

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## 20 States with the Highest Rates of Skin Cancer

(percentage rounded to nearest whole number)

Survey done by Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Company with 9 million of its members

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/546861/20-states-highest-rates-skin-cancer>

State	Percentage of people who had been diagnosed with skin cancer	State	Percentage of people who had been diagnosed with skin cancer
Florida	7	Arizona	5
Washington, DC	6	Virginia	5
Connecticut	6	Delaware	5
Maryland	5	Kentucky	5
Rhode Island	5	Alabama	5
Vermont	5	New Jersey	5
North Carolina	5	Georgia	5
New York	5	West Virginia	5
Massachusetts	5	Tennessee	5
Colorado	5	South Carolina	4

### Making a Choropleth Map: U.S. Skin Cancer Rates

Choropleth maps display information by areas. Choro means “place” and pleth means “value.” A choropleth map presents information about a single variable such as income, crops, or population density. The information should be combined into 4 - 6 groups. Color or pattern will then be used on the map to show the value of each area.

#### **Step One: Doing the Math**

Look at the list of numerical information. What are the highest number and the lowest number in the data?

Highest: \_\_\_\_\_ Lowest: \_\_\_\_\_

What would be the logical way to make this data into 4 groups?

#### **Step Two: Selecting the colors for each group**

Group 1 = \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Group 2 = \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Group 3 = \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Group 4 = \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Color: \_\_\_\_\_

### Step Three: Creating the choropleth map

Look at the numerical chart for the 20 states. Color each state according to your key for each group. Make sure that you include the numbers for each group in your key. Your key will be located at the bottom of the map between the logo and the courtesy note.

### Step Four: Analyzing the results

1. What does this map tell you?
2. What pattern(s) do you see in this map?
3. Is your state a high-risk state? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why do you think it is or isn't?

### Writing Assignment

You will create a 30 second Public Service Announcement (PSA) to be shown on television either nationally or at the state or local level. The purpose of the PSA is to warn people that skin cancer is dangerous and what they should be doing to avoid ending up with skin cancer.

Your PSA will be graded in the following way:

Requirements	Points Possible	Points Earned
Mentions 2 dangers of skin cancer	10	
Tells 3 ways to protect yourself from the sun	15	
Identifies if the PSA will be for a national, local, or state level of audience.	5	
Is of an appropriate length for 30 second PSA	5	
Uses appropriate language to persuade people to care about preventing skin cancer	5	
Total	40	

## Answer Key

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### Step One: Doing the Math

Look at the list of numerical information. What are the highest number and the lowest number in the data?

Highest: 7

Lowest: 3

What would be the logical way to make this data into 4 groups? **One group for 7s, 6s, 5s, and 4s**

### Step Two: Selecting the colors for each group

Group 1 = 7 Color: any

Group 2 = 6 Color: any

Group 3 = 5 Color: any

Group 4 = 4 Color: any



Usually it is one color with the darkest color being the highest value.  
For ex:

Group 1 dark red  
Group 2 red  
Group 3 pink  
Group 4 pale pink

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### Step Four: Analyzing the results

1. What does this map tell you?

The 20 states in the US with the highest rates of skin cancer according to an insurance survey

2. What pattern(s) do you see in this map? Most of the states are on the Atlantic coast—only 2 are in the west. Could it have to do with number of sunny days? Lack of education about sunscreen? More people work outdoors? Let kids speculate. The article does not give an answer.

3. Is your state a high-risk state? Yes

4. Why do you think it is or isn't? AZ has lots of people working outdoors all year round who might get too much exposure to the sun, AZ has lots of sunny days and very few days when the sun isn't shining, older people might not be as aware about ways to limit exposure to the sun and AZ has lots of retirement communities, It is possible to be outdoors much of the year which will lead to sun exposure, People may think it is too hot in the summer to wear long sleeves and long pants in AZ, Sunscreen is expensive, Sunscreen sweats off or comes off in the pool, etc.

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