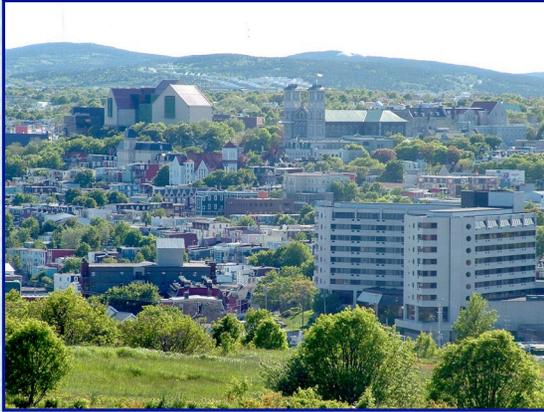# Spanish influenza on the island of Newfoundland

Data sources

- Death records for 1918-1920 from the provincial archives ("The Rooms")
  - Name, date of death, place of death, cause of death, birth date, birth place, sex, age, etc.
  - 1229 flu deaths, 825 deaths from pneumonia and related conditions
- Hospital records from the Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital in St. Anthony
- In-depth interviews with residents from throughout the island
- Census data and other vital statistics
- Records of international shipping
- Newspaper accounts of the epidemic
- Government correspondence and other miscellaneous information

Epidemic curve

Flu + pneumonia deaths — 1918-1920
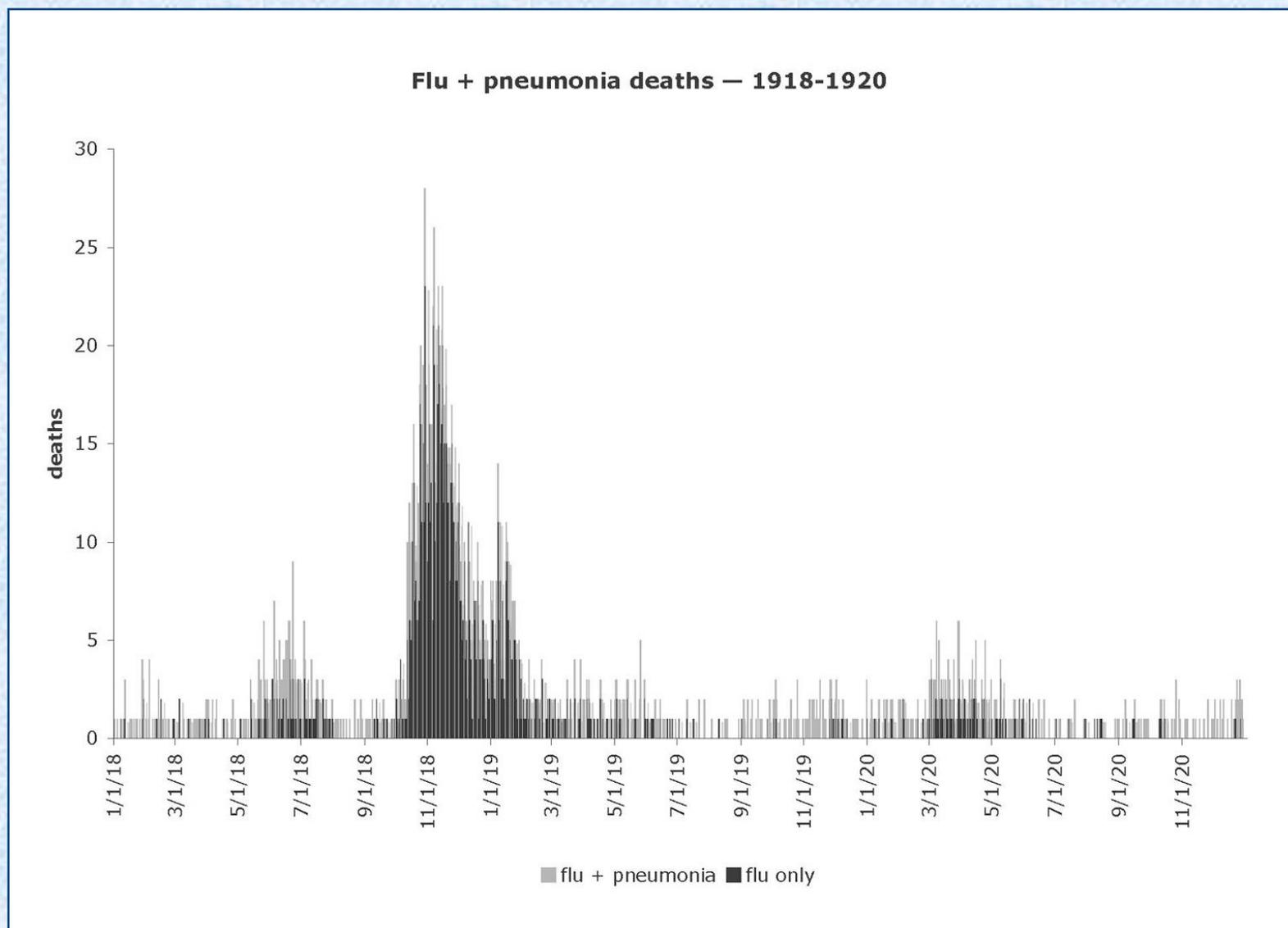
Flu and pneumonia death rates (per 10000 population)
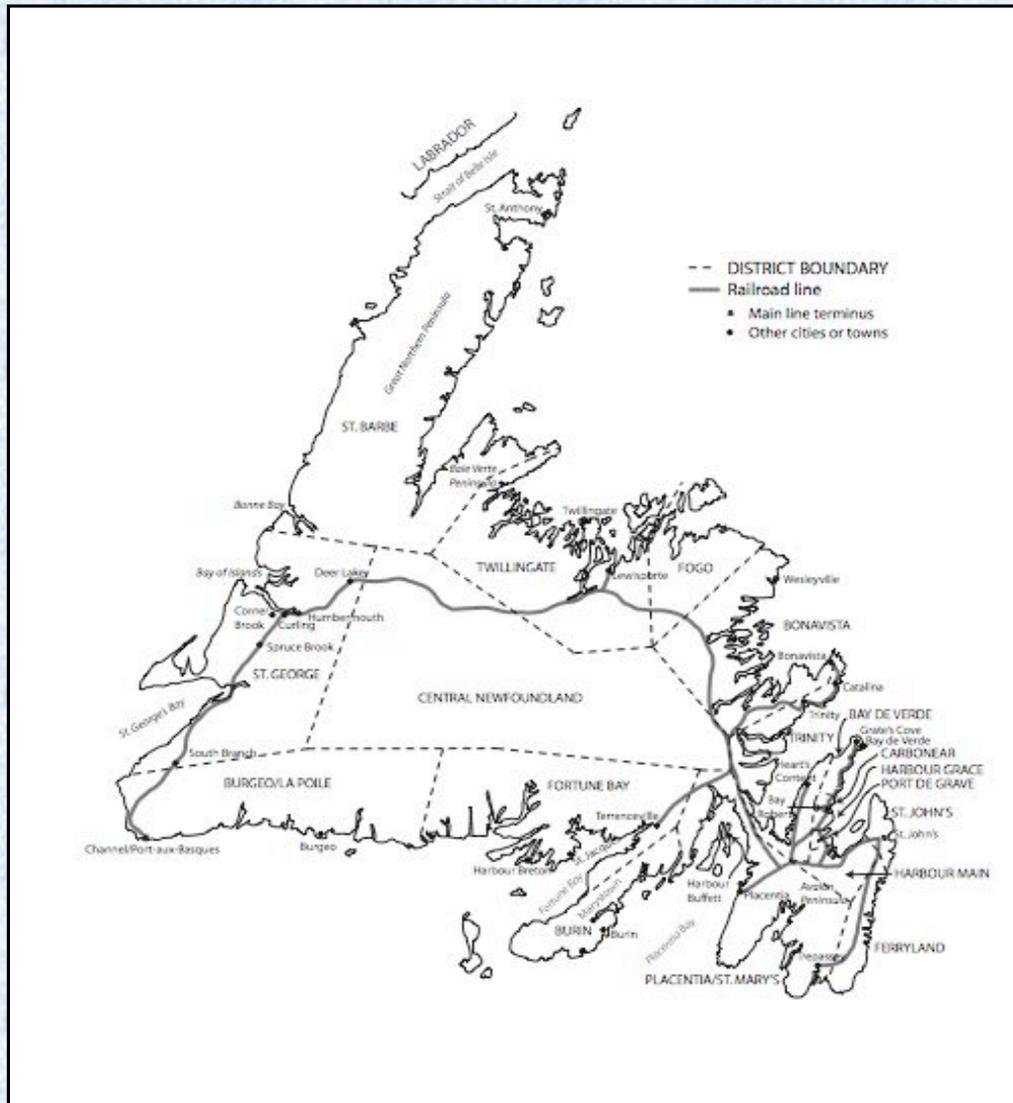
District	Wave I death rate	Wave II death rate
Bay de Verde	9.79	62.67
Bonavista	9.17	43.68
Burgeo	17.96	11.55
Burin	14.63	38.74
Carbonear	3.91	37.15
Ferryland	3.45	24.17
Fogo	1.21	39.97
Fortune Bay	16.02	93.10
Harbour Grace	8.39	40.25
Harbour Main	2.11	21.12
Placentia	3.73	77.64
Port de Grave	7.16	20.04
St. Barbe	5.72	37.21
St. George	8.43	85.15
St. John's	6.35	49.25
Trinity	12.85	43.60
Twillingate	5.29	59.46

Number of Deaths in Month 10
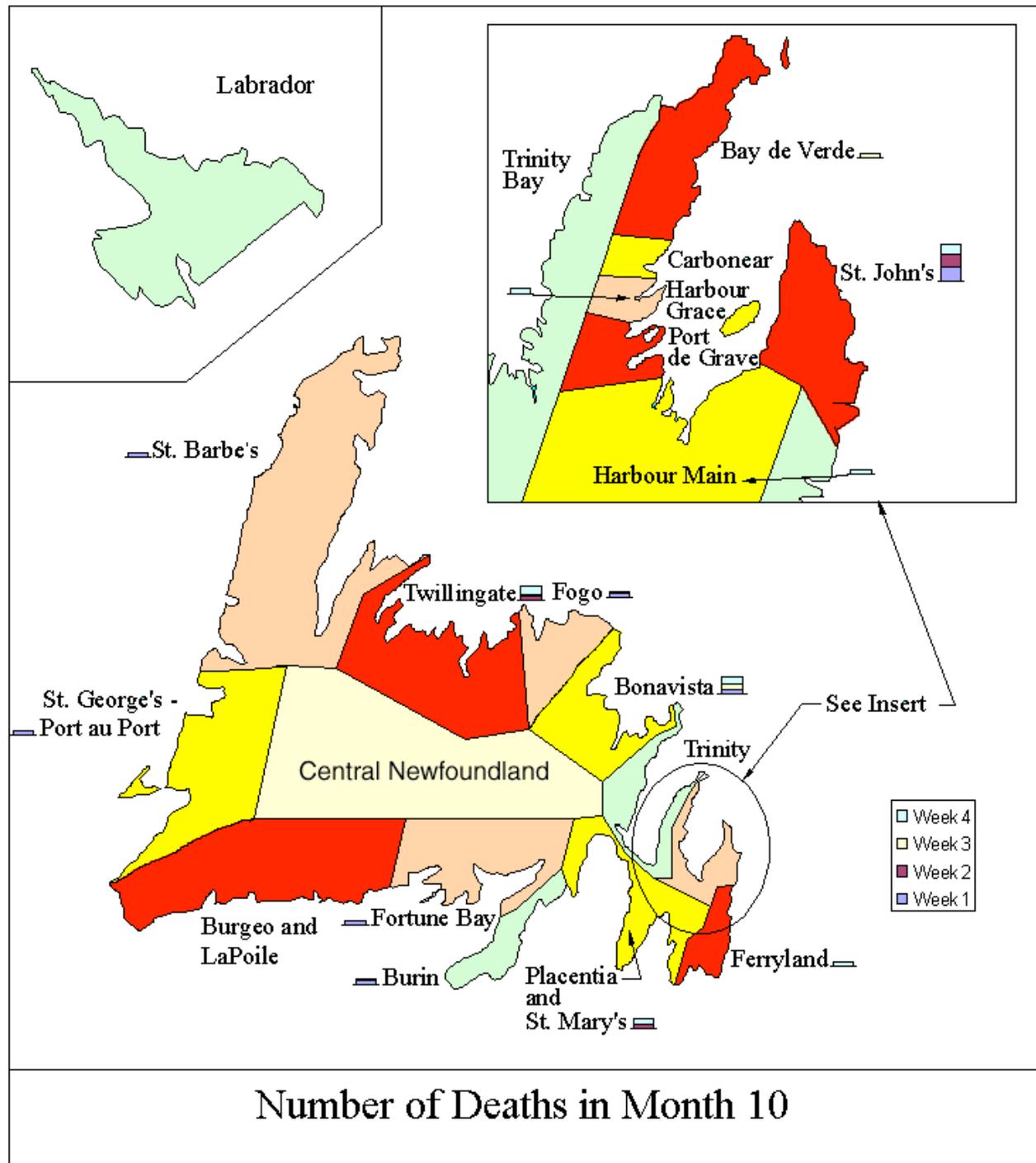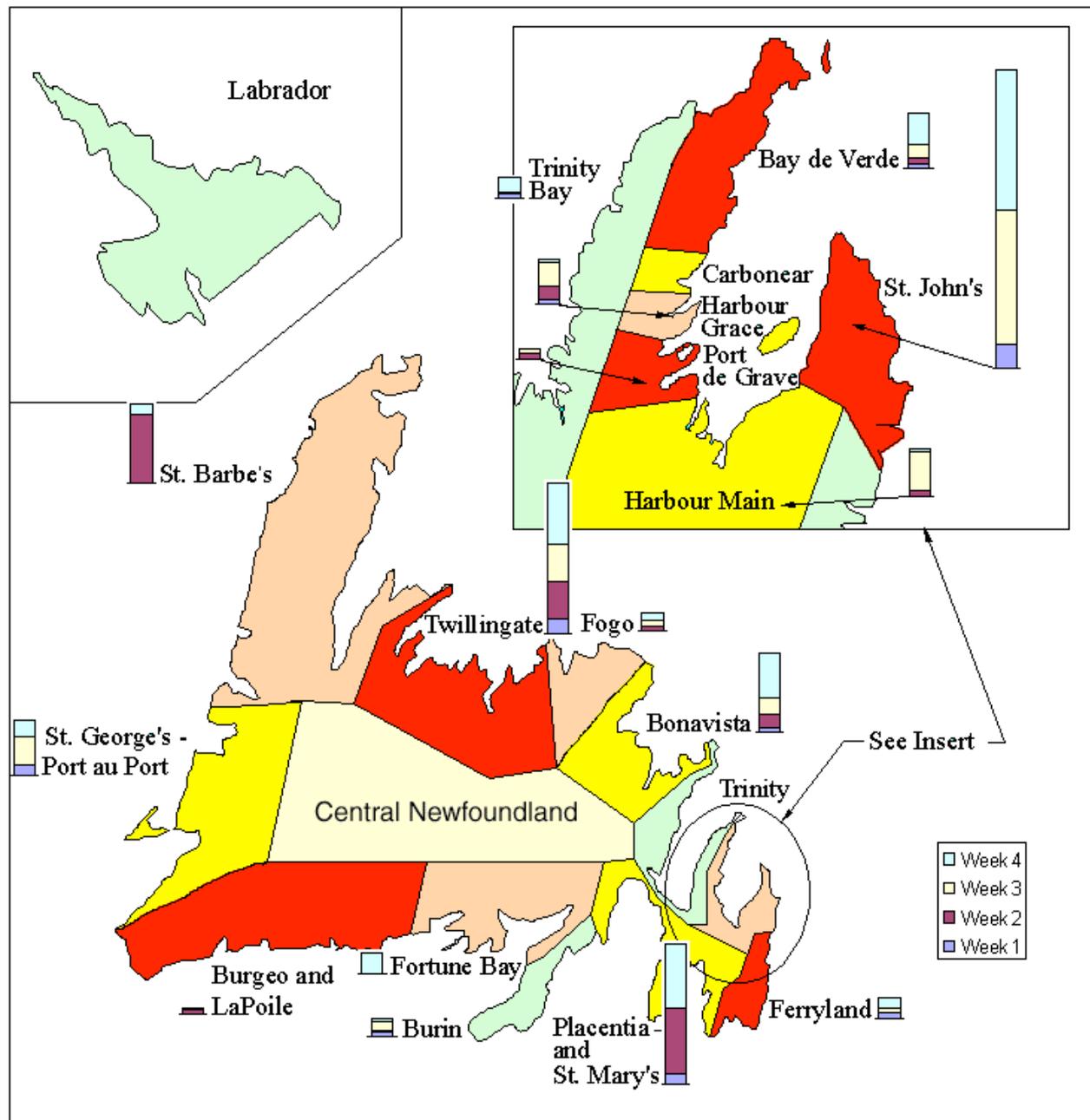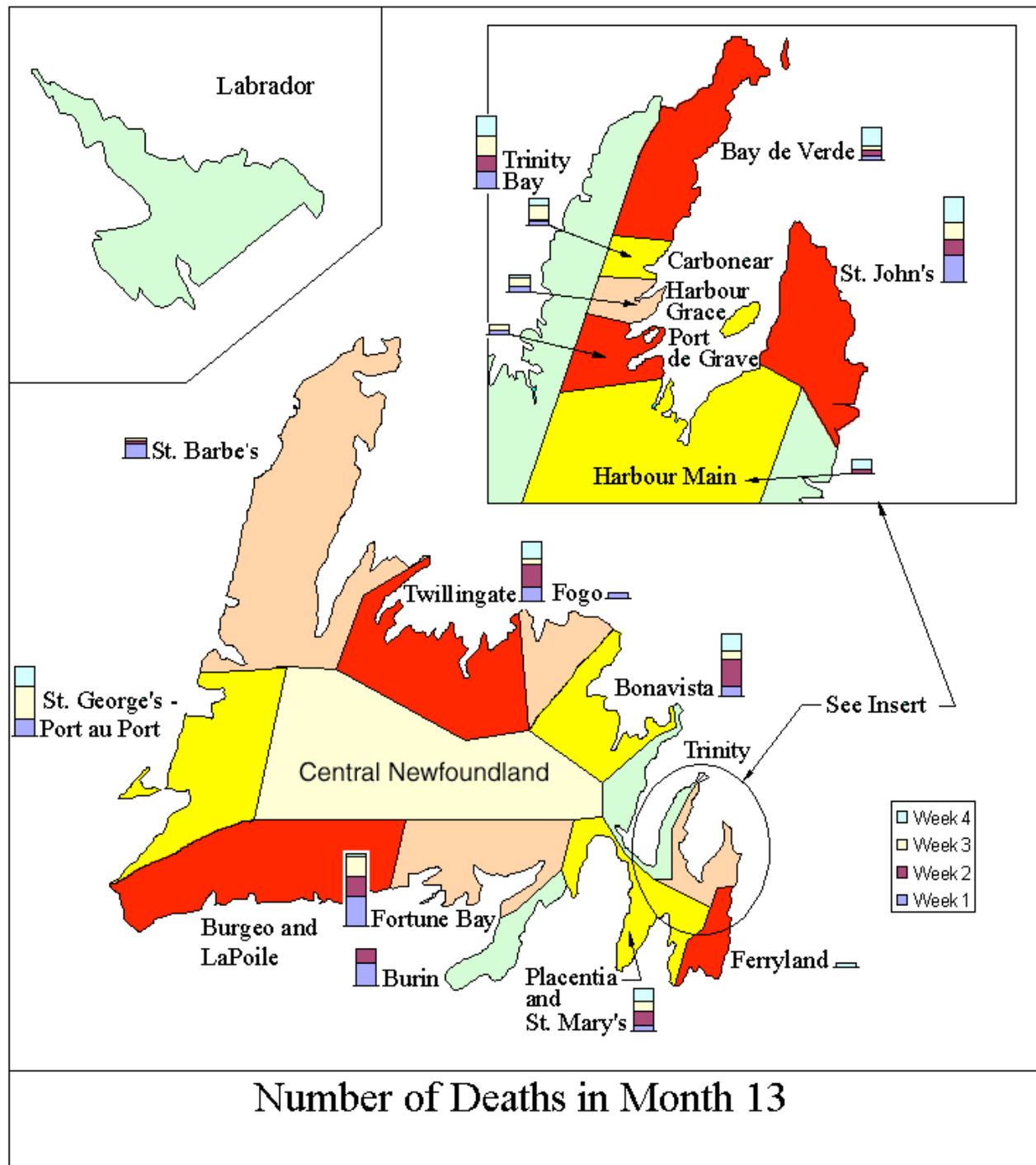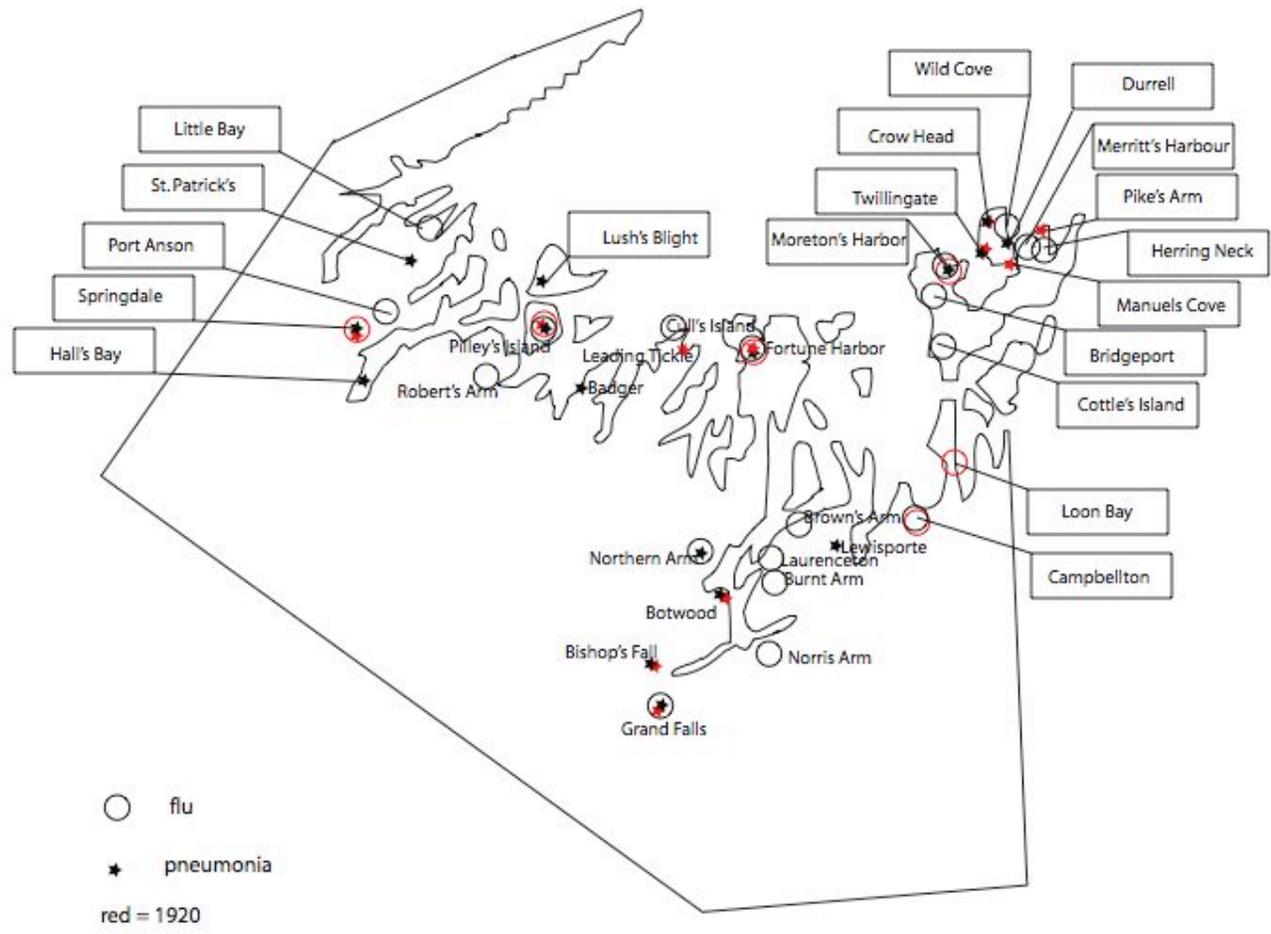
Number of Deaths in Month 11
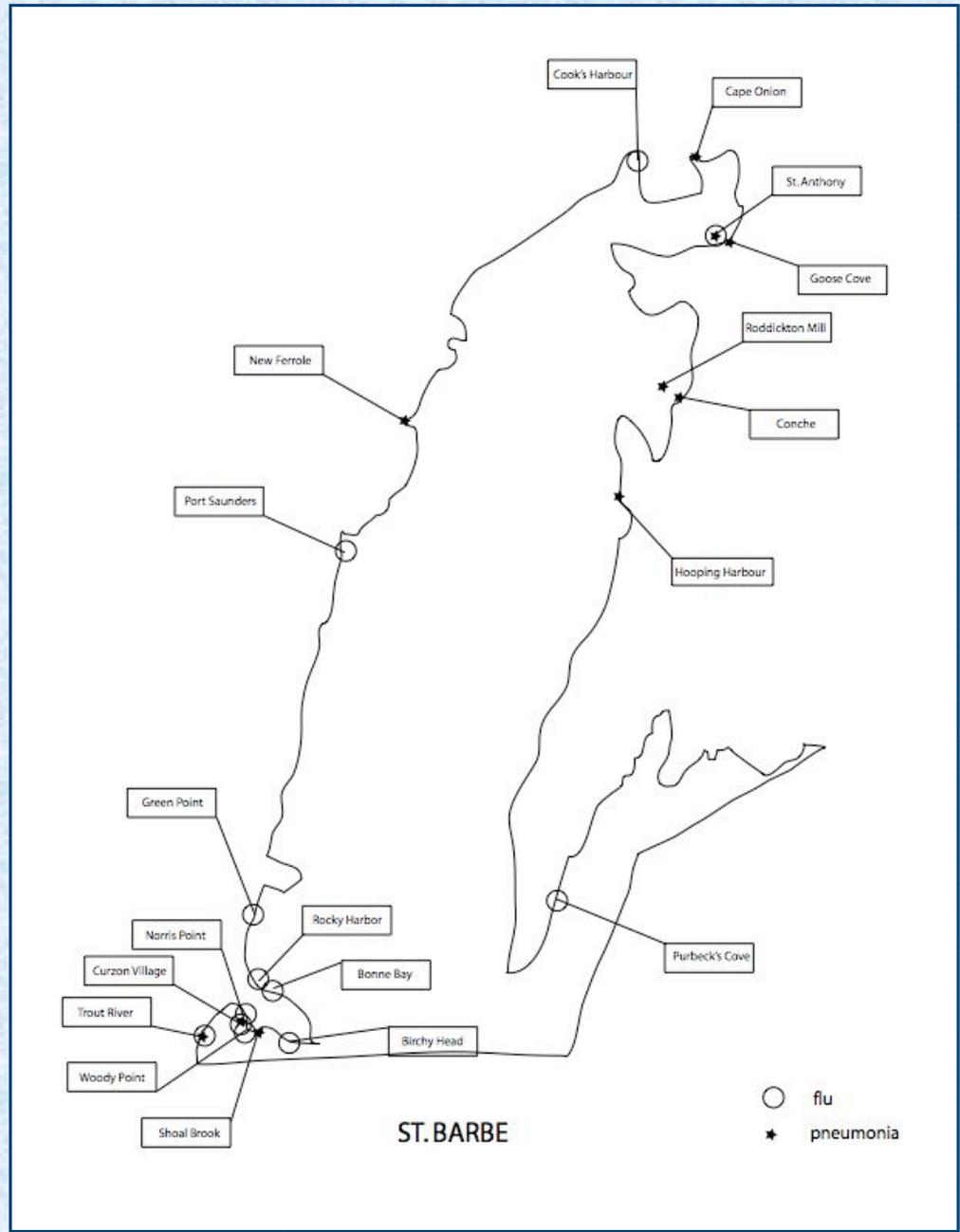
Number of Deaths in Month 12
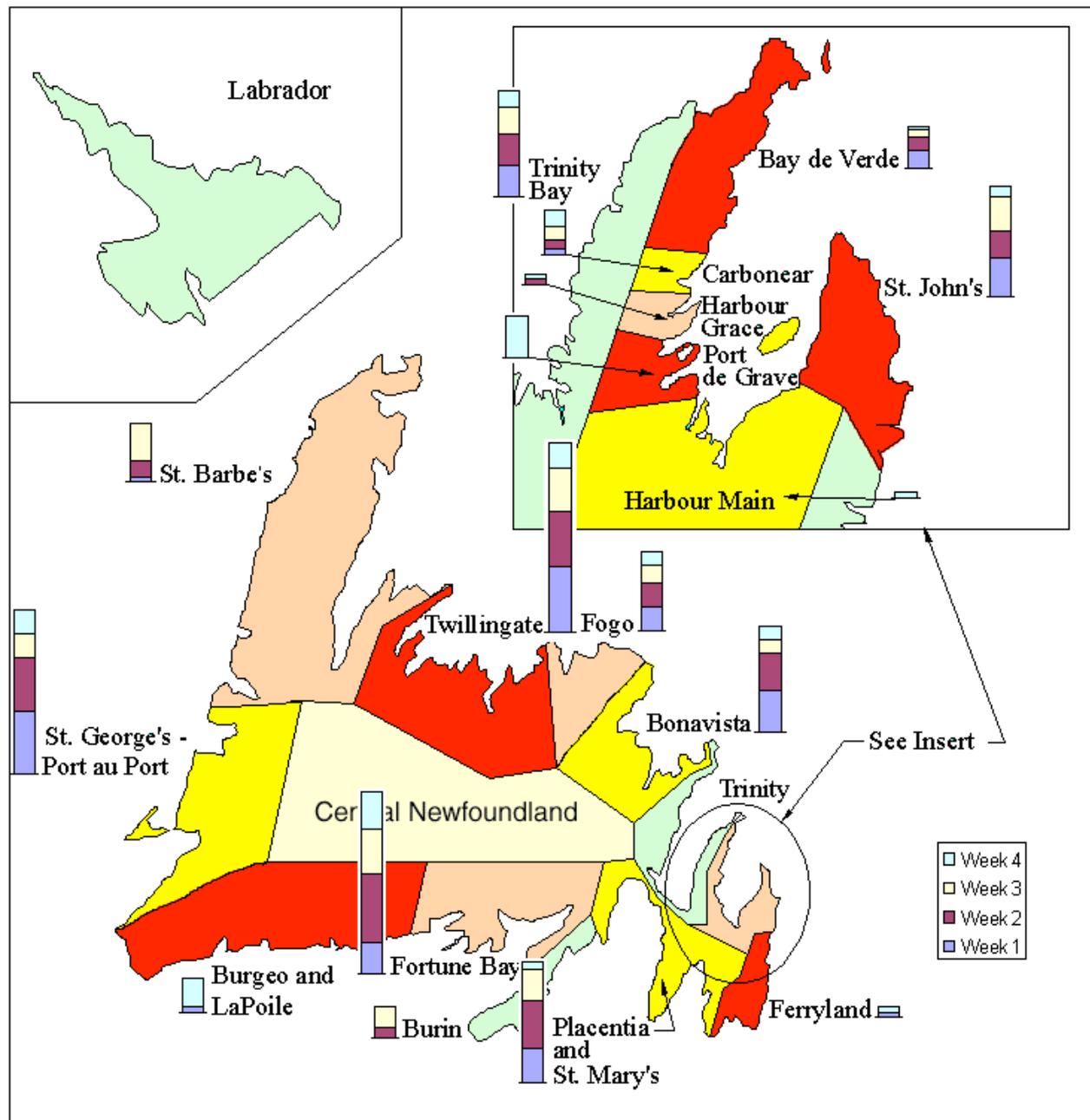
Number of Deaths in Month 13

TWILLINGATE

ST. BARBE

Issues to ponder

1. Questions that can be addressed with data such as these
   - Understanding causes of island-wide patterns
   - Understanding how and why regional variability occurs
   - Others?
2. Kinds of modeling approaches that would work best with such data
   - Issues of geographic scale
   - Availability of contact data

Ultimately plan to record data on other epidemics and do some longer term demographic and epidemiological modeling