

Design Studio: Politivis : Amanda Boss, Hillary Do, Takehiro Matsuzawa
We recieved design studio feedback from the following group:

Flight data - Nhu Nguyen, Zeno Ziemke, Masahiro Kusunoki

Overall, we found the feedback to be quite helpful. It was very fortunate that Nhu, Zeno, and Masahiro had implemented a similar looking map with zoom (obviously displayed different data), but it was helpful in seeing their use of color and saturation.

They noted the following “minor” points:

- Incorporate data for each congress rather than relying on the census
- Provide graphs that display the square feet that has changed over the year for each district
- Change the color of the district based on the party affiliation of the representative
- Change the opacity of the district based on how populated it is
- Allow for a dragging feature
- Allow people to look up the district/state they want to learn more about
- Display the information text style to the side
- Slider needs to be more comprehensive
- Include the other views that we showed them in our sketches.

When going over the points referenced in the design studio for discussion, flight data team noted that they understood the background and motivation, and thought it was a particularly interesting idea. This confirmed our suspicions that a lot of people aren’t aware of visualizations that currently exist with redistricting and never thought about the patterns that we discussed with them. They liked our use of data conversion, although the process was still a little murky to them (census data isn’t entirely transparent). We showed them how we acquired data via the Google Civic Data API. As for fairness, we didn’t think that showing the other views was entirely fair criticism since this is just for a milestone, but we agreed that is a direction we quickly have to move to.

After the design studio, we realized that we needed to focus on researching color saturation that would be most effective and visually pleasing for our map. In addition, we also realized that we needed to hone in on taking advantage of all the data that the API provides. So far, for our milestone, we have taken steps to include representative data that matches with an entirely different data set from the U.S census.