Religious Diversity in the United States

Simpson's Diversity Scale Applied to Religious Families

What is diversity?

- Number of different religious groups?
  - New York CBSA has 167
- Absence of concentrated groups?
  - Virginia Beach's largest concentration is 20%
- How important are individual families?
  - Columbus' largest "family" (Catholic) is 30%

Count of Groups

	Instances			
Area 1	1			
	1			
	1			
	1			
	1		10 Groups	
	1			
	1			
	1			
	1			
	1			
Area 2				
	10		1 Group	
Area 3				
	4			
	4		3 Groups	
	2			
Area 4	3			
	3		3 Groups	
	4			

Count and Concentrations

	Instances			
Area 1	1	0.1		
	1	0.1		
	1	0.1		
	1	0.1		
	1	0.1	10 Groups	
	1	0.1	Max 10%	
	1	0.1		
	1	0.1		
	1	0.1		
	1	0.1		
Area 2				
	10	1.0	1 Group, 100%	
Area 3				
	4	0.4		
	4	0.4	3 Groups	
	2	0.2	Max 40%	
Area 4	3	0.3		
	3	0.3	3 Groups	
	4	0.4	Max 40%	

Simpson's Index

	Instances	Ratio	Squared	Index
Area 1	1	0.1	0.01	**0.10**
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
Area 2				
	10	1.0	1.00	**1.00**
Area 3				
	4	0.4	0.16	**0.36**
	4	0.4	0.16	
	2	0.2	0.04	
Area 4	3	0.3	0.09	**0.34**
	3	0.3	0.09	
	4	0.4	0.16	

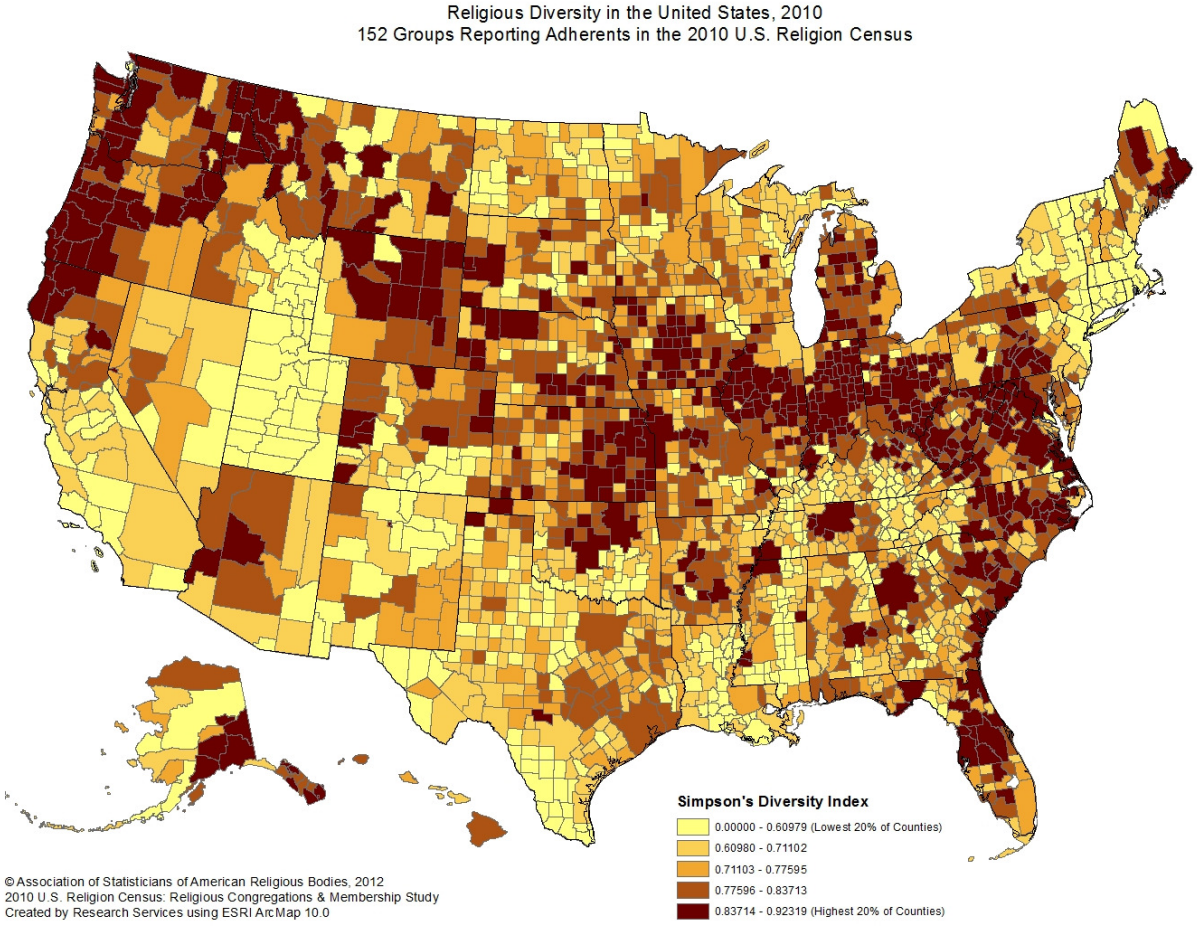
Simpson's Index of Diversity

	Instances	Ratio	Squared	Index
Area 1	1	0.1	0.01	**0.90**
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
	1	0.1	0.01	
Area 2				
	10	1.0	1.00	**0.00**
Area 3				
	4	0.4	0.16	**0.64**
	4	0.4	0.16	
	2	0.2	0.04	
Area 4	3	0.3	0.09	**0.66**
	3	0.3	0.09	
	4	0.4	0.16	

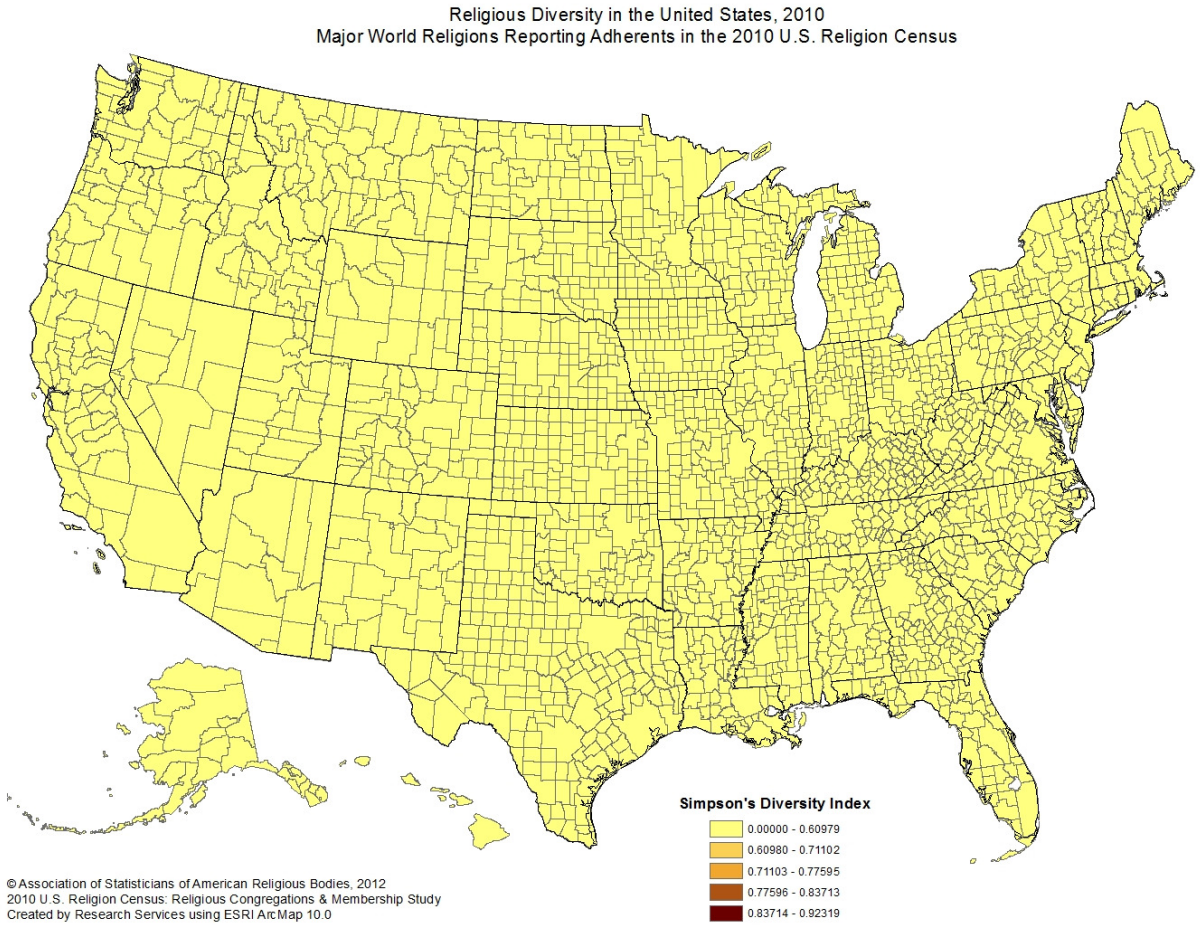
Defining “Different”

- Scale itself does not weigh differences
- Groupings should be defensible, logical, and appropriate

Each religious group equally distinct



Seven major world religions present



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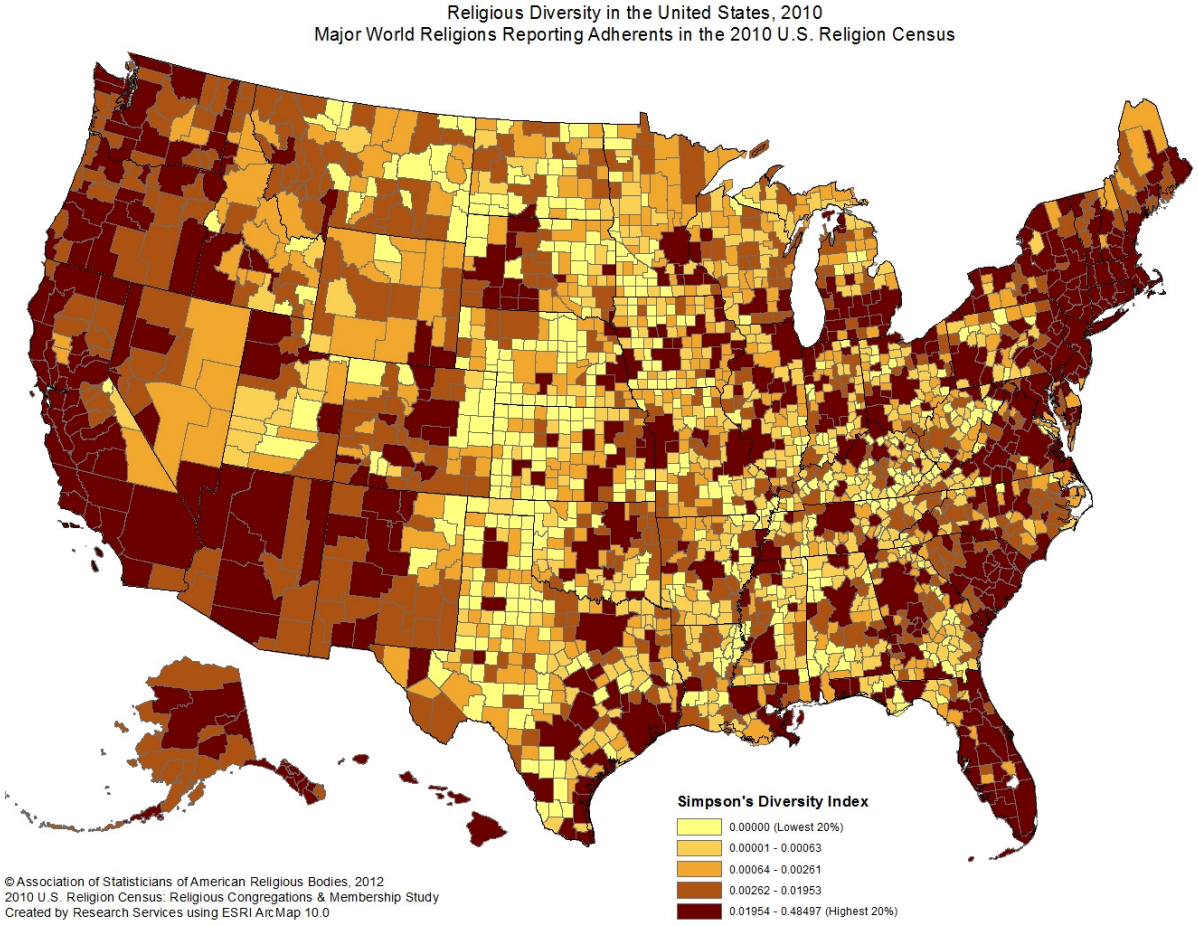
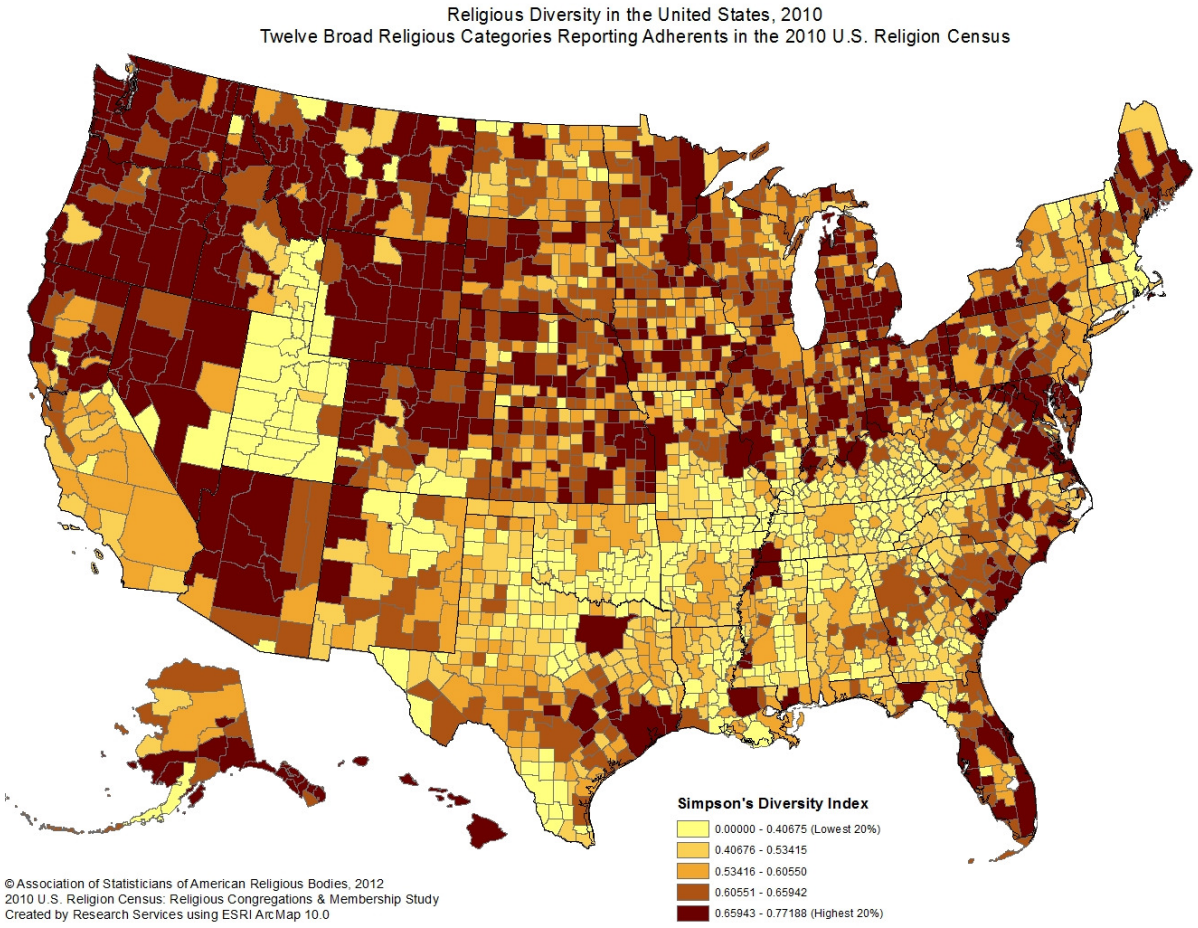


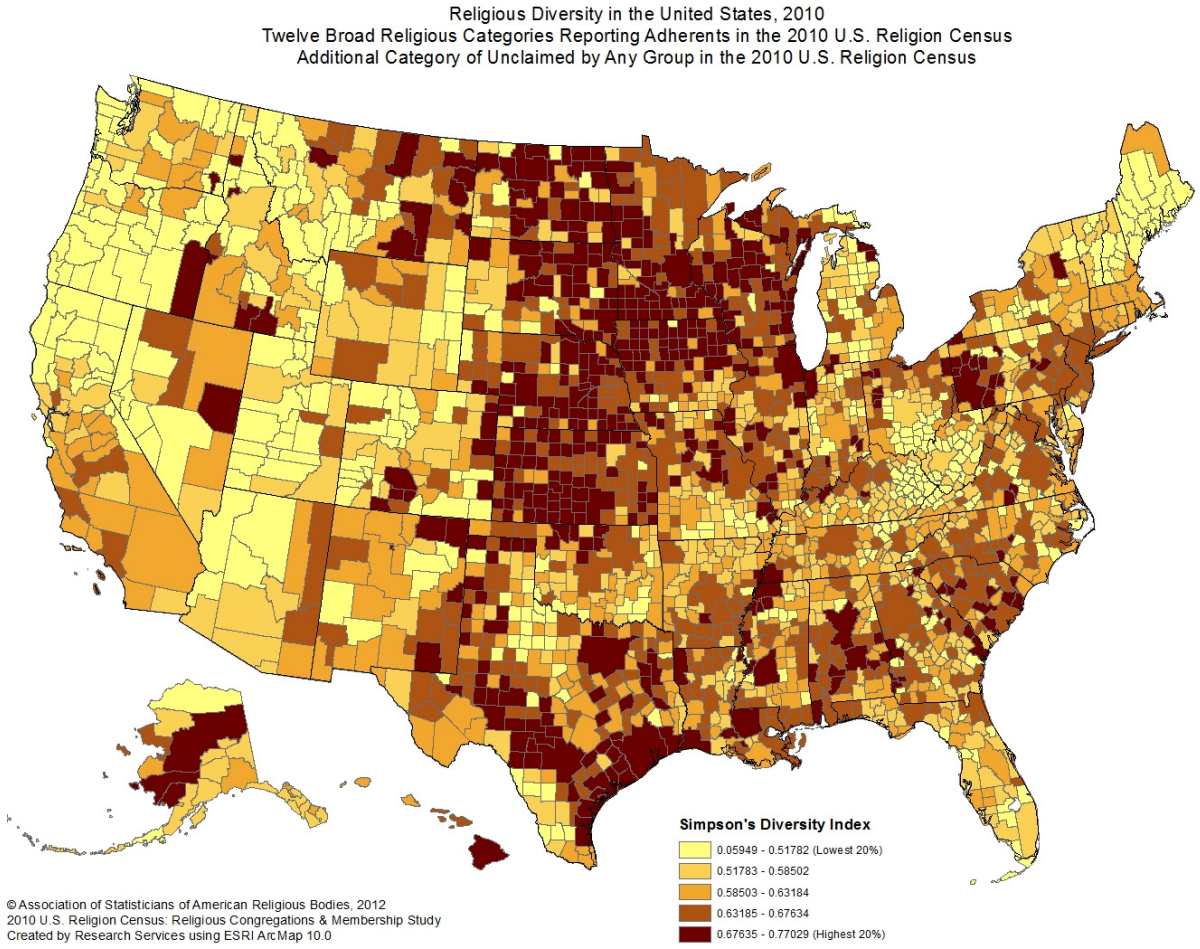
How Different?

CATEGORY	Religious Groups
Black Protestant	African Methodist Episcopal, Church of God in Christ, etc.
Buddhist	Buddhist groups
Catholic	Catholic Church
Conservative Protestant	Southern Baptist, Assemblies of God, Church of the Nazarene, etc.
Hindu	Hindu groups
Islam	Islam
Jewish	Jewish groups
LDS	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Mainline Protestant	United Methodist Church, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), etc.
Orthodox	Orthodox groups
Other Christian	Unitarian-Universalist, Messianic Judaism, etc.
Other Eastern	Bahá'í, Zoroastrian, etc.

Twelve religious groupings in the U.S.

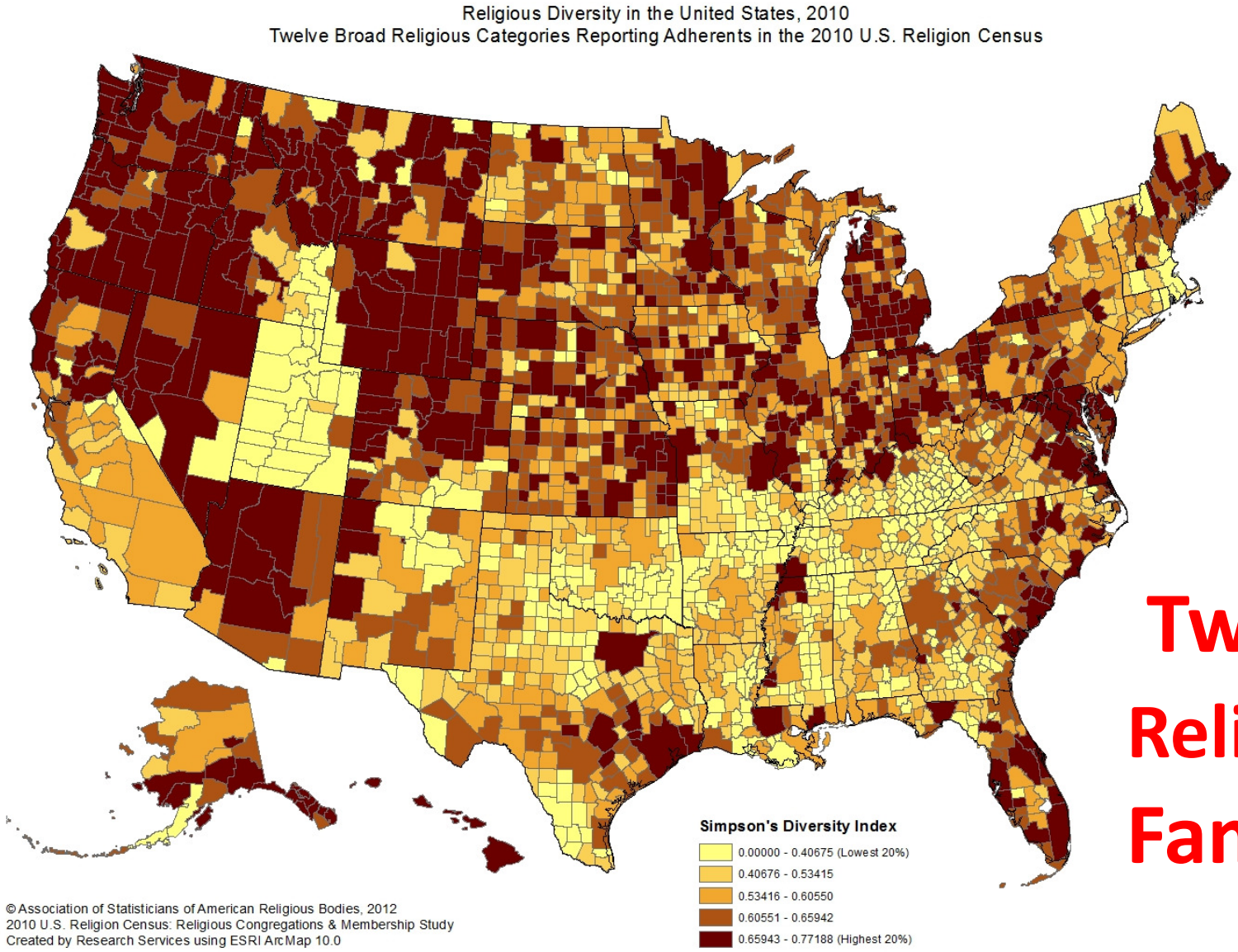


Twelve categories plus the unclaimed



Greatest Diversity

- All groups equal: Lower Midwest
  - Virginia Beach, VA-NC
- World religions: Largest cities, both coasts
  - New York, NY-NJ-PA
- 12 Families: Most of the West
  - Washington, DC-MD-VA-WV
- Unclaimed Plus 12: Great Plains
  - Memphis, TN-AR-MS



Twelve Religious Families