into question the accuracy of the calculated averages. Data reported to SPARCS is not date-specific; ED visits for asthma are reported for an entire year, making direct comparison between specific air quality events and ED visits for asthma. Similar patterns appear in Brooklyn and Queens. During the same time period (2008 - 2010), the New York Department of Environmental Conservation maintained 12 air quality monitoring sites that, recently, SPARCS data on Emergency Department visits for asthma (2008 - 2010) reveal that the boroughs of the Bronx and Manhattan have much higher rates of asthma incidence (408.6 and 303.6 per 10,000, respectively). The City's asthma incidence rate is 60% higher than New York State’s, specific boroughs (and neighborhoods within those boroughs) are the drivers of this elevated rate. This research project was initially inspired by my New York City public high school students, a disproportionate number of whom have asthma. Evidence -- both anecdotal and research-based -- indicates that, while New York City has a high asthma prevalence rate, this is not a single “hotspot.” This work was supported by the Long-term Engagement in Authentic Research with NASA (LEARN) project with funding support provided by NASA (90-G2032) and EPA (68-C2-0350). Thanks to Daniel Andronico (Pan American International High School @ Monroe) for suggesting New York City’s asthma rates, and Pat Andronico for providing me with a background in New York City's air quality.