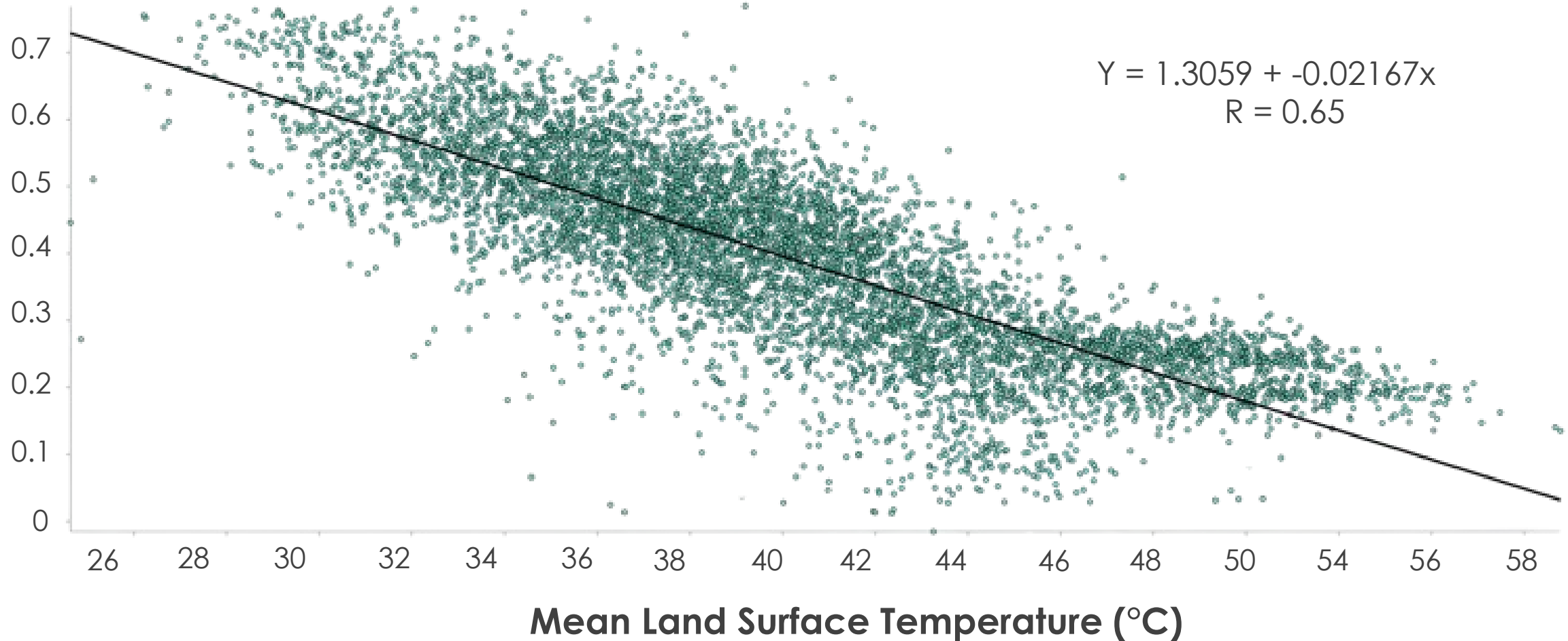
Results: Final Heat/Air Quality Analysis



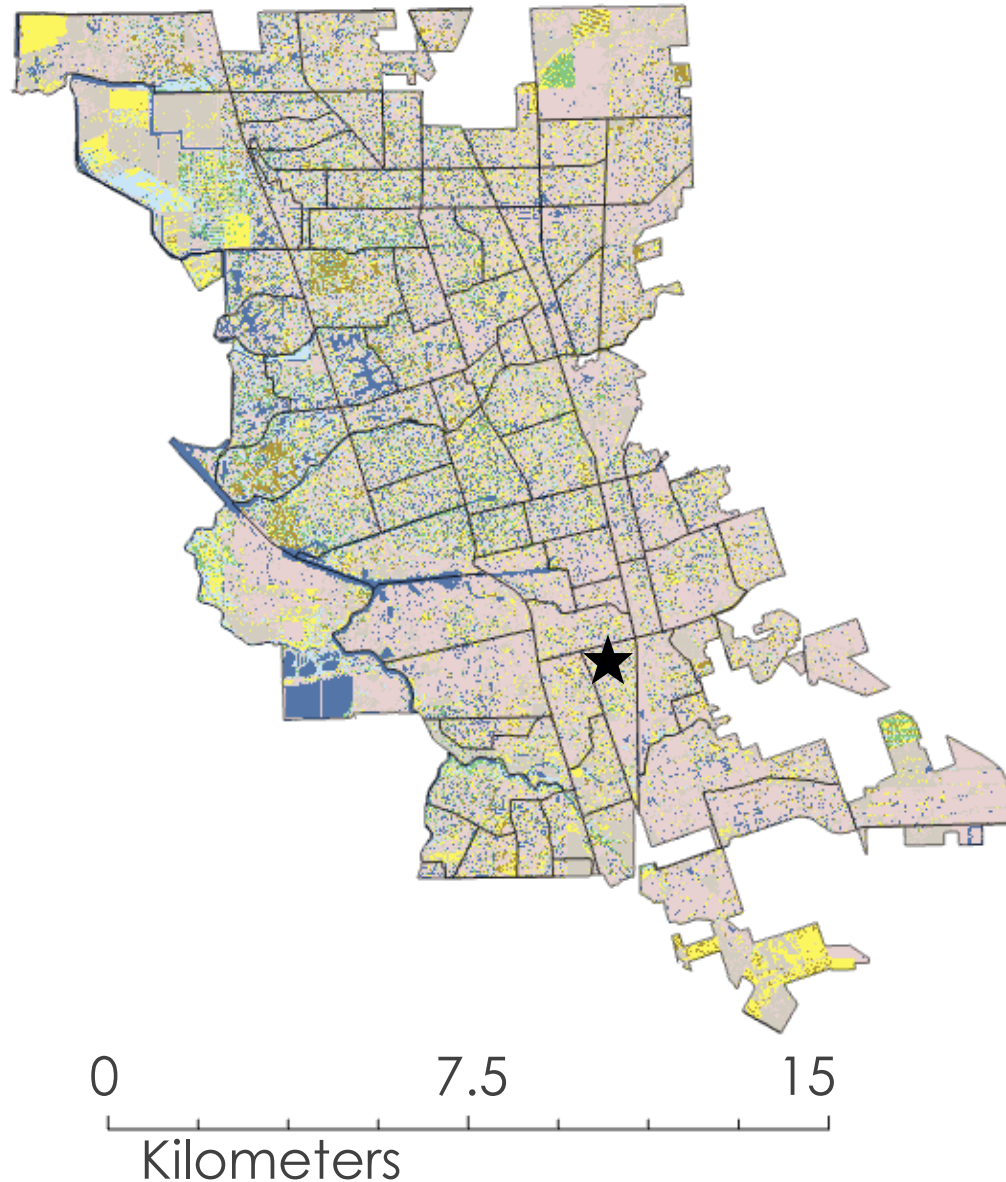
LST and NDVI Correlation Graph

Correlation Regression Between Present Vegetation and Land Surface Temperature

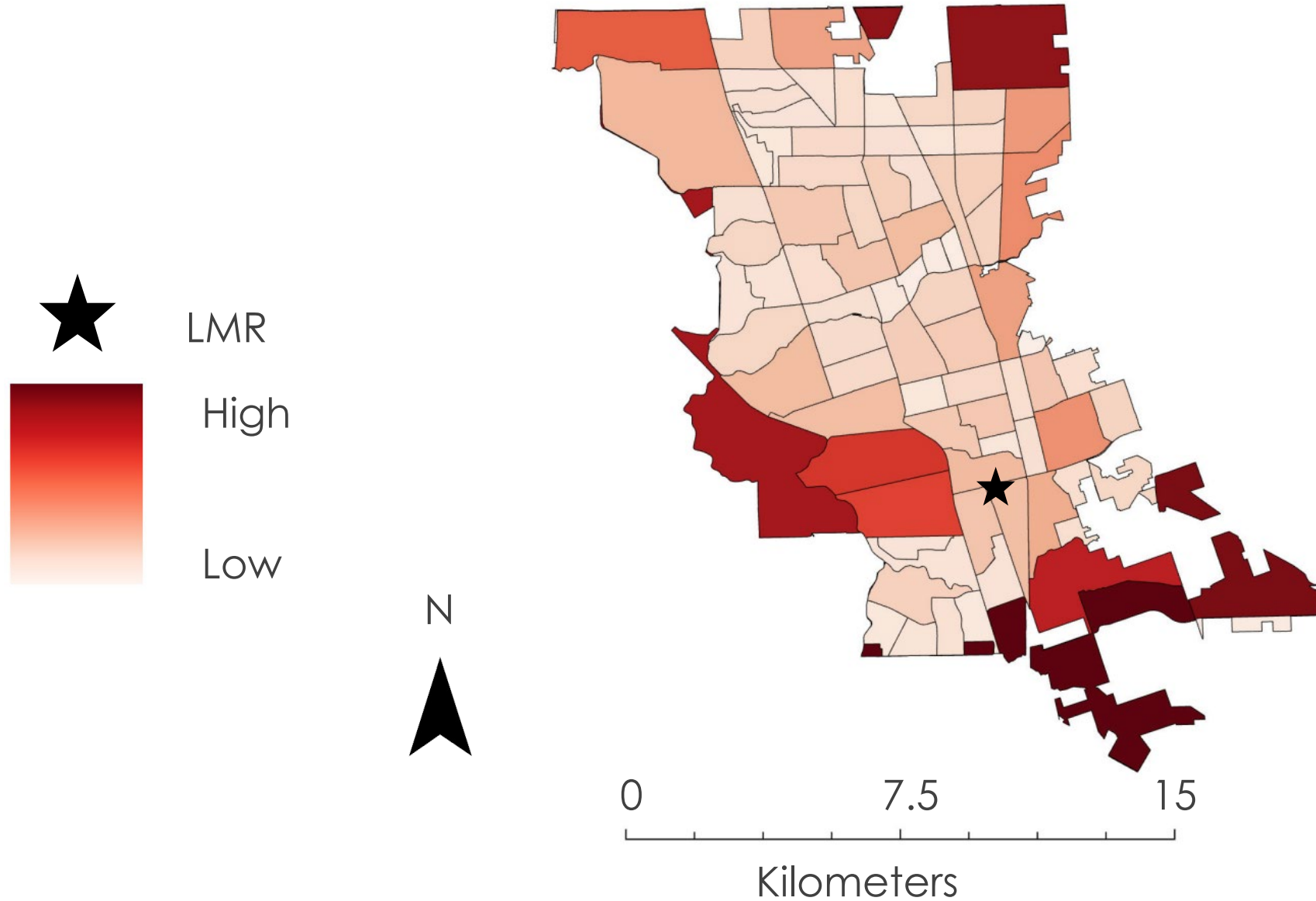
Normalized Difference Vegetation Index



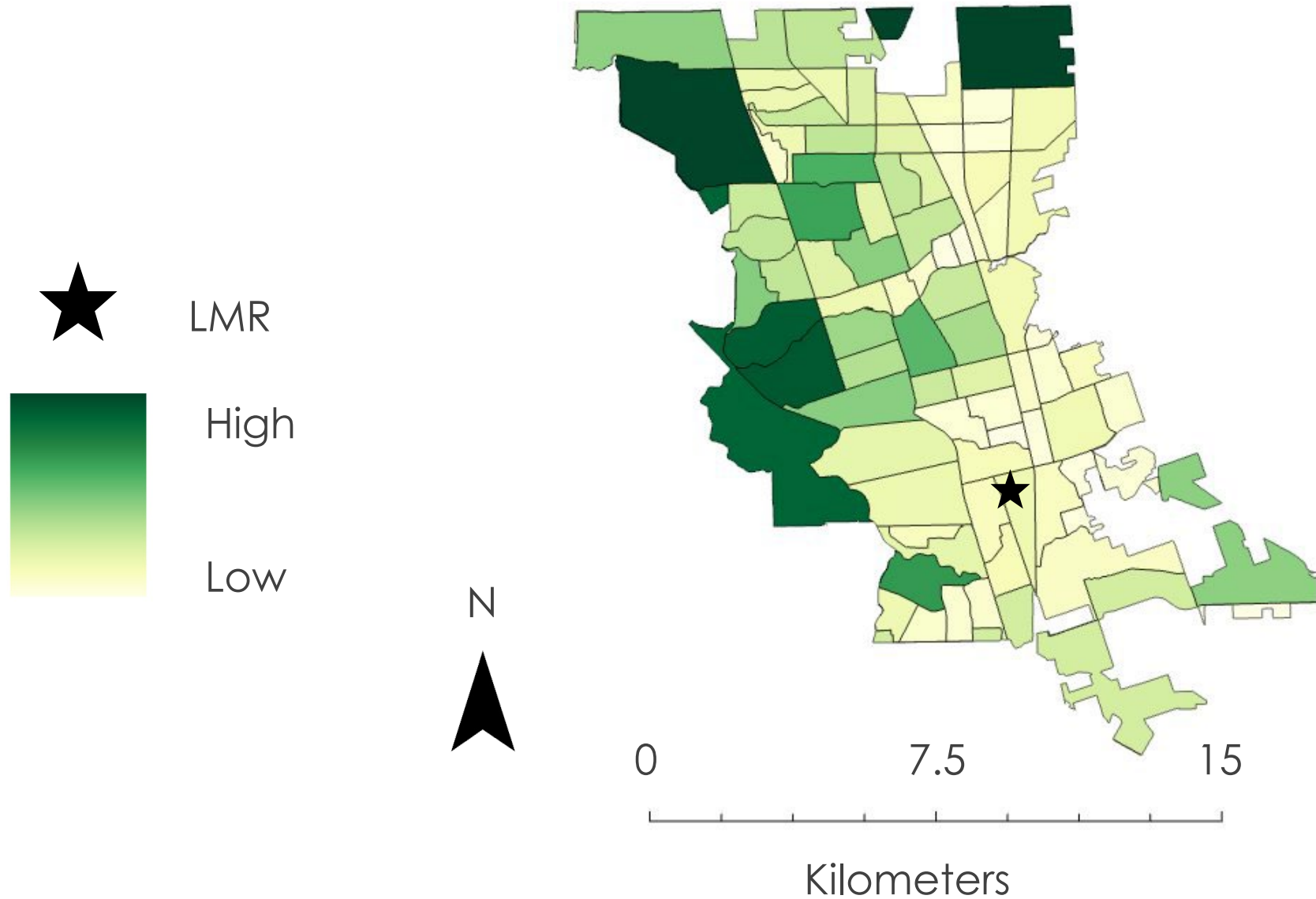
Land Cover



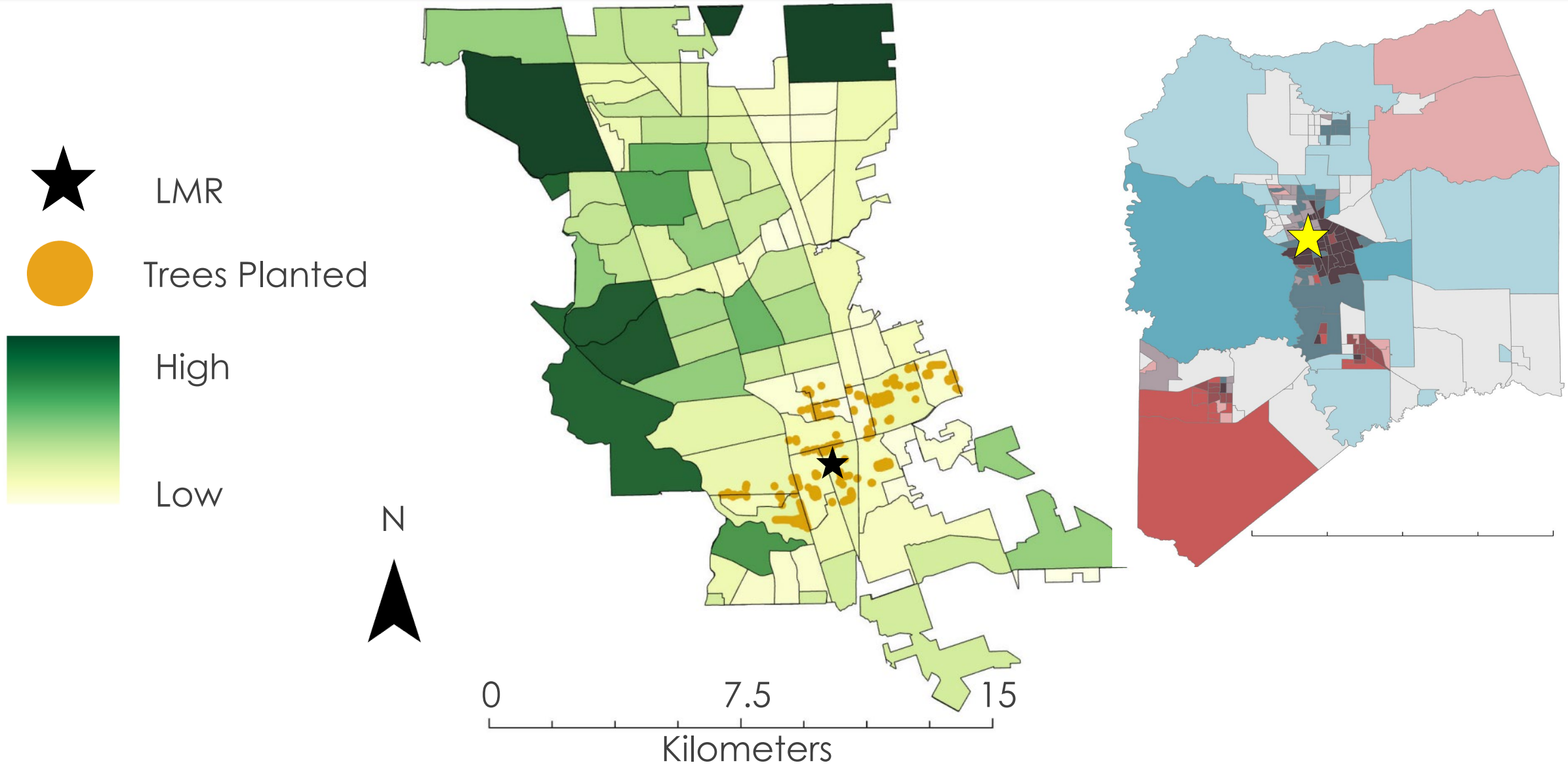
Developed Cover



Canopy Cover



LMR Urban Forestry



Urban Heat Island Intensity



Image Credit: NOAA Office for Coastal Management

Average LST in southern Stockton is
45.9 °C

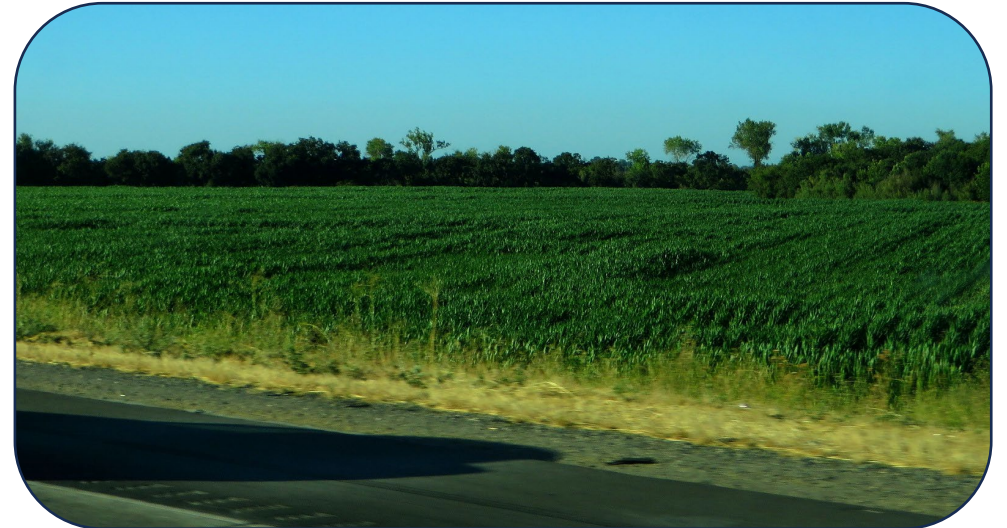


Image Credit: Ken Lund

Average LST in rural area next to
Stockton is 37.5 °C

Urban Heat Intensity = 8.4 °C

Average LST in southern Stockton and rural area are
different based on T hypothesis test ($p < 0.001$)

Neighborhood Temperature Differences



Image Credit: Thomas Vander Wal

Average LST in northern Stockton is
42.9°C



Image Credit: NOAA Office for Coastal Management

Average LST in southern Stockton is
45.9 °C

Temperature difference = 3°C

Average LST in northern and southern Stockton are
different based on T hypothesis test ($p < 0.001$)

Conclusion

- In San Joaquin County, socio-demographics are linked to increased urban heat temperatures and poor air quality.
- NO₂ concentrations are typically higher along major roadways and urban areas.
- Remote Sensing techniques are useful methods for evaluating heat and air quality exposure.
- LMR's urban forestry efforts are promising for reducing urban heat.



Limitations and Uncertainties

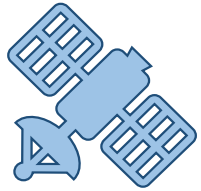
Data
Resolution

LST is not
experienced
heat

Census data
uncertainty

Software
Limitations

Feasibility and Future Recommendations



NASA Earth observations can provide valuable information on urban heat and air quality to local communities such as LMR.



The analysis tools and end products developed from this project can help LMR make informed decision making.



Incorporating more social vulnerability indicators into a new social vulnerability index.



Adding major roads and highways to air quality maps to find relationships between air quality and distance to highways.

Acknowledgments

Advisors, Lead, and Fellow

- Dr. Morgan Gilmour (NASA Ames Research Center)
- Dr. Juan Torres-Perez (NASA Ames Research Center)
- Dr. Xia Cai (NASA Langley Research Center)
- Dr. Kenton Ross (NASA Langley Research Center)
- Dr. Joshua Dimon (UC Berkeley)
- Lisa Tanh (ESRI)
- Lauren Webster (NASA DEVELOP Lead, California – Ames)
- Maya Hall (NASA DEVELOP Impact Analysis Fellow)

This material contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data (2023), processed by ESA.

This material is based upon work supported by NASA through contract 80LARC23FA024. Any mention of a commercial product, service, or activity in this material does not constitute NASA endorsement. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and partner organizations.

