COVID−19 in the United States
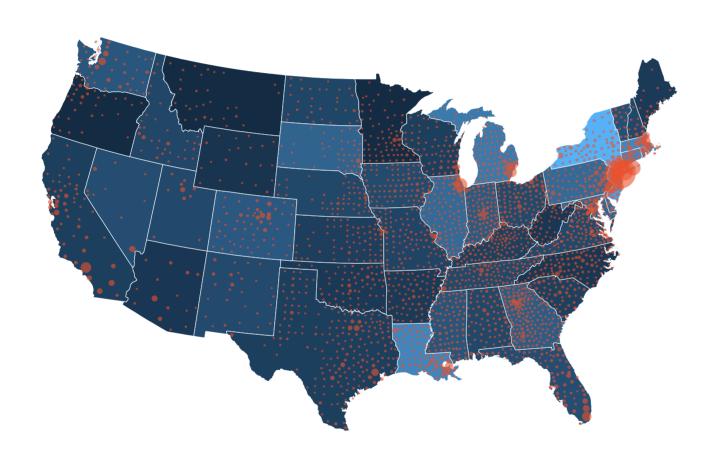
Confirmed cases in US counties, and cases per 100k in every state

Confirmed cases per 100k (log)

7

6

5

4

Confirmed cases in given county

25000

50000

75000

100000

125000

SML 201: Data Visualization Contest

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Explanation

For the COVID-19 dataset, I thought it would be interesting to plot both the cases per county and cases per 100k per state on the same map, and see if there are any interesting patterns. Indeed, the data certainly shows what should logically happen - big cities, such as Detroit, Chicago, Denver and several cities in Texas show a high concentration of cases, regardless of whether the state as a whole is infected. On the flip side, we note that in South Dakota, for instance, there are no big clusters of infected regions, but the state has a higher infection rate than Texas, California, Florida etc.

This juxtaposition highlights how misleading certain map visualizations can be. Especially in a big country, only visualizing raw numbers for small sub-regions show population density, more than anything.