

# L8

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## Design for Maps II

Data & map types,  
classifying/representing data,  
color optimization

# Data types

When we think about 'data' we can think of it in the following ways...

- By **dimension**—point, line, area, volume (text)
- By *continuity*—discrete versus continuous
- By level—nominal, ordinal, interval, ratio (i.e. the Stevens Scale)

# Data types

When we think about 'data' we can think of it in the following ways...

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Most all data will require classification and normalization prior to representation (i.e. mapping)

→ E.g. Collect data at points, count the # of points in polygon, normalize by area, then classify for representation in a choropleth map

# Data types/map types matrix

Data Types				
	Point	Line	Area	Volume
Nominal	City	Road	Name of unit	Precipitation or soil type
Ordinal	Large City	Major Road	Rich county	Heavy precipitation, good soil
Interval	Total Population	Traffic flow	Per capita income	Precipitation in mm, cation exchange
Ratio				

Map Types				
	Point	Line	Area	Volume
Nominal	Dot map	Network map	Colored area map	Freely colored map
Ordinal	Symbol map	Ordered network map	Ordered colored map	Ordered chromatic map
Interval	Graduated symbol map	Flow map	Choropleth map	Contour map
Ratio				

# Discrete vs Continuous

## Discrete

- Much geographic data relates to specific points, lines, and/or polygons (i.e. areas)
- Discrete data assumes a uniform distribution of data values within and different among the aggregation units
- Units, especially in the case of areas, are often merely the way the data is aggregated (e.g. counties, census tracts, etc.)

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**Q: What's the most common map type for visualizing discrete data?**

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**Choropleths!**

# Discrete vs Continuous

**Choropleth** >> from the Greek

**Chóros (space/area/region) + Plíthos (multitude/many) = 'many regions'**



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## **Choropleth** >> from the Greek

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...a thematic map in which areas are shaded or patterned in proportion to the measurement of the statistical variable being displayed on the map, such as population density or *per-capita income*

# Discrete vs Continuous

## **Choropleth** >> from the Greek

**Chóros (space/area/region) + Plíthos (multitude/many) = 'many regions'**

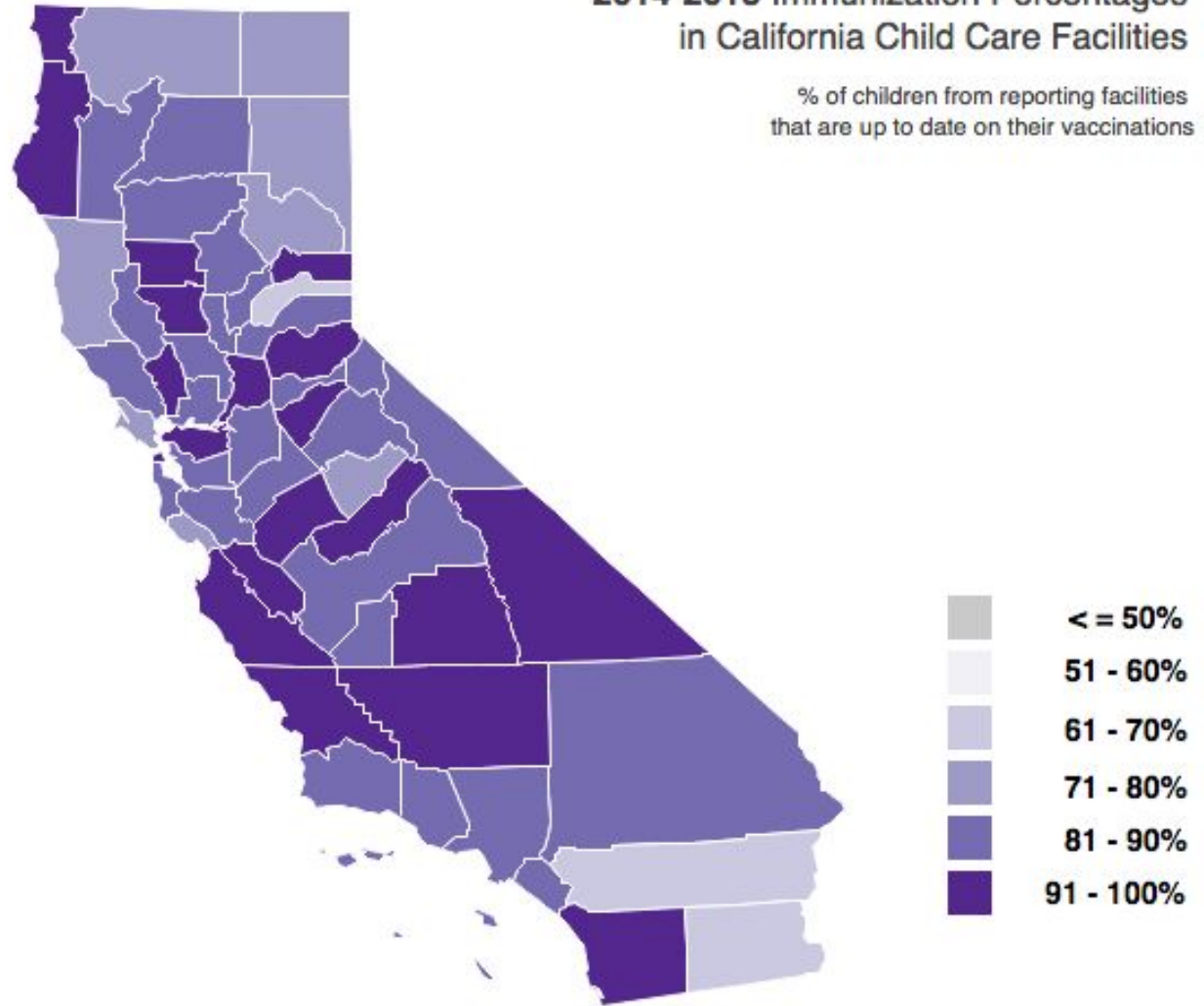
...a thematic map in which areas are shaded or patterned in proportion to the measurement of the statistical variable being displayed on the map, such as population density or *per-capita income*

...provide an easy way to visualize how a measurement varies across a geographic area or show the level of variability within a region

# Discrete vs Continuous

## 2014-2015 Immunization Percentages in California Child Care Facilities

% of children from reporting facilities  
that are up to date on their vaccinations



Source: CA Dept of Public Health

Powered by ZingChart

# Select Demographic Variables for New Haven, CT

## DATA SOURCES

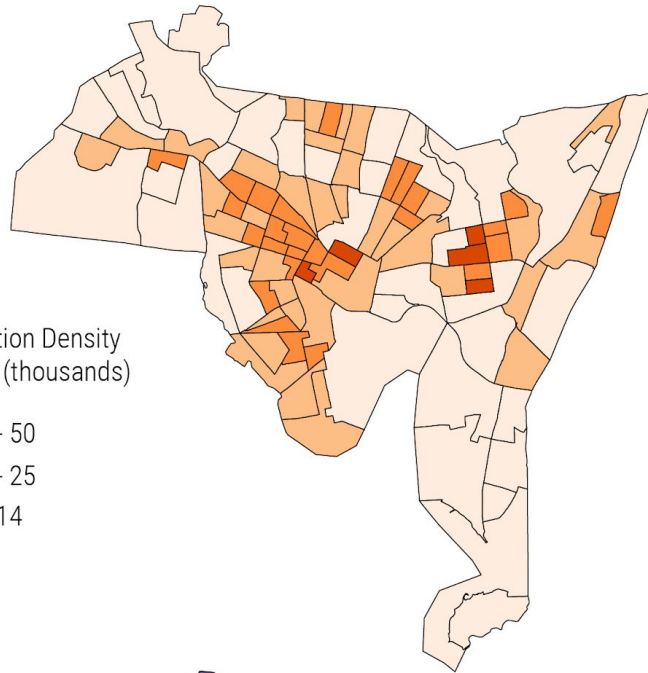
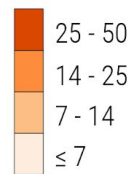
United States Census Bureau, [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

- Population density and percent minority\* derived from 2015 ACS 5-year estimates, Table B03002, "Hispanic or Latino by Origin".
- Female householders with related children derived from 2010 ACS 5-year estimates, table QT-P11, "Households and Families: 2010".
- New Haven Census block groups derived from the 2010 TIGER/Line shapefiles dataset.

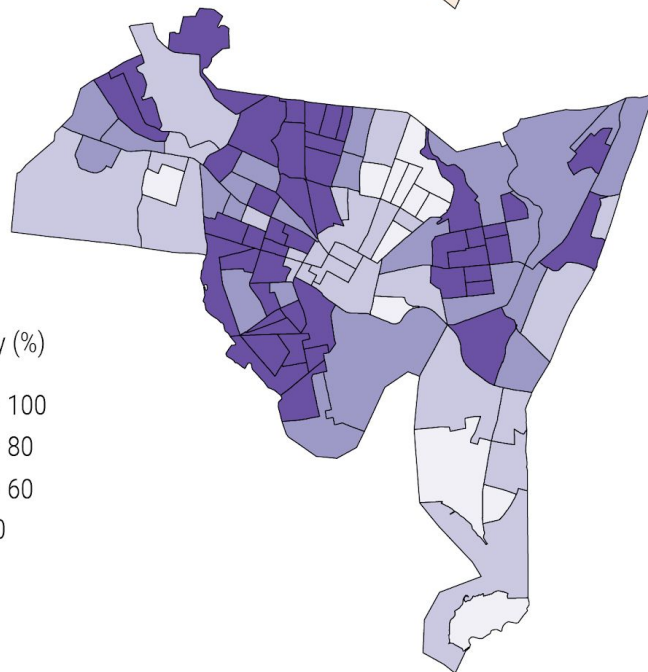
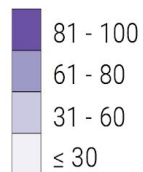
\*for the purposes of this study, percent minority is conceived of as being equal to the total population minus the non-hispanic white population.

Figures prepared by Adam Jessup and Juliana Maantay, Urban GISc Lab, Lehman College, City University of New York 12.20.2016.

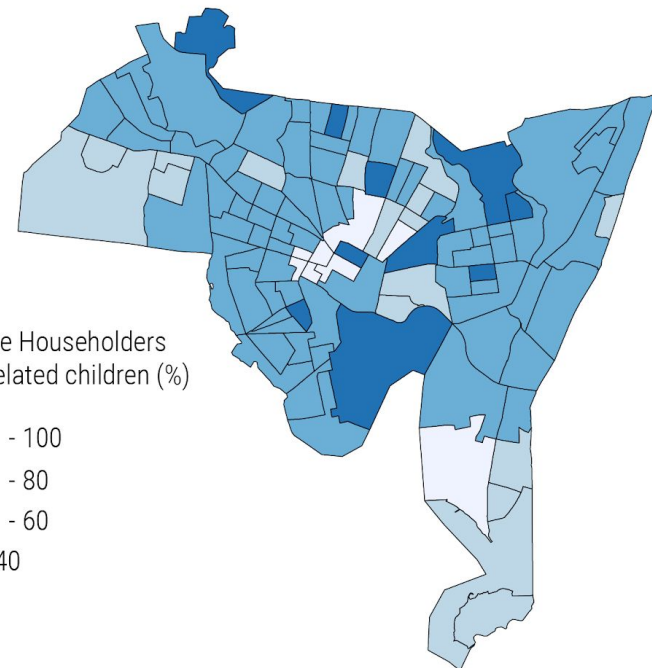
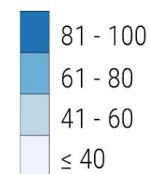
Population Density per mi<sup>2</sup> (thousands)



Minority (%)



Female Householders with related children (%)



2 miles

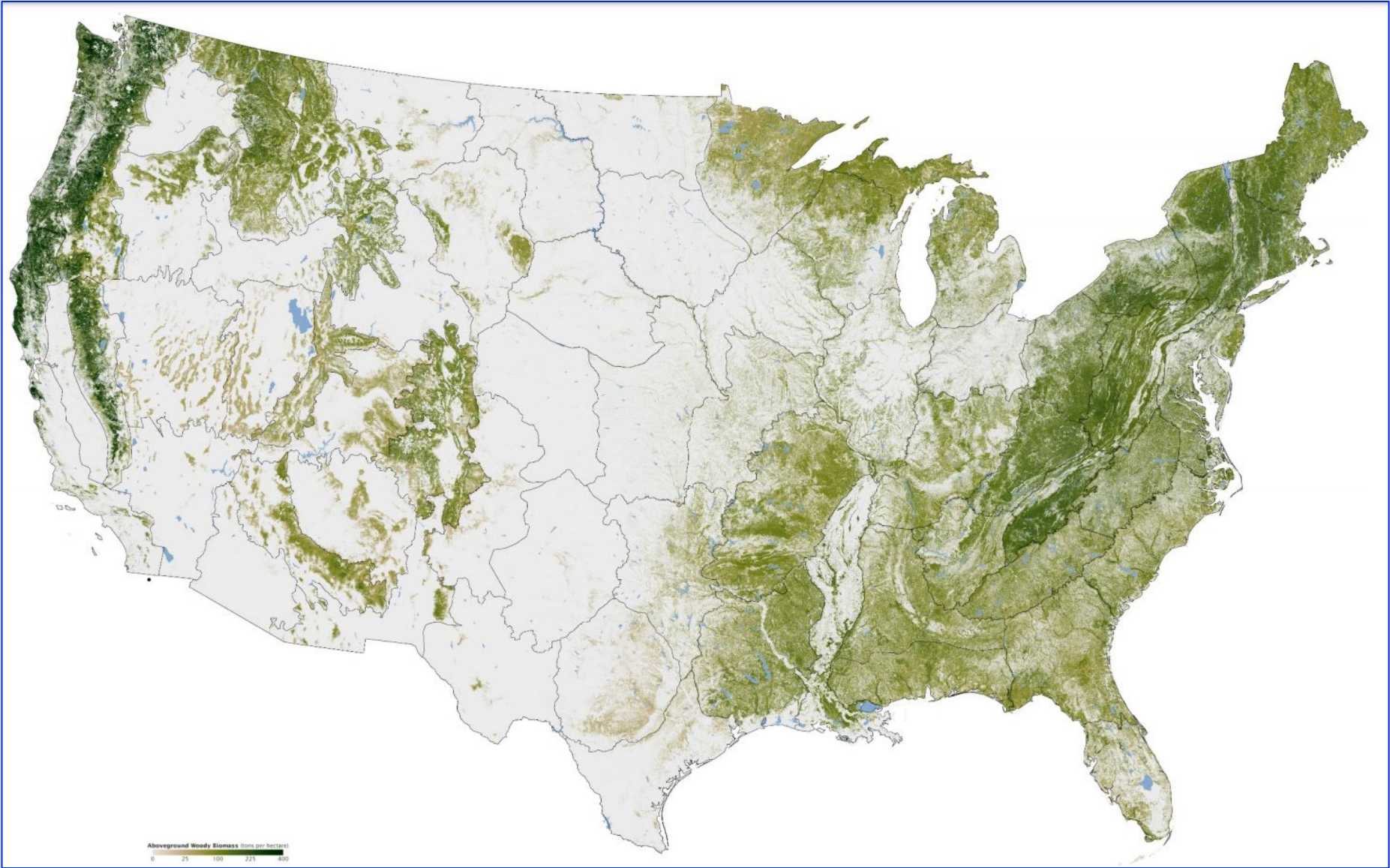


# Discrete vs Continuous

## Continuous

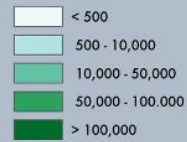
- Some geographic variables are measurable anywhere in space (e.g. air temperature/pressure)
- Creates a 'surface' or 'field'
- Can be visualized like topography (i.e. isolines and other terrain representation methods)
- Isolines often favored for sake of simplicity

# Biomass in tons/hectare (2000)



# NZ Population Distribution

2013 Census Resident Population



# Data levels or levels of measurement

**Q:** Does quantitative data have 'levels' of measurement?





# Data levels or levels of measurement

**Q:** Does quantitative data have 'levels' of measurement?  
**Indeed! (see slide #2)**

**From Stanley Smith Stevens (1946)**

- **Nominal**
  - Has name or class only
- **Ordinal**
  - Has rank only
- **Ratio**
  - Has value on scale w/ absolute zero (e.g. Kelvin)
- **Interval**
  - Has value on arbitrary scale (e.g. Fahrenheit)






# Nominal data and map types

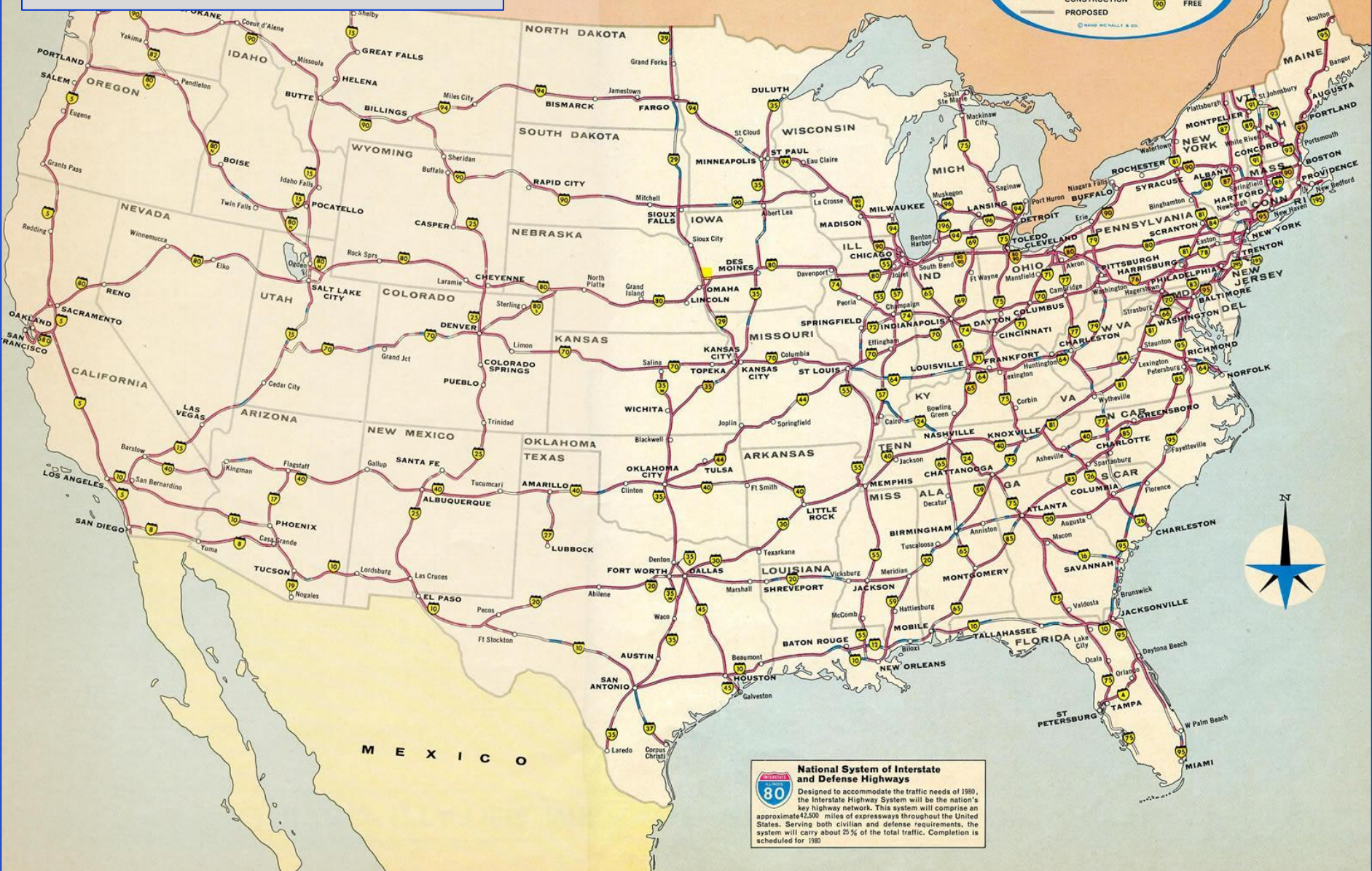
- Relates to or existence of a class
- Importance of place names and legends
- Cartographic methods
  - **Point**—labels at at locations
  - **Lines**—network shown w/ symbols
  - **Areas** (polygon)—classes shown by color and pattern
- At the simplest data level, no real quantitative analysis possible

# Line nominal map


**UNITED STATES  
INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS**

	COMPLETE		TOLL
	UNDER CONSTRUCTION		FREE
	PROPOSED		

© RAND McNALLY & CO.

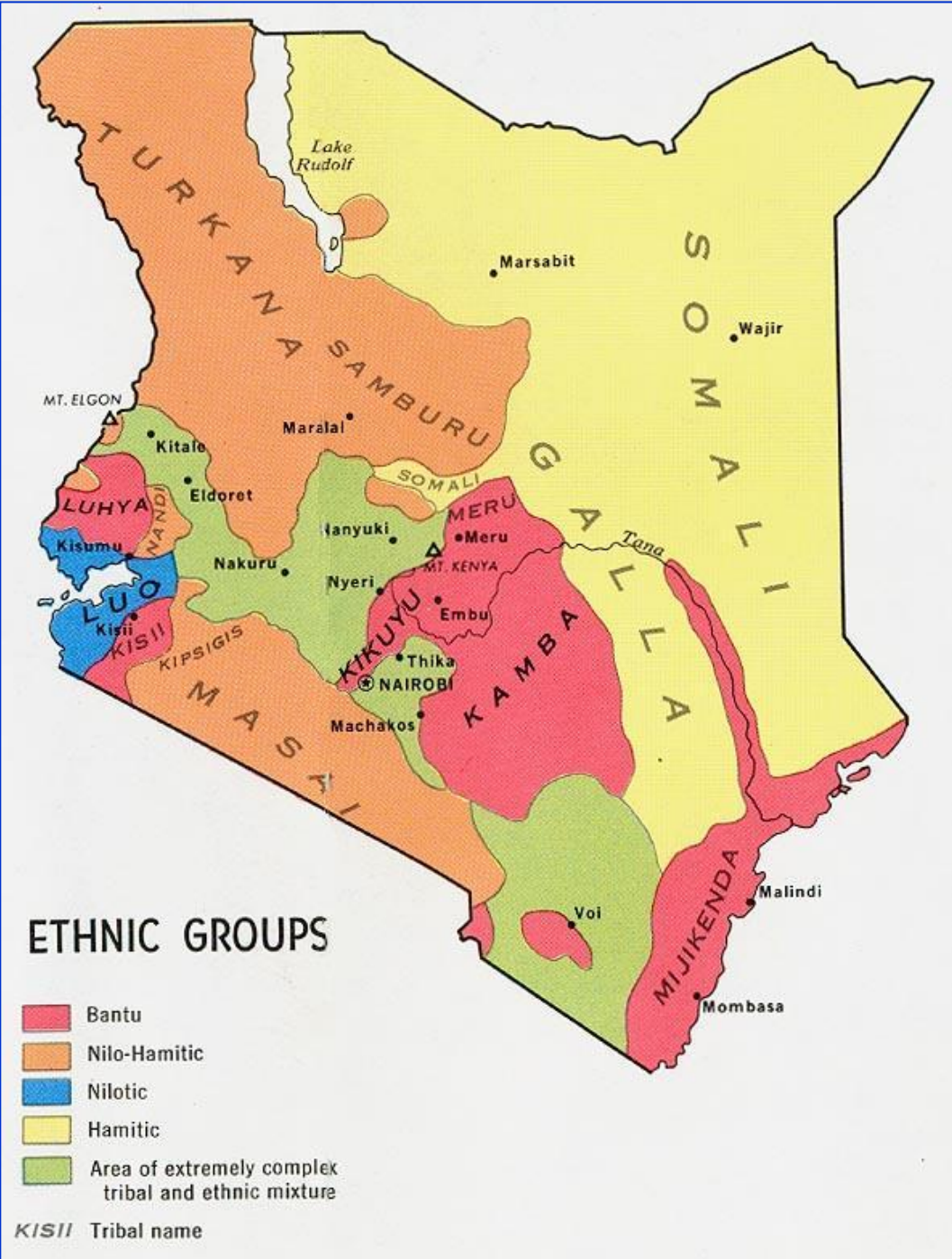


**National System of Interstate and Defense Highways**

 80

Designed to accommodate the traffic needs of 1980, the Interstate Highway System will be the nation's key highway network. This system will comprise an approximate 42,500 miles of expressways throughout the United States. Serving both civilian and defense requirements, the system will carry about 25% of the total traffic. Completion is scheduled for 1980.

# Nominal area map

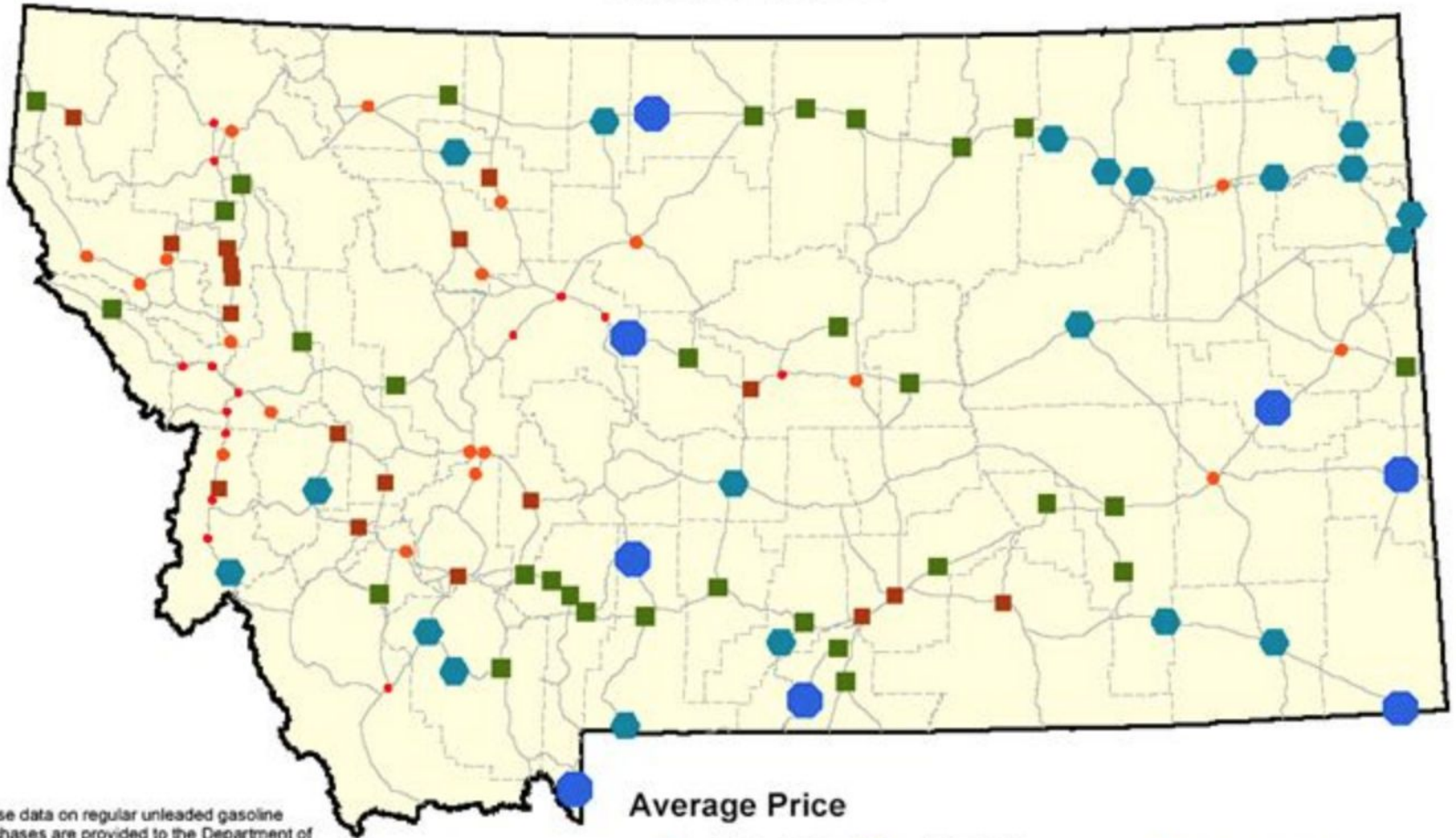


# Ordinal data and map types

- Ordinal involves some kind of ranking
- One class or feature is 'above' or 'below' another
- Cartographic methods
  - **Point**—use symbol size, shape, and color
  - **Line**—different symbols, line weights, color
  - **Area**—color and/or pattern (legends often high, medium, low, or similar)

# Average Gas Prices at Selected Montana Towns

March 24-26, 2003



These data on regular unleaded gasoline purchases are provided to the Department of Environmental Quality by Oil Price Information Service card transactions and Fuel card sales. Fuel card sales generally track closely with actual average purchase price, especially in the larger towns where the number of observations is greater.

Ordinal point map

## Average Price

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| • 1.599 - 1.68 | ■ 1.74 - 1.79  |
| • 1.68 - 1.71  | ⬡ 1.79 - 1.85  |
| ■ 1.71 - 1.74  | ● 1.85 - 1.969 |

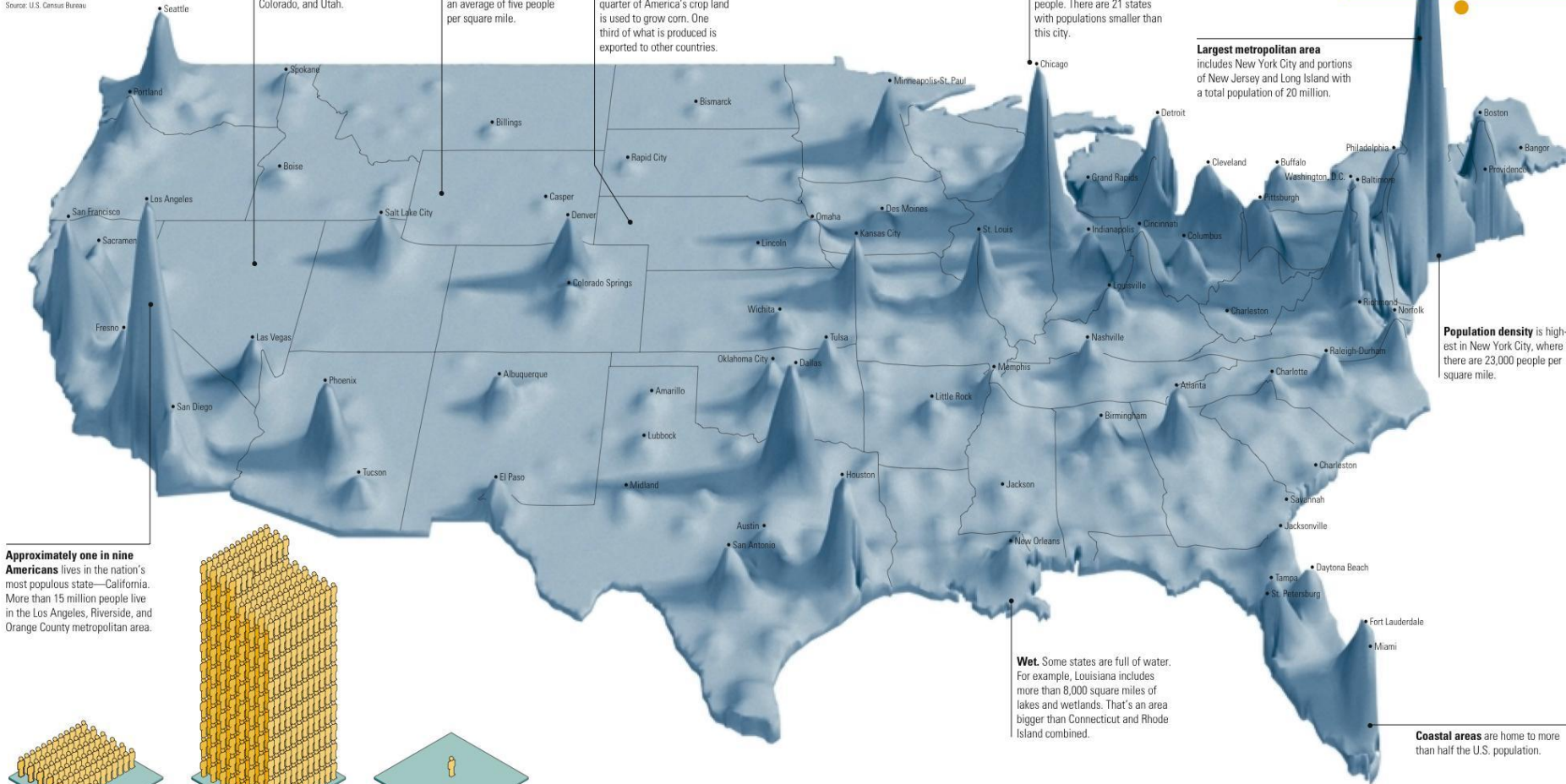
# Ratio data and map types

- Numerical data value on a scale with an absolute zero
- Can be physical absolute (e.g. wind speed) or ratio of two numbers (people / mi<sup>2</sup>)
- Cartographic methods similar to interval
  - **Point**—compound point symbol with encoded data
  - **Line**—vectors, isolines
  - **Area**—choropleth and other methods (e.g. dasymetric)

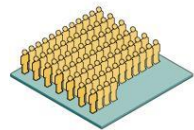
**The population of the United States** is not distributed evenly. Instead, we tend to bunch up in communities, leaving the spaces in between more sparsely inhabited. Most Americans live in or near cities; today 53 percent live in the 20 largest cities. 75 percent of all Americans live in metropolitan areas.

**This map shows population density. The relative height of each major city reflects its population in 1990.**

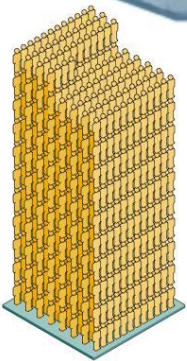
Source: U.S. Census Bureau



**Approximately one in nine Americans** lives in the nation's most populous state—California. More than 15 million people live in the Los Angeles, Riverside, and Orange County metropolitan area.



**Distributing our population evenly** would put an average of 76 people per square mile.



**New Jersey** is the most densely populated state with an average of more than 1,000 people per square mile.



**Alaska** is a sparsely populated state with an average of one person per square mile.

**Go West.** Nevada is the fastest growing state, followed by Arizona, Idaho, Colorado, and Utah.

**Wyoming** has the lowest population density of all states in the lower 48 with an average of five people per square mile.

**What happens in the empty spaces?** Some of it is farming country. More than one quarter of America's crop land is used to grow corn. One third of what is produced is exported to other countries.

**Chicago, the country's third largest city,** has a population of about three million people. There are 21 states with populations smaller than this city.

**Largest metropolitan area** includes New York City and portions of New Jersey and Long Island with a total population of 20 million.

**Wet.** Some states are full of water. For example, Louisiana includes more than 8,000 square miles of lakes and wetlands. That's an area bigger than Connecticut and Rhode Island combined.

**Coastal areas** are home to more than half the U.S. population.

# 3D isoline population density map

## Population Distribution

*Where do we live?  
Where don't we live?*

New York City

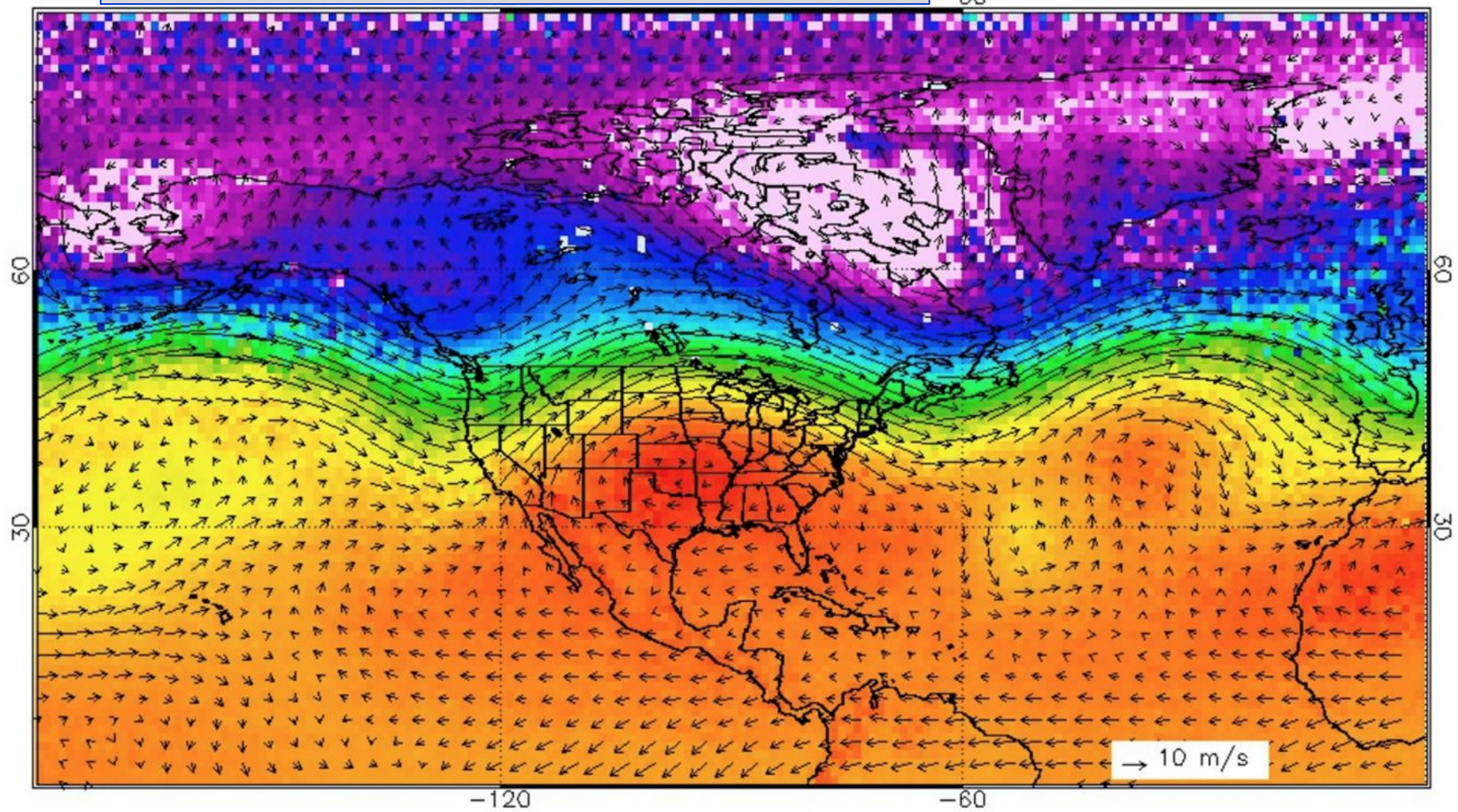


**Population density** is highest in New York City, where there are 23,000 people per square mile.

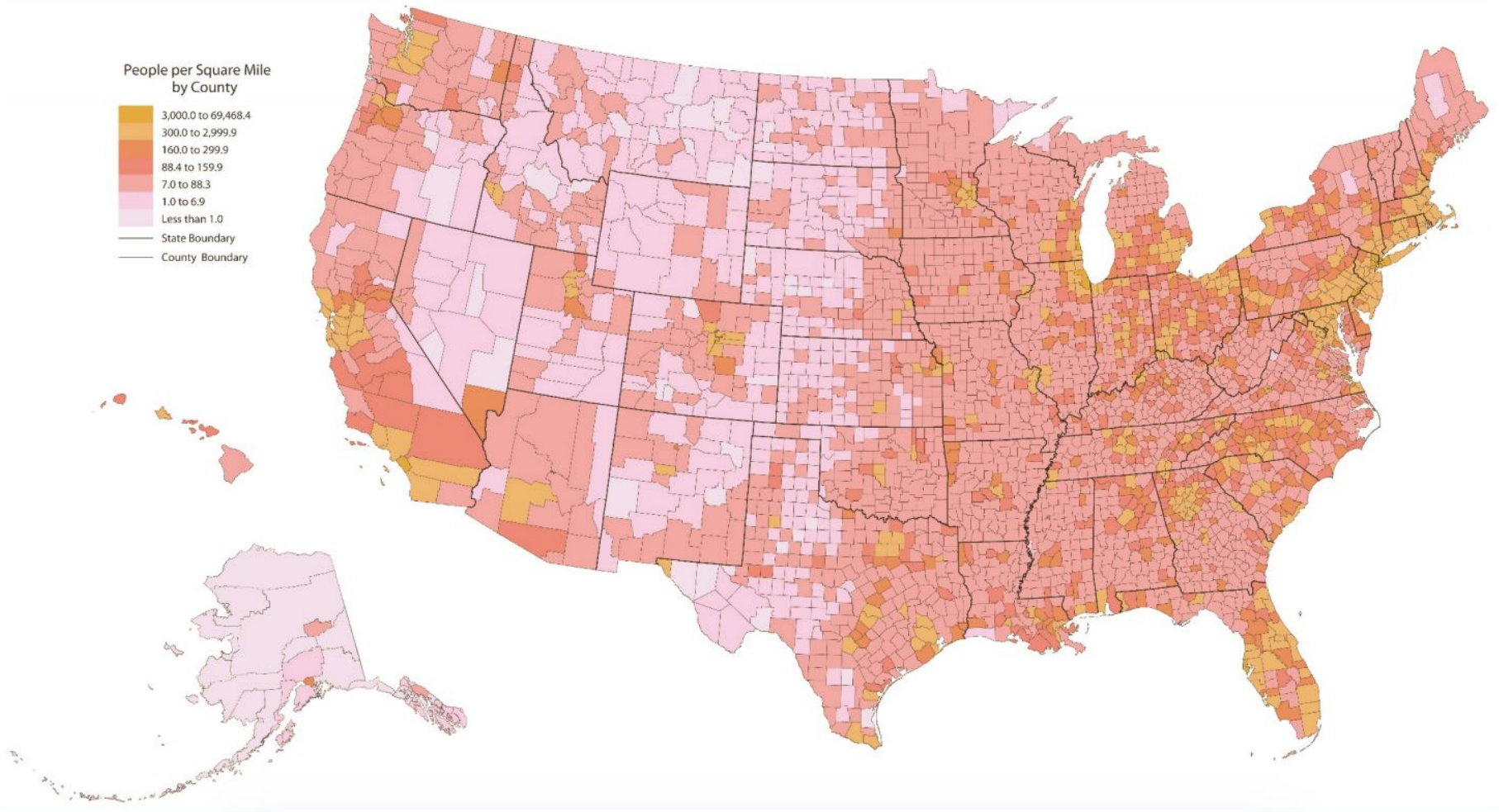


# Line ratio map: wind flow vectors

300 mb; July 2011  
-60



# Population Density by County 2010



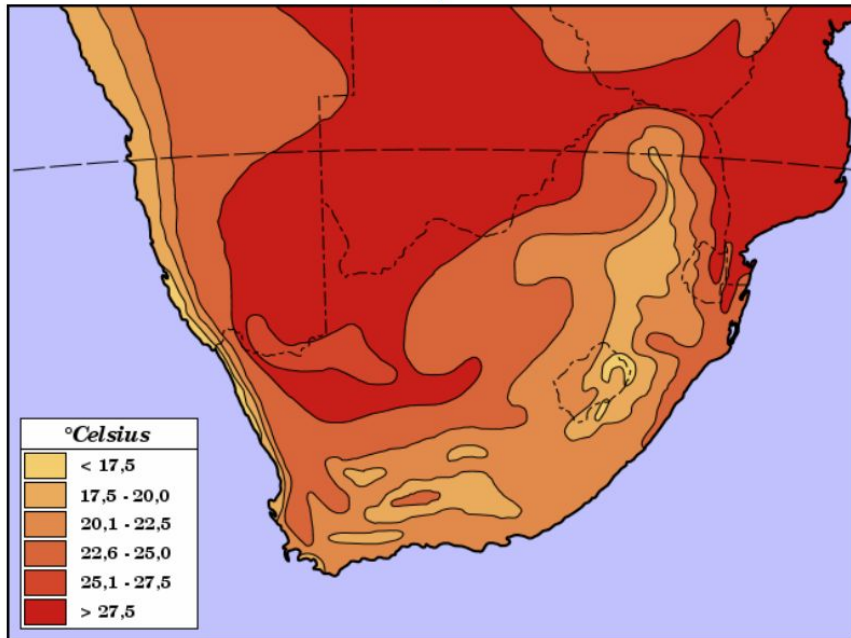
Area ratio map: choropleth

# Interval data and map types

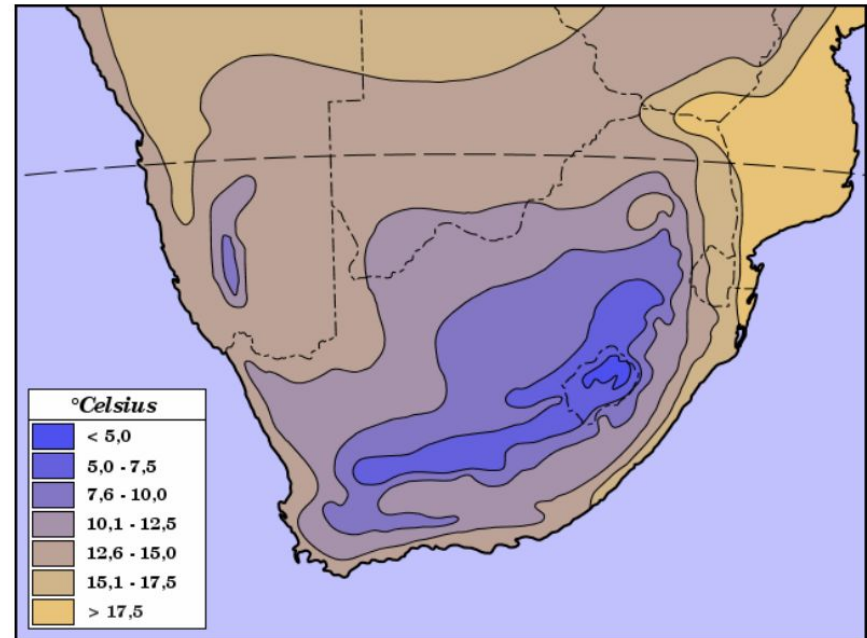
- Numerical data value but on an arbitrary scale
- Often reflective of 'counts' (e.g. total population)
- Cartographic methods
  - **Point**—proportional symbol, usually geometric object, varies in size, sometimes classed
  - **Line**—flow map, line width proportional to value
  - **Area**—prism map, shaded map, choropleth

# Interval data and map types

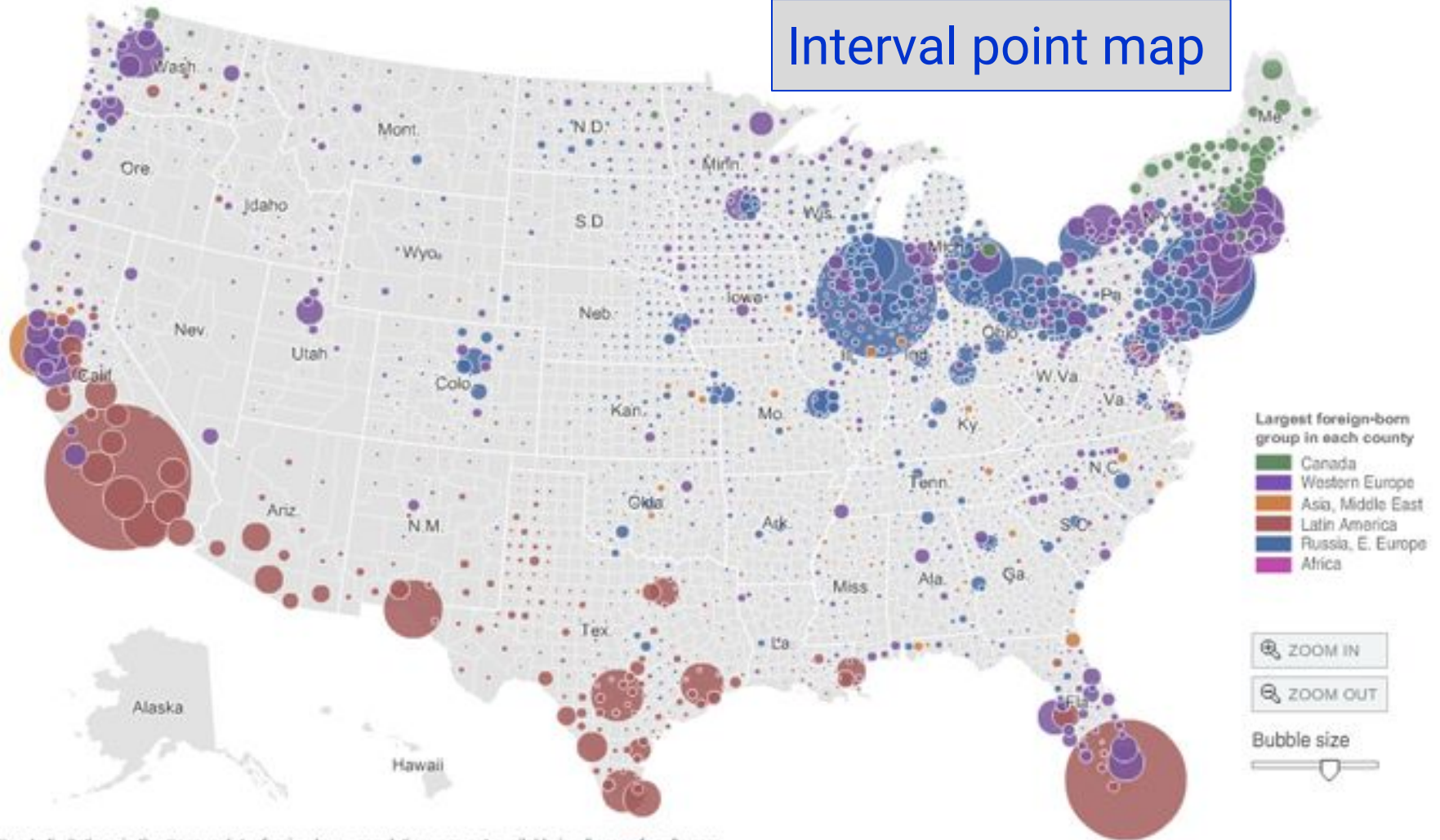
January



June



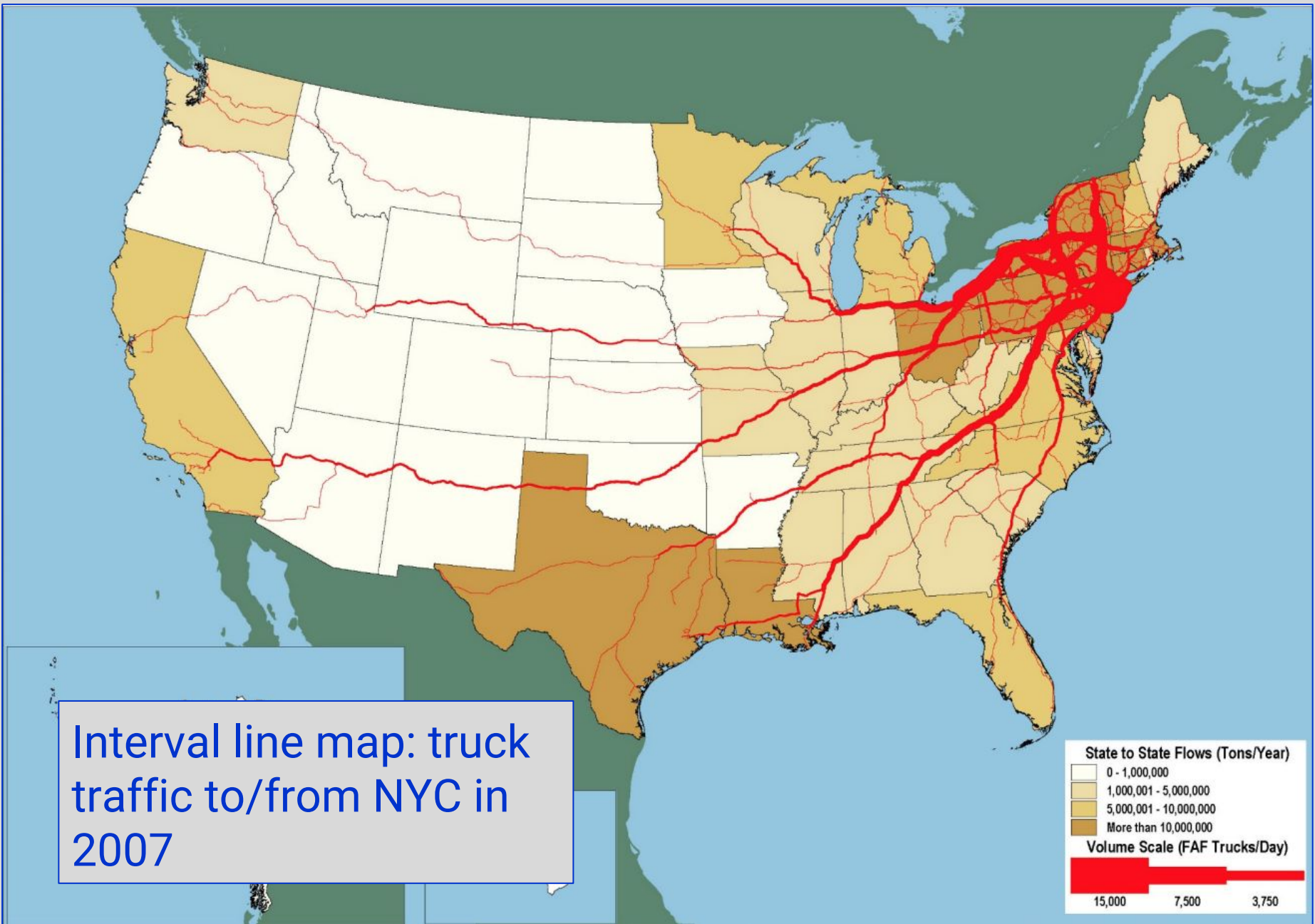
# Interval point map



Note: Due to limitations in the Census data, foreign-born populations are not available in all areas for all years.

Sources: Social Explorer, [www.socialexplorer.com](http://www.socialexplorer.com); Minnesota Population Center; U.S. Census Bureau

Matthew Bloch and Robert Gebeloff/The New York Times

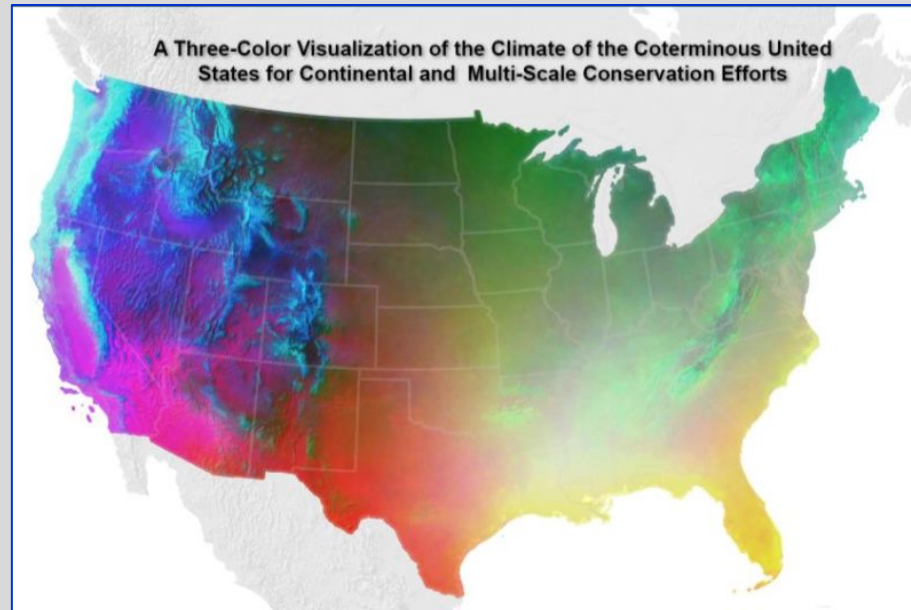


Interval line map: truck traffic to/from NYC in 2007

# Visualizing continuous and discrete data

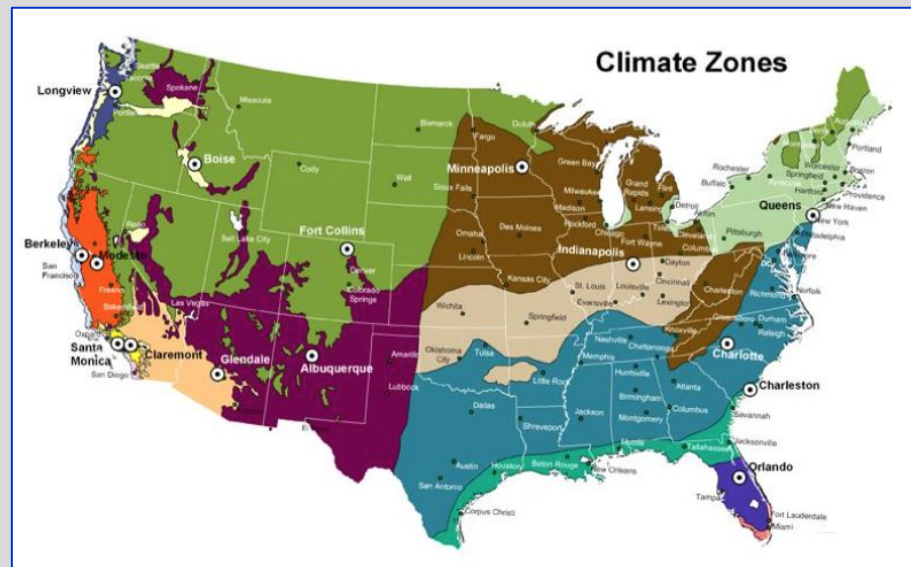
## Continuous/Sequential

- Symbology blurs boundaries, use for hotspot effect



## Discrete/Qualitative

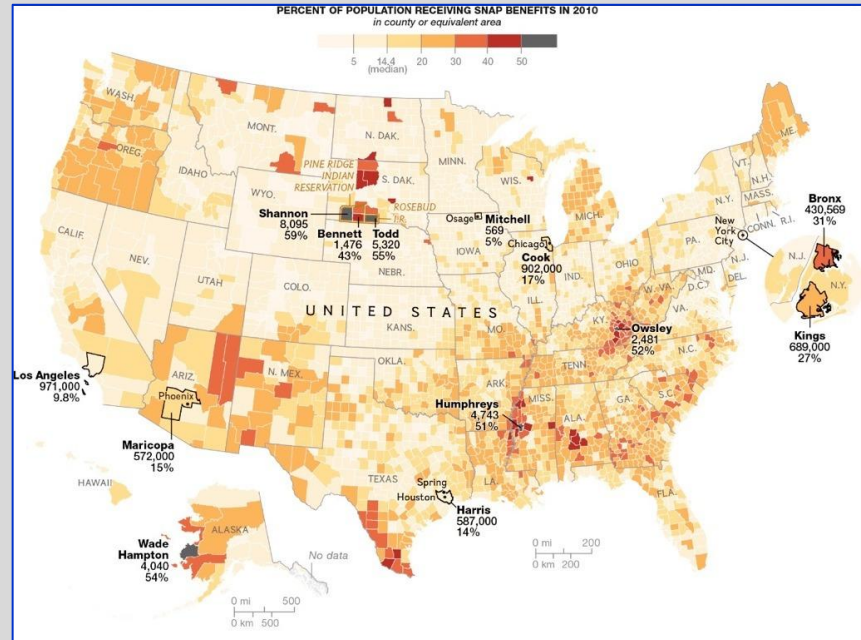
- Symbology emphasizes boundaries, use for classifying data



# Visualizing in one or more colors

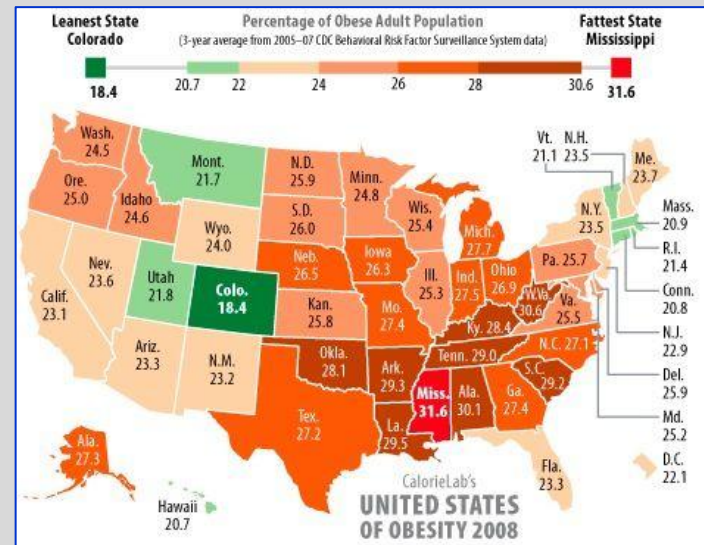
## Monochromatic/ Sequential

- Single color/hue, sequential values (can be continuous or discrete)



## Diverging

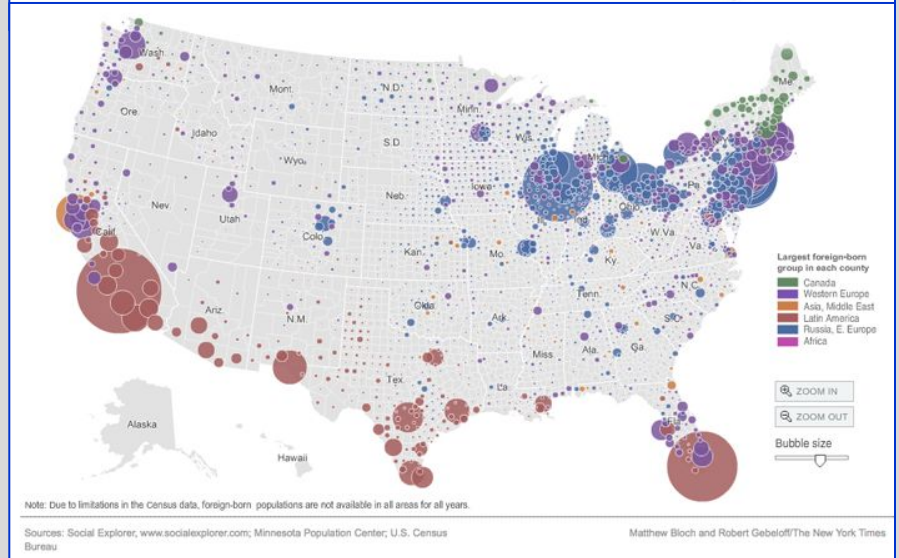
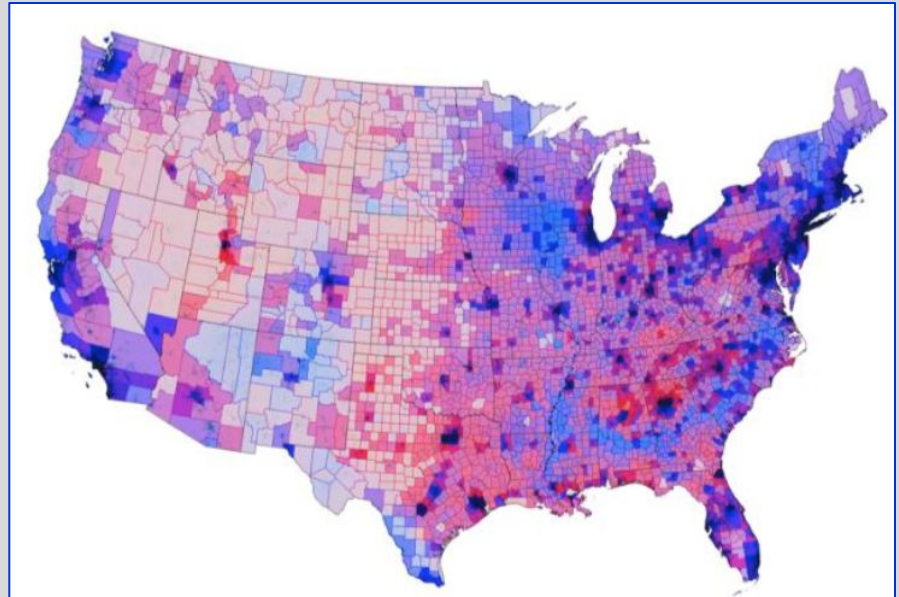
- Spans 2 or more colors, implies average, above and below average (can be continuous or discrete)



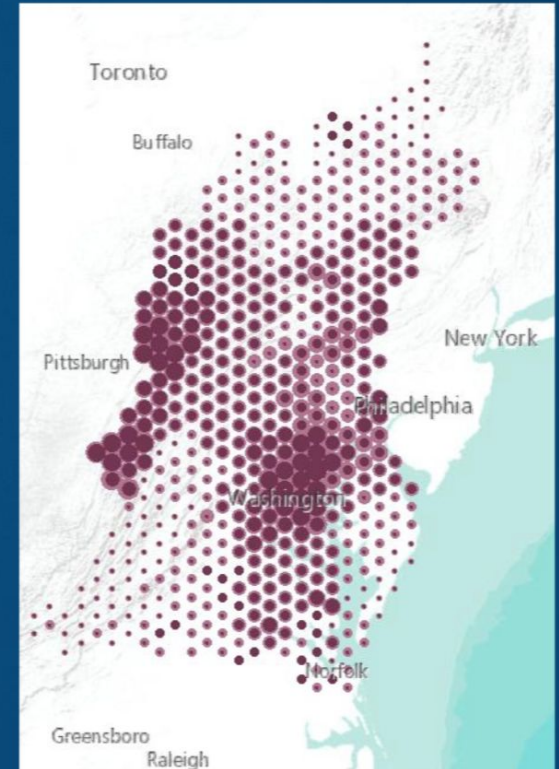
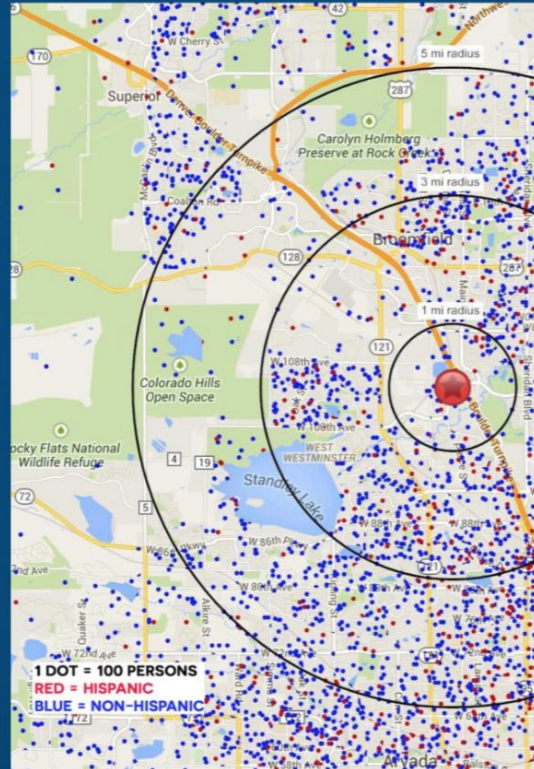
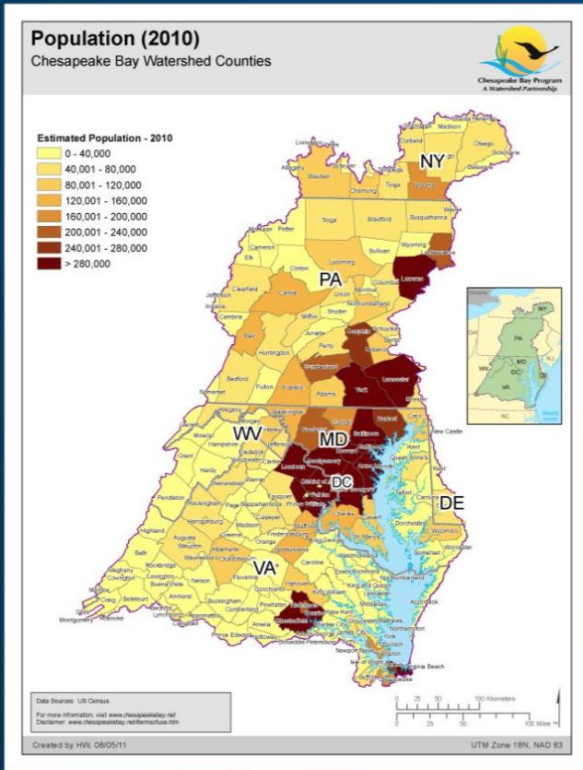


# Visualizing two or more variables

- Using color alone (red and blue work well)
- Using color and symbology together



# Surface/polygon mapping (area)



Choropleth

Dot density

Binning  
(proportional  
symbols)

# New Haven Smokers

\*due to confidentiality requirements, dots have been distributed randomly within each administrative unit and do not depict actual residential locations of smokers in the study area

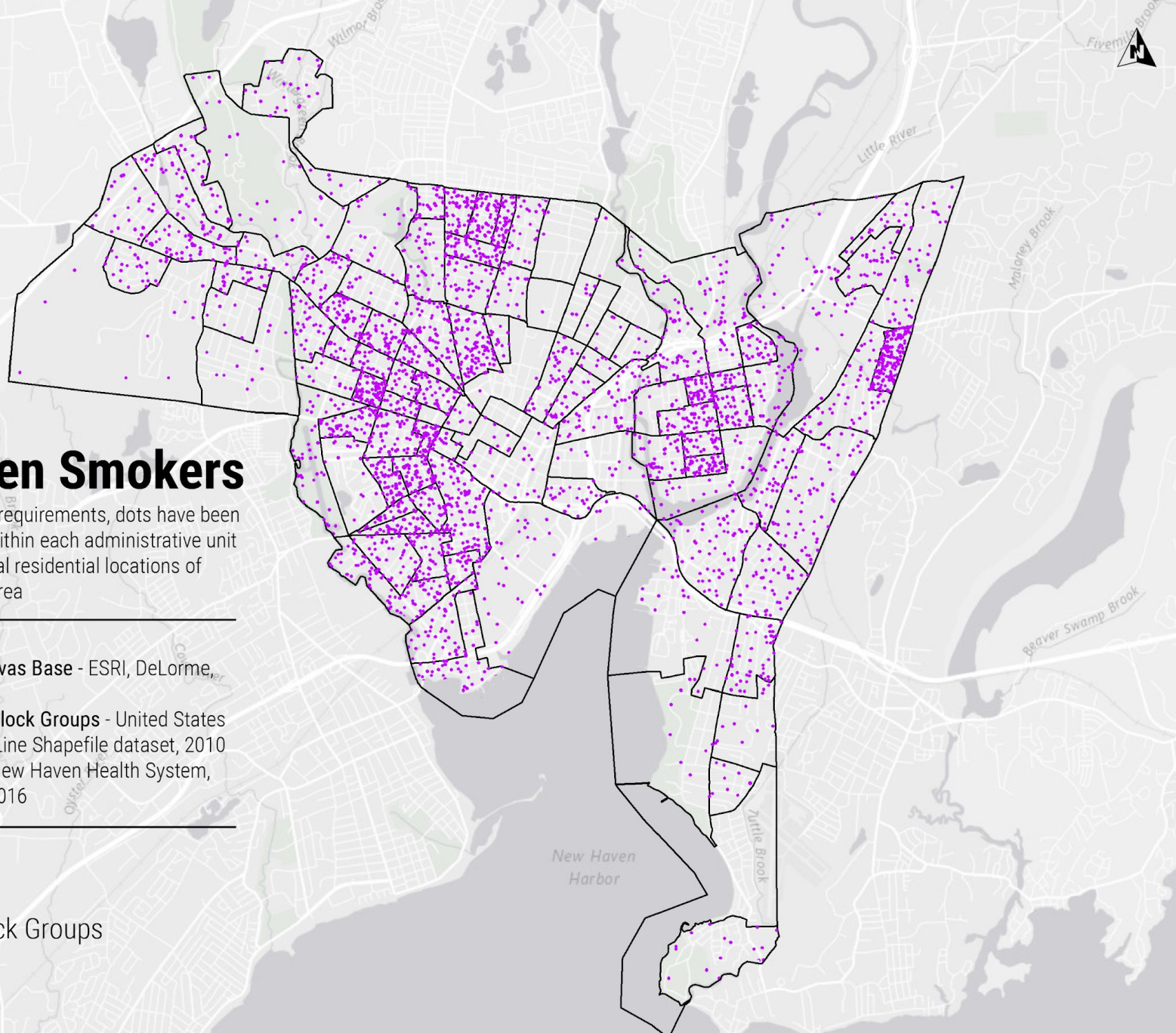
## Data Sources

- World Light Grey Canvas Base - ESRI, DeLorme, HERE, MapmyIndia
- New Haven Census Block Groups - United States Census Bureau, Tiger/Line Shapefile dataset, 2010
- Smoker Data - Yale, New Haven Health System, Registry of Smokers, 2016

1 dot = 1 person

 Census Block Groups

 2 miles

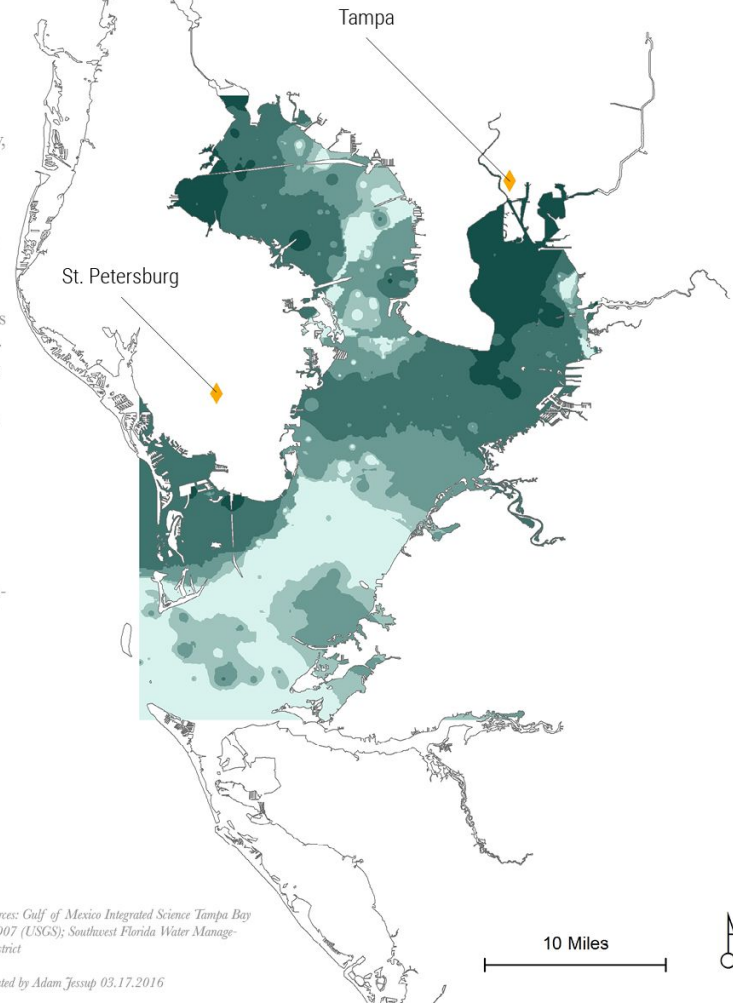


# IDW-Derived Percentage of Total Organic Compounds in Tampa Bay Sediment

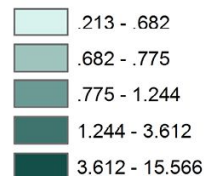


As part of the Gulf of Mexico Integrated Science Tampa Bay Study, many sediment cores have been collected throughout the estuary. Sites were chosen for the purposes of downcore stratigraphic and paleoecological analyses and are not uniformly distributed throughout the bay, but data from the top cores surface sediments can be interpreted to understand current estuarine bottom characteristics. A description of the bottom surface, such as sediment grain size, percent carbonates and organics, are important when evaluating hydrologic and sediment models of estuaries.

— E. Terence Edgar, U.S. Geological Survey Center for Coastal and Watershed Studies; Thomas M. Cronin, U.S. Geological Survey, National Center; Gregg Brooks, Eckerd College 2007



## % Total Organic Carbons



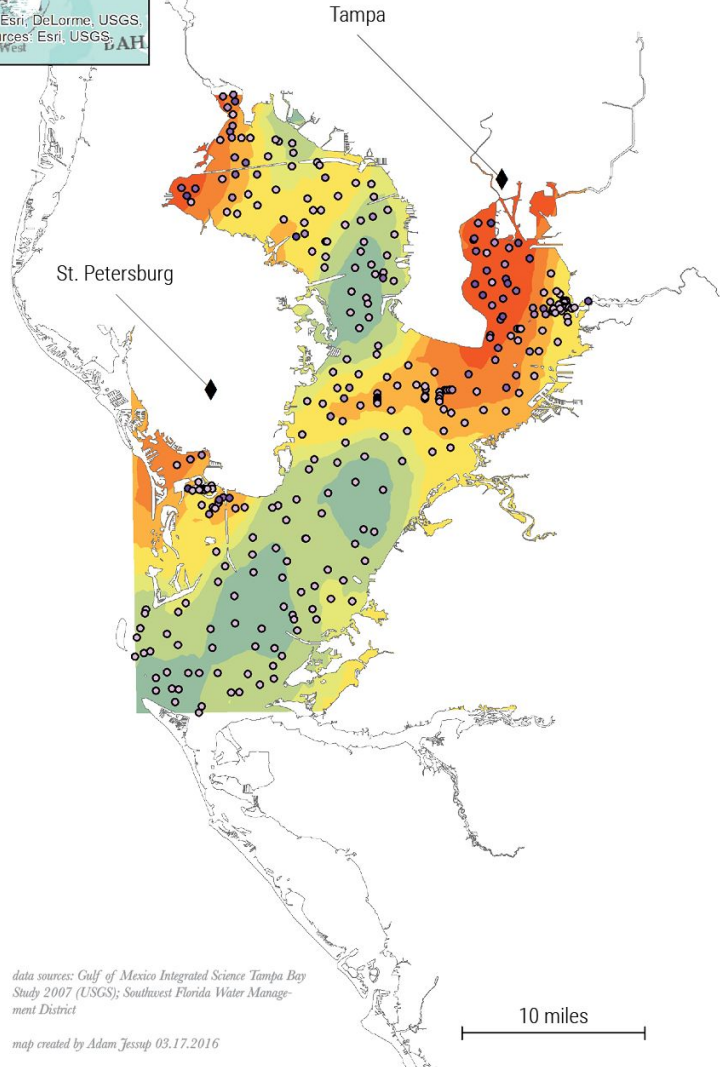
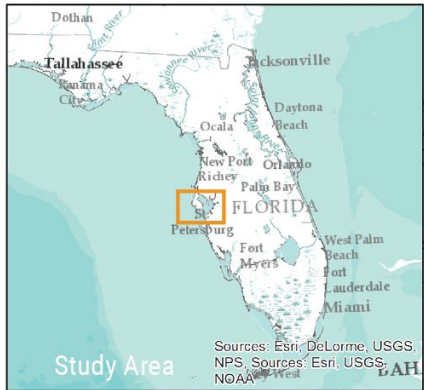
data sources: Gulf of Mexico Integrated Science Tampa Bay Study 2007 (USGS); Southwest Florida Water Management District

map created by Adam Jessup 03.17.2016

10 Miles



# Tampa Bay Sediment Anisotropic CoKriging with logTOC, logMUD, logSILT



- Sample Points**  
**Total Organic Carbons**
- 0 - 1.8
  - 1.8 - 5
  - 5 - 9.5
  - 9.5 - 13.6
  - 13.6 - 19.2

- CoKriging Variables (logTOC, logMUD, logSILT)**
- -2.3 -- -1.49
  - -1.49 -- -.951
  - -.951 -- -.599
  - -.599 -- -.368
  - -.368 -- -.216
  - -.216 -- .016
  - .016 -- .368
  - .368 -- .904
  - .904 -- 1.72
  - 1.72 -- 2.96

*data sources: Gulf of Mexico Integrated Science Tampa Bay Study 2007 (USGS); Southwest Florida Water Management District*

*map created by Adam Jessup 03.17.2016*

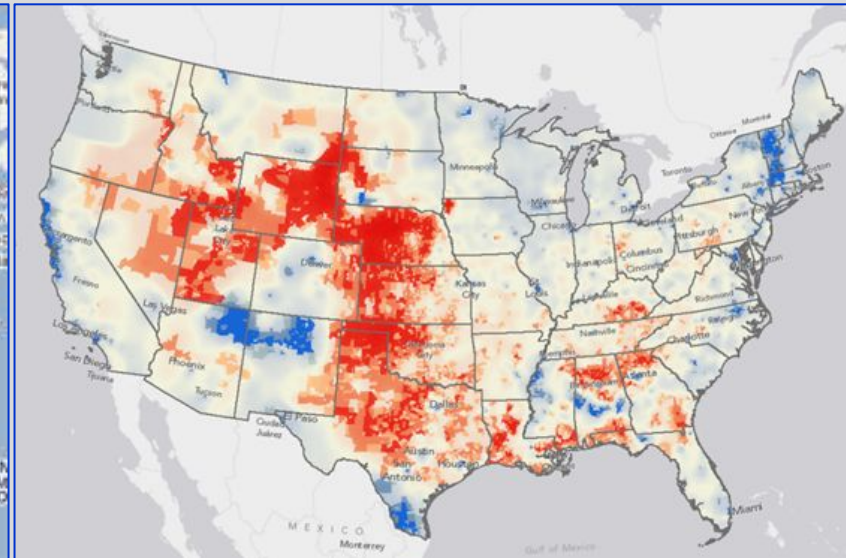
10 miles



# Heat map vs hotspot map



Heat map



Hotspot map

**Q: What are the differences?**

# Classification schemes

## Common methods

- Equal interval
- Quantile
- Mean (standard deviation)
- Natural breaks (Jenks)

# Classification schemes

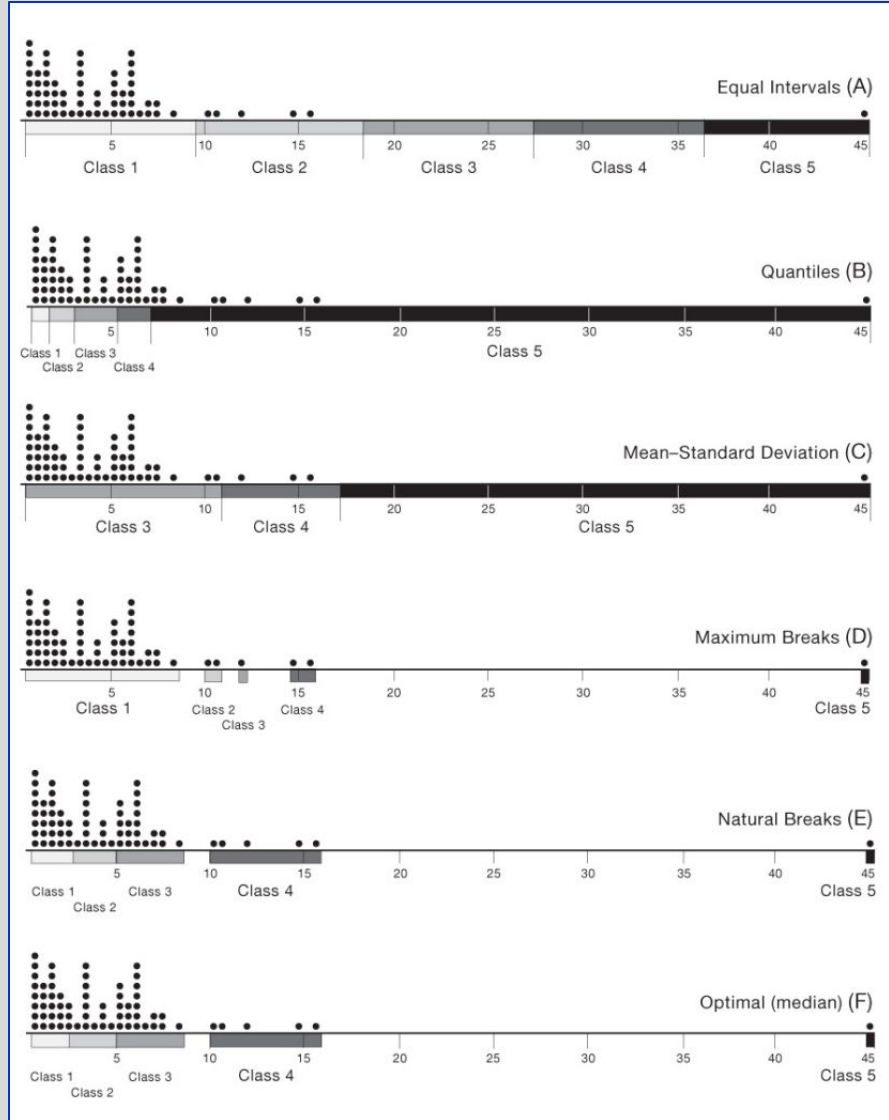
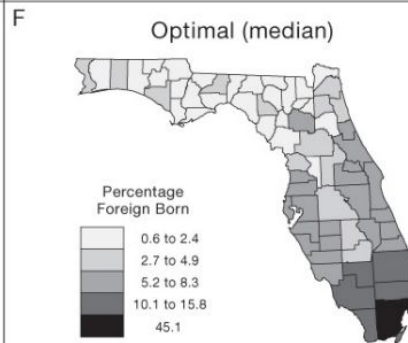
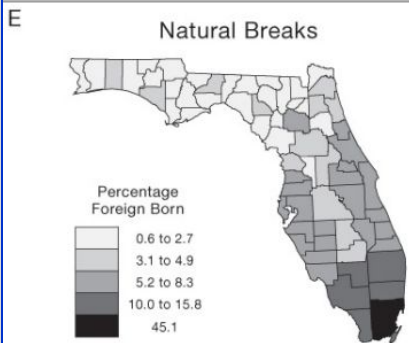
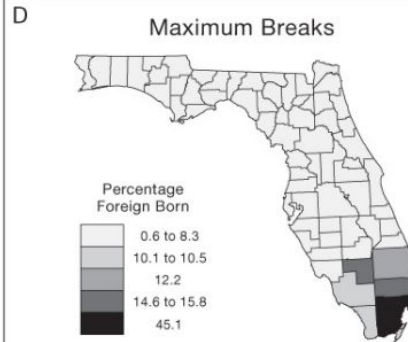
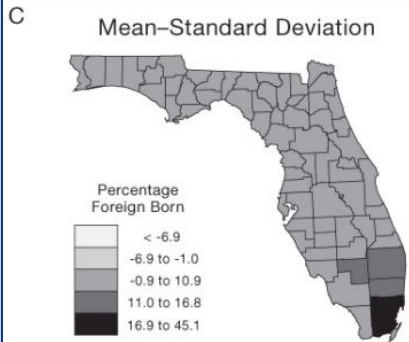
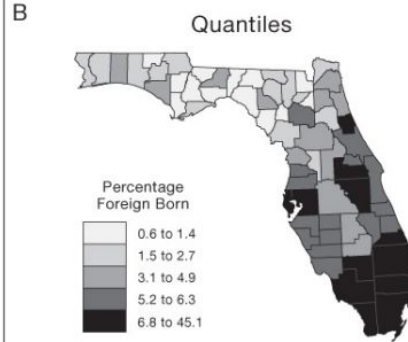
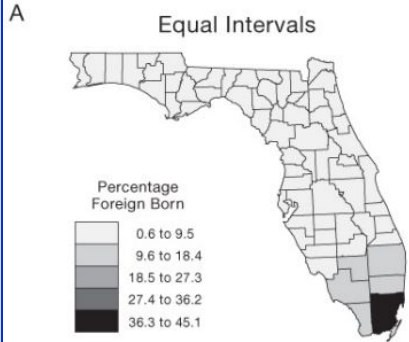
## Common methods

- **Equal interval**
  - divides the range of attribute values into equal-sized subranges
- **Quantile**
  - assigns the same number of data values to each class, thus no empty classes or classes with too few/too many values, good for linearly distributed data
- **Mean (standard deviation)**
  - class breaks are created with equal value ranges that are a proportion of the standard deviation—usually at intervals of 1, 1/2, 1/3, or 1/4 standard deviations using mean values and the standard deviations from the mean
- **Natural breaks (Jenks)**
  - classes are based on natural groupings inherent in the data. Class breaks are identified that best group similar values and that maximize the differences between classes.



# Same data, different distribution

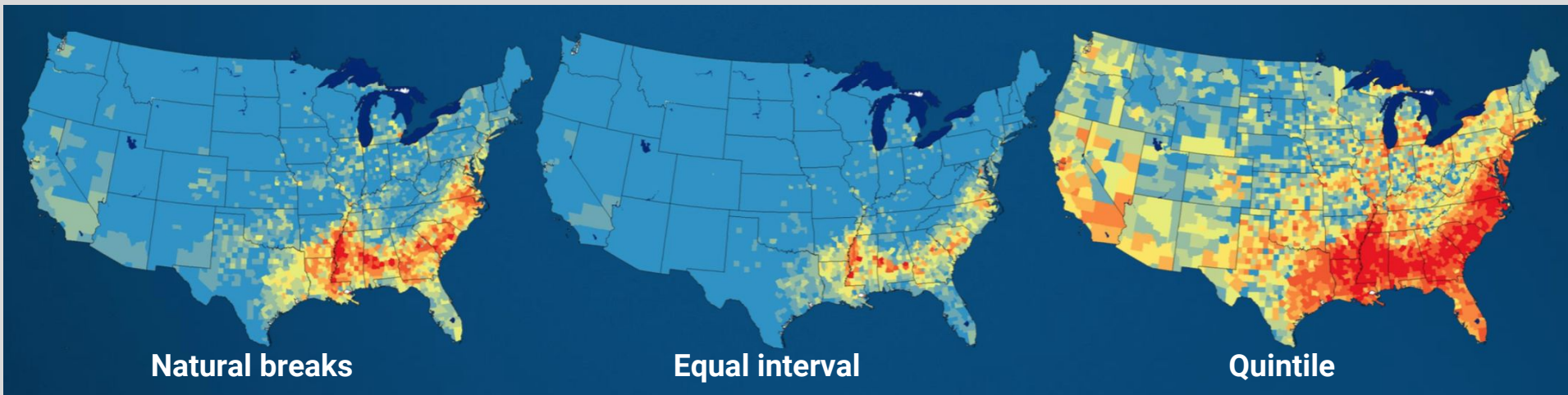
Methods of Data Classification  
Foreign Born in Florida, 1990



# Which method?

- Equal interval
- Quantile
- Mean (standard deviation)
- Natural breaks (Jenks)

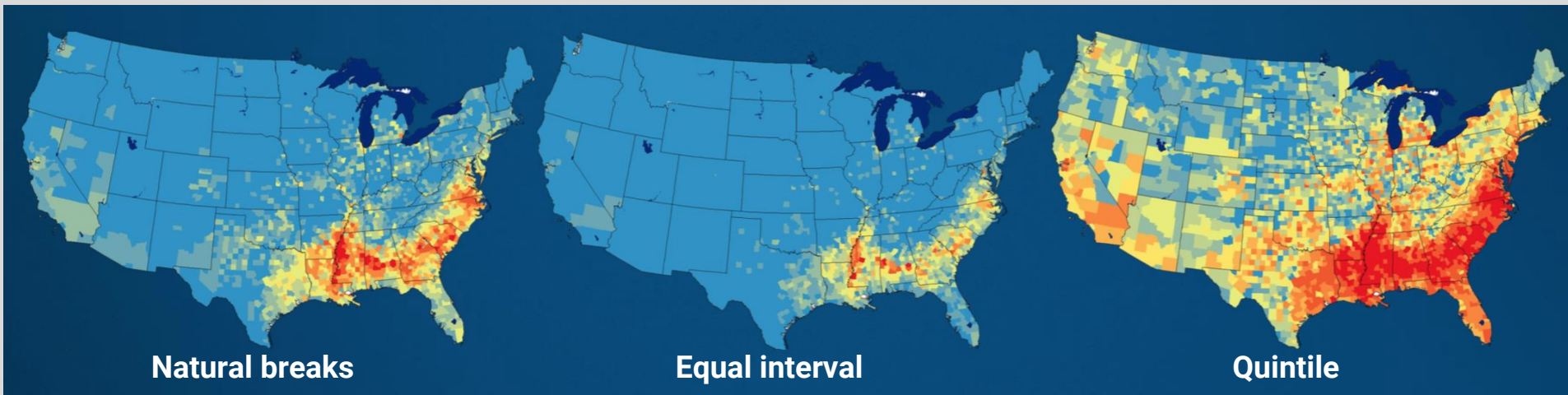
If you're unsure, start with quintile



# Which method?

- Equal interval
- Quantile
- Mean (standard deviation)
- Natural breaks (Jenks)

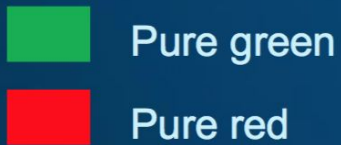
If you're unsure, start with quintile...why?



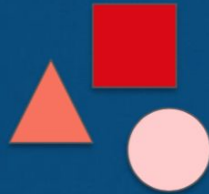
# Designing for color-impaired audience



Avoid color alone



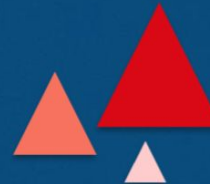
Avoid



Shape & Color



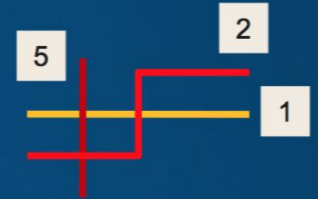
Use



Size & Color

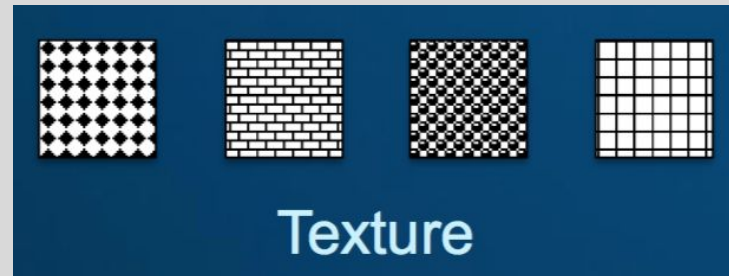
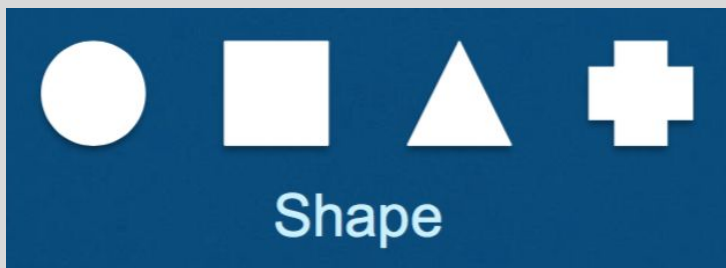
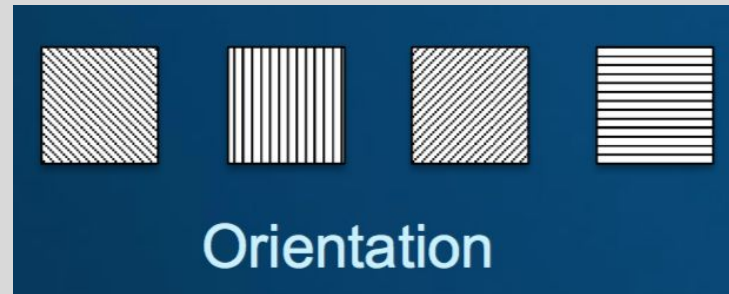
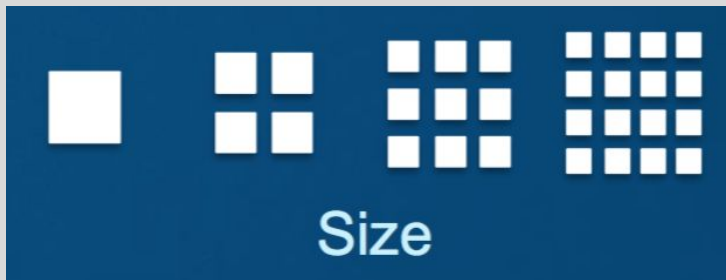
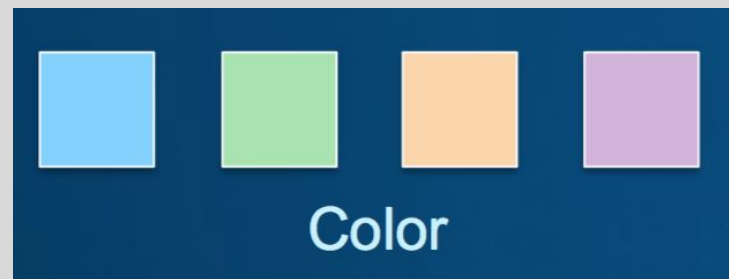
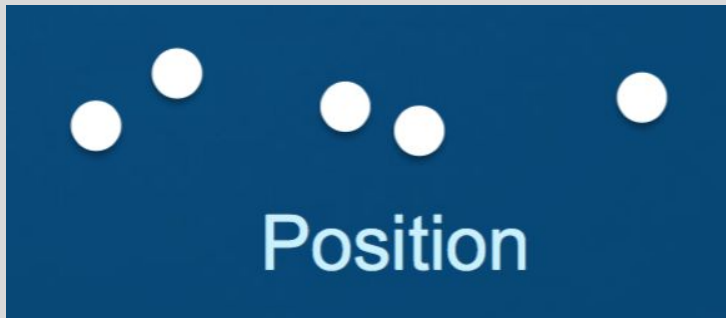


Use



Label attributes

# Graphic/visual variables



# Graphic/visual variables

**Position**—changes in the x, y location

**Size** change in length, area, repetition

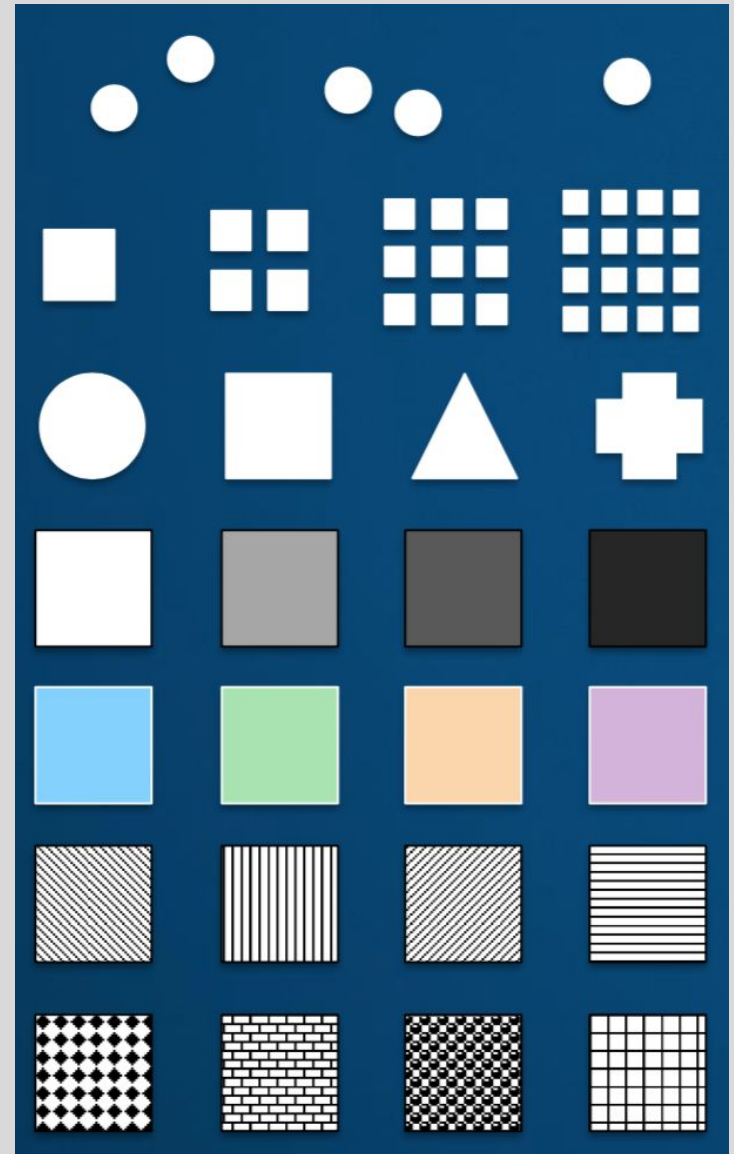
**Shape**—changes in shape

**Value**—change from light to dark

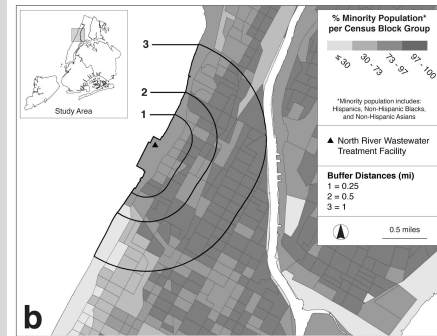
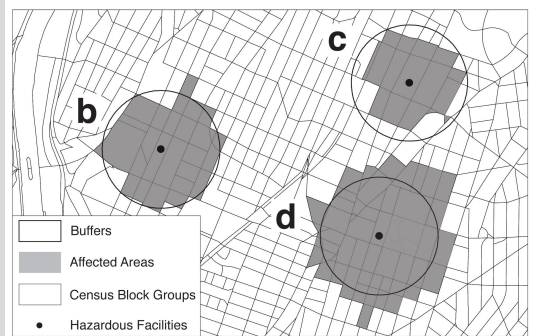
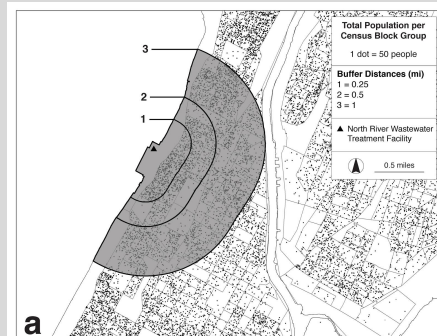
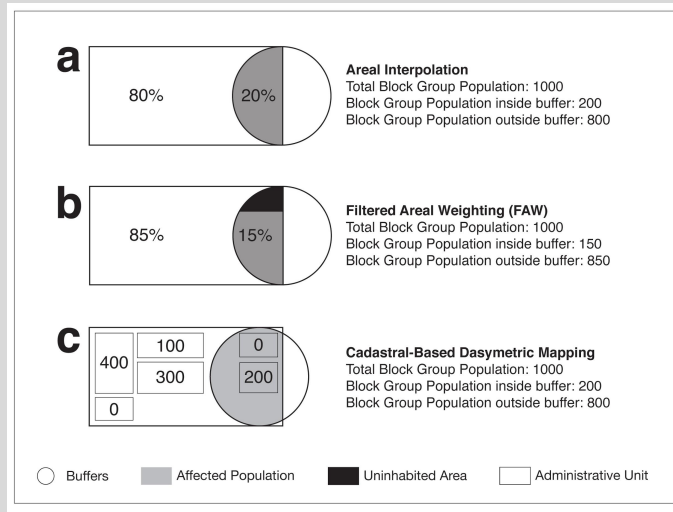
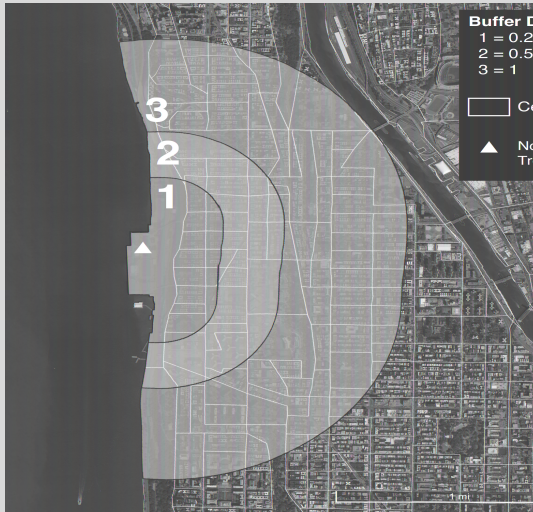
**Color**—changes in hue

**Orientation**—changes in alignment

**Texture**—variation in “grain”



# Constraints can make your maps better!



**Buffer D**

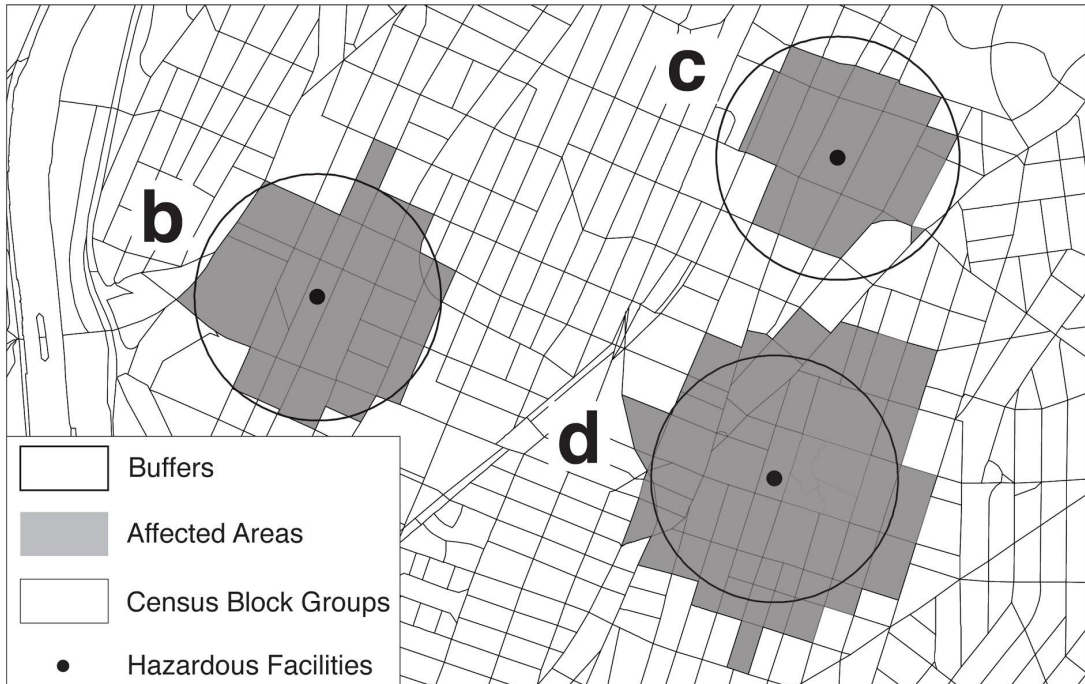
- 1 = 0.25
- 2 = 0.5
- 3 = 1

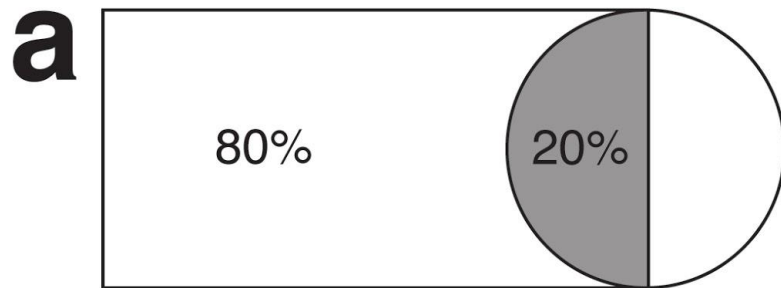
□ Center

▲ No  
Tre



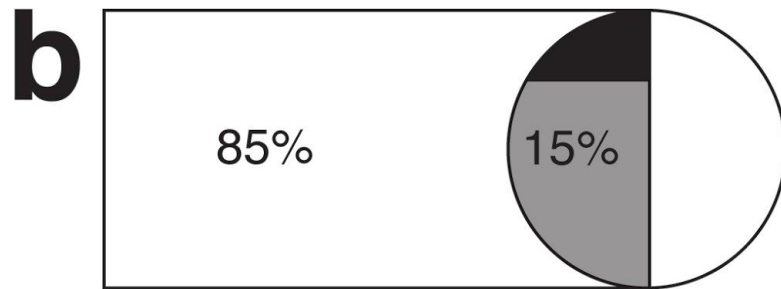






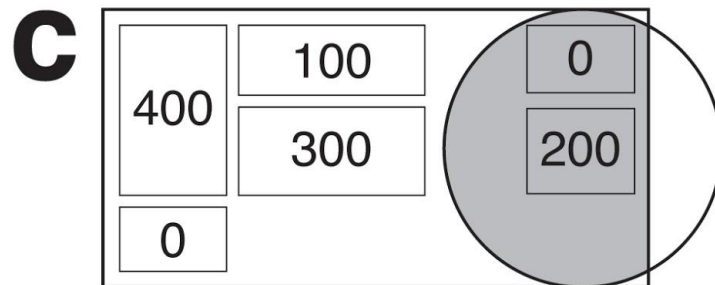
**Areal Interpolation**

Total Block Group Population: 1000  
 Block Group Population inside buffer: 200  
 Block Group Population outside buffer: 800



**Filtered Areal Weighting (FAW)**

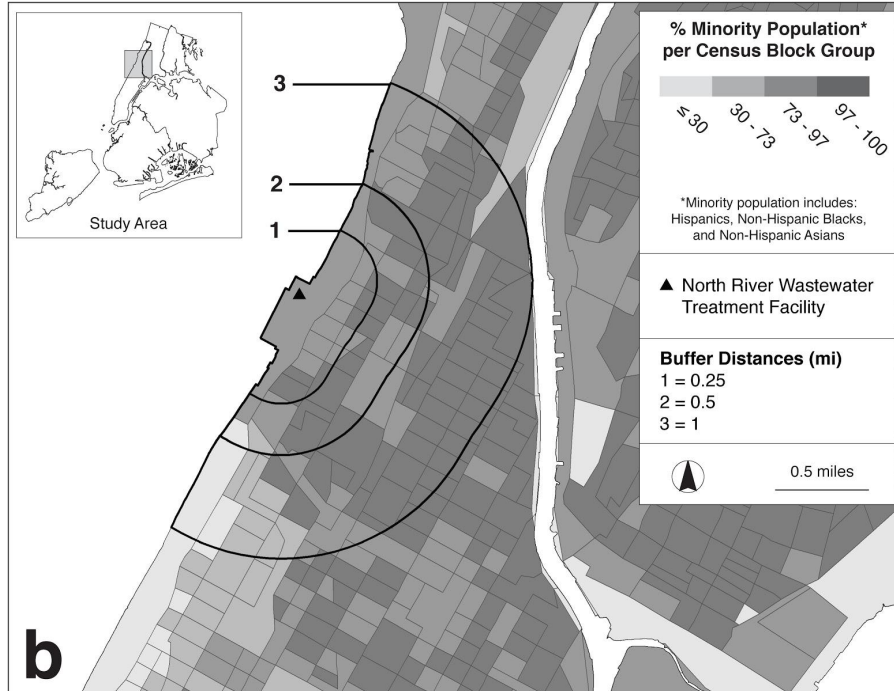
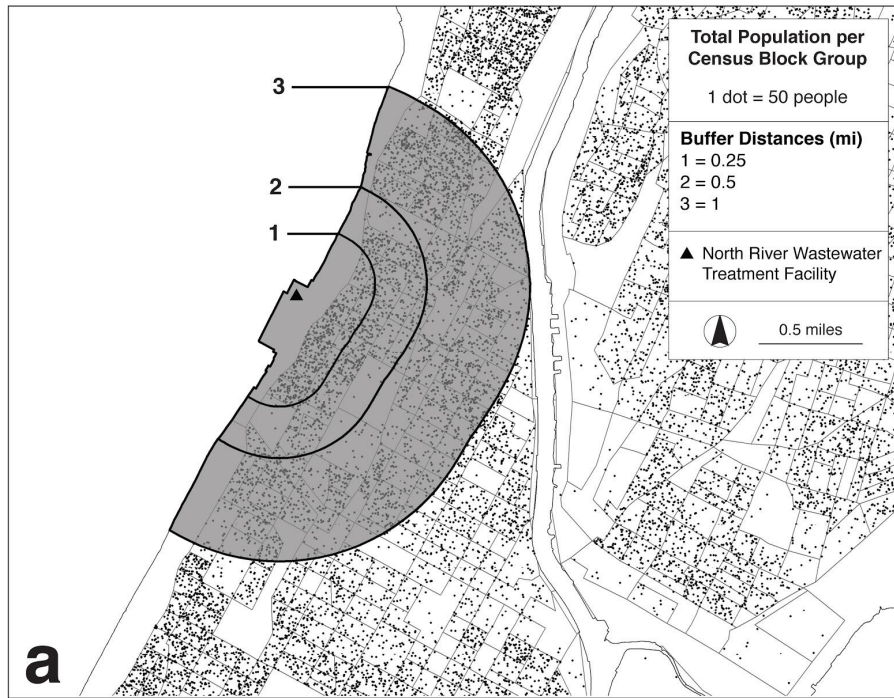
Total Block Group Population: 1000  
 Block Group Population inside buffer: 150  
 Block Group Population outside buffer: 850



**Cadastral-Based Dasymetric Mapping**

Total Block Group Population: 1000  
 Block Group Population inside buffer: 200  
 Block Group Population outside buffer: 800

○ Buffers    ■ Affected Population    ■ Uninhabited Area    □ Administrative Unit



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# **Brief introduction to the** Final Project

# Intro to the Final Project [Grad Students]

Your final project is to create a **personal portfolio** website featuring your best cartographic work

## Portfolio requirements

- Minimum of 10 projects
  - Projects can be maps from any class you've taken at Lehman, or any map you have created in general
  - 3 of these 10 should be "old" labs that you have revised/workshopped to reflect the design competencies you have gained throughout this course
  - At least half of these projects (minimum, 5) should include writing that contextualizes the map/visual product for the viewer
- Minimum of two pages
- bio/photo of yourself/personal logotype
- CV/resume/LinkedIn profile

**Portfolios are due at 12pm on 12.04.18**

# Intro to the Final Project [Undergraduates]

Your final project is to create **graphic presentation** featuring your best cartographic work

## Presentation requirements

- Minimum of 5 projects
  - Projects can be maps from any class you've taken at Lehman, or any map you have created in general
  - 2 of these 5 should be "old" labs that you have revised/workshopped to reflect the design competencies you have gained throughout this course
  - Choose one layout (your favorite/best) and step through the various design choices you made in the process of creating the map (e.g. *Why did you choose the colors/typefaces/layout scheme you did? etc.*)
- Presentation should be **>5** but **<10** minutes long

**Presentations are due at 12pm on 12.04.18**

## For next week...

- **A7 is due at 12pm on 11.06!**
- **Readings**
  - **Bernhard**, *Color design for the color vision impaired*
  - **Aisch**, *Choropleths*
- Next week we begin thinking about 'portfolios on the web'
- FYI only **4 actual class meetings** after this one!