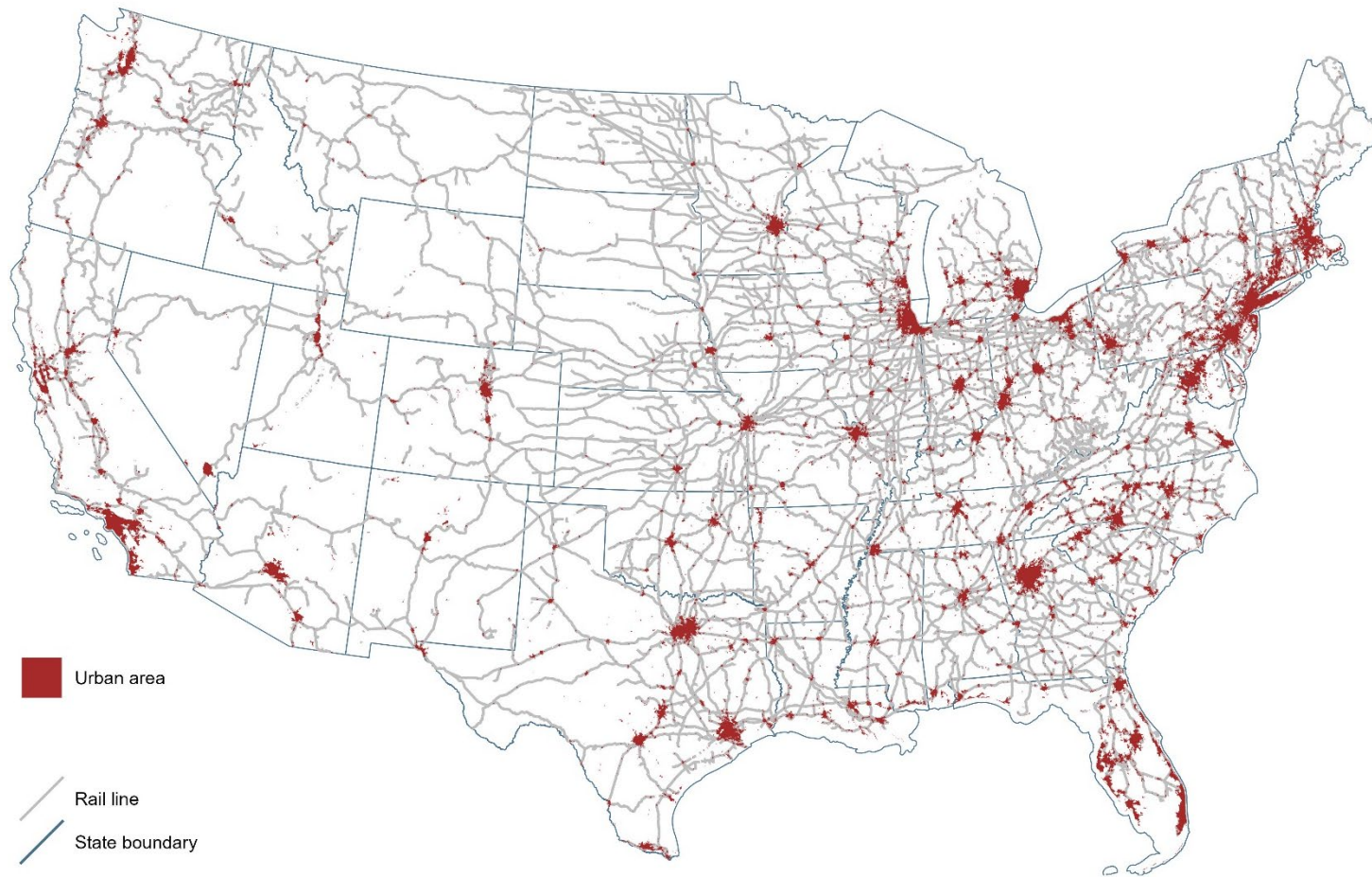


Railways and Urban Areas in the Contiguous United States



Data sources

State boundaries, rail lines, and urbanized area boundaries are all taken from Census TIGER files, accessed via the `tigris` package in R. All three layers are from the 2021 datasets.

Software

I created the map and legend using the `sf` and `ggplot2` packages in R. I imported the figure into Microsoft Word, which I used to complete the layout and add titles and notes.

Audience and purpose

This map is intended for an audience that is generally familiar with the geography of North America and the United States, so I assume a familiarity with the scale and orientation. The purpose of the map is to illustrate the relationship between the density of the rail network and the density of urban development.