

joining data and producing pretty and interesting thematic map(s)

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due in 2 weeks

1. may be difficult—start early!
2. produce a thematic map (or maps!)
3. you must map 2 variables (so typically you'll have 2 maps, but can also have 2 vars in one map); these 2 vars must not come from the gis data, but you must join them from traditional data sets from 2 different places; if you cannot find such data, email me; again, to repeat, regular (say csv) data has to come from 2 different files, say FBI and Census, or say WHO and World Bank, etc; the bottom line is that you have to perform join twice!!

general notes (always the same):

broad idea:

- it will be cumulative: ps will accumulate into a final project
- it will be also collaborative: you will see what others are doing

submission guidelines:

- submission must be in pdf, you will just have one pdf, and then keep on adding to it—never delete what you have already submitted—for each subsequent ps, just add a new section with section titled ps1, ps2, etc
- each ps section will have a brief description of a map, say a sentence or few and not more than a paragraph! (except the final ps), and it will also contain a journal (that lists any problems you've encountered; also can use it to ask questions! [if no problems/questions, then no journal!]), and inserted map of course (make it big with nice resolution, but not too big, say each map should be at least half-page if not much detail or full page if detailed and <1mb)
- and in pdf there must be exact links to all of the source data (so that i could create the map myself); note: exact links, eg do not say census.gov, but give full url to the data—i must be able to find it; sometimes there is no generic URL—then give steps: what I need to click to get the data!; or upload data say to your dropbox or google drive and provide link to there; so there must be all raw gis data (e.g. .shp .dbf and .shx and others if any), and any other data (e.g., .csv, .xls) that you used to produce a map; in rare circumstances if you use confidential/private data that cannot be shared, please contact me (and still do provide links to all the other data you're using)
- the pdf must have a substantive name that describes the project, unit of analysis but yet be brief, <10words, say 'income inequality across nj counties' or say 'nj counties: income inequality'; do not put your name in file name!
- the pdf file is submitted into Sakai's Resources folder
- note: instead of pdf, it can also be html/mhtml or ps/eps, but not ms word doc/x!
- In Sakai's Resources folder I will have one text file with comments on everyone's ps
- in addition to submission, you will usually (depending on how we do on time) present the map in class—can just show pdf(s) exported from qgis (max 5-7min (depending on class size); i will cut you off!)

to reiterate, for each ps the following must be always submitted as an added section to the same pdf file:

- the maps(s) with short description
- very specific links to all data
- "journal" [if no problems/questions, then no journal!]
- and prepare for presentation

as soon as possible (and definitely once we cover pretty.pdf, final_project.pdf) :

- the map needs to be "pretty" (syllabus: pretty.pdf): must have legend, title, cut decimal points, make fonts small, etc)
- the map must be "interesting" (syllabus: pretty.pdf, final_project.pdf): ask yourself the "so what?" question; essentially, you need to tell a story with your map

tips:

- start early; start tomorrow or the day after tomorrow or tonight! otherwise you'll forget it...and then, next week polish it
- use your (gis) data—again, if you do not have dataset, have a look at data_sources.csv from the class, or email me
- you cannot use the data I used in the class (or that I am using in the slides posted on the website for the future classes)
- assignments are due by **the beginning** of the class in Sakai's Resources folder
- if you choose to work in a group, write down the names of people you worked with; otherwise i'll subtract points
- do not use exclusively variables from datasets that i have done in class, that is, you cannot just submit something that i have done in class