



Module #8c: **Map Visualization**



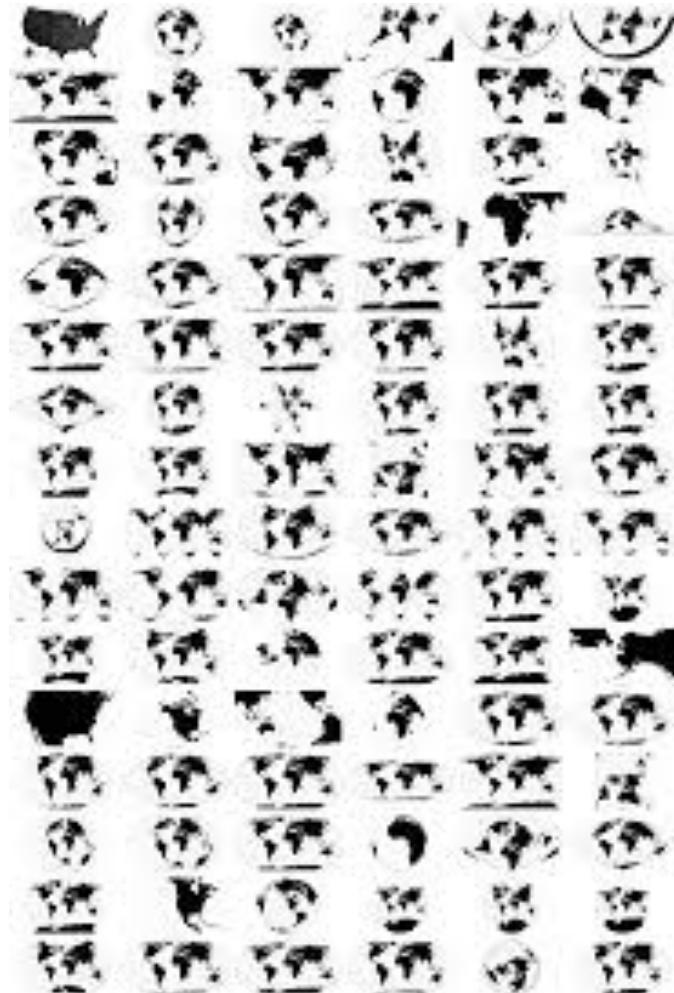
Visualizing data with maps

- Visualizing data with maps involves making decision in three basic areas:
 1. Projection: mathematical transformations of the curved three-dimensional surface of the globe onto a flat, two-dimensional plane.
 2. Scale: degree of reduction of the map
 3. Symbolization: visual encoding



1. Projections

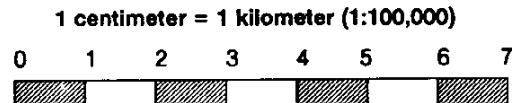
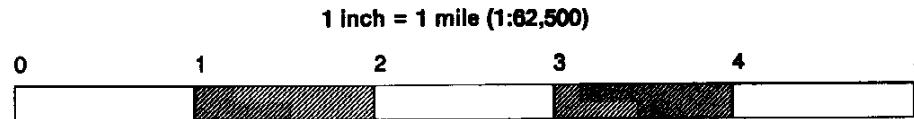
- Tableau, D3 and other visualization tools offer many projections
- See *d3-geo* and *d3-geo-projection*





2. Scale

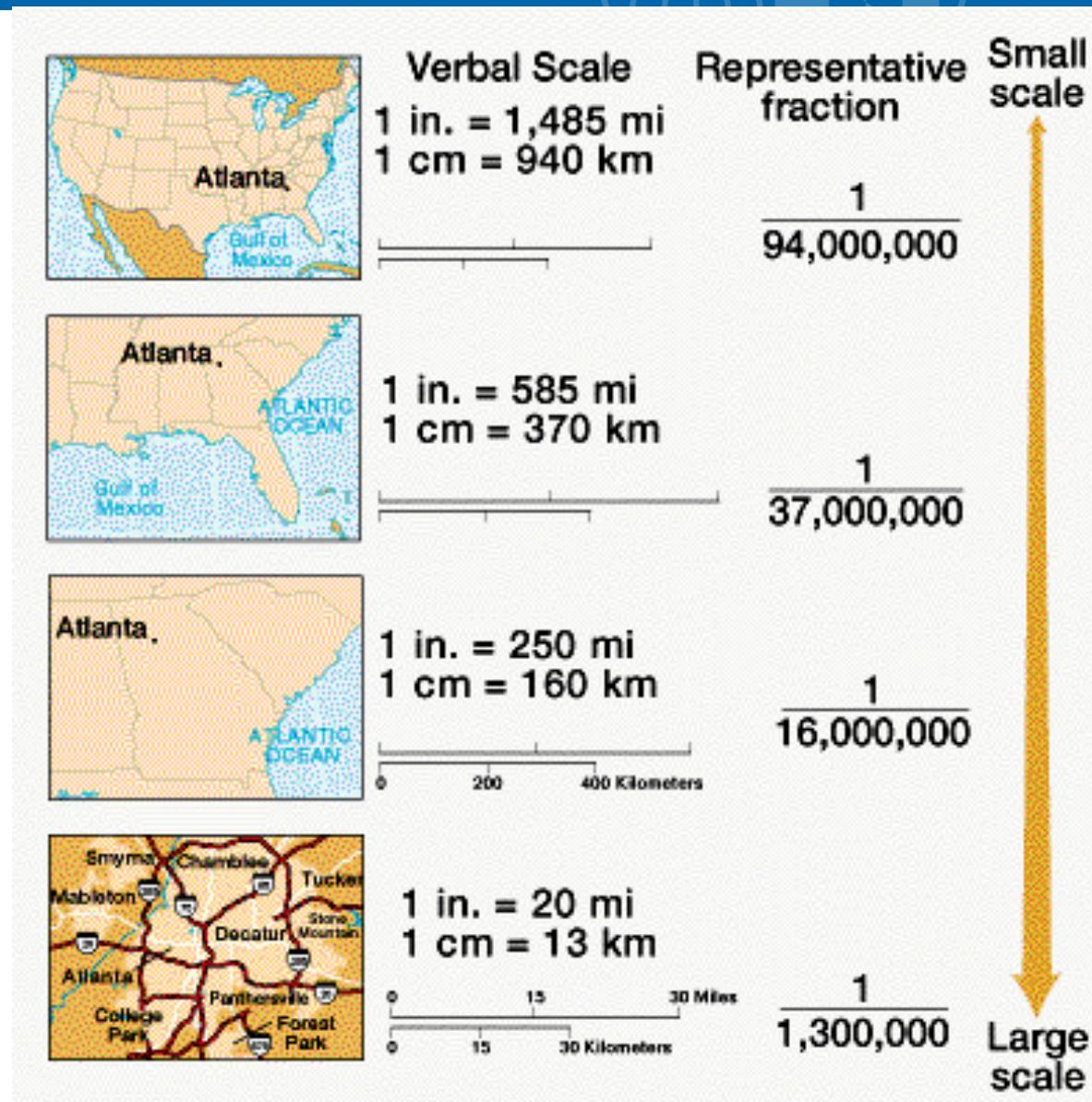
- Map scale: degree of reduction of the map
 - 1:10,000
- Scale tells us what extent the portion of the earth represented on the map has been reduced from its original size to fit on the map.



2. Scale

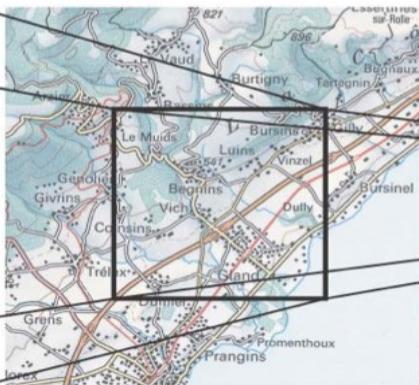
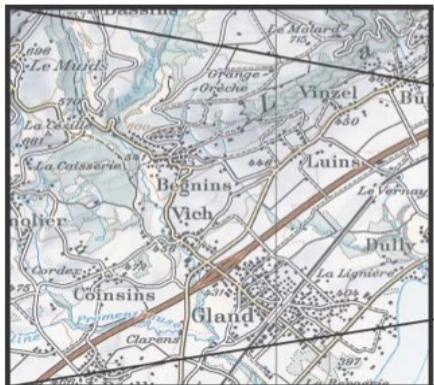
- Counterintuitive part of mapping:

- The more “zoomed in” the map is on an area, the larger is its map scale.
 - large-scale map depicts a smaller area
 - The less “zoomed in” the map is on an area, the smaller is its scale.
 - Small-scale map depicts a larger area



Scale

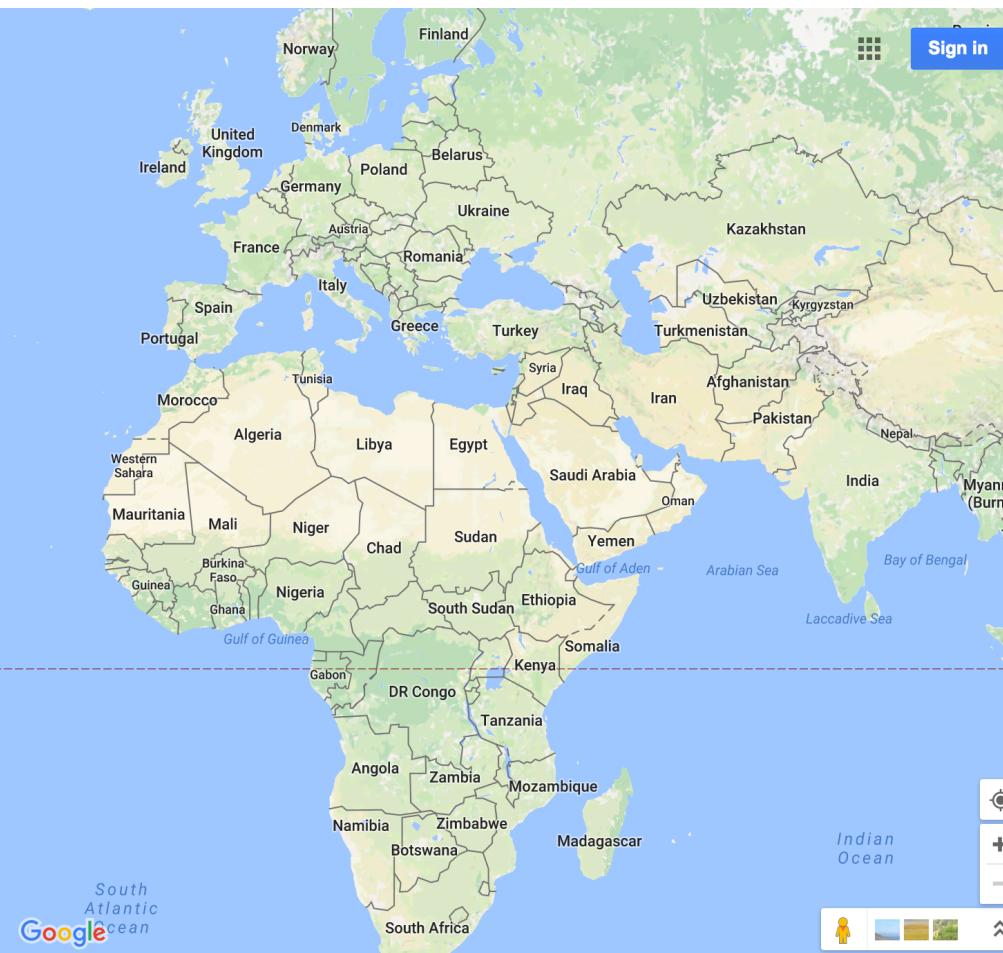
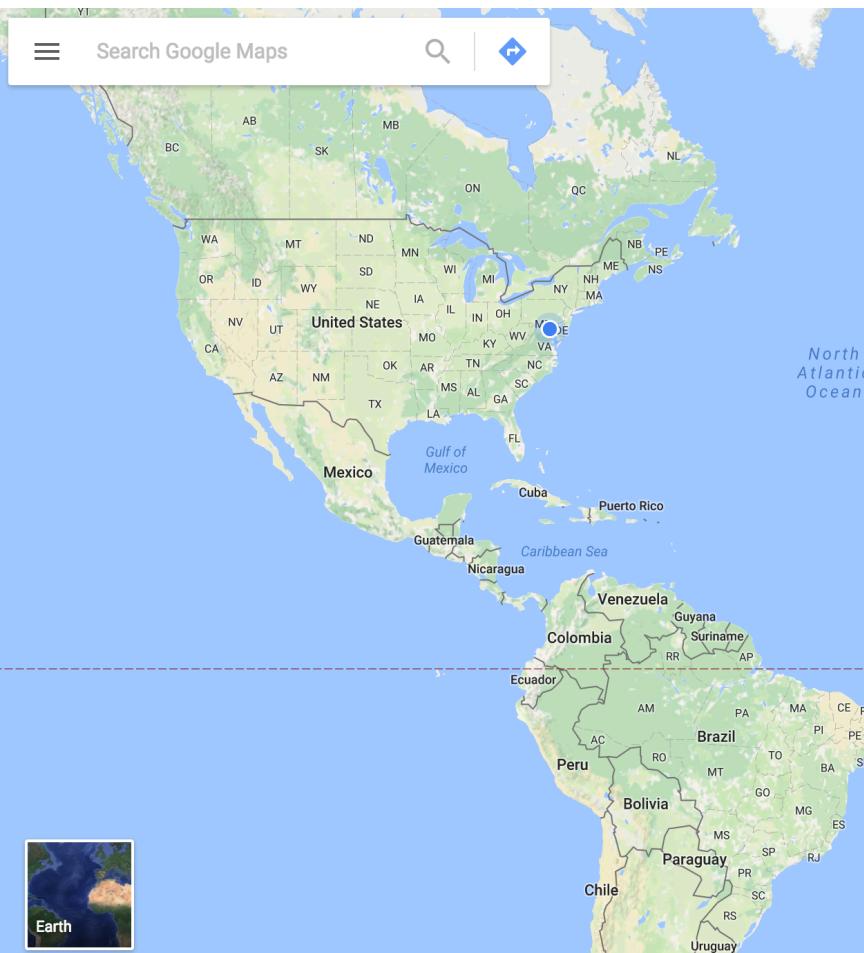
- Choose the right content at different scales

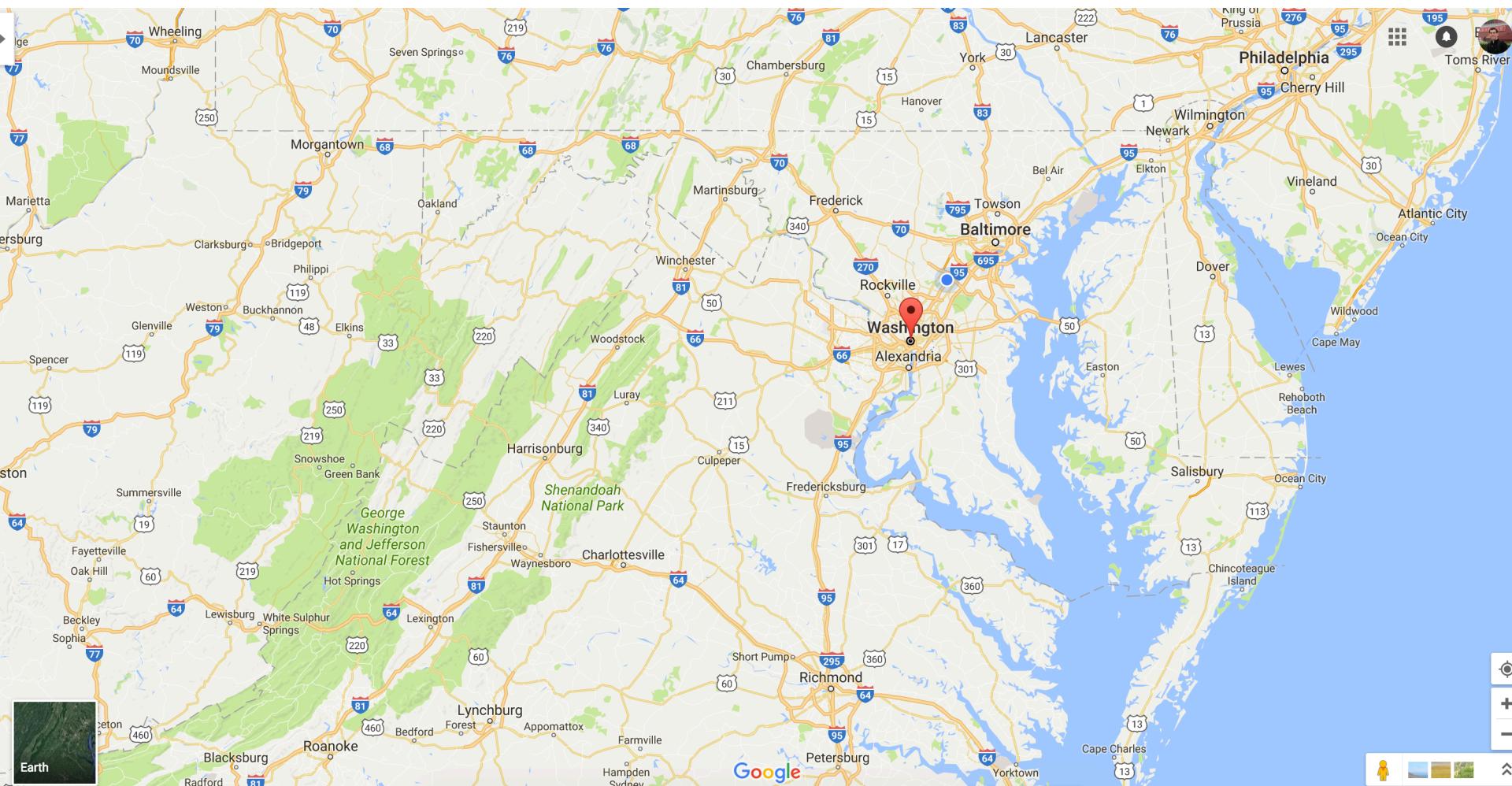


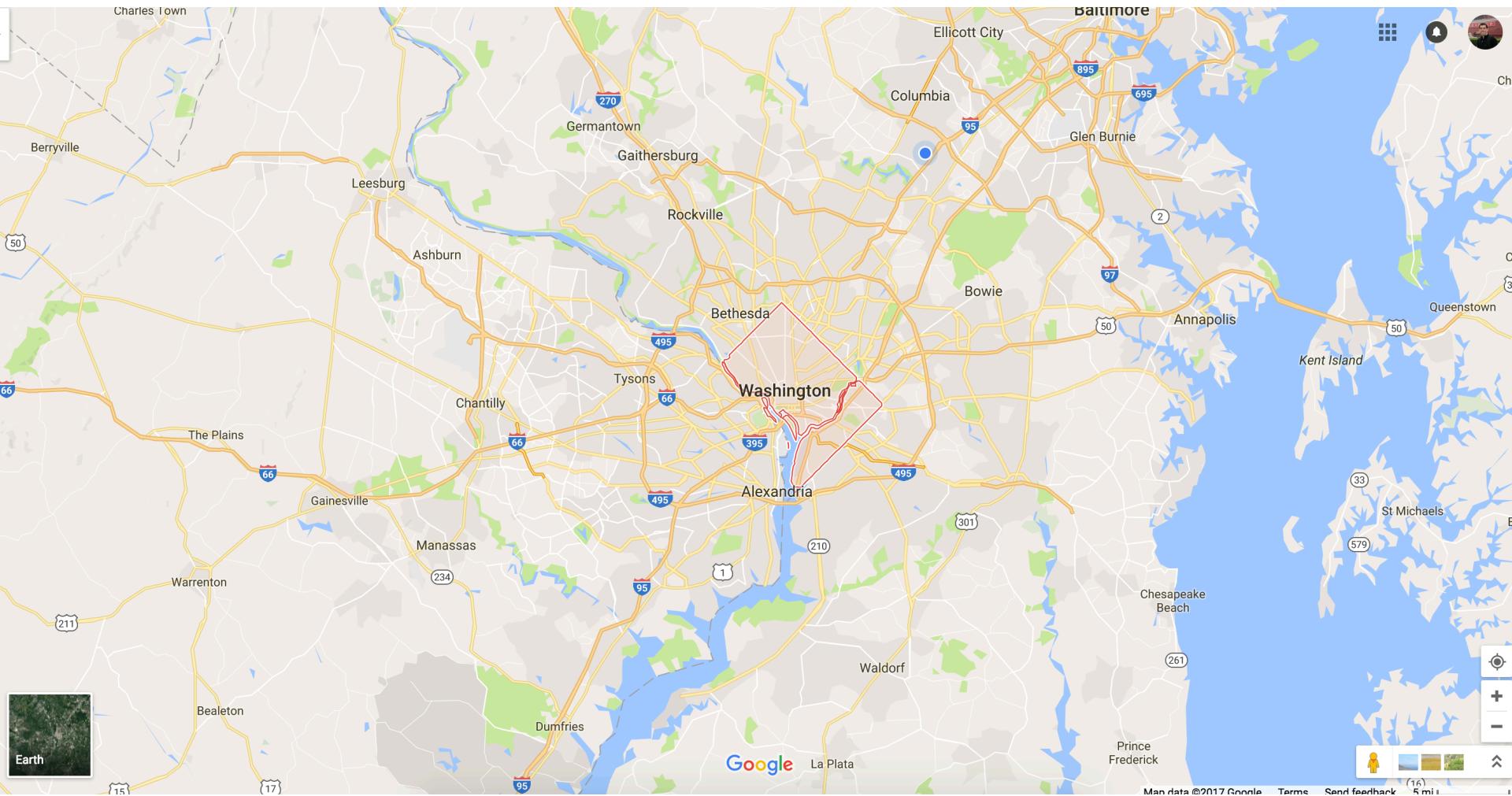
Four maps, same area

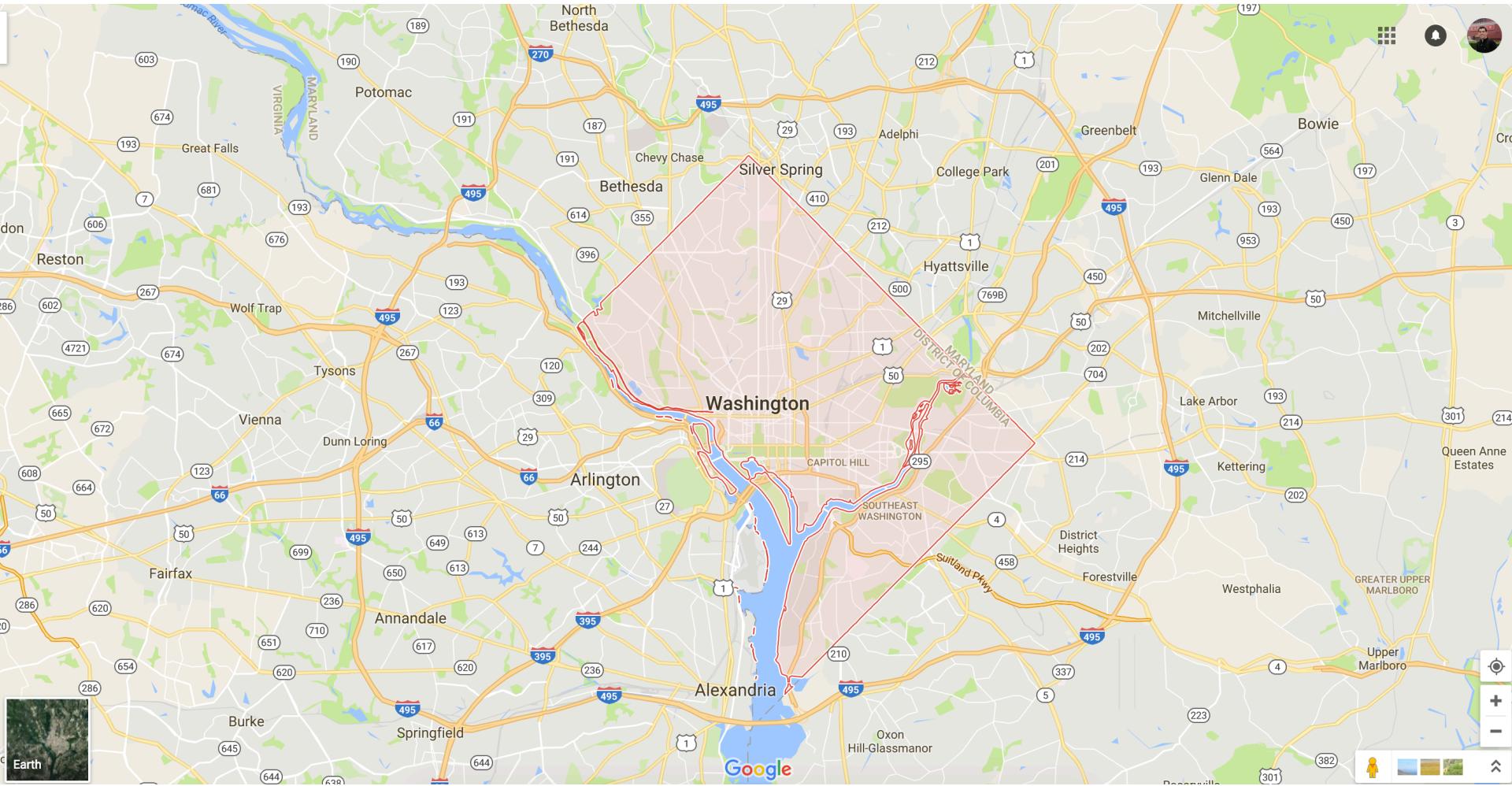


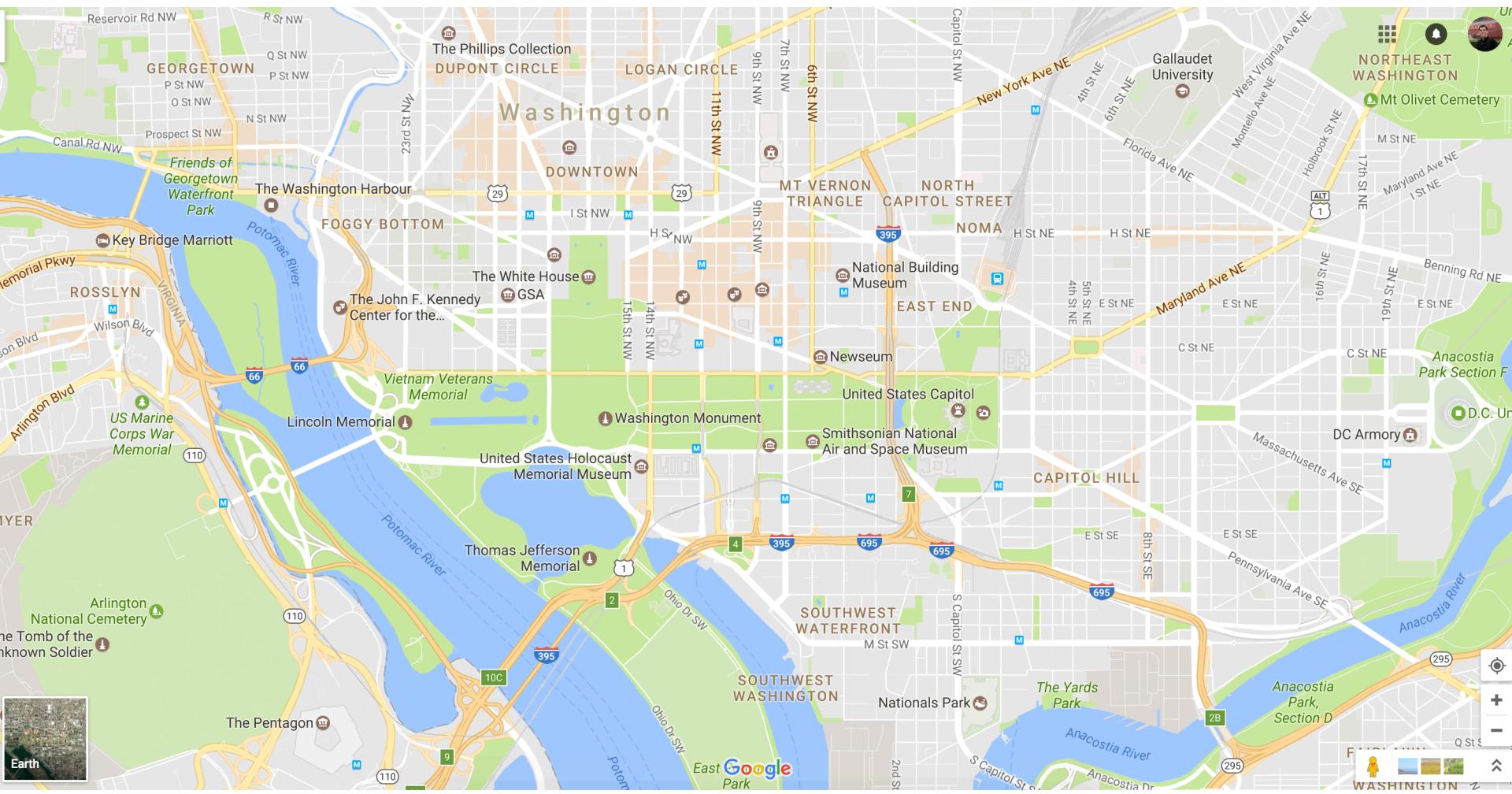
What to show at different scales

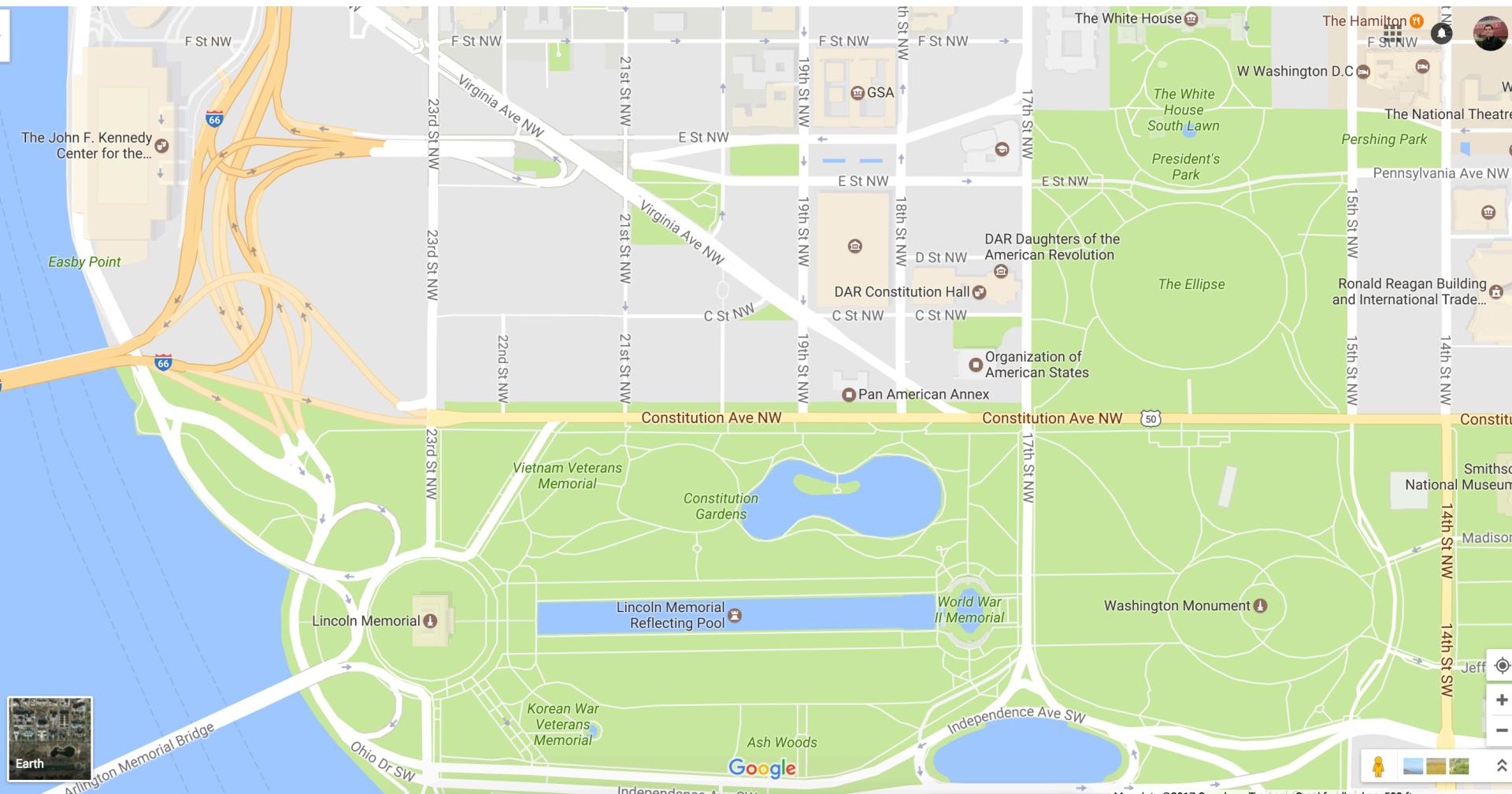














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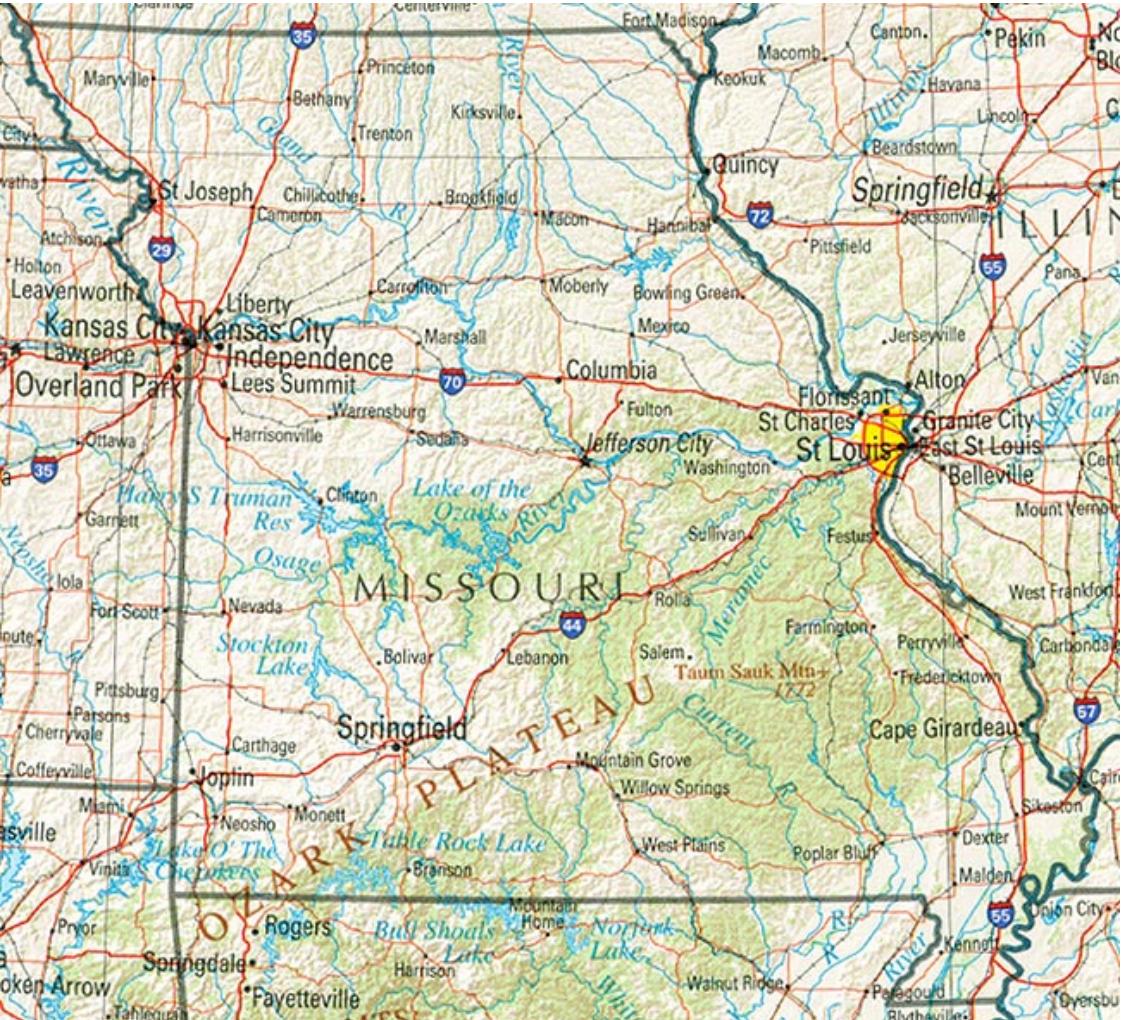


3. Symbolization

- How to encode the information
 - Geographical
 - Data
- Depends on our goal

Reference Map

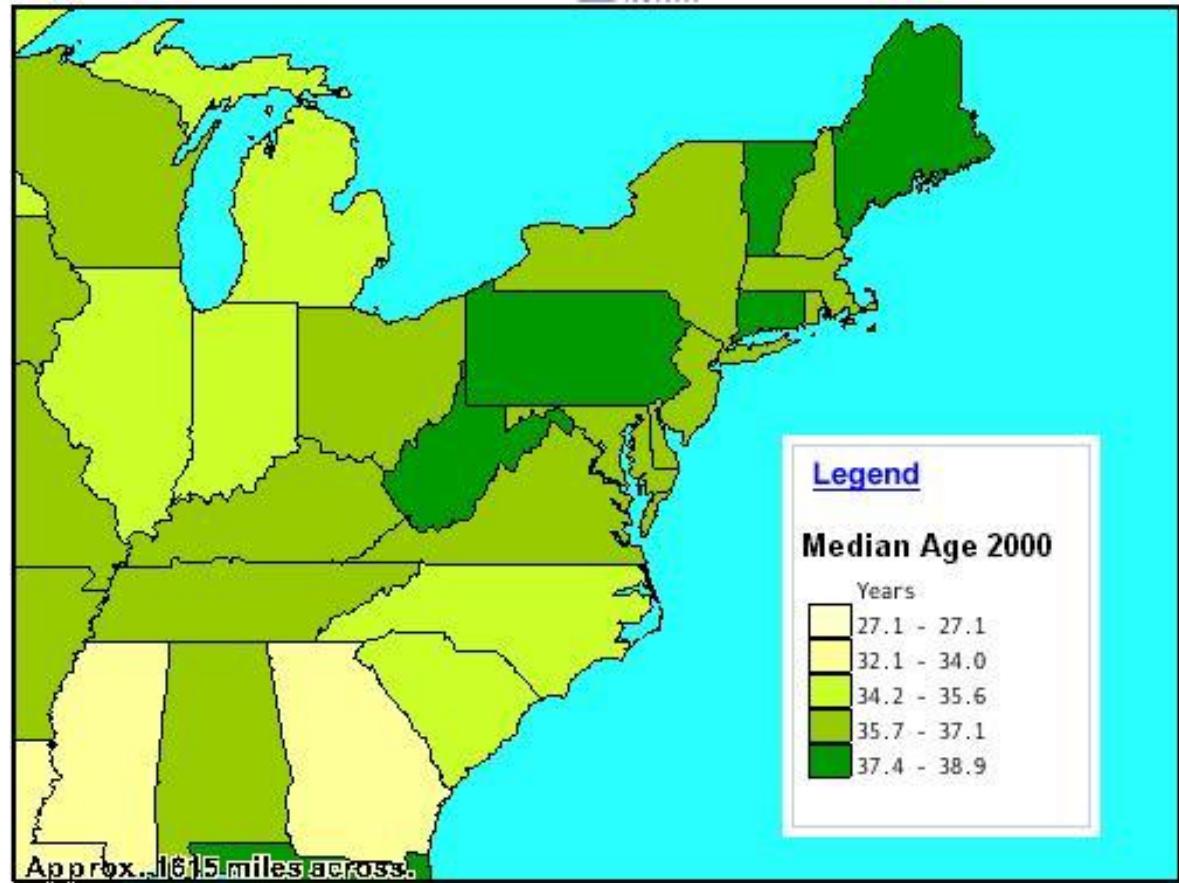
- Show locations of places and geographic features.





Thematic Map

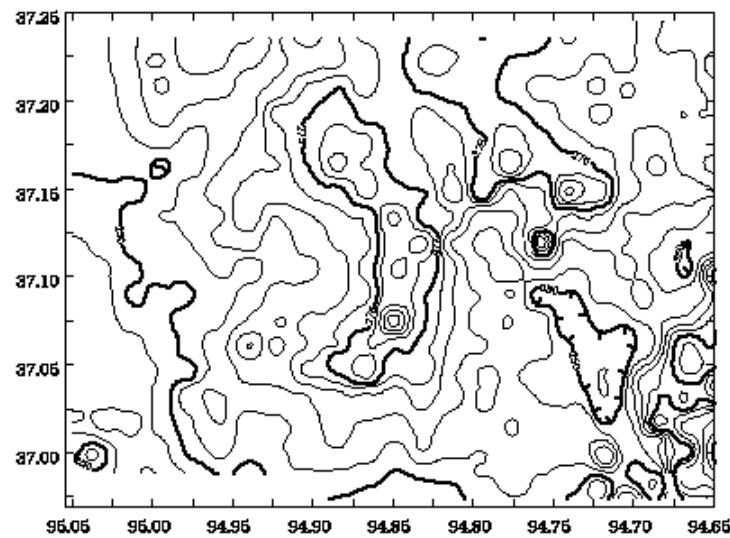
- Tell a story about the degree of an attribute, the pattern of its distribution, or its movement.





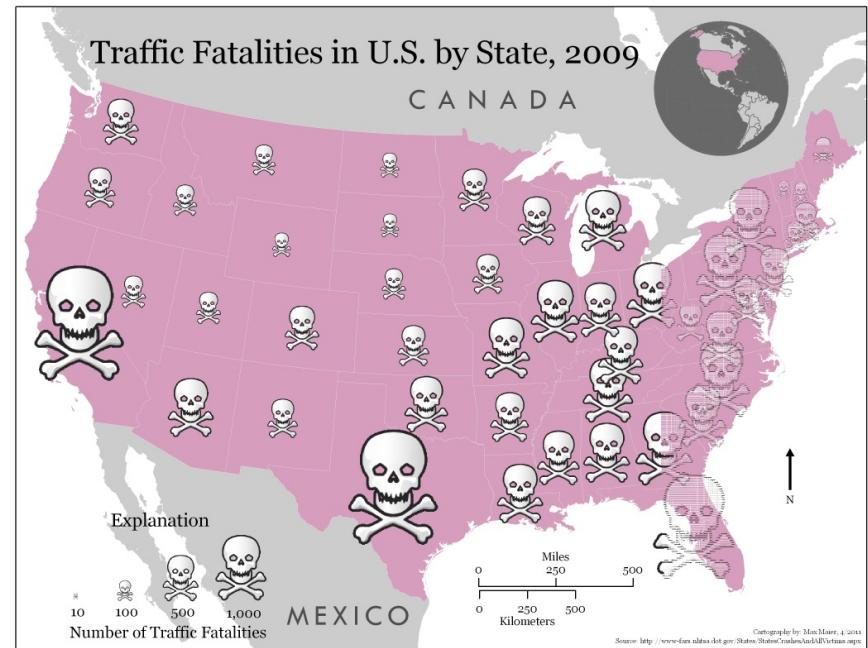
Contour Maps (Isopleths)

- **Isolines**- Lines on a map depicting areas of same or like values.
- Contour maps use **isolines**, or contour lines, to depict where the same elevation exists.
- The **contour interval** of a contour map is the difference in elevation between successive contour lines.

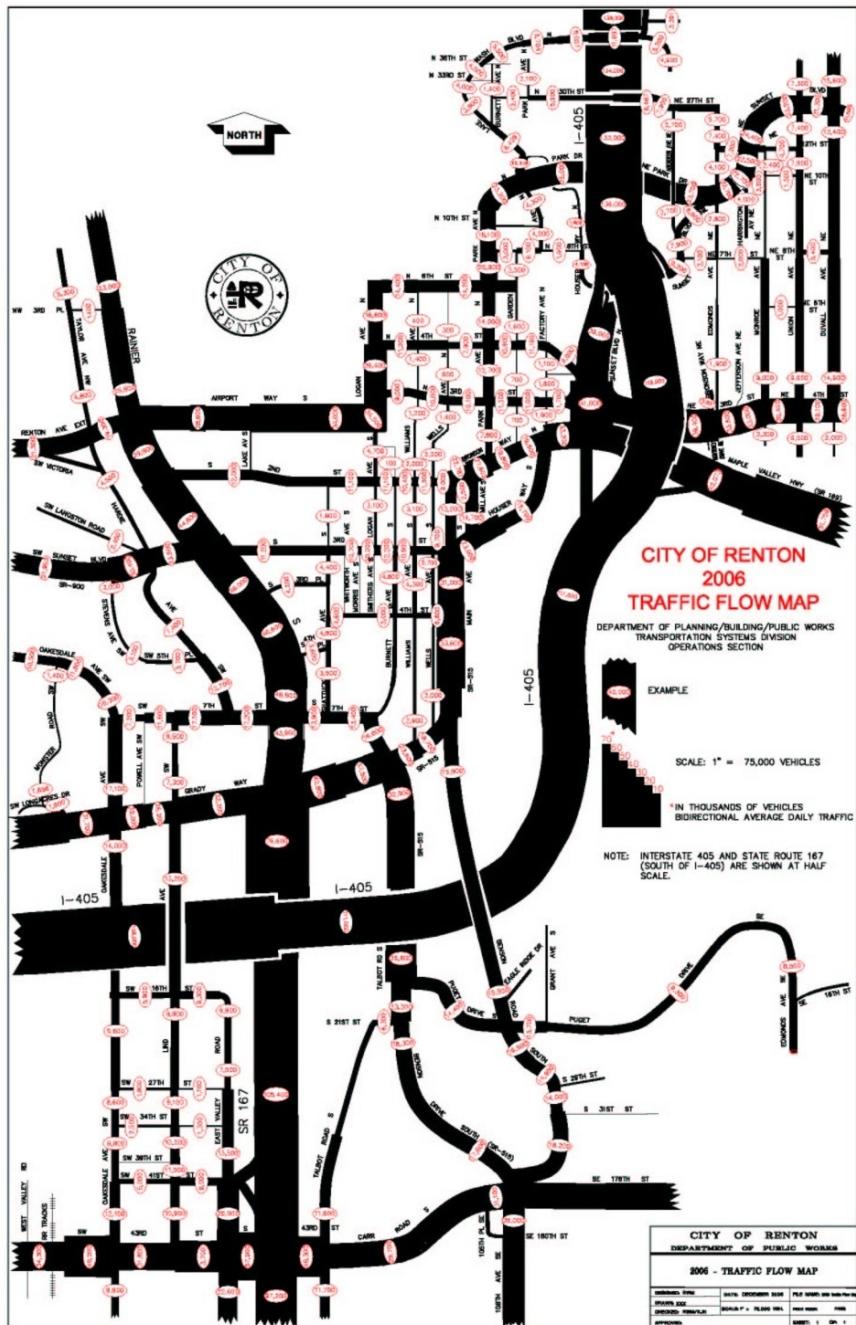


Proportional Symbols Map

- The proportional symbol technique uses symbols of different sizes to represent data associated with different areas or locations within the map.



Proportional Symbols Map



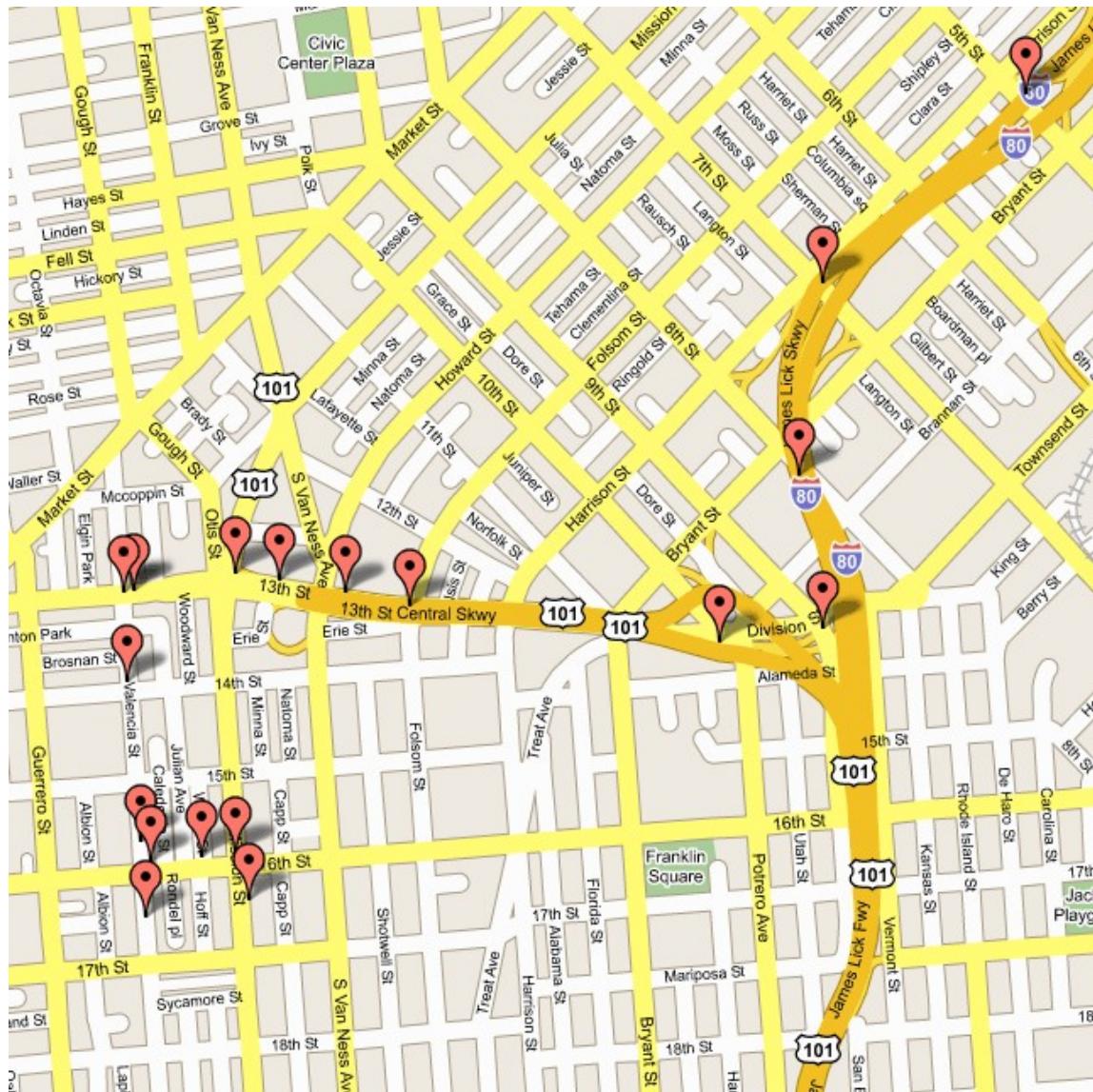


Dot Map

- A dot may be used to locate each occurrence of a phenomenon.
- Where appropriate, a dot may indicate any number of entities, for example, one dot for every 100 voters.



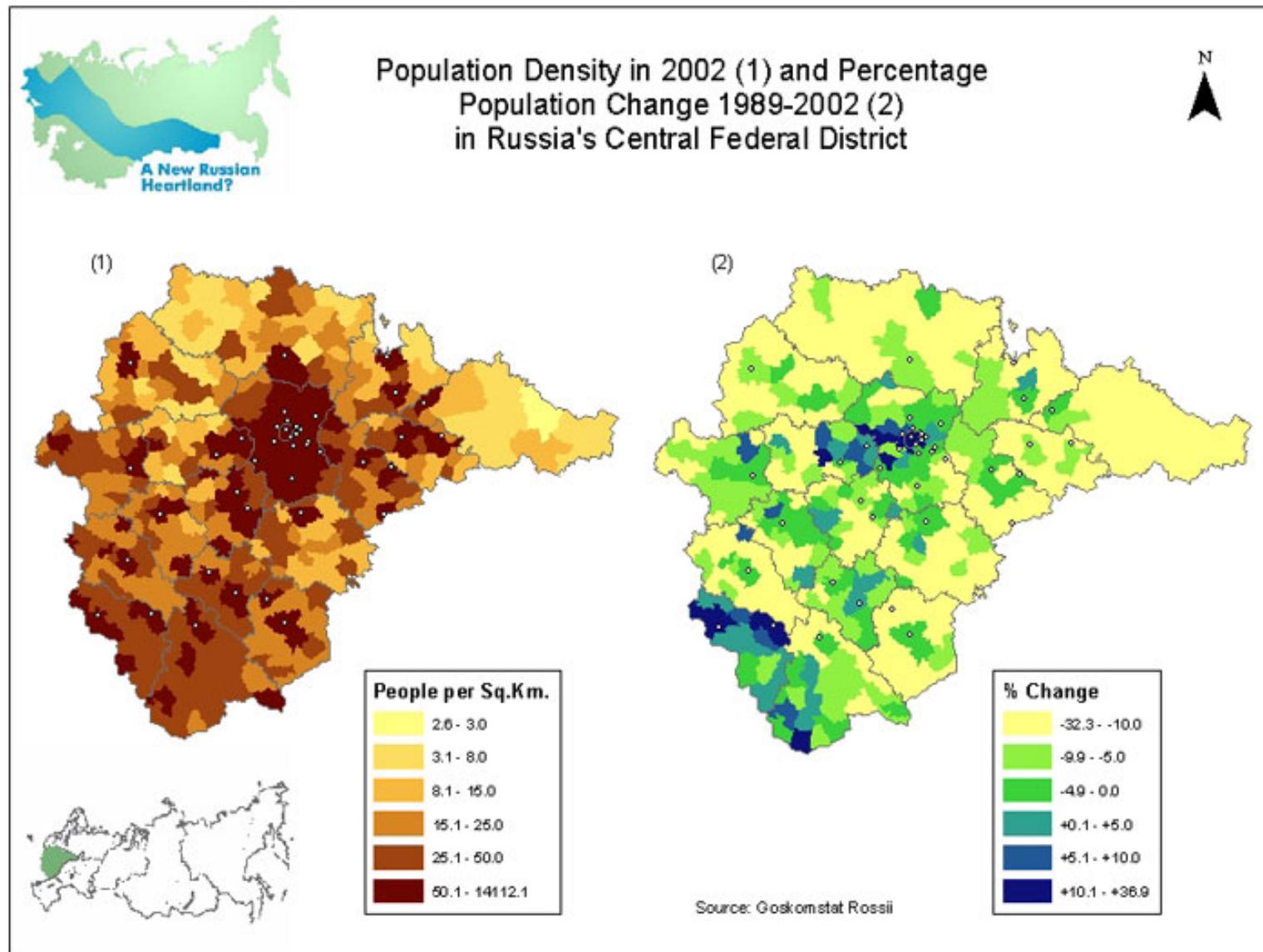
Military families in Ohio





Choropleth Map

- Shows statistical data aggregated over predefined regions, such as counties or states, by **coloring** or shading these regions.
- For example, countries with higher rates of infant mortality might appear darker on a choropleth map.





Cartogram

- A **cartogram** is a map in which some thematic mapping variable is substituted for land area or distance.
- The geometry or space of the map is distorted in order to convey the information of this alternate variable.

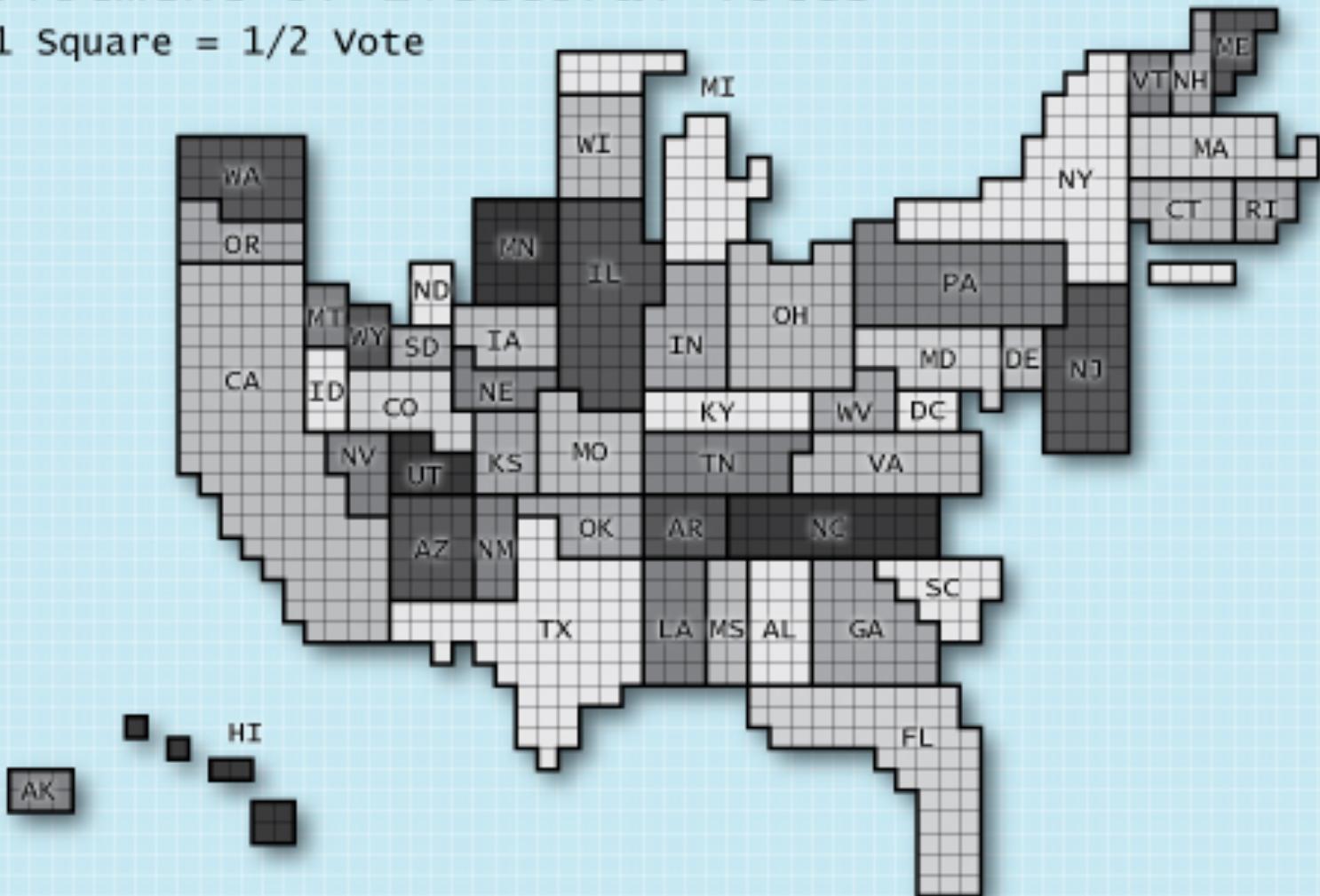
Cartogram





Allotment of Electoral votes

1 Square = 1/2 Vote





Cartogram



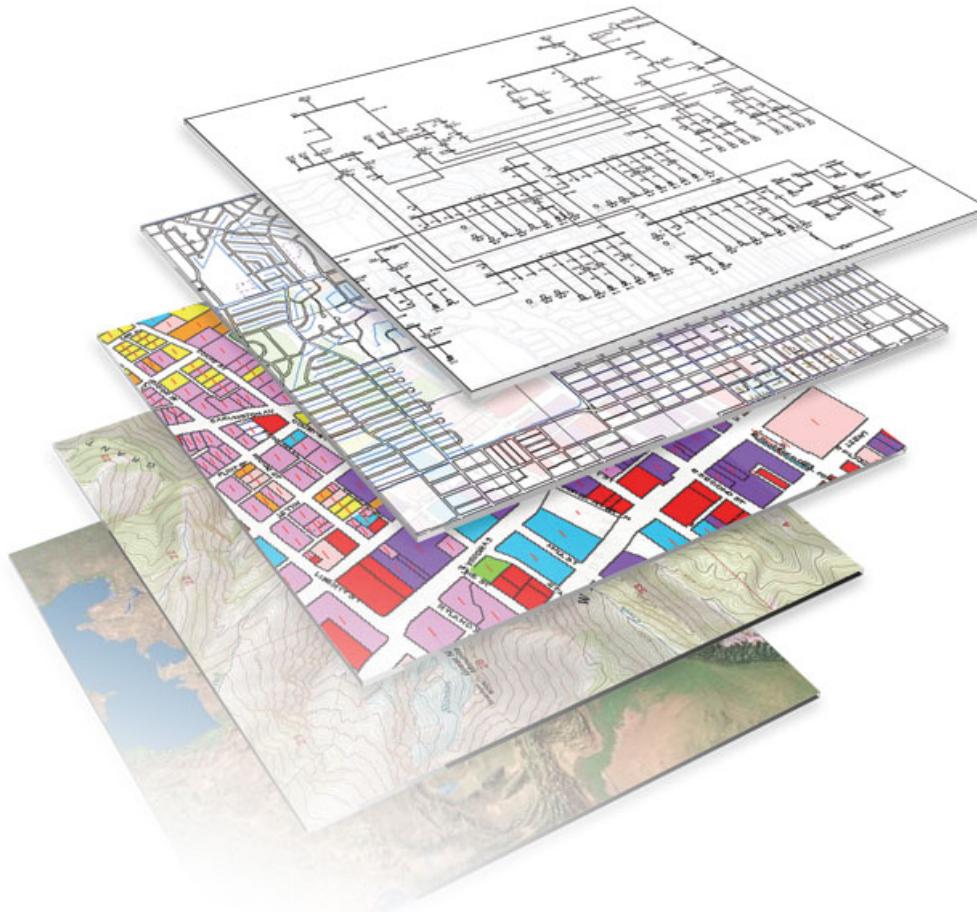


GIS map

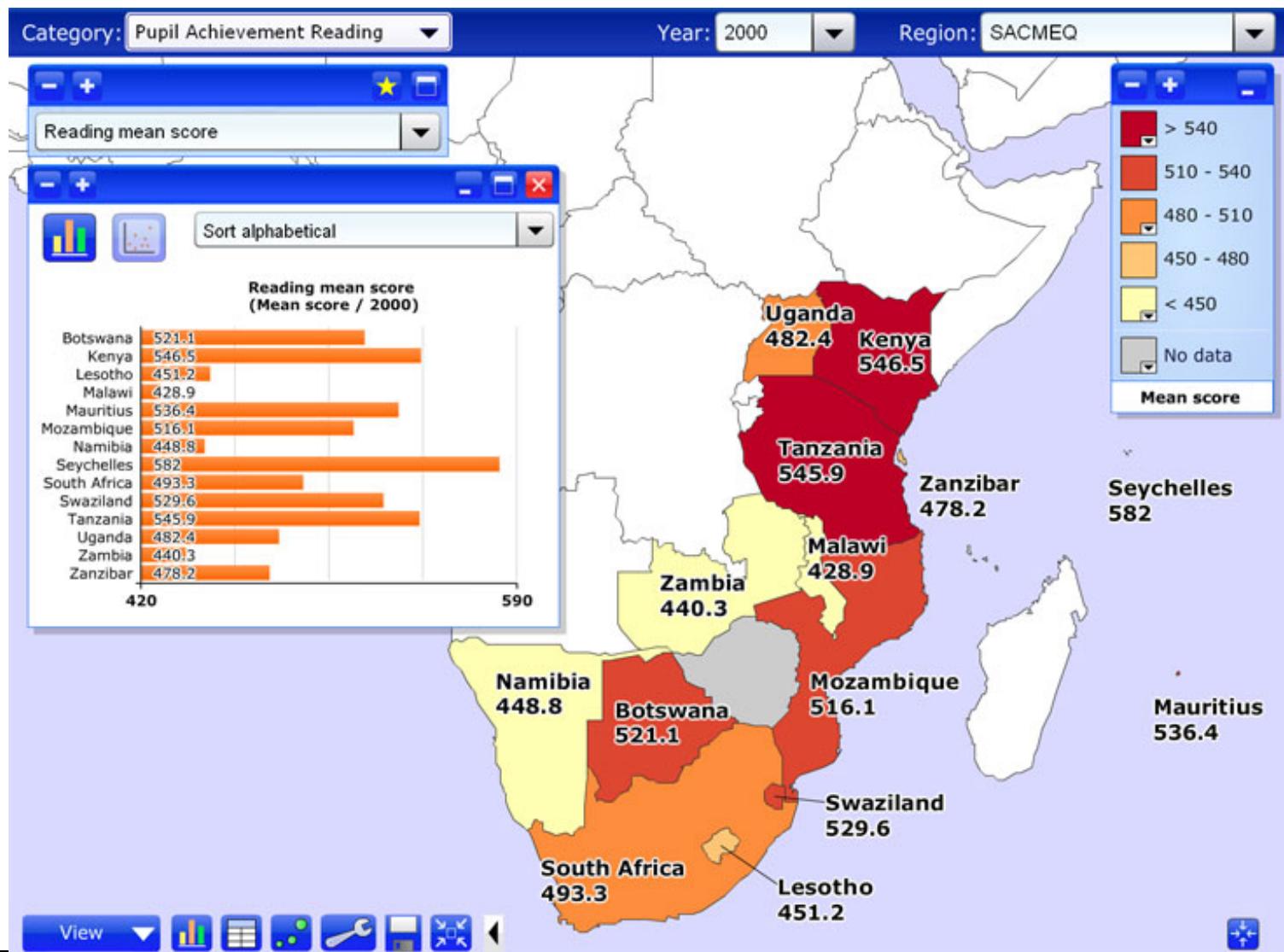
- A geographic information system (GIS) integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.
- GIS allows us to view, understand, question, interpret, and visualize data in many ways that reveal relationships, patterns, and trends in the form of maps, globes, reports, and charts.



GIS map

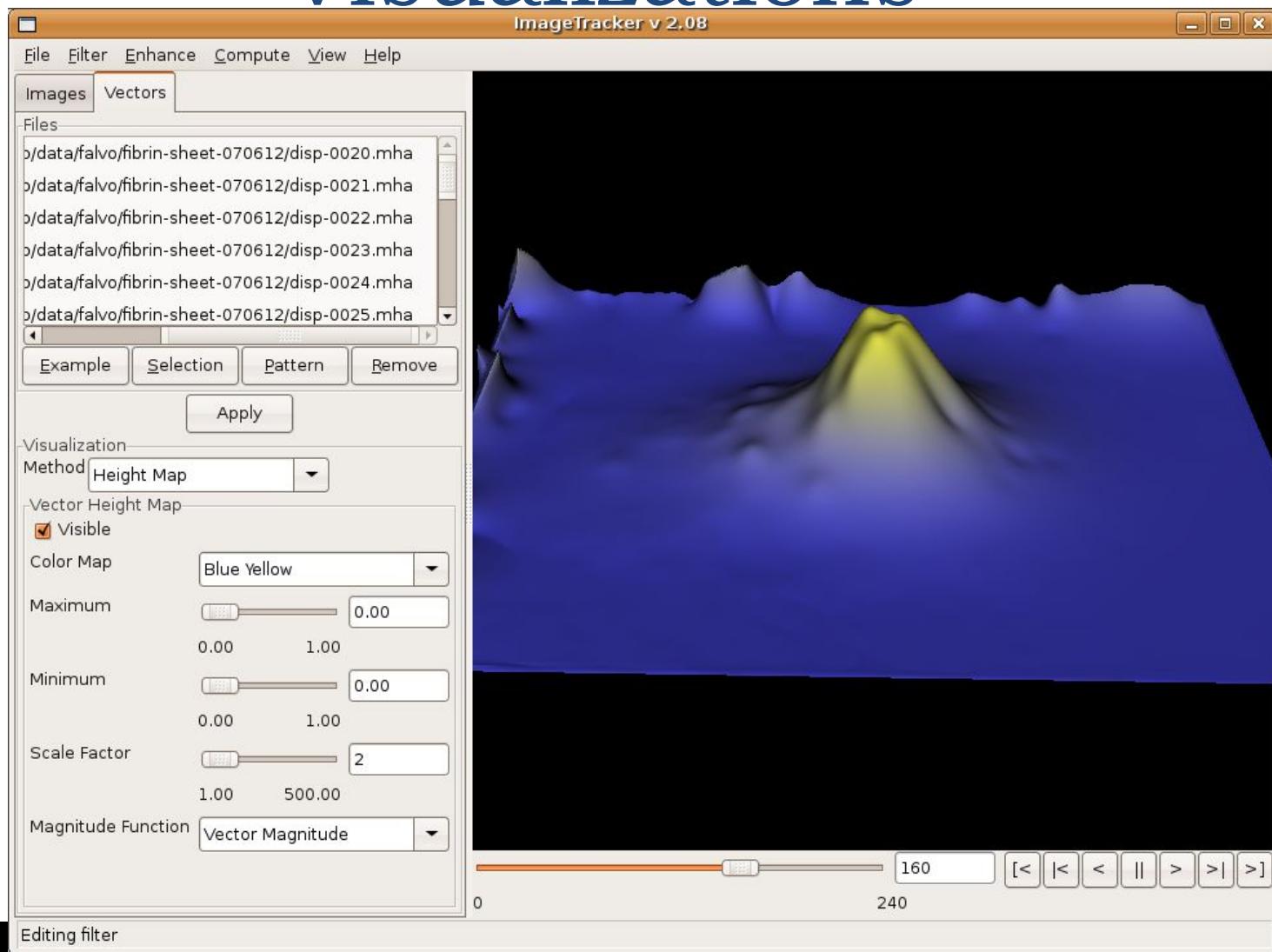


Location Chart





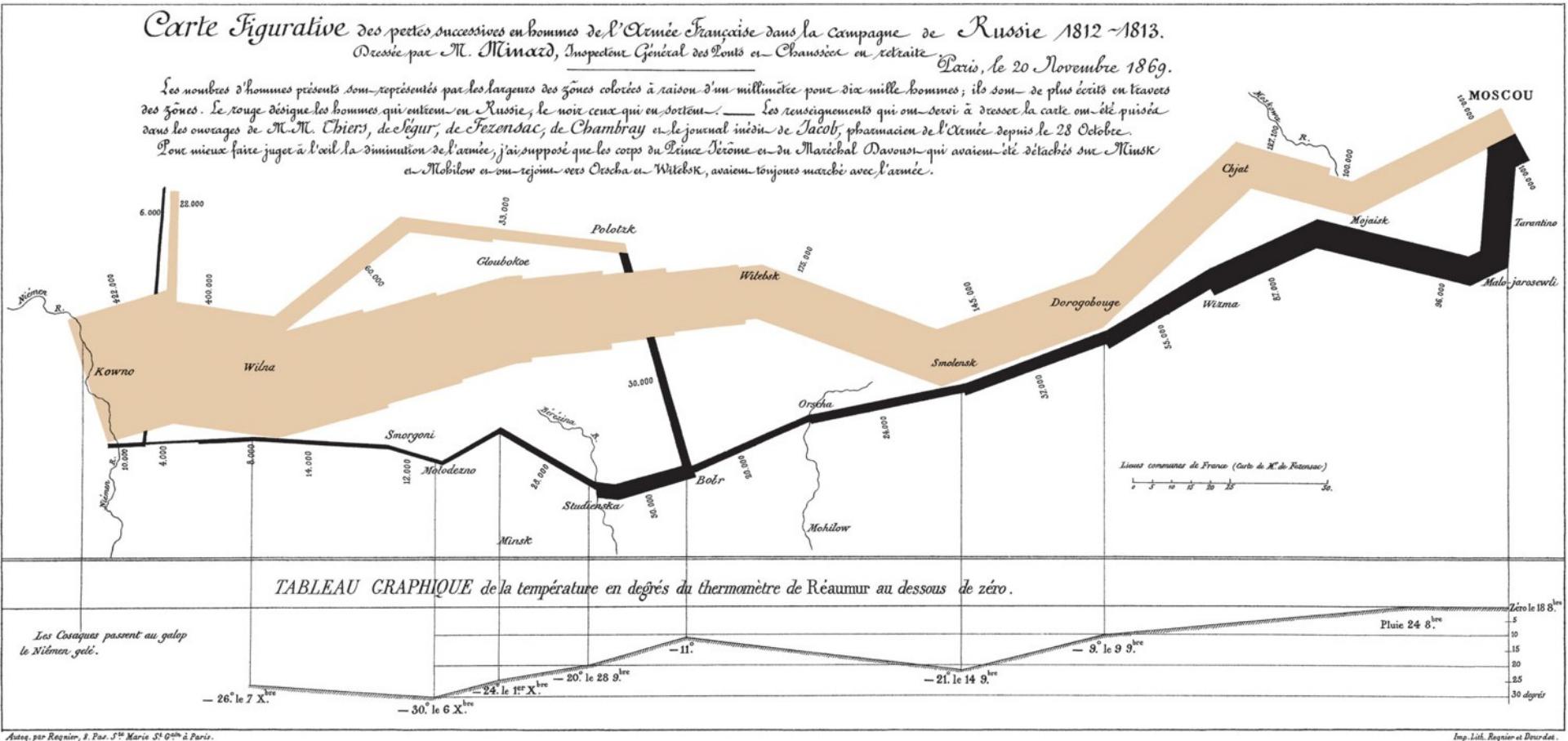
Visualizations

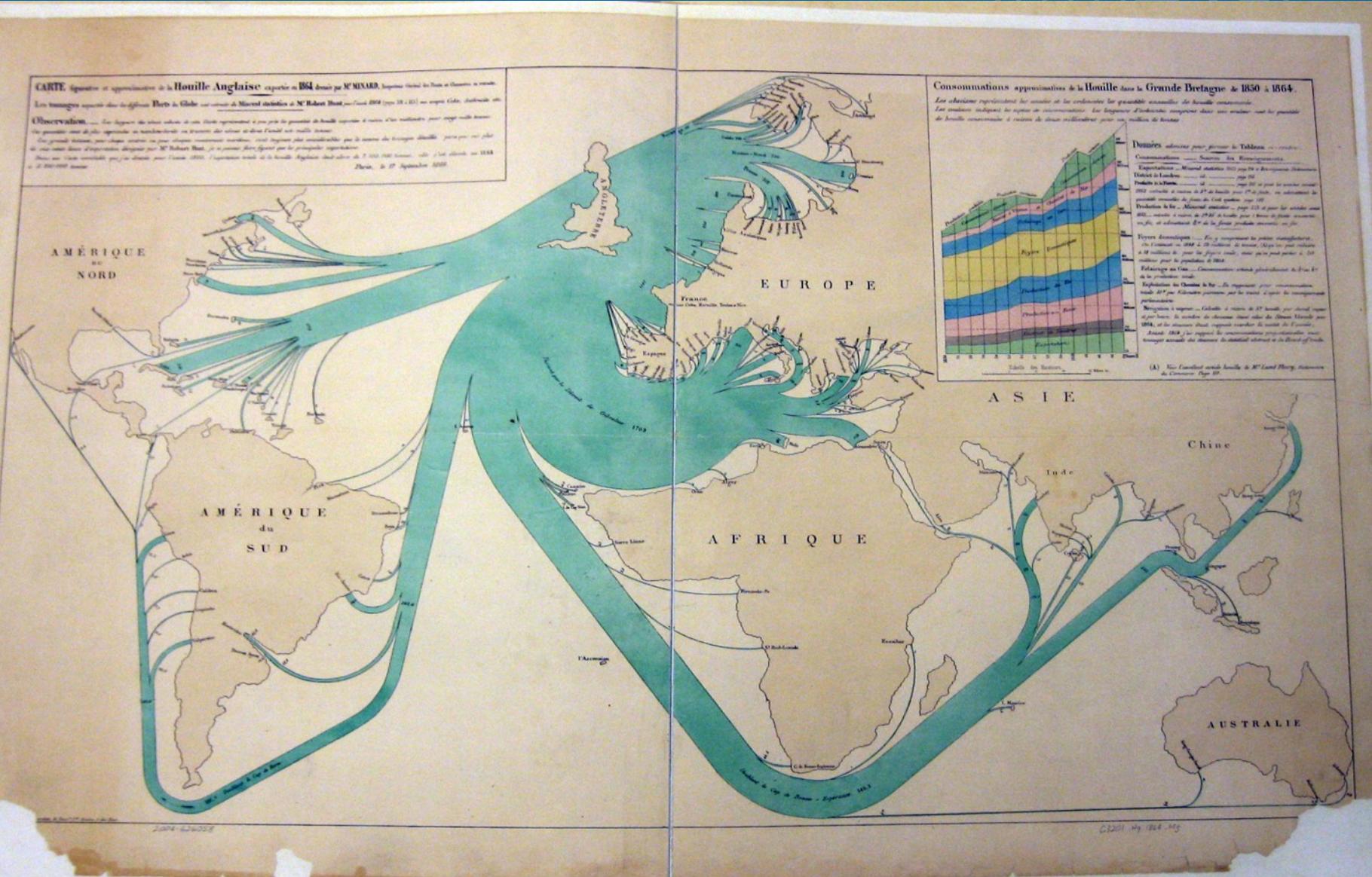




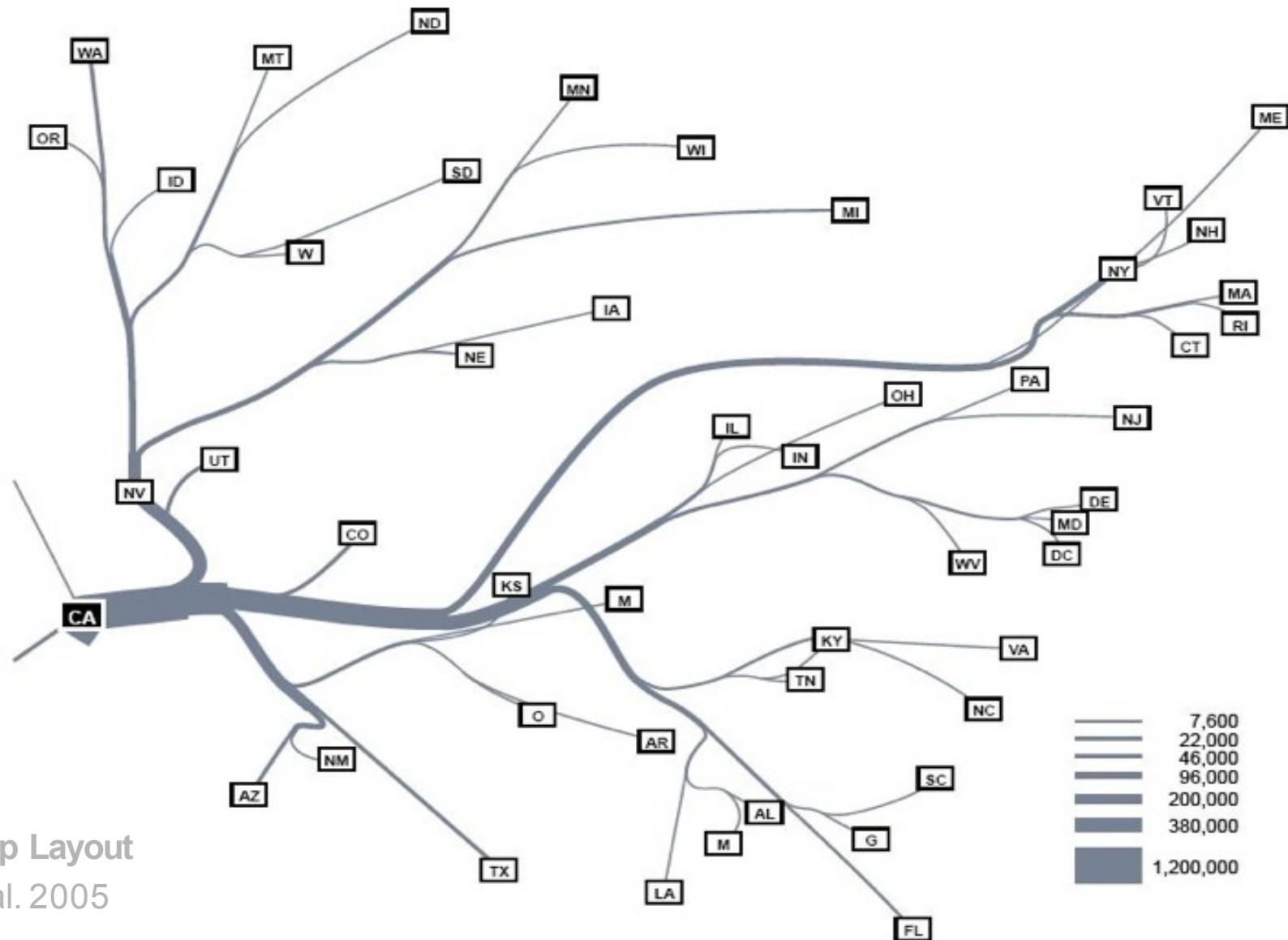
Flow Maps

Minard 1869: Napoleon's march





1864 British Coal Exports, Charles Minard

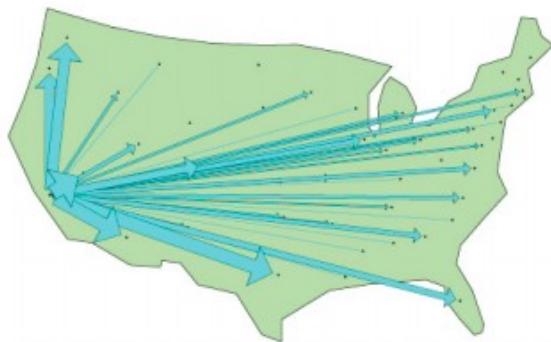


Flow Map Layout
Phan et al. 2005

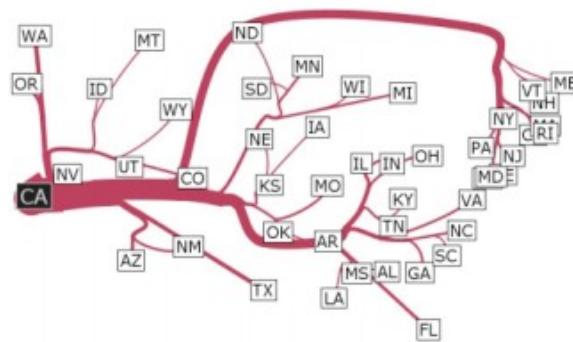


Migration from California, 95-00

Tobler 1987



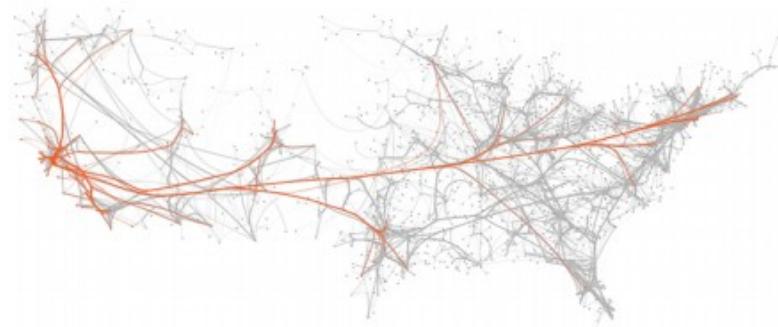
Phan et al. 2005



Verbeek et al. 2011



Cui et al. 2008



Holten & van Wijk 2009



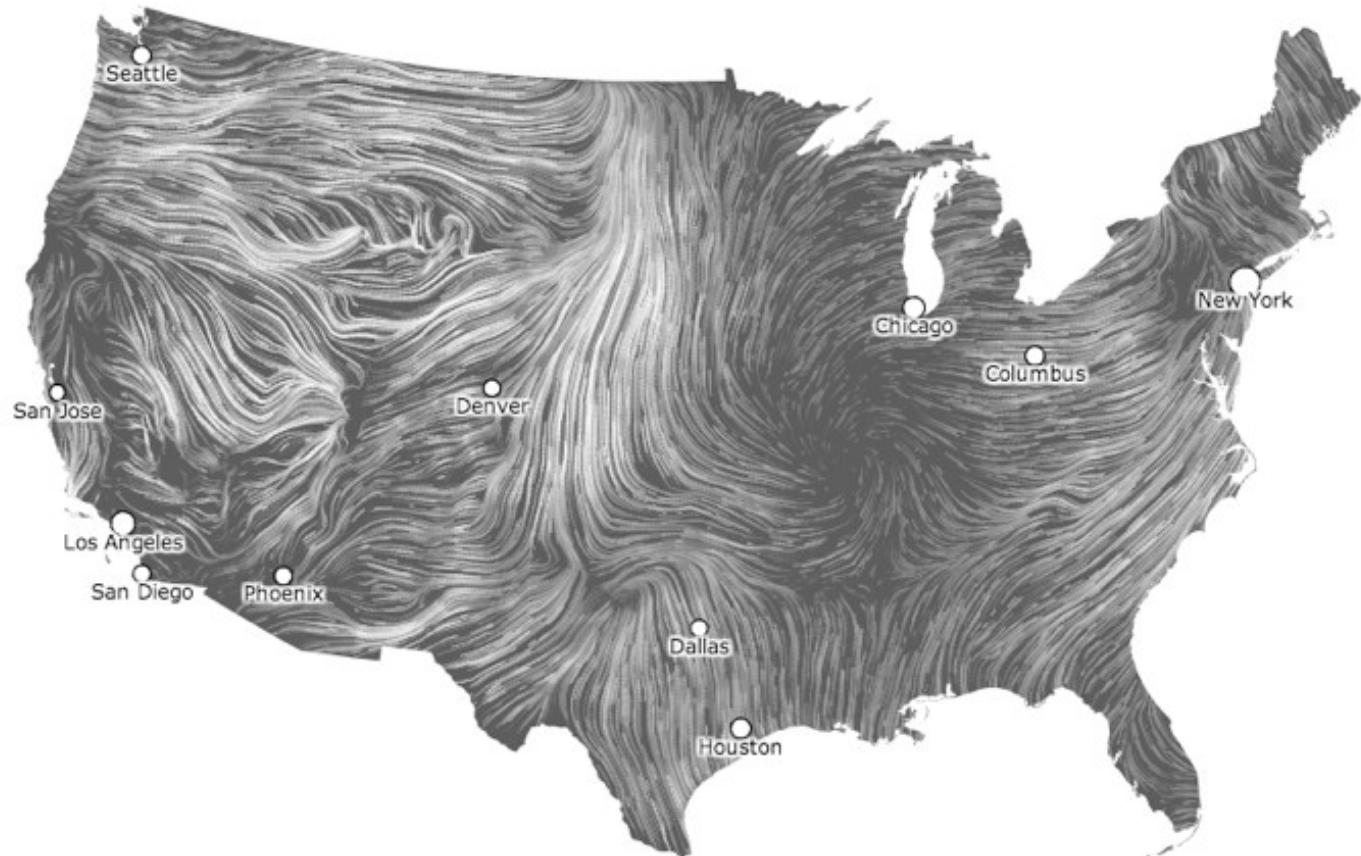
wind map

February 19, 2014

11:55 am EST

(time of forecast download)

top speed: 35.3 mph
average: 11.6 mph





Conclusion

- Discuss Common Geospatial Visualizations
- Learn about the Process of encoding Geospatial Visualization
- Familiarize with the benefits and tradeoffs of map types



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