THEMATIC MAPS

Sandeep Talasila, GISP

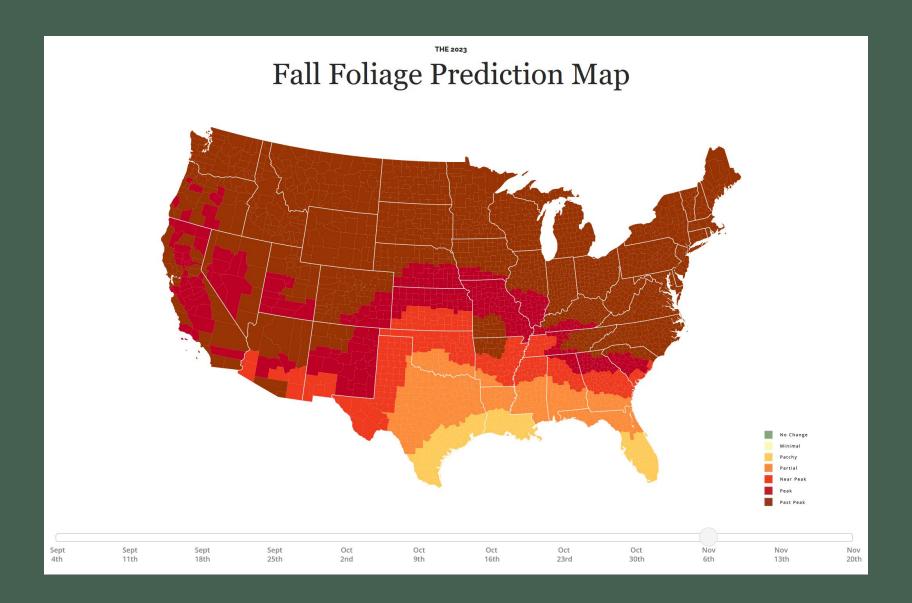


DEFINITION

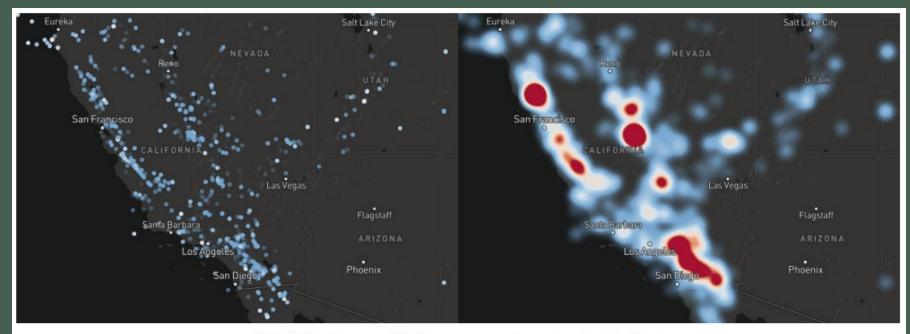
A map designed to demonstrate particular features or concepts.
 In conventional use this term excludes topographic maps

– *Meynen* 1973

- Major Components
 - Geographic base
 - Thematic overlay
 - Ancillary elements (title, legend, etc)



Heat Map



Circle (left) and heatmap (right) layers representing earthquakes in California

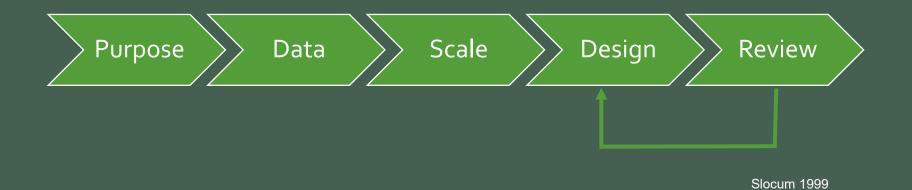
Vladimir Agafonkin

COMMUNICATING MAP INFORMATION

- Define a clear purpose
- Level of data detailed or generalize
- Display data
- Avoid distortion
- Make datasets coherent
- Encourage the viewers to compare different pieces of data
- Provide descriptions of datasets and statistics that support visualization

Edward Tufte's principles of graphical excellence.

MAP DESIGN PROCESS



DATA CHARACTERISTICS

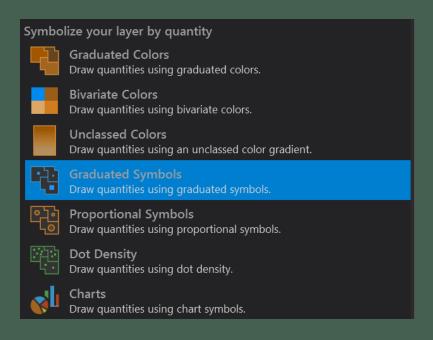
- Location
 - Point, Line, and Area
- Form
 - Qualitative/Quantitative
 - Mine Tons of Copper
 - River Volume of Water
 - Discrete/Continuous
 - Temperature at your home vs. Temperature across the US
 - Elevation of the tower vs. Topographic surface
 - Total/Derived
 - Total Population vs. Population per square mile
 - Employment in Agriculture vs. Agriculture employment as a percentage of all employment.
- Time

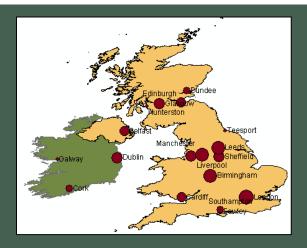
DISPLAYING QUALITATIVE VALUES

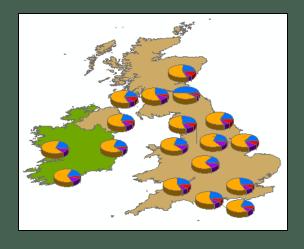
 Features & Categories Primary symbology Graduated Colors Single Symbol Draw using single symbol. Symbolize your layer by category Symbolize your layer by quantity **Graduated Colors** Draw quantities using graduated colors. **Bivariate Colors** Draw quantities using bivariate colors. **Unclassed Colors** Draw quantities using an unclassed color gradient. **Graduated Symbols** Draw quantities using graduated symbols. **Proportional Symbols** Draw quantities using proportional symbols. Dot Density Draw quantities using dot density. Draw quantities using chart symbols. Symbolize your layer using symbol attributes Dictionary

DISPLAYING QUANTITATIVE VALUES

Quantities & Charts







DATA MEASUREMENT

- Nominal
- Ordinal
- Interval
- Ratio

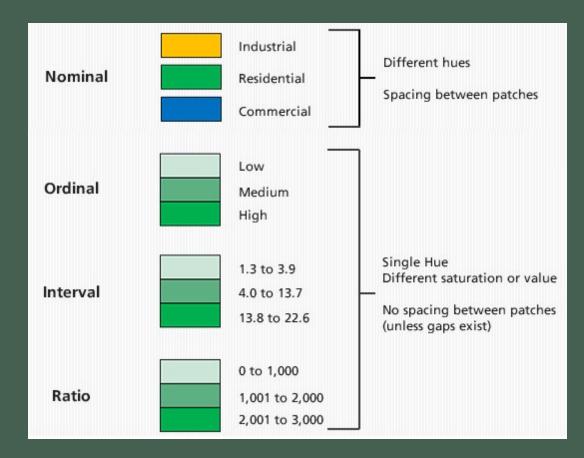


Image Credit: Richard Smith, Del Mar College ©National Information Security, Geospatial Technologies Consortium (NISGTC). CC by 3.0

THEMATIC MAPS

- Display the spatial pattern of a theme or attribute
- Types: Qualitative and Quantitative thematic Maps
- Thematic Mapping Techniques
 - Choropleth
 - Dot Density
 - Proportional Symbol
 - Flow
 - Isarithmic
 - Cartogram

QUALITATIVE THEMATIC MAP

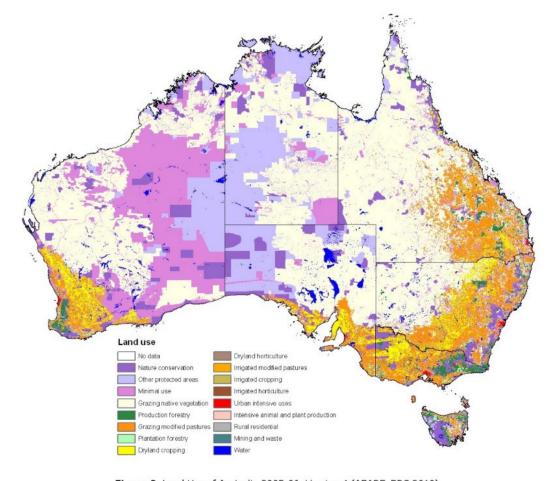
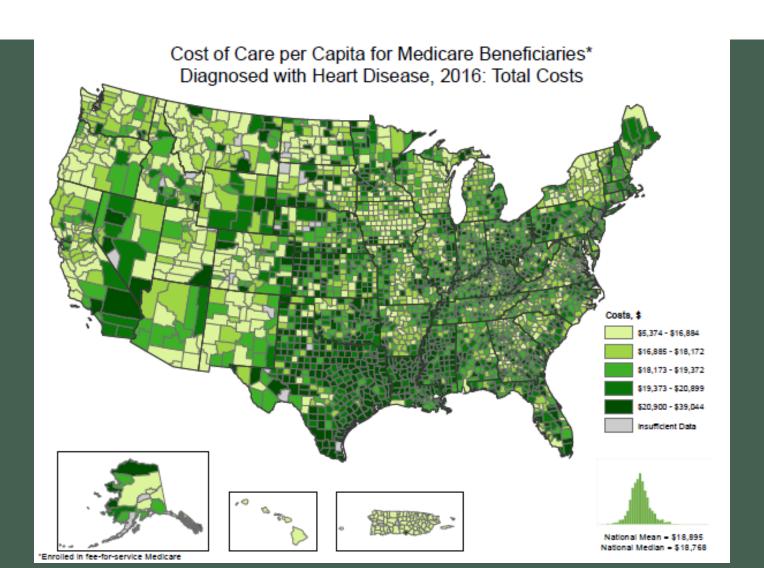


Figure 2. Land Use of Australia 2005-06, Version 4 (ABARE-BRS 2010)

According to this dataset, in 2005-06 the total area of land under primary production (livestock grazing, dryland and irrigated agriculture) was nearly 4.6 million square kilometres or 59% of the continent. The dominant land use is livestock grazing which makes up 56% (or 4.3 million square kilometres) of land uses.

agriculture.gov.au

QUANTITATIVE THEMATIC MAP

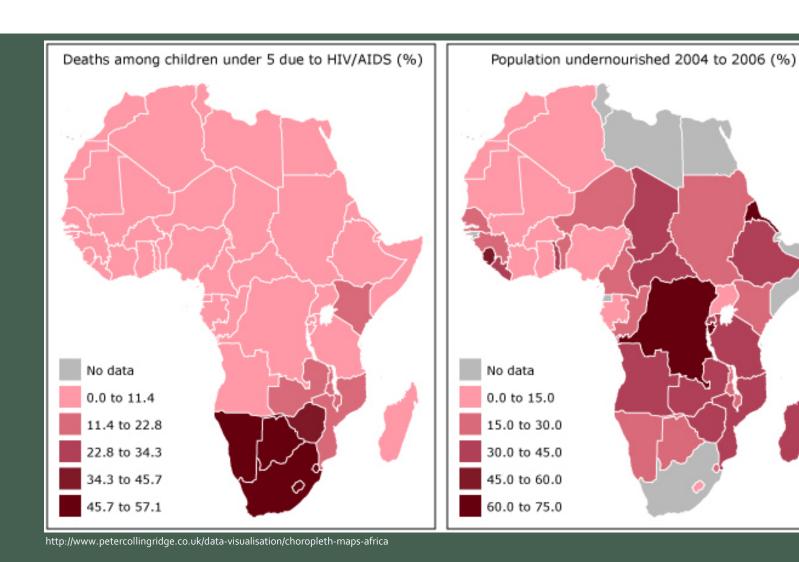


cdc.gov

CHOROPLETH MAP

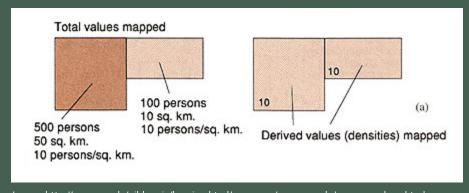
- Greek: Choro (place/area) plethein (to fill)
- Quantitative Mapping technique
- Data collected for enumeration units such as statistical or administrative areas
- Colored or shaded area can be used to represent magnitude

CHOROPLETH MAP



DATA APPROPRIATENESS

- When data occur or can be attributed to enumeration units
- Not suitable for continuous data
- Map scale should be chosen appropriately
- Data can be totals (rates) or derived values (ratios)
- Traditionally totals are not accepted

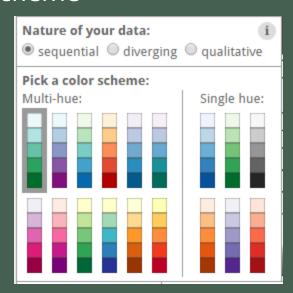


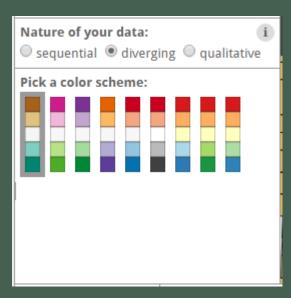
SYMBOLIZATION AND LEGEND

- Continuous Class Range
 - No gaps or overlaps
 - Used for map sequences
- Non Continuous Class Range
 - Reduces map reading errors and depicts better data ranges
 - Used for single maps

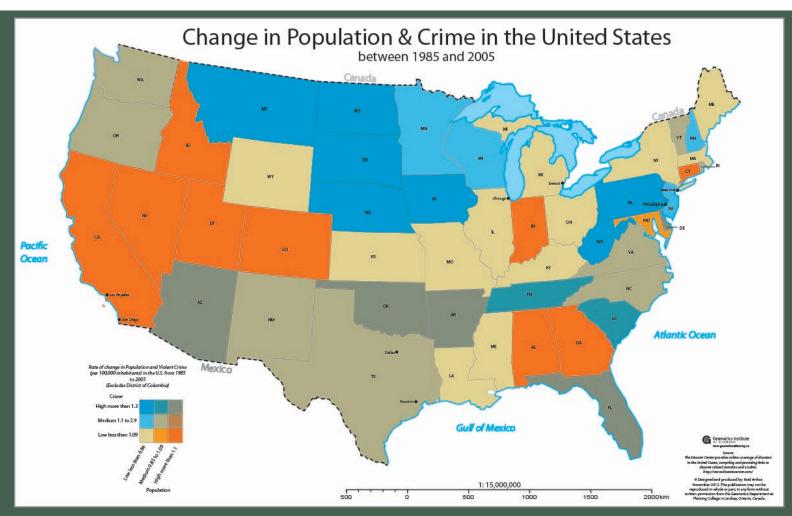
SYMBOLIZATION AND LEGEND

- Unipolar Choropleth A map where data class has no natural dividing point (central value) represented using a sequential color scheme
- Bipolar Choropleth A map where data class ranges diverge from a central value and are encoded using a divergent color scheme





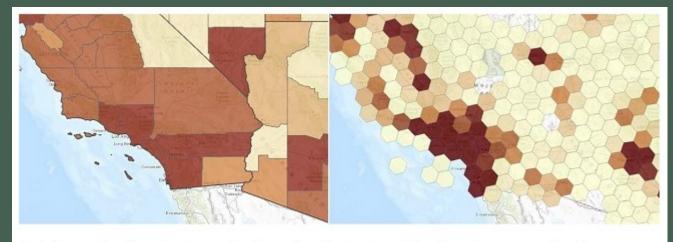
BIVARIATE CHOROPLETH



3D CHOROPLETH



MAPPING WITH HEXAGONS

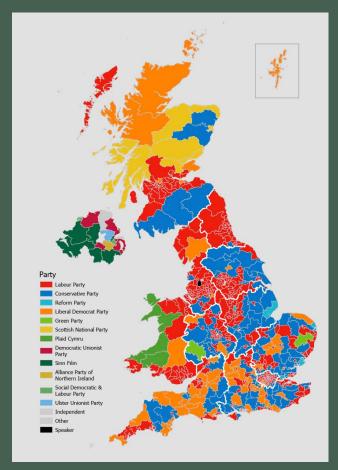


Left: Population Density show with Counties. Right: Population Density shown with Hexagons.

esri.com

MAPPING WITH HEXAGONS

2024 UK Elections





MAPPING WITH HEXAGONS

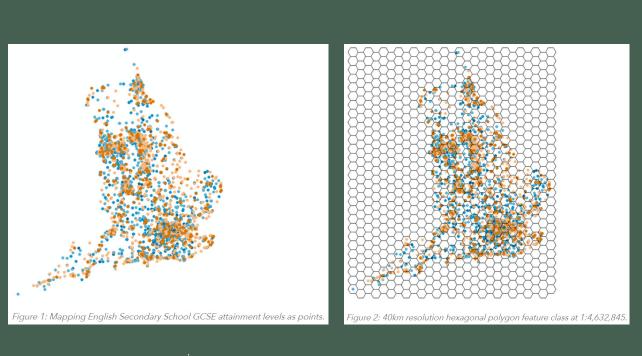


Figure 4b. Hexagonal data bins at 1:2,311,162

Figure 4c. Hexagonal data bins at 1:1,155,581.

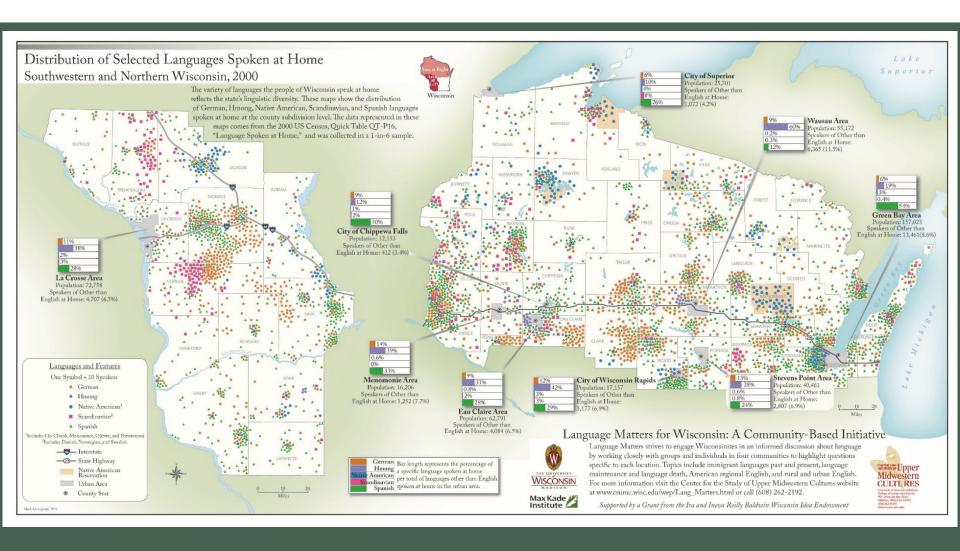
Figure 4a. Hexagonal data bins at 1:4,622,324.

esri.com

DOT DENSITY MAP

- Point symbol represents data
- A quantitative mapping technique
- Introduced as early as 1863
- Frequency of the symbols are proportional to the number of objects being represented
- Effective way to illustrate spatial density

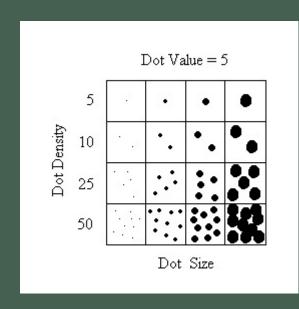
DOT DENSITY MAP

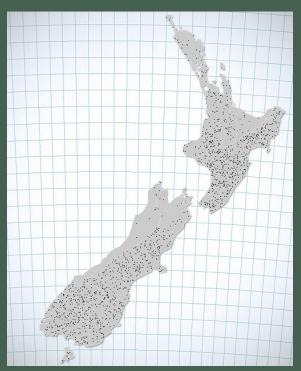


DATA APPROPRIATENESS

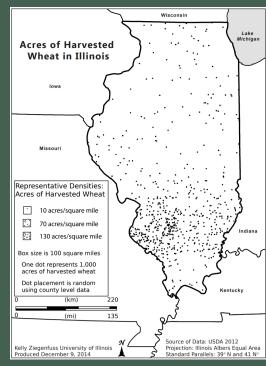
- Totals or non derived values are used
 - Examples: agricultural production data, numbers of livestock, population totals, etc.
- Derived or ratio values are difficult to interpret
- Data sets with extremely small or large attribute ranges are inappropriate

DOT VALUE, SIZE, AND PLACEMENT





https://www.axismaps.com/quide/univariate/dot-density/



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Acres_of_Harvested_Wheat_in_Illinois_in_2012.pdf

LEGEND

- Indicating the dot and its unit value
 - Traditional
 - Example: One dot represents 50,000 acres of cropland
- Legend with three squares
 - Representing different densities low, medium, and high
- Indicating the dot placement with a statement, if they were placed randomly within an enumeration unit

Representative Densities: Acres of Harvested Wheat

10 acres/square mile

70 acres/square mile

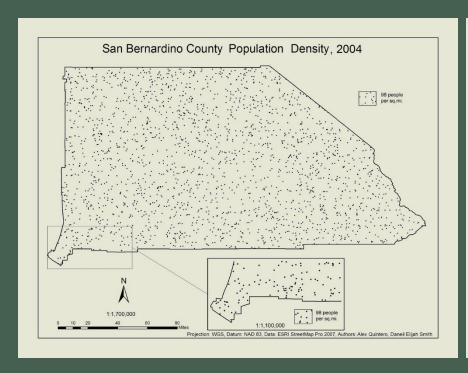
130 acres/square mile

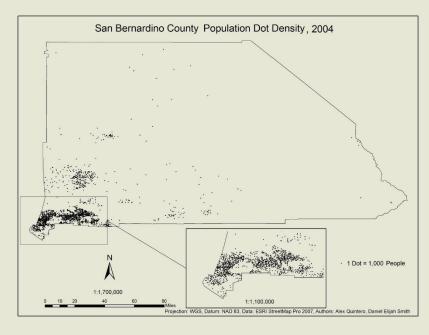
Box size is 100 square miles

One dot represents 1,000 acres of harvested wheat

Dot placement is random using county level data

MORE EXAMPLES

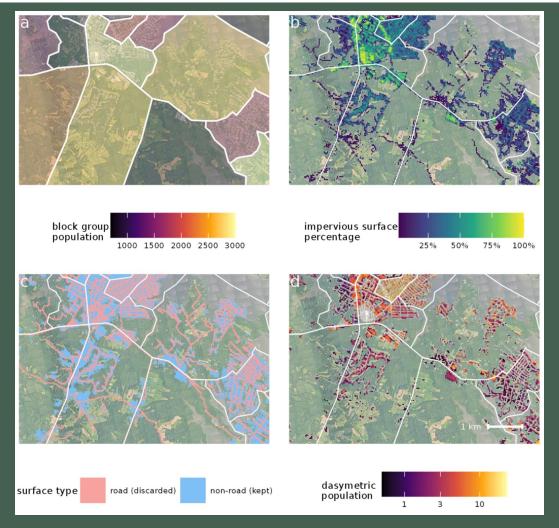




DASYMETRIC MAP

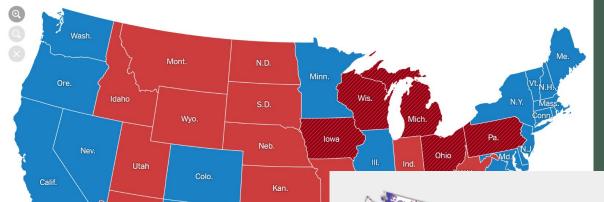
- Refining a map (choropleth or dot-density) using additional geographical information.
- Boundaries are modified to conform to areas of homogeneity and are not restricted to administrative or statistical boundaries

DASYMETRIC MAP

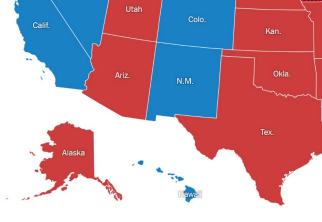


Elements of the dasymetric population mapping workflow. (a) Block group population estimates for south-central Anne Arundel County, Maryland (boundaries between block groups shown in white). (b) Impervious surface area (30 m) from the NLCD. (c) Impervious surface classification, showing roads and non-road areas. (d) The final population map, with population distributed across non-road impervious surface area and all Census blocks with zero population removed.

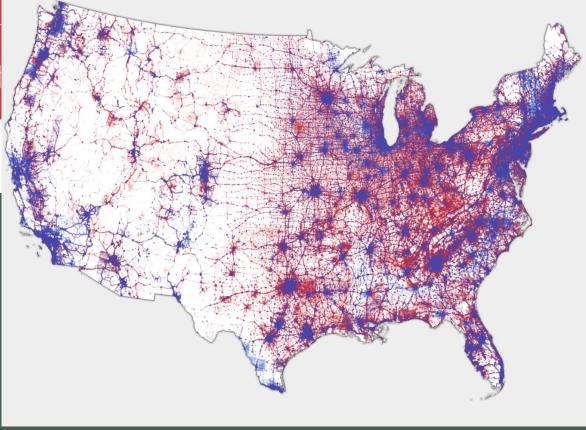
Swanwick, R.H., Read, Q.D., Guinn, S.M. *et al.* Dasymetric population mapping based on US census data and 30-m gridded estimates of impervious surface. *Sci Data* **9**, 523 (2022). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-022-01603-z



2016 US Presidential Election Results



https://www.nytimes.com/elections/2016/results/president



PROPORTIONAL SYMBOL MAP

- Data is represented by 2D or 3D symbols
- Symbol size represents magnitude
- When data occur at points
- When data are aggregated at points within areas

PROPORTIONAL SYMBOLS

- Geometric or Pictographic Symbols
- Geometric: two-dimensional or three-dimensional
- 2D Symbols: Circle, Square, Triangle
 - Area is scale to represent magnitude difference
 - Easy to understand
- 3D Symbols: Sphere, Cube, Cylinder, etc.
 - Visually attractive but difficult to understand magnitude











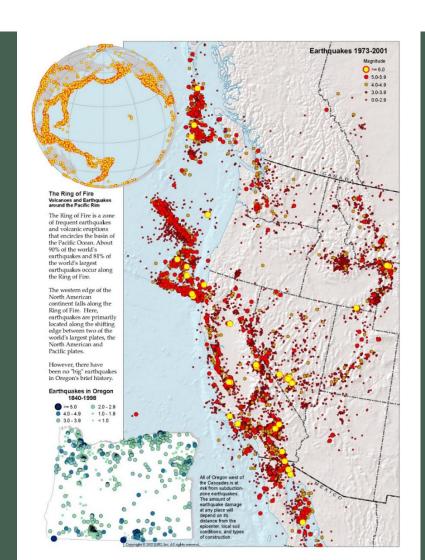




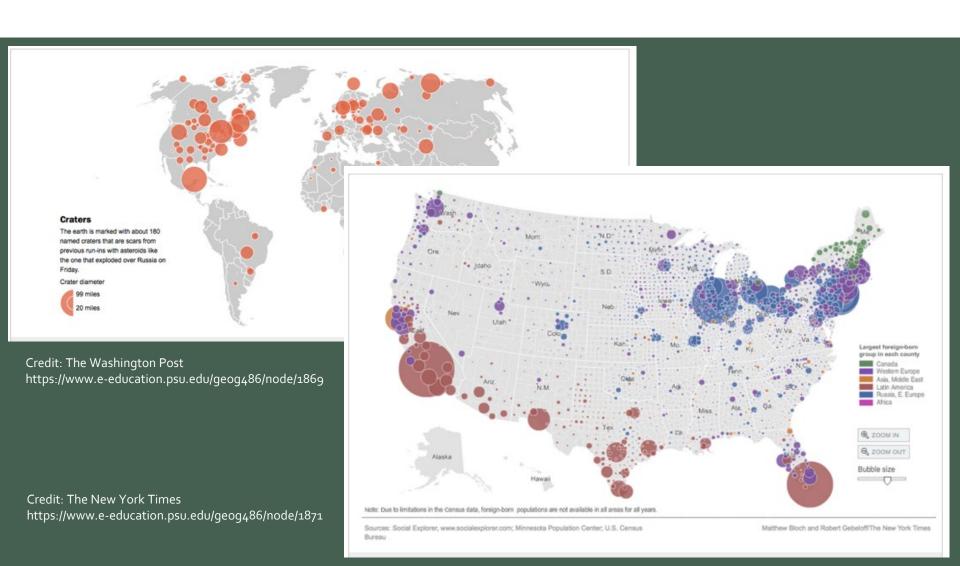
Visual variable	Point	Linear	Areal	2.5D	T	rue 3D			
Spacing							Visual Variables		
Size	•••		Arrar	ngement	••••	X		Not recommended	
Perspective height		E	Value	e	••••	7			
Orientation	47	Z	Hue				14		
Shape	&	K	Light	ness			14		
			Satur	ration	••••	Z	14		

pro.arcgis.com

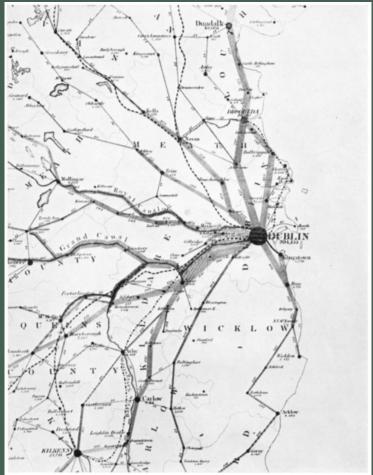
PROPORTIONAL SYMBOL MAP



PROPORTIONAL SYMBOL MAP



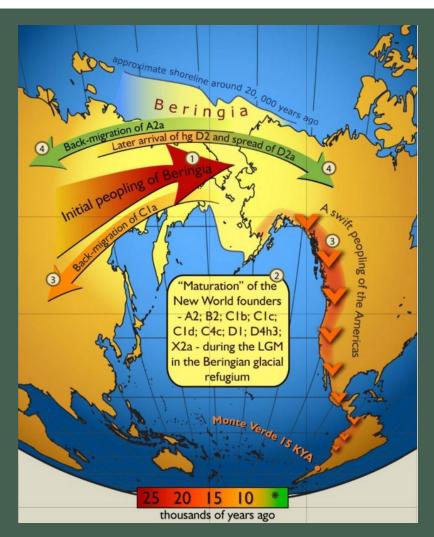
- Linear movement between places
- Data are represented by flow lines/ streamlines
- Flow mapping was introduced in 1837
 by Henry Drury Harness



Arthur H. Robinson. "The 1837 Maps of Henry Drury Harness" The Geographical Journal Vol. 121, No. 4 (Dec., 1955), pp. 440-450

Harness' Passenger Conveyance Map, 1837. Original, I inch to 10 miles: Brit. Mus.

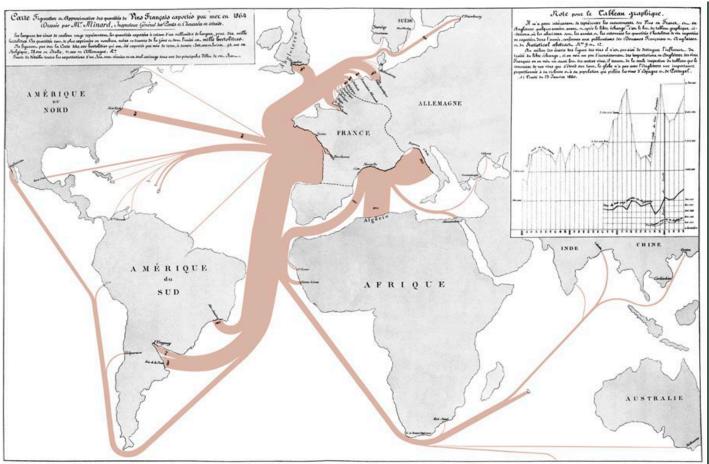
- Qualitative lines are typically not scaled.
- Quantitative width of the flow lines connecting places are drawn in proportion to the quantity of movement represented.
- Data generalization are very common and depends on map scale.





http://hint.fm/wind/

Flow Map, Map of gene flow in and out of Beringia By Erika Tamm et al. CC-BY-SA-3.o, via Wikimedia Commons



Charles Joseph Minard's map of French wine exports for 1864.

Charles Joseph Minard, Tableaux Graphiques et Cartes Figuratives de M. Minard, 1845-1869, a portfolio of his work held by the Bibliothèque de l'École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris.

DATA APPROPRIATENESS

- Raw or Derived data can be used
 - Totals, Ratios, and Proportions
- Interval data should not be used as it will not ensure proportionality*
- Weight, volume, value (\$), amount, and/or frequencies are the most common units used

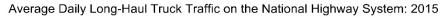
DIRECTED AND UNDIRECTED FLOWS

- Directed Flow Maps
 - Arrows are used to display the flow direction
- Undirected Flow Maps
 - Drawn without arrows, can imply movement in both directions
- Undirected flow maps are used:
 - When the data are aggregated for both directions
 - When it is impractical to portray both directions
 - Easy to generate in GIS and mapping software

FLOW MAP TYPES

- Traffic Flow Maps
 - Actual routes and the magnitude of traffic are important.
 - Commonly found without directional symbols as most of the roads accommodate traffic in both directions.
- Origin-Destination Maps
 - Desire Line Maps (Davis 1974).
 - Typically illustrate social or economic interaction using a line/arc connecting points of origin and destination.
 - Used when exact routes cannot be displayed.

TRAFFIC FLOW MAP

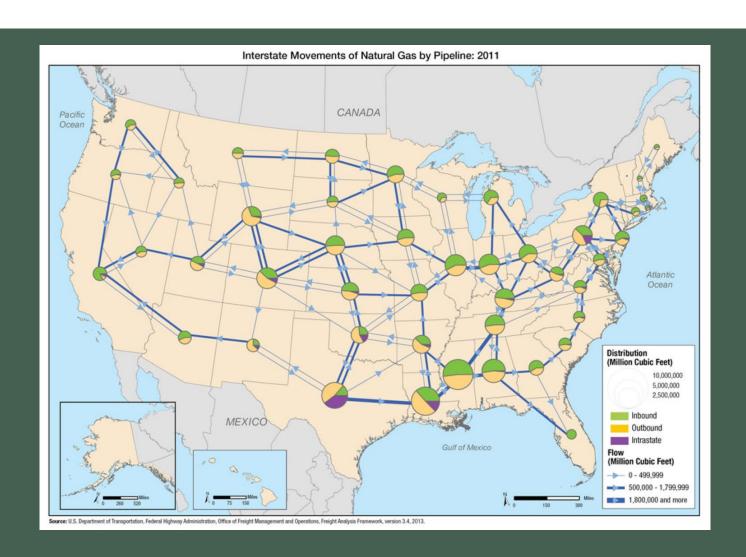




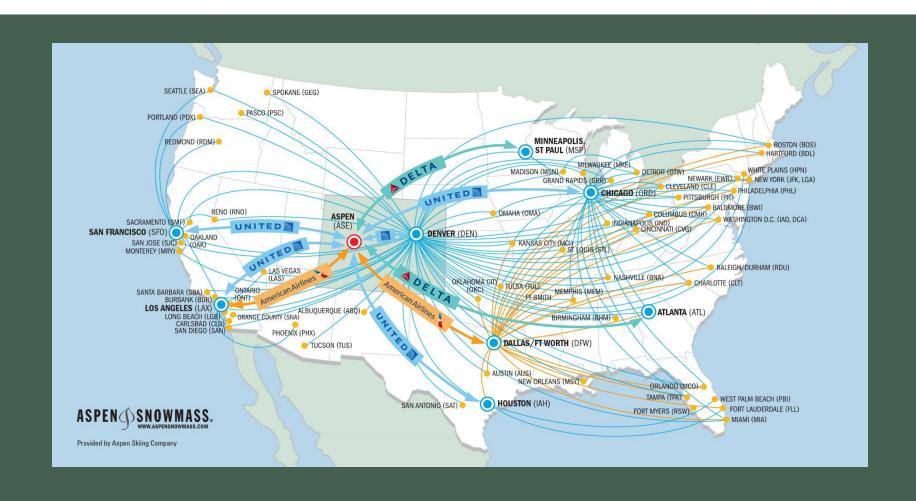
Note: Major flows include domestic and international freight moving by truck on highway segments with more than twenty five FAF trucks per day and between places typically more than fifty miles apart.

Source: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Freight Management and Operations, Freight Analysis Framework, version 4.3, 2017.

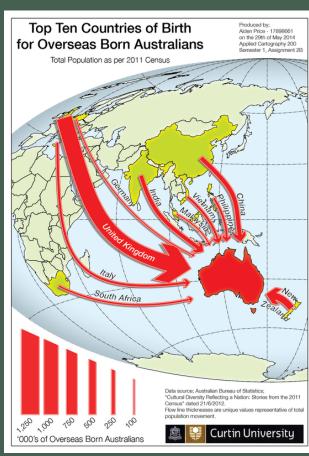
TRAFFIC FLOW MAP



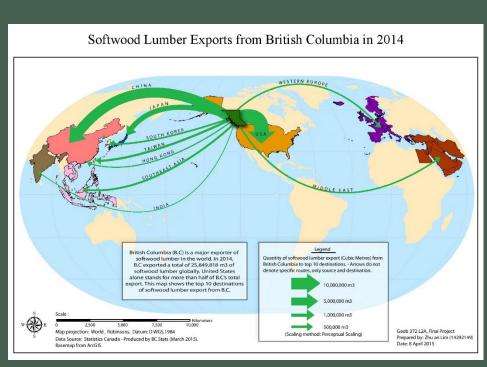
ORIGIN-DESTINATION MAP



MAP ORGANIZATION AND FIGURE-GROUND

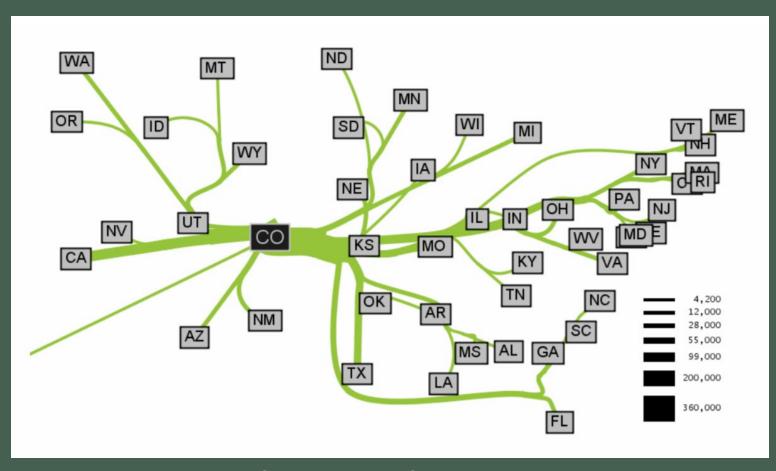




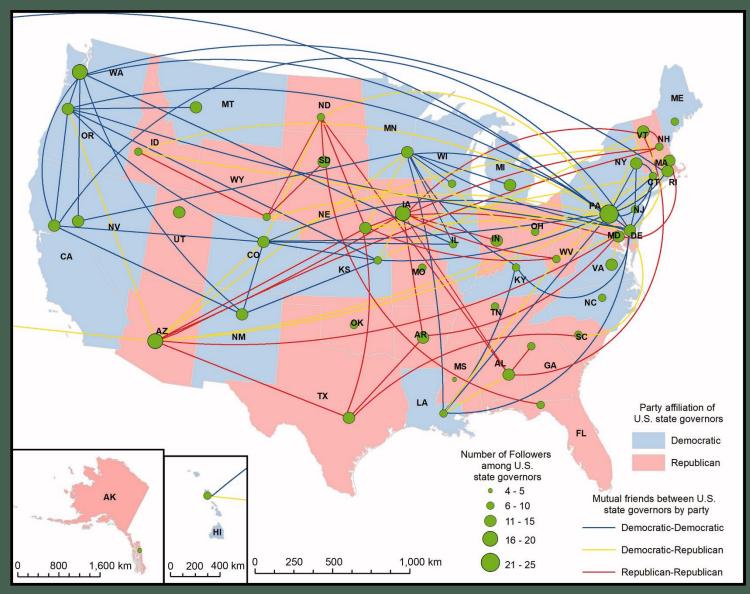


https://blogs.ubc.ca/zhuanlim/2015/12/03/proportional-symbol-flow-map/

FLOW MAPPING TECHNIQUES

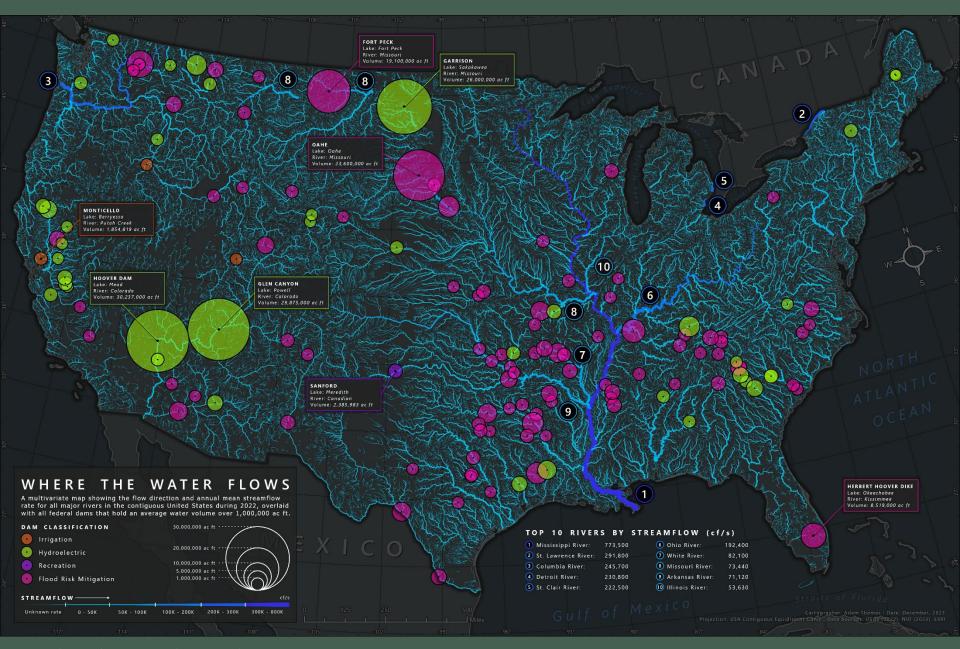


Outgoing migration map from Colorado for 1995-2000. Phan et al.

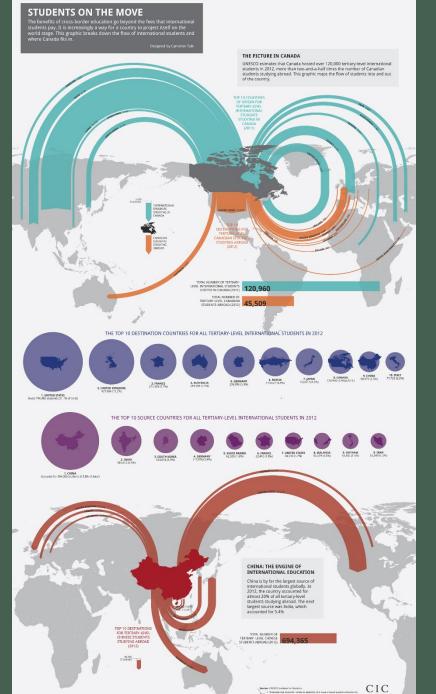


Following connections among Twitter accounts of U.S. state governors as of 15 June 2020.

Xi Gong & Xinyue Ye (2021) Governors Fighting Crisis: Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic across U.S. States on Twitter, The Professional Geographer, 73:4, 683-701. https://doi.org/10.1080/00330124.2021.1895850



Adam Thomas, Johns Hopkins University https://mapgallery.esri.com/submission-detail/65ab5f391843cf90681cf61d

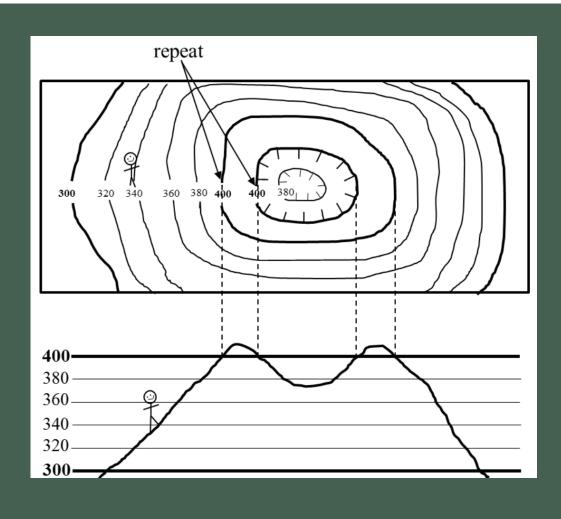


http://sites.duke.edu/intledexchangeresources/ the-burgeoning-business-of-internationaleducation/

ISARITHMIC MAP

- A planimetric representation of the surface of a threedimensional volume.
- Data should be continuous and not discrete.
- A quantitative mapping technique.
- Dates back to mid-sixteenth century.
- Created from a series of sampling points where data are measured and recorded.

CONSTRUCTION OF ISARITHM



Contours and hachured contours for a depression at the top of a hill illustrated on a topographic map and a corresponding topographic profile. Notice that the first hachured depression contour line elevation is a repeat of the closest non-hachured contour line elevation.

Source: Karen Tefend (2017) CC BY-SA 3.0 view source

MAPTYPES & DATA APPROPRIATENESS

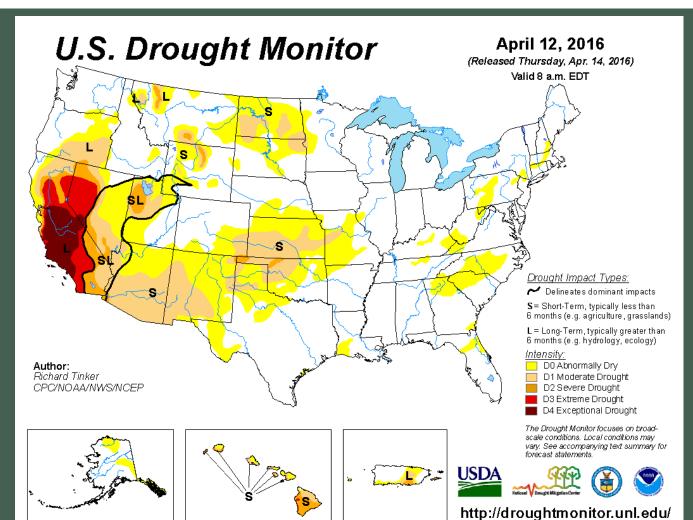
Isometric

- Data occurring at points
 - Totals
 - Ex: elevation, temperature
 - Derived average, deviations, ratios
 - Ex: drought, mean temperature

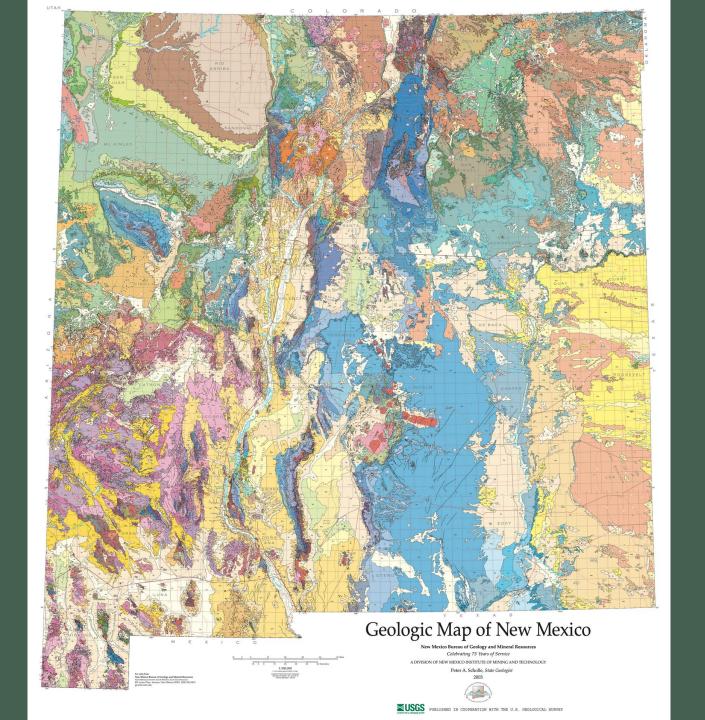
Isoplethic

- Data occurring over geographical areas
 - Derived ratios, proportions
 - Ex: population density, crop yield (bushels per acre)

ISARITHMIC MAPS



The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is each Tuesday at 8 a.m. EDT. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.



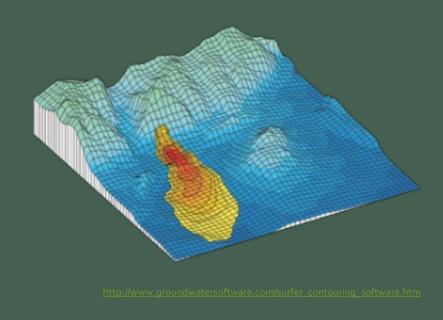
INTERPOLATION

- Interpolation is necessary when data are not at grid intersections, or are irregular or sparse.
- Interpolation becomes extrapolation
 - When areas deficient of points are interpolated
 - When interpolation is carried outside the data area

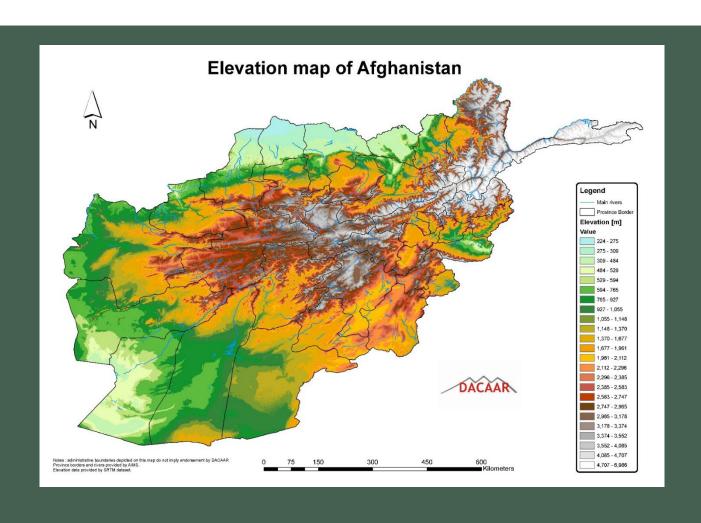
ISARITHMIC REPRESENTATIONS

- Isarithmic maps can be difficult to interpret by a novice reader
- To assist the interpretation, other three-dimensional views such as shaded relief maps or Wireframe/Surface maps can be used

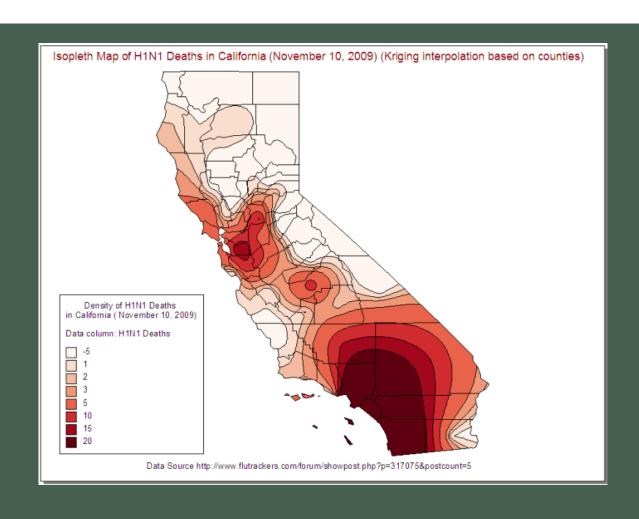




ISARITHMIC MAPS



ISOPLETH MAP



CARTOGRAM

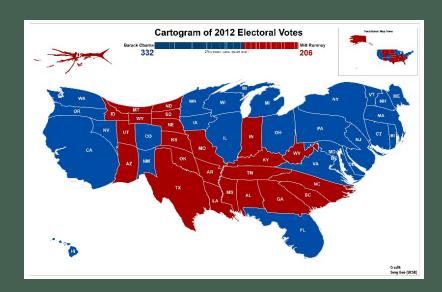
- Areas of the enumeration units are scaled to the data they represent
- Geographical relationships within the mapped space should be familiar to the readers
- Must preserve total shape of the study area

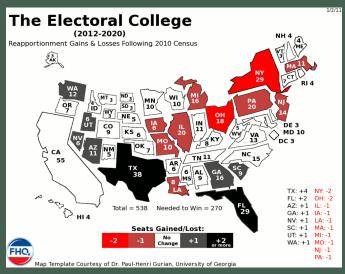
CARTOGRAM

- Construction Approaches
 - Manual or automated
- Data
 - Raw or derived
 - Ratios
 - Not intervals no classification of data
- Types
 - Rectangular Erwin Raisz
 - Circle Danny Dorling
 - Square Demers

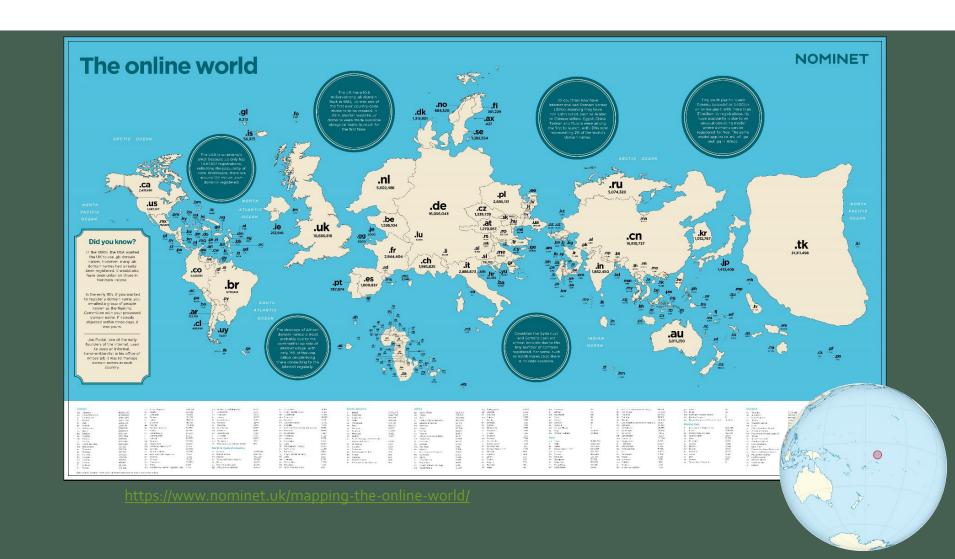
CARTOGRAM

- Forms
 - Contiguous or noncontiguous
- Requirements
 - Preservation of shape and orientation

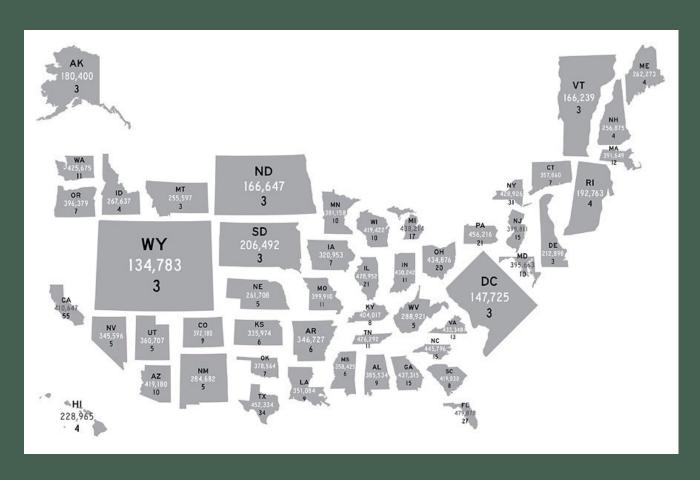




CONTIGUOUS CARTOGRAMS



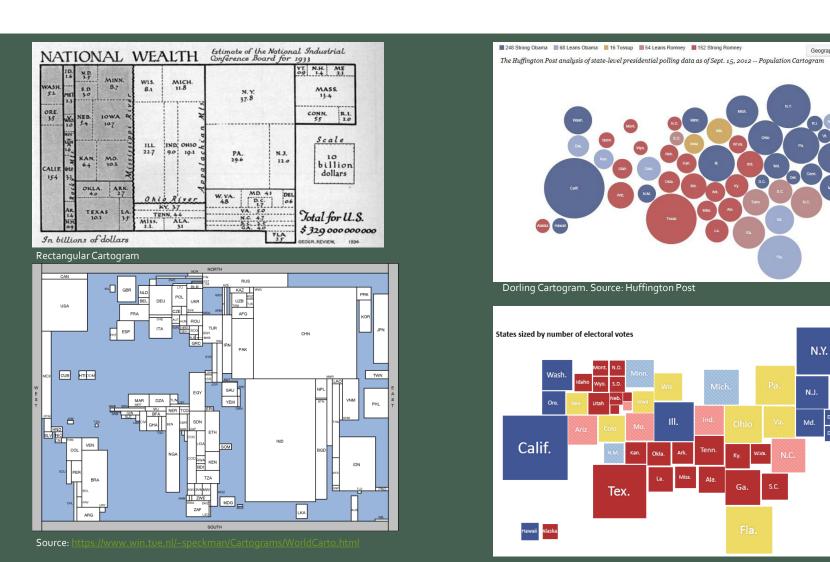
NONCONTIGUOUS CARTOGRAMS



This map shows each state re-sized in proportion to the relative influence of the individual voters who live there. The numbers indicate the total delegates to the Electoral College from each state, and how many eligible voters a single delegate from each state represents.

Source: The United States Election Project at George Mason University. By SARAH K. COWAN, STEPHEN DOYLE and DREW HEFFRON

TYPES OF CARTOGRAMS



Demers Cartogra m: NY

Times

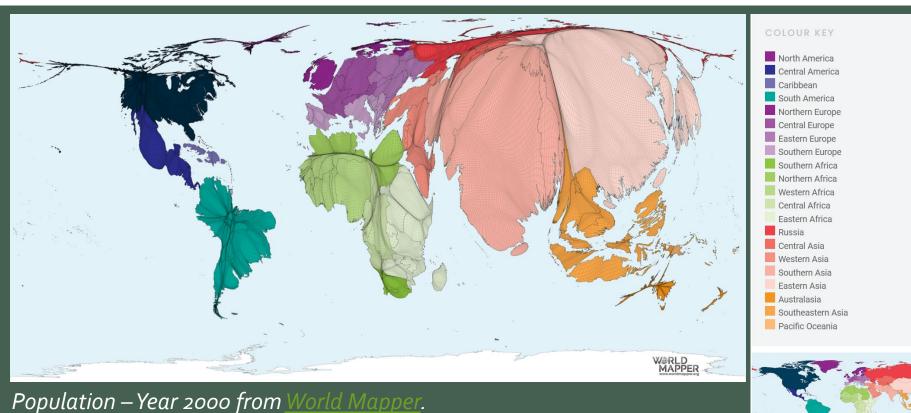
EXAMPLES



EXAMPLES



EXAMPLES



REFERENCE MAP

Technical Notes: This map shows the land surface resized by its population. Each transformed grid cell in the map is proportional to the total number of people living in that area.

Data sources: This map uses population estimates for the year 2020 based on data from the Gridded Population of the World (GPW), vg at 0.25 degree resolution, released by SEDAC (Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center) (accessed March 2018).

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