

Practicum 2 Write Up

Julia Liebell-McLean

November 20, 2025

Let's start off with a basic map of the 62 counties in New York.

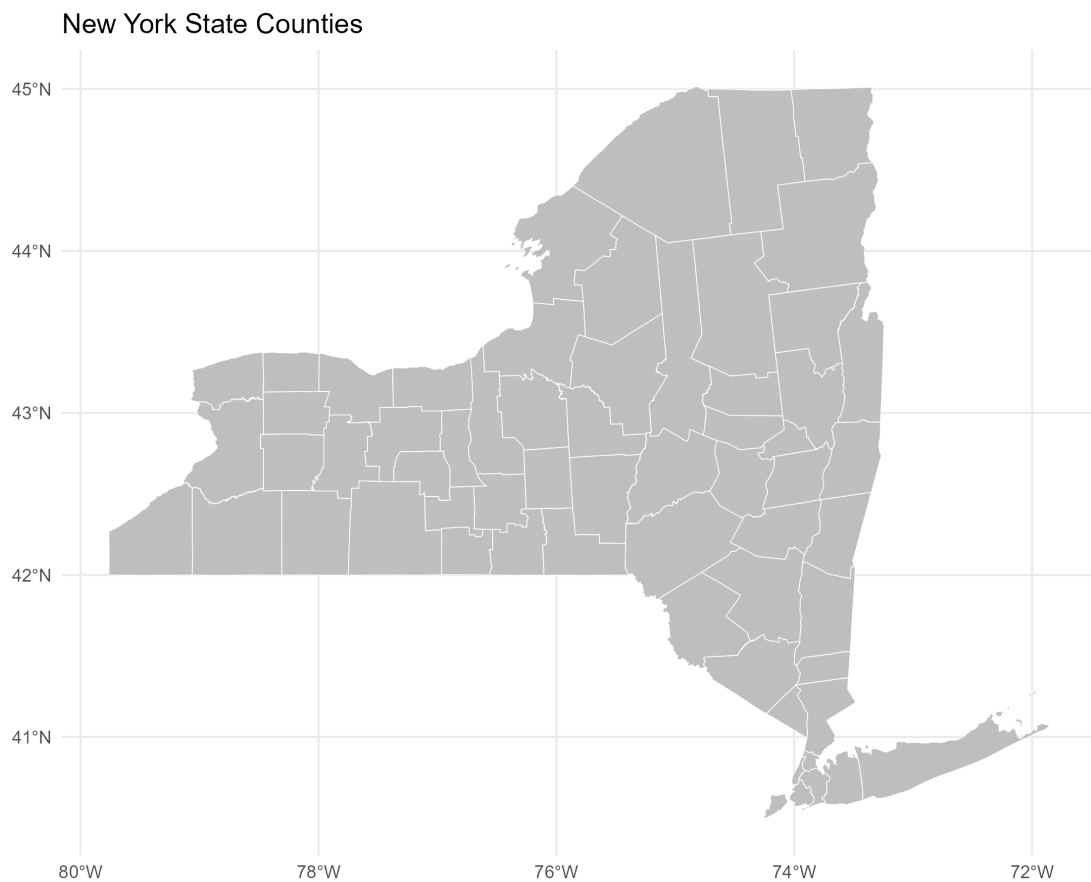


Figure 1: Figure 1

Part I: High Points

Here is the map of high points in New York State. The scale on the right indicates the color shading. The highest peak, indicated in white, is Mount Marcy, located in Essex County with an elevation of 5344 feet. The lowest high point is Battle Hill in Kings County. It has an elevation of 220 feet.

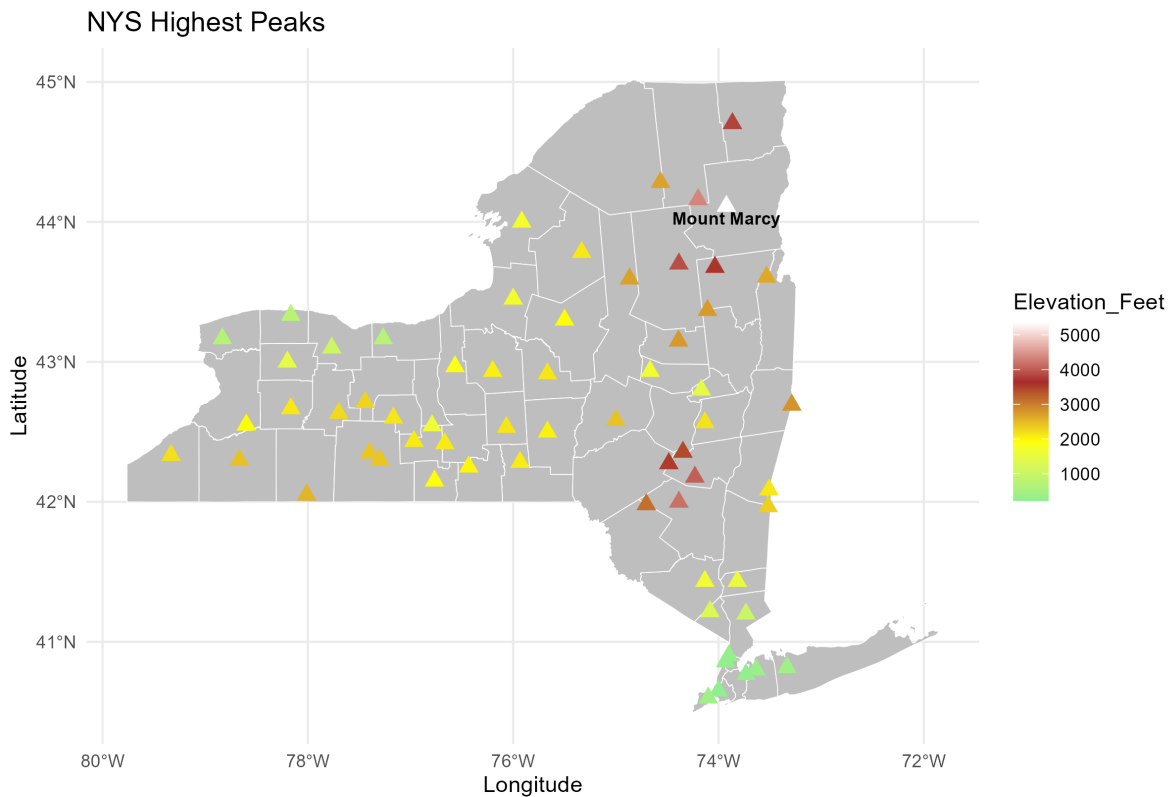


Figure 2: Figure 2

Part II: County Population

Below is the map of county population by county. The most populous county is Kings County and the least populous is Hamilton.

Population by County, 2020

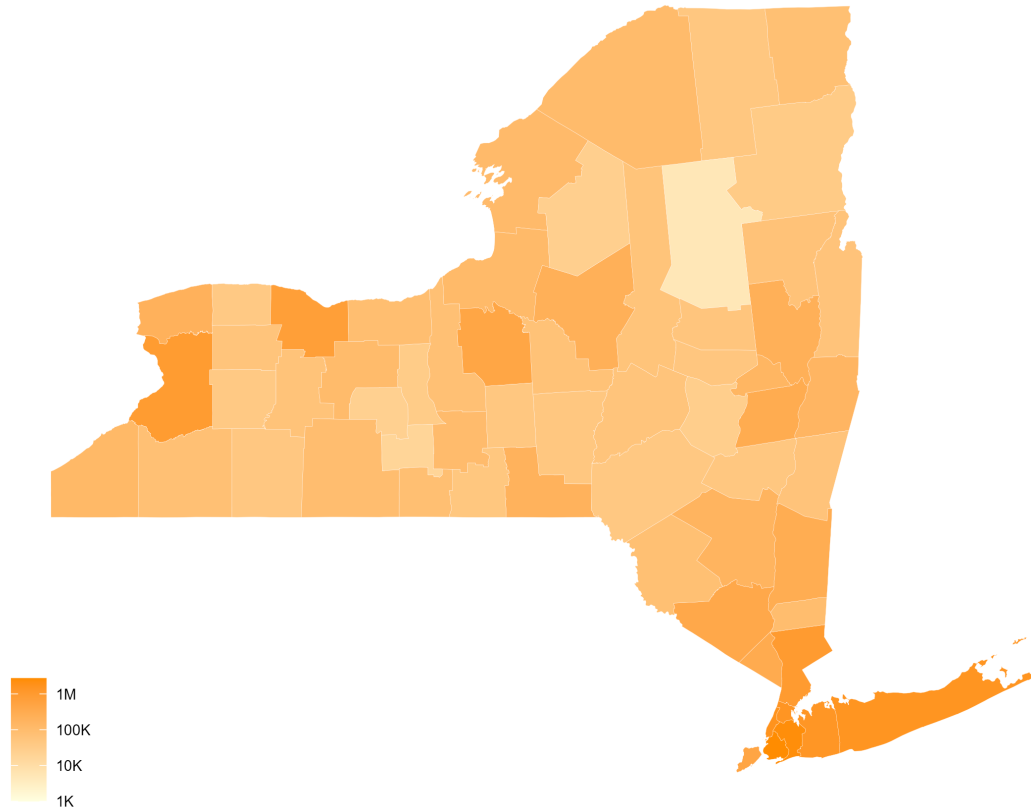


Figure 3: Figure 3

Part III: County Population Density

Next up is population density. The map below shows population density, shaded where darker purples indicated higher density. Notice how dark it is in New York City. Indeed, the most dense county is New York County (Manhattan), and the least dense is Hamilton.

Population Density by County, 2020

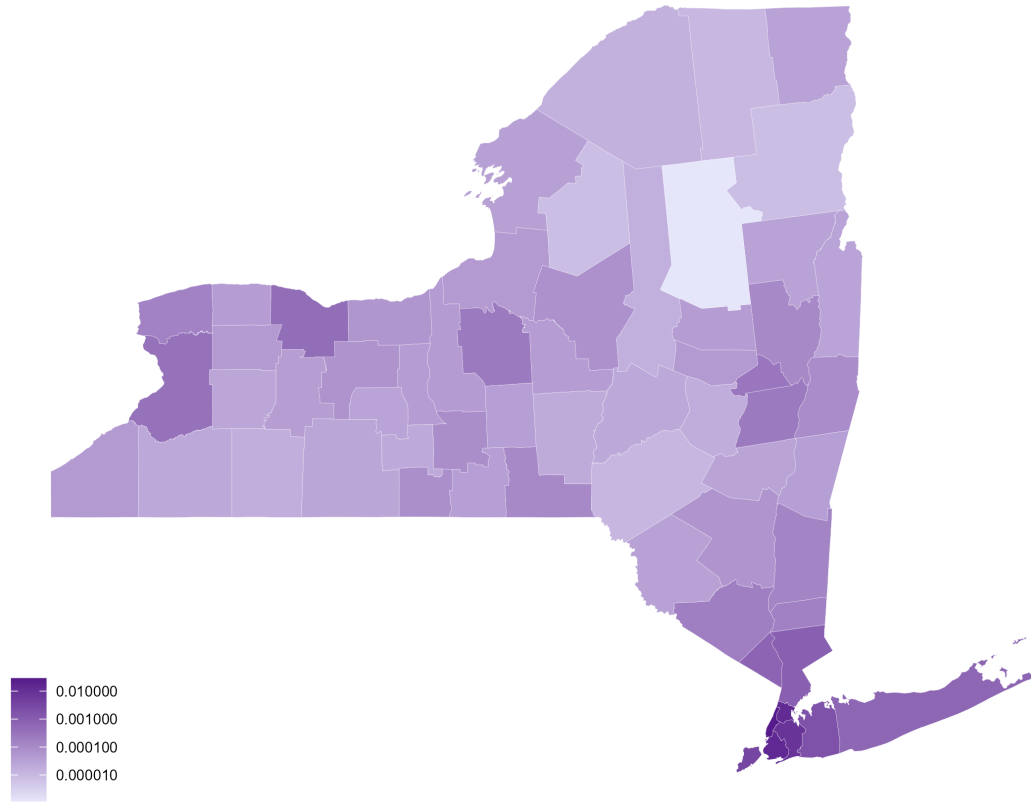
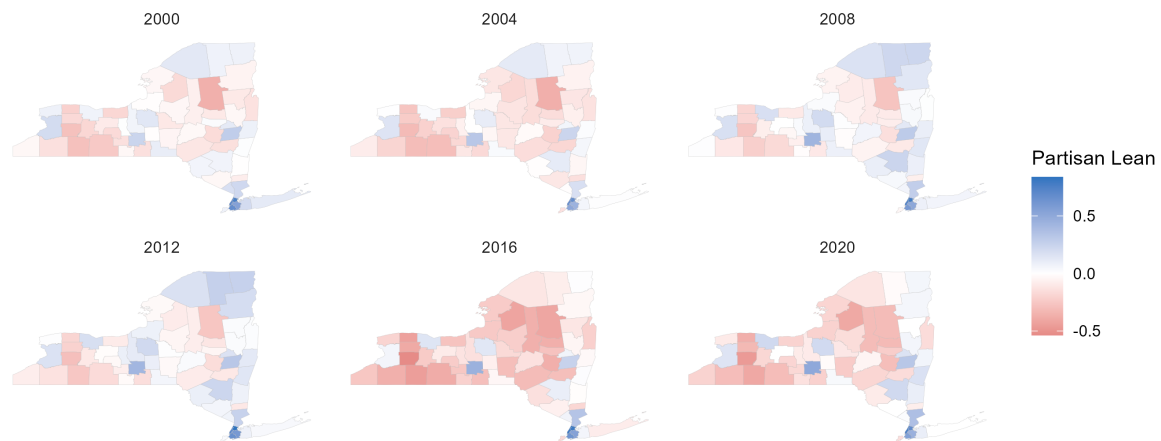


Figure 4: Figure 4

Presidential Elections

Here is a set of six maps that show the results of six presidential elections between 2000 and 2020. The counties are shaded according to partisan lean with white counties representing bipartisan areas.

Partisan Lean in New York Counties, 2000–2020



You can certainly pick out the elections where Obama won: the blue northeast reveals more Democratic support. Similarly, Trump's victory in 2016 is reflected in many more red counties, and also deeper red counties.

Over time, Western New York remains quite red (excluding Buffalo). Similarly, New York City, although hard to see on the map because it is so condensed (see maps about population density earlier) remains very, very blue. In my graphs, I included a grey outline because otherwise you can't see Long Island in 2012 or 2020. But the graph border definitely makes the blue of New York, Kings, Queens, and Bronx counties harder to see.

Like I said, I changed the outline color to grey to capture Long Island in 2020. It's noticeable that those counties were pretty clearly blue in 2000 and remained mostly blue through the Obama years before shifting red.