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ABSTRACT

This document, the first volume of the Congress of Italian-American Organizations Handbook, includes in addition to the normal perspective a handbook takes of the organization that it portrays, summaries of many of the statistics that have made CIAO's convictions possible and strong during the 1974 fiscal year. It begins with a review of previously established information about the Italian-Americans in New York. This information is derived primarily from census data on tract locations which contained at least 50 percent or more first and second generation Italian population. Other sources of information drawn on in the study were: (1) census figures (1970) on percentages of first and second generation Italian population in each tract; (2) the boundary lines of New York City's 26 poverty areas and "pockets of poverty;" these poverty areas are federally recognized and funded for a variety of programs; (3) Italian foreign stock population percentages in each health area of the city; (4) New York City health areas designated to be in the greatest need of poverty programs; (5) number of Italian-speaking children in New York City's public schools during the 1973-74 school year; (6) number of Italian bilingual programs operating in New York City public schools during the school year 1973-74, locations of these programs, and number of children said to be involved.
 (Author/JM)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION

A
PORTRAIT
OF THE
ITALIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY
IN
NEW YORK CITY
VOL. 1

Josephine Casalena, M.A.
Planner, CIAC

January, 1975
CONGRESS OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS, INC.
MARY C. SANSONE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

UD 014972



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15 Park Row, Suite 1616, New York, New York 10038 571-1752

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FORWARD

THE STORY OF THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN IN NEW YORK CITY IS ONE WHICH KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES OF TIME, AS IT REACHES BACK TO THE VERY BEGINNINGS OF ITALIAN HERITAGE, AND LOOKS FORWARD TO THE CONTINUED FUTURE ROLE ITALIANS WILL PLAY IN SHAPING THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. IT IS A STORY WHICH IS RECEIVING INCREASED ATTENTION IN THIS AGE OF ETHNICITY, AND ONE TO WHICH CIAO IS PRIVILEGED TO ADD ITS FINDINGS, ITS HOPES, AND ITS BOASTING OF A PEOPLE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE WARMTH AND VITALITY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK. IN THIS FIRST VOLUME OF CIAO'S HANDBOOK YOU WILL FIND, IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL PERSPECTIVES A HANDBOOK TAKES ON THE ORGANIZATION

THAT IT PORTRAYS, SUMMARIES OF MANY OF THE STATISTICS THAT HAVE MADE CIAO'S CONVICTIONS POSSIBLE, AND STRONGER, DURING THE 1974 FISCAL YEAR. EXPONENTS OF THE THEORY THAT THE MELTING POT NEVER MELTED WILL BE THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS ETHNIC DATA. IT IS CIAO'S BELIEF THAT EACH ETHNIC GROUP MUST LEARN AND EARN TO TAKE ITS PARTICULAR PLACE IN THIS MOST MULTI-ETHNIC OF SOCIETIES, BUT IT IS ALSO CIAO'S BELIEF THAT UNDERSTANDING, THE KEY TO EVERY PROBLEM FROM QUARRELS TO WORLD WARS, MEANS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE NEXT PERSON IS REALLY VERY MUCH LIKE YOU, AND THAT HIS PROBLEMS, ONCE EXPLAINED, SOUND VERY FAMILIAR INDEED.

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MARY C. SANSONE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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INTRODUCTION

CHECKING OUT THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN NEW YORK CITY

In beginning this study, it was first necessary to review certain basic information previously established about our City's Italian-Americans, and then to decide what were the more specific things we wanted to prove about Italian-Americans in New York.

Among the more basic facts were the following:

- A) According to 1970 census figures, 682,613 of the United States total of 4,241,000 persons of Italian foreign stock live in New York City. These first and second generation Italian New Yorkers constitute 20% of all persons of foreign stock in the City, and 8.6% of the total New York City population. Census figures further show the following percentages of first and second generation Italian-Americans for each borough:

	BRONX	BKLYN.	MANH.	QNS.	S.I.
1st generation	2.67	3.47	1.04	2.96	2.70
2nd generation	<u>5.32</u>	<u>7.22</u>	<u>2.07</u>	<u>7.04</u>	<u>11.10</u>
Total	7.99	10.69	3.11	10.00	13.80

- B) Over 20,000 Italian immigrants enter the United States every year, thousands remaining in New York City. According to the Annual Report of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (1970,71,72), 18,980 immigrants of Italian birth specified over those three fiscal years that New York City was to be their place of residence. This brought the foreign stock census count (1970) for the City to well above 700,000 by the end of 1972.
- C) Including foreign stock and all succeeding generations, there are over 1.7 million Italian-Americans in New York City today.
- D) According to 1970 census tract information, the following

are among the more heavily-Italian-populated neighborhoods in New York City:

- 1) the Little Italy section of the Lower East Side in Manhattan;
- 2) the East Tremont section of the Bronx, bordering on Belmont;
- 3) the Queensbridge section of Long Island City, and Corona Heights in Queens;
- 4) in Brooklyn: Gravesend, Bath Beach, Dyker Heights, Bensonhurst, Bay Parkway, Mapleton (Borough Park), South Brooklyn, Williamsburg and Coney Island.

These calculations are based, with the exception of Little Italy, on census tract locations which contained at least 50% or more first and second generation Italian population (see maps in "Population" section following). It is often quite difficult to establish exact neighborhood names, as census tract boundaries often cross other borders, and as names of neighborhoods change from time to time. Often the same location will have various names: old neighborhood names, health district designations, telephone company areas, etc. We are indebted for the above specifications to George Synefakis, Mapping Division Engineer with the City Planning Commission.

The following information was also basic and available:

- A) Census figures (1970) on percentages of first and second generation Italian population in each tract;
- B) The boundary lines of New York City's twenty-six poverty areas and "pockets of poverty", agreed upon in 1966 by the City Administrator's office, the New York City Council Against Poverty, the Youth Board and the City Planning Commission. These poverty areas are federally-recognized and federally funded for a variety of programs.
- C) Italian foreign stock population percentages in each health area of the city.
- D) New York City health areas designated to be in the

greatest need of poverty programs (1974 recommendations, entitled "Magnitudes of Poverty in New York City", made by Human Resources Administration's Multi Service Systems to the Council Against Poverty to update poverty areas).

- E) Numbers of Italian-speaking children in New York City's public schools during the 1973-74 school year.
- F) Numbers of Italian bilingual programs operating in New York City public schools during the school year 1973-74, locations of those programs, and numbers of children said to be involved in each program.

WHAT CIAO WANTED TO PROVE...

There would be no satisfaction to our research if we could not say "These are the things we wish to prove", and then clearly and graphically prove them. We knew from our own staff's experience that all Italian-Americans did not live in two-family houses with gardens, that all Italian-Americans did not exist on incomes above poverty level. We were aware of the shocking absence of Italian-Americans as recipients of many government-funded programs, and of the lack of awareness on the part of the Italian communities that such programs exist. We wondered which side was at fault, and were determined to do our part to at least bare the facts.

We knew from our contacts that students of Italian background were by no means exempt from all the language, cultural and guidance problems experienced by other "minority" students, and we were sure that the City's public schools were not meeting the needs of these youngsters.

These, therefore, were the things we wanted to prove to our readers:

A) THE POPULATION

- I) THAT THERE ARE HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS

LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY'S POVERTY AREAS.

II) THAT THERE ARE HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS LIVING IN THOSE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AREAS WHICH HAVE BEEN PLOTTED (1974) TO BE IN THE GREATEST "MAGNITUDES OF POVERTY.

B) CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

I) THAT THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS DO EXIST IN CENSUS TRACTS WITH HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN POPULATION:

- a) LARGE NUMBERS OF SENIOR CITIZENS
 - 1) IN GENERAL
 - 2) LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL,
 - 3) LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL AND YET NOT RECEIVING SOCIAL SECURITY
- b) LARGE NUMBERS OF FAMILIES WITH FEMALE HEAD
 - 1) IN GENERAL
 - 2) LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL
- c) LARGE NUMBERS OF FAMILIES LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL, WITH LOW PERCENTAGES OF THESE FAMILIES RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
- d) LARGE NUMBERS OF "UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS", "PERSONS", AND "HOUSEHOLDS" LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL
- e) UNEMPLOYMENT IN BOTH THE MALE AND FEMALE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCES
- f) LOW MEDIAN NUMBER OF YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY THE ADULT POPULATION
- g) LOW PERCENTAGES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AMONG THE ADULT POPULATION
- h) HIGH PERCENTAGES OF HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS AMONG THE 16- TO 25-YEAR-OLD POPULATION

II) THAT THE ABOVE PROBLEMS DO EXIST EVEN IN THOSE TRACTS WITH HIGH ITALIAN POPULATION WHICH ARE NOT WITHIN NEW YORK CITY POVERTY AREA BOUNDARIES.

C) EDUCATION

- I) THAT THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL CHILDREN OF ITALIAN BACKGROUND WHO SPEAK ITALIAN AND WHO HAVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES.
- II) THAT, OF THOSE CHILDREN WITH AT LEAST MODERATE OR SEVERE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTY, VERY FEW ARE RECEIVING ADE-QUATE BILINGUAL ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

METHOD OF STUDY

Most data was transformed into what we felt to be the simplest forms, that is, the visible vehicles of maps and charts. To obtain comparative data, maps were superimposed upon one another. For example, once census maps were colored in for varying degrees of Italian-American population, poverty area boundaries were superimposed.

Chart data was matched along lines of common information. Tables of school-by-school numbers of Italian-speaking children, for example were matched with school-by-school counts of numbers of children in Italian bilingual programs.

Census material relating to "characteristics of the population" was gathered on target tracts containing 50% or more first and second generation Italian-Americans.

The method of study is documented for each section which follows. In all instances, we attempted to keep data as visual as possible. Each section following will be divided into three parts: "THE OBJECTIVES", "THE METHOD", and "THE CONCLUSIONS".

THE POPULATION

THE OBJECTIVES:

- I) THAT THERE ARE HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS LIVING IN NEW YORK CITY'S POVERTY AREAS.

- II) THAT THERE ARE HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS LIVING IN THOSE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AREAS WHICH HAVE MOST RECENTLY BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION MULTI-SERVICE SYSTEMS TO BE IN THE GREATEST POVERTY CRISIS (1974).

THE METHOD:

- I) USING POVERTY AREA BOUNDARY LINE DIRECTIONS OBTAINED FROM HRA, WE WERE ABLE TO OUTLINE, ON CENSUS TRACT MAPS, THE BOUNDARIES OF NEW YORK CITY'S TWENTY-SIX POVERTY AREAS AND ADDITIONAL "POCKETS OF POVERTY".

"New York City's twenty-six poverty areas were identified and designated after careful analysis of the social and economic conditions prevailing in the City. In 1966 the City Administrator's Office completed a study which recommended criteria to be used to identify poverty areas. The New York City Council Against Poverty, with assistance from the City Administrator's Office, the Youth Board and the City Planning Commission, ranked communities by percentage of welfare reciprocity, juvenile offenses, and live births. The twenty-six communities which showed extraordinary degrees of poverty as defined by the City Government itself were designated "poverty areas".

- "Rationale for Establishing Poverty Areas", Community Fact Sheets, CDA/ Information and Reporting Department, June, 1973, p.2.

The twenty-six poverty areas and pockets of poverty were numbered and their names listed with the maps,

and we then set about recording the Italian foreign stock population on the same maps. Aided by census figures obtained through the Center for Migration Studies in Staten Island, we were armed with two sets of figures: first, the numbers of those tracts in which, according to the 1970 census, 20% or more of the total population were first or second generation Italian-Americans; and second, the numbers of those tracts in which, according to the same census, 50% or more of the total population were first and second generation Italian-Americans.

We were not so naive as to think that we had thus cornered the Italian-American population in New York City, as the census information leaves out the thousands of Italian-Americans of third or successive generations. But it is a widespread and much-experienced opinion that generations beyond first and second can be estimated to live in the same areas as their parents and grandparents, or recent arrivals:

"It is obvious ... that the Census data on foreign stock does not provide a head-count of any ethnic group. It does, however, reveal the probable location of population concentrations, based on the assumption that members of an ethnic group -- whether immigrants, second and third generations, or illegal aliens -- will tend to reside in the same area."

-Tino Calabria et al, Ethnicity and Poverty in New York City in the Seventies, HRA Multi-Service systems, July 1974, p.15.

Thus, it can be estimated that in speaking of all generations of Italian-Americans:

- a) Many tracts charted on the census maps as containing 20% or more first and second generation Italian-Americans actually may contain significantly higher percentages of Italian-Americans of all generations.
- b) Many tracts charted on the census maps as containing 50% or more Italian-Americans of first and second generation could conceivably (and do, actually, according to personal experience of various CIAO staff members working in the field) contain up to

80% or 90% Italian-Americans of all generations.
C) There may be many census tracts, not charted for 20% or more Italian-American foreign stock population, whose percentages of third and successive generation Italian-Americans are significantly high.

II) During our weeks of work with census tract data and poverty area guidelines, Mr. Tino Calabria, Director of HRA Multi-Service Systems, was putting together a picture of ethnic foreign stock population within New York City health areas. His source was also the 1970 Census, but since his maps dealt with health areas rather than census tracts, we decided to see if we could use them as further proof that Italian population counts were high in areas of need determined by the City.

ALONGSIDE MR. CALABIA'S ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK POPULATION MAPS, which appeared in his July 1974 study, "Ethnicity and Poverty in New York City in the Seventies", WE PLACED MAPS OF "MAGNITUDES OF POVERTY IN NEW YORK CITY", submitted by Mr. Calabria to the New York City Council Against Poverty in September, 1974.

"The maps identify poverty neighborhoods according to three magnitudes of poverty. The magnitudes are defined as follows:

1st Magnitude - the 45% of the Health Areas which rank as neediest according to the formula incorporating the social indicators recently adopted by the Select Committee on Boundary Matters of the Council Against Poverty (1-welfare reciprocity for July 1971; 2-juvenile offenses in 1971 as compiled from YSA from information from the police department; 3-overcrowded housing units containing more than one person per room, from the 1970 Census; 4-unemployment based on those receiving unemployment compensation in fiscal 1972; 5-infant mortality rates in 1971 from the Health Department; and 6-income level counting families earning less than \$5,000 per year in 1969, from 1970 Census).

2nd Magnitude - the top 50% of the Health Areas (so) analyzed...

3rd Magnitude - the top 55% of the Health Areas
(so) analyzed...

- Tino Calabria, Memorandum to James E.
Greenidge, September 3, 1974, p.1.

These magnitudes reflect an attempt on the part of the New York City Council Against Poverty to gather more up-to-date information on the degree of need in health areas, with a possible future redistricting of poverty areas. In many cases, the new magnitudes of poverty represent an expansion of the 1966 poverty area boundaries. Such is the case in the Lower East Side, where poverty is now found to expand west to the Hudson River. In some cases, the 1966 poverty area boundaries would be reduced if the magnitudes of poverty were adopted, as in the case of the Lower West Side and the Mid-West Side. In other instances, totally new areas have been found to be areas of great poverty.

**CENSUS TRACT MAPS:
ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK POPULATION
AND
1966 POVERTY AREA BOUNDARIES**

KEY

- Bold lines.....1966 Poverty Area Boundaries
- Orange.....Census tracts in which 20% or more of the total population is composed of first and/or second generation Italian-Americans
- Yellow.....Census tracts in which 50% or more of the total population is composed of first and/or second generation Italian-Americans

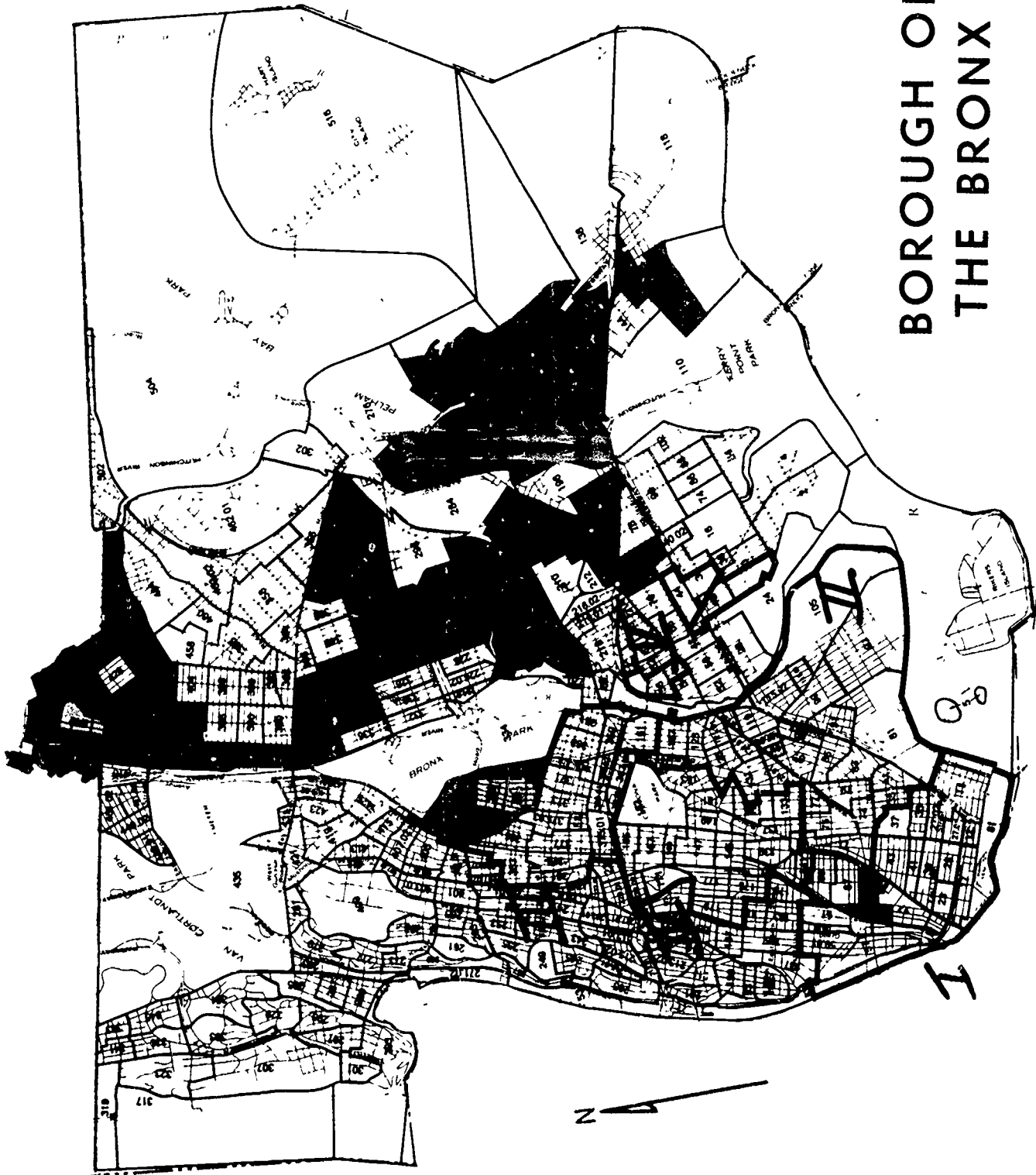
NAMES OF POVERTY AREAS

- | | | |
|------------|---|--------------------------|
| BROOKLYN: | I Sunset Park | VI Bedford-Stuyvesant |
| | II South Brooklyn | VII Crown Heights |
| | III Fort Greene | VIII Brownsville |
| | IV Williamsburg | IX East New York |
| | V Bushwick | X Coney Island |
| THE BRONX: | I South Bronx | IV Morrisania |
| | II Hunts Point | V Bronx River(Soundview) |
| | III Tremont | |
| MANHATTAN: | I Lower West Side | IV Central Harlem |
| | II Mid West Side | V East Harlem |
| | III Upper West Side | VI Lower East Side |
| RICHMOND: | S.I. is considered one poverty area. The following are the names of the pockets of poverty contained therein: | |
| | I Mariner's Harbor | IV New Brighton |
| | II Port Richmond | V Stapleton |
| | III W. New Brighton | VI Rosebank |
| QUEENS: | I Long Island City | III South Jamaica |
| | II Corona - East Elmhurst | IV Rockaway |

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

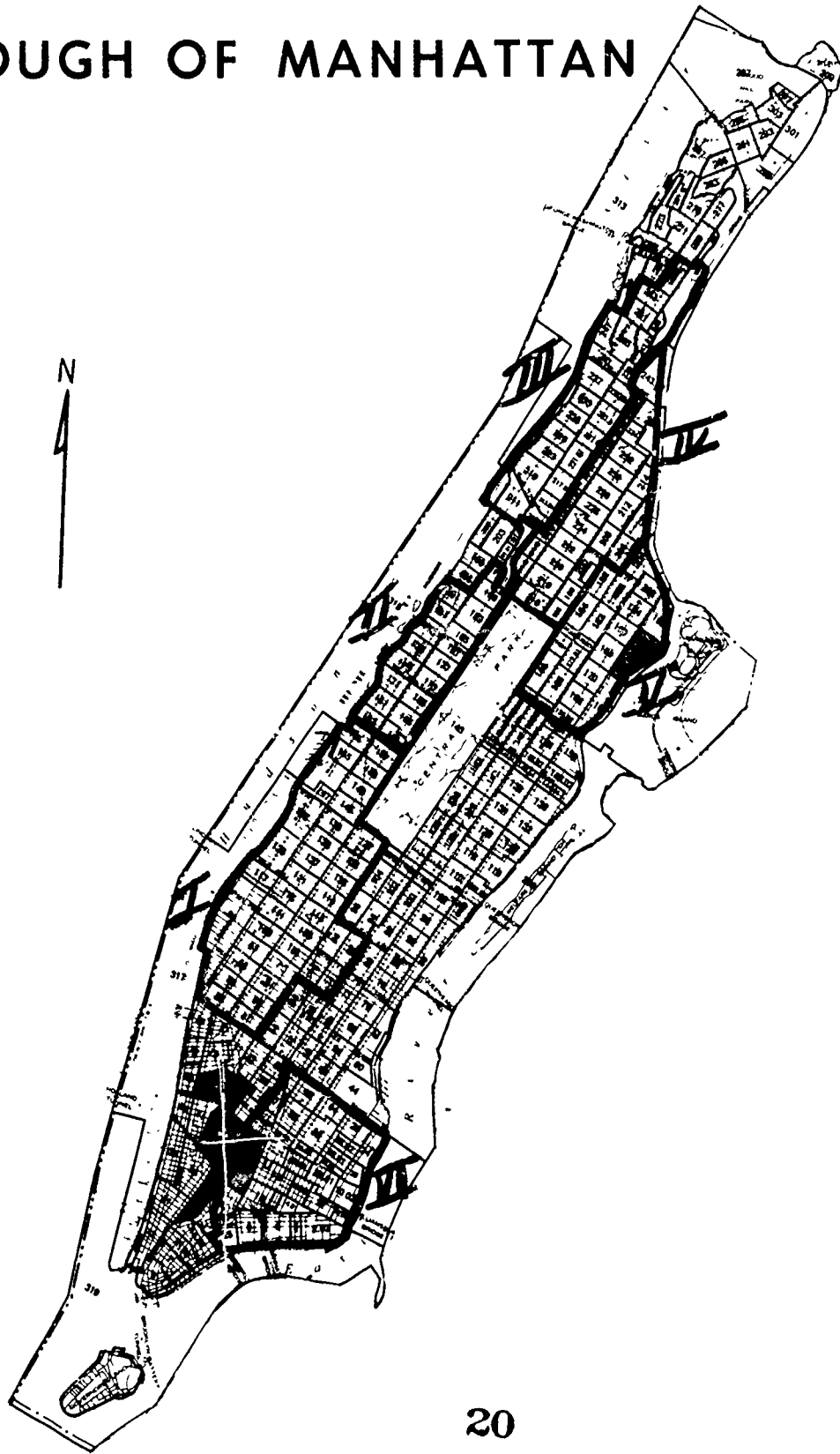


BOROUGH OF THE BRONX

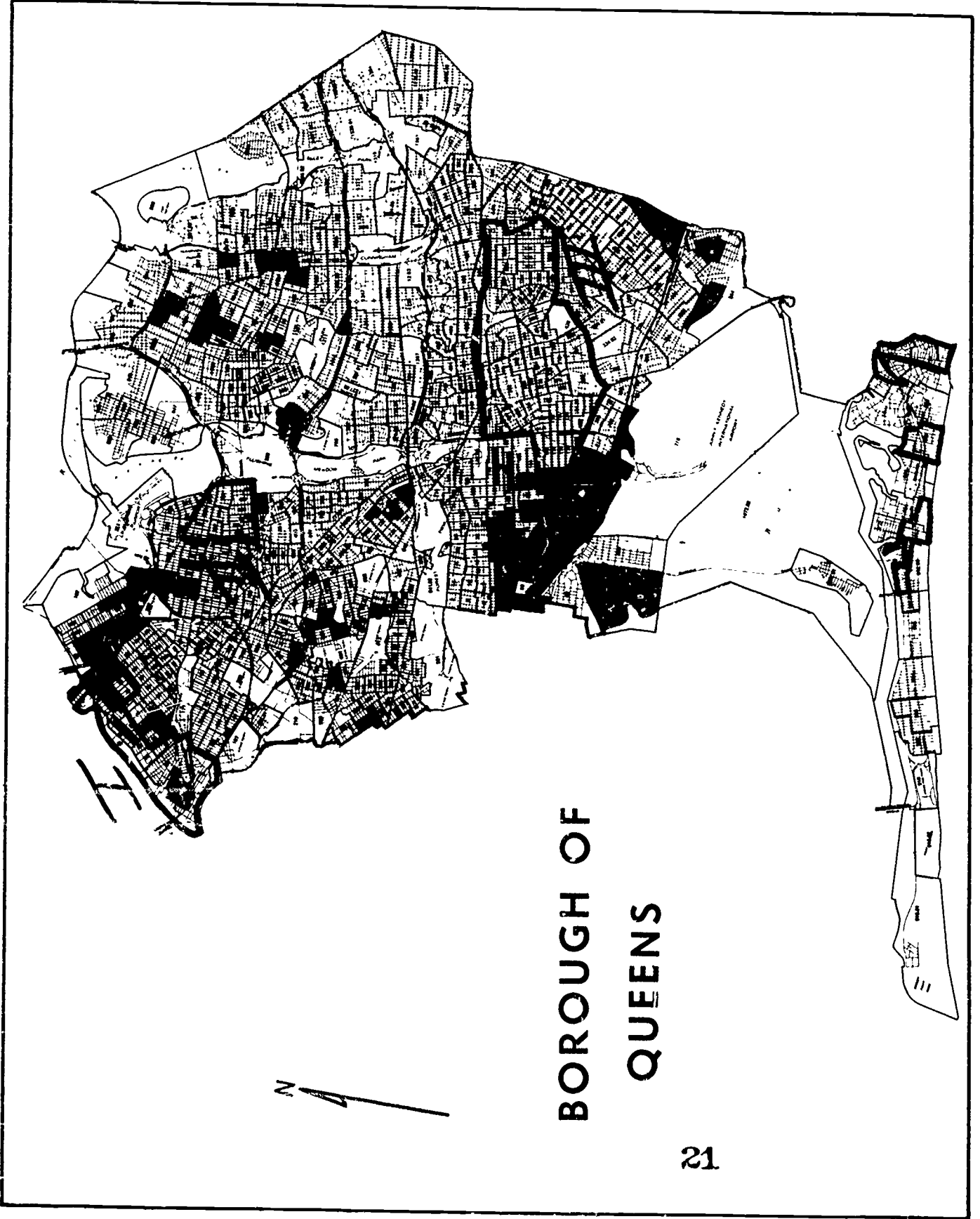


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BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

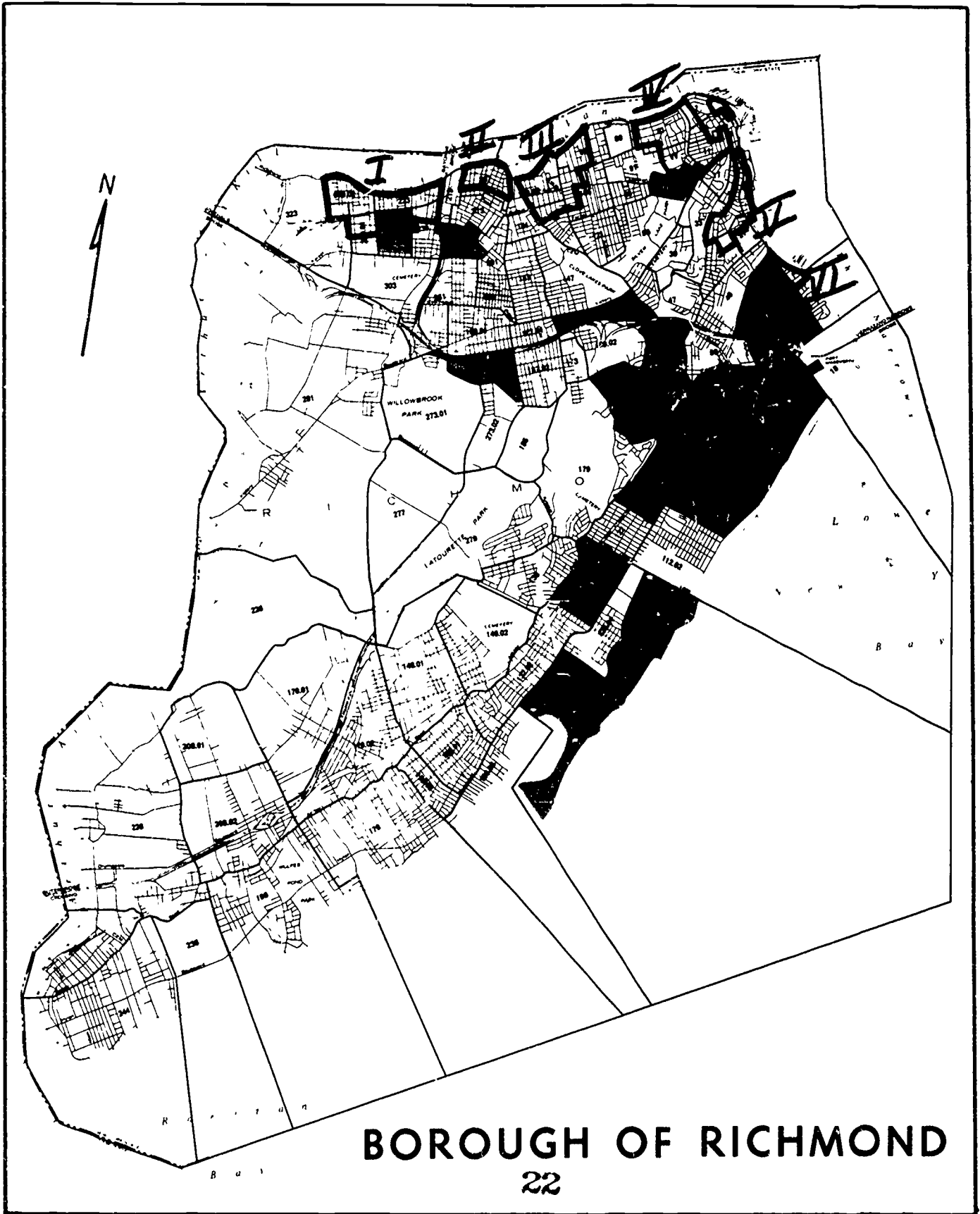


20



**BOROUGH OF
QUEENS**

21

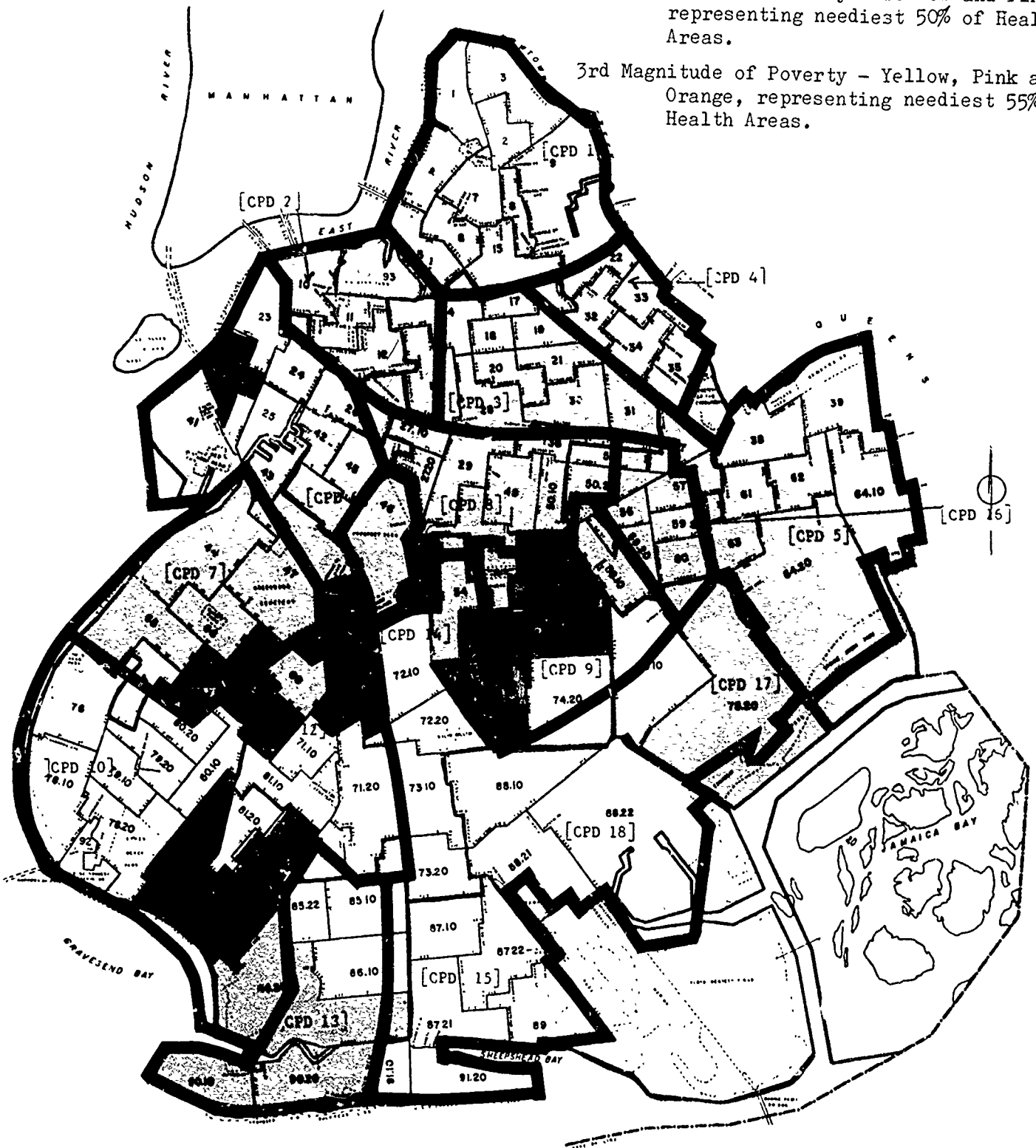


**HEALTH AREA MAPS:
ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK POPULATION
AND
1974 MAGNITUDES OF POVERTY**

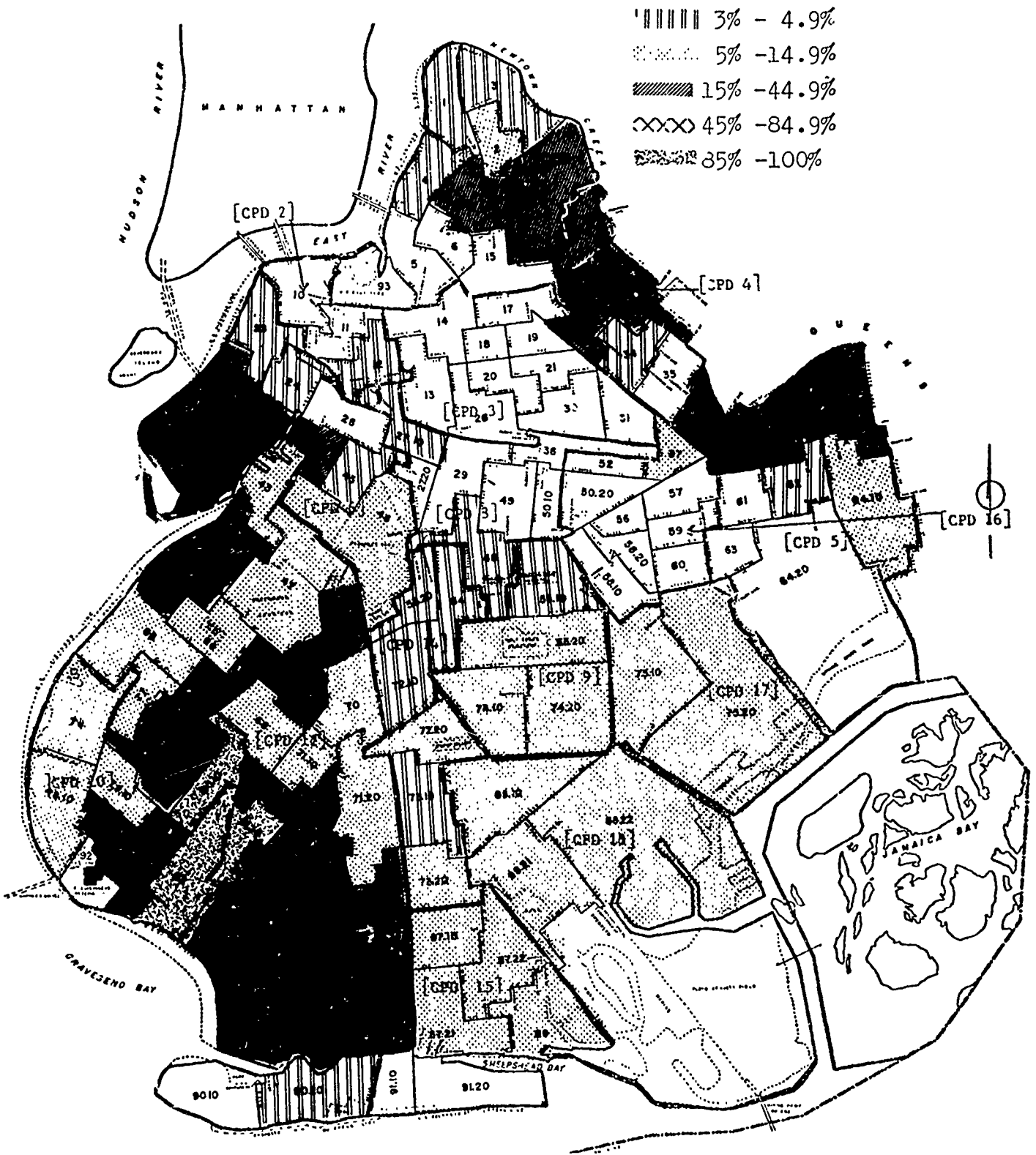
1st Magnitude of Poverty - Yellow, representing neediest 45% of Health Areas.

2nd Magnitude of Poverty = Yellow and Pink, representing neediest 50% of Health Areas.

3rd Magnitude of Poverty - Yellow, Pink and Orange, representing neediest 55% of Health Areas.



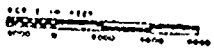
ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



Source: 1970 U.S. Census

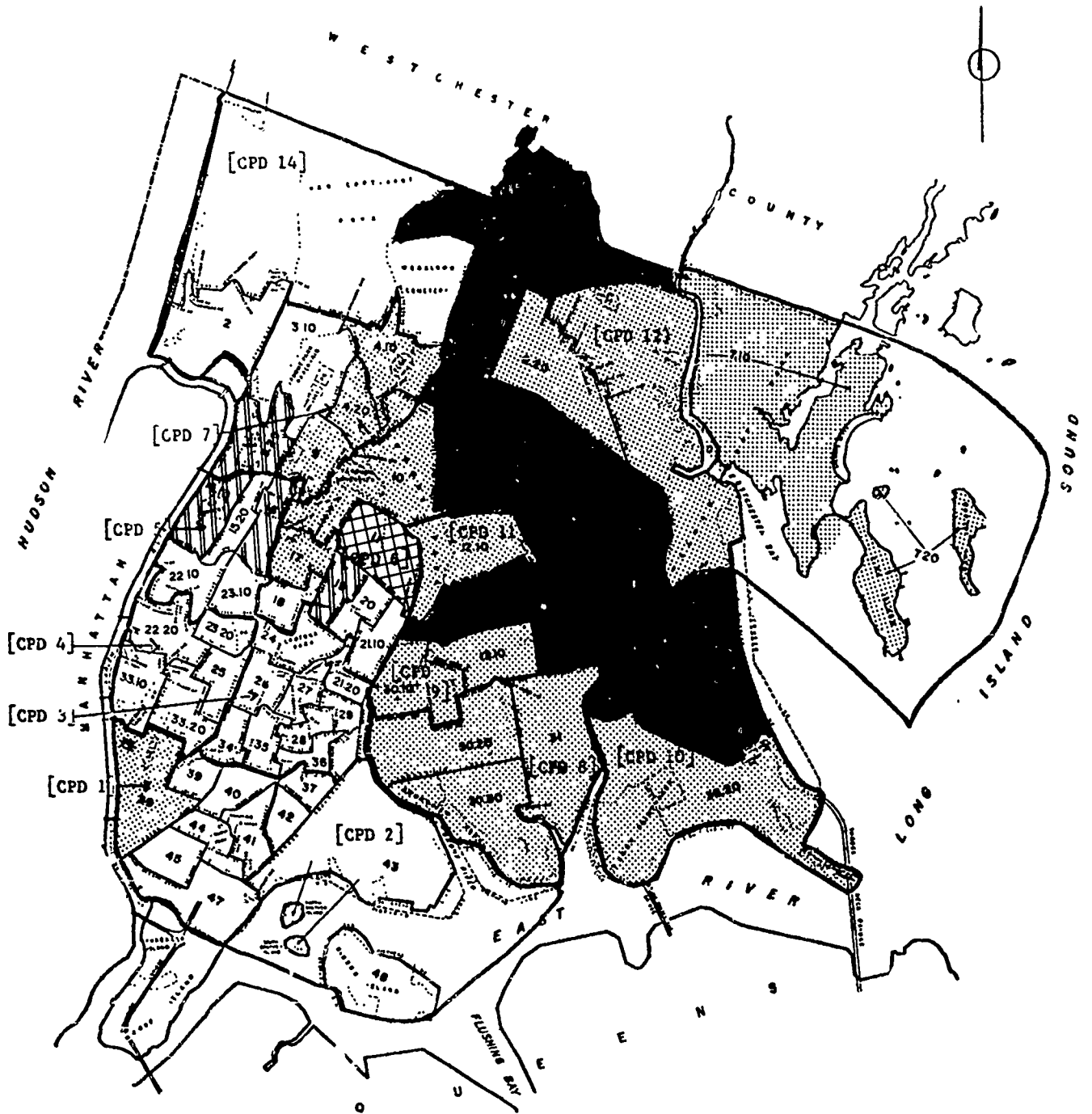


- 1st Magnitude of Poverty = Yellow, representing neediest 45% of Health Areas.
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- 3rd Magnitude of Poverty = Yellow, Pink and Orange, representing neediest 55% of Health Areas.



HEALTH AREAS
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
PREPARED BY
DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING
CITY OF NEW YORK
NOVEMBER 1968

ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



- ||||| 3% - 4.9%
- ▒▒▒▒ 5% - 14.9%
- 15% - 44.9%
- XXXX 45% - 84.9%
- XXXXX 85% - 100%

SCALE IN FEET
0 1000 2000 3000 4000

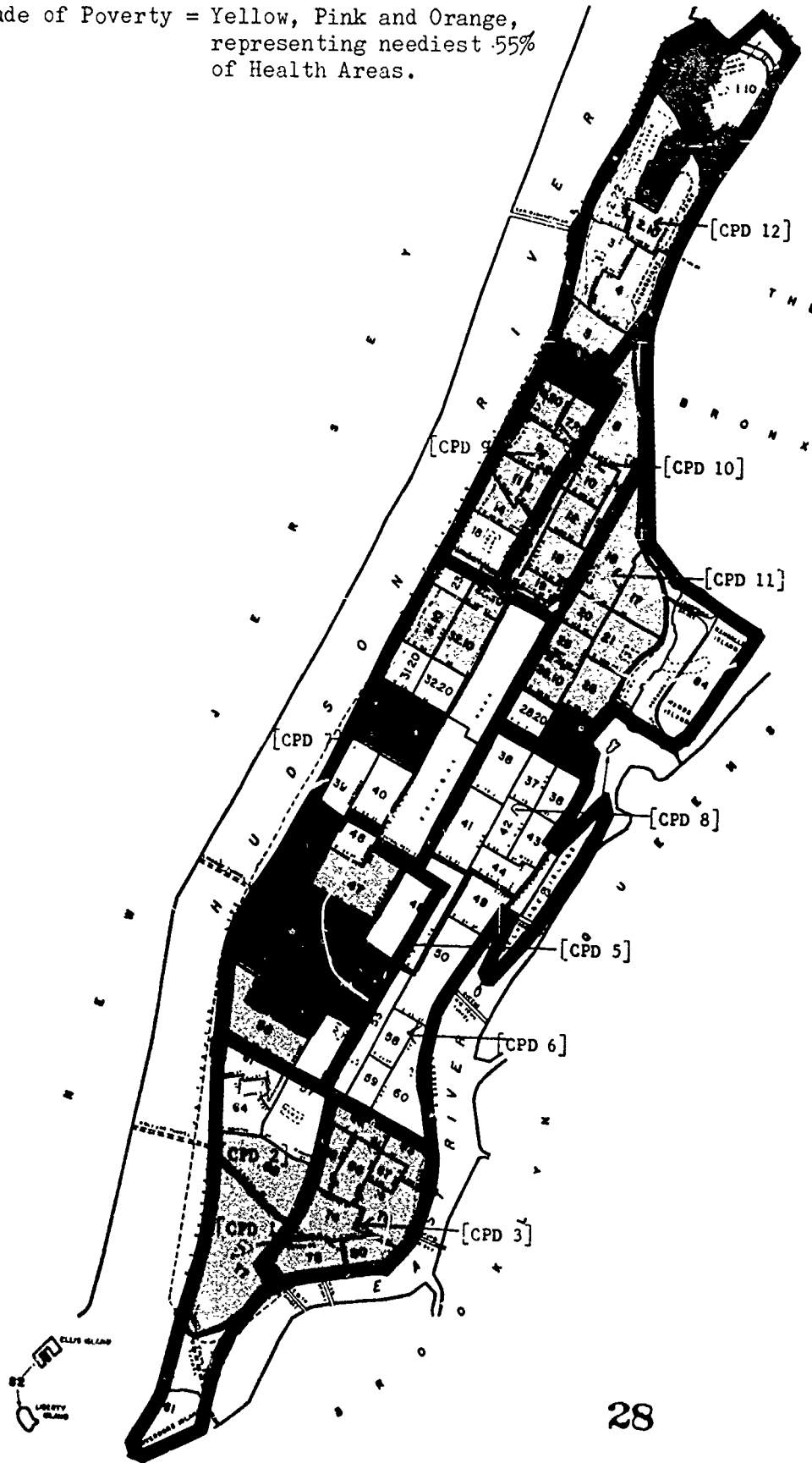
Source: 1970 U.S. Census

27

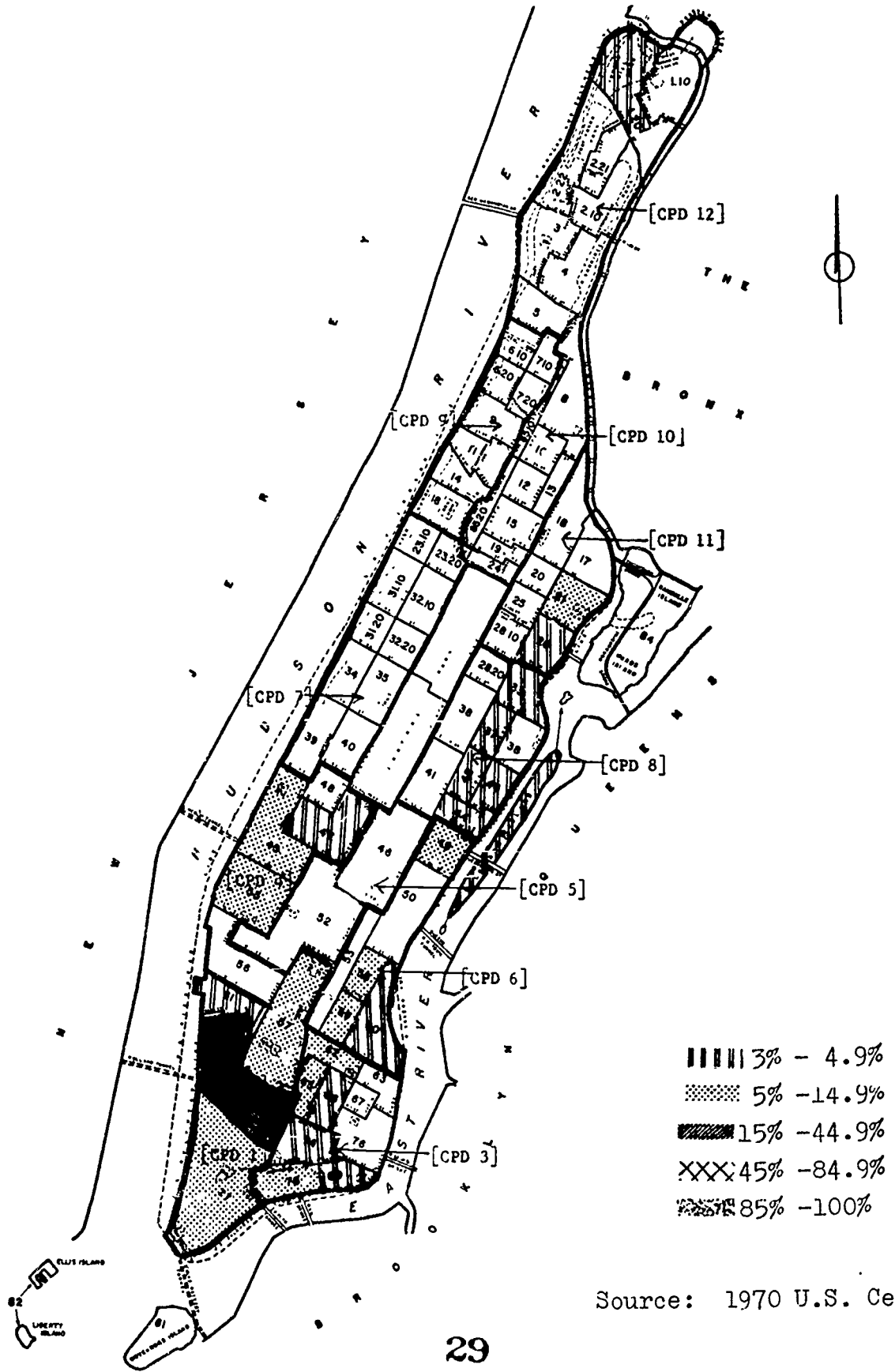
HEALTH AREAS - 1960
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
REPORT'S
DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING
CITY OF NEW YORK

PLANNING BOARD
APPROVED 1960

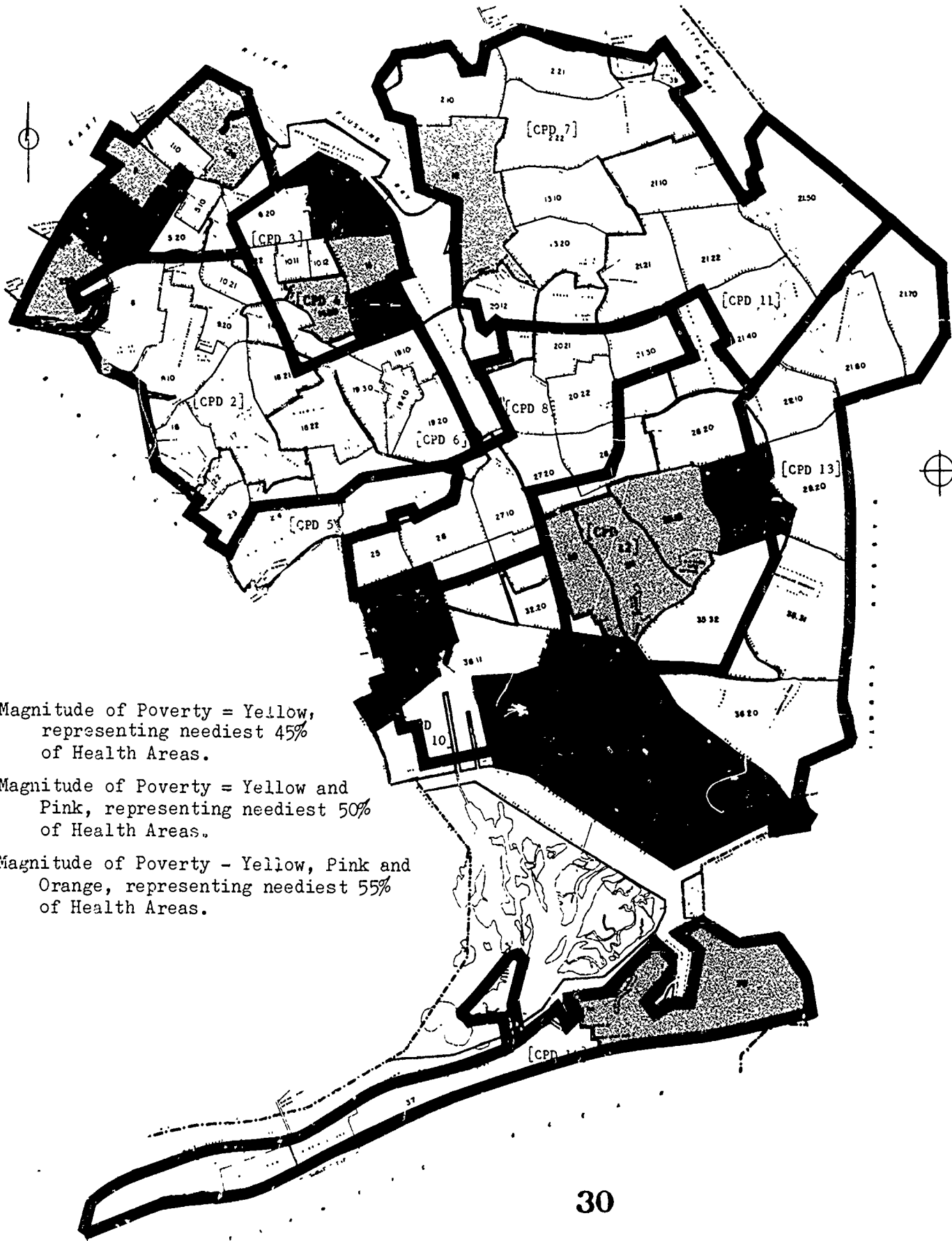
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ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



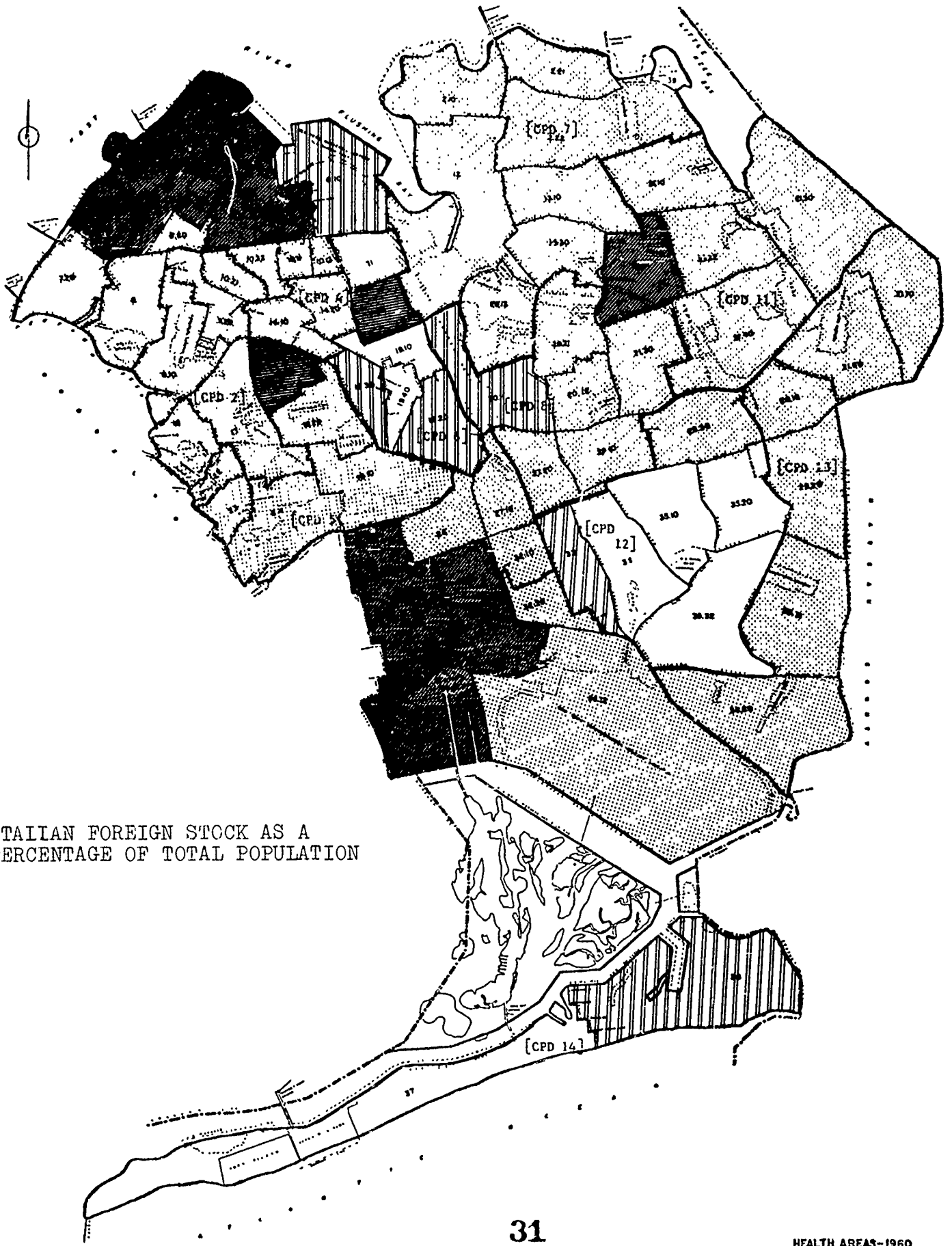
Source: 1970 U.S. Census



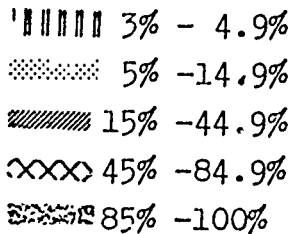
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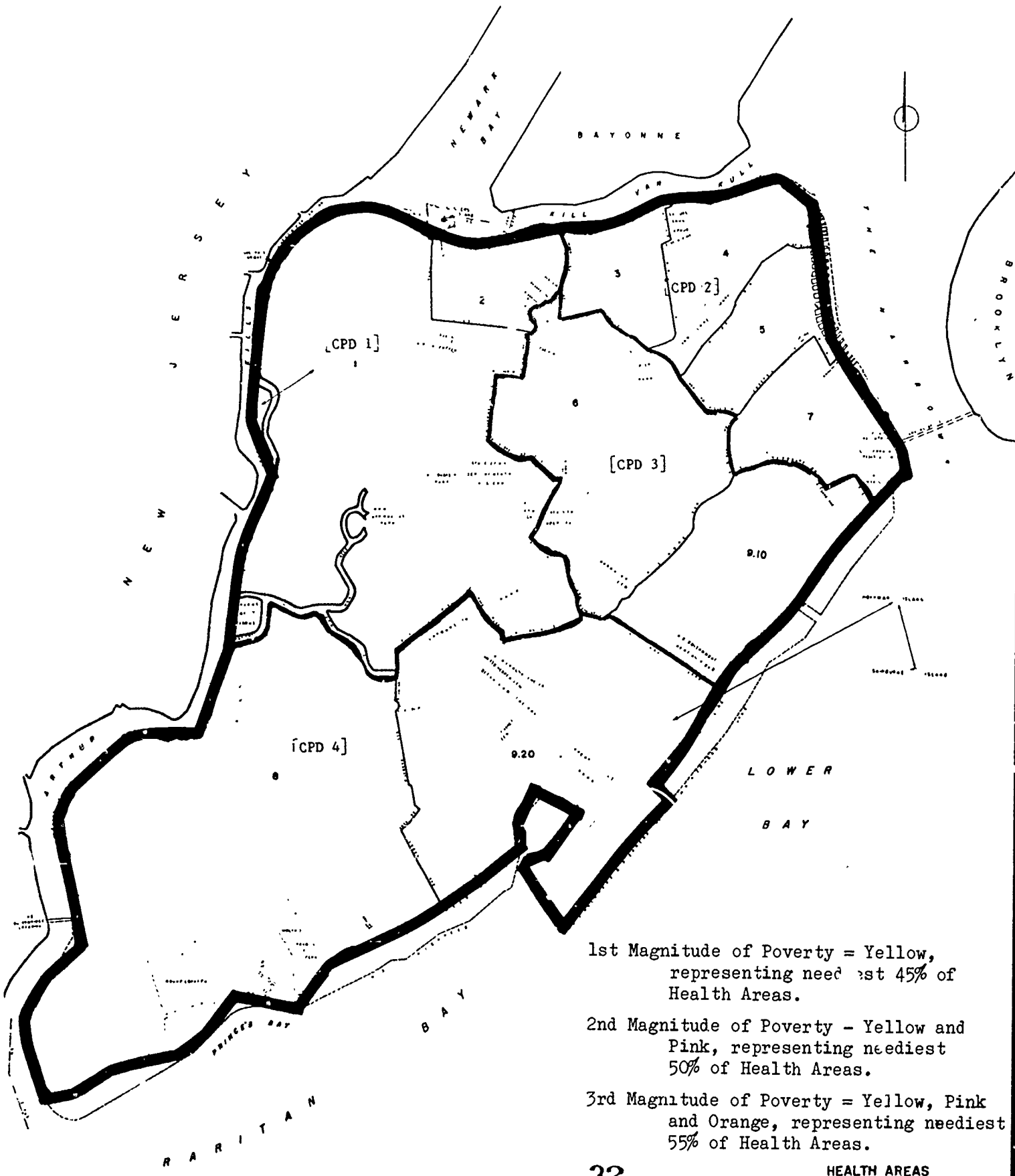
3rd Magnitude of Poverty - Yellow, Pink and
 Orange, representing neediest 55%
 of Health Areas.



ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



Scale in Feet
0 1000 2000 3000 4000

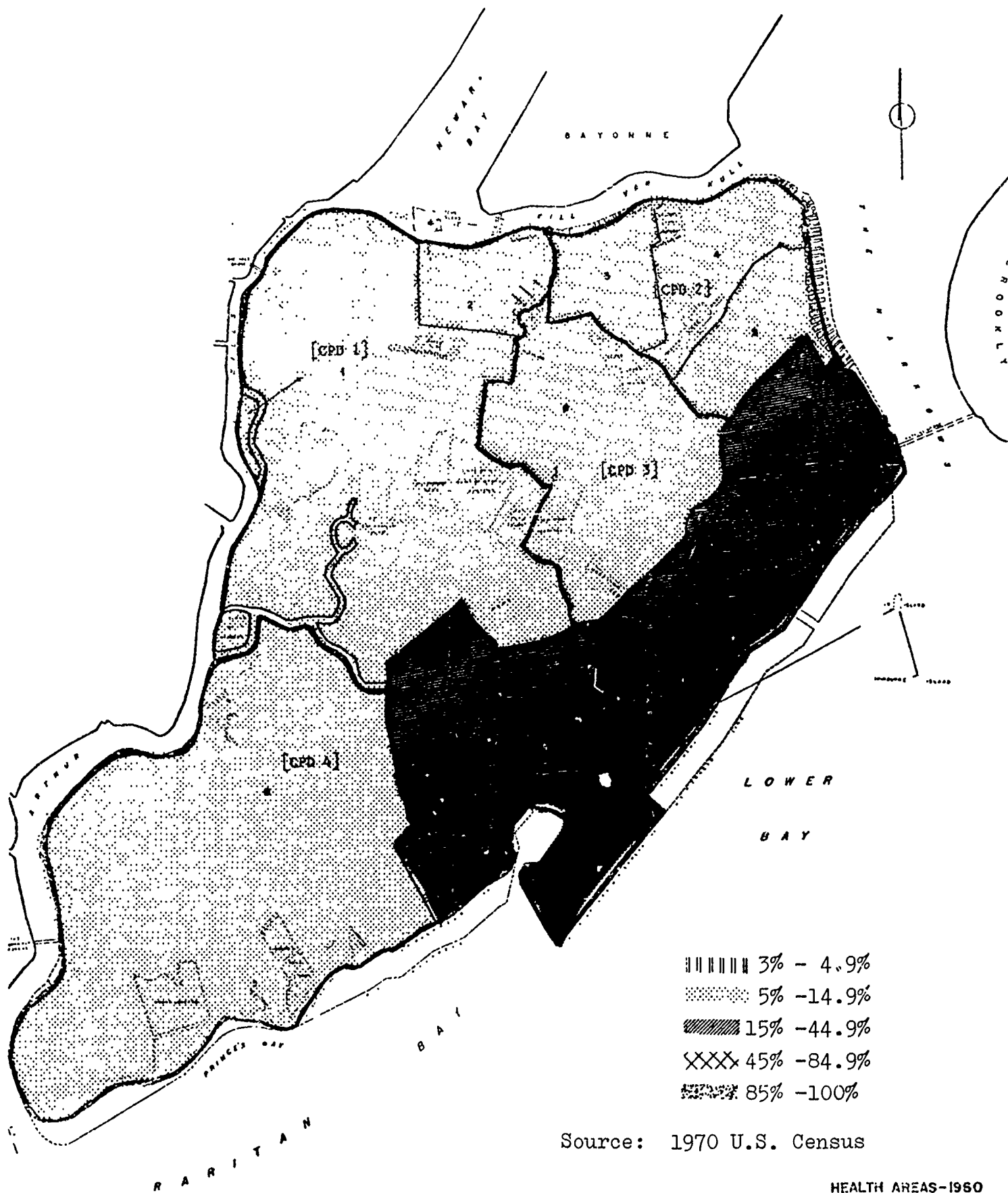


1st Magnitude of Poverty = Yellow,
representing neediest 45% of
Health Areas.

2nd Magnitude of Poverty - Yellow and
Pink, representing neediest
50% of Health Areas.

3rd Magnitude of Poverty = Yellow, Pink
and Orange, representing neediest
55% of Health Areas.

ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK AS A PERCENTAGE TOTAL POPULATION



	3% - 4.9%
.....	5% - 14.9%
////	15% - 44.9%
XXXX	45% - 84.9%
████	85% - 100%

Source: 1970 U.S. Census

THE CONCLUSIONS:

T) THERE ARE HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS LIVING IN POVERTY AREAS.

A) Poverty areas containing tracts with 20% or more first and second generation Italian-American population are:

- 1) Brooklyn:
 - Brownsville
 - Bushwick
 - Coney Island
 - East New York
 - South Brooklyn
 - Sunset Park
 - Williamsburg(7 out of the 10 Brooklyn poverty areas)
- 2) The Bronx:
 - South Bronx
 - Tremont(2 out of the 5 Bronx poverty areas)
- 3) Manhattan:
 - East Harlem
 - Lower East Side(2 out of the 6 Manhattan poverty areas)
- 4) Richmond:
 - Mariner's Harbor
 - New Brighton
 - Rosebank(3 out of the 6 Staten Island "pockets of poverty")
- 5) Queens:
 - Corona-East Elmhurst
 - Long Island City
 - South Jamaica(3 out of the 4 Queens poverty areas)

B) Poverty areas containing tracts with 50% or more first and second generation Italian-American population are, significantly:

- 1) Brooklyn:
 - Bushwick
 - Coney Island
 - South Brooklyn
 - Williamsburg
- 2) The Bronx: Although no tract containing 50% or more first and second generation Italian-American population was located completely within a designated Bronx poverty area, tracts 389 and 391 (in East Tremont-Belmont) are "over 50%" tracts with borders contingent upon the Tremont poverty area.
- 3) Queens: Although no tract containing 50% or more Italian foreign stock population falls completely within the boundaries of any designated Queens poverty area, tracts 31 (in Queensbridge) and 415 (in Corona Heights) are "over 50%" tracts whose boundaries are contingent upon those of the Long Island City and Corona-East Elmhurst poverty areas respectively.

C) Eligibility for programs

The Italian-Americans living in the above poverty areas are all geographically eligible for programs which have as their eligibility requirement residence in a New York City poverty area. Such programs include:

- 1) the City University (CUNY) SEEK Program for educationally and financially disadvantaged students
- 2) all Anti-Poverty Programs run by CDA including:
 - a) Manpower Outreach (Program Account 11) - Adult Education, Training and Employment Referral Services
 - b) Social Services (Account 65) - Programs for the Elderly and Neighborhood Multi-Service Systems
 - c) Youth Development Programs (Account 59) - Training Centers, Citizenship Education, Senior Citizens and Housing Bridging the Generation Gap, Economic Development and Apprenticeship, and Youth Advisory Councils.
 - d) Education (Account 29) - school liaisons, parent training and assistance in school matters, adult education
 - e) Housing (Account 37) - Housing Information and Tenant Organization, Housing Management and Maintenance, Housing Development
 - f) Economic Development (Account 62) - establishment of credit unions, buying clubs and co-ops, Local Development Corporations and business training, and Consumer Action.

A list of agencies performing these functions under CDA, the latest "Program Year Directory", may be obtained from the Information and Reporting Department, CDA, 349 Broadway, New York 10013.

- 3) Some federally-funded domestic assistance programs use location in a poverty area as criteria for eligibility (e.g. Community Mental Health Centers - Mental Retardation Facilities Act of 1962). Other federal assistance programs use low-income status as criteria for eligibility (e.g. Health Care of Children and Youth, Social Security Act, Title V; Maternity and

Infant Care Projects, Social Security Act, Title V; Bilingual Education, Bilingual Education Act, Title VII; Dropout Prevention, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; Educational Personnel Training Grants - Career Opportunities Programs, Education Professions Development Act; Special Grants to Educationally Deprived Children, ESEA, Title I-Part C.)

While it cannot reasonably be argued that every single Italian-American living in a poverty area is eligible for all of the above programs, the data given in this section on population should be the catalyst for investigation of eligibility of specific Italian-Americans for specific programs, and for the necessary accountability of these programs to the recruitment of, translation of materials for, and sensitivity toward the Italian-American population.

II. THERE ARE HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICANS LIVING IN THOSE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AREAS WHICH HAVE MOST RECENTLY (1974) BEEN DESIGNATED BY THE HRA MULTI-SERVICE SYSTEMS TO BE IN THE GREATEST NEED OF ASSISTANCE.

Comparisons between the foreign stock and health area-magnitudes of poverty maps show a consistency between heavily-populated Italian foreign stock areas, and magnitudes of poverty. There is also a consistency between poverty areas with high Italian population and health area magnitudes of poverty with high Italian populations. For example, Health Areas 11 and 19 in the Bronx have a 45% to 84.9% Italian foreign stock population level, and both 11 and 19 are located within a first magnitude of poverty. In addition, they are also consistent with the area composed of census tracts 387, 389, 391, and 393, whose 1970 concentration of Italian foreign stock population

was equally high and some of which fell into the Tremont poverty area.

As is the case with most of these comparisons, the 1974 magnitudes of poverty reflect a much-needed change in the 1966 poverty area boundaries. It remains to be seen whether the Council Against Poverty will supplant their 1966 poverty area boundaries, and what effect this will have upon increasing the services available to Italian-Americans.

N.B.. WE MUST NOTE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS SECTION THAT CIAO IS PRESENTLY INITIATING HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SURVEYS OF THE POPULATION IN SPECIALLY SELECTED "50% OR MORE" TRACTS. THE SURVEYS WILL ATTEMPT TO GIVE UPDATED INFORMATION OF THE TYPE FOUND IN THIS SECTION ON "POPULATION", AND IN THE FOLLOWING SECTION ON "CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION". IT IS HOPED THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY TEAM WILL BE PUBLISHED AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THIS VOLUME.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

THE OBJECTIVES:

- I) THAT THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS DO EXIST IN CENSUS TRACTS WITH HIGH PERCENTAGES OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN POPULATION:
- A) LARGE NUMBERS OF SENIOR CITIZENS:
 - 1) IN GENERAL
 - 2) LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL
 - 3) LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL AND YET NOT RECEIVING SOCIAL SECURITY
 - B) LARGE NUMBERS OF FAMILIES WITH FEMALE HEAD:
 - 1) IN GENERAL
 - 2) LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL.
 - C) LARGE NUMBERS OF FAMILIES LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL, WITH LOW PERCENTAGES OF THESE FAMILIES RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
 - D) LARGE NUMBERS OF "UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS", "PERSONS", AND "HOUSEHOLDS" LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL
 - E) UNEMPLOYMENT IN BOTH THE MALE AND FEMALE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCES
 - F) LOW MEDIAN NUMBER OF YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED BY THE ADULT POPULATION
 - G) LOW PERCENTAGES OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AMONG THE ADULT POPULATION
 - H) HIGH PERCENTAGES OF HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS AMONG THE 16- TO 25-YEAR-OLD POPULATION.
- II) THAT THE ABOVE PROBLEMS DO EXIST IN FULL FORCE EVEN IN THOSE CENSUS TRACTS, WITH HIGH ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK POPULATION, WHICH ARE NOT LOCATED IN DESIGNATED NEW YORK CITY POVERTY AREAS.

THE METHOD:

OUR FIRST TASK WAS TO CHOOSE A SET OF "TARGET TRACTS" FOR OUR INVESTIGATION. BECAUSE OF THEIR HIGH PROBABILITY OF 50% TO 99% ITALIAN-AMERICAN POPULATION, WE CHOSE THOSE TRACTS WHICH APPEARED IN THE 1970 CENSUS AS HAVING 50% OR MORE ITALIAN FOREIGN STOCK POPULATION (see population maps).

THESE TRACTS WERE THEN FURTHER CATEGORIZED INTO "POVERTY AREA TRACTS" AND "NON-POVERTY AREA TRACTS". FACTS WERE THEN GLEANED FOR EACH TRACT FROM THE "1970 CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING", NY, NY STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA VOLUMES. TWO BRONX TRACTS WERE SINGLED OUT DUE TO THEIR ABNORMALLY HIGH NEED COUPLED WITH THEIR LOCATION OUTSIDE ANY NEW YORK CITY POVERTY AREA.

The following terms, pertinent to the statistics that follow, must be understood as defined in the SMSA census volumes:

CENSUS TRACT...the smallest geographical unit into which the country is divided by the United States Bureau of the Census for the purpose of population count. Each tract contains an average of 4,000 people.

FOREIGN STOCK...includes the foreign-born population, and the native population of foreign or mixed parentage (both first and second generation).

FAMILY...consists of a household head and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the head by blood, marriage, or adoption...not all households contain families, because a household may be composed of a group of unrelated persons or one person living alone.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE...consists of all non-military persons 16 years of age and over, classified as employed or unemployed under the following criteria:

- a) employed-those "at work" as employees or on their own or family business or farm; or those "with a job but not at work", temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, strike, vacation or other personal reasons.
- b) unemployed - those neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work", as well as those looking for work, laid off, or available to accept a job.

POVERTY LEVEL...the poverty index adopted by the Federal Interagency Committee in 1969. This index provides a range of poverty thresholds adjusted to take into account such factors as family size, sex and age of family head, number of children, and farm-nonfarm residence. (e.g. The poverty threshold for a nonfarm family of four was \$3,743 in 1969.) These income cutoffs are updated every year to reflect the changes in the Consumer Price Index.

UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS...a household head living alone or with nonrelatives only, a household member not related to the head, or a person living in group quarters who is not an inmate of an institution.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE...cash assistance under the following programs: aid to families with dependent children, old-age assistance, general assistance, aid to the blind, and aid to the permanently disabled.

HOUSEHOLD...includes all the persons who occupy a group of rooms or a single room which constitutes a housing unit. A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters.

The following indications are also made on the charts that follow:

"P".....indicates that the census tract is located within a New York City poverty area (1966)

"NP"....indicates census tracts not located within a poverty area (1966). Where there is no indication of "P", "NP" or "B", "NP" is understated.

"B".....specially - selected Bronx tracts

"s".....indicates an estimate of count based on a census sample. It provides a reason for a slightly less than 50% count of foreign stock in some tracts where the total population count was not based on sample. However, all tracts selected appeared in the "1970 Census of the Population and Housing, Selected Fourth Count Data", compiled for the Center for Migration Studies, as being tracts with 50% or more Italian foreign stock population.

CENSUS TRACTS With 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Kings County.....

Tract Numbers	497-P	429-P	264	63-P	65-P	148	170
All persons-----	3143	4851	4105	2493	8183	1544	3351
60 yrs.+over-----	241	311	354	160	584	131	301
65 yrs.+over-----	162	219	206	116	399	87	180
10 to 19 yrs.-----	223	385	300	240	77	116	254
All families-----	933	1341	1183	536	2182	430	978
w/female head-----	118	220	146	80	273	36	82
Foreign stock-----	1829	3122	2736	1573	4747	970	1970
Italy-----	1597	2610	2090	1391	4126	811	1720
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. + not enrolled-----	8.2	31.9	9.6	40.5	20.7	6.3	15.4
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)	9.3	8.0	9.0	8.6	8.9	11.6	10.4
% H.S. graduated (25yrs. + over)-----	28.4	13.7	31.8	24.5	25.9	47.9	38.6
Male civilian labor force	886	1169	1069	659	2138	402	981
unemployed-----	17	83	36	23	95	17	22
% unemployed-----	1.9	7.1	3.4	3.5	4.4	4.2	2.2
Female civilian labor							
force-----	446	762	672	357	1080	228	508
unemployed-----	33	86	51	33	57	---	50
% unemployed-----	7.4	11.3	7.6	9.2	5.3	---	9.8
Families below poverty							
level-----	76	182	117	55	281	40	114
% of all families---	7.9	13.6	10.1	11.6	12.9	8.4	11.5
% receiving public							
assistance-----	14.5	35.2	15.4	32.7	11.0	12.5	7.0
mean size-----	2.95	3.26	2.67	3.15	3.31	3.28	2.70
w/female head-----	17	71	34	15	107	10	18
w/related children							
under 6-----	5	30	4	2	28	---	4
% in labor force----	---	---	---	---	42.9	---	---
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level----	106	159	83	174	200	15	60
% of all unrelated							
individuals-----	29.9	40.4	29.9	43.7	36.2	24.6	40.0
% receiving public							
assistance-----	25.5	18.9	4.6	12.6	8.0	---	6.7
% 65+over-----	72.6	81.8	73.5	55.2	61.5	---	51.7
Persons below poverty level	380	753	395	347	1131	146	368
% of all persons-----	9.9	15.6	9.9	14.4	13.9	8.7	11.0
% receiving social							
security-----	28.9	22.8	23.0	26.8	21.1	27.4	22.6
% 65+over-----	31.1	28.2	34.4	36.6	25.1	36.3	32.9
% receiving social							
security-----	61.9	64.6	52.2	59.1	54.6	75.5	43.3
Households below poverty							
level-----	146	312	123	140	380	35	99
% of all households	14.0	19.7	11.8	23.1	17.9	8.4	15.3
mean gross rent-----	\$86	\$76	\$92	\$78	\$82	\$115	\$111

CENSUS TRACTS With 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Kings County.....

Tract Numbers	178	180	182	184	186	188	190
All persons-----	2235	2848	3170	2413	2149	2875	3840
60 yrs. +over-----	184	248	229	196	191	214	296
65 yrs. +over-----	124	175	157	138	137	126	172
10 to 19 yrs.-----	188	201	216	196	172	220	333
All families-----	636	813	915	713	597	807	1066
w/female head-----	76	93	86	44	56	85	155
Foreign stock-----	1350	1652	1967	1463	1473	1862	2539
Italy-----	1179	1431	1855	1281	1281	1644	2232
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. +not enrolled-----	20.3	9.4	13.8	2.8	11.7	17.9	22.8
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)-	9.0	9.2	10.0	11.0	10.0	10.2	9.1
% H.S. graduates (25yrs. +over)-----	31.8	27.6	36.0	43.3	38.3	38.6	25.6
Male civilian labor force	570	753	844	691	518	781	1011
unemployed-----	40	27	19	17	40	26	46
% unemployed-----	7.0	3.6	2.3	2.5	7.7	3.3	4.5
Female civilian labor force-----	410	401	495	386	317	475	677
unemployed-----	39	15	42	16	21	28	37
% unemployed-----	9.5	3.7	8.5	4.1	6.6	5.9	5.5
Families below poverty level-----	84	98	118	60	46	49	124
% of all families----	12.8	11.6	13.0	8.1	7.9	6.2	11.5
% receiving public assistance-----	---	19.4	31.9	20.0	---	12.2	16.9
mean size-----	2.88	2.60	3.24	2.37	2.11	2.86	2.81
w/female head-----	10	18	26	4	17	---	61
w/related children under 6-----	---	9	14	---	---	---	31
% in labor force-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level--	55	80	61	33	35	75	131
% of all unrelated individuals-----	45.8	52.6	41.5	33.3	40.2	54.7	50.2
% receiving public assistance-----	---	30.0	---	---	11.4	10.7	4.6
% 65+over-----	100.0	76.3	60.7	72.7	77.1	53.3	74.0
Persons below poverty level	297	335	443	175	132	215	480
% of all persons-----	13.7	11.5	14.0	7.2	6.3	7.5	12.5
% receiving social security-----	31.6	42.4	17.6	52.0	55.3	21.4	31.9
% 65+over-----	33.7	50.4	23.7	58.3	60.6	43.7	38.3
% receiving social security-----	76.0	65.7	70.5	66.7	73.8	48.9	73.9
Households below poverty level-----	108	106	100	62	52	52	207
% of all households--	18.1	16.1	14.3	12.1	12.1	9.6	20.7
mean gross rent-----	\$101	\$76	\$121	\$93	\$70	\$88	\$74

CENSUS TRACTS With 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Kings County.....

Tract Numbers	194	196	198	212	214	244	246
All persons-----	2566	4000	1971	3575	1712	3127	3175
60 yrs.+over-----	209	322	173	342	161	177	251
65 yrs.+over-----	146	235	116	229	110	98	176
10 to 19 yrs.-----	172	294	143	211	110	236	251
All families-----	558	1135	564	1061	496	899	853
w/female head-----	78	135	72	129	60	75	66
Foreign stock-----	1656	2366	1243	2241	1040	1964	2201
Italy-----	1340	2092	1121	1921	1004	1553	1669
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. +not enrolled-----	26.2	12.6	11.0	15.7	8.3	9.5	17.1
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)-	8.7	8.9	10.1	9.4	8.9	8.9	9.0
% H.S. graduates (25yrs. +over)-----	26.8	26.7	33.5	30.3	30.6	28.9	25.9
Male civilian labor force	630	1045	500	1027	433	815	837
unemployed-----	41	19	37	28	16	57	17
% unemployed-----	6.5	1.8	7.4	2.7	3.7	7.0	2.0
Female civilian labor							
force-----	453	677	289	643	260	494	500
unemployed-----	22	23	20	28	5	32	71
% unemployed-----	4.9	3.4	6.9	4.4	1.9	6.5	14.2
Families below poverty							
level-----	101	108	31	110	47	109	14
% of all families----	14.4	9.7	5.5	9.6	9.4	12.0	1.6
% receiving public							
assistance-----	13.9	3.7	35.5	---	8.5	4.6	---
mean size-----	2.67	2.78	3.48	2.75	2.72	2.67	---
w/female head-----	24	20	6	38	12	21	---
w/related children							
under 6-----	5	7	---	15	---	5	---
% in labor force-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level--	70	124	41	72	26	96	69
% of all unrelated							
individuals-----	34.3	49.2	53.2	30.9	23.2	54.5	48.9
% receiving public							
assistance-----	35.7	5.6	---	12.5	19.2	11.5	13.0
% 65+over-----	51.4	78.2	90.2	87.5	34.6	82.3	62.3
Persons below poverty level	340	424	149	375	154	387	97
% of all persons-----	14.0	10.8	7.5	10.5	9.1	12.4	3.1
% receiving social							
security-----	26.8	46.7	28.2	24.0	32.5	40.1	47.4
% 65+over-----	23.5	42.5	38.3	35.5	39.6	44.4	66.0
% receiving social							
security-----	71.3	87.8	73.7	67.7	73.8	78.5	57.8
Households below poverty							
level-----	129	143	40	145	53	123	58
% of all households--	22.0	14.5	10.2	13.6	11.4	17.1	9.9
mean gross rent-----	\$75	\$83	\$85	\$78	\$82	\$87	\$97

CENSUS TRACTS With 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Kings County.....

Tract Numbers	250	260	262	274	348.01-P	306	386
All persons-----	1527	3329	2408	2936	780	1451	3383
60 yrs.+over-----	112	302	186	243	59	100	230
65 yrs.+over-----	69	209	128	179	41	68	165
10 to 19 yrs.-----	118	256	196	220	76	92	292
All families-----	432	960	666	844	211	415	917
w/female head-----	59	99	92	83	36	35	70
Foreign stock-----	873	2351	1430	1903	444	914	2185
Italy-----	741	1763	1204	1481	393	804	1923
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. +not enrolled-----	13.6	14.7	9.8	8.3	35.5	21.6	16.9
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)-	10.1	9.1	10.0	10.1	8.9	9.1	9.7
% H.S. graduates (25yrs. +over)-----	35.5	30.9	36.6	37.4	18.4	27.5	28.1
Male civilian labor force	408	870	642	771	208	412	944
unemployed-----	23	35	21	22	---	18	37
% unemployed-----	5.6	4.0	3.3	2.9	---	4.4	3.9
Female civilian labor							
force-----	265	511	456	466	88	196	447
unemployed-----	4	35	6	6	---	9	51
% unemployed-----	1.5	6.8	1.3	1.3	---	4.6	11.4
Families below poverty							
level-----	49	86	56	38	32	44	68
% of all families---	11.6	9.0	8.0	4.7	14.0	9.8	7.7
% receiving public							
assistance-----	26.5	22.3	25.0	---	21.9	47.7	11.8
mean size-----	3.78	3.26	3.70	3.11	2.81	3.70	3.79
w/female head-----	13	30	10	6	---	8	9
w/related children							
under 6-----	13	7	5	---	---	8	---
% in labor force-----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level--	43	89	18	60	29	11	62
% of all unrelated							
individuals-----	46.7	48.1	18.4	44.1	63.0	25.0	39.0
% receiving public							
assistance-----	11.6	---	---	31.7	---	---	---
% 65+over-----	53.5	69.7	---	76.7	62.1	---	79.0
Persons below poverty level	228	369	225	178	119	174	320
% of all persons-----	15.9	10.8	9.0	6.1	15.0	11.0	9.3
% receiving social							
security-----	23.2	29.8	20.4	42.7	36.1	19.0	25.6
% 65+over-----	24.1	29.3	25.8	42.7	41.2	10.3	19.4
% receiving social							
security-----	87.3	72.2	70.7	88.2	79.6	---	93.5
Households below poverty							
level-----	66	134	51	81	29	41	84
% of all households--	18.5	16.6	8.9	12.1	15.1	14.1	11.9
mean gross rent-----	\$81	\$84	\$93	\$96	\$81	\$125	\$101

CENSUS TRACTS WITH 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Kings County.....

Tract Numbers	396	398	400	402	406	408	410
All persons-----	2511	2478	3311	2461	3388	3072	2085
60 yrs.+over-----	225	199	283	179	283	252	171
65 yrs.+over-----	148	143	182	114	206	166	123
10 to 19 yrs.-----	178	177	256	182	242	224	175
All families-----	721	695	942	695	993	876	606
w/female head-----	65	56	95	69	113	90	47
Foreign stock-----	1750	1598	2089	1468	2185	1971	1320
Italy-----	1317	1433	1736	1318	1861	1704	1134
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. +not enrolled-----	16.3	19.0	2.6	9.6	11.1	14.9	10.1
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)	10.4	8.9	9.8	9.3	9.4	9.3	10.4
% H.S. graduates (25yrs. +over)-----	40.0	27.0	33.7	27.3	29.8	30.1	37.0
Male civilian labor force	658	694	949	626	910	872	590
unemployed-----	22	8	31	21	25	39	26
% unemployed-----	3.3	1.2	3.3	3.4	2.7	4.5	4.4
Female civilian labor force-----	416	437	524	360	568	488	337
unemployed-----	37	26	29	25	58	23	15
% unemployed-----	8.9	5.9	5.5	6.9	10.2	4.7	4.5
Families below poverty level-----	38	43	69	61	102	55	40
% of all families---	5.4	6.0	7.1	8.6	10.3	6.2	6.6
% receiving public assistance-----	---	20.9	5.8	---	25.5	---	12.5
mean size-----	4.00	2.91	2.55	2.98	2.68	2.54	2.50
w/female head-----	10	4	26	9	30	35	5
w/related children under 6-----	---	---	---	9	---	7	---
% in labor force----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level-	51	58	92	55	59	62	40
% of all unrelated individuals-----	36.7	60.4	56.1	45.1	39.6	41.6	38.5
% receiving public assistance-----	11.8	---	5.4	9.1	---	---	17.5
% 65+over-----	76.5	56.9	78.3	74.5	89.8	75.8	52.5
Persons below poverty level	203	183	268	237	332	218	140
% of all persons-----	8.1	7.6	8.1	9.8	10.0	7.1	6.3
% receiving social security-----	22.2	12.6	41.4	31.6	38.6	26.1	42.1
% 65+over-----	36.9	24.6	51.5	29.1	35.2	28.0	40.0
% receiving social security-----	52.0	31.1	72.5	85.5	84.6	85.2	80.4
Households below poverty level-----	53	62	123	72	120	73	46
% of all households---	9.0	12.5	14.3	13.2	15.4	11.1	11.6
mean gross rent-----	\$91	\$89	\$90	\$94	\$89	\$87	\$106

CENSUS TRACTS With 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Queens.....Bronx.....

Tract Numbers	31	415	44.02	389-B	391-B	440
All persons-----	594	2017	218	4721	7506	796
60 yrs.+over-----	60	140	7	398	670	62
65 yrs.+over-----	46	89	7	283	460	44
10 to 19 yrs.-----	41	137	30	340	612	62
All families-----	165	565	53	1255	1924	215
w/female head-----	19	66	5	197	279	23
Foreign stock-----	619	1702	121	2975	4994	578
Italy-----	359	1134	108	2574	4034	425
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. +not enrolled-----	25.4	13.8	41.7	27.3	25.4	19.4
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)--	8.9	8.7	9.7	8.3	8.4	8.8
% H.S. graduates (25yrs. +over)-----	30.7	25.9	4.7	20.1	24.1	33.7
Male civilian labor force- unemployed-----	297	547	45	1148	1764	184
% unemployed-----	2.7	2.2	15.6	4.2	3.5	---
Female civilian labor force-----	177	368	17	638	817	118
unemployed-----	11	16	---	48	47	---
% unemployed-----	6.2	4.3	---	7.5	5.8	---
Families below poverty level-----	41	45	8	225	397	10
% of all families-----	13.1	8.2	19.0	17.9	21.6	4.7
% receiving public assistance-----	39.0	20.0	---	36.0	25.7	---
mean size-----	3.07	3.09	---	2.90	3.63	---
w/female head-----	16	4	---	69	144	4
w/related children under 6-----	12	---	---	32	58	4
% in labor force-----	---	---	---	12.5	---	---
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level--	68	49	11	239	305	23
% of all unrelated individuals-----	49.6	28.5	---	50.1	43.1	53.5
% receiving public assistance-----	---	---	---	19.7	12.5	---
% 65+over-----	72.1	69.4	---	57.3	60.3	---
Persons below poverty level	194	188	63	892	1747	63
% of all persons-----	16.4	9.1	27.5	19.0	24.5	7.7
% receiving social security-----	37.6	36.7	7.9	28.4	16.7	42.9
% 65+over-----	38.1	36.7	7.9	28.5	21.6	38.1
% receiving social security-----	74.3	87.0	---	75.2	67.9	---
Households below poverty level-----	90	52	13	420	623	27
% of all households--	25.0	12.1	27.7	27.1	27.7	14.6
mean gross rent-----	\$101	\$92	---	\$68	\$77	\$88

CENSUS TRACTS With 50% or more Italian foreign stock
population (1970)

Averages.....

	General	"NP" Tracts	"P"Tracts	"B"Tracts
All persons-----	2885	2746	3890	6114
60 yrs.+over-----	230	224	271	534
65 yrs.+over-----	156	151	187	372
10 to 19 yrs.-----	221	207	320	476
All families-----	803	771	1041	1590
w/female head-----	92	84	145	238
Foreign stock-----	1840	1770	2343	3985
Italy-----	1546	1480	2023	3304
% 16-21 yrs. not H.S.Grad. +not enrolled-----	16.8	15.3	27.4	26.4
Median school yrs. com- pleted (25yrs.+over)	9.4	9.5	8.7	8.4
% H.S. graduates (25yrs. +over)-----	30.1	31.2	22.2	22.1
Male civilian labor force	763	729	1012	1456
unemployed-----	29	27	44	55
% unemployed-----	3.9	4.1	3.44	3.9
Female civilian labor				
force-----	444	430	592	728
unemployed-----	28	26	42	48
% unemployed-----	5.7	5.6	6.6	6.7
Families below poverty				
level-----	85	79	125	311
% of all families---	10.0	9.7	12.0	19.8
% receiving public				
assistance-----	15.0	13.9	23.1	30.9
mean size-----	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.3
w/female head-----	23	21	42	107
w/related children				
under 6-----	8	7	13	45
% in labor force---	1.4	0.3	8.6	6.3
Unrelated individuals be- low poverty level--	78	70	134	272
% of all unrelated				
individuals-----	41.1	40.9	42.6	46.6
% receiving public				
assistance-----	8.5	7.9	13.0	16.1
% 65+over-----	61.1	60.2	66.6	58.8
Persons below poverty level	338	309	546	1320
% of all persons-----	11.3	10.9	13.8	21.8
% receiving social				
security-----	30.5	31.0	27.1	22.6
% 65+over-----	34.9	35	32.4	25.1
% receiving social				
security-----	65.5	65.7	64.0	71.6
Households below poverty				
level-----	119	107	201	522
% of all households---	15.4	15.0	18.0	27.4
mean gross rent-----	\$87	\$88	\$81	\$73

with female heads, considerably larger numbers in P's (an average of 145) than in NP's (an average of 84). The B average was exceedingly high (238), and other tracts, notably tract 429 in Bushwick and tract 273 in South Brooklyn, had high numbers of such families also.

In NP's an average of 21 out of 80 families below the poverty level were families with female heads. In P's this increased to 42 out of every 125 poor families, or over 1/3 of all poor families. In certain individual tracts such as tract 190 in Brooklyn, almost half the families living below poverty level were families with female heads.

An average of 9.7% of all families living in NP's were living below the poverty level in 1970! This average rose to 12.0% of all families in P's, and soared to 19.8% in the B's!

Percentages of families living below poverty level who were receiving public assistance were phenomenally low, as low as 13.9% in NP's, and 23.1% in P's! How were the other families staying on their feet, and why were they not being aided through public assistance? Perhaps a roster of Italian-speaking government personnel in assistance offices would show a reason. An understanding of the Italian reluctance to accept public assistance would also help.

III) UNRELATED INDIVIDUALS, PERSONS AND HOUSEHOLDS

Average percentages of all unrelated individuals living below the poverty level ranged in the 40%'s in both NP's and P's. Again, percentages of these poor persons on public assistance were incredibly low. In NP's only 7.9% of all unrelated individuals below poverty level were receiving public assistance, and only 13.0% of such persons in P's were receiving assistance.

Of all "persons", those living below poverty level were a smaller percent - 10.9% in NP's and 13.8% in

THE CONCLUSIONS:

(For convenience sake, the following abbreviations will apply:

P.....poverty area tracts

NP.....non-poverty area tracts

B.....specially-selected Bronx tracts--see METHODS)

I) SENIOR CITIZENS

In 1970, there were between 150 and 500 senior citizens (60 years and over) living in each selected tract. A great percentage of these were persons between the ages of 60 and 65, years of transition into special City programs, retirement, and new benefits for seniors. Average numbers of seniors were higher in P's than in NP's, and the numbers of seniors in B's were extremely high, as they also were in special tracts such as tract 264 in Bensonhurst and tract 65 in South Brooklyn.

Of all "unrelated individuals" living below the poverty level, over 60% in NP's and over 66% in P's were seniors 65 years and over.

Of all "persons" living below the poverty level, over 35% in NP's and over 32% in P's were seniors 65 years and above. In both NP's and P's, more than 1/3 of these poverty-stricken seniors were not receiving social security.

The fact that seniors form a larger percentage in the category "unrelated individuals living below the poverty level" than in "persons" so living would seem to indicate that many poverty-stricken seniors are living alone or, at least, without their families.

Reasons for lack of social security as supplemental income for over 1/3 of the poor seniors could be attributable to one or more of the following factors: lack of awareness of social security on the part of seniors, lack of acceptance of social security due to stigma attached, bulk of work experience in Italy.

II) FAMILIES

In both NP's and P's, there were large numbers of families

P's - as were percentages of households living below poverty level - 15.0% in NP's and 18.0% in P's. However, any percentage of such poor in non-designated New York City poverty areas should speak for itself!

IV) UNEMPLOYMENT

An average of 4% of the male civilian labor force and 6% of the female civilian labor force were unemployed in the 1970 Census. There was little difference in percentages of unemployment between NP's and P's, with the male force unemployed being even slightly larger in NP's than in P's. Unemployment percentages among the female civilian labor force was particularly high in individual tracts such as tract 429 in Bushwick and tracts 246, 386 and 406 in other sections of Brooklyn. However, in general, the percentages of unemployment seemed to reinforce our belief that work has a high value among persons of Italian background.

V) EDUCATION

The median number of school years completed by the adult population of these predominantly Italian-American tracts was very low, and quite shocking. In NP's, persons 25 years of age and over had completed a median number of 9.5 years of schooling. In P's this median was reduced to 8.7 years, and in the B's, 8.4 years. Individual tracts were even lower!

It followed that percentages of high school graduates among the 25-and-over population of the selected tracts would also be very low - 31.2% for NP's, 22.2% for P's, and 22.1% in the B's, with an incredible 13.7% in tract 429 in Bushwick!

Finally, dropout percentages among young people 16 to 21 years of age were discovered to be shockingly high. In

the 1970 Census, 15.3% in the NP's, 27.4% in the P's, and as high as 31.9%, 10.5%, and 35.5% in individual tracts in Bushwick, South Brooklyn and Coney Island respectively, were the percentages of young people in that age group who had neither completed high school nor were enrolled in school.

The figures speak for themselves. They are summarized here to give needed support to those who feel they can help to better the situations that must be bettered. Individuals will find it useful to refer to specific tracts on the charts for their own particular concerns.

Remedies need to begin now, before a 1980 census, before any more statistics have to be gathered. Whether it be positive action awareness programs, Italian-speaking personnel, increased manpower training, bilingual education - whatever the solutions will be - they must begin NOW!

EDUCATION

THE OBJECTIVES:

- I) THAT THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN OF ITALIAN BACKGROUND WHO SPEAK ITALIAN AND WHO HAVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES.

- II) THAT OF THOSE CHILDREN WITH AT LEAST MODERATE OR SEVERE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTY, VERY FEW ARE RECEIVING ADEQUATE BILINGUAL ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THE METHOD:

(It is CIAO's belief, as stated in this booklet's forward, that understanding must be the key word in today's society. CIAO believes that many of today's youngsters who either immigrate into our City's public schools, or who come from basically non-English-speaking households, are not receiving adequate recognition of their mother tongue nor acceptance as speakers of such. Nor are many of these students receiving adequate build-up of their cultural identity or transitional help both linguistically and culturally. It is for these reasons that CIAO is wholeheartedly behind bilingual instruction and bilingual counseling for both students and their parents whose non-English mother tongue leaves them at an educational disadvantage in an English-speaking school.)

RELYING THIS TIME ON STATISTICS GATHERED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR 1973-74, WE WERE ABLE TO DISCOVER THE NUMBERS OF ITALIAN-SPEAKING CHILDREN, SCHOOL BY SCHOOL, ELEMENTARY, JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOLS. Italian-speaking children in each school were categorized as follows:

"Category 1...pupils who speak English hesitantly at times, or whose regional or foreign accents indicate the need for remedial work in English and/or speech.

Category 2...pupils who speak little or no English, or whose regional or foreign accents make it impossible, or almost impossible, for them to be understood.

Category 3...pupils who speak English fluently for their age levels, with no severe foreign or regional accents."

-"Survey of Pupils Who Have Difficulties with the English Language, 1972-73", Educational Program Research and Statistics, Board of Education of the City of New York, Publication No. 352, December, 1973.

These figures, together with district and City-wide totals, were gleaned from the computer print-out based on the 1973-74 Survey of Pupils with English Language Difficulties, taken each year, in every school, under the supervision of the Board of Education's Bureau of Educational Program Research and Statistics. Also available from the same source were City-wide comparisons of numbers of children in each category for each language group surveyed in the City.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, WE RECEIVED NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS OF ITALIAN BILINGUAL PROGRAMS IN THE CITY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS DURING 1973-74, AND THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN SAID TO BE INVOLVED IN EACH PROGRAM.

FINALLY, COMPARISONS WERE MADE BETWEEN CHILDREN'S NEEDS AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN BEING SERVICED BILINGUALLY. The results, as seen in the following tables, and as stated in the Conclusion, were shocking.

NB. It is most important to consider the following for an accurate and meaningful interpretation of the charts:

I) Borough Key:

- 1...Manhattan
- 2...Bronx
- 3...Brooklyn
- 4...Queens
- 5...Richmond

II) School Level Key:

- 1...Elementary
- 2...Junior High School
- 4...Academic High School
- 5...Vocational High School
- 6,7,8,9...Special Schools (institutional schools such as hospital schools and occupational training centers, as well as schools for the mentally, physically and emotionally handicapped, addicts, and unwed mothers)

III) Special Districts:

All academic and vocational high schools and all special schools are centrally controlled by the Board of Education. They therefore cannot be listed as

belonging to any particular geographical school district, but their borough locations are given. Districts 75, and 81 to 94 in the District Totals chart refer to all special schools. District 78 is used in the same chart to refer to all high schools, both academic and vocational.

IV) Language Ability Categories:

It is assumed that a child would be placed in Italian-speaking Category 3, by his teacher who completes the survey, if he were indeed Italian-speaking but, in addition, fluent in English for his age. If this is understood correctly by every teacher, then it may also be assumed that Category 3 does not include children who do not speak Italian but who are of Italian parentage. It is, however, the opinion of many educators that teachers may misunderstand Category 3, and place into it children who have an Italian surname or, perhaps, Italian-speaking parents. Thus it would seem necessary to establish additional categories to firmly calculate both numbers of Italian-American children who do not speak Italian but who are certainly in need of cultural reinforcement, and numbers of Italian-American children who do not speak Italian but who come from a bilingual atmosphere at home and require aid in establishing cultural identity and communication between children, parents and school.

At the time of this printing, there is no way to identify the category "Italian-surnamed" children in the City's public schools, although there is such identification for the Spanish-surnamed child. Also at the time of printing, CIAO's intense negotiations with the Board of Education reveal that testing will be administered to Italian-speaking children, and that the results of this testing will most probably be the elimination of the three above categories, and the use of test scores to determine need.

- V) In the District Totals chart, "Totals of Categories for All Languages", the languages referred to include English itself. In other words, these "Totals of Categories for All Languages", added together, give total school district registration.

- VI) Figures under "Number in Italian Bilingual Programs" on all charts are original figures decided upon by the school districts during negotiations for these "Program 30, Module 5" programs. They are the figures published in an article by Mr. Angelo Gimondo, Bilingual Education Department, Board of Education, in the March-April 1974 issue of the Bilingual Resource Center's "Bilingual Review". They give the "overall view of Italian programs in the City of New York" (p.5). Mr. Gimondo, in addition, upheld these as official figures at the end of the 1974 school year.

VII) We composed a special top-priority chart of schools containing twenty-five or more Italian-speaking pupils with only moderate and/or severe English language difficulties (only categories 1 and 2). Even this restricted chart showed significant distress signals.

VIII) All figures in the charts refer to the 1973-74 school year.

DISTRICT TOTALS

<u>Boro.</u>	<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Regis.</u>	<u>Totals of</u> <u>categories for</u> <u>all languages</u>			<u>Italian-</u> <u>speaking</u>			<u>Total</u> <u>Ital.-</u> <u>spkg.</u>	<u>% of</u> <u>Tot.</u> <u>Req.</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>Ital.</u> <u>Bi-</u> <u>ling.</u> <u>Progs.</u>
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>			
1	1	16295	3547	1670	11078	6	3	9	18	.1	
1	2	21554	3646	1586	16322	16	10	51	77	.4	
1	3	19122	2194	1286	15642	1	0	5	6	.0	
1	4	16479	2515	1262	12705	4	0	12	16	.1	
1	5	19786	2252	362	17172	0	0	0	0	.0	
1	6	18050	3002	2109	12939	4	0	26	30	.2	
2	7	26028	5025	2827	18176	8	3	30	41	.2	
2	8	31217	3225	1571	26421	45	20	126	195	.6	
2	9	37013	4405	2270	30338	4	0	11	15	.0	
2	10	29304	3042	1626	24636	134	84	351	569	1.9	70
2	11	26758	1216	266	25276	119	64	179	362	1.4	25
2	12	29737	4372	2551	22814	5	6	35	46	.2	
3	13	22337	2154	679	19504	7	1	5	13	.1	
3	14	26654	5161	2498	18995	46	53	91	190	.7	30
3	15	25122	3364	1318	20440	145	108	269	522	2.1	
3	16	18259	668	178	17413	0	0	0	0	.0	
3	17	26142	1410	763	23969	2	2	22	26	.1	
3	18	20182	598	272	19312	42	14	68	124	.6	
3	19	29677	2738	1048	25891	52	14	84	150	.5	
3	20	26406	1718	835	23853	388	221	854	1463	5.5	150
3	21	26080	1354	553	24173	177	173	367	717	2.7	60
3	22	26290	702	210	25376	27	15	87	129	.5	
3	23	20053	1625	506	17922	1	0	7	8	.0	
4	24	24419	2563	1284	20571	166	79	455	700	2.9	
4	25	25349	980	415	23950	54	21	177	252	1.0	
4	26	18259	159	58	18042	20	2	33	55	.3	23
4	27	29280	810	288	28182	78	42	122	242	.8	
4	28	25450	1367	576	23507	19	17	76	112	.4	
4	29	26206	962	213	25031	13	6	20	39	.1	
4	30	23550	2339	1360	19851	211	162	653	1026	4.4	65
5	31	39928	1551	163	38214	50	15	85	150	.4	
3	32	21235	3591	1977	15667	178	197	382	757	3.6	180

DISTRICT TOTALS

<u>Boro.</u>	<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Regis.</u>	<u>Totals</u> <u>categories for</u> <u>all languages</u>			<u>Italian-</u> <u>speaking</u>			<u>Total</u> <u>Ital.-</u> <u>spkg.</u>	<u>%of</u> <u>Tot.</u> <u>Req.</u>	<u>No. in</u> <u>Ital.</u> <u>Bi-</u> <u>ling.</u> <u>Progs.</u>
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>			
75		9067	995	677	7395	3	8	9	20	.2	
78											
Lev.4		261214	20007	7458	233749	546	170	1993	2709	1.0	220
78											
Lev.5		43370	4873	1509	36988	54	7	395	456	1.1	
78											
Tot.		304584	24880	8967	270737	600	177	2388	3165	1.0	220
81		200	37	21	142	1	0	0	1	.5	
83		137	5	0	132	0	0	1	1	.7	
91		161	12	1	148	0	0	0	0	.0	
92		137	9	3	125	0	0	0	0	.0	
93		230	6	4	220	0	0	0	0	.0	
94		125	0	0	125	0	0	0	0	.0	

CITY-WIDE TOTALS:

1,106,861 100,196 44,257 96,2408 2,630 1,517 7,090 11,237 1.0 823

Table 2*

New York City Public School Pupils Rated as to Ability to Speak
English

By Language Group - October 31, 1973

English Language Difficulty

<u>Language Group</u>	<u>Moderate English Language Diff.</u>		<u>Severe English Language Diff.</u>		<u>Fluent English Speaking</u>		<u>Total Group</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
Eng. Speaking	20,922	2.7	4,604	0.6	737,126	96.7	762,652	100.0
Puerto Rican	54,751	21.3	24,365	9.5	177,376	69.2	256,492	100.0
Other Sp. Sp'ing	11,443	28.3	8,354	20.6	20,719	51.1	40,516	100.0
Chinese	4,158	26.3	2,025	12.8	9,611	60.9	15,794	100.0
Italian	2,630	23.4	1,517	13.5	7,090	63.1	11,237	100.0
Greek	1,197	21.5	573	10.3	3,789	68.2	5,559	100.0
French	2,402	38.8	1,345	21.8	2,436	39.4	6,183	100.0
Other Language	2,693	31.9	1,474	17.5	4,261	50.6	8,428	100.0
TOTAL	100,196	9.1	44,257	4.0	962,408	86.9	1,106,861	100.0

* Board of Education of the City of New York, Educational Program Research and Statistics.

SCHOOLS CONTAINING 25 OR MORE ITALIAN-SPEAKING PUPILS WITH MODERATE
TO SEVERE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTY ALONE
(extracted from school by school survey, printout,
Bureau of Educational Program Research and
Statistics)

<u>BORO</u>	<u>DIST</u>	<u>LEV</u>	<u>SCHL</u>	<u>IT. SPKG.</u>			<u>TOT. IT. SPKG.</u>	<u>% OF TOT.REG.</u>	<u>TOT. REG.</u>	<u># IN IT. BILING.PROGS.</u>
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>				
2	10	1	32	77	45	169	291	17.0	1710	NONE
2	10	2	45	39	21	93	153	9.2	1668	70
3	14	1	132	16	31	53	100	10.3	975	30
3	14	2	126	15	16	16	47	3.4	1373	NONE
3	15	1	58	44	33	53	130	13.0	999	NONE
3	15	1	131	28	21	40	89	10.0	896	NONE
3	20	1	48	48	11	166	225	33.3	675	20
3	20	1	105	19	15	30	64	5.7	1120	NONE
3	20	1	112	73	7	17	97	30.1	422	20
3	20	1	176	32	44	73	149	15.1	1001	20
3	20	1	186	32	23	50	105	11.2	935	15
3	20	1	200	20	5	45	70	5.4	1298	NONE
3	20	1	205	25	13	102	140	17.3	811	NONE
3	20	2	201	17	14	11	42	2.9	1453	30
3	20	2	223	21	8	16	45	3.9	1159	NONE
3	20	2	227	31	31	96	158	10.6	1491	30
3	21	1	95	15	12	20	47	6.9	686	NONE
3	21	1	97	18	10	95	123	13.2	930	NONE
3	21	1	212	15	10	21	46	5.3	872	NONE
3	21	1	248	15	23	6	44	7.0	636	NONE
3	21	2	96	10	28	43	81	5.0	1611	NONE
3	21	2	228	15	15	5	35	2.1	1674	NONE
3	21	2	281	18	15	24	57	3.4	1670	60
4	24	1	14	10	17	88	115	7.9	1458	NONE
4	24	1	91	46	23	99	168	13.5	1243	NONE
4	24	2	93	28	6	46	80	5.8	1369	NONE
4	30	1	17	38	28	98	164	9.1	1794	NONE
4	30	1	70	31	19	117	167	11.2	1492	65
4	30	1	171	15	37	25	77	8.4	921	NONE
4	30	2	10	22	5	58	85	6.4	1322	NONE
4	30	2	126	14	18	14	46	4.2	1088	NONE
3	32	1	86	64	69	83	216	25.2	858	120

SCHOOLS CONTAINING 25 OR MORE.....contd.

<u>BORO</u>	<u>DIST</u>	<u>LEV</u>	<u>SCHL</u>	<u>IT. SPKG.</u>			<u>TOT. IT.SPKG.</u>	<u>% OF TOT.REG.</u>	<u>TOT. REG.</u>	<u># IN IT. BILING.PROGS.</u>
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>				
3	32	1	123	41	68	187	296	20.2	1515	60
3	32	1	145	13	20	0	33	1.9	1766	NONE
3	32	2	162	49	35	90	174	13.1	1333	NONE
2	78	4	415	36	2	37	75	2.1	3804	NONE
2	78	4	435	37	14	75	126	3.4	3760	NONE
3	78	4	400	38	5	95	138	3.1	4776	NONE
3	78	4	445	99	21	118	238	5.6	4246	C.220
3	78	4	460	36	8	104	148	2.8	5305	NONE
3	78	4	505	40	13	147	200	4.4	4587	NONE
4	78	4	450	28	12	89	129	4.4	2952	NONE
4	78	4	485	37	23	103	163	3.3	4980	NONE

High Schools: 415-Columbus, 435-T. Roosevelt, 400-Lafayette, 445-New Utrecht, 460-John Jay, 505-FDR, 450-L.I.City, 485-Cleveland

THE CONCLUSIONS:

I) THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN OF ITALIAN BACKGROUND WHO SPEAK ITALIAN AND WHO HAVE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES, DURING 1973-74. To be exact, there were 11,237 Italian-speaking pupils, and, if we keep in mind the ambiguity of Category 3 as explained above, there could be thousands more who do not speak Italian but who come from bilingual environments.

Of these 11,237, 2,630 had moderate English language difficulties, and 1,517 severe difficulties. Of the 11,237, 22 were in special schools, 3,165 were in high schools, with 2,709 in academic and 456 in vocational high schools. (There was a significantly low number of Italian-speaking youths in both the vocational high schools and in the special schools. We could not, of course, attribute this to any particular reason, whether social, academic or guidance-related, but it is an interesting point to ponder.)

Italian pupils with English language difficulties form the third largest ethnic group with language difficulties, according to the survey figures.

II) OF THOSE CHILDREN WITH AT LEAST MODERATE OR SEVERE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DIFFICULTY, VERY FEW WERE RECEIVING ADEQUATE BILINGUAL HELP IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Total numbers of children in Italian bilingual programs do not indicate whether these children were in categories 1, 2 or 3, or in some combination. Nevertheless, we can state simply that ONLY 823 OUT OF 11,237 ITALIAN-SPEAKING PUPILS WERE INVOLVED IN ITALIAN BILINGUAL PROGRAMS IN 1973-74! EVEN IF WE SPEAK OF CATEGORIES 1 AND 2 ALONE, 823 CHILDREN RECEIVING SERVICES OUT OF 4,147 WITH DIFFICULTIES IS A SHOCKING REVELATION! (N.B. Some schools in which Italian bilingual programs did exist had more children involved in their programs than the sum total of their categories 1 and 2.)

Of the 23 elementary schools throughout the City which contained 25 or more Italian-speaking students in categories 1 and 2 numbers of pupils without programs reached as high as 133 in one school!

Of the 12 junior high schools throughout the City which contained 25 or more Italian-speaking students in categories 1 and 2, 4 had any Italian bilingual program at all, and numbers of category 1 and 2 pupils in junior high schools without programs reached as high as 84 in one school!

Of the high schools which contained 25 or more Italian-speaking students in categories 1 and 2, only one, New Utrecht High School, was reported to have any kind of Italian bilingual program.

III) THERE IS TO DATE ABSOLUTELY NO ADEQUATE, VALID MEASURING INSTRUMENT FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING WITHIN NEW YORK CITY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

A) Numbers of Italian-surnamed students or students who identify themselves as Italian-American. (To date, although categories exist for other ethnic groups, Italian-American students are still classified as "Other" in the annual Board of Education Census Survey.)

B) Qualifications and ability of guidance counselors to meet the cultural needs of and to understand and break through linguistic barriers of Italian-American students and their parents.

C) Numbers of Italian-American students who drop out of school each year. (There has been no dropout survey in the City of New York for over ten years!)

NB.....A federal grant recently made available under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, has been awarded to four Brooklyn school districts who will share some \$1.3 million in federal funds to set up Italian bilingual programs during the 1974-75 school year. These are the first federal funds to be allocated for bilingual programs in Italian. The money will be allocated to districts 11, 20, 21, and 32, and developing programs should be watched for.

At the time of this printing, CIAO is deeply involved in negotiations with the Board of Education, concerning implementation of the ASPIRA decision for Italian pupils. Developments along these lines will be forthcoming.

CIAO: PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Troubled by the deteriorating social conditions in their communities, a group of concerned leaders of several Italian-American groups in the New York area joined together in 1965 to work on their problems. This initial group began a large organizational campaign, and during the next year and a half held meetings with representatives of more than ninety organizations. After many long meetings, a commitment was made to positive community action, and those organizations committed to this goal joined together formally as the Congress of Italian-American Organizations, incorporated under the laws of New York State in November, 1966.

CIAO's first headquarters was in the Sansone residence in Brooklyn. Mary Sansone, the first President of CIAO, devoted much of her time to the work of the organization. The appalling numbers of narcotics addicts, school dropouts, suffering old people, and new immigrants from Italy, disadvantaged by language handicaps and very limited resources, were all in desperate need of help. The Italian-American communities did not have the private resources to help their needy, so CIAO had to turn to government agencies for help. CIAO representatives lobbied in Washington, Albany, and New York City. They supplied news releases and feature stories to the mass media to publicize their crusade.

As a result of this persistent effort, CIAO earned the reputation of being an Italian-American organization whose sole purpose was constructive social action. Many new groups, attracted by the positive orientation of CIAO's work, formally affiliated themselves with the organization as CIAO chapters or as new member organizations. In 1971, CIAO received a special grant from the City of New York, and new headquarters were established in an office at 15 Park Row in the City Hall area. Mary Sansone became the full-time Executive Director and was assisted by four staff aides. Since then, CIAO has rendered a long list of services to Italian communities in this City.

The following are the most important of CIAO's activities, implying that there are several activities, community involvements, or outreach efforts which are too numerous to mention here.

I. Borough Park

CIAO has sponsored a multipurpose Center at 5901-13th Avenue, which has been operational since the early months of 1973. It houses a Day Care Program, which takes care of over 100 children, an After-School program accommodating over 40 children, a Family Day Care Program with over 73 pre-schoolers placed in provider mother homes, and a Senior Citizen Program with a registration of over 5,000 seniors! In addition to the on-going sponsoring and contacts with the Center, the following are activities of note initiated by CIAO:

- A. Summer Youth Program (1973 and 1974) Funded by the Youth Services Agency, this program serviced over 100 teenagers between the ages of 8 to 13. Activities included crafts, sports, trips, music, photography and sewing. The program was staffed by a licensed City teacher and other young adults from the community.
- B. YSA Special Afternoon Program (December 1973 to June 1974) Operating four afternoons a week from 3:30 to 5 p.m., and staffed by a licensed City teacher volunteer from the community, the focus of this program was on crafts and skills, especially the visual arts.
- C. Evening Adult Courses Through the initiative and sponsorship of CIAO, the Board of Education has set up evening courses in High School Equivalency and English as a Second Language in the CIAO 59th Street Center. CIAO conducted the community survey outreach campaign, orientation, follow-up checks, and set-up of the courses which were open to members of the surrounding communities.
- D. CIAO Art League Exhibits Under the sponsorship of the CIAO Art League, the 59th Street Center became the site of two Art exhibits, open free of charge to the community at large. Paintings, sculpture, drawings and photography of upcoming community artists were exhibited.
- E. New York City Community College Adult Education Program Through the sponsorship of CIAO, Adult courses in Italian, taught by Community College teachers, were offered to the seniors at the 59th Street Center.
- F. Health Testing for Community Residents Under the sponsorship of CIAO, at least two health testing programs were conducted at the 59th Street Center, with the cooperation of community health personnel

such as those from Maimonides and Lutheran Medical Centers. Senior citizens received special testing, and American Cancer Society testing was also offered to the community.

- G. Community Drug Program Outreach Under the sponsorship of CIAO, communications were set up with Brooklyn neighborhood drug prevention and treatment centers, and the question of cooperation and an information and referrals system was explored. Feedback since the initial February 1974 meeting indicates a very good possibility for the establishment of CIAO input and referral output along these lines.
- H. Performing Arts Brought to Community CIAO initiated and sponsored theatre performances by private companies such as "Theatre in a Trunk" and the "People's Performing Company." Performances were held at the CIAO 59th Street Center, and likewise at the CIAO Court Street Day Care Center.

II. South Brooklyn

- A. CIAO Court Street Day Care Center This second CIAO-sponsored community day care center, located at 292 Court Street, began regular classes in July 1973. It services over 76 preschool children through its day care program which, like the 59th Street program, prepares children for grade level 1.

This Center also houses an After-School Program which services over 40 children between the ages of 6 and 12.

- B. Adult Evening Courses As was the case at the 59th Street Center, CIAO staff initiated, and CIAO sponsors Board of Education courses in High School Equivalency and English as a Second Language. They are conducted in the evenings at the Court Street Center. As at 59th Street, CIAO staff conducted surveys and pre-registration to determine community need, and handled the set-up of the classes together with the Board of Education personnel.

III. Little Italy

- A. Multipurpose Center Funded Under the auspices of CIAO, a multipurpose Center will be located at 180 Mott Street. The renovation of the building at 180 Mott Street has begun. The building will house day care, after-school and senior citizen programs.

- B. Temporary Senior Citizen Center Located at 264 Mulberry Street in the basement of St. Patrick's old Cathedral, the temporary CIAO Senior Center Services 70 seniors per day. The Center opened its doors in November of 1973, and its program includes a hot lunch, crafts, special events, trips and movies-- a whole range of senior activities.

As with all its community programs, CIAO has initiated the formation of a Community Advisory Board for seniors.

- IV. Technical Aid For at least all of the following groups, CIAO acted as either technical advisor, helping with the organization of goals and writing of proposals, or as mediator, advisor, disseminator of information, referral agency, etc.:

- A. Corona Block Association
- B. Rosebank, S.I. parent group
- C. Ozone Park community group
- D. Italo-American Student Union at Brooklyn College
- E. Polish-American Center for Urban Affairs
- F. Polish and Slavic Center Inc.
- G. Catholic Charities Bensonhurst Human Service Center
- H. Catholic Migration Offices, Brooklyn & Queens
- I. Jewish Anti-Defamation League-Unrest in Borough Park
- J. Park Slope - Black population unrest.

V. Higher Education

- A. Italian-American Studies Center at Brooklyn College Through the initiation of CIAO, a special grant from HRA made possible the establishment of this Center, the first of its kind at Brooklyn College. Through the Center, awareness of Italian-American studies is fostered and courses are initiated.
- B. SEEK and College Discovery Advisory Board Mary Sansone, as Executive Director of CIAO, takes an active role in this Board which oversees the City University's SEEK and CD financial aid programs.
- C. Higher Education Opportunity Program A CIAO representative participates in recruitment activities for this program at Long Island University.

- IV. Education-Elementary and Secondary CIAO continues its commitment to Italian students throughout the City, and to better quality education for all children. CIAO's contributions to education include, among others:

- A. Internships-Through its community centers, CIAO provides internship programs for high school and

college students who wish to supplement their class work with community involvement.

- B. Project Comeback-During the Fall of 1973, CIAO's staff participated in "Project Comeback", an out-reach program to encourage high school dropouts to continue their education. The program was sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance of the New York City Board of Education.
 - C. Ad Hoc Committee on the Guidance Needs of Italian-American Students-Initiated by CIAO together with the Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance of the Board of Education, this committee, in which CIAO has significant membership, serves as an advisory body to the Chancellor of the Board of Education. (February, 1974)
 - D. United Federation of Teachers Italian Research Committee CIAO holds membership in this Committee whose activities have included the writing of teacher materials on Italian ethnic studies, the participation in other educational committees for the benefit of ethnic education, and the initiation of the first UFT Italian studies Curriculum Guide.
 - E. UFT Book Exhibit - CIAO staff participated in the annual City-wide exhibit, contributing a display of the wide range of Italian-American-based cultural, literary and educational materials. CIAO staff also formulated bibliographies, collected library bibliographies, and disseminated copies of the same at the exhibit. (March, 1974)
 - F. Public Education Association - CIAO participates in the discussions and activities of this group which provides an exchange of ideas among educators from various ethnic groups.
- VII. Employment - CIAO provides community members with referral services to agencies, known job openings, and placement advertised through the Youth Services Agency bulletins and other City, State or Federal bulletins.
- VIII. Demographic Studies - CIAO staff has completed and is continuing further statistical research, map plotting, and statistical analysis on at least all of the following topics:
- A. Italian-American population distribution in the City of New York according to generation and Census tracts.
 - B. Poverty Area studies in relation to the City's Italian-Americans
 - C. Italian-American student population in New York City's public schools
 - D. Italian-American family income
 - E. Ratio of specific educational programs such as

bilingual programs for Italian-Americans/Italian-American student need

IX. Social Services Counseling

- A. CIAO's main office has provided a complete range of social services counseling with referral to and interaction with outreach social workers in CIAO centers.
- B. CIAO's Community Service Agency in Borough Park provides a full range of services such as family welfare and social services counseling, referral to government and private services, medicare, employment, and attorneys; development of community programs according to need; and cooperation with and augmentation of existing community services.

X. Legal - CIAO's attorney offers both legal advice and referral services to any low-income City resident. To date legal services for community people coming to CIAO have included such areas of law as immigration, landlord and tenant disputes, criminal law, pension rights, social security, marital matters, child maintenance, wrongful death, real property, veterans' rights, welfare, workman's compensation, decedent's estate, and evaluation of Italian-American student needs in public schools.

XI. Participation in Other-Group Activities - CIAO's participation and cooperation with other groups of various ethnic, racial, religious, educational or social or cultural affiliations, is based on CIAO's concern for intergroup cooperation, good will and the value of working together on common issues. CIAO's membership in and/or cooperation with committees, boards, and groups such as the following testify to CIAO's involvement and concern:

A. New York City level:

1. Mayor's Manpower Task Force, Advisory Board
2. Alliance for a Safer New York, Executive Board
3. New York City Council Against Poverty
4. New York Center for Ethnic Affairs
5. New York City Consumer Affairs Bureau
6. Maimonides Community Mental Health Center
7. WNYC, "The Sixth Age" - TV interview: Mary Sansone, Alice Brophy
8. A. Philip Randolph Institute - CIAO together with this Institute sponsored a May, 1974 Symposium on "Alternatives to Quotas". The Symposium was open to the entire City Community and featured as panelists, Anthony Pirrotti, CIAO attorney, Albert Shanker, UFT President, and representatives from the NAACP and Jewish and Puerto Rican groups.

9. Museums Collaborative, Inc.
10. Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies
11. Brooklyn Arts and Cultural Association (BACA)

B. New York State level:

1. New York State Bureau of Consumer Affairs, Consumer Self-Help Programs
2. Work in Albany to promote funds for seniors and day care
3. N.Y. State Board of Education
4. N.Y. State Women's Unit for the Governor

C. National level:

1. National Council of Senior Citizens, State and National Boards
2. National Council of Tax Reform, Advisory Board
3. Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Executive Board
4. National Conference on Social Welfare
5. National Center for Urban-Ethnic Affairs
6. National Project on Ethnic America
7. American Jewish Congress
8. National Conference of Christians and Jews
9. Work in Washington to promote funds for seniors and day care
10. Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

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