

## GDHR/DPH Standards for Map Presentation

1. Data Class Breaks range shall not exceed the range of data presented.
  - I.e. If the data range from 44 – 354, then the first data class shall start with 44, not 0 (zero).
    - 1.1 Never have a data class break that ends with the same number that the next class break begins with. Example: 22-45, 45-77 should read 22-45, 46-77.
    - 1.2. Zeros or No Data: If the first data class break includes zeros, such as 0-3694 for a count-of-population variable, then consider why zeros are included, and how they should be handled. An alternative is to use a histogram to find out the distribution of values. The presentation result could be: □=0, and then the first valid value should start the first class break (e.g. ■=355-3,694 instead of ■= 0-3,694).
    - 1.3. Optional: If only 1 geographic unit exhibits a value within a data range, do not show the range in the legend. Instead, show the unique value in the legend.

2. Always include the Data class breaks method used  
State the method used to classify data, e.g. quintiles, Jenks natural breaks.

3. Always include the Projection used  
e.g. Georgia Statewide Lambert Conformal Conic.

Prior to mapping, the GIS environment should be set to the appropriate projection according to the geographic extent of the study.

For mapping the entire state, the Georgia Statewide Lambert Conformal Conic is suitable. The custom parameters are listed below:

Georgia Lambert Conformal Conic  
Map Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Ellipsoid: Geodetic Reference System of 1980 (GRS 80)  
Datum: North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83)  
Longitude of Origin: Central Meridian  
Latitude of Origin: 0 Degrees  
Standard Parallel 1: 31 Degrees, 25 Minutes North (31.46666667)  
Standard Parallel 2: 34 Degrees, 17 Minutes North (34.28333333)  
Central Meridian: 83 Degrees, 30 Minutes West (- 83.5)  
False Easting: None  
False Northing: None  
Unit of Measurement: Feet

“Unprojected” maps are unsuitable for mapping, particularly when distance measurements are critical.

These guidelines are in accordance with the GIS Standards and Guidelines of the [Base-Map Technical Working Group](#) for the [GIS Advisory Committee](#) of the State of Georgia’s Information Technology Policy Council (<http://gis.state.ga.us/edocs/giscc/gisstand.html>).

4. Always include Author  
e.g. Georgia Department of Human Resources, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Information & Policy
5. Always include the Date Map was Created

6. Always include the Date of the Data displayed.
7. Always include the Data Source(s)
8. Always include a Scale
9. Always include a North Arrow
10. Always make Note if originally printed in color. (Subsequent copies in black and white will benefit from said note.)
11. Color schemes in data class break legends shall flow from light to dark (or dark to light), using one of the following sequences:
  - Consistent gray scale
  - Single sequence, single-hue scale (similar to consistent gray, except using one color)
  - Single sequence, part spectral scale (e.g. light yellow-brown-black, or yellow-orange-red)

Through the use of the online products ColorBrewer (<http://www.colorbrewer.org>) developed by Cynthia A. Brewer, PhD and Mark A. Harrower at Pennsylvania State University, and The RGB Color Calculator (<http://www.drpeterjones.com/colorcalc/index.html>), the Office of Health Information and Policy (OHIP) has developed a standard set of color palette scales (otherwise known as sequential color schemes) for the use in the creation of maps and mapping products produced with a GIS.

A series of color palette scale value codes are presented for the four most common industry standard color value schemas: Red-Green-Blue (RGB), Hexadecimal (HEX), Cyan-Magenta-Yellow-black (CMYK), and Hue-Saturation-Value (HSV).

For each of these standards we have provided the appropriate color value codes for the creation of five separate scales: 1) a Green Scale; 2) a Yellow-to-Brown Scale; 3) a Brown Scale; 4) a Yellow-to-Green Scale; and 5) a Red Scale. Each of these scales was tested with a test subject who was Red-Green Color Blind and it was found that each of the values could be clearly distinguished.

The color palette values are presented for each of the five color scales for 5-, 4-, 3-, and 2-Class Breaks in Appendix A.

12. (Optional) Present a Histogram of data presented.
13. Titles and Legends shall be complementary and unambiguous, and preferably in a sans serif font.
  - 13.1 Every feature (layer) in a map should be represented in the legend.
14. (Optional) Neatline (a.k.a. Borders)
  - 2 borders such that an outer border outlines the entire map, titles, and legends, and an inner border around the map proper.
15. The “n” (number of events) for the total geography (e.g. the state) should be displayed if a map consists of only rates.
16. The number of data classes should take into account the range of data values: a very small range of rates (e.g. range of percentages from 1.1% to 2.3%) most likely should not have more than 2 data classes, and in fact may not be suitable for mapping because there may be little statistical or practical significance between 1.1% and 2.3%.

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## Appendix A

### Red-Green-Blue (RGB).

RGB	FIVE CLASS BREAKS	FOUR CLASS BREAKS	THREE CLASS BREAKS	TWO CLASS BREAKS
<b>GREEN SCALE</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>
	1st - light (2) 199 233 192	1st - light (2) 199 233 192	1st - light (2) 199 233 192	1st - middle (3) 161 217 155
	2nd - pale (3) 161 217 155	2nd - middle (4) 116 196 118	2nd - middle (4) 116 196 118	2nd - darker (5) 49 163 84
	3rd - middle (4) 116 196 118	3rd - darker (5) 49 163 84	3rd - darkest (6) 0 109 44	
	4th - darker (5) 49 163 84	4th - darkest (6) 0 109 44		
	5th - darkest (6) 0 109 44			
<b>YELLOW/BROWN</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>
	1st - light (2) 254 227 145	1st - light (2) 254 227 145	1st - light (2) 254 227 145	1st - middle (3) 254 196 79
	2nd - pale (3) 254 196 79	2nd - middle (4) 254 153 41	2nd - middle (4) 254 153 41	2nd - darker (5) 217 95 14
	3rd - middle (4) 254 153 41	3rd - darker (5) 217 95 14	3rd - darkest (6) 153 52 4	
	4th - darker (5) 217 95 14	4th - darkest (6) 153 52 4		
	5th - darkest (6) 153 52 4			
<b>BROWN SCALE</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>
	1st - light (2) 253 208 162	1st - light (2) 253 208 162	1st - light (2) 253 208 162	1st - middle (3) 253 174 107
	2nd - pale (3) 253 174 107	2nd - middle (4) 253 141 60	2nd - middle (4) 253 141 60	2nd - darker (5) 230 85 13
	3rd - middle (4) 253 141 60	3rd - darker (5) 230 85 13	3rd - darkest (6) 166 54 3	
	4th - darker (5) 230 85 13	4th - darkest (6) 166 54 3		
	5th - darkest (6) 166 54 3			
<b>YELLOW/GREEN</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>
	1st - light (2) 217 240 163	1st - light (2) 217 240 163	1st - light (2) 217 240 163	1st - middle (3) 173 221 142
	2nd - pale (3) 173 221 142	2nd - middle (4) 120 198 121	2nd - middle (4) 120 198 121	2nd - darker (5) 49 163 84
	3rd - middle (4) 120 198 121	3rd - darker (5) 49 163 84	3rd - darkest (6) 0 104 55	
	4th - darker (5) 49 163 84	4th - darkest (6) 0 104 55		
	5th - darkest (6) 0 104 55			
<b>RED SCALE</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>	<b>R G B</b>
	1st - light (2) 252 187 161	1st - light (2) 252 187 161	1st - light (2) 252 187 161	1st - middle (3) 252 146 114
	2nd - pale (3) 252 146 114	2nd - middle (4) 251 106 74	2nd - middle (4) 251 106 74	2nd - darker (5) 222 45 38
	3rd - middle (4) 251 106 74	3rd - darker (5) 222 45 38	3rd - darkest (6) 165 15 21	
	4th - darker (5) 222 45 38	4th - darkest (6) 165 15 21		
	5th - darkest (6) 165 15 21			

**Hexadecimal (HEX).**

HEX	FIVE CLASS BREAKS		FOUR CLASS BREAKS		THREE CLASS BREAKS		TWO CLASS BREAKS	
<b>GREEN SCALE</b>	<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>	
	1st - light (2)	0xc7e9c0	1st - light (2)	0xc7e9c0	1st - light (2)	0xc7e9c0	1st - middle (3)	0xa1d99b
	2nd - pale (3)	0xa1d99b	2nd - middle (4)	0x74c476	2nd - middle (4)	0x74c476	2nd - darker (5)	0x31a354
	3rd - middle (4)	0x74c476	3rd - darker (5)	0x31a354	3rd - darkest (6)	0x6d2c		
	4th - darker (5)	0x31a354	4th - darkest (6)	0x6d2c				
	5th - darkest (6)	0x6d2c						
<b>YELLOW/BROWN</b>	<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>	
	1st - light (2)	0xfe9391	1st - light (2)	0xfe9391	1st - light (2)	0xfe9391	1st - middle (3)	0xfec44f
	2nd - pale (3)	0xfec44f	2nd - middle (4)	0xfe9929	2nd - middle (4)	0xfe9929	2nd - darker (5)	0xd95f0e
	3rd - middle (4)	0xfe9929	3rd - darker (5)	0xd95f0e	3rd - darkest (6)	0x993404		
	4th - darker (5)	0xd95f0e	4th - darkest (6)	0x993404				
	5th - darkest (6)	0x993404						
<b>BROWN SCALE</b>	<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>	
	1st - light (2)	0xfdd0a2	1st - light (2)	0xfdd0a2	1st - light (2)	0xfdd0a2	1st - middle (3)	0xfdae6b
	2nd - pale (3)	0xfdae6b	2nd - middle (4)	0xfd8d3c	2nd - middle (4)	0xfd8d3c	2nd - darker (5)	0xe6550d
	3rd - middle(4)	0xfd8d3c	3rd - darker (5)	0xe6550d	3rd - darkest (6)	0xa63603		
	4th - darker (5)	0xe6550d	4th - darkest (6)	0xa63603				
	5th - darkest (6)	0xa63603						
<b>YELLOW/GREEN</b>	<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>	
	1st - light (2)	0xd9f0a3	1st - light (2)	0xd9f0a3	1st - light (2)	0xd9f0a3	1st - middle (3)	0xaddd8e
	2nd -pale (3)	0xaddd8e	2nd - middle (4)	0x78c679	2nd - middle (4)	0x78c679	2nd - darker (5)	0x31a354
	3rd - middle (4)	0x78c679	3rd - darker (5)	0x31a354	3rd - darkest (6)	0x6837		
	4th - darker (5)	0x31a354	4th - darkest (6)	0x6837				
	5th - darkest (6)	0x6837						
<b>RED SCALE</b>	<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>		<b>HEX</b>	
	1st - light (2)	0xfcbb1	1st - light (2)	0xfcbb1	1st - light (2)	0xfcbb1	1st - middle (3)	0xfc9272
	2nd -pale (3)	0xfc9272	2nd - middle (4)	0xfb6a4a	2nd - middle (4)	0xfb6a4a	2nd - darker (5)	0xde2d26
	3rd - middle (4)	0xfb6a4a	3rd - darker (5)	0xde2d26	3rd - darkest (6)	0xa50f15		
	4th - darker (5)	0xde2d26	4th - darkest (6)	0xa50f15				
	5th - darkest (6)	0xa50f15						

**Cyan-Magenta-Yellow-black (CMYK).**

CMYK	FIVE CLASS BREAKS				FOUR CLASS BREAKS				THREE CLASS BREAKS				TWO CLASS BREAKS							
		C	M	Y	K		C	M	Y	K		C	M	Y	K		C	M	Y	K
<b>GREEN SCALE</b>																				
	1st - light (2)	22	0	22	0	1st - light (2)	22	0	22	0	1st - light (2)	22	0	22	0	1st - middle (3)	37	0	37	0
	2nd - pale (3)	37	0	37	0	2nd - middle (4)	55	0	55	0	2nd - middle (4)	55	0	55	0	2nd - darker (5)	81	0	76	0
	3rd - middle (4)	55	0	55	0	3rd - darker (5)	81	0	76	0	3rd - darkest (6)	100	20	100	0					
	4th - darker (5)	81	0	76	0	4th - darkest (6)	100	20	100	0										
	5th - darkest (6)	100	20	100	0															
<b>YELLOW/BROWN</b>																				
	1st - light (2)	0	11	40	0	1st - light (2)	0	11	40	0	1st - light (2)	0	11	40	0	1st - middle (3)	0	23	65	0
	2nd - pale (3)	0	23	65	0	2nd - middle (4)	0	40	80	0	2nd - middle (4)	0	40	80	0	2nd - darker (5)	15	60	95	0
	3rd - middle (4)	0	40	80	0	3rd - darker (5)	15	60	95	0	3rd - darkest (6)	40	75	100	0					
	4th - darker (5)	15	60	95	0	4th - darkest (6)	40	75	100	0										
	5th - darkest (6)	40	75	100	0															
<b>BROWN SCALE</b>																				
	1st - light (2)	0	19	30	0	1st - light (2)	0	19	30	0	1st - light (2)	0	19	30	0	1st - middle (3)	0	32	50	0
	2nd - pale (3)	0	32	50	0	2nd - middle (4)	0	45	70	0	2nd - middle (4)	0	45	70	0	2nd - darker (5)	10	65	95	0
	3rd - middle (4)	0	45	70	0	3rd - darker (5)	10	65	95	0	3rd - darkest (6)	35	75	100	0					
	4th - darker (5)	10	65	95	0	4th - darkest (6)	35	75	100	0										
	5th - darkest (6)	35	75	100	0															
<b>YELLOW/GREEN</b>																				
	1st - light (2)	15	0	35	0	1st - light (2)	15	0	35	0	1st - light (2)	15	0	35	0	1st - middle (3)	32	0	43	0
	2nd - pale (3)	32	0	43	0	2nd - middle (4)	53	0	53	0	2nd - middle (4)	53	0	53	0	2nd - darker (5)	81	0	76	0
	3rd - middle (4)	53	0	53	0	3rd - darker (5)	81	0	76	0	3rd - darkest (6)	100	25	90	0					
	4th - darker (5)	81	0	76	0	4th - darkest (6)	100	25	90	0										
	5th - darkest (6)	100	25	90	0															
<b>RED SCALE</b>																				
	1st - light (2)	0	27	27	0	1st - light (2)	0	27	27	0	1st - light (2)	0	27	27	0	1st - middle (3)	0	43	43	0
	2nd - pale (3)	0	43	43	0	2nd - middle (4)	0	59	59	0	2nd - middle (4)	0	59	59	0	2nd - darker (5)	12	82	75	0
	3rd - middle (4)	0	59	59	0	3rd - darker (5)	12	82	75	0	3rd - darkest (6)	35	95	85	0					
	4th - darker (5)	12	82	75	0	4th - darkest (6)	35	95	85	0										
	5th - darkest (6)	35	95	85	0															

**Hue-Saturation-Value (HSV).**

HSV	FIVE CLASS BREAKS			FOUR CLASS BREAKS			THREE CLASS BREAKS			TWO CLASS BREAKS		
<b>GREEN SCALE</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>
	1st - light (2)	78	45	233	1st - light (2)	78	45	233	1st - light (2)	78	45	233
	2nd -pale (3)	81	73	217	2nd - middle (4)	86	104	196	2nd - middle (4)	86	104	196
	3rd - middle (4)	86	104	196	3rd - darker (5)	98	178	163	3rd - darkest (6)	102	255	109
	4th - darker (5)	98	178	163	4th - darkest (6)	102	255	109				
	5th - darkest (6)	102	255	109								
<b>YELLOW/BROWN</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>
	1st - light (2)	32	109	254	1st - light (2)	32	109	254	1st - light (2)	32	109	254
	2nd - pale (3)	28	176	254	2nd - middle (4)	22	214	254	2nd - middle (4)	22	214	254
	3rd - middle (4)	22	214	254	3rd - darker (5)	17	239	217	3rd - darkest (6)	14	248	153
	4th - darker (5)	17	239	217	4th - darkest (6)	14	248	153				
	5th - darkest (6)	14	248	153								
<b>BROWN SCALE</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>
	1st - light (2)	22	92	253	1st - light (2)	22	92	253	1st - light (2)	22	92	253
	2nd -pale (3)	20	147	253	2nd - middle (4)	18	195	253	2nd - middle (4)	18	195	253
	3rd - middle (4)	18	195	253	3rd - darker (5)	14	241	230	3rd - darkest (6)	13	250	166
	4th - darker (5)	14	241	230	4th - darkest (6)	13	250	166				
	5th - darkest (6)	13	250	166								
<b>YELLOW/GREEN</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>
	1st - light (2)	55	82	240	1st - light (2)	55	82	240	1st - light (2)	55	82	240
	2nd -pale (3)	68	91	221	2nd - middle (4)	86	100	198	2nd - middle (4)	86	100	198
	3rd - middle (4)	86	100	198	3rd - darker (5)	98	178	163	3rd - darkest (6)	108	255	104
	4th - darker (5)	98	178	163	4th - darkest (6)	108	255	104				
	5th - darkest (6)	108	255	104								
<b>RED SCALE</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>		<b>H</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>
	1st - light (2)	12	92	252	1st - light (2)	12	92	252	1st - light (2)	12	92	252
	2nd -pale (3)	10	140	252	2nd - middle (4)	8	180	251	2nd - middle (4)	8	180	251
	3rd - middle (4)	8	180	251	3rd - darker (5)	2	211	222	3rd - darkest (6)	253	232	165
	4th - darker (5)	2	211	222	4th - darkest (6)	253	232	165				
	5th - darkest (6)	253	232	165								