GIS for Designers
VT | A+D | SU22

TUTORIAL 6 | JUMP INTO MAPBOX

Zoom: **Wednesday 06.08, 6:30-7:30pm**
https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/2981092726

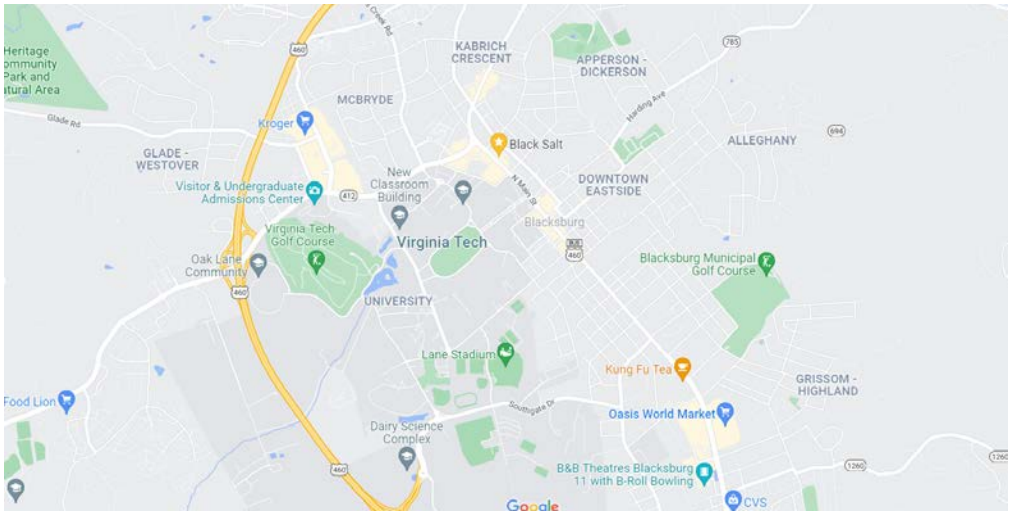
Goals

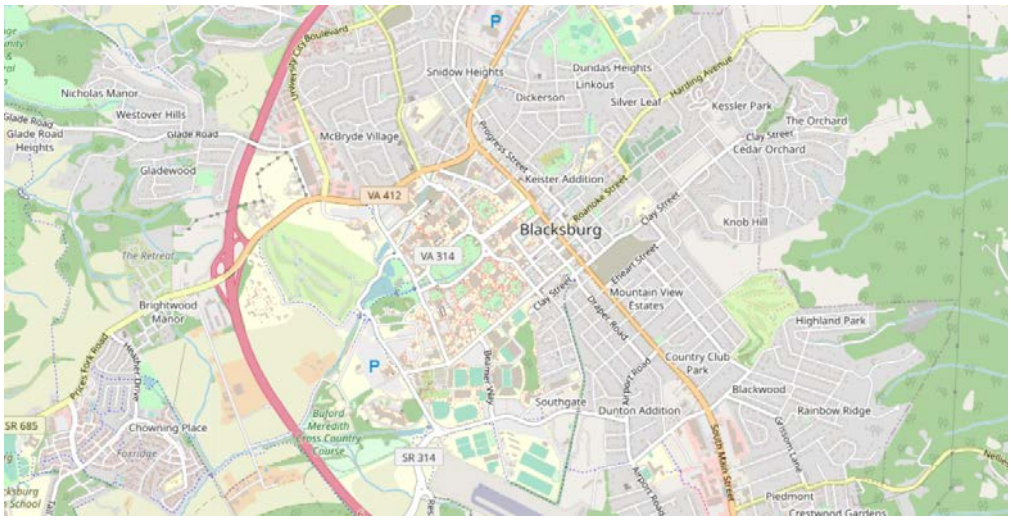
- Gain familiarity with Mapbox platform.
- Understand how to style layers and base map.
- Upload Census shapefile as data layer from QGIS.
- View map in browser.

Intro

Today, you're going to create a Mapbox base map style and add some basic data.

Think of your basemap as a styled map background. For example, take a look at the difference between Google Maps and Open Street Maps basemaps. Notice the difference in color, labeling, lineweight, information density, and so on. Your basemap is the canvas for information that you want to show. Google Maps emphasizes roads and points of interest – a car-based perspective. OSM, on the other hand, shows a less hierarchical urban fabric of land use as well as roads and places.





Mapbox terms:

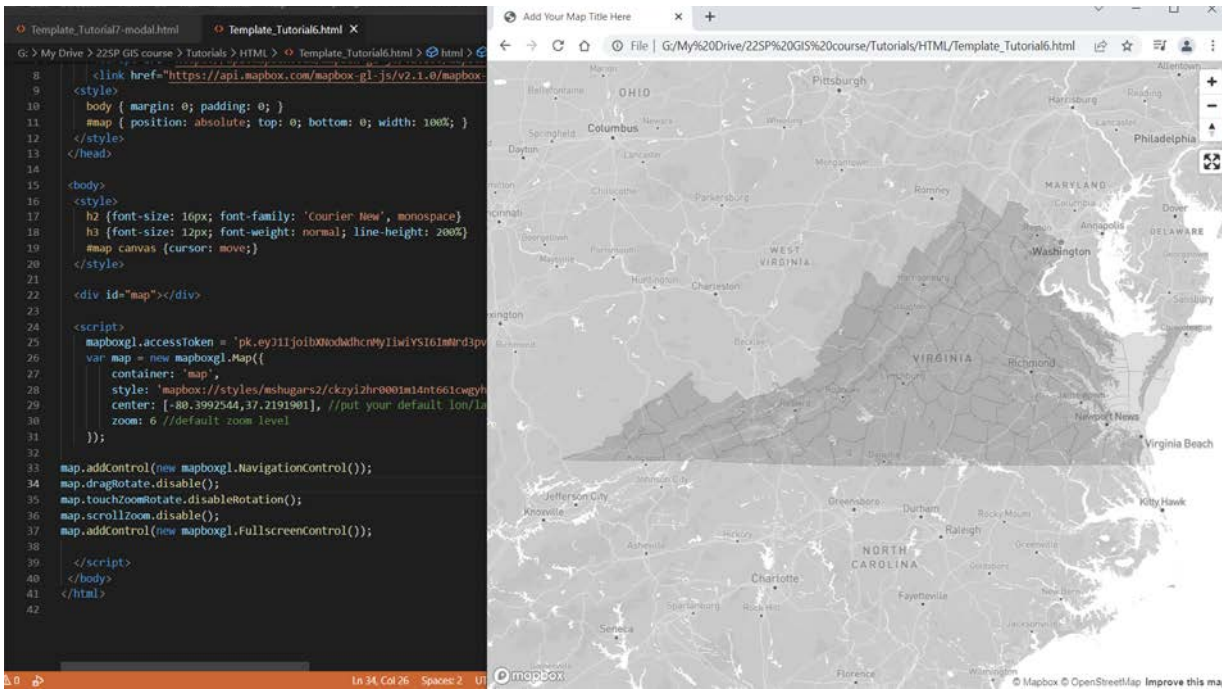
- **Style**: base map
- **Studio**: where you create and edit basemaps
- **Tileset**: map image data that styles by zoom level; generally, basemap information
- **Dataset**: as opposed to tilesets, datasets contain a specific set of data (eg location of community centers, or industrial land use polygons)
- **Access token**: unique id number that you create for your account and use to activate your map in HTML code
- **Component**: groups of shapefile or information layers – generally tilesets – for instance, “land water & sky” or “road network”. These are tilesets made by Mapbox (you can’t upload or make your own component).
- **Layer:** specific subset of data, for instance “water” or “sky” or “bridges”; each component contains multiple layers. When you upload your own shapefile or database information, you can add them as layers to your map.

Visual you can style with Mapbox Studio:

- color and outline of **buildings**, **waterways, roads, natural features, and ground**
- content, size, font, and color of **labels**
- what content displays at which **zoom** levels
- map **cant** (view angle), and **fog**
- note: Mapbox does not show topography lines by default, but you can add the Tileset as a layer to your basemap

You can also **upload** custom **Datasets** or **Tilesets** to your Mapbox base map. This information can be point data, lines, or polygons – that is, traditional Shapefiles. It can also be csv spreadsheets with geographic information in it (latitude and longitude), or even Geo-located raster images (GeoTIFFs). In this Tutorial you’ll upload some useful census shapefile data from QGIS

On **Mapbox** you create the map **object** with all of its relevant visual and informational layers. With **code**, you **interact** (and allow other people to interact) with that object. Once you embed the map object in a website, you will add any interactive features, such as on-hover information popups or clicks, with code.

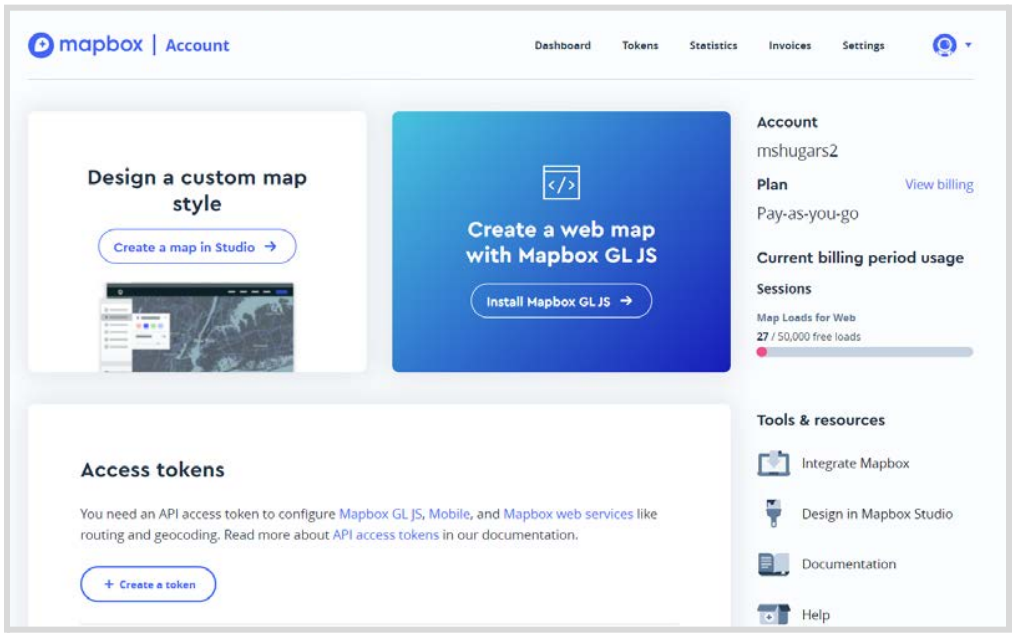


Step 1: Create a Mapbox account.

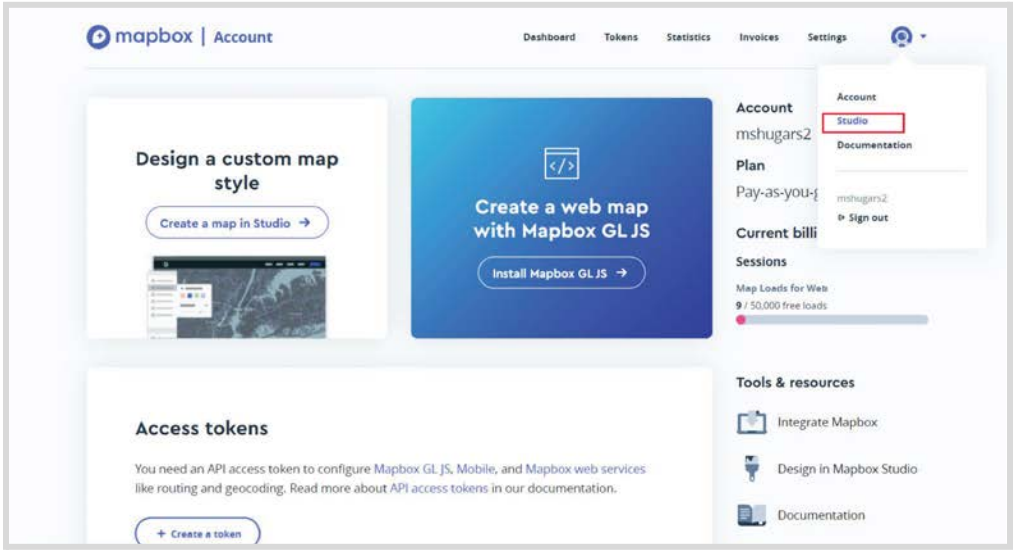
Mapbox is free for non-commercial use (ie if your map has fewer than 50,000 loads per month).

https://account.mapbox.com/

After confirming your account, you will see the Mapbox home page:

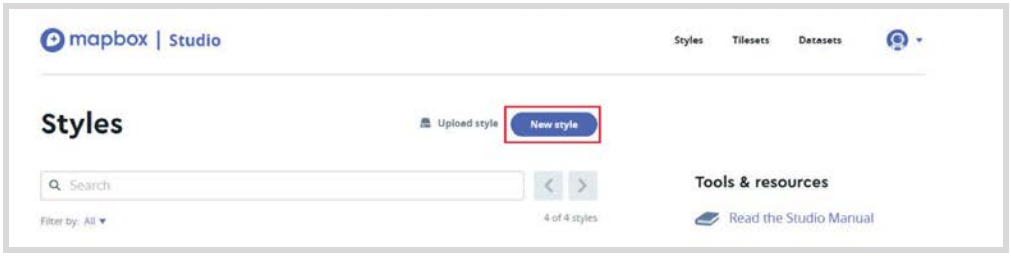


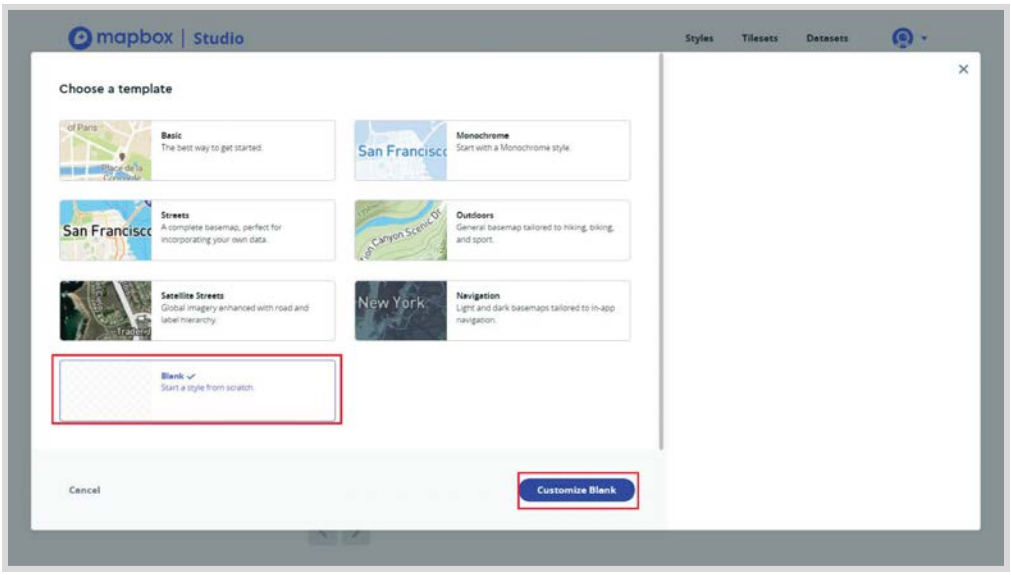
1b Navigate to the Mapbox Studio, where the visual magic happens, by clicking on your profile icon in the upper right and selecting "**Studio**"



Step 2: In Mapbox Studio, create a new Map Style.

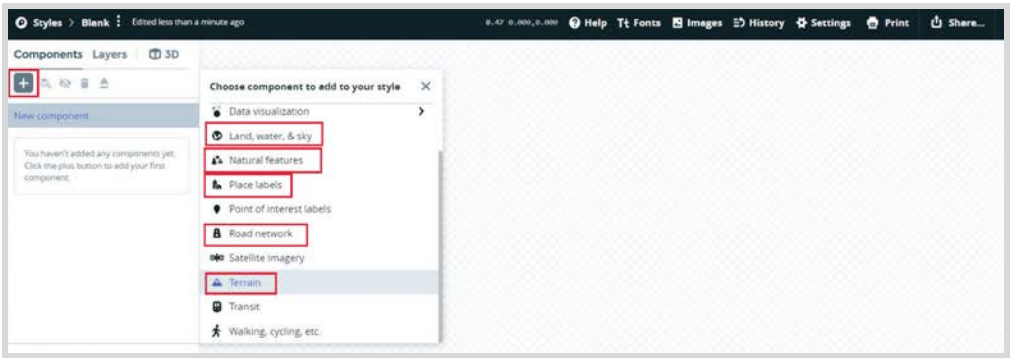
2a Click “**New Style**” and scroll down to **Blank** map style.



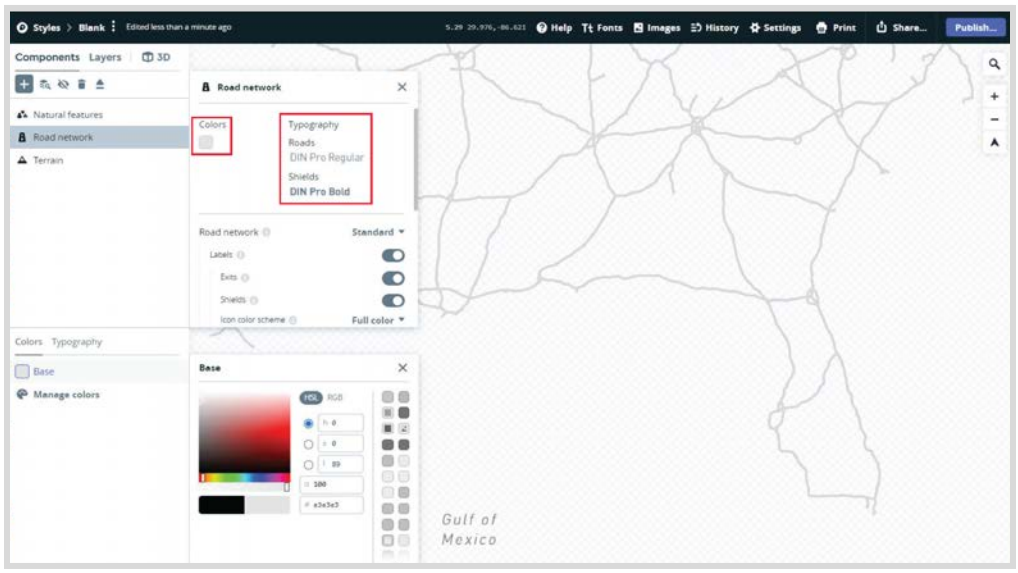


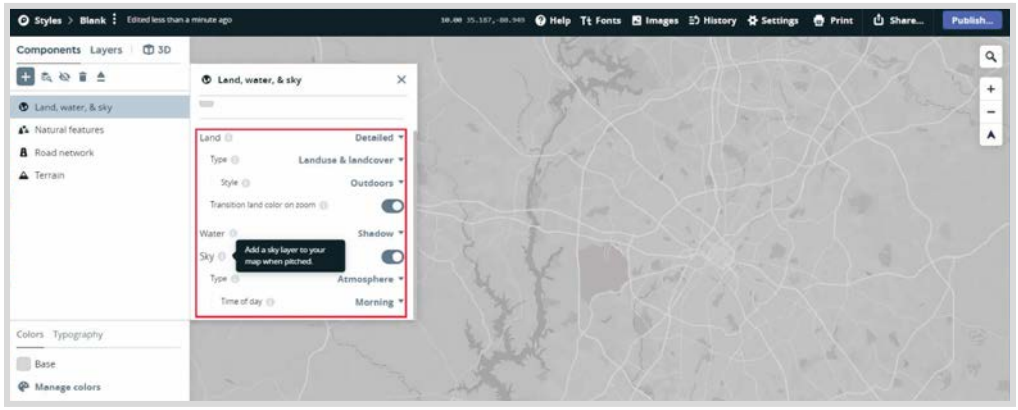
2b Now, add the following **Components**:

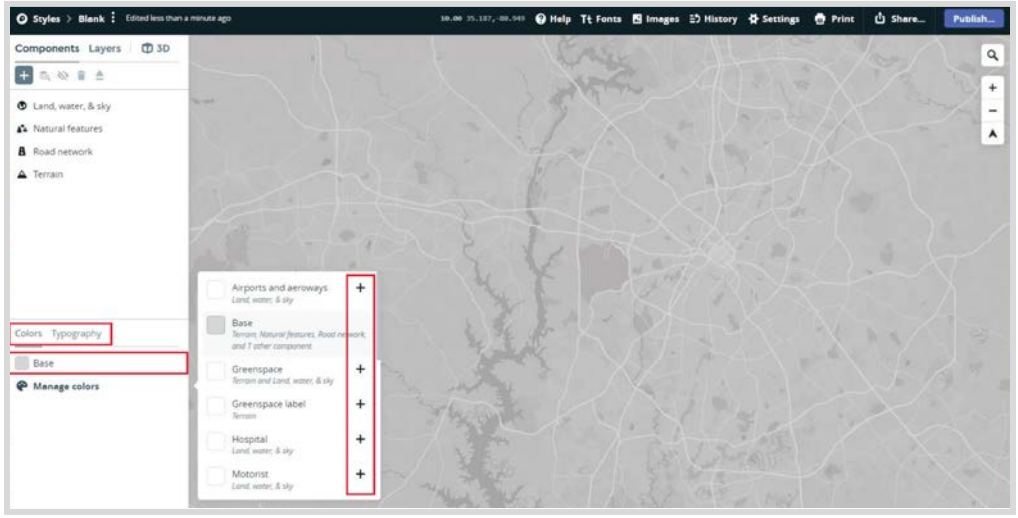
- Land, water, & sky
- Natural features
- Place labels
- Road network
- Terrain

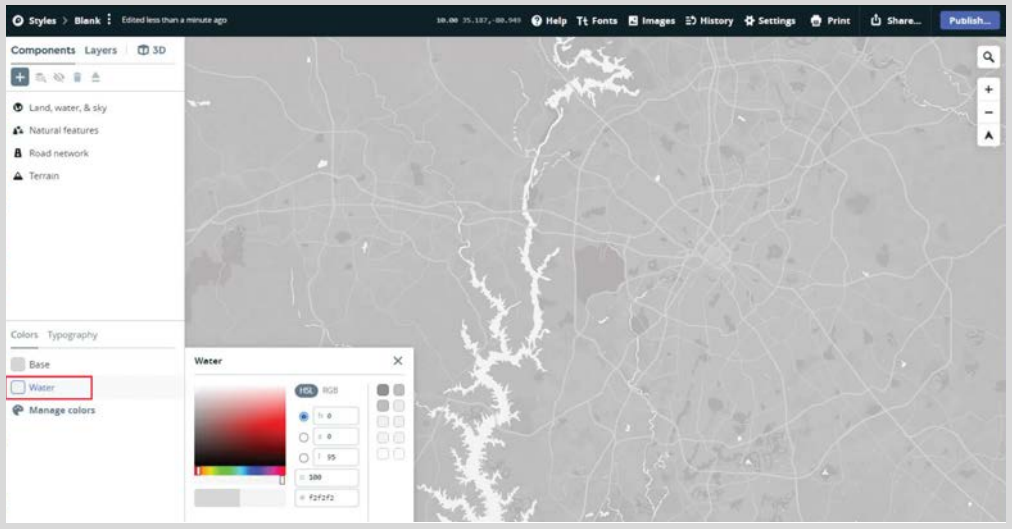


Play around with different styling options by clicking on these components and scrolling down to see the options. **Note: Label components are separated from Line and Polygon components**. This means that you will style the label (font, color, etc.) separately from the polygons that they refer to.



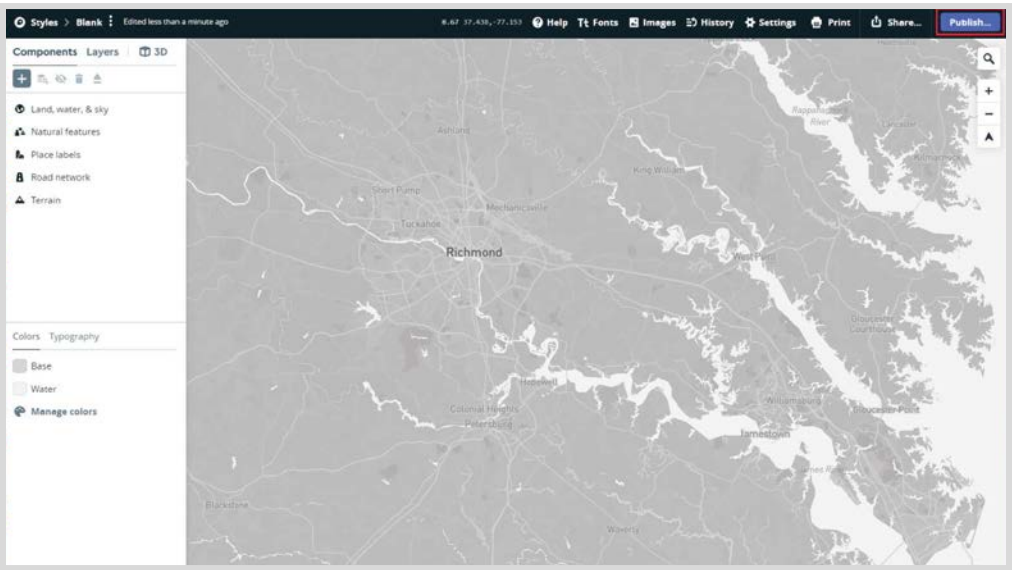






Mapbox's user interface has some redundancy baked in; that is, you can sometimes edit the same thing in two different places. As an example, you'll see **Typography** and **Color** tabs at the bottom of the Component editor area. Think of these as overall controls – you can control the base color of the entire map, or of certain general features (water, roads, etc.); likewise, you can change the fonts and colors of categories of labels. To change more granular information (eg. creeks or streams verses rivers in the "water" category), you will edit the specific component or its layers.

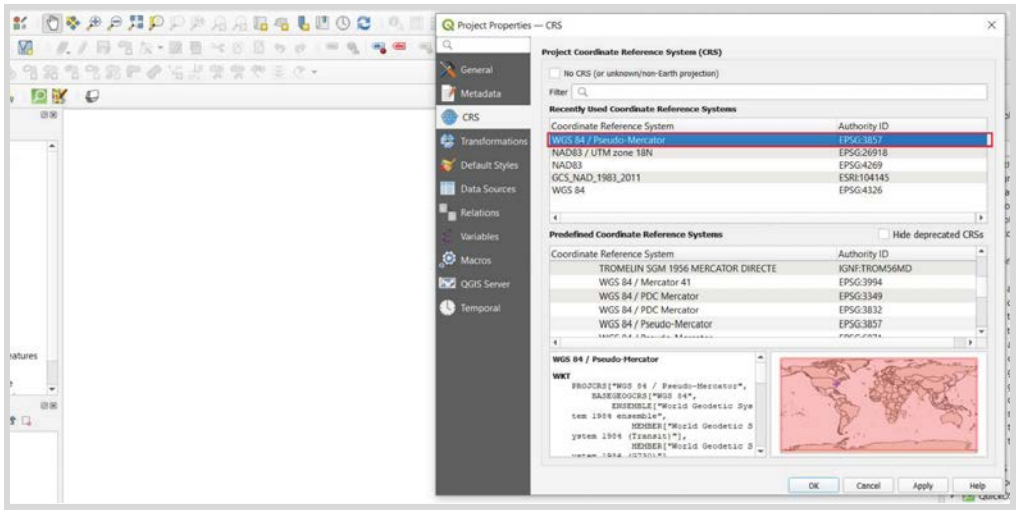
2c **Publish** your new Map style. This makes your changes live on the web, so you can see your updated map when you embed it. Note that when you make changes to your map, you will not be able to see these changes in your embedded map until you've Published them.



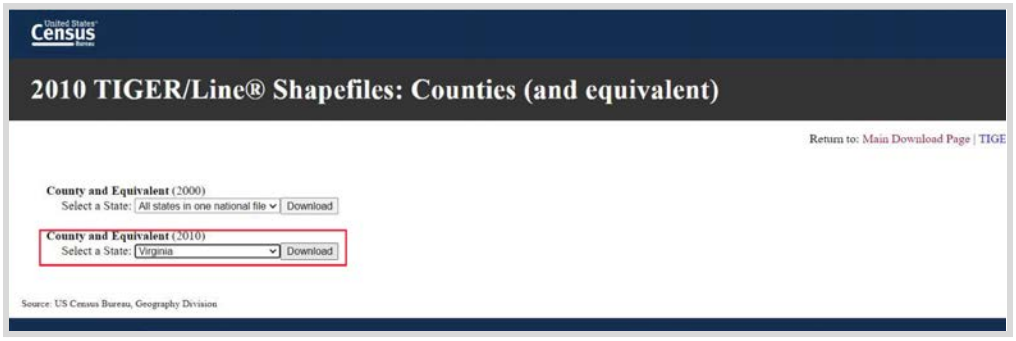
Step 3: Export TIGER county data from QGIS for your Appalachian city's state.

Note: this is a larger scale than we've been dealing with (we've been using census block groups). Because we're uploading data for the entire state, it will be easier to see patterns at the county level.

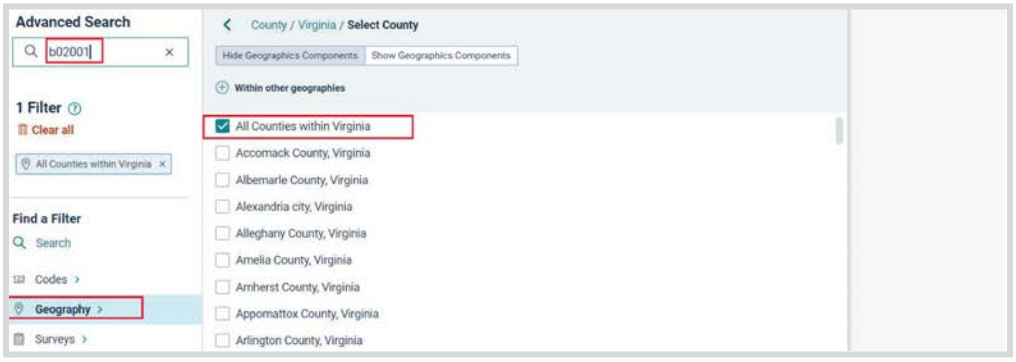
3a Create a new QGIS file. Change the CRS to **EPSG 3857: Pseudo Mercador**. This is Mapbox's (and Google Maps's) projection system.



3b Download the **2010 TIGER shapefile for counties in your city's state:**
https://www.census.gov/geographies/mapping-files/time-series/geo/tiger-line-file.htm



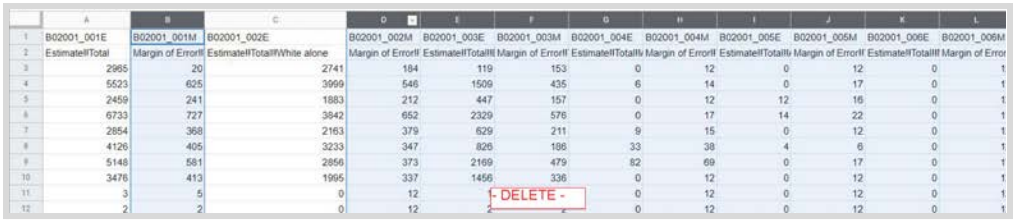
3c Download BOTH the **2013 and 2019** county ACS tables **B02001** (racial): https://data.census.gov/cedsci/

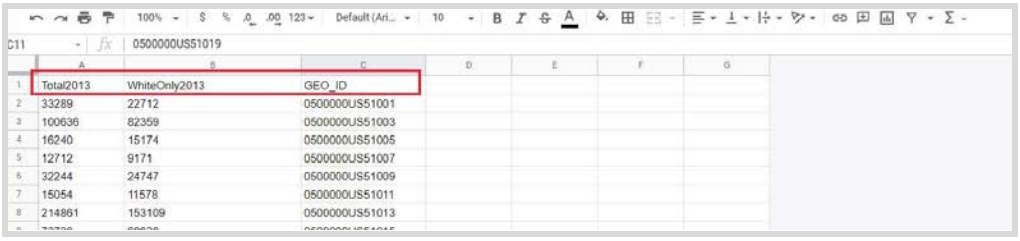


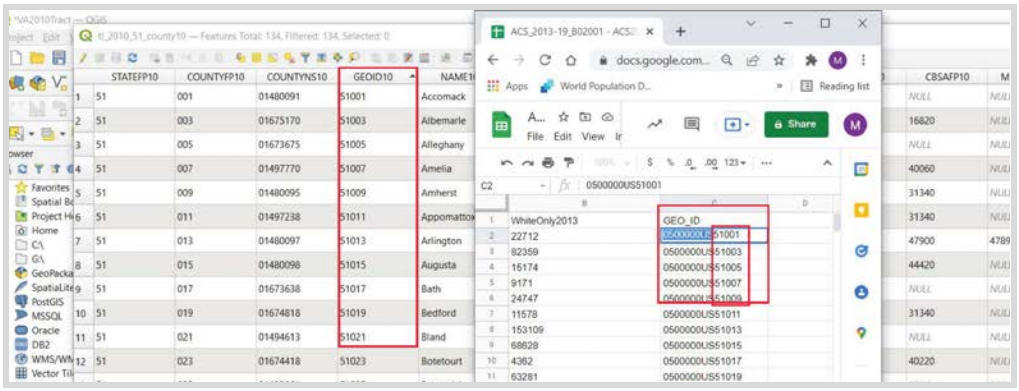
NOTE: **UNZIP** your downloaded folders before doing anything else with them. Do not try to open or import the shapefile or census tables without unzipping them first. Be sure to save your unzipped files in your class folder.

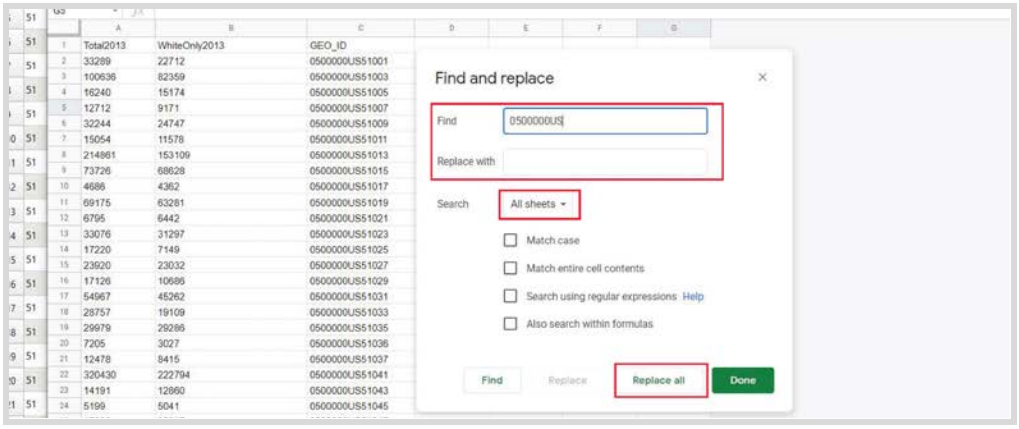
3d Clean up your ACS data and find the correct GEOIDs to match the TIGER file. To simplify this, check out the GEOID attribute table of your shapefile verses your ACS GEOIDs, and you'll notice that the leading string is always the same: **0500000US**. You can simply **Find and Replace** this with nothing in Google Sheets to remove it from all your GEOIDs (which will then match the TIGER file).

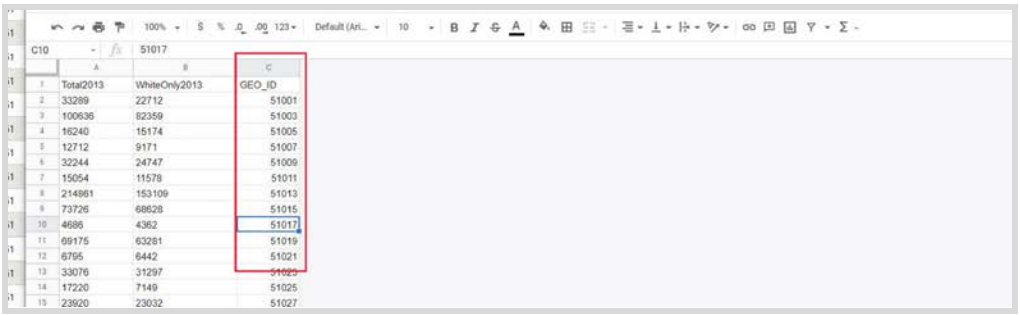
NOTE: be sure to include the year in your ACS column names (eg **WhiteOnly2019** or **WhiteOnly2013**).



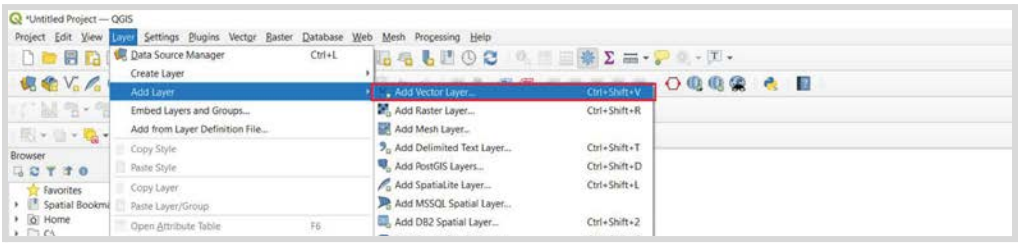


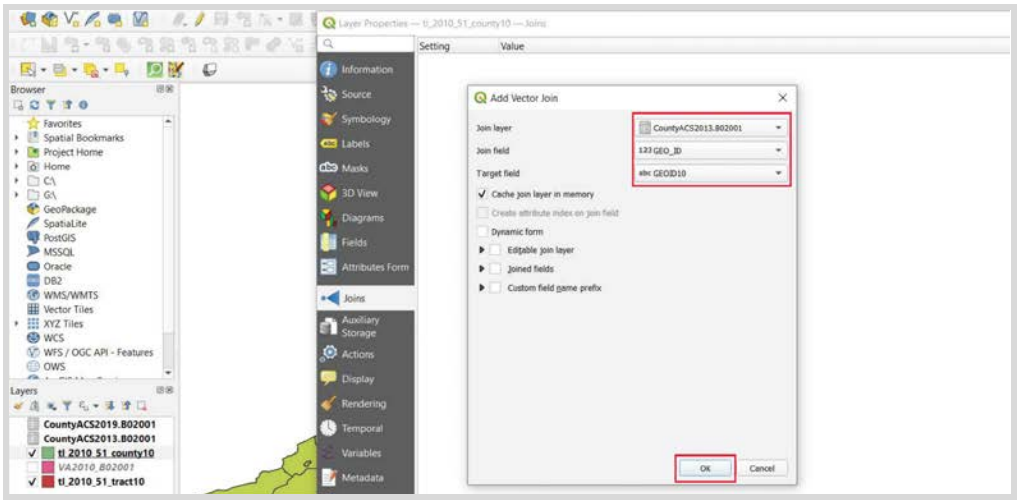


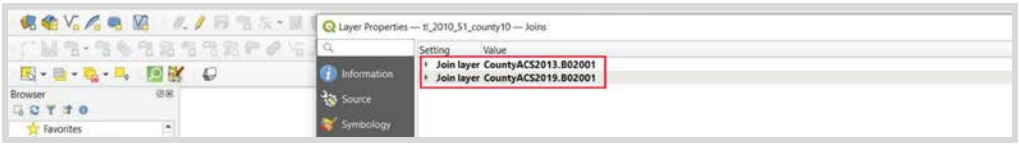


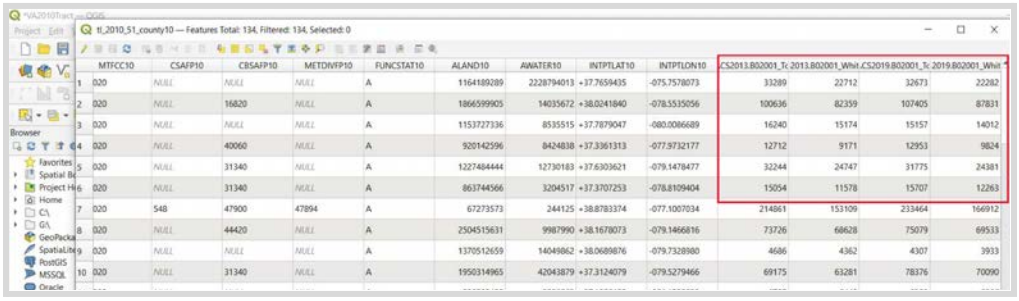


3e **Import** the **TIGER file and ACS** **.csvs** to QGIS, and join **BOTH** the 2013 and 2019 tables to your TIGER shapefile, and check that the join was successful in the Attribute Table.

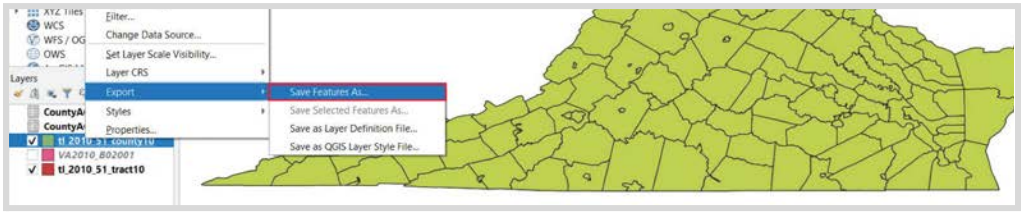


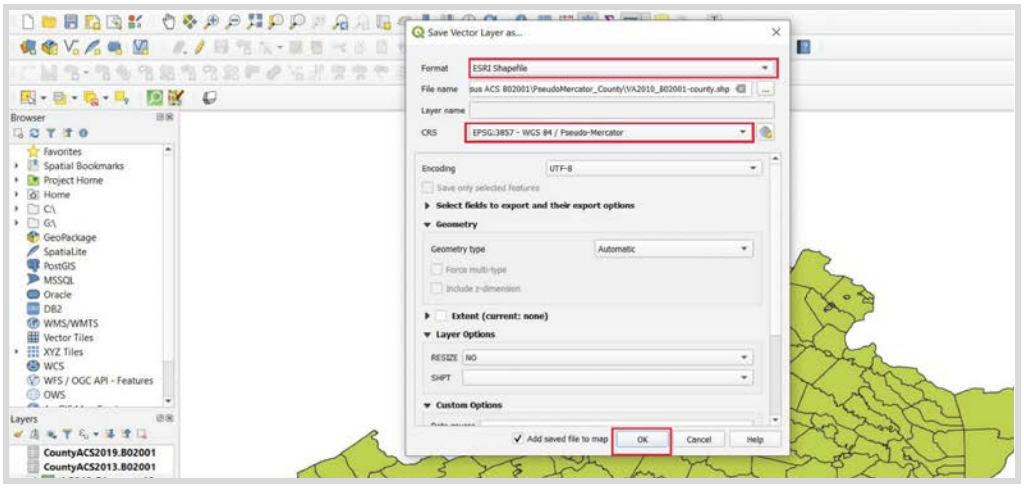


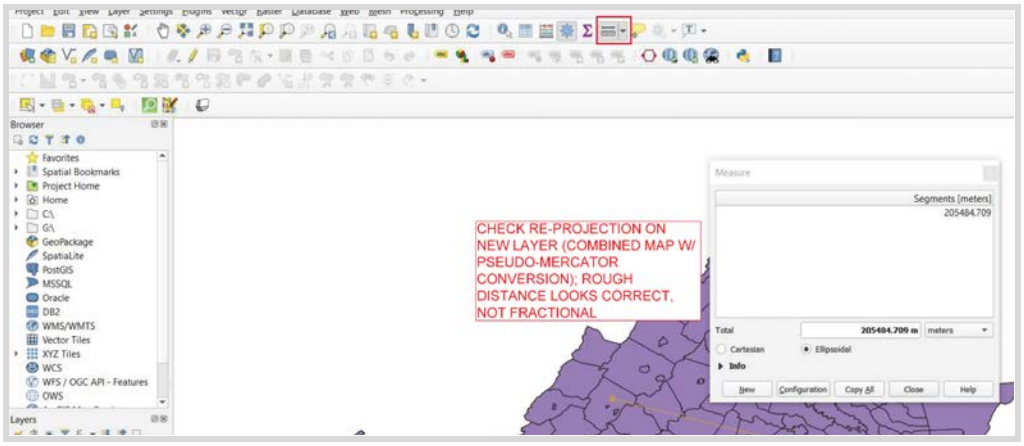




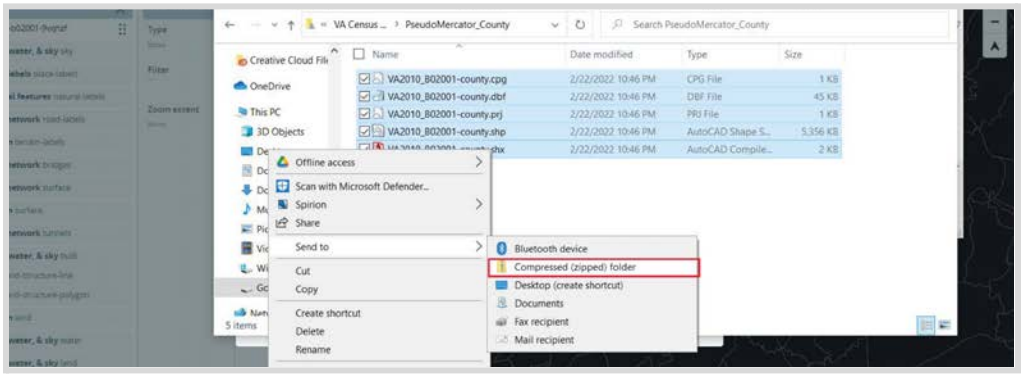
3f Export the joined shapefile as an “ESRI Shapefile”, saved in a new folder so you can easily zip its various parts. Make sure to set your **export** CRS to “**EPSG 3857 PseudoMercator**”. This is Mapbox’s projection system

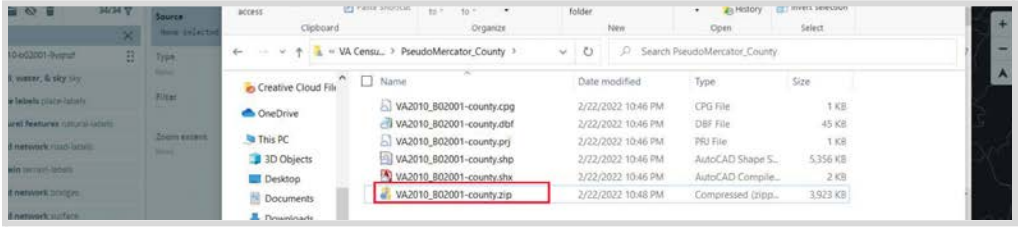






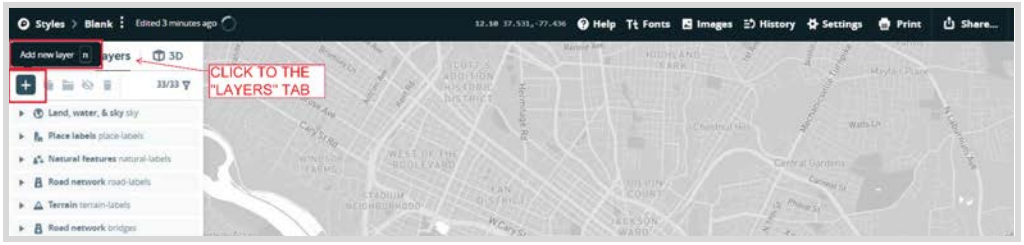
3g **Zip** your Shapefile files.



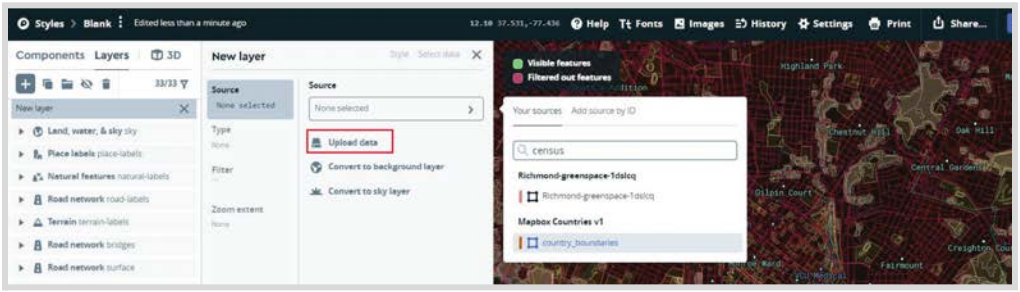


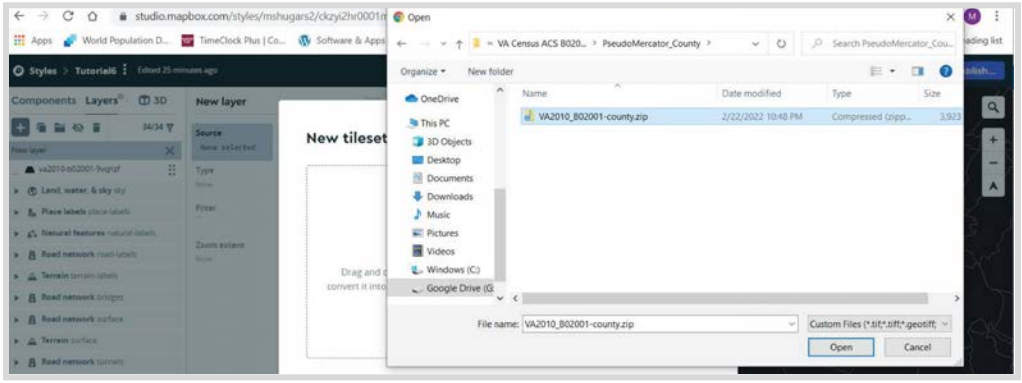
Step 4: Add your zipped Shapefile as a layer to your Mapbox base map.

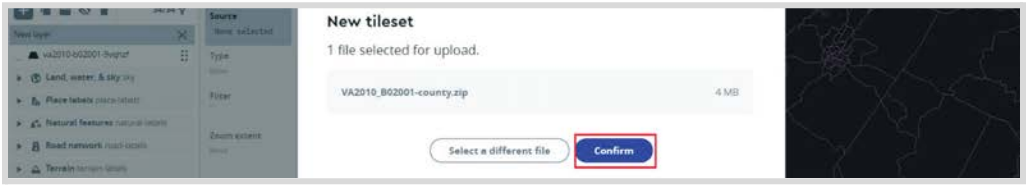
4a Under the **Layers tab** in your Studio view, click the **plus** sign "**Add New Layer**"



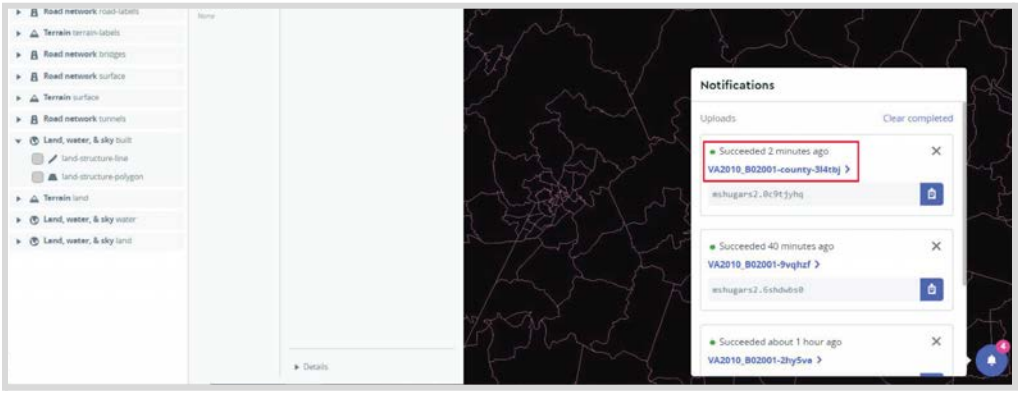
4b In Source, select "**Upload Data**" and select your **zipped shapefile**.

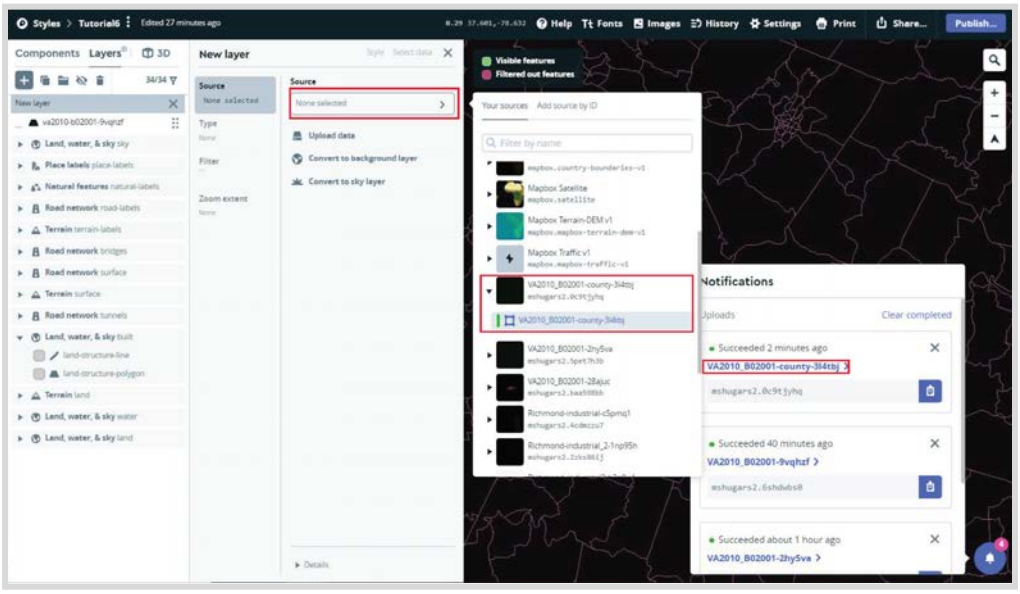


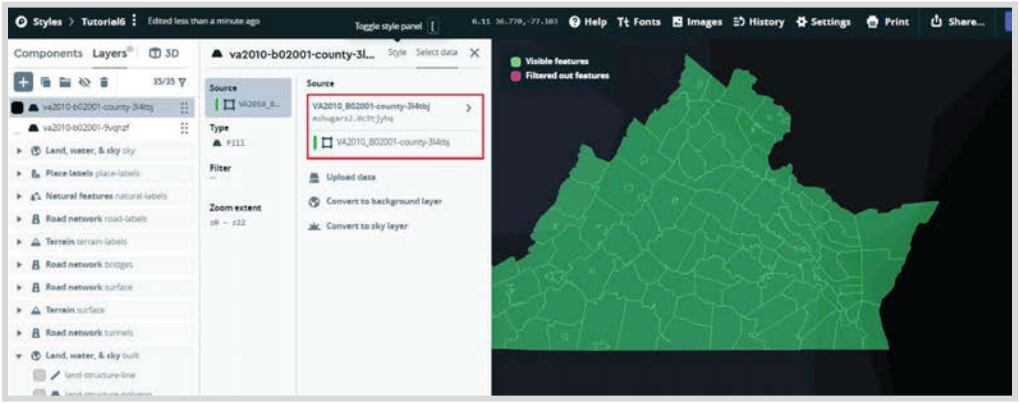




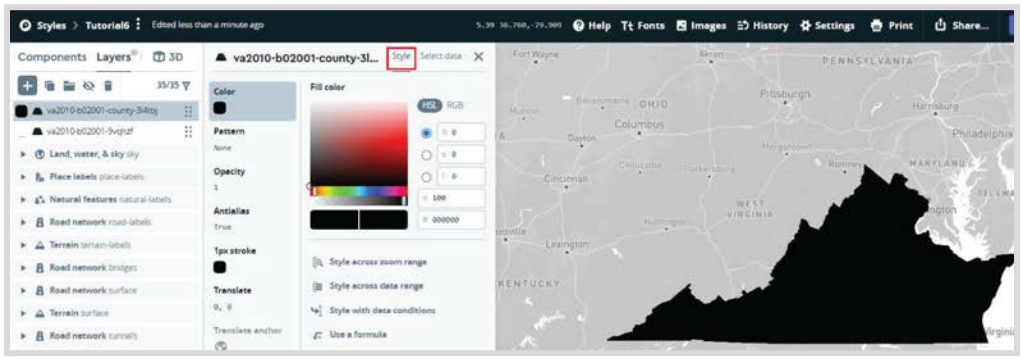
4c Once the upload has processed (check the lower right of your screen), scroll down to your newly uploaded tileset (**check the notification list for its name**), **click** on it, and select the **square shapefile symbol sublayer.** You should see the outline of your state show up in bright green.

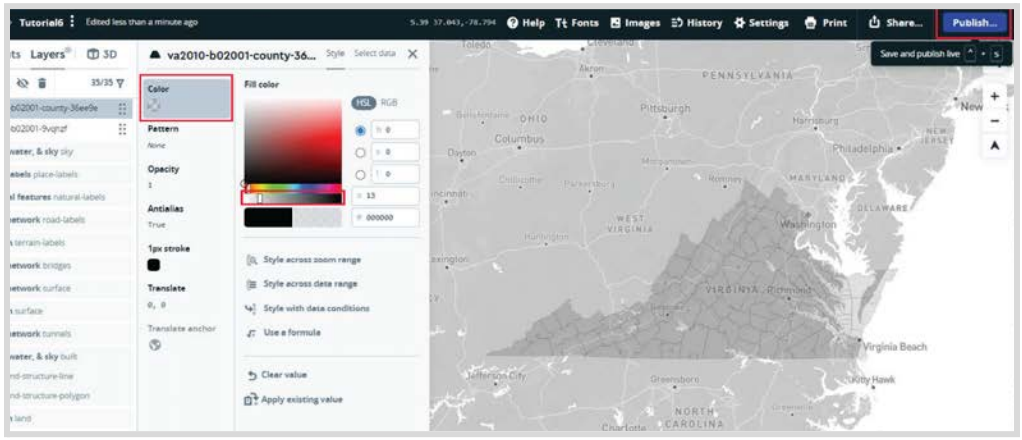






4d Click the "**Style**" tab, and for now simply slide the fill color opacity to around 20%. In the next Tutorial, we'll do fancier styling on this layer. For now, you want to see the ghostly shape of the state with its counties outlined in black.



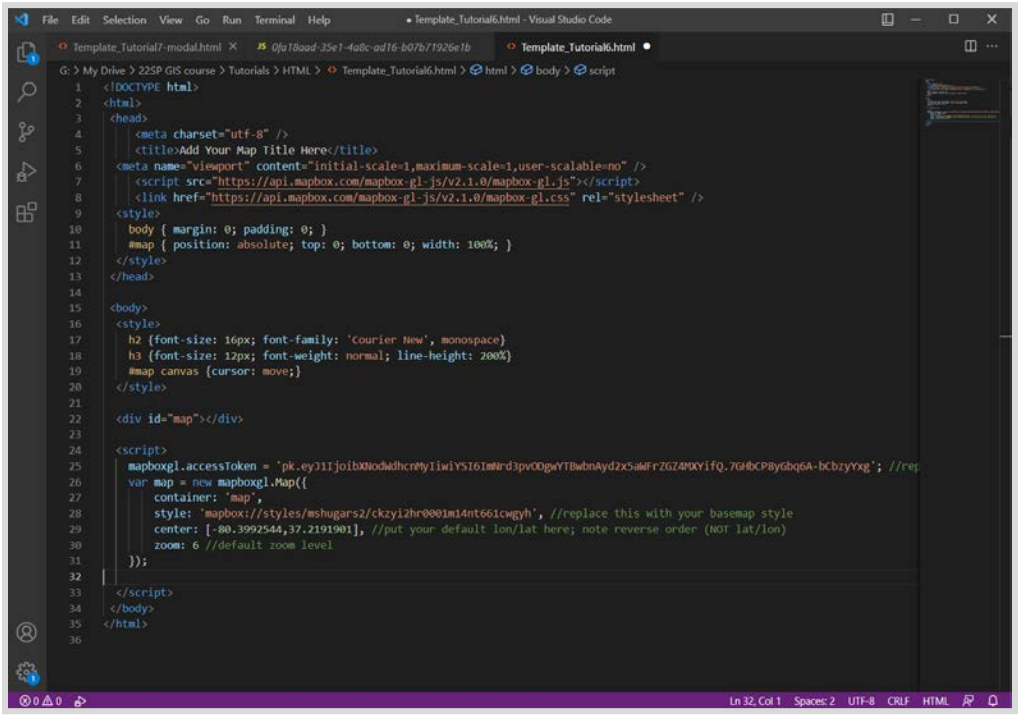


4e **Publish** your basemap changes (upper right button).

Step 5: Download and install Visual Studio Code (this will be our code editor):

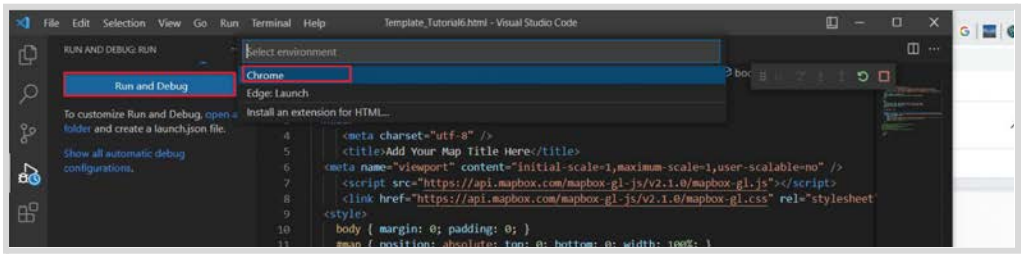
https://code.visualstudio.com/download

5a Download the **HTML template** (Canvas > Files > Templates > “Template-Tutorial6-7”) for this tutorial and open it in Visual Studio:

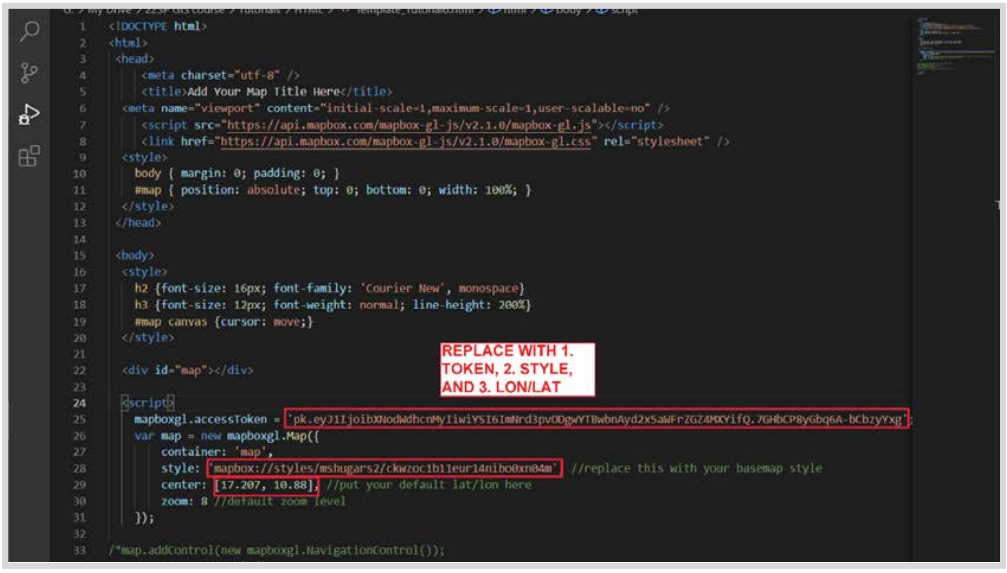


Step 6: Update HTML code with your map.

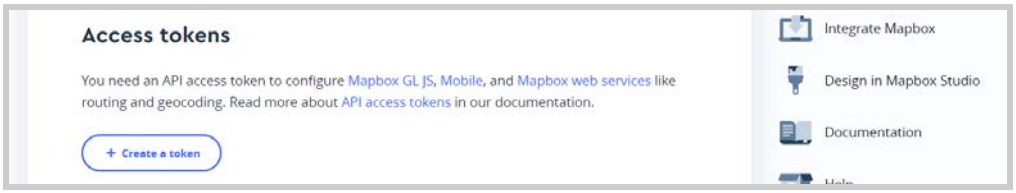
6a First, run your HTML in Chrome to see what it looks like by default. Reload this page frequently to check the changes you've made:



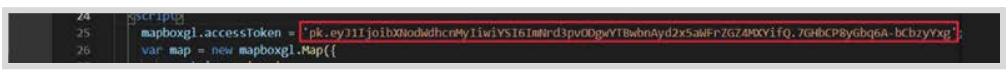
Next, you're going to update the **ACCESS TOKEN**, **MAP STYLE URL**, **CENTER, and ZOOM** in the HTML. Scroll down to this section (below the <*script*> tag):



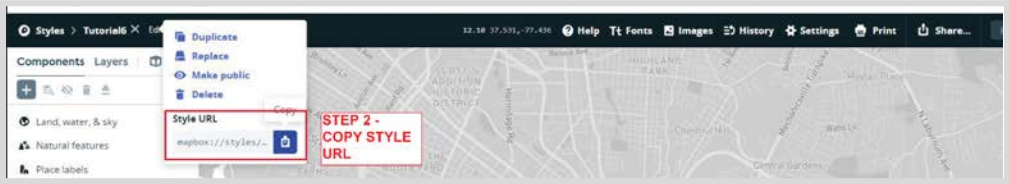
6b First, you need to create a Mapbox Access token from your Mapbox home page (https://account.mapbox.com/). Click "**Create a token**". Name it anything and confirm.



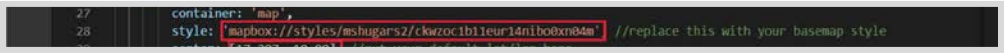
Now, **copy** the new Token number (also known as an API keyI) to the HTML template, replacing the 'pk…' string **INSIDE the quotation marks** after *mapboxgl.accessToken*:



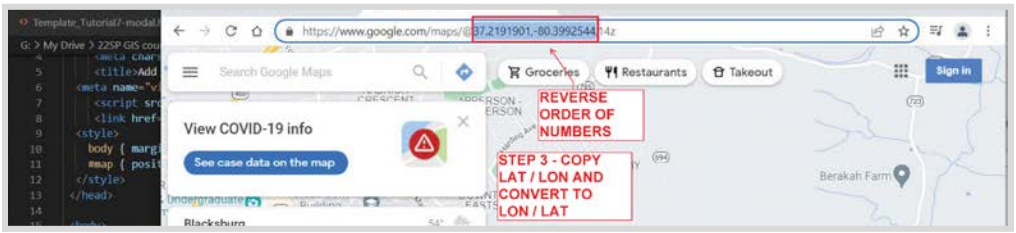
6c Second, add your **Map Style URL** to the HTML template. You can find the map style (eg basemap) url back in your Mapbox Studio. There are several places to find the url, but one is in the Style editor as shown below:



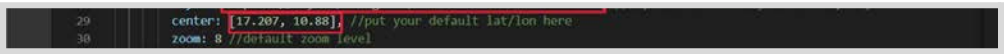
Replace the text **INSIDE the quotation marks** after *style* in the template:



6d Third, update the **Zoom level and Cente**r (Longitude / latitude starting point) in the template. Note that the template reads the center as Longitude / latitude, and NOT Latitude / longitude as it's shown in Google Maps. You need to **reverse** the numbers from Google Maps.

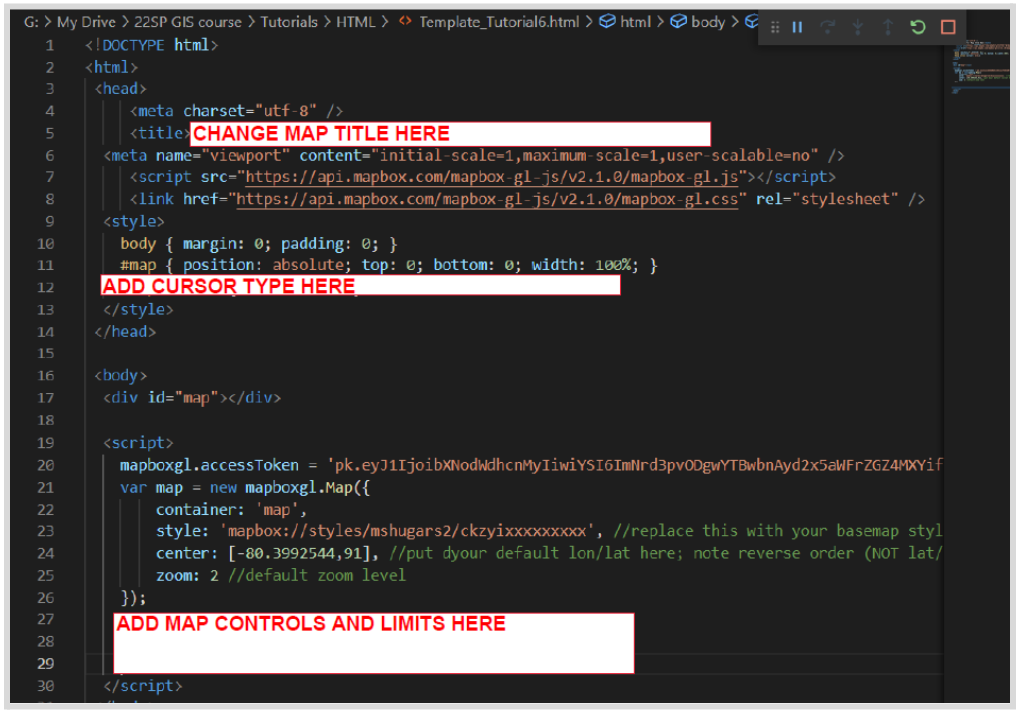


Replace the numbers after *center* in the template. Replace the number after *zoom* with an appropriate zoom level (try a few out to see what looks right by saving and reloading the map in Chrome).



6e **Check** that the code still works and looks right by **saving the file and reloading the map in Chrome**.

Step 7: Some final map edits



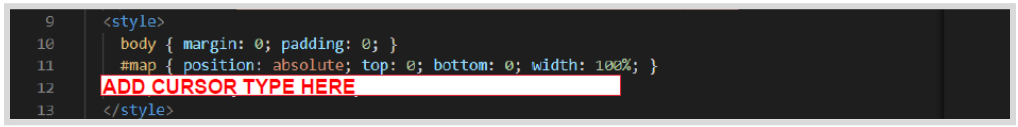
7a Add some **map controls** for ease of use. You'll add Zoom tools (+ and -), a fullscreen button, disable tile control (so the map stays flat), and disable scroll zoom (so the viewer can only zoom in and out with the buttons).

Add the following text after the close of your *var map* block, as shown above.

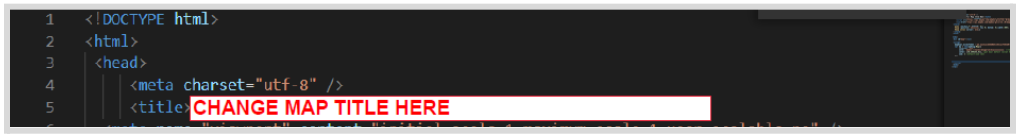
```
map.addControl(new mapboxgl.NavigationControl());
map.dragRotate.disable();
map.touchZoomRotate.disableRotation();
map.scrollZoom.disable();
map.addControl(new mapboxgl.FullscreenControl());
```

7b Now, to make it clear that you can pan around the map by clicking and dragging, change the **cursor type** to "move" (the crossed arrows) by adding the following in your <*style*> block:

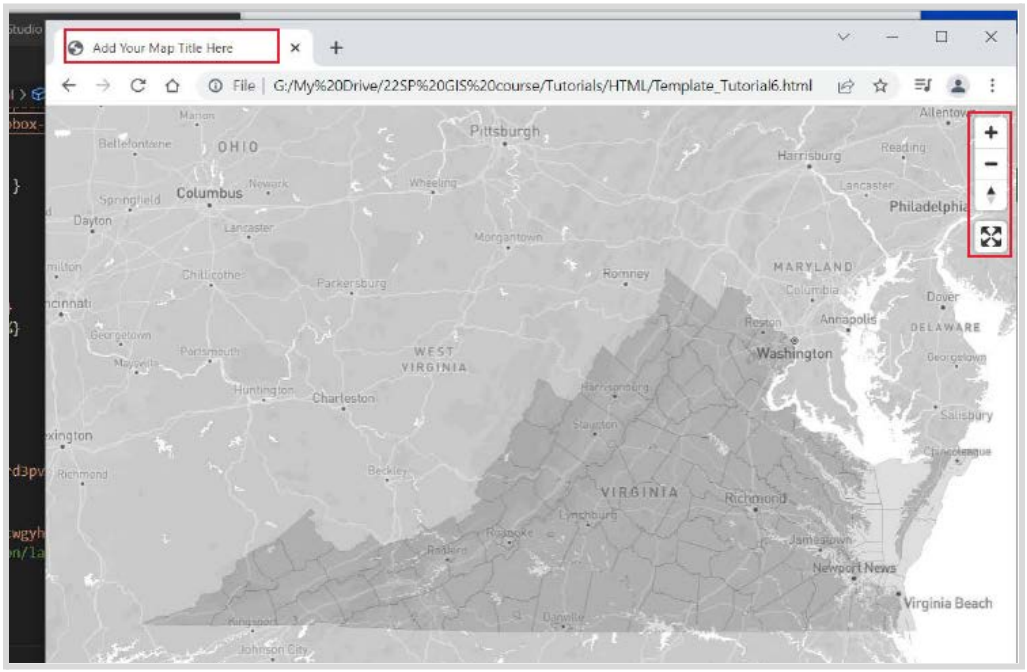
```
#map canvas {cursor: move;}
```



7c Lastly, change your **map title**:



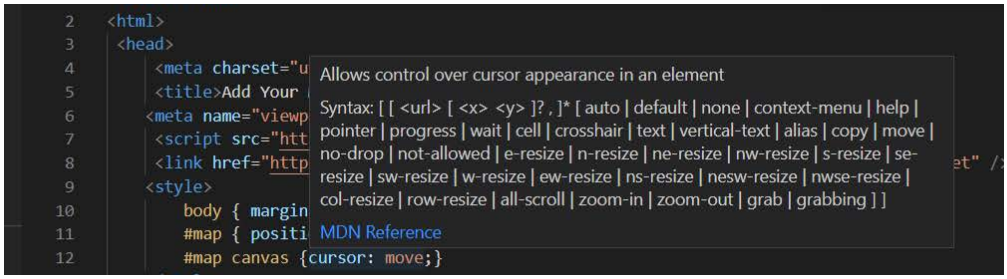
7d Now check out the changes in your Chrome map. Pan and zoom around to try out the new controls.



– Bonus –

Step 8: Try out some different cursor types and map control options.

8a Hover over the cursor section of your code in Visual Studio to see some different options:



8b Visual Studio won't be able to show you the map control options, since these are specific to Mapbox's language. However, you can see the possibilities in Mapbox's documentation page:

https://docs.mapbox.com/mapbox-gl-js/api/markers/#navigationcontrol
and
https://docs.mapbox.com/mapbox-gl-js/api/handlers/