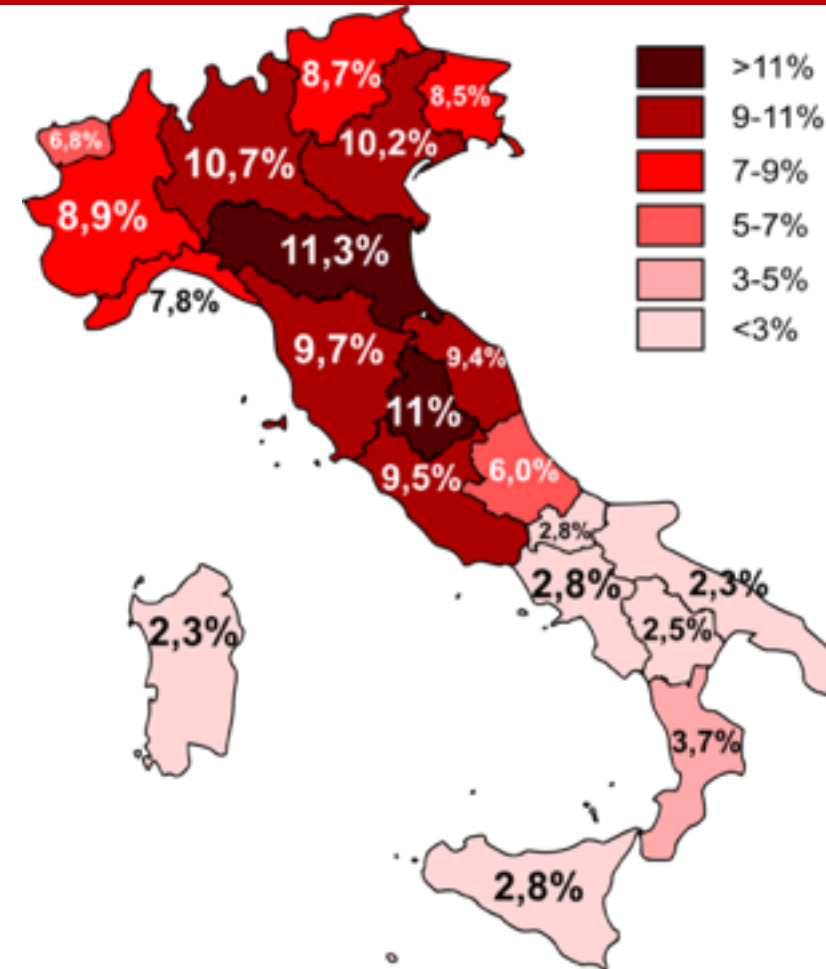


CHOROPLETH MAP

This map is shaded according to a key which shows a range of shades. The colour should become darker as the value increases.



CHOROPLETH MAP

STRENGTHS:

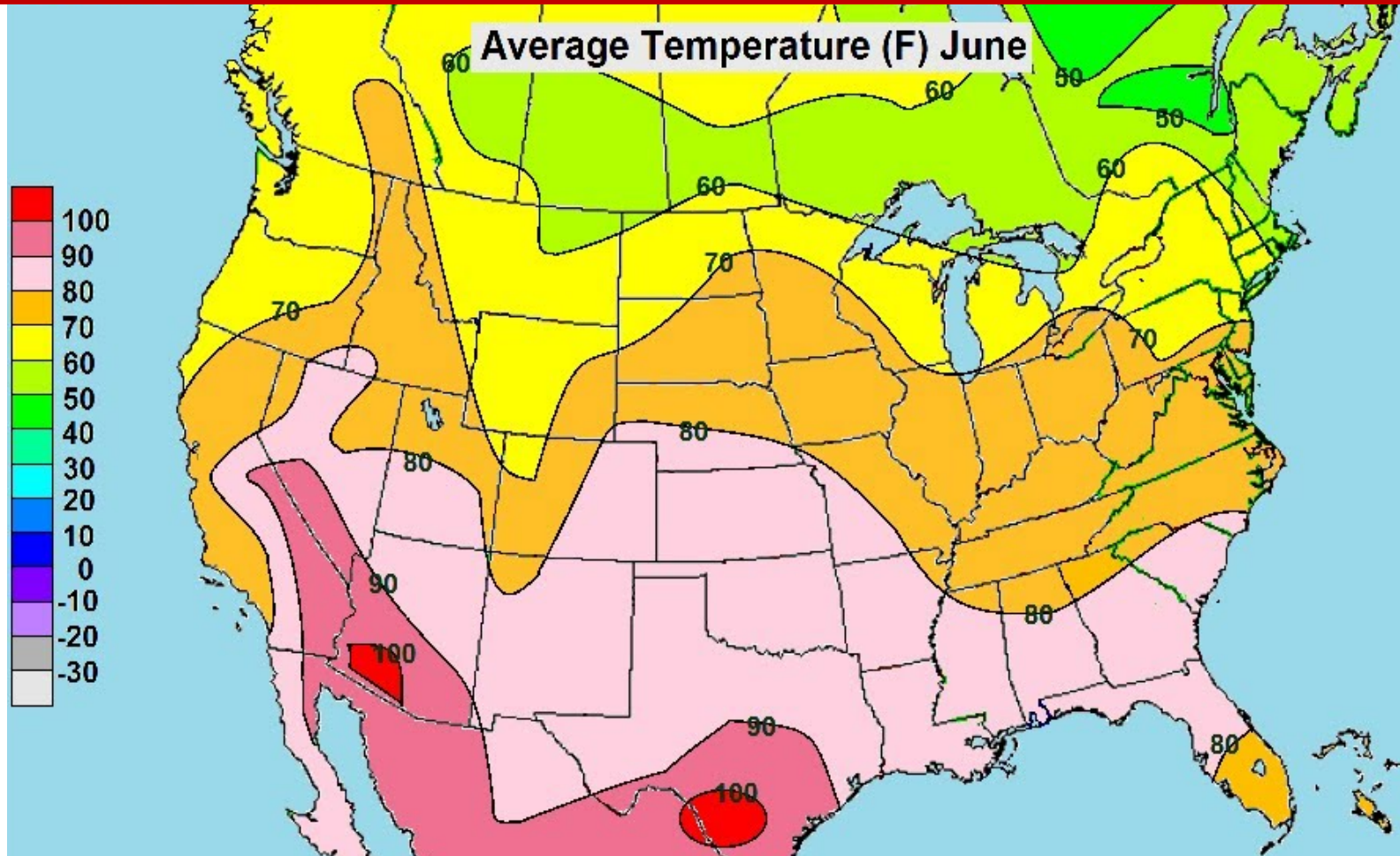
- They are easy to complete
- Show a good visual impression of change over space

WEAKNESSES:

- Variations within categories are hidden
- There is a false impression of abrupt changes at boundaries
- Hides smaller scale variation within areas

ISOLINE MAP

Isoline maps show lines that join up areas or values that are equal.



ISOLINE MAP

STRENGTHS:

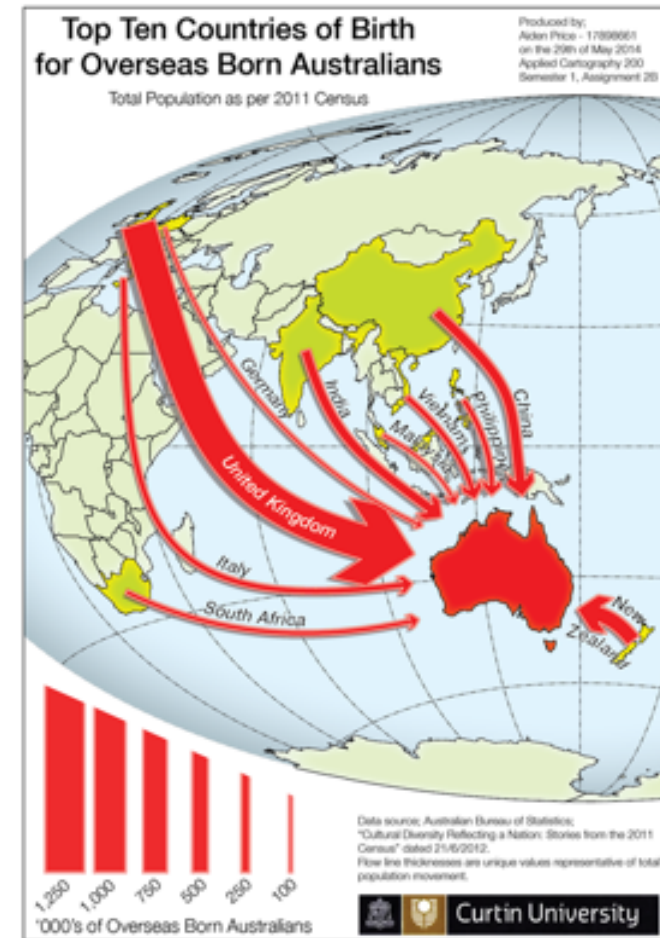
- Gives a clear representation of spatial patterns
- Can add colour to enhance.
- Easy to read off values if point is on an isoline.

WEAKNESSES:

- Values in between isolines are open to interpretation
- Too much data can be difficult to plot
- Hides small scale variations between lines.

FLOW LINE MAP

Lines, often with arrows on a map which show the exact path of movement. The width of the arrow represents a flow rate. Often used for migration.



FLOW LINE MAP

STRENGTHS:

- Clear to see the size of flows and the direction of movement
- Clear to pick out highest and lowest

WEAKNESSES:

- Do not usually give specific figures
- Too many lines can make it difficult to read

DESIRE LINE MAP

Lines on a map showing a general direction of movement. The width often represents how large the value is.



DESIRE LINE MAP

STRENGTHS:

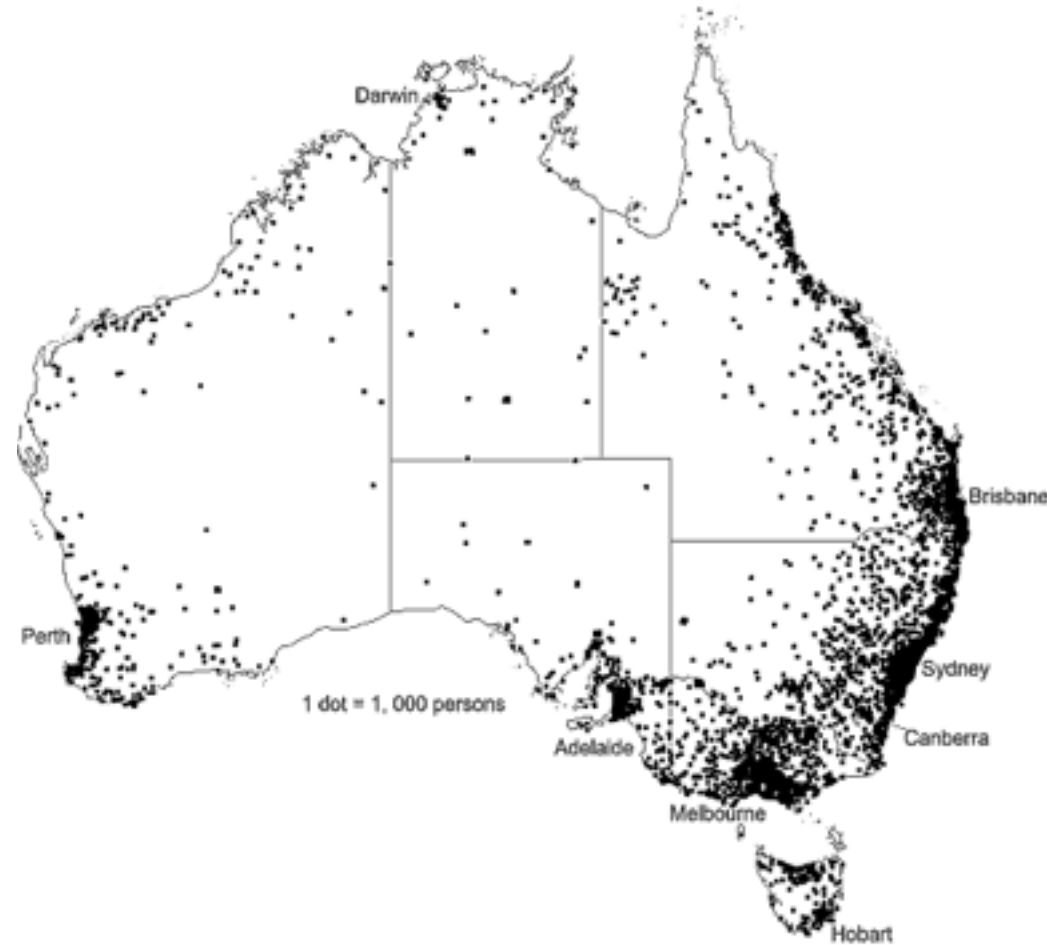
- Can show the distance of travel clearly and spatial patterns
- Sometimes the width is changed to show proportions

WEAKNESSES:

- Too many lines can be the map difficult to read
- Simplifies journeys into straight lines
 - Does not show direction of travel

DOT MAP

Dot maps show information as individual dots on a map. Each dot might represent more than one, for example in this map, 1 dot represents 1,000 people. They are often used to show population distribution.



DOT MAP

STRENGTHS:

- Gives a clear visual representation of clusters and spatial distribution
- Easy to construct
- Dots are equal sized so it makes it easier to compare

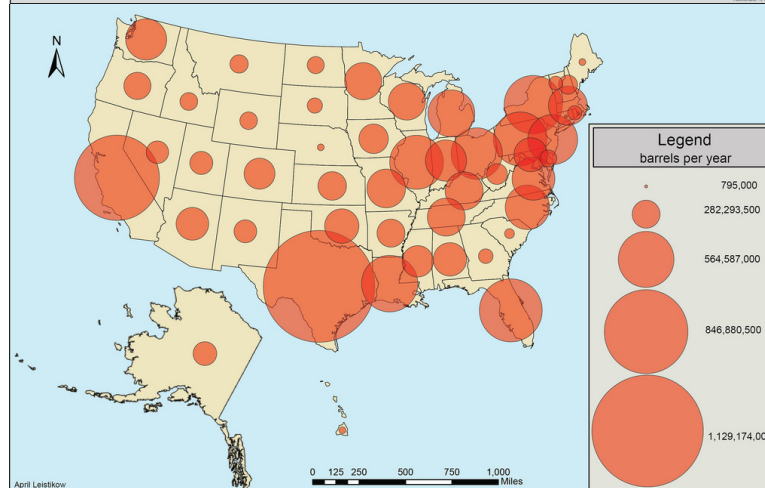
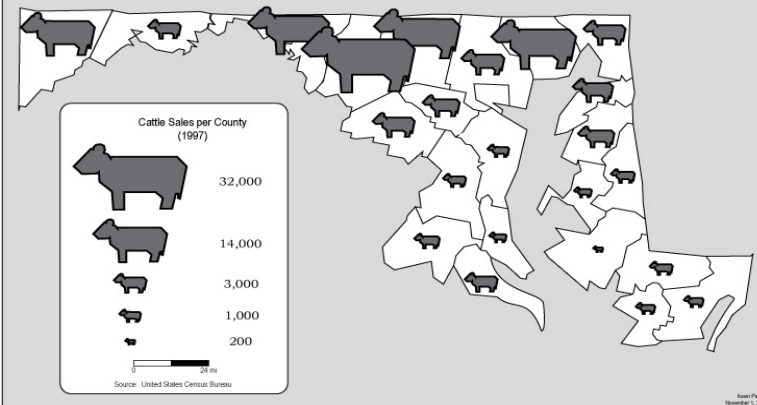
WEAKNESSES:

- If there is a large number of dots it is difficult to count
- Can make areas appear 'empty' due to dot having specific value
- Does not give precise values

PROPORTIONAL SYMBOLS

Proportional symbols can be added to a map to show differences between places. The same symbol (often a circle) appears larger or smaller, depending on how something changes.

Cattle and Calves Sold in Maryland (1997)



PROPORTIONAL SYMBOLS

STRENGTHS:

- Gives a clear visual representation of largest and smallest values
- Can compare across different places
 - Symbols can be compared to a scale to get a value

WEAKNESSES:

- Symbols can overlap making it confusing
- Size may obscure location
- Often doesn't give an exact value.

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

These maps show the spatial extent of the impact of a place or geographical event on its surrounding environment. These are often drawn on maps as circles or spheres. E.g. to show how far a shopping centre draws customers from.



SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

STRENGTHS:

- Gives a clear visual representation of how far an area is influential
- Allows comparison between places

WEAKNESSES:

- Does not provide specific data
- Simplifies 'sphere', assuming influence is the same in all directions