




MAKING MAPS

Cartographic Design & Principles | Winter 2018

Cartography

“the art, science, and technology of making maps,
together with their study as scientific documents and
works of art”

- *The International Cartographic Association*



“Far from being an antique craft belonging to a bygone era, cartography is the art of geovisualization; a way of sharing spatial knowledge and empowering people through the application of good design, whether the medium is electronic or paper, permanent or perishable, static or dynamic”

- Alexander J Kent, *Bulletin of the Society of Cartographers* (2008)



The Cartographic Process

The Cartographic Process

Planning	Data Analysis	Presentation	Critique / Editing	Production
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purpose• Topic• Format• Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collection• Synthesis• Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Layout• Medium<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor• Projector• Paper• Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design• Content accuracy	



Making maps is hard!



*What is the **PURPOSE** of the
map?*



*Who is the **AUDIENCE?***



***What is the best way to
REPRESENT the data?***



*Is all **NECESSARY** data
included?*

*Is all the **UNNECESSARY** data
excluded?*



*How will the map be **VIEWED**?*



Map data is also complex!



Is it qualitative or quantitative?



*Are there any copyright issues
with the data?*



Are the symbols appropriate?



*Has the data been properly
analyzed?*



*Does the data serve the
purpose of the map?*



*Is the data too generalized or
complex?*



Then there's the map DESIGN!

So many things to consider....

- Title & subtitle
- Map scale
- Legend
- How many data frames?
- Color
- Balance & layout
- Symbols
- Map Projection
- And so on...



Core Cartographic Principles

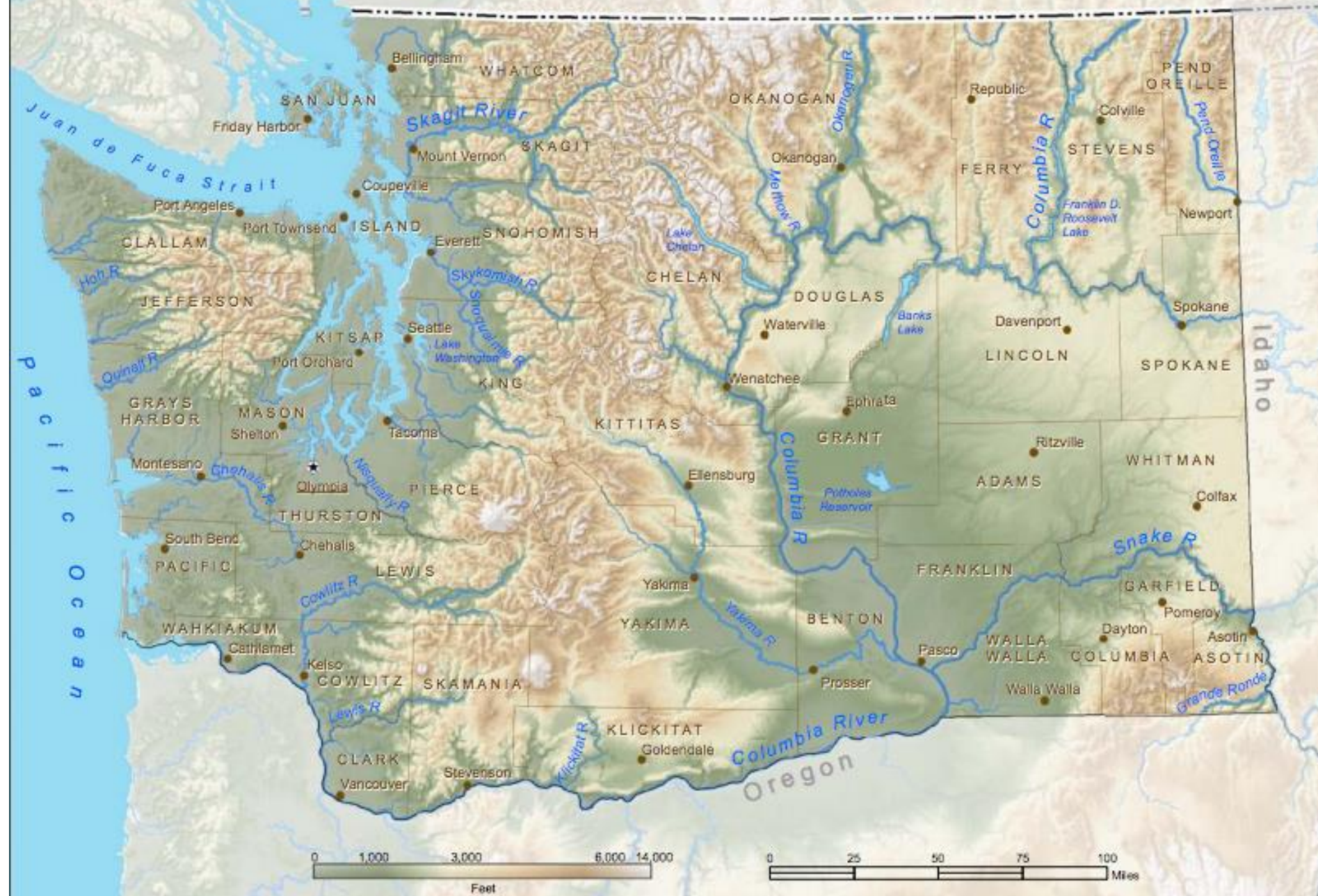
For designing maps people want to look at

Visual hierarchy



[map design] the presentation of features on a map in a way that implies relative importance, usually achieved with visual contrast (GIS Dictionary)

Washington Elevation



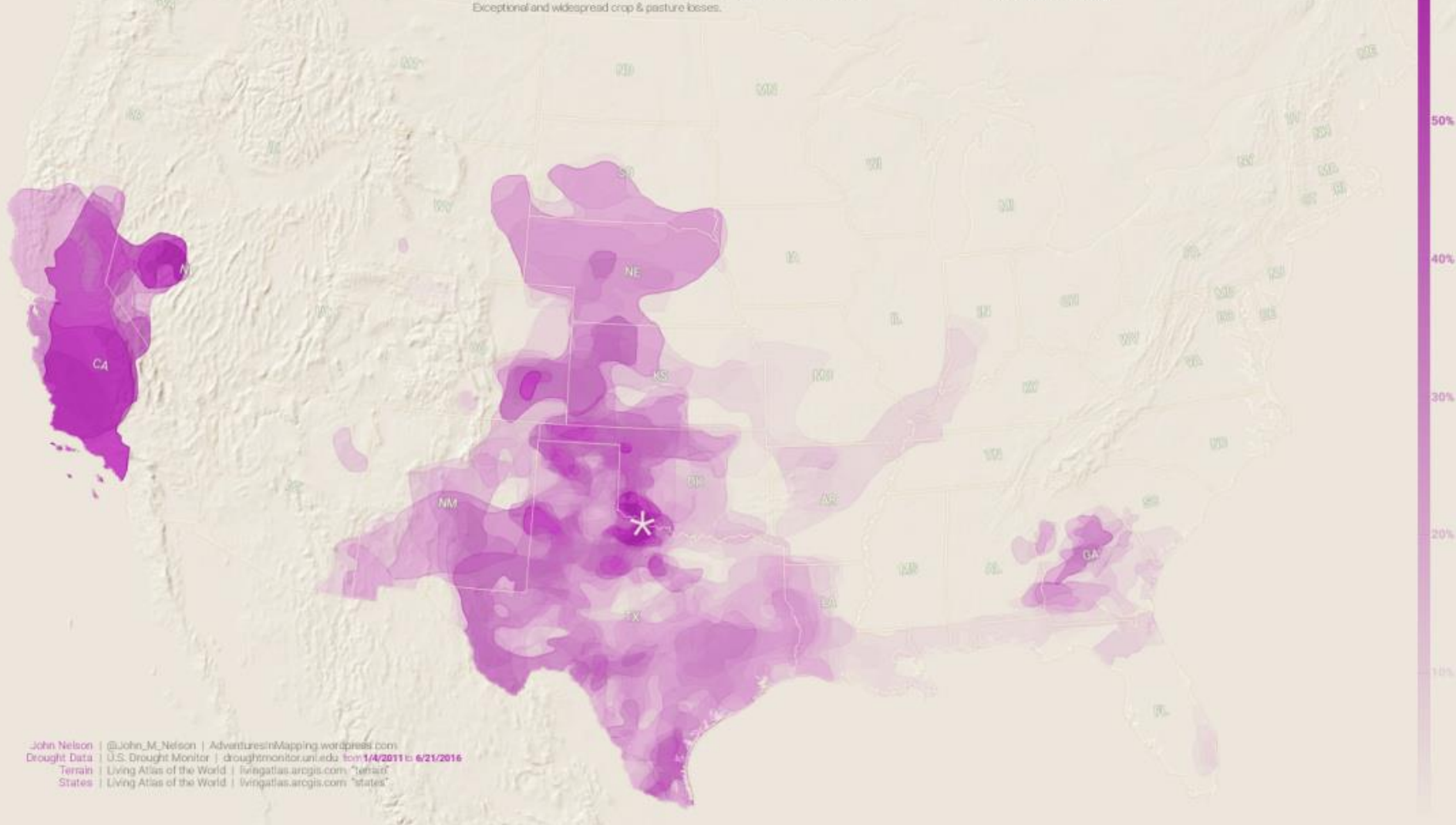
% of Past Five Years at Exceptional Drought

Shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and wells creating water emergencies.
Exceptional and widespread crop & pasture losses.

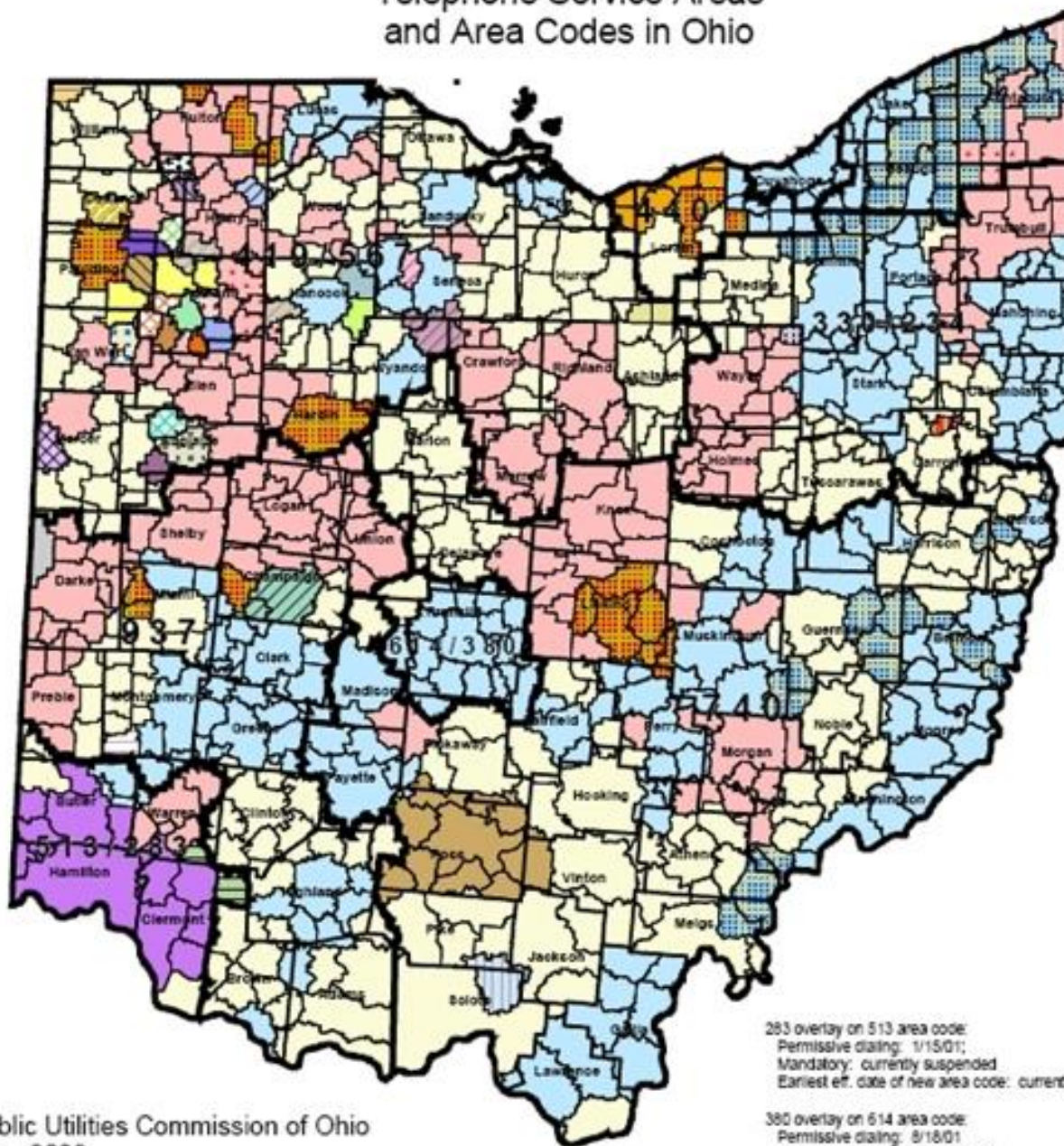
★
Electra, TX

175 of the past 285 weeks (61.4%)

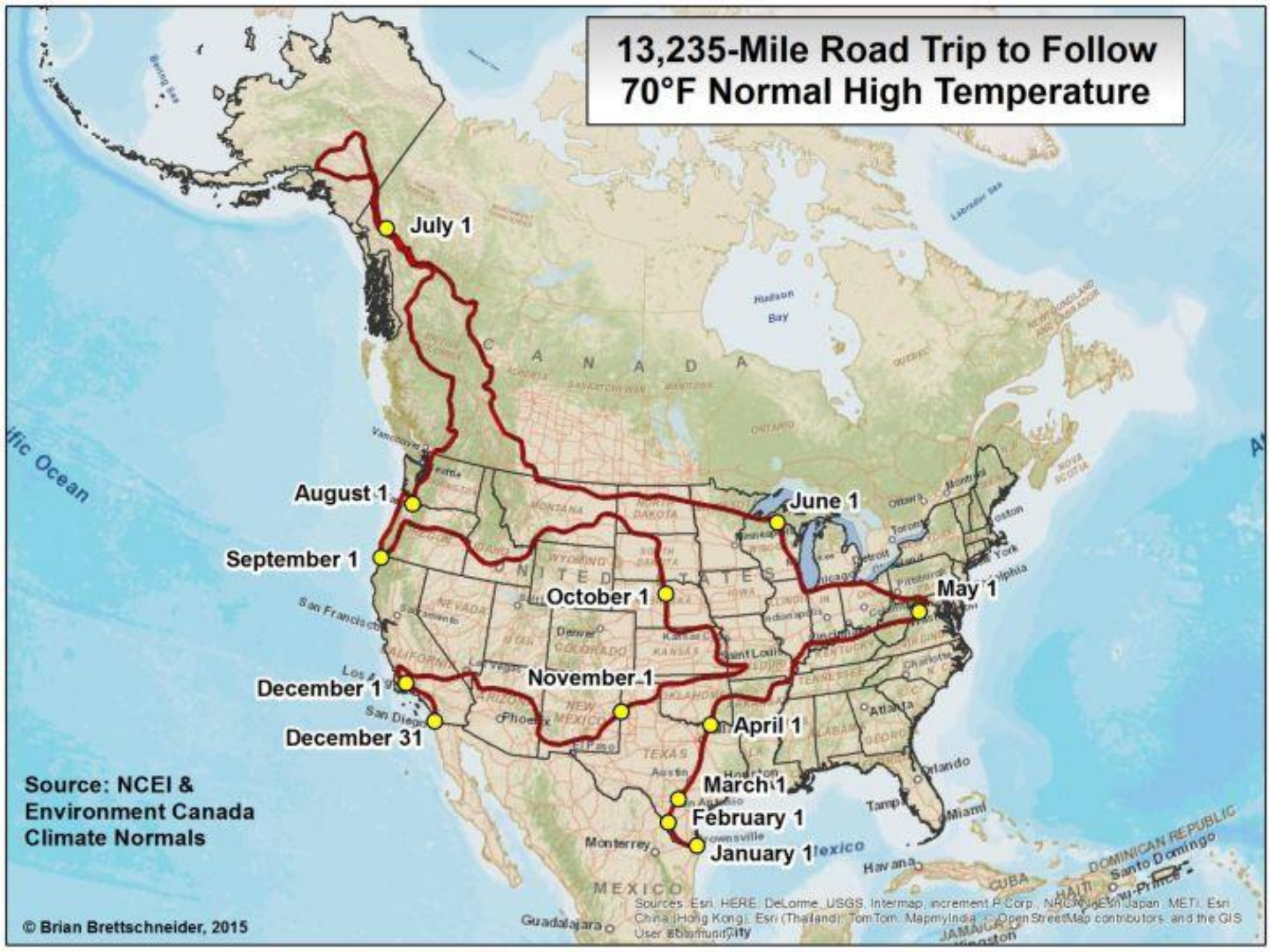
from 1/4/2011 to 6/21/2016



Telephone Service Areas and Area Codes in Ohio



13,235-Mile Road Trip to Follow 70°F Normal High Temperature



Source: NCEI &
Environment Canada
Climate Normals

Visual contrast

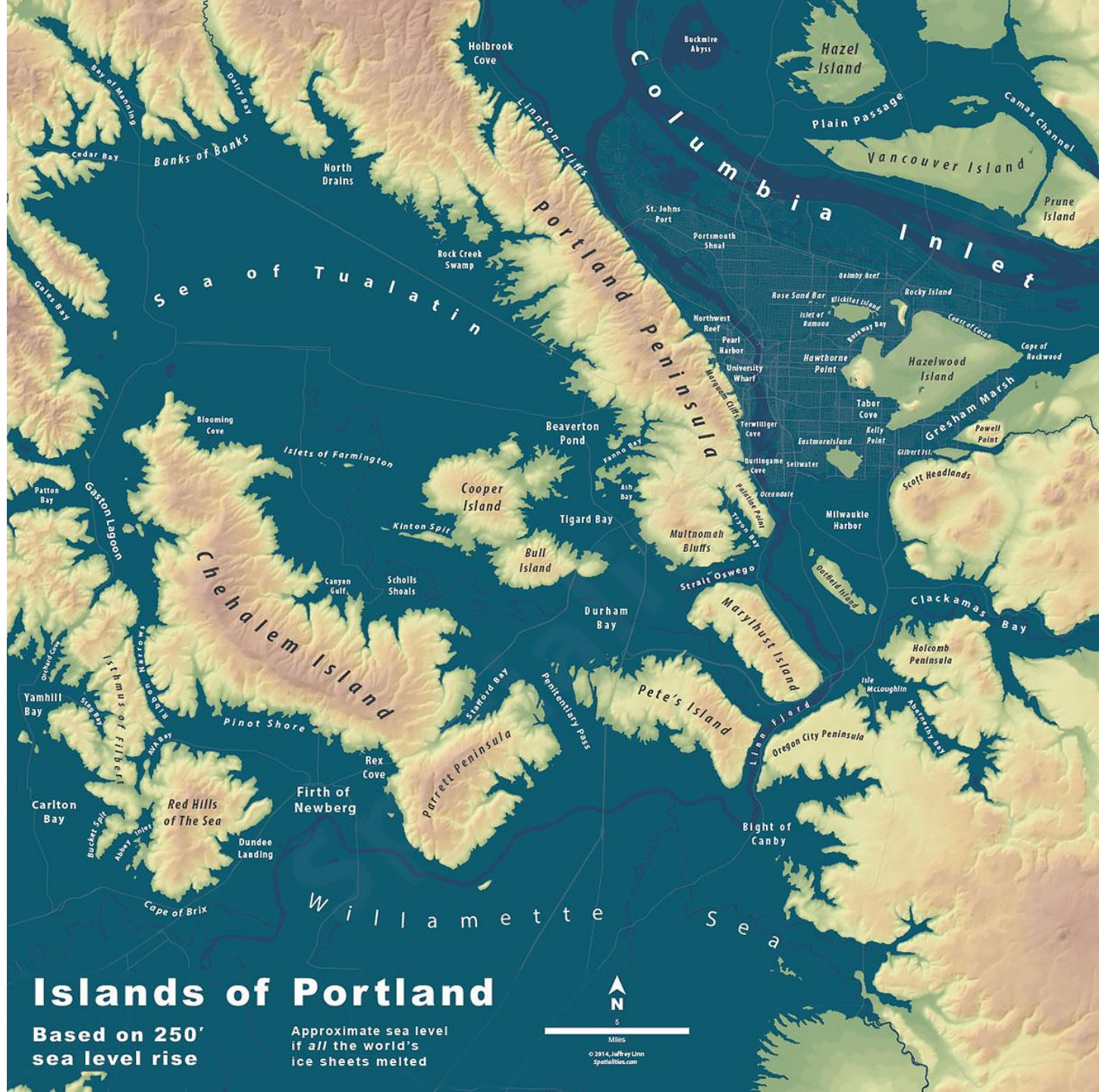
How map features & page elements contrast each other and their background



Visual contrast

If you only use one line weight, one font size, and one font there is no contrast and the map is hard to read





Islands of Portland

Based on 250'
sea level rise

Approximate sea level
if all the world's
ice sheets melted

N
S

Miles
© 2014, Jeffery Lynn
SpatialData.com

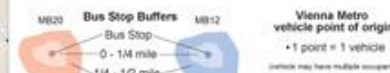
✈
Dulles International Airport

FINDING POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS

This map illustrates the results of a vehicle point-of-origin analysis conducted by FCDOT in November 2004 at Vienna Metro. Specifically, the map focuses on the Chantilly and Centreville areas of Fairfax County. These areas receive peak hour bus service to Vienna Metro on 13 Metrobus routes called the 12's and 20's. The black dots represent vehicle point-of-origin and are plotted on this map to show proximity to both current Metrobus routes and Metrobus stops. The light color shading shows point-of-origin of all commuters driving to Vienna Metro who reside within 1/4 mile of a bus stop. The darker color shading shows commuters who reside within 1/2 mile of a bus stop. The results are summarized in the table below.

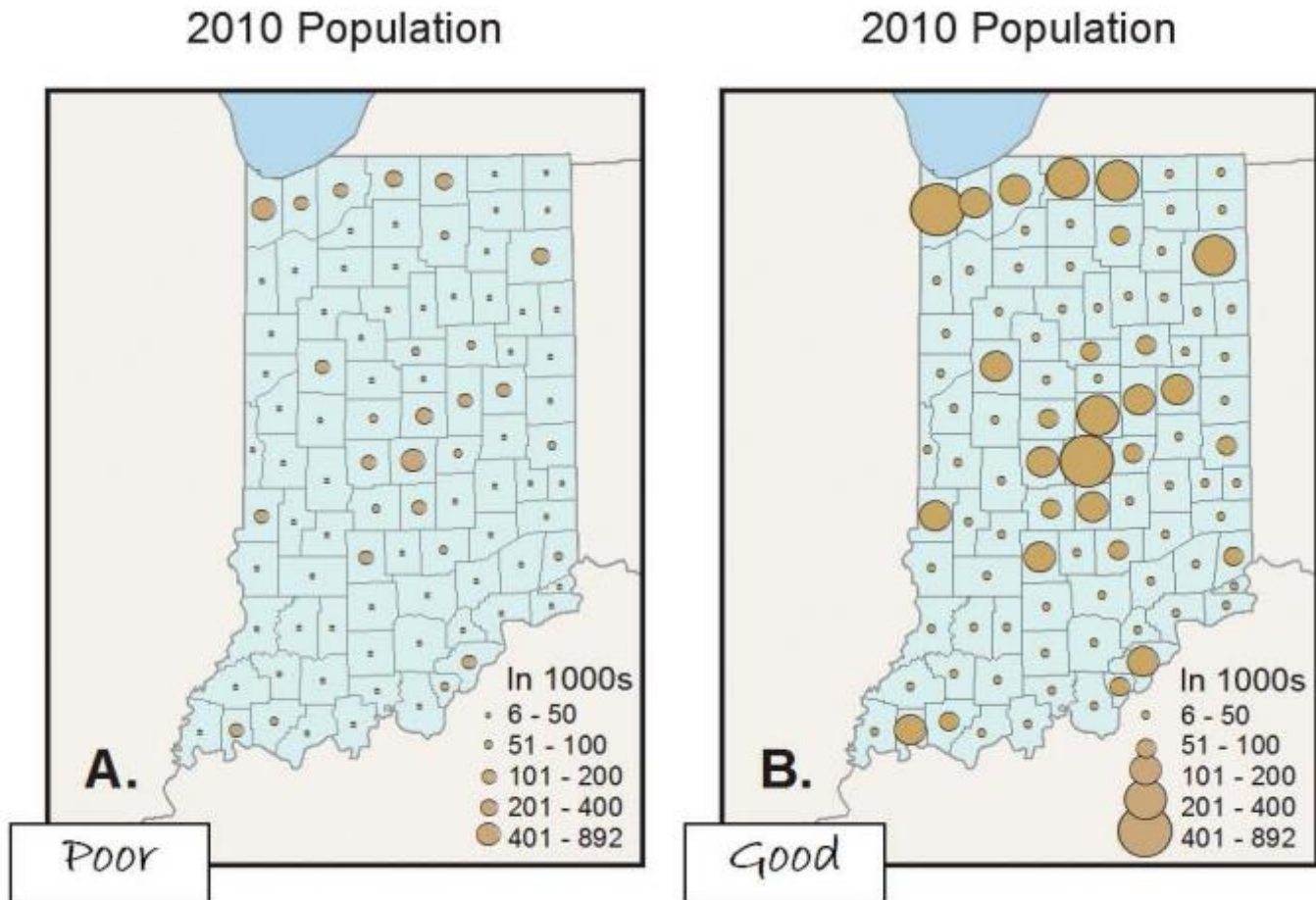
Distance	Metrobus 12		Metrobus 20	
	Stops	Routes	Stops	Routes
< 1/4 mi	235 (8%)	590 (14%)	63 (2%)	387 (9%)
1/4 - 1/2 mi	141 (3%)	375 (9%)	113 (3%)	377 (9%)
Totals	400 (11%)	965 (23%)	337 (8%)	764 (18%)

Stations are based on the total vehicle origin (4,177)



Legibility

The ability to see and understand the map



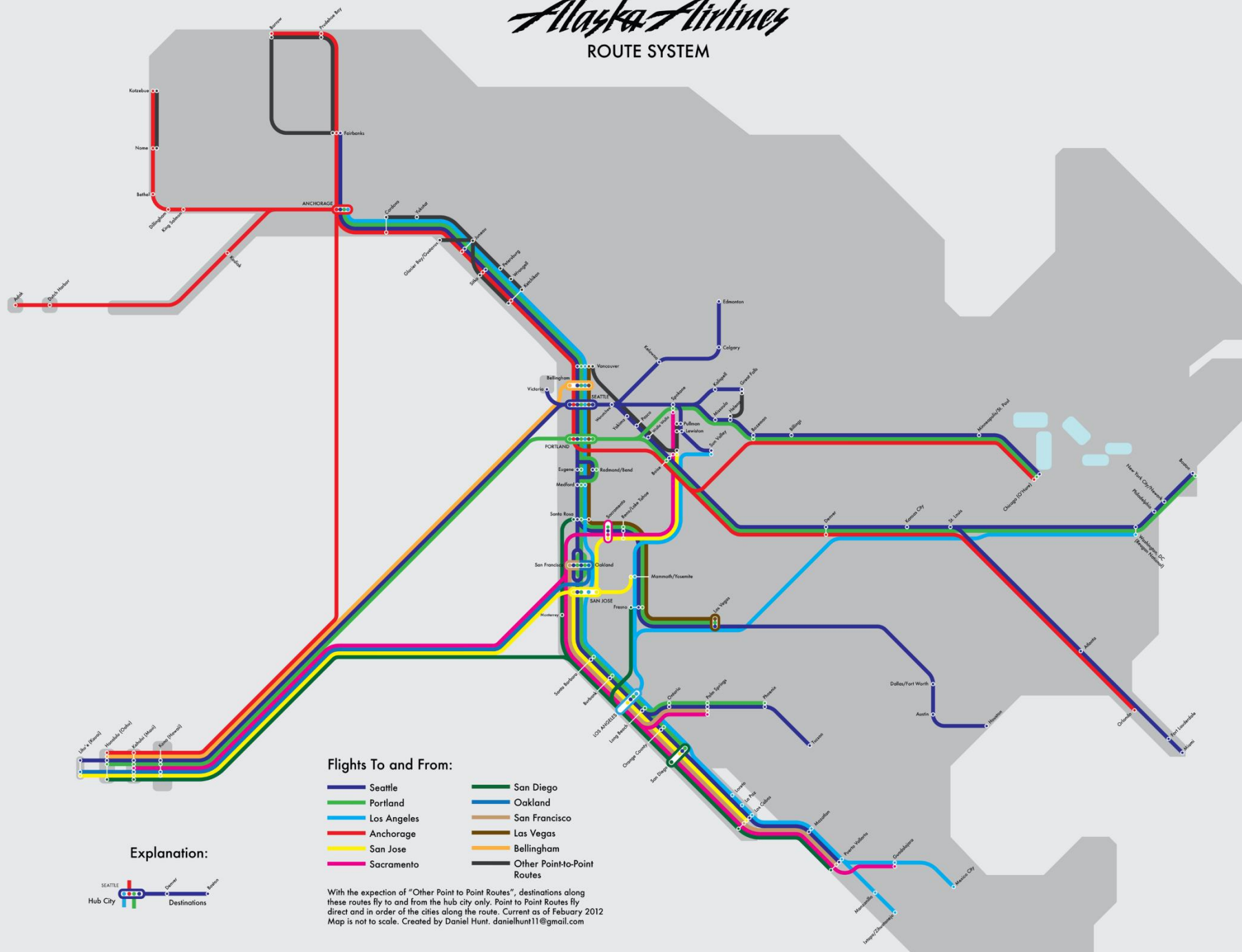
Legibility



1. Emphasize important elements
2. Eliminate anything that does not enhance the message of the map

Alaska Airlines

ROUTE SYSTEM





Portland (Race)

Race Comprising Majority of Block Population

White (72.24%)

- 28.79% - 40%
- 40.01% - 50%
- 50.01% - 75%
- 75.01% - 100%

Hispanic (9.39%)

- 28.79% - 40%
- 40.01% - 50%
- 50.01% - 75%
- 75.01% - 100%

Asian (7.58%)

- 28.79% - 40%
- 40.01% - 50%
- 50.01% - 75%
- 75.01% - 100%

African - American (6.09%)

- 28.79% - 40%
- 40.01% - 50%
- 50.01% - 75%
- 75.01% - 100%

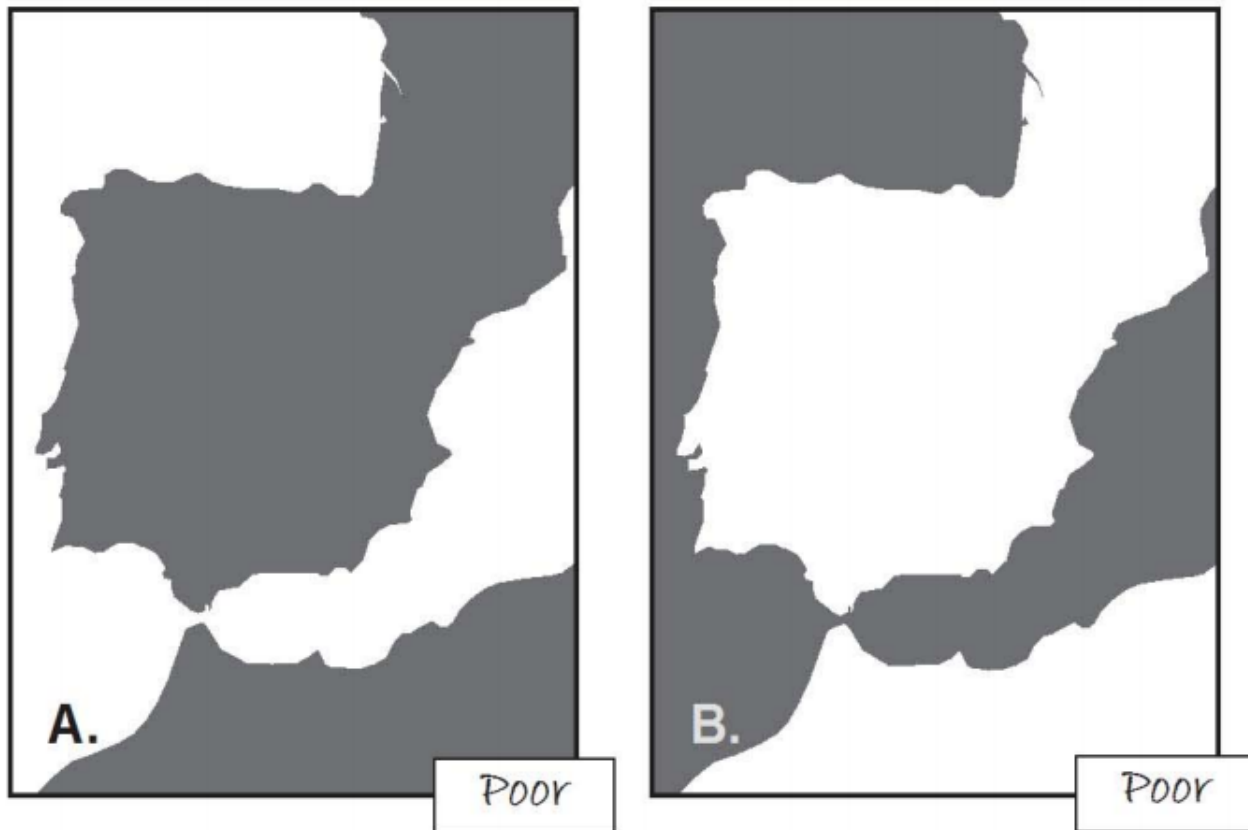
Other/Multi Racial (4.69%)

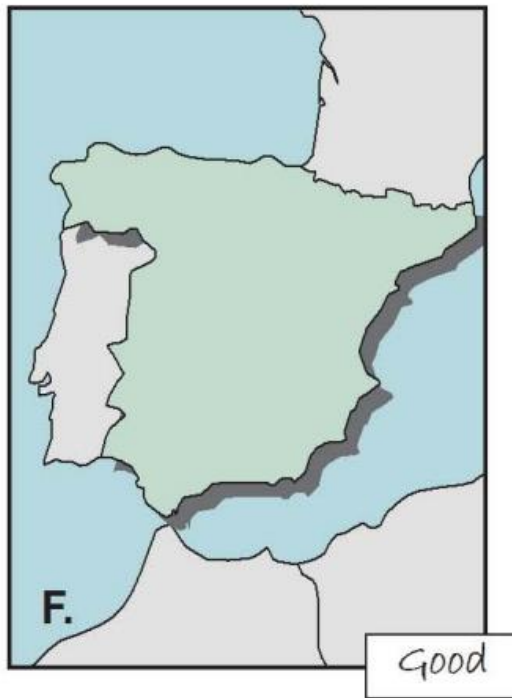
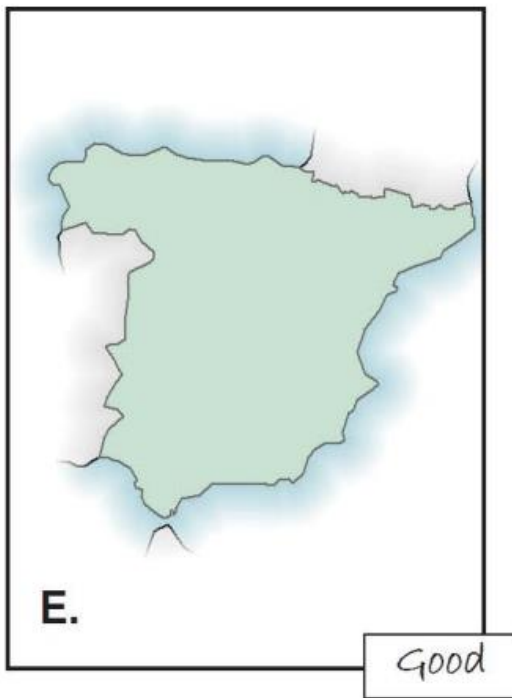
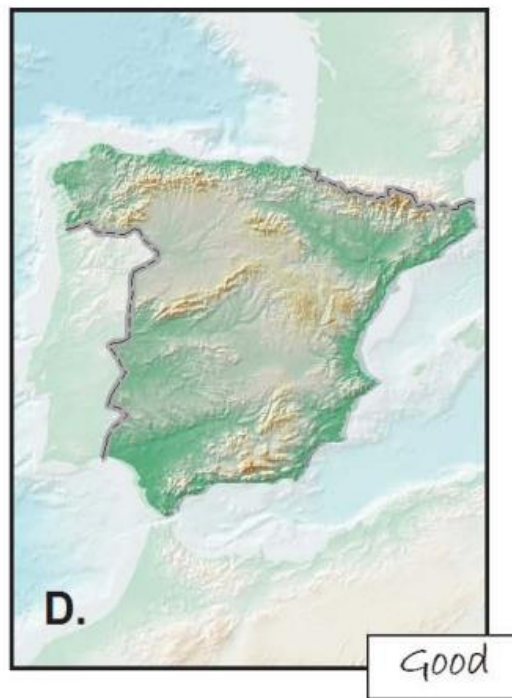
- 28.79% - 40%
- 40.01% - 50%
- 50.01% - 75%
- 75.01% - 100%

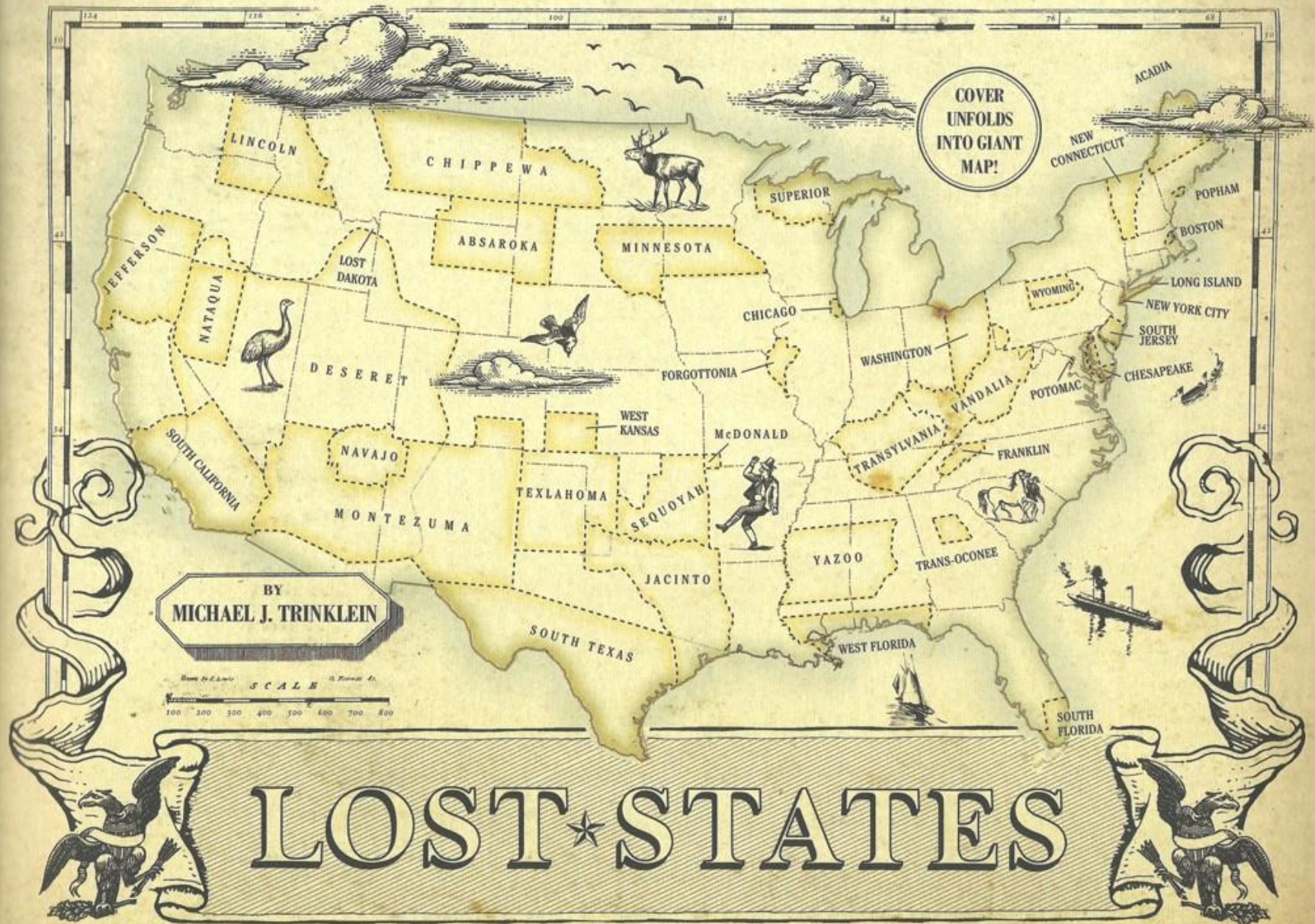


Figure-ground

Easily distinguish between the main figure on the map and the background







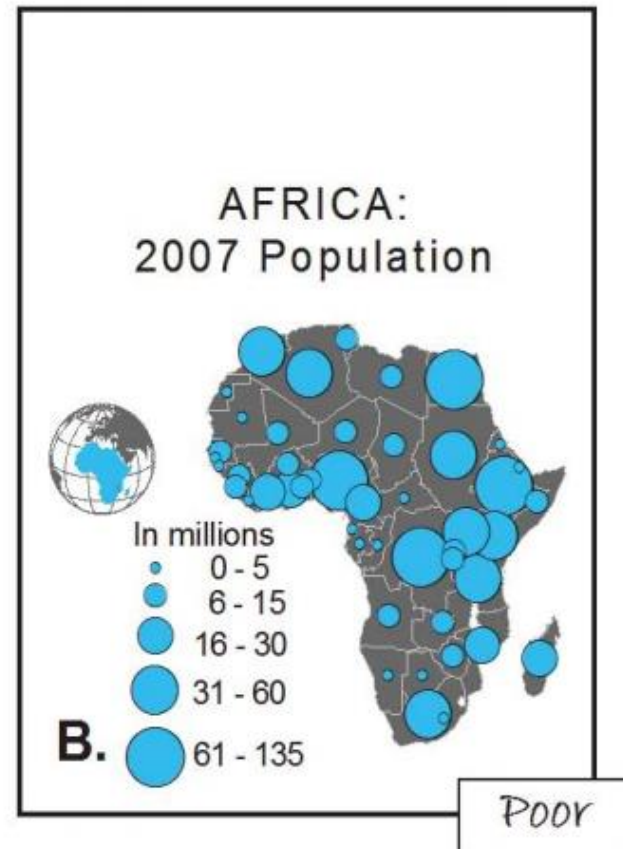
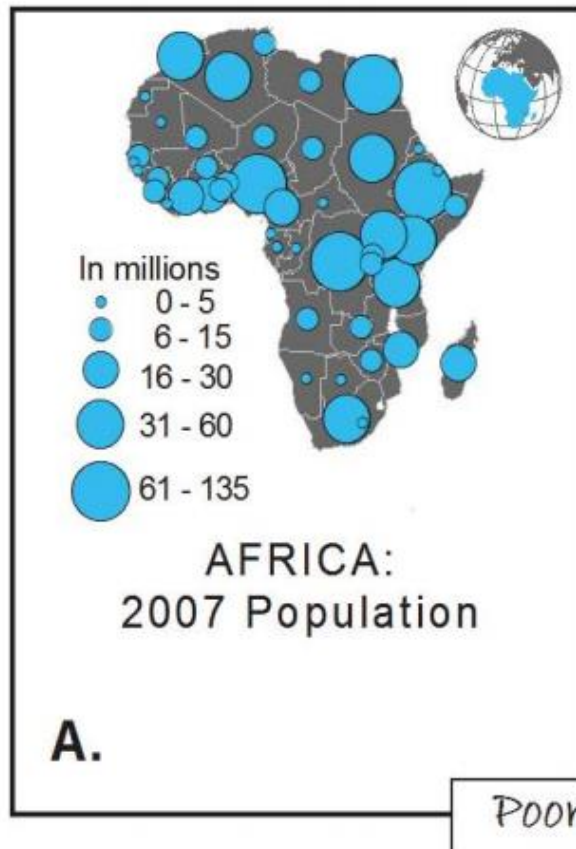
LOST★STATES

★ TRUE STORIES OF TEXLAHOMA, TRANSYLVANIA, AND OTHER STATES THAT NEVER MADE IT ★



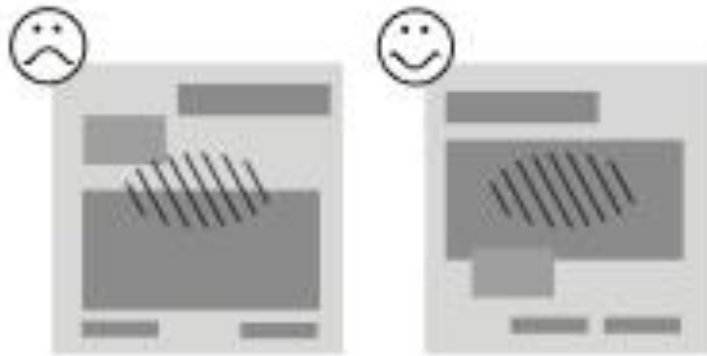
Balance

Organization of the map and other elements on the page layout

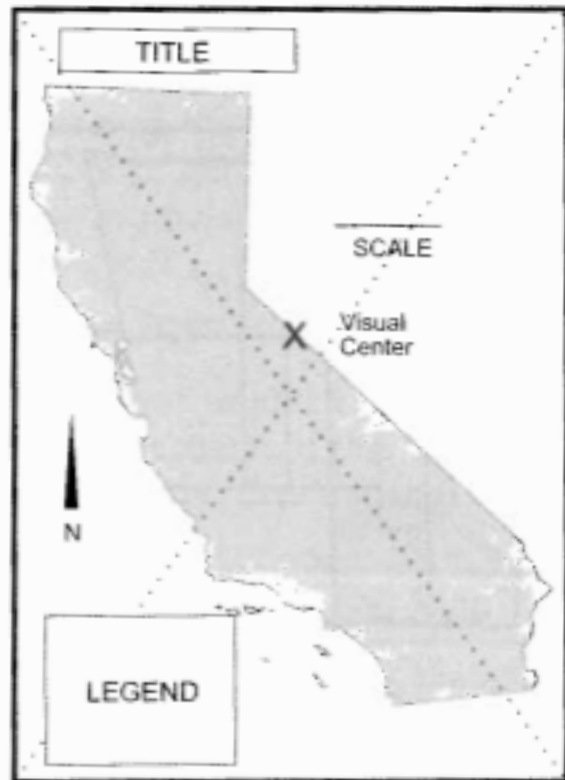


Balance

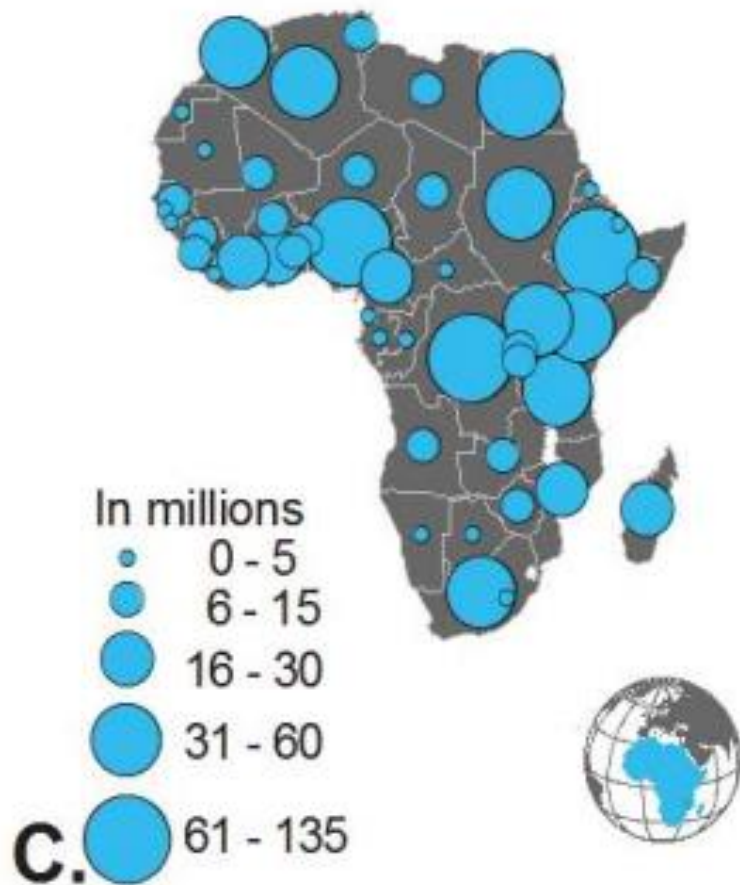
*Every element of a map has **visual weight**, which should be evenly distributed around the **visual center** of the page*



Balance

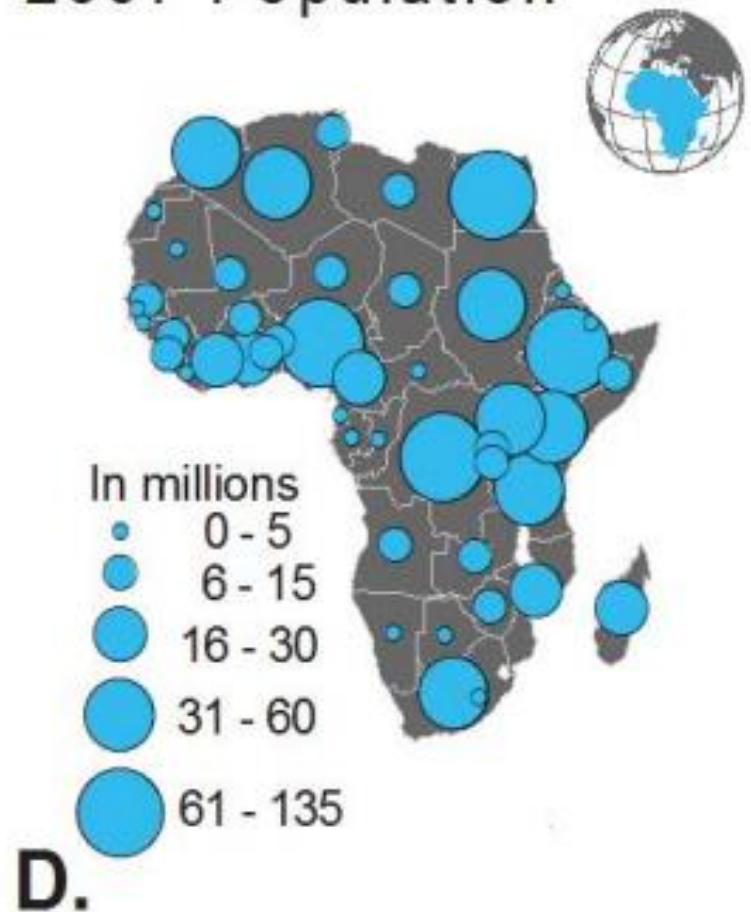


AFRICA: 2007 Population



Good

AFRICA: 2007 Population



Good

Balance - visual weights

- Centrally located elements have less weight than those to one side
- Objects in the upper half appear heavier than those in the lower half
- Objects on the right side appear heavier than those on the left side
- Weight appears to increase with increasing distance from the center
- Isolated elements have more weight than grouped elements
- Larger elements have greater visual weight
- Red is heavier than blue
- Bright colors are heavier than dark
- Regular shapes seem heavier than irregular shapes
- Compact shapes have more visual weight than unordered, diffuse shapes
- Forms with a vertical orientation seem heavier than oblique forms

- Arnheim, 1969

Balance

White space is any area within the map frame not taken by the map

1. Certain amount of white space is required
2. Put the largest map possible on the page while still leaving room for other elements

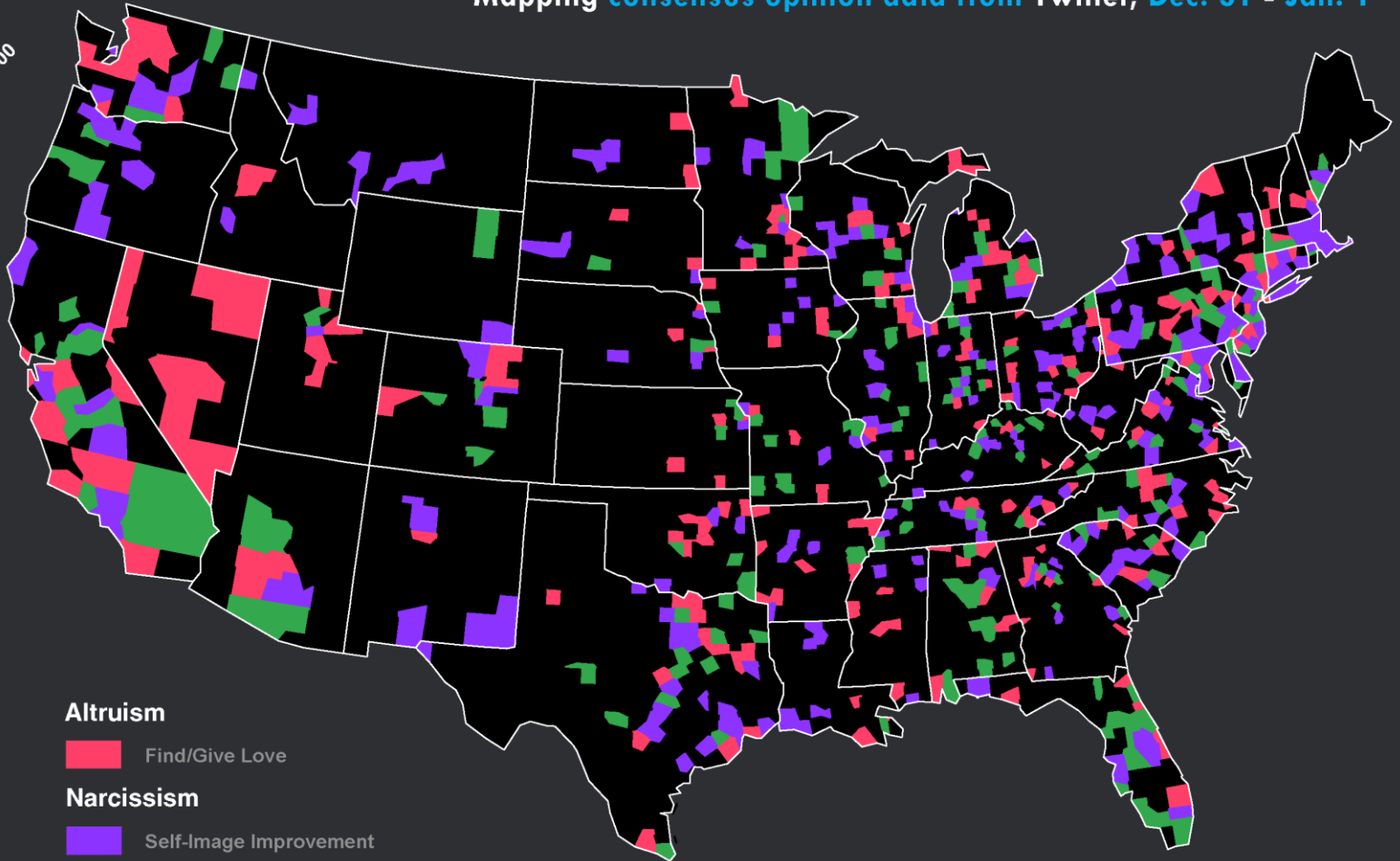
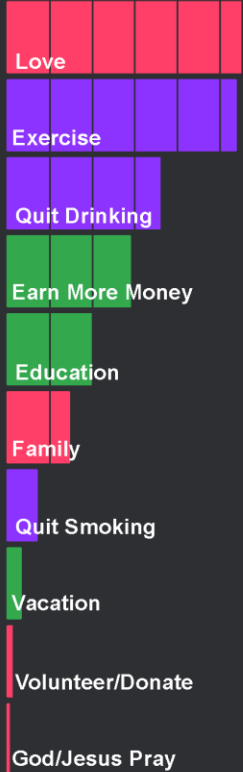


@NewYears #Resolutions

Mapping consensus opinion data from Twitter, Dec. 31 - Jan. 1

#Resolution Tweets

0 100 200 300 400 500 600



Altruism

Find/Give Love

Narcissism

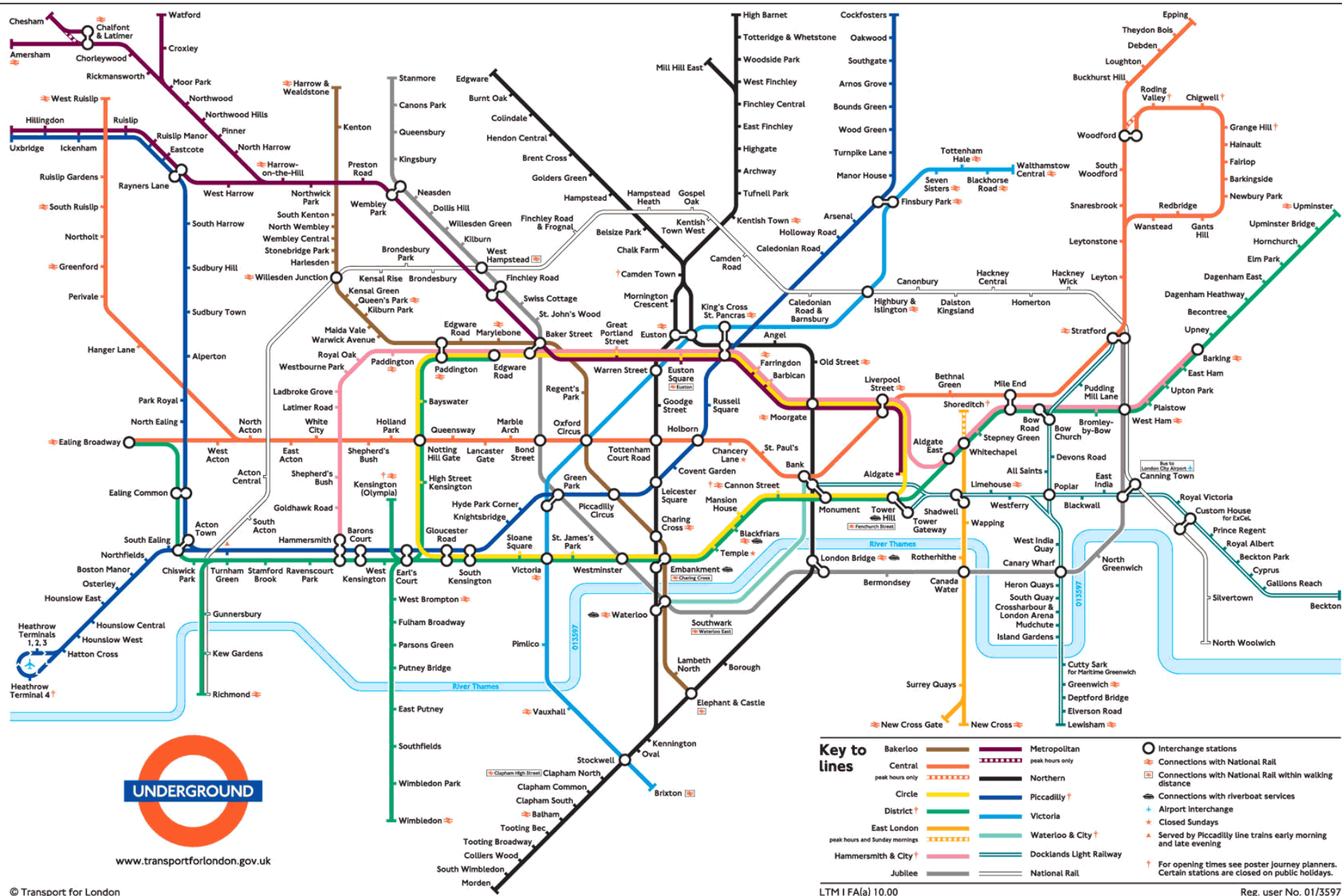
Self-Image Improvement

Self-Value Improvement



Map & Graphics
By Chris Cantey

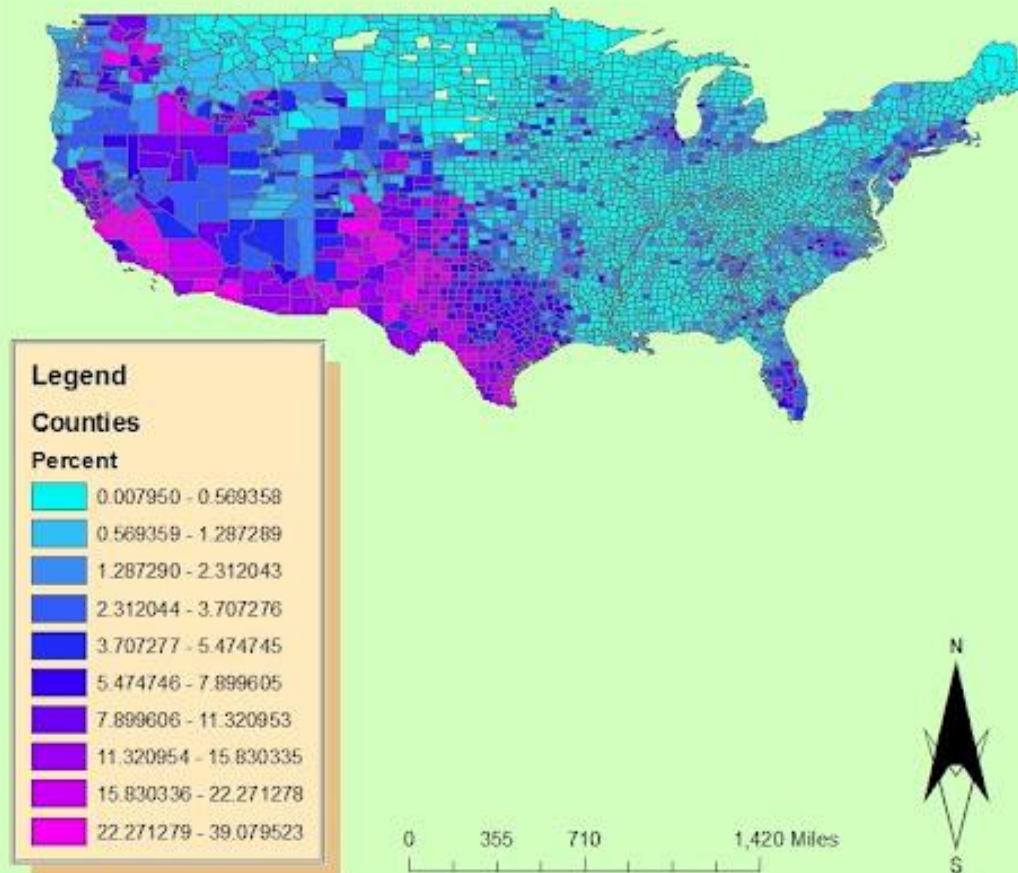
mywebspace.wisc.edu/ccantey/web/



Key to lines

Bakerloo	Metropolitan	Interchange stations
Central	Northern	Connections with National Rail
Circle	Piccadilly	Connections with National Rail within walking distance
District	Victoria	Connections with riverboat services
East London	Waterloo & City	Airport interchange
Hammersmith & City	Docklands Light Railway	Closed Sundays
Jubilee	National Rail	Served by Piccadilly line trains early morning and late evening
		For opening times see poster journey planners. Certain stations are closed on public holidays.

Percent of Some Other Race Alone across the continental US

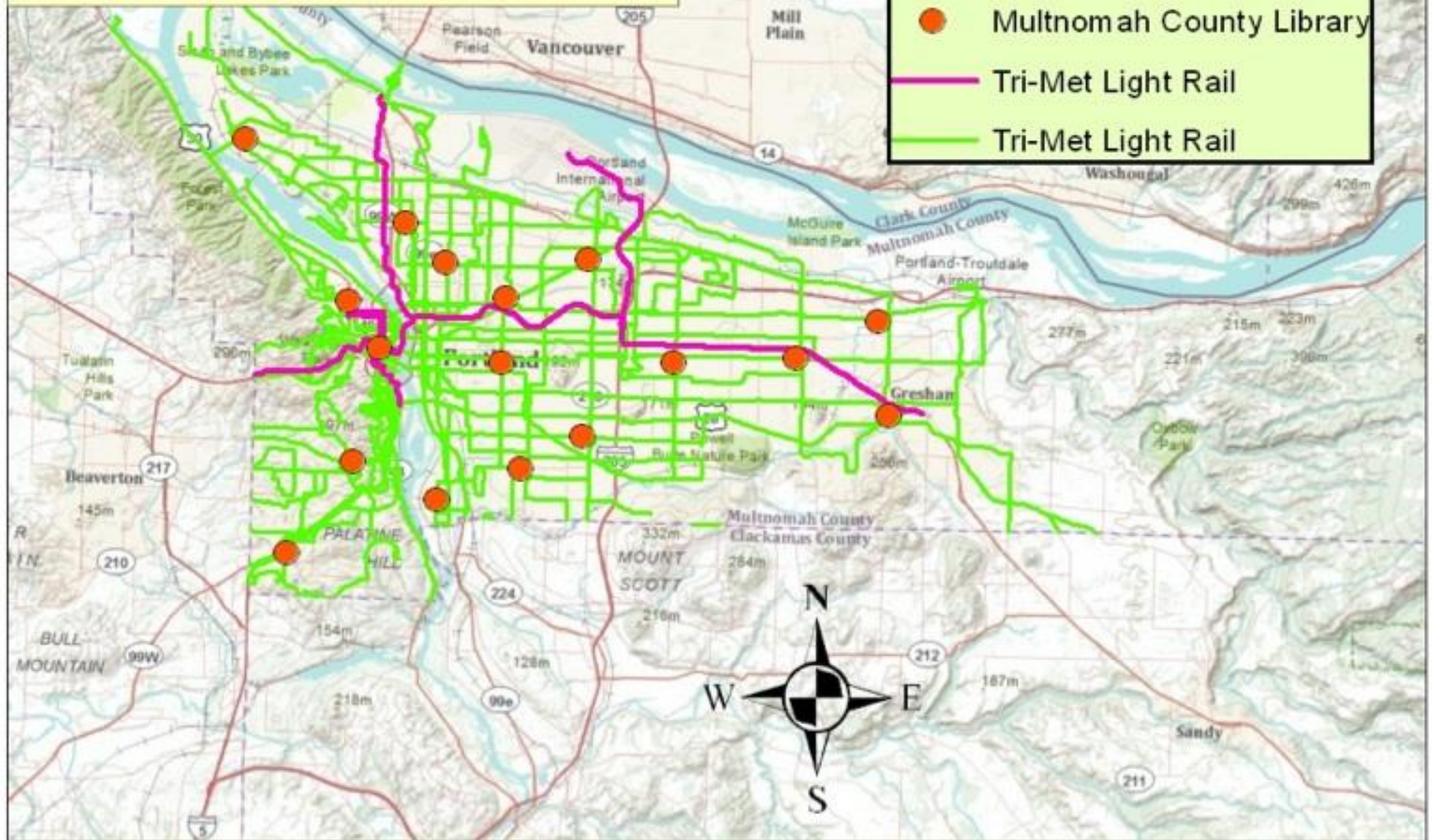


Take Tri-Met To Your Multnomah County Library!!

A WORLD OF ADVENTURE AWAITS!

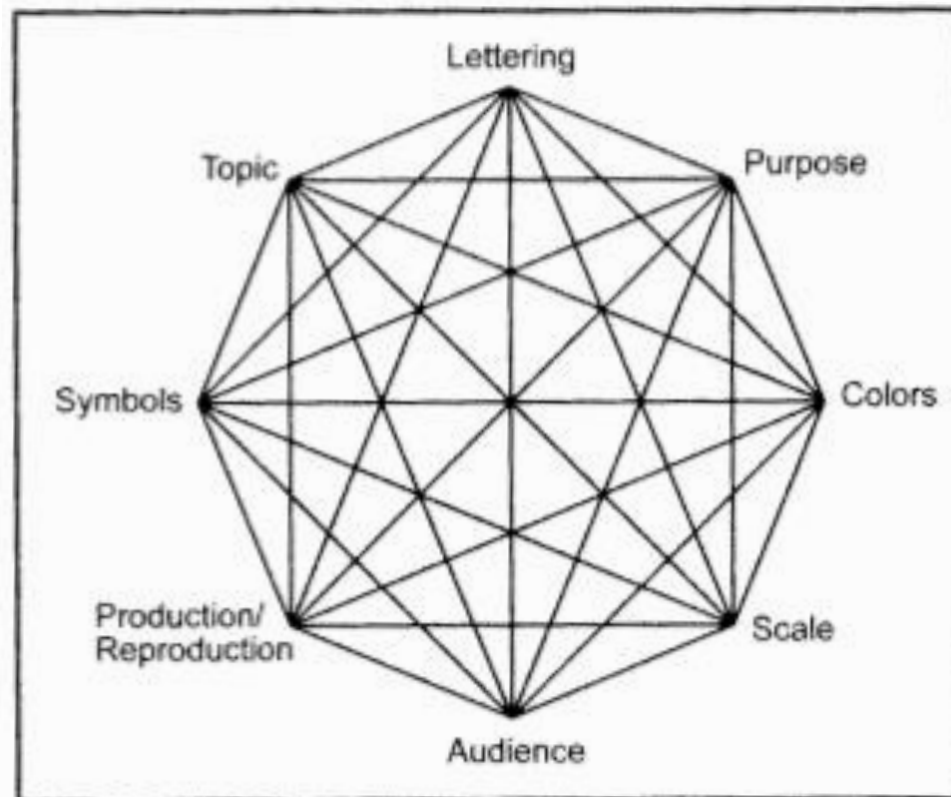
www.trimet.org

www.multcolib.org



Unity & Harmony

The map appears to be a single unit, with an overall pleasing appearance – it's a map that people want to look at





Finding creative inspiration

You can be creative



“Every great advance in science has issued from a new audacity of the imagination” – John Dewey, philosopher

Make lots of maps

- Explore new tools & try new techniques
- Do other creative things
 - ▣ Take an art class
 - ▣ Carry a sketch book to record what you see
 - ▣ Draw a cartoon for a child

Look at lots of maps

- Actively & deliberately observe and absorb the imaginative creations of others
 - ▣ Look at maps or an atlas
 - ▣ View all types of art, regularly
 - ▣ Museums, gardens, architecture, design magazines/books

Inspiration



Flowing Data, <http://flowingdata.com/>

Axis Maps, <http://www.axismaps.com/blog/>

Making Maps: DIY Cartography,
<http://makingmaps.net/>

FOSS4G Map Gallery

<http://2015.foss4g.org/programme/map-gallery/>

Inspiration

A Cartographer's Toolkit,

<http://www.gretchenpeterson.com/blog/>

Visual.ly – Geography Infographics,

<http://visual.ly/geography-infographics>

Cartotalk, <http://cartotalk.com/>

ESRI Mapping Blog,

<http://blogs.esri.com/esri/arcgis/category/mapping/>

Inspiration



Edward Tufte – data visualization

<http://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/>

Map as Art (Katharine Harmon)

<http://www.dwell.com/books/article/map-art>