CS 3300 Project 1

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A. The data set contains crime data of each state of the United States from the year 1960 to 2005. The data contains “State”, “TypeCrime”, “Crime”, “Year”, “Count”, and “ID” as variables. “State” is a categorical variable representing each state. “TypeCrime” is a categorical variable representing the type of crime, either “Violent Crime” or “Property Crime”. “Crime” is a categorical variable representing a specific crime of the type of crime. “Aggravated Assault”, “Murder and non-negligent Manslaughter”, “Forcible Rape” and “Robbery” are specific crimes of the type “Violent Crime”. “Burglary”, “Larceny-theft”, and “Motor vehicle theft” are specific crimes of the type “Property Crime”. The data set was retrieved from http://hci.stanford.edu/jheer/workshop/data/. The only two changes on the original data set are the addition of both “ID” and “Name” in states, since the raw data would carry only the geographical data. This was done using the topojson API to put the us.json data together with the states name.
B. We used the US map provided by us.json. The goal of our project is to visualize the number of violent and property crimes of each state over each decade. To do this, we represented the crime count of each state by the opacity of its color on the map. We used a linear scale to map the crime count to its opacity.
C. Over the four decades (from 1960 - 1999), California, Texas, New York, and Florida had relatively higher increases in violent crime than other states. California has always had a high number of property crimes. Similarly, over the four decades, the states Texas, New York, and Florida had relatively higher increases in property crime than other states. However, from the 80’s to the 90’s, there was a slight decrease in property crime in the state of New York. It seems that states that have a relatively high violent crime count also have a high property crime count.