What are maps bad at?
Inequality in the Nation's 50 Largest Cities, 2012

Circles sized according to ratio of 95th percentile income to 20th percentile income:

- 6.0 to 8.0
- 8.1 to 10.0
- 10.1 to 15.0
- 15.1 to 18.8

Source: Brookings Institution analysis of 2012 American Community Survey data
If Every State Had the Same Number of McDonald’s Locations
You could make a map of the US just by plotting this year's mass shootings. bit.ly/1Xse0Sr
PET PEEVE #208:
GEOGRAPHIC PROFILE MAPS WHICH ARE BASICALLY JUST POPULATION MAPS
The Pearl River Delta Megacity
Will it be the death of Hong Kong?

The Pearl River Delta is slowly growing into a single colossal megacity. And as controversy reigns over the continued urban development into the HKSAR's northeastern territories, we dissect the future of the extravagant sprawling metropolis and see how its emergence will affect—and perhaps eventually kill—Hong Kong. By Samuel Lai
Cartograms can help, but you lose the geographic context
A Really Small Slice of Americans Get to Decide Who Will Rule the Senate

The U.S. population is about 319 million, according to the U.S. Census. Of course, only a fraction of Americans will actually vote in November’s election. How small? To get an idea, look at the last midterm election, in 2010. Here’s the U.S. population that year.
Less populous states are overrepresented.

The most populous state, California is underrepresented.
 Millions of people live in the urban area surrounding Osaka. Sea-level rise will reshape densely and sparsely populated areas.