

Independent Assignment 4: US Income By State

Objective: Create a map showing income by US state.

Suggested Steps:

- Chose a state outline file – either the one from the book or the one from the previous project.
- Go online and search for state income information. It is up to you what you want to display; this could be recent income or historic, household income or something else, it could be an average across several years or one year.
- You need to download the income information (potentially copy from the website and paste into an Excel file) and convert it into some format that ArcGIS can read.
- Read the text file into your ArcMap session and join or relate it to your map table (see Chapter 9).
- Come up with a legend that really works in terms of color choices, classes, range of classes etc.
- Make a 3-part map showing the conterminous US, AK, HA (see Ch. 10).
- Add all the other components necessary on your map: title, scale bars, legend, north arrow. These need to be different from the ones we have used in class in chapter 10!
- Your title needs to explain exactly what income you are using (e.g. mean versus 3-year mean etc., which year (or years)).
- Have some text listing your data sources, your projection, and your name ('prepared by'). If you are using some strange form of income, explain it as well.
- Make a 'pretty' map that displays the information well. Play with different fonts, colors, placement etc. Be creative!