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Visualization for Data Science

DS-4630 / CS-5630 / CS-6630

Group Activity: Determine the Task

Read: From coronavirus to bushfires, misleading maps are distorting reality

<https://firstdraftnews.org/latest/from-coronavirus-to-bushfires-misleading-maps-are-distorting-reality/>



INSTRUCTION

- Realize many maps are provided without proper context. Your goal is to determine that context.
- With group, perform the following activities:
 1. Study the following election-related map visualizations
 2. Write a 2-4 sentences per visualization
 - Discuss what data are being encoded (i.e., data abstraction + visual encoding) and what information the visualization is (and is not) conveying.

A (brief/simplified) Description of US Electoral Process

- Elections are run per county. Counties tally votes and reports to state.
- Popular vote is counted per state and the winner receives the state's electors.
- The number of electors per state is determined by the number of senators (always 2) and number of congressional districts (proportion to population).
- The 538 electors actually vote for the president.



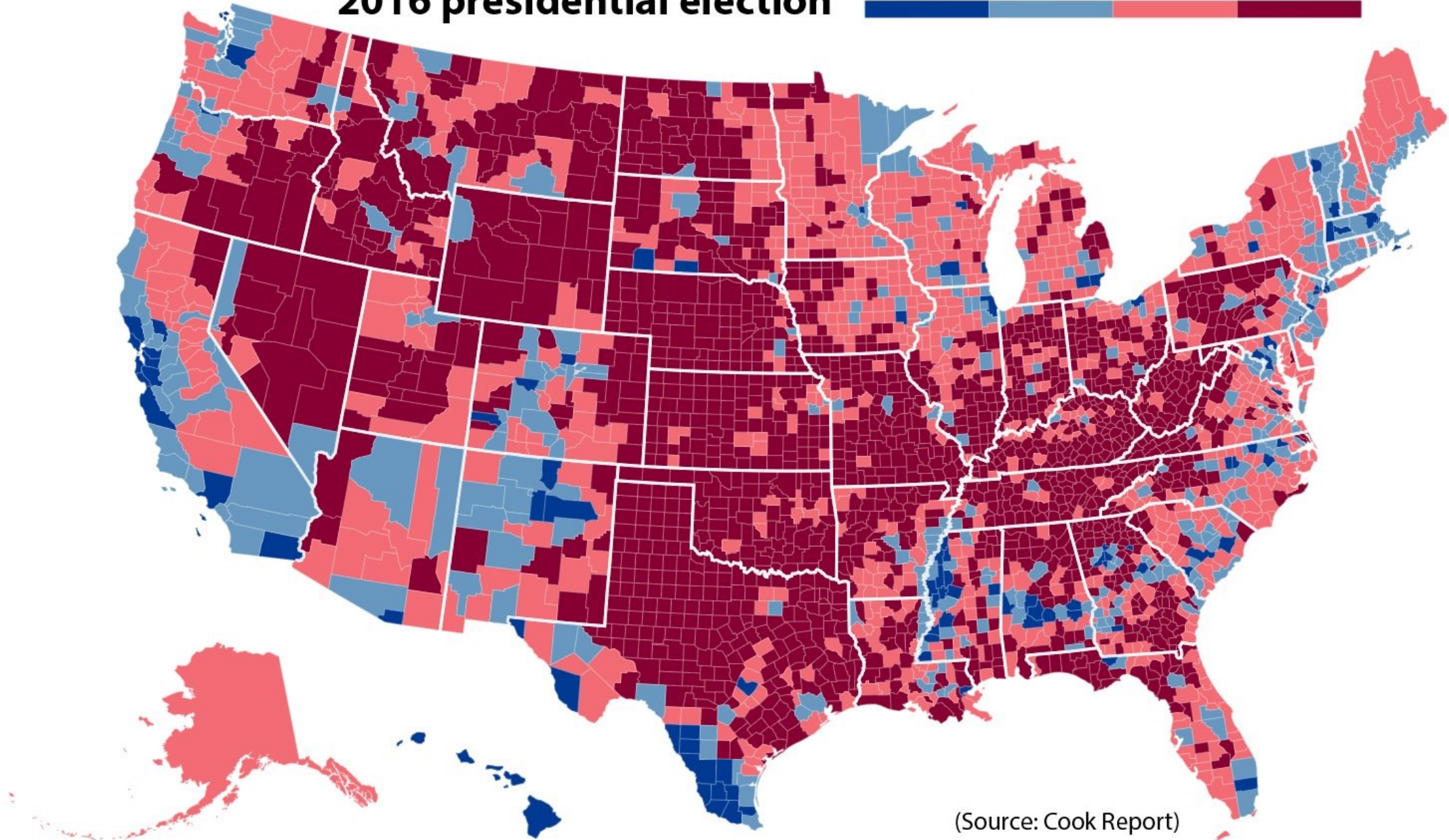
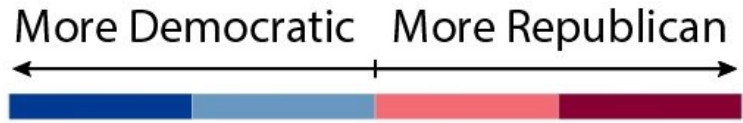
Donald J. Trump 
@realDonaldTrump



12:05 PM · Oct 1, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

62.2K Retweets **235.6K** Likes

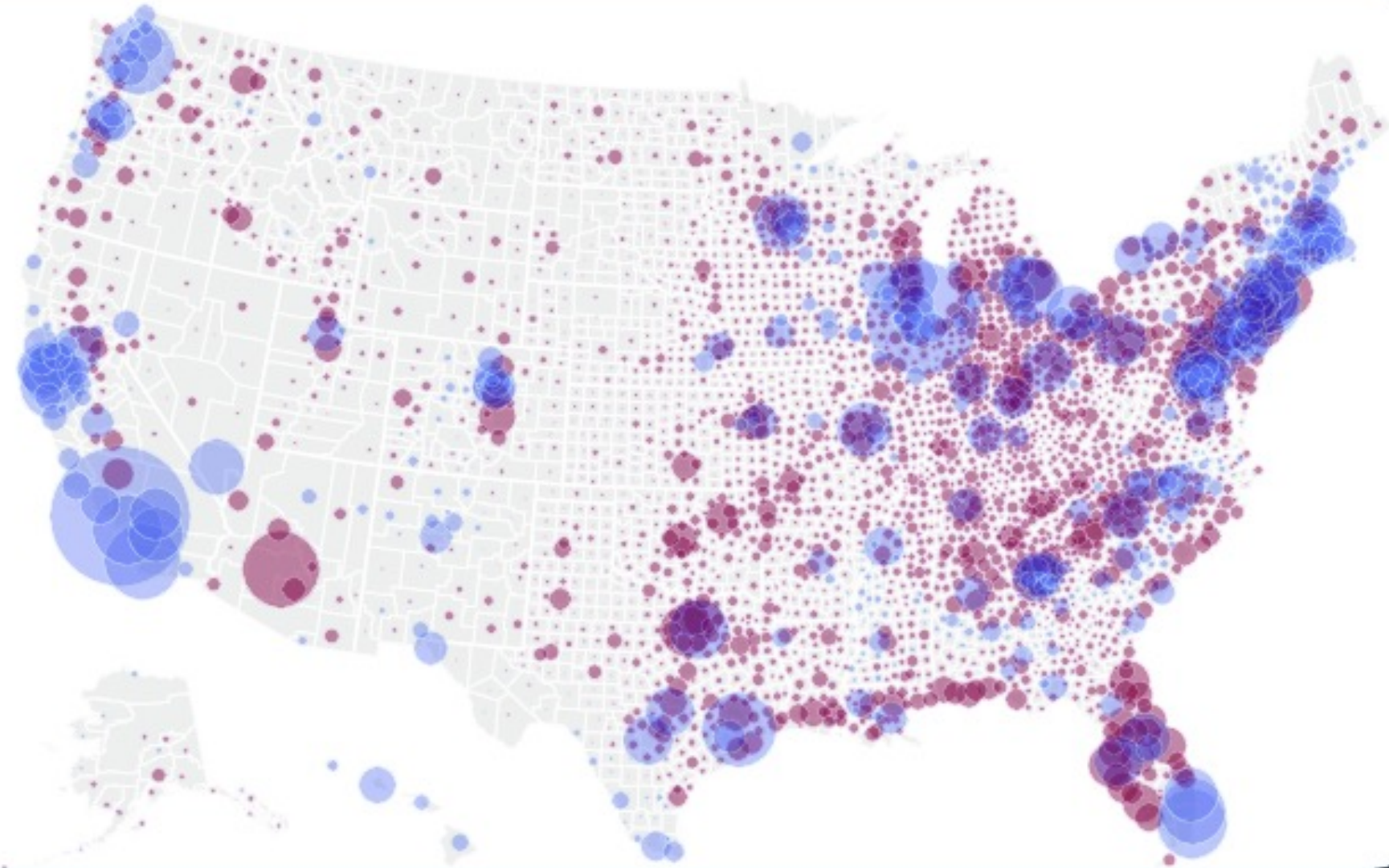
Share of vote in the 2016 presidential election



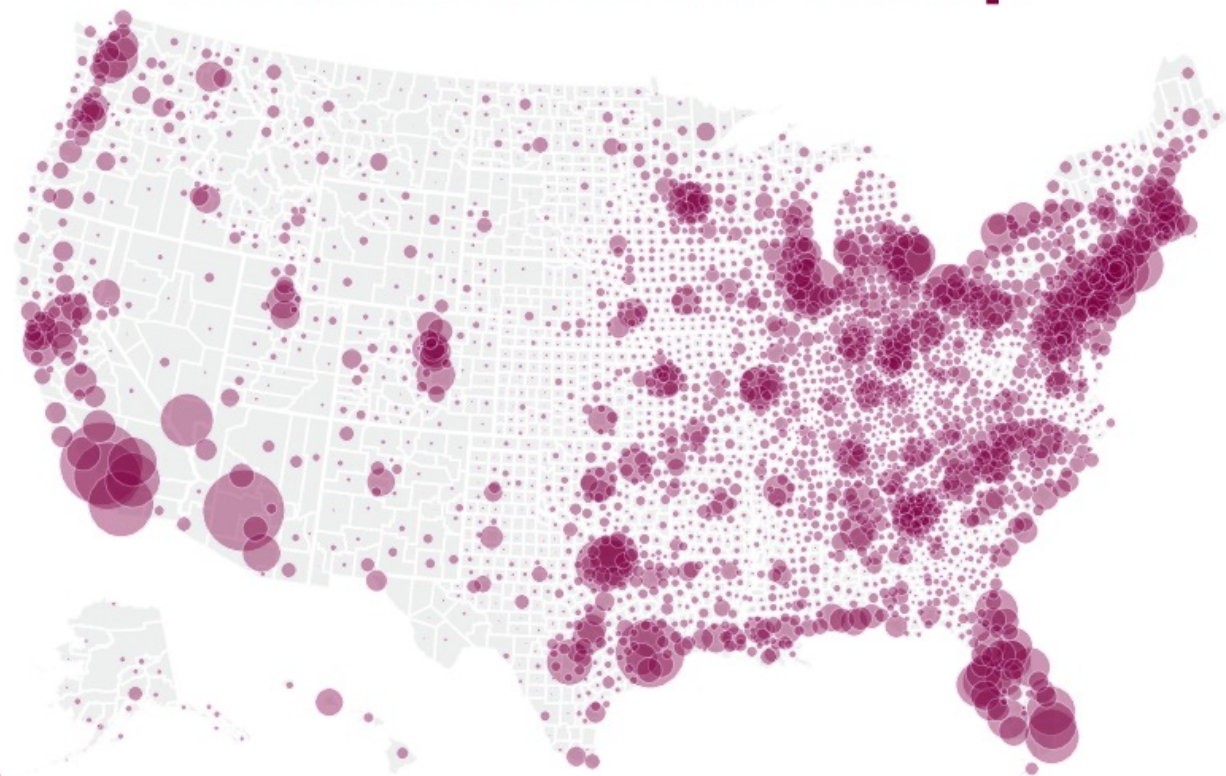
(Source: Cook Report)

VISUALIZATION #3

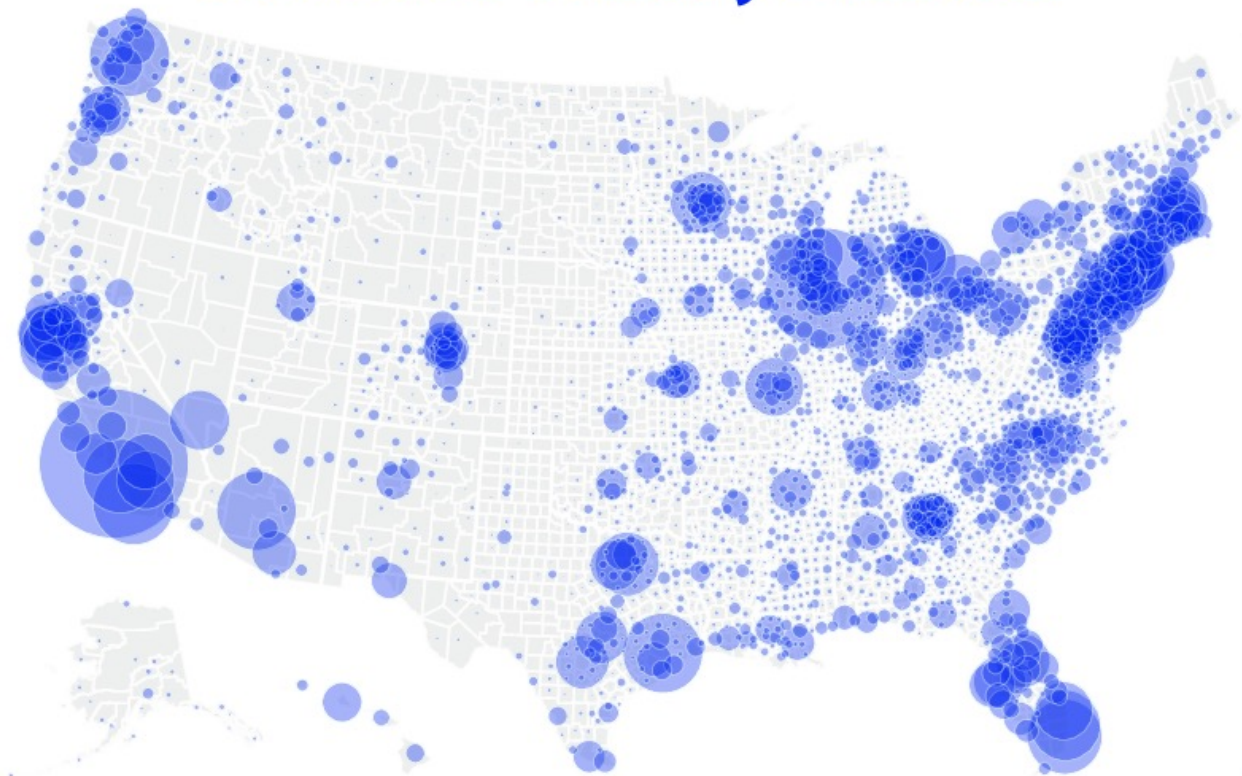
- More votes for Donald Trump
- More votes for Hillary Clinton



Votes for Donald Trump



Votes for Hillary Clinton



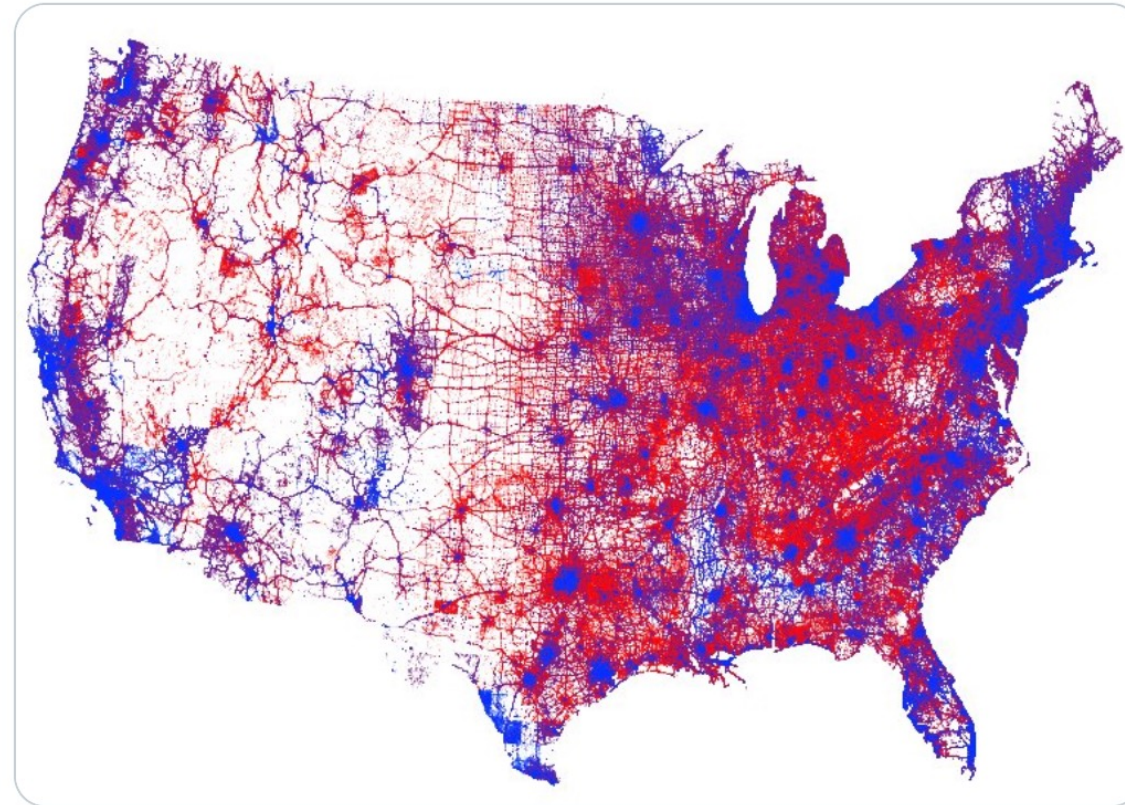
VISUALIZATION #5



Kenneth Field
@kennethfield



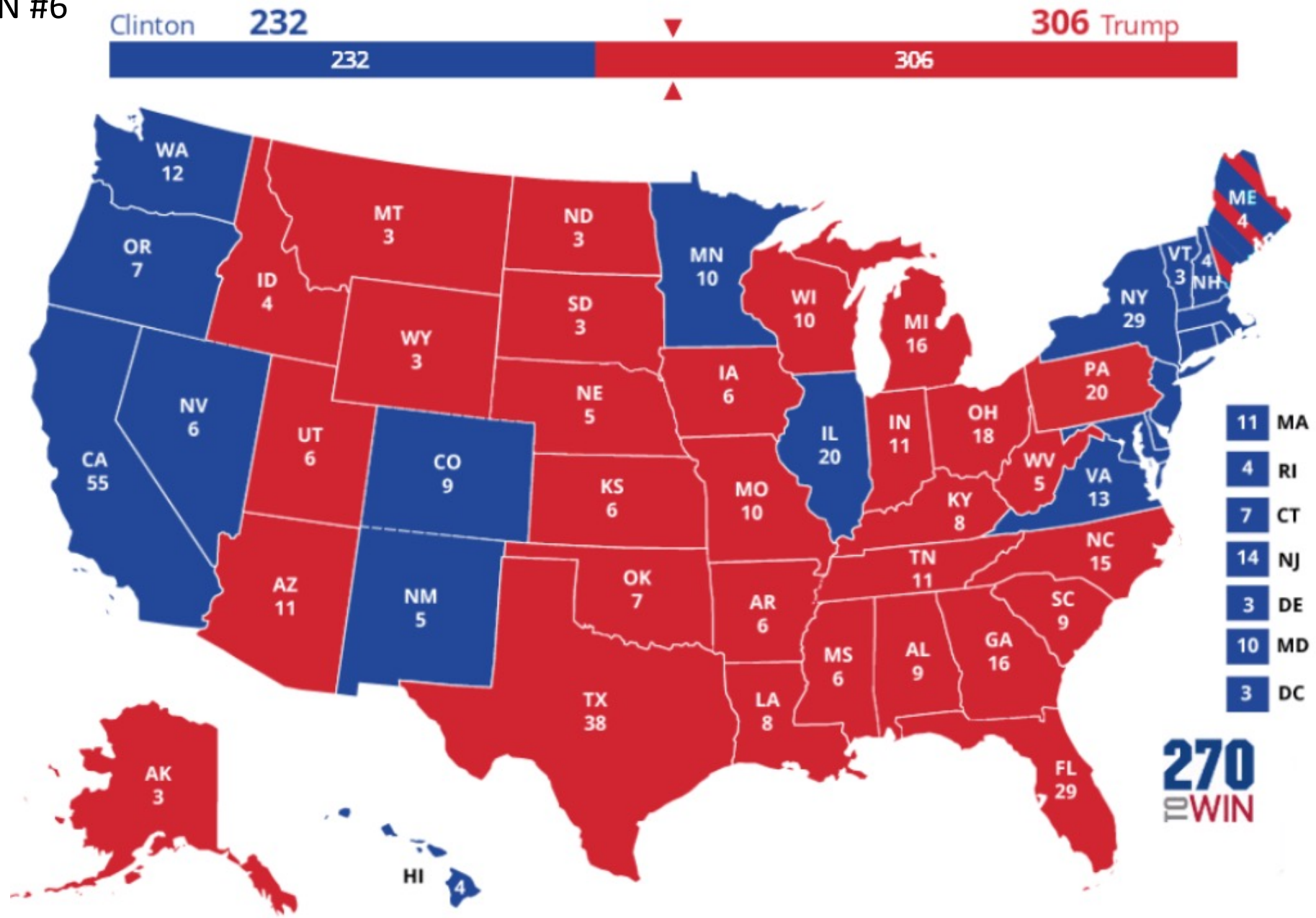
Fair bit of data wrangling but finally...a 1 dot = 1 vote
dasymetric dot density 2016 Presidential election map
from [@ArcGISPro](#). 65,844,61 blue dots. 62,979,636 red
dots. Count 'em! (note: this is just a rough screengrab,
will webify & make pretty)



8:04 PM · Mar 5, 2018 · TweetDeck

4.1K Retweets **857** Quote Tweets **10.1K** Likes

VISUALIZATION #6



Electoral College Results for 2016 Presidential Election

State size adjusted by electoral votes it contributes to the election

