

Disentangling Traffic

Data Driven Approaches to Road Safety

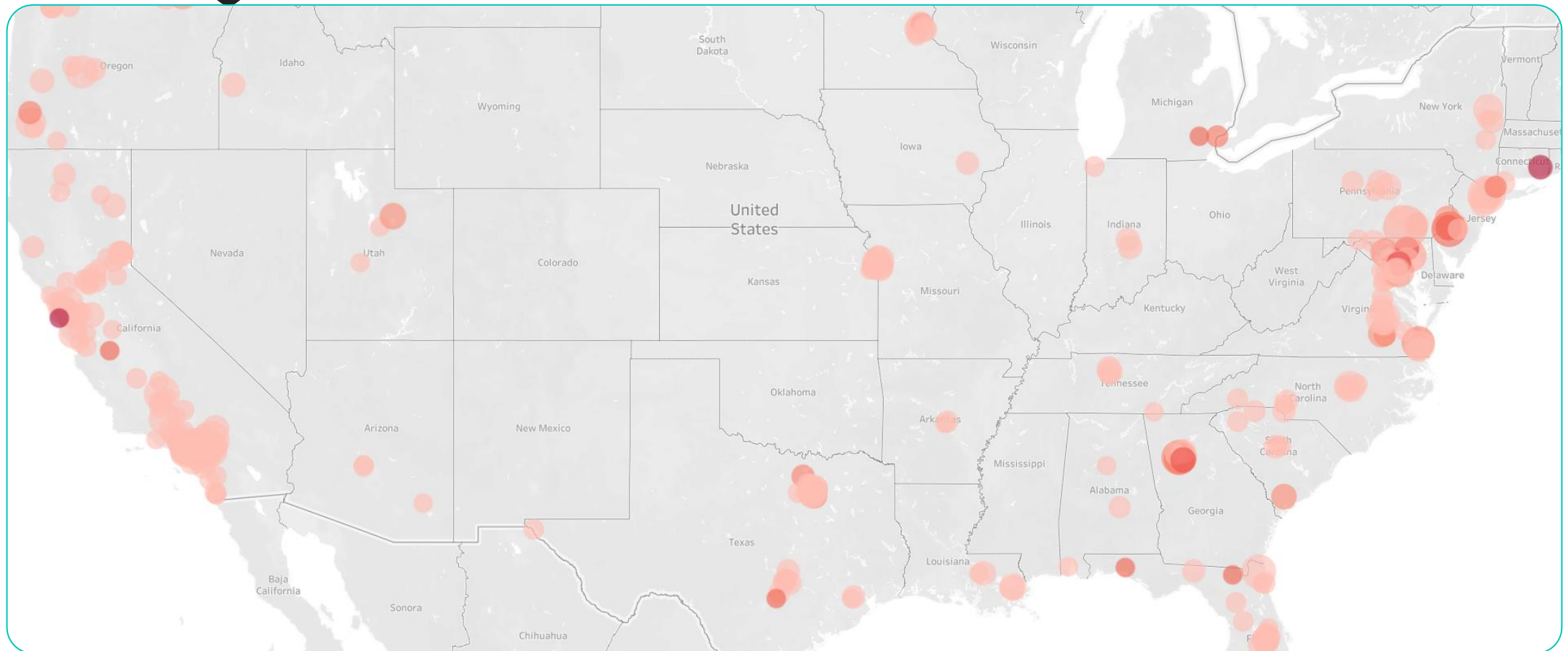
Kapilan
Mahalingam
September 2022

Introduction

- Hypothesis:
 - If we understand where and why traffic accidents take place, we can mitigate them
- Using accident data for the first week of 2021
 - Locations with the most accidents
 - Locations with high accident severity*
 - Locations with particular features (to wit: Pedestrian Crossings)

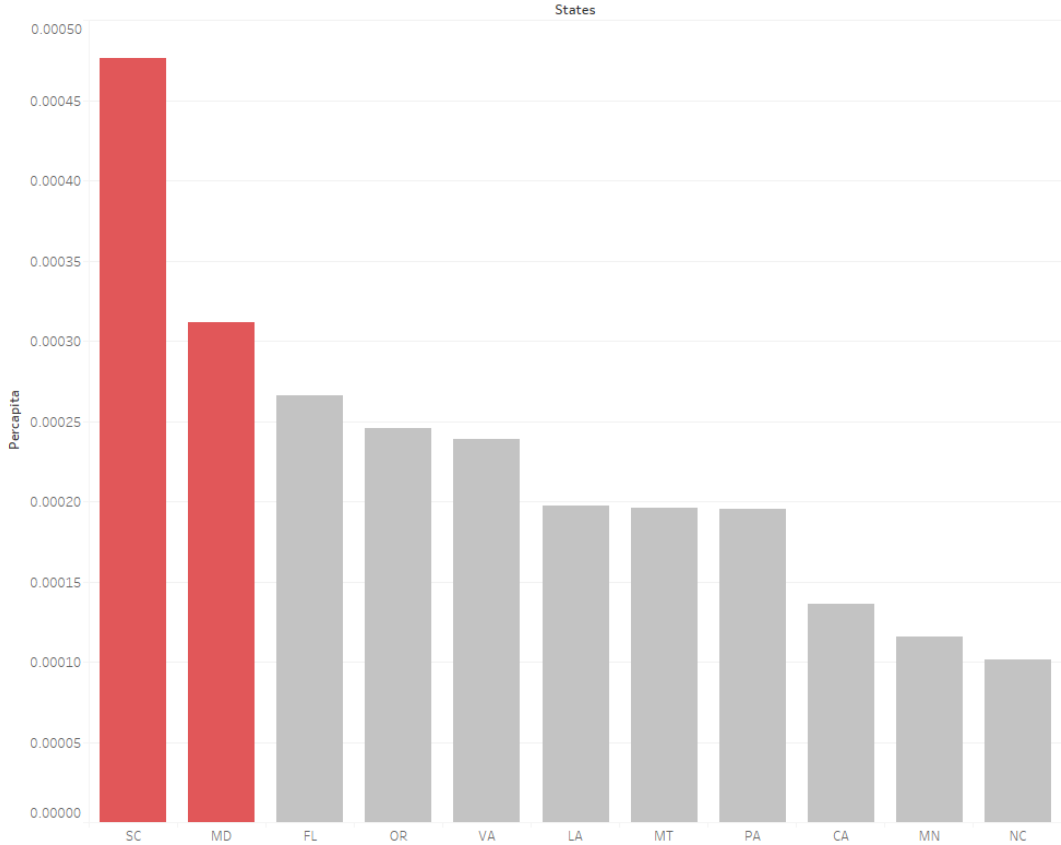
Accidents by Postal Code

Accidents Scale with population—perhaps per-capita statistics are more useful?

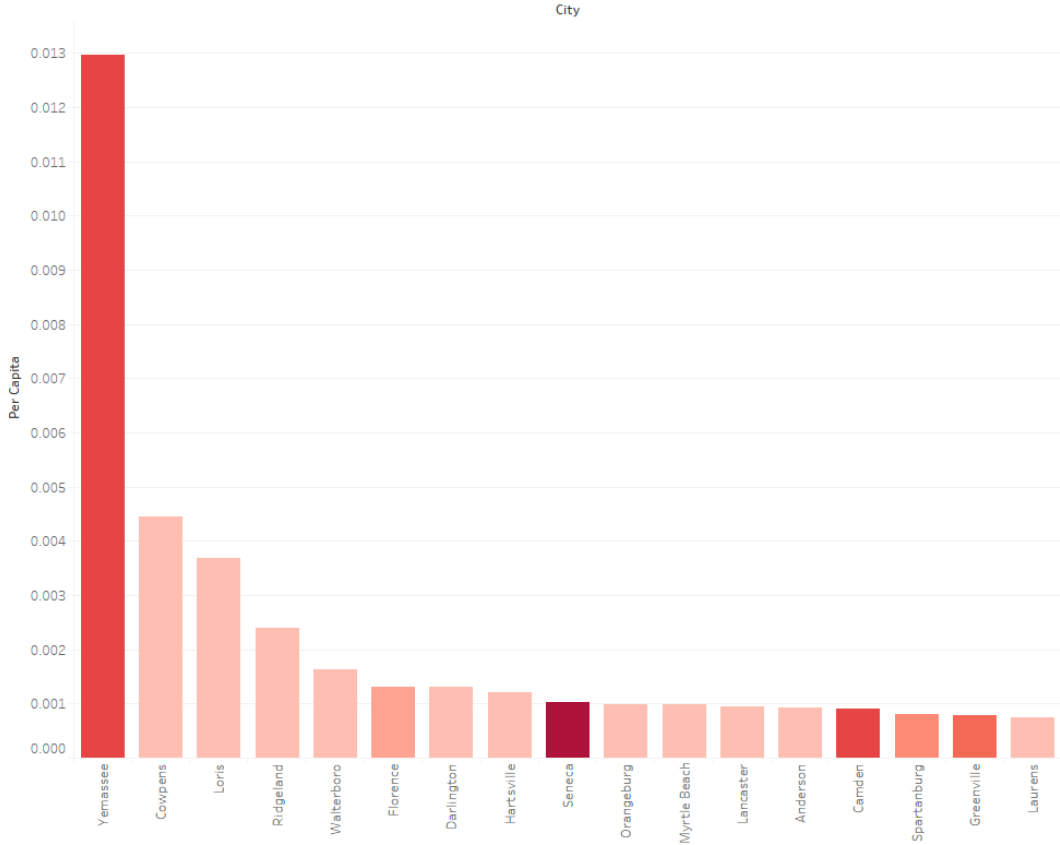


Per Capita Trends

States with the Highest Accidents per capita

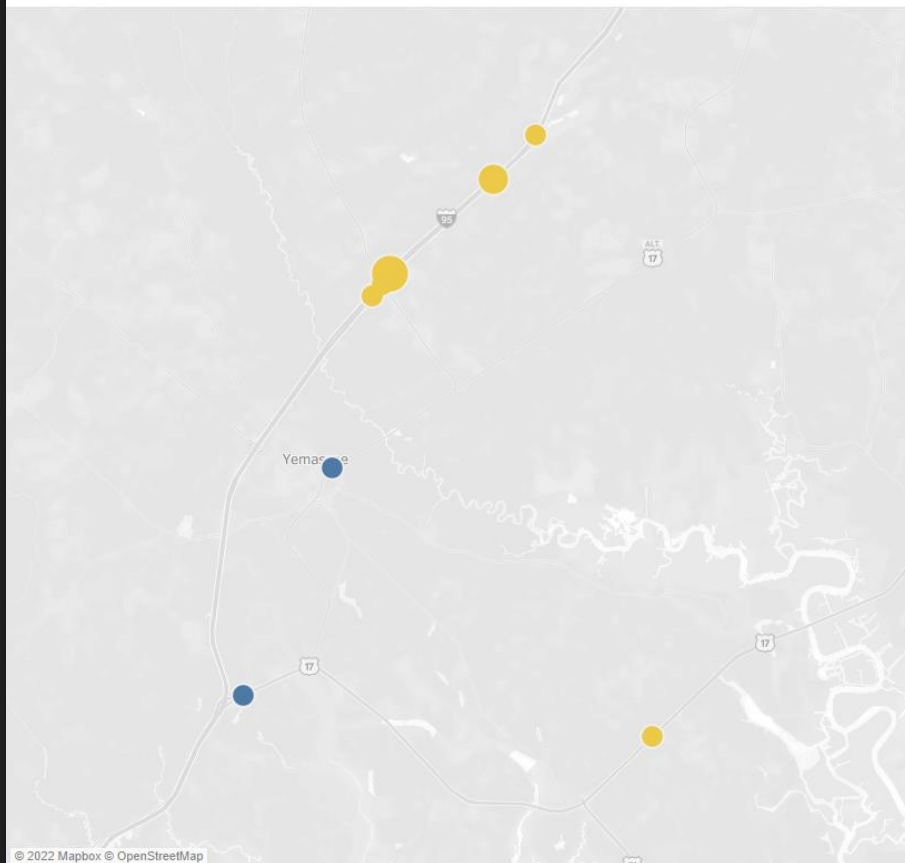


Cities with the Highest Accidents per capita in South Carolina

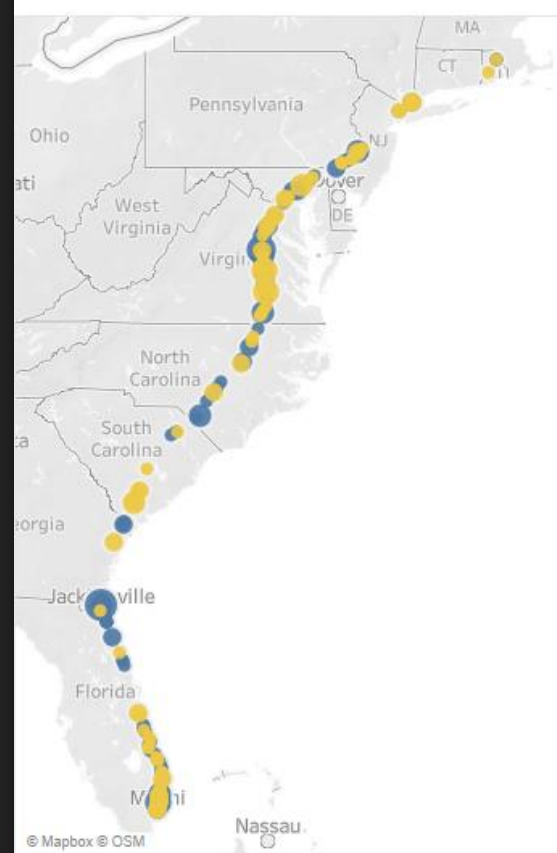


A Closer Look: Yemassee and the I-95

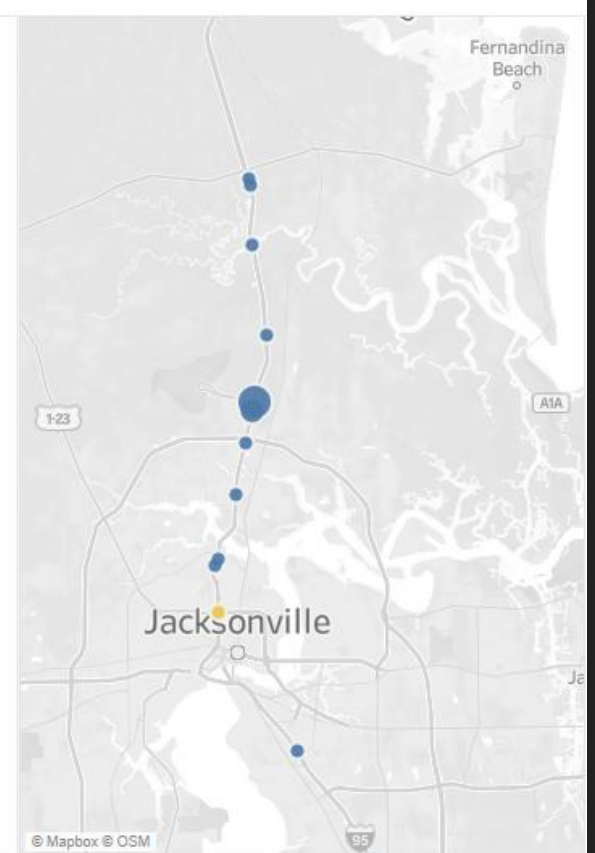
City Focus I: Yemassee, SC



I-95 Accident Hotspots

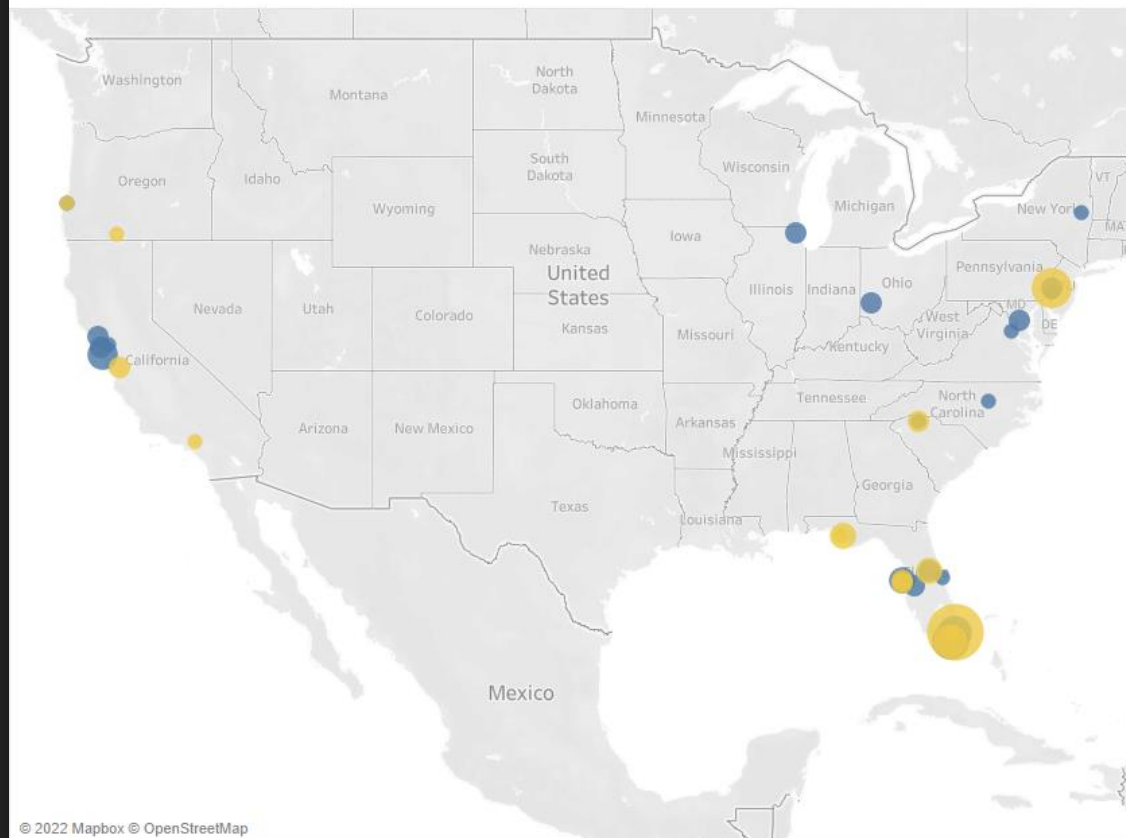


Jacksonville Approach



Points of Interest

Accidents at Pedestrian Crossings in Small Towns



- North Wales, PA
 - Population: 3426
 - Pedestrian Crossing Accidents: 1.2/day (in broad daylight)

The Way Forward: Some Options

- Use more data (this is one week's worth)
- More rigorous options for analyses
 - Fixed effects model can better control for things like weather, population, dummies for things like highways, streetlights
 - Better accident data to focus on more preventable and actionable causes; poor visibility is easier to fix compared to DUI's
 - Incorporate better measures of the cost of an accident; consider parties involved and medical severity