

# Teaching Ham Radio Classes

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# Agenda

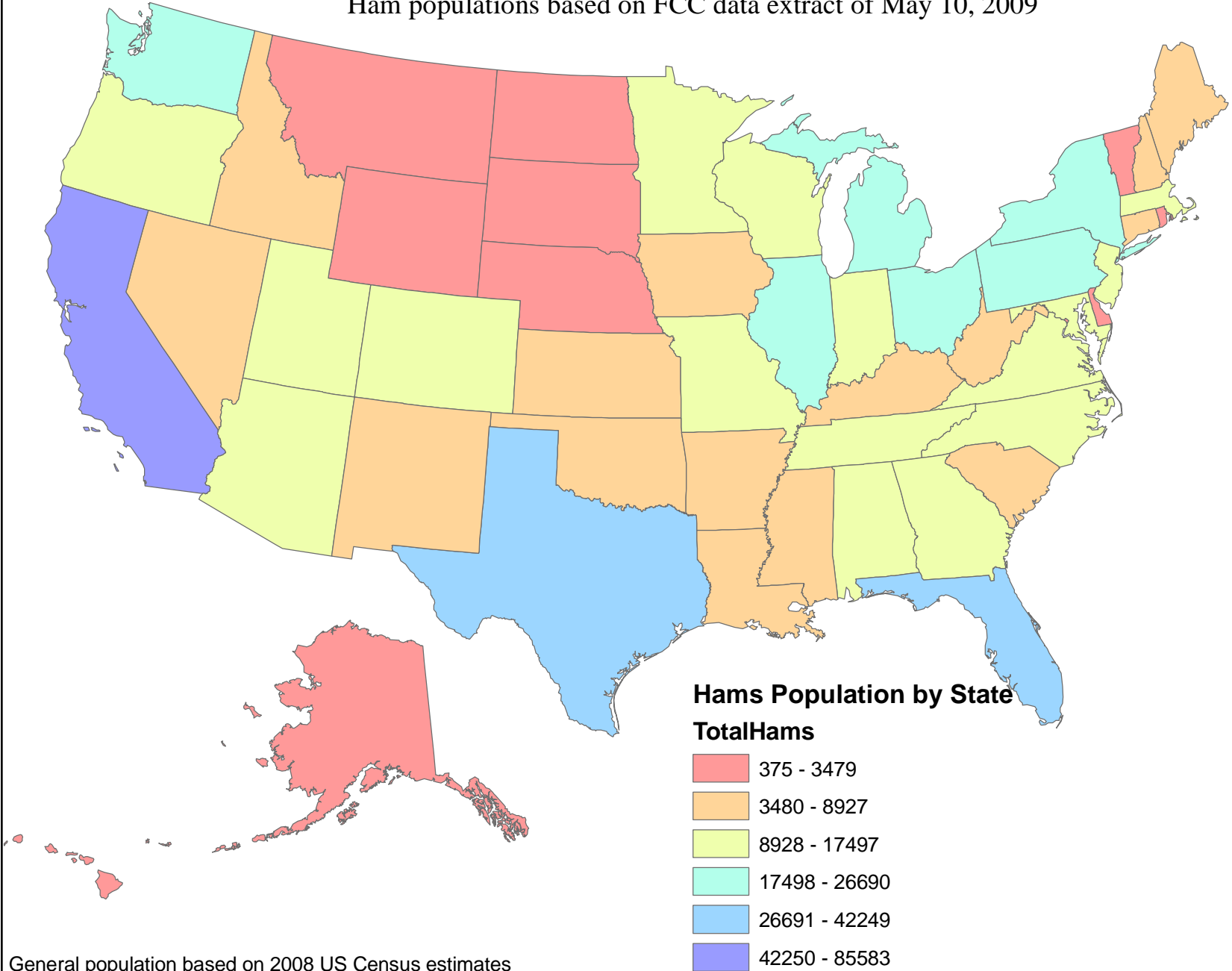
- Ham demographics
  - Maps and discussion
- Teaching Ham classes
  - Overview
  - Planning and Publicity
  - Teaching
  - Follow-up
- Challenges

# Ham demographics hypotheses

- Most hams are male
- Ham populations are uniformly distributed across the country
- The Ham radio population is declining

# Ham Population by State

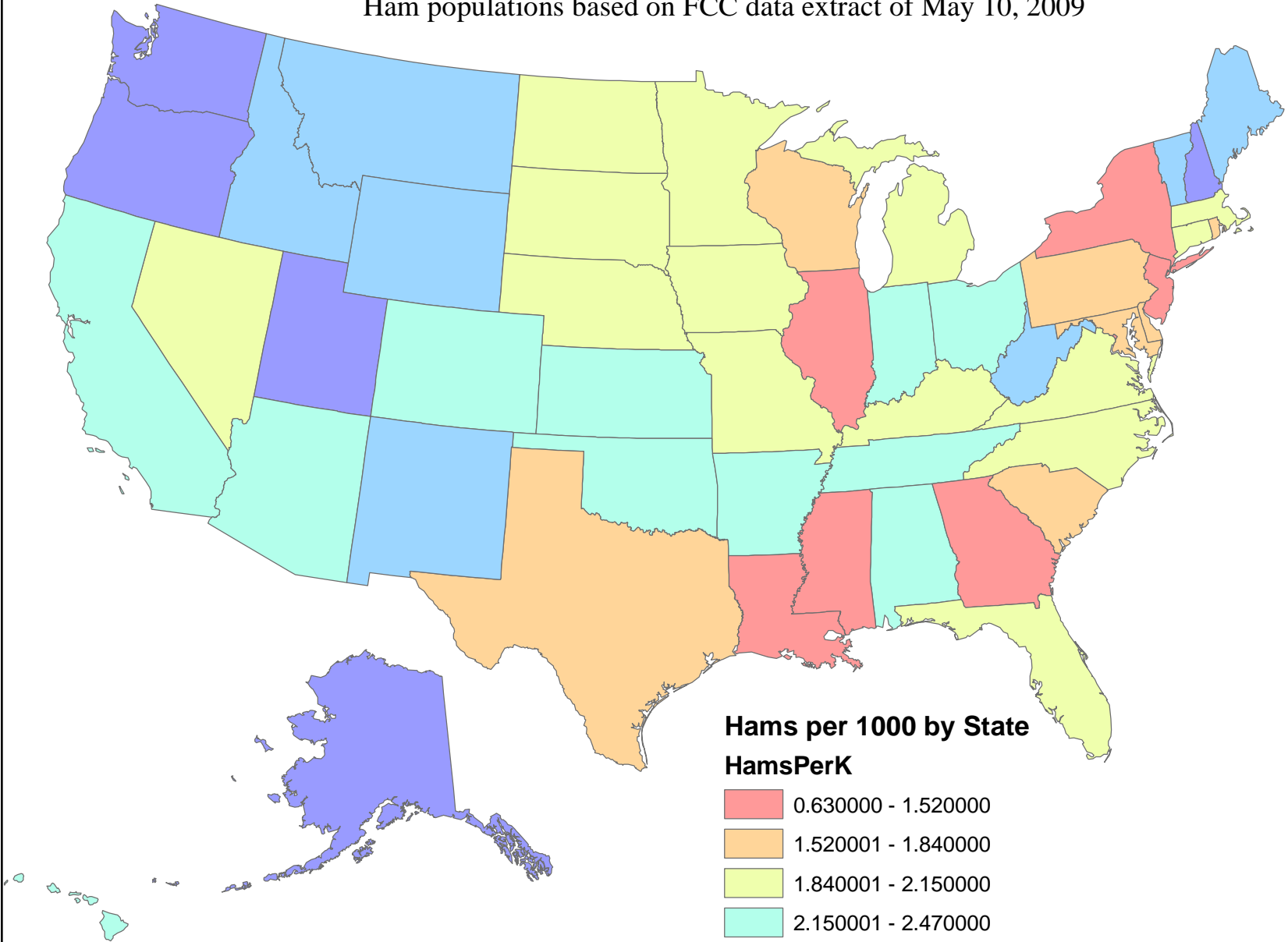
Ham populations based on FCC data extract of May 10, 2009



General population based on 2008 US Census estimates

# Hams per Thousand in General Population

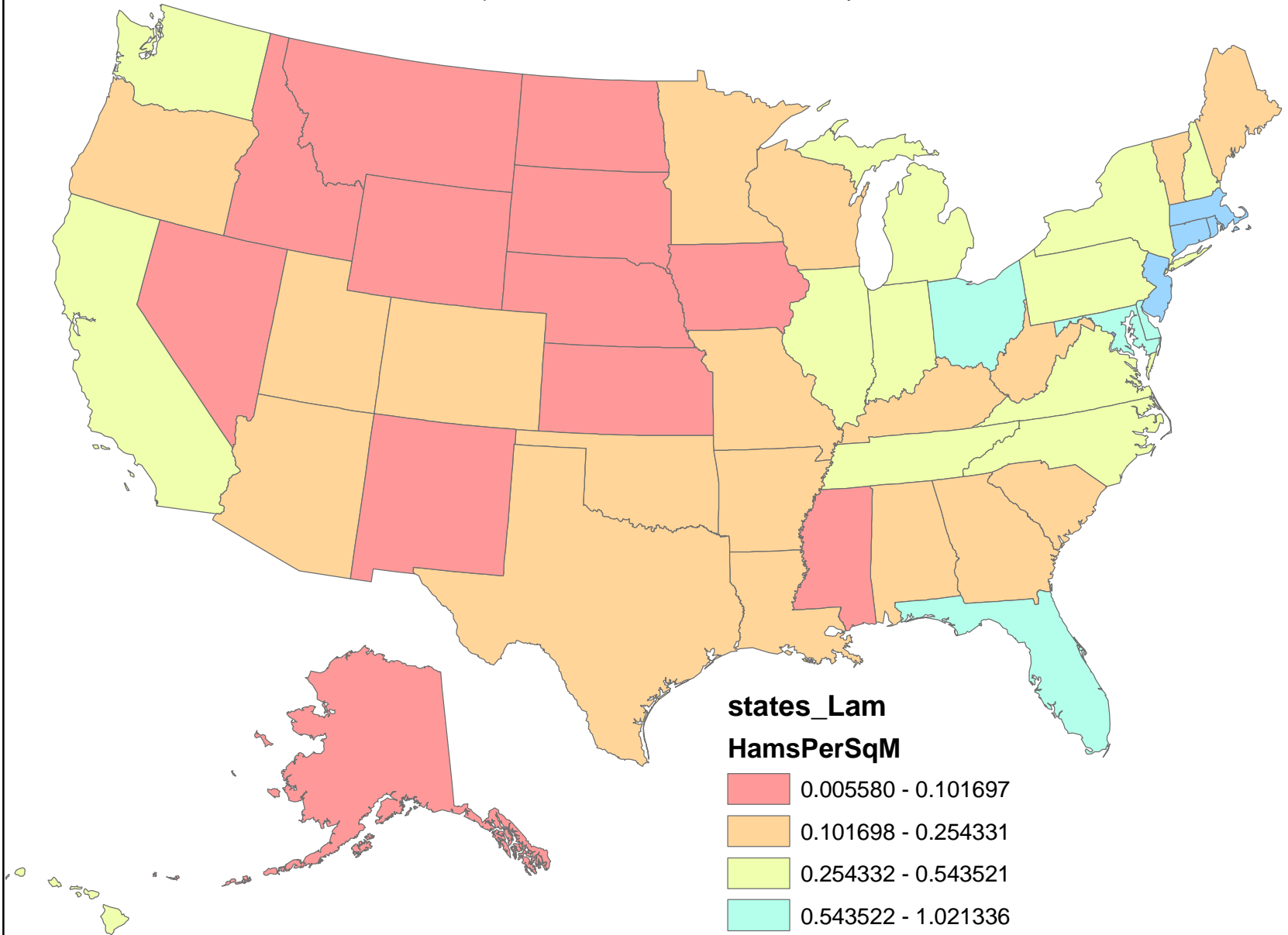
Ham populations based on FCC data extract of May 10, 2009



General population based on 2008 US Census estimates

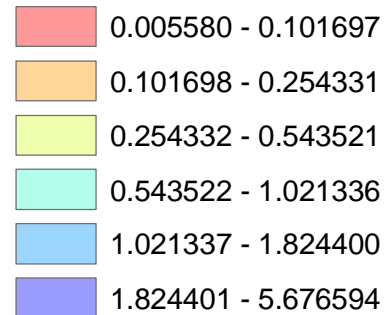
# Hams per Square Mile

Map based on data retrieved from FCC May 10, 2009

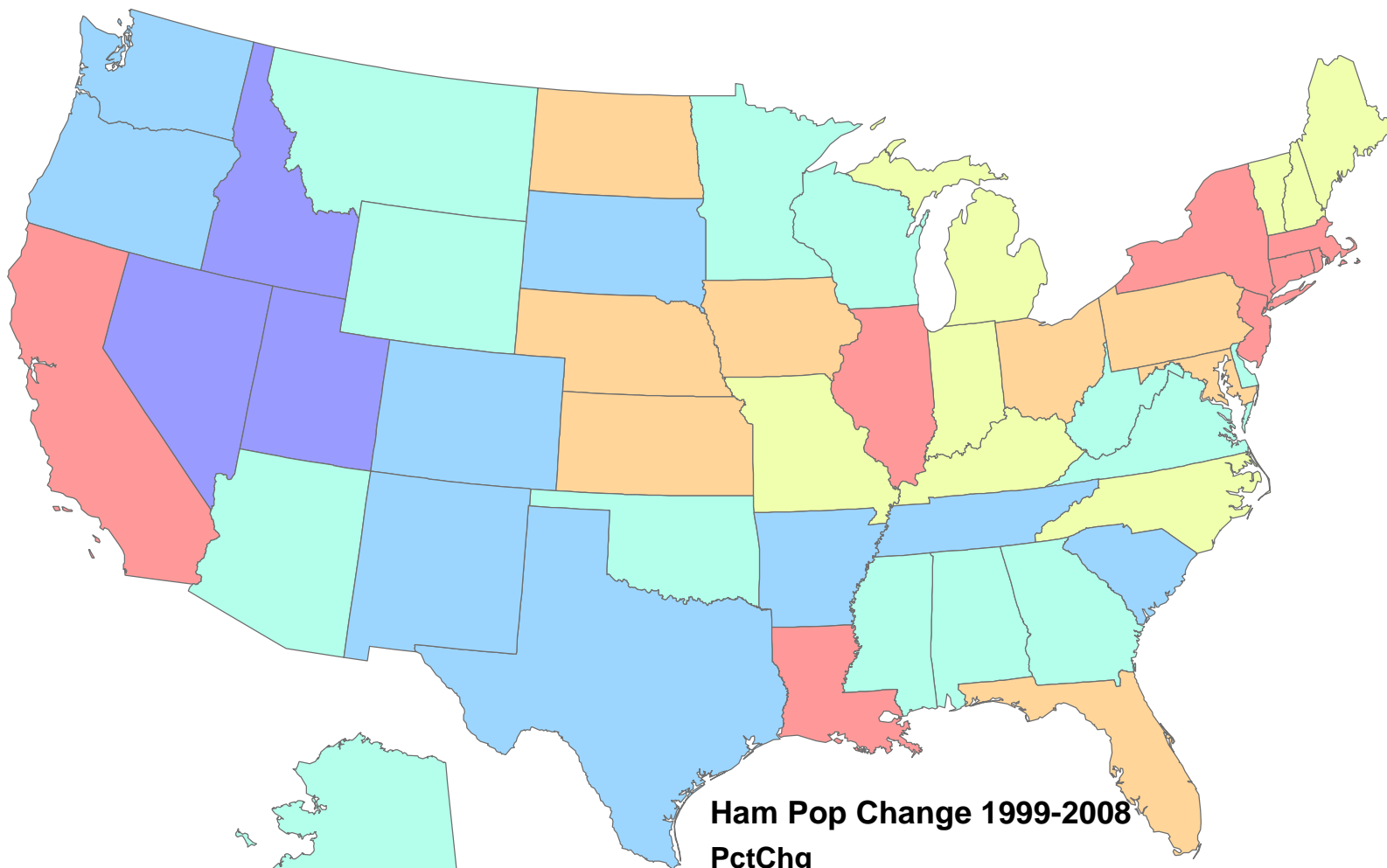


**states\_Lam**

**HamsPerSqM**

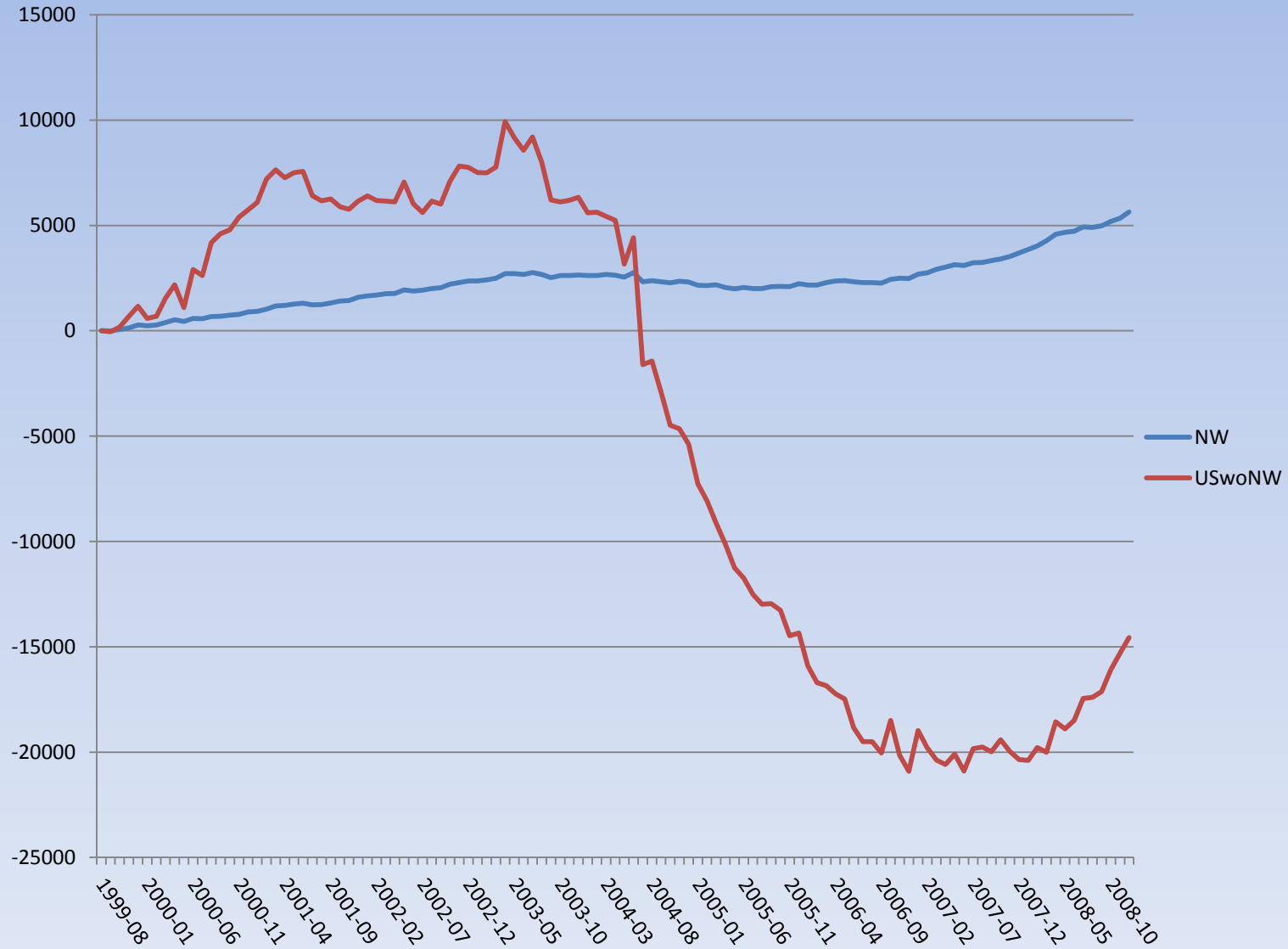


# Change in Ham Population, 1999 to 2008 in percent of 1999



Data for this map came from State summaries at [www.AH0A.com](http://www.AH0A.com). The data covers Aug 1999 to Dec 2008.

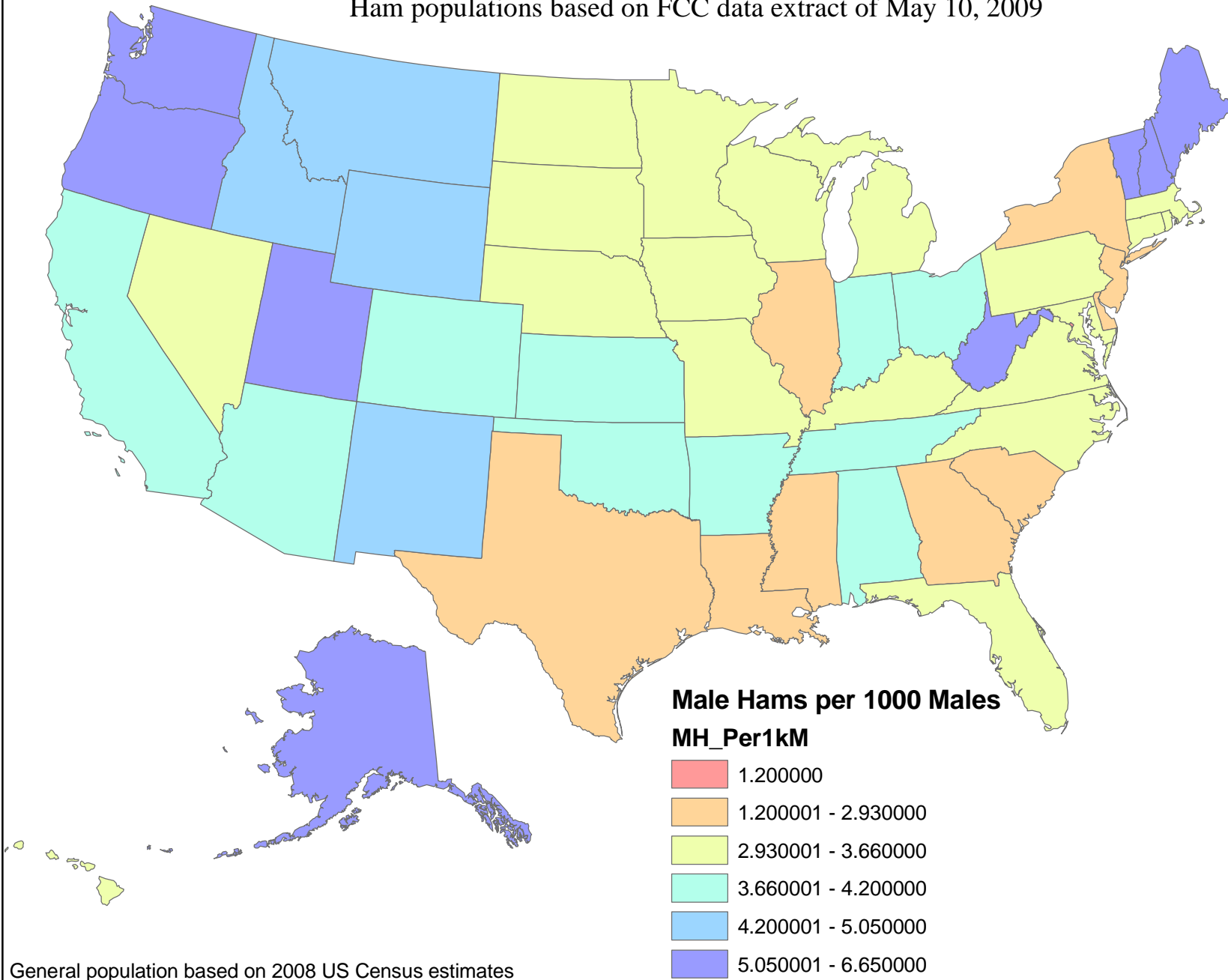
# Change in ham population, Aug 1999 to Dec 2008





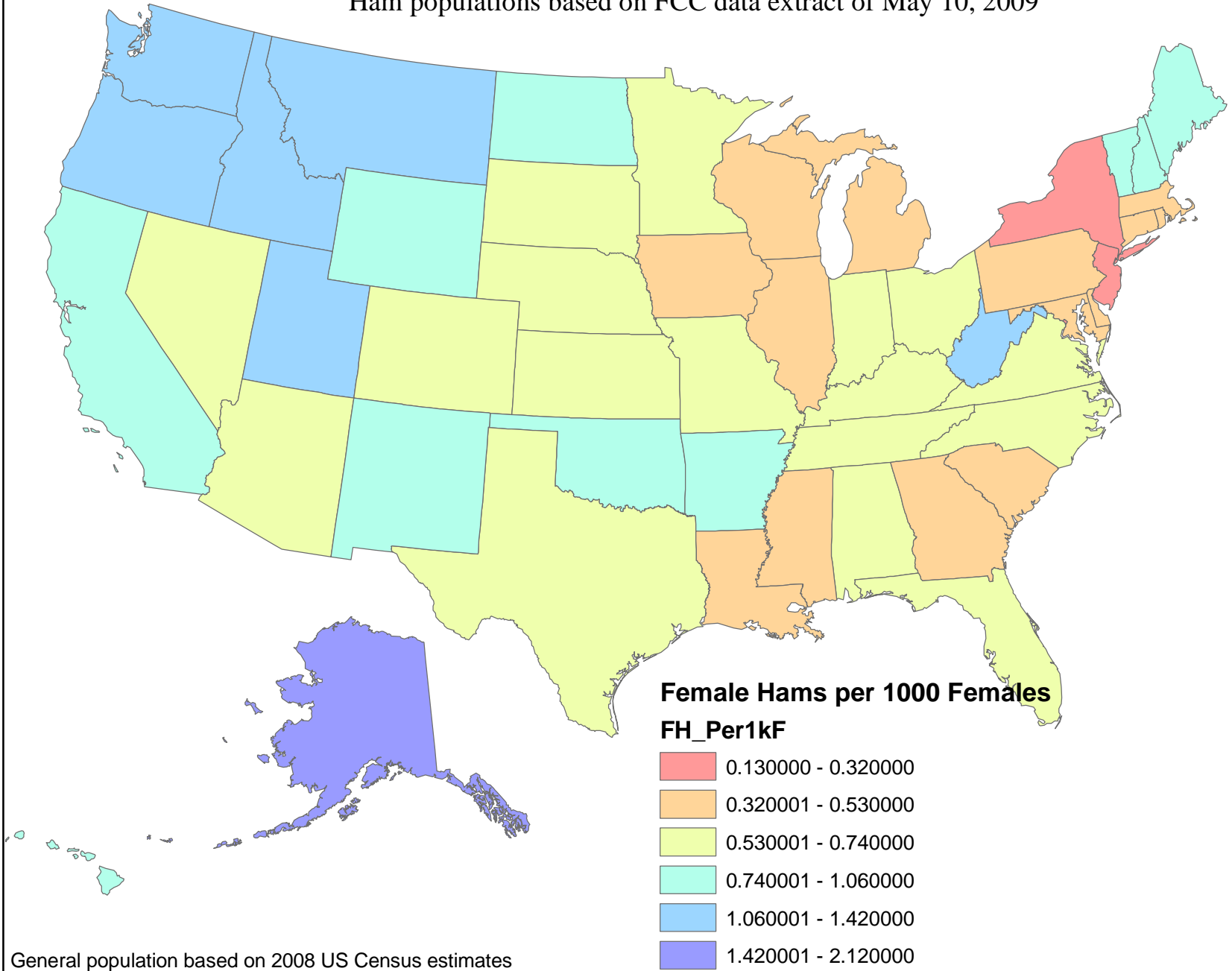
# Male Hams per Thousand Males in General Population

Ham populations based on FCC data extract of May 10, 2009

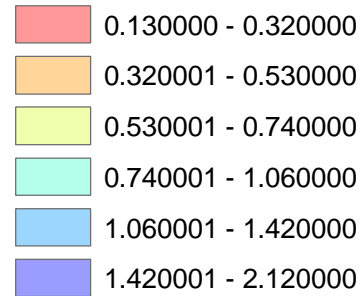


# Female Hams per Thousand Females in General Population

Ham populations based on FCC data extract of May 10, 2009



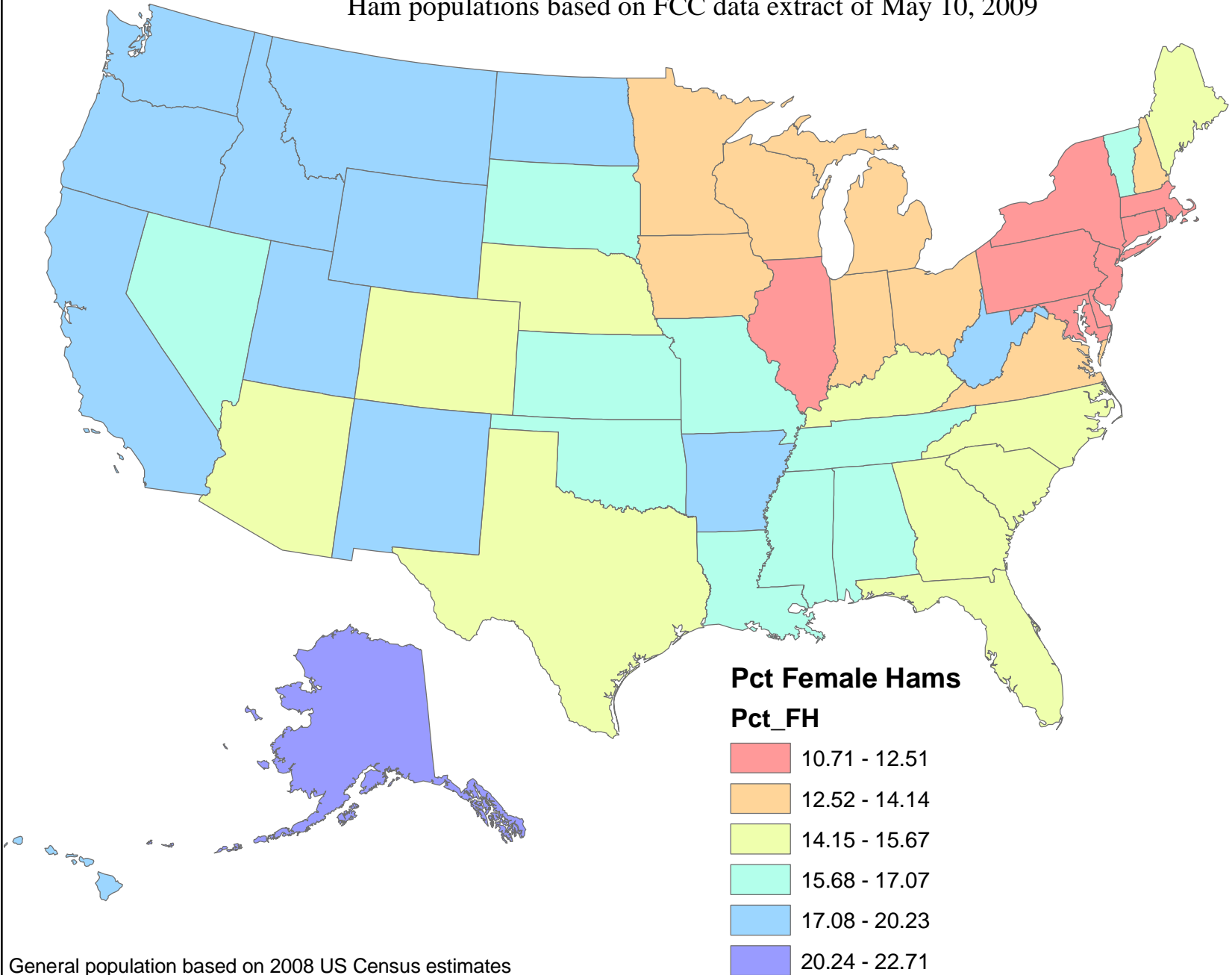
## Female Hams per 1000 Females FH\_Per1kF



General population based on 2008 US Census estimates

# Percent Female Hams

Ham populations based on FCC data extract of May 10, 2009



General population based on 2008 US Census estimates

# Challenge

- Find ways to encourage women to earn their ham license
- Keep growing the ham population in the Northwest Division

# Continued ham growth depends on classes

- Where few classes are taught, generally the ham population declines

# Successful classes

- Plan date(s), place
- Publicize your class
- Organize your curriculum materials and methods
- Teach the class
- Organize a test session
- Follow up with new hams, and those who did not pass the test

# Planning

- Find a place (preferably free)
- Schedule date(s)
  - Many clubs schedule several classes thru the year
  - Class format will determine your dates somewhat
- Instructor(s)
  - Single
  - Two
  - Multiple

# Publicity

- No publicity = few (or no) students
- ARRL Class web site
  - Available to registered instructors
- Club newsletters
- Local nets
- Word of mouth (talk to lots of folks)
- Red Cross, CERT, Emergency Services, Sheriff, Fire Department, churches, other clubs



# Publicity

- Consider requiring enrollment
- Send periodic email messages to enrollees
- Send emails to folks who expressed interest

# Curricula

- Class formats
  - ARRL traditional (9 one-hour classes over many weeks)
  - One day Bash
  - Weekend (Saturday/Sunday or Friday/Saturday)
  - Two weekend (two Friday/Saturday)
  - Three Saturday mornings

# Curricula

- Instruction planning
  - Who teaches what
  - Agree on teaching and presentation methods
- Instructions materials
  - ARRL License guides
  - Gordon West books
  - Home grown
  - Other

# Teaching

- Materials
  - Video
  - Teaching from the book
  - PowerPoint presentations
  - Lecture
  - Discussion
  - Test review

# Teaching (How we do it)

- Mix of PowerPoint, Q/A, Lecture, discussion
- Generated test at each session
- Review answers and use discussion to teach knowledge area
- Presentations on rules, frequency, and other topics
- Q & A (who knows where a question leads)

# Testing

- Consider arranging for a VE team to test at last class session
- Schedule class near a test date in area

# Follow-up

- New hams will have many questions
  - What radio should I buy?
  - Is “X” a good radio for my needs?
  - How to I install an antenna on my car?
- If you cannot help them, find another “Elmer” as needed

# Personal goal

- 30,000 hams in Washington State by Dec 2010 (14% increase from Dec 2008)
- Consider some attainable goals for your:
  - Town/city
  - County
  - club



# Division Challenge

State	Rank in 2008	Dec 2008	Dec 2010	Increase
WA	6	26,430	30,140	3,700
OR	16	14,379	16,392	2,013
ID	37	5,140	5,860	720
AK	43	3,314	3,778	464
MT	45	3,199	3,647	448
		52,462	59,807	7,345