



# Resource Guide & Community Toolkit

Welcome to the US Covid Atlas ([www.USCovidAtlas.org](http://www.USCovidAtlas.org))! In a quickly changing pandemic landscape, the US Covid Atlas connects case data and community indicators across the United States and helps you visualize current and historical data to better understand the often unequal impact of the pandemic. This Resource Guide provides an overview, with step-by-step instructions, on how to use the Atlas and its tools and features. This guide will help you:

- Explore data and choose your variables of interest;
- Learn how to map and visualize US county and state COVID-19 and contextual data;
- Focus on the impacts on communities using various data tools and visualization options;
- Easily export and share Atlas maps and data and customize community reports.

If you are new to the Atlas, we recommend beginning with [Chapter 1: Getting Started](#). You can also browse and select a topic in the Table of Contents on the following page.



Let's get started!

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# CHAPTER 1

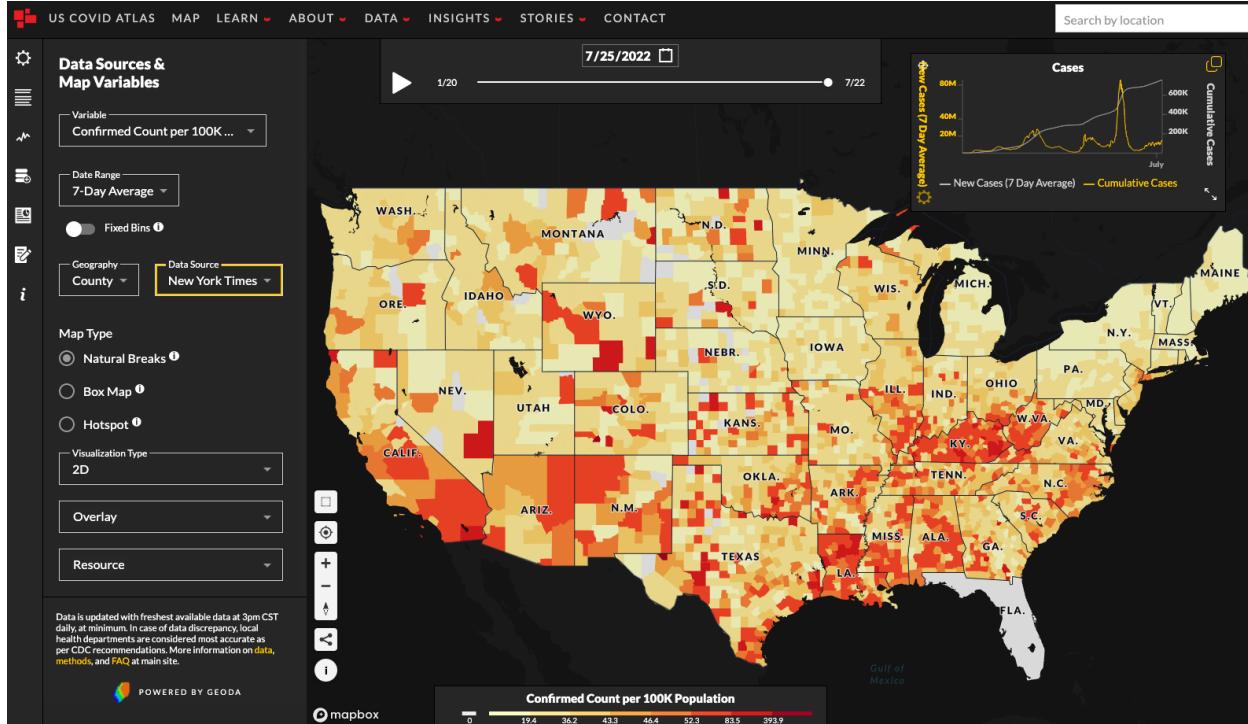
## Getting Started: Atlas 101

### Map Orientation

Start exploring the Atlas by navigating to [theuscovidatlas.org/map](https://theuscovidatlas.org/map). After a few seconds, the main map will load. If you are *returning* to the Atlas and new data or features are available, you will see an option on the bottom right side of the map to reload.

On the far left side of the screen, you will see a navigation panel....

On the left side of the map, you will find the **map variables panel [icon]**(left sidebar), where you can select your map variables, date range, data source, and other options. On the top of the map, you'll find the **Time Slider and Calendar [icon]**. This will allow you to explore the entire timeline of the pandemic. Next to the animated slider is an  information menu, which serves as a useful reference guide for tutorials, features, and data descriptions.

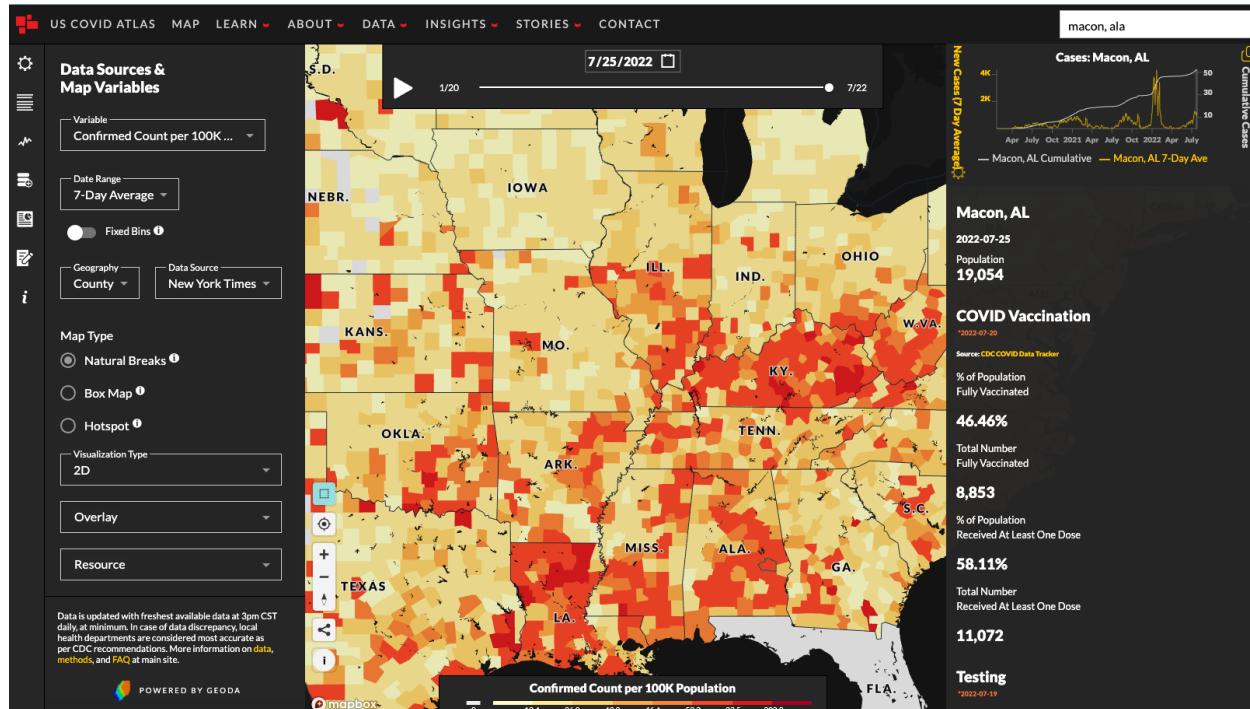


On the bottom of the map, you will find a **legend**, which provides a guide to interpret the map colors. See the legend displaying *Confirmed Count per 100K Population* with the color scale in the example above. Values with 0 or missing data will be shown in light gray. In the example screenshot above, Florida is grayed out because there was no data available for the state for the specific selection made.

On the right side of the map, you will see the **Time Graph and Line Chart** , which shows you an overview of the data over time.

If you click a county on the map -- like we did with Macon County, Alabama, in the example below -- you will find additional information on COVID-19 data, community contextual, and the related health factors for that county in a **right sidebar**. You can open or close the Community Context Panel at any time with the  icon on the left-hand side control panel.

To view how data in this county have changed over time, ou may want to move the Time Slider by dragging your cursor along the white line or pressing the play button , or by clicking on the date and Calendar Icon  at the top to select a date. See [Community Data Panel](#) in Ch 3 for more info.



At the top right side of the map, you will find an option to **Search by location**. Enter an address, county, city, or any place in the U.S. and hit return to re-zoom the map to your area of interest.

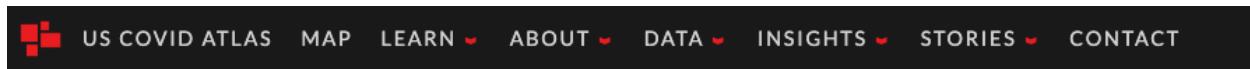
At the **bottom left side** of the map, you will see these additional icon features:

## Map Navigation



- ← Select a rectangular area. Data in the time graph and community context panel will be re-aggregated to show the area average.
- ← This icon re-zooms the map to your current location. Location services will need to be enabled on your device for this functionality to work.
- ← The plus or minus icons will allow you to Zoom in and out of the map.
- ← Use the North compass arrow to reposition your map so that North is facing up on your device screen.
- ← This sharing icon will allow you to share the current view of the map and selections as a URL. The link is automatically copied to your clipboard.

## Site Navigation Panel



Use the **Site Navigation Panel** at the top of the screen in order to explore the US Covid Atlas and Atlas Stories websites and learn more about our work.

- **Map** takes you to the main map page, where you can explore and visualize COVID-19 and community contextual data in multiple ways.
- **Learn** has options for viewing this toolkit and tutorials, methods, and FAQs about the Atlas.
- **About** has an overview of the US Covid Atlas, team members, and our Community Advisory Board.
- **Data** has data documentation, data downloader tool, and more information on our API (TBD).
- **Insights** has recent academic research and publications, the Atlas Insights blog with quick updates, and other recent data visualization projects.
- **Stories** has more information on Atlas Stories, our oral histories collection project, how to submit a story, story archive, and a link to the Stories feature on the Atlas map.
- **Contact** has a quick and easy contact form to get in touch with the Atlas directly.

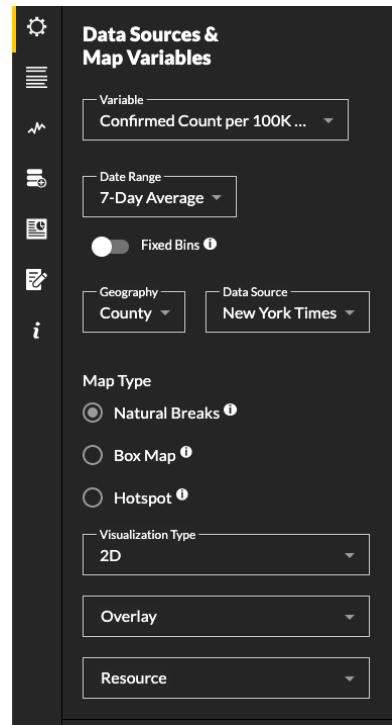
# Exploring Data

## Using the Map Variables Panel



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

- Toggle between **Variables** to display data on cases, deaths, testing, vaccinations, and community indicators. Adjust the **Date Range** to ensure the scope of your variable of interest.
- Under **Geography**, select an option to visualize data at the County or State level.
- Click on **Data Source** to see what sources are available for your variable of interest.
- Select a **Map Type** to display case data through Natural Breaks, Hotspot, or Box Map.
- Choose a **Visualization Type** that best suits the data: 2D view, 3D view, Dasymetric (Dot Density) view, or Cartogram. *For more on each of these, see [Visualization Types](#).*
- **Overlay** segregated cities, Native American Reservation boundaries, and other community regions to identify uniquely vulnerable locales.
- Plot **Resources** by selecting one or multiple options to visualize clinics, hospitals, and federal vaccination sites.



For more on each of the available options for Map Types, Visualization Types, Overlays, and Resources, see [Chapter 2: Visualizing Data](#).

### HINT:

Maps can miscommunicate underlying trends if health data are not appropriately normalized or classified, or communicated at the appropriate temporal or spatial scale (ex. daily versus 7-day average; county versus state level). Spatial literacy skills are crucial to avoid developing maps prone to misinterpretation, as well as avoid misinterpreting maps of Pandemic public health data.<sup>1</sup>

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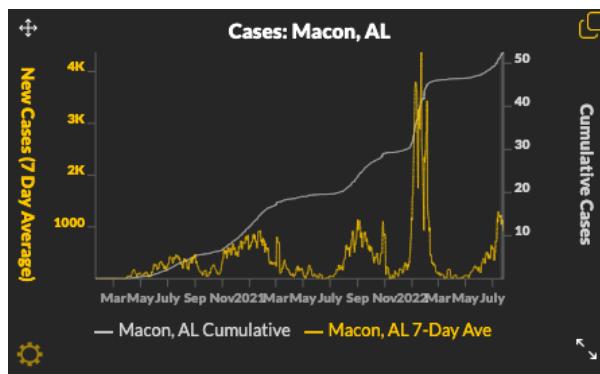
<sup>1</sup> Juergens, Carsten. "Trustworthy COVID-19 mapping: Geo-spatial data literacy aspects of choropleth maps." KN-journal of cartography and geographic information 70, no. 4 (2020): 155-161.

## Understanding Trends Over Time

LOCATION : TOP OF THE MAP



- After locating the **Time Slider** at the top of the map display (pictured above), click and drag your cursor along the slider to change the date of the map display.
- Click on the **Time Graph** icon on the left-hand side control panel to bring up the Time Graph Line Chart (pictured below). The Line Chart will pop up on the top right of the map display but it is moveable using on the top left corner of the chart. By default, the Time Graph Line Chart shows the 7-day average of confirmed COVID cases since March 2020, but the data variable, scale, and other factors can be controlled in the Line Chart Controls panel, available by clicking the gear icon in the lower left corner of the Line Chart. For more details, see [Chapter 2: Visualizing Data, Time Graph](#).



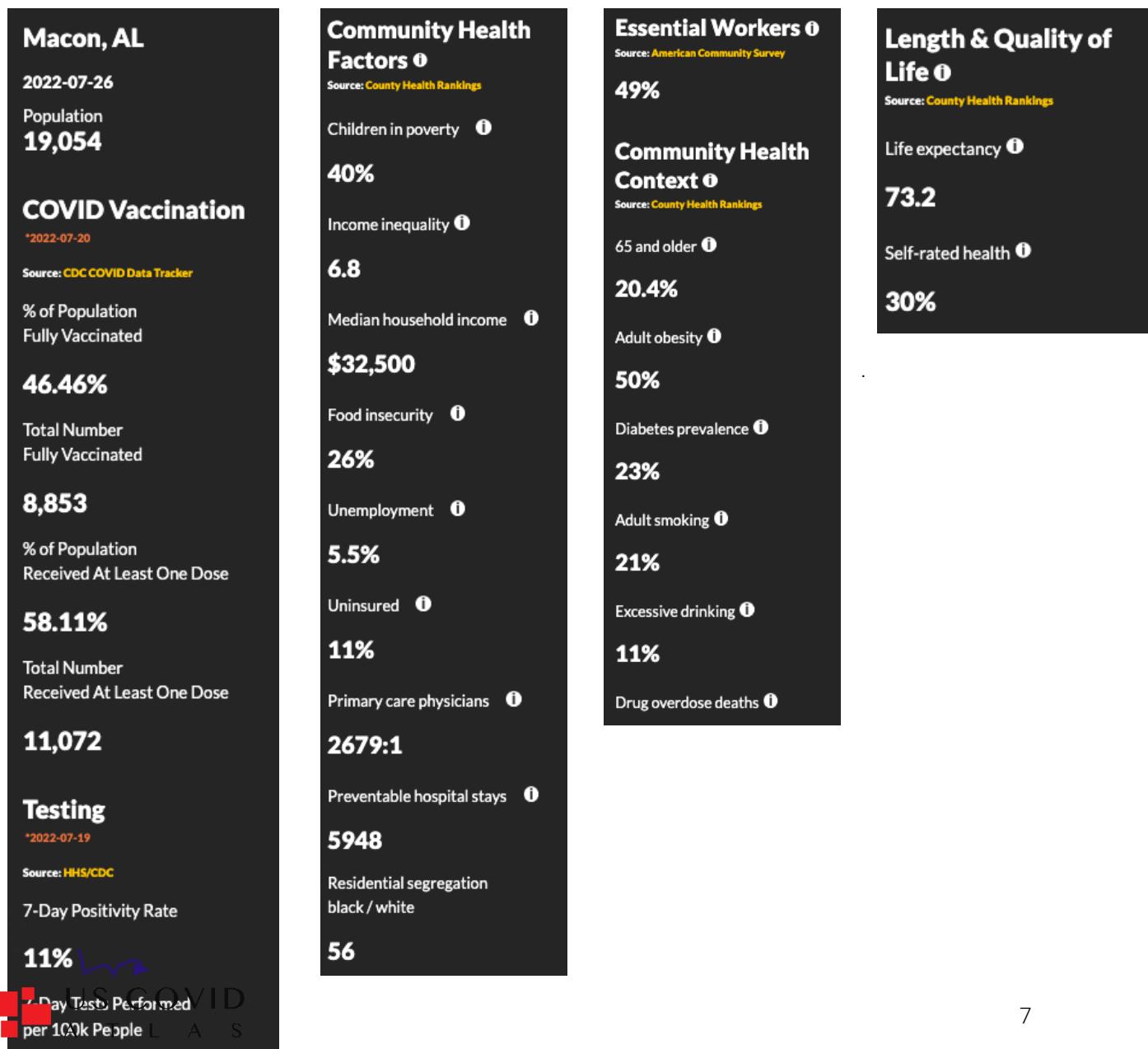
## Gaining Insight on Communities



LOCATION : RIGHT SIDEBAR

- Click on a County or State and scroll through information that pops upon the right-hand **Community Context Panel** on the area's COVID statistics, population, health indicators, and other factors. You can click on the icon on the left-side main control panel to turn on or off the Community Context Panel at any time.
- Scrolling down the Community Context Panel, you'll find a list of curated indicators, including Community Health Factors, Community Health Context, Length & Quality of Life (Source: County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2021) and Essential Workers (Source: American Community Survey, 2019).

Selection of data available on the Community Context Panel (*Example: Macon, AL*):



# Data Sources



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

The Atlas offers multiple data sources for some variables. To see what data sources are available, click on the **Data Source** option.

To view all the data sources available for each variable, view the [Data Documentation](#) page on the US Covid Atlas, under the *Data* menu.

## HINT :

Some variables in the Atlas come from multiple data sources, but there might be slight variations in the values across these sources because of slightly different ways that data is recorded, processed, and shared– XYZ is a good example of this. You can explore your variable of interest across multiple data sources., Some parts of the country, and some periods of time, may have better coverage than others.

For more information on this phenomenon, check out the paper published on *Dimensions of Uncertainty*<sup>2</sup> by the Atlas Team.

The screenshot shows the 'Data Sources & Map Variables' sidebar panel. It includes sections for Variable (set to 'Confirmed Count per 100K ...'), Date Range (set to '7-Day Average'), Fixed Bins (selected), Geography (County), Data Source (USA Facts), Map Type (Natural Breaks selected), Visualization Type (2D), Overlay, and Resource.

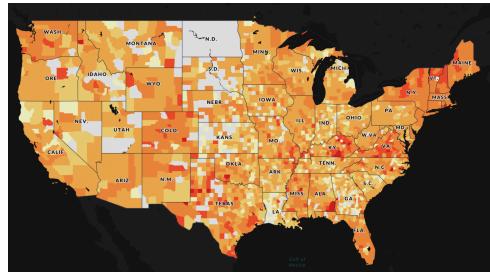
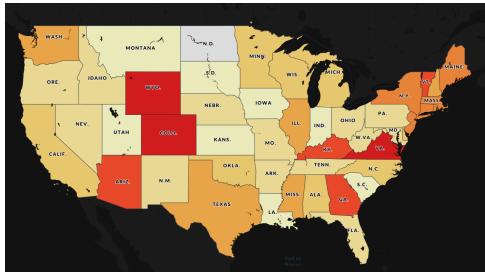
<sup>2</sup> Halpern, D., Lin, Q., Wang, R., Yang, S., Goldstein, S., & Kolak, M. (2021). Dimensions of uncertainty: a spatiotemporal review of five COVID-19 datasets. *Cartography and Geographic Information Science*, 1-22.

# Spatial Scales



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR: Data & Variables

The Atlas allows you to explore data at a county or state-specific level for each variable. To change the spatial scale of your variable of interest, use the Map Variables Panel to select the data source and variable that you would like to map, click on **Geography**, and choose between State or County.



HINT :

Maps can miscommunicate underlying trends if health data are not appropriately normalized or classified, or communicated at the appropriate temporal or spatial scale (ex. daily versus 7-day average; county versus state level). Spatial literacy skills are crucial to [avoid developing maps prone to misinterpretation](#), as well as avoid misinterpreting maps of pandemic public health data.<sup>3</sup>

# Temporal (Time) Scales



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR: Data & Variables

The Atlas offers the option to explore data across various time scales, otherwise known as temporal scales, for each variable. To adjust the scale of data displayed on the Atlas, use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source/variable that you would like to map and click on the **Date Range** drop-down menu. Choose between presenting cumulative, 7-day average, or daily new data. Selecting “Custom Range” allows you to incorporate data from a specific window of time that is selected using the Calendar and Time Slider. To learn more about the available temporal scales, see the table below.

Date Range 7-Day Average ▾
<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Bins ⓘ
Date Range 7-Day Average ▾
Cumulative
Daily New
<b>7-Day Average</b>
Custom Range

<sup>3</sup> Juergens, Carsten. "Trustworthy COVID-19 mapping: Geo-spatial data literacy aspects of choropleth maps." KN-journal of cartography and geographic information 70, no. 4 (2020): 155-161.

## Temporal Scales Available on the US Covid Atlas

Date Range	Description
Cumulative	Total number of instances, such as confirmed cases, deaths, or vaccines, since the start of the pandemic or the start of data collected.
Daily New	The number of new instances per day for which data is available.
7-Day Average	The average number of instances over the previous 7-day period for which data is available.
Custom Range	Use the Time Slider and Calendar to choose a custom date range; i.e. the last month, 6 months, the latest variant, etc.

### HINT:

Maps can miscommunicate underlying trends if health data are not appropriately normalized or classified, or communicated at the appropriate temporal or spatial scale (ex. daily versus 7-day average; county versus state level). Spatial literacy skills are crucial to avoid developing maps prone to misinterpretation, as well as avoid misinterpreting maps of Pandemic public health data.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Juergens, Carsten. "Trustworthy COVID-19 mapping: Geo-spatial data literacy aspects of choropleth maps." KN-journal of cartography and geographic information 70, no. 4 (2020): 155-161.

## CHAPTER 2

# Visualizing Data

## Map Type



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

### Basic Thematic Maps:

#### Natural Breaks vs Box Map

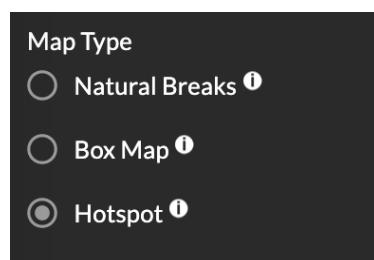
The Map Type buttons in the Atlas' map variables panel allow you to change how the map is colored and how the data is visualized. Choose between visualizing your variable of interest through a Natural Breaks or Box Map.

- Selecting **Natural Breaks** will plot data from the selected variable according to a non-linear algorithm that categorizes observations into similar values, grouping and highlighting extreme observations. This is the typical thematic map that you are probably used to seeing!
- Selecting **Box Map** will plot the selected variable by categorizing data into bins according to where it would lie on a box plot chart (25th, 50th, 75th percentile, etc.) This is useful for identifying outlier data -- data that is significantly different from the rest, i.e. counties with much higher or lower rates compared to all other counties.

To learn more about how data is sorted to create Natural Breaks and Box Maps through the Atlas, click [here](#).

## Hotspot Maps

The Atlas allows you to identify hotspots and cool spots to visualize 'interesting locations' and trends related to COVID-19. To find and examine hotspots, select the spatial scale of your variable of interest, use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source and variable that you would like to map. Under Map Type, click on the **Hotspot** button and use the color ramp at the bottom of the screen to see if a region falls into a hotspot category.

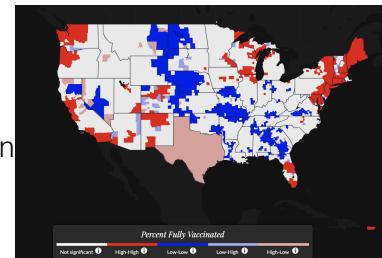


## METHODS:

The Atlas identifies hotspots using a spatial cluster detection method called LISA or local spatial autocorrelation. What this means is red shaded clusters (high-high or high-low) represent hotspots or areas with high rates; while blue shaded clusters (low-low or low-high) show cool spots, or areas with low rates. To learn more about local spatial autocorrelation, click [here](#).

## HINT:

Even though it is easy to associate hotspots in red as positive and coldspots in blue as negative – especially for case rates – it's important to remember that, when exploring vaccination rates, the opposite is true! Hotspots in red signify regions with high vaccination rates and coldspots in blue identify regions with low vaccination rates.

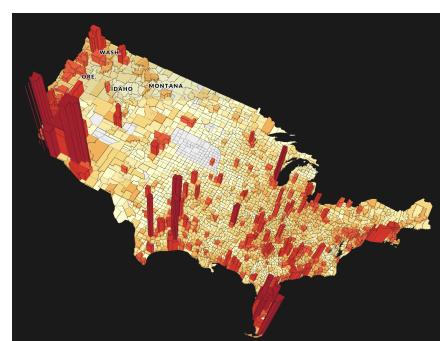
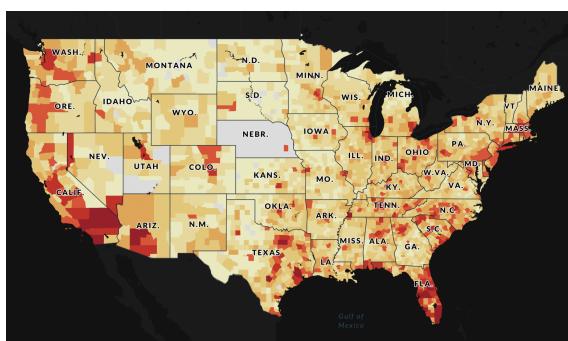


## Visualization Types

 LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

### 2D vs 3D

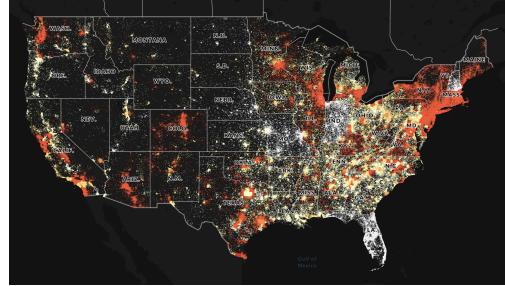
The Atlas offers the option to visualize data in different dimensions for each variable. Use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source/variable that you would like to map and choose between 2D or 3D under a **Visualization Type**.



## Dot Density

The Atlas allows you to change the style that data is presented. Use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source/variable that you would like to map and choose Dot Density under **Visualization Type**.

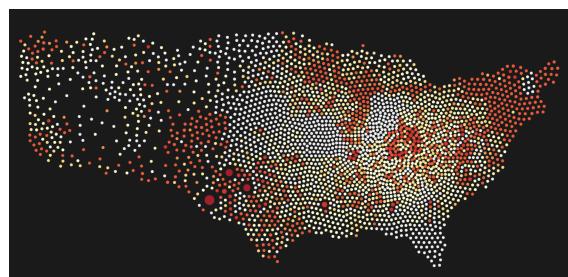
Unlike traditional choropleth maps – with geographies symbolized with colors representing different metrics – dot-density maps show dots representing concentrations of people. The density is visualized by placing one dot per 500 people. Toggle to choose between using dots to represent different racial and ethnic groups (**"Color by ACS Race/Ethnicity"**) or the COVID-related data chosen above (**"Color by COVID Data"**). Use the **Background Opacity** slider to adjust the transparency of the Map Type chosen earlier.



## Cartogram

The Atlas allows you to change the style in which the data is presented. Use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source/variable that you would like to map and choose Cartogram under **Visualization Type**.

Unlike traditional choropleth maps – with geographies symbolized with colors representing different metrics – cartograms distort the geometries of regions in order to convey the information of an alternate variable. After selecting Cartogram as a visualization type, each will be inflated or deflated according to the numeric value of your COVID-related variable of interest.



# Time Graph

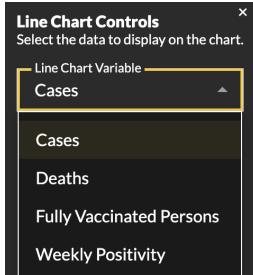
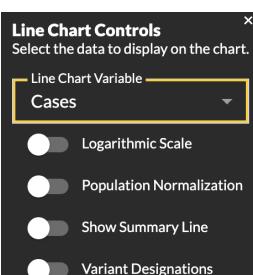
LOCATION : TOP RIGHT, MOVEABLE

## Time Graph Line Chart

The Atlas' **Time Graph** allows you to look at the nation's or a particular county's historic data now relative to trends in the past.

The **Time Graph** pops up in the top right corner when you first navigate to the Atlas. It can also be accessed by clicking the Time Graph button  on the left-hand side Control Panel.

Using the arrows icon in the bottom right hand corner , expand the **Time Graph Line Chart** window for a better view of the data. Click on a county to visualize county-specific COVID trends or leave counties unselected for a national overview of historical case data.

- The white line represents the average of new COVID cases each week, the 7-day average.
- The yellow line is the cumulative or total number of cases that the county has experienced since the beginning of the pandemic.
- In the bottom left hand corner, you'll see the gear icon  indicating the **Time Graph Line Chart Controls** menu. There, you can choose from a number of options to visualize in the Time Graph Line Chart:
  - **Line Chart Variable:** Choose from cases, deaths, fully vaccinated persons, or the weekly positive rate. →
  - **Other Line Chart Controls:** Toggle between options to visualize data in different ways. Toggle *On* or *Off*: →
    - Logarithmic Scale
    - Population Normalization (Rates Per 100K)
    - Show Summary Line
    - Variant Designation: Approximate dates of when different identified COVID-19 variants started being tracked by the CDC.

# CHAPTER 3

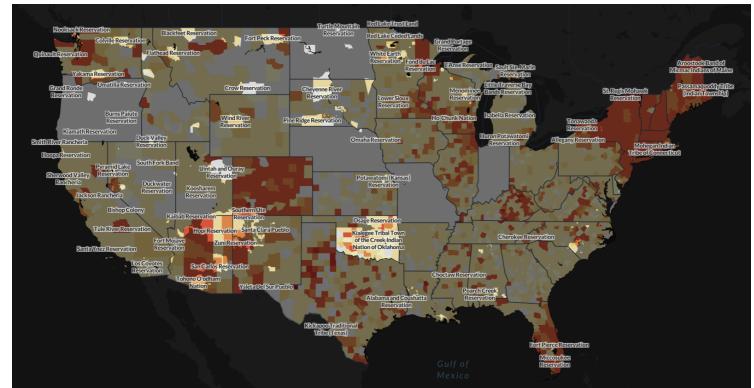
# Community Contexts

## Overlays



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

Overlays in the Covid Atlas allow you to identify COVID-related trends in uniquely vulnerable locales. Use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source/variable that you would like to map and toggle between community types under **Overlays**. Choose between overlaying Hypersegregated Cities, Native American Reservation, Black Belt Counties, and US Congressional Districts to highlight communities/regions of interest.



After selecting an overlay, you can visualize COVID or community data with the natural breaks binning, box map binning schemas, hotspot analysis, and any other tools that are available within the Atlas.

## METHODS:

The **Overlays** options were curated from partnerships with US Covid Atlas users and communities. These geographies and communities also represent groups that have been historically underrepresented in public health data reporting and analysis.

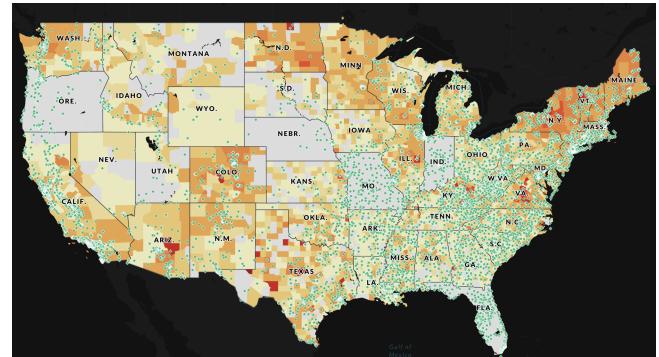
- **Hypersegregated Cities** comes from [research led by sociology and public affairs professor Douglas Massey of Princeton University's Office of Population Research](#).
- **Native American Reservations** comes from the US Census Bureau, Department of Commerce [2017 TIGER/Line American Indian/Alaskan Native/Native Hawaiin \(AIANNH\) National Shapefile](#).
- **The U.S. Black Belt** refers to a social and demographic history of approximately 200 [southern US counties that were at least 30% Black or African American](#) as of the 2000 Census. These counties have a history of majority African American population and cotton production.

# Resources



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

The Altas allows you to plot resources to visualize the distribution of COVID-related public health resources throughout the country. Use the map variables panel (left sidebar) to select the data source/variable that you would like to map and toggle between resource types under **Resources**. Choose between plotting Federal Vaccination Sites, Hospitals, Clinics, or both Clinics and Hospitals.



After selecting a resource to plot, create map visualizations with the natural breaks binning, box map binning schemas, hotspot analysis, and any other tools available within the Atlas.

## Community Context Panel

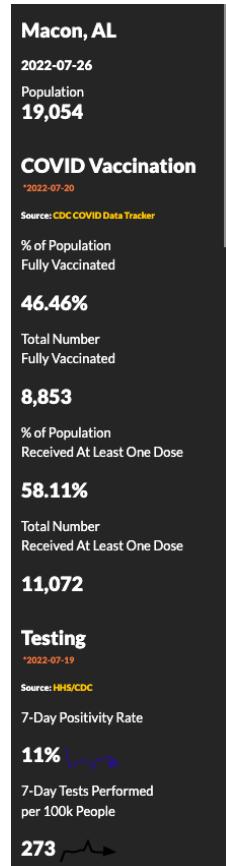


LOCATION : RIGHT SIDEBAR

Gain insight into COVID-related trends by clicking on a county or state (or right click to select multiple counties or states) by exploring the **Community Context Panel** on the right side of your map. Scroll through the panel for information on the selected county or state population, case rates, health and other community data.

The following is a selection of data provided for each county (see [Chapter 1: Gaining Insights on Communities](#) for more details):

- Population
- Total COVID-19 Cases
- Total COVID-19 Deaths
- 7-Day Daily Average of New Cases (per 100k Population)
- 7-Day Average New Deaths (per 100k Population)
- COVID-19 Vaccination Rates
- Testing Positivity Rates
- Community Health Factors (Source: County Health Rankings, 2021)
- Essential Workers (Source: American Community Survey, 2019)
- Community Health Contexts (Source: County Health Rankings, 2021)
- Length & Quality of Life (Source: County Health Rankings, 2021)



## HINT :

By default, the Community Context Panel will show County-specific information for today's date - adjust the date for which stats are displayed by specifying a date of interest using the **Time Slider** or **Calendar**.

## Add Custom Data



LOCATION : LEFT SIDEBAR

Although the COVID Atlas includes up to date information on county-level COVID vaccinations, tests, hospitalization, and case rates, you might be looking to visualize datasets that are not yet incorporated into the Atlas – whether that be a different variable or unit.

To load and visualize your own geospatial data in the context of the U.S. COVID Atlas, first ensure that your data is in the GeoJSON data format. GeoJSON is a spatial data format that allows you to place data in a particular location on a map.

**If the data you are looking to visualize is tabular (or it ends in .xls, .csv, or .tsv), you can easily transform it to the spatial format GeoJSON file using [GeoJay](#).**

*How to use GeoJay:*

1. Navigate to GeoJay at [geojay.netlify.app](https://geojay.netlify.app); GeoJay easily identifies and joins tabular data into the geospatial administrative boundaries that are needed to visualize your data on the Atlas.
2. Click "Join Data" and load your geospatial dataset into GeoJay.
3. GeoJay will use its warehouse of States, Counties, Zip codes, and more to join your Table data with geospatial geographies.

Once the joined data is downloaded onto your computer, navigate back to [uscovidatlas.org/map](https://uscovidatlas.org/map) to load it into the Atlas.

*How to Add Custom Data:*

1. Use the map variables panel (left sidebar) and click "**Add Custom Data**." Load your stored GeoJSON file and validate.
2. Choose a variable to be displayed in the atlas and name it accordingly. You can add multiple variables from the same dataset by clicking the "Add a variable" button.
3. Once your data is loaded onto the Atlas, you can perform geospatial visualizations with the natural breaks binning, box map binning schemas, hotspot analysis, and any other tools that are available with existing atlas data.

Feel free to even switch back and forth between your custom data and US Covid Atlas preloaded data like county-level case rates, vaccinations, hospitalizations, and use existing tools in the Atlas to get a better understanding of the loaded data.

HINT :

The Atlas supports polygon geometries and numerical data; weekly rates and other data types may not be read accurately, so be sure to check for areas that have NaN or null values in the Atlas.

The data loaded into the Atlas will not be saved and is just visible to just you – if you would like to save visualizations or analysis loaded onto the Atlas, be sure to check out our tutorial and guides on Customizable Reports!

HINT :

# CHAPTER 4

# Sharing and Enhancing Findings

## Downloading Data

### Data Download Tool

LOCATION : TOP MAIN MENU

Use the Data Download tool to download bulk CSV files of the data available on the US Covid Atlas.

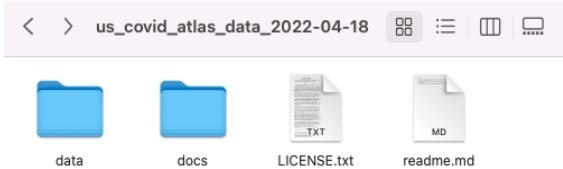
1. Navigate to the **Data Download** tool at: [www.uscovidatlas.org/download](http://www.uscovidatlas.org/download)
2. **Use the checkboxes** to select your datasets of interest. You may choose the full dataset (i.e. all Cases Data), select a dataset by County and/or State, and/or select by Data Source (i.e. Cases Data - County - New York Times and Cases Data - County - USA Facts). See the screenshot below for the complete available data archive.



3. Press the “**Download Data**” blue button to begin your download.

**DOWNLOAD DATA**

4. Your device should begin downloading a ZIP archive of your selected CSV files and as well as data documentation.
5. Unzip the folder to view its contents. You should see 4 items: **data** folder; **docs** folder; **LICENSE.txt** file; and a **readme.md** file.



- a. The **data** folder contains the CSVs of your selected datasets.
- b. The **docs** folder contains the documentation for all Atlas datasets
- c. **LICENSE.txt** contains details on the GNU General Public License (GPL 3), a free copyleft license for our open source software and data on the Atlas.
- d. **readme.md** contains a brief description of the ZIP archive contents.

#### HINT:

If you are downloading the full data archive available on the Atlas, note that the file will be over 70MB and may be slow to load.

Access the Data Download Tool at [www.uscovidatlas.org/download](http://www.uscovidatlas.org/download).

**Bulk Data Download**

This menu allows you to download bulk CSVs of the data available on the Atlas. Select your datasets of interest with the checkboxes below and then click download data to receive a ZIP archive with your CSV files and data documentation. Please note that the full dataset is currently over 70MB, and may be slow to load.

**DOWNLOAD DATA**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cases Data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County - New York Times <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County - USA Facts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State - New York Times <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State - USA Facts	<input type="checkbox"/> Deaths Data <input type="checkbox"/> County - NYT <input type="checkbox"/> County - USA Facts <input type="checkbox"/> State - New York Times <input type="checkbox"/> State - USA Facts	<input type="checkbox"/> Vaccination Data <input type="checkbox"/> County - Vaccine Series Complete (Fully Vaccinated) - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> County - One or More Doses Administered - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> State - Vaccine Series Complete (Fully Vaccinated) - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> State - One or More Doses Administered - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> State - Doses Distributed but not Administered - CDC
<input type="checkbox"/> Testing Data <input type="checkbox"/> County - Testing Counts - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> County - Tests Performed Per 100k - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> County - Testing Positivity - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> County - Confirmed Cases per Testing - CDC <input type="checkbox"/> State - Testing Counts - HHS <input type="checkbox"/> State - Tests Performed Per 100k - HHS <input type="checkbox"/> State - Testing Positivity - HHS <input type="checkbox"/> State - Confirmed Cases per Testing - HHS		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital and Clinics Locations <input type="checkbox"/> Federally Qualified Health Clinics - HRSA <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital Locations - CovidCareMap		
<input type="checkbox"/> Essential Workers <input type="checkbox"/> Essential Workers - ACS		

# Sharing Maps & Findings

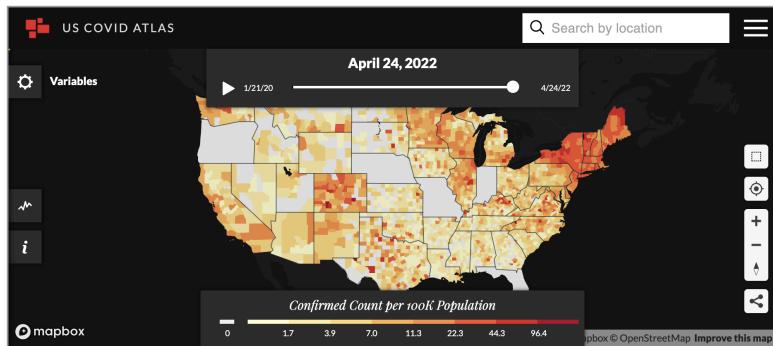
## Embed a Map View

In a few short steps, you can integrate a map view of the Atlas into your own website to share through embedded content.

### Covid Atlas Embed Helper

Link to embed <https://theuscovidatlas.org/map>

#### Preview:



Use the iframe element below to embed the Atlas on your website.

```
<iframe height="410px" width="100%" src="https://theuscovidatlas.org/map" title="The US Covid Atlas Map" />
```

Generate the map you'd like to embed with the variables of interest, visualization of county/state level COVID data, and specific community indicators and resources



1. Copy the URL link of your generated map by clicking the link icon on the bottom left of the map
2. Navigate to the [COVID Atlas Embed Helper](#)
3. Copy and paste your unique map view URL link under **Link to embed**
4. (Optional) To change the size of the embedded view, adjust **Window Height**
5. Check the **Preview** to confirm that you are satisfied with the size and quality of the embedded Atlas map view
6. Copy and paste the **iframe element** located below the Atlas preview to embed the Atlas on your website.

## Take a Screenshot

Screenshotting is an easy way to save and share map insights from the Atlas.

1. Use the guides in previous chapters of this resource guide to explore and choose your variables of interest, map and visualize county/state level COVID data, and use menu options to view specific community indicators and resources using the Atlas

2. Adjust the View window by zooming in and out on your area or insight of interest
3. Screenshot the window according to your device's settings. Visit [take-a-screenshot.org](http://take-a-screenshot.org) for a guide to taking a screenshot on a Windows, Mac, Linux, or Chrome device.

## Creating Custom Community Reports

After exploring regional trends, hotspots, and more through the COVID Atlas, you might want to share insights from this tool to your community. The US Covid Atlas report builder allows you to do just that by creating an easy to read and customizable snapshot of COVID data. To get started, go to [uscovidatlas.org](http://uscovidatlas.org) and navigate to the map page.

On the left side of the page, the icon dock contains a variety of tools available for use. Click the “Report Builder” button to begin

### Report Templates

Select one of the 4 default templates currently available showcase:

- **County statistics**, the most detailed data available on the Atlas
- **A country-wide snapshot**, for an overview of the whole nation
- **County statistics relative** to the whole country
- **A regional view** of how your county and its neighbors are doing

If none of these sound like what you are looking for, you can click “**Something Else (Blank)**” to start with a blank page to build on.

### Customize your Report

Pick relevant **Additional Report Items** on the left-hand side of the panel to further customize my report.

- **Maps** - visual geospatial data
- **Tables** - summary data on different topics
- **Descriptions** - text-based plain language information
- **Charts** - Line charts to show historic context and scatter charts to illustrate relationships of different variables

Some components can be customized in different ways, like changing the county shown, size of the report item, date, etc.

You can add more pages to your report by click the ‘+’ button below the first page.

## Save and Share

Once you are done customizing your report, click the buttons at the top of the page to utilize your report in different ways:

- **Save Atlas template** - save your current report as a template on the Atlas
- **Download screenshot** - save an image (or images, for multi-page) of the report for easy use on social media
- **Download pdf** - save an PDF of your report
- **Print** - print out your report

# About

The US Covid Atlas works to understand, archive, and represent the often unequal impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the United States. A coalition of research partners and contributors have been integral to developing and expanding the US Covid Atlas to meet the needs of health practitioners, planners, researchers, and the public. The Atlas team leads from The Center for Spatial Data Science have directed development of the Atlas since its first launch in March of 2020. For more information, visit [uscovidatlas.org/about](https://uscovidatlas.org/about).

# Contact Us

If you have any questions or comments about this Community Toolkit and Resource Guide or about the US Covid Atlas in general, please contact us at [uscovidatlas.org/contact](https://uscovidatlas.org/contact).

# Acknowledgements

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