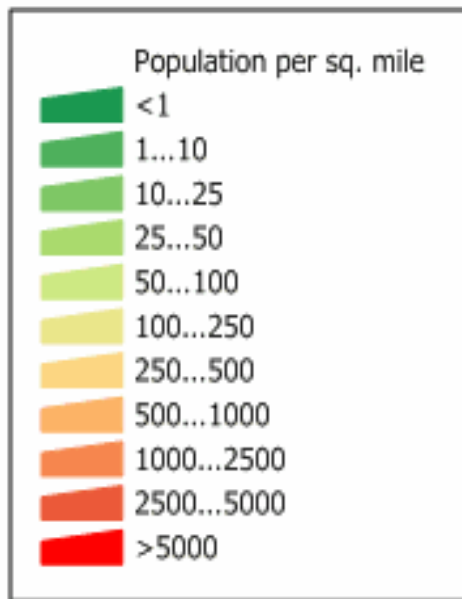


# Increasing HCV Testing in Colorado

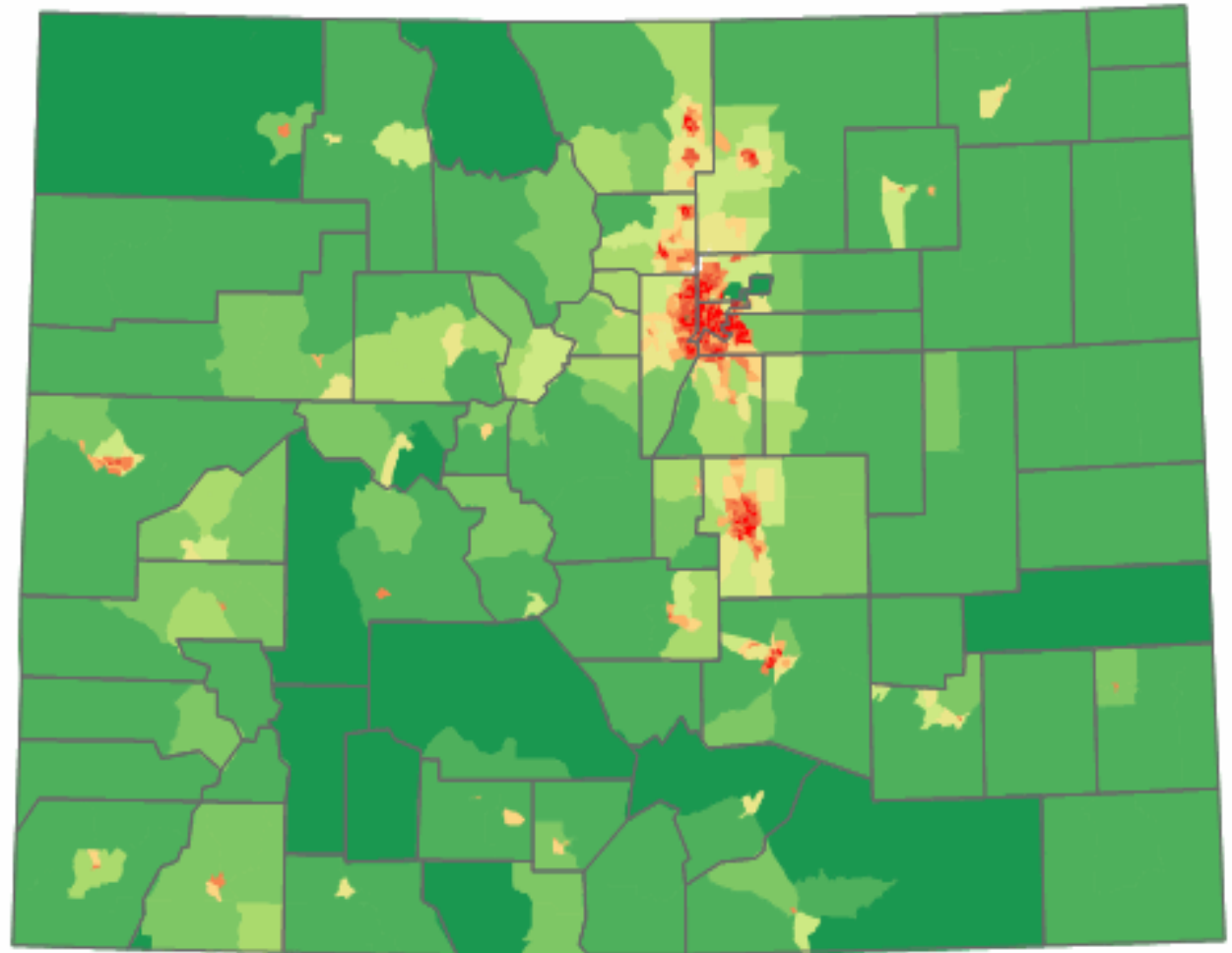
National Viral Hepatitis Technical Assistance  
Meeting October 18 and 19, 2011

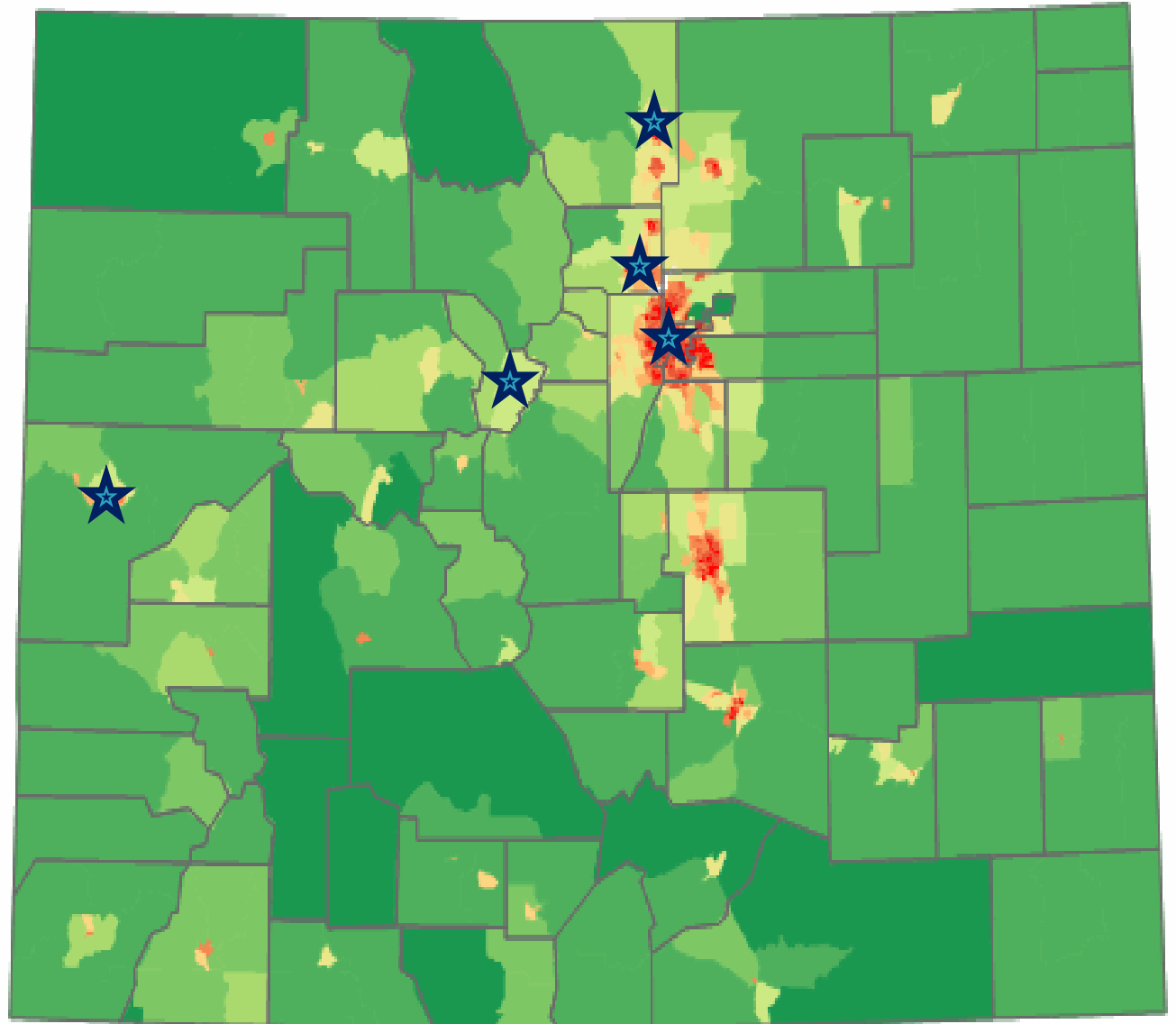
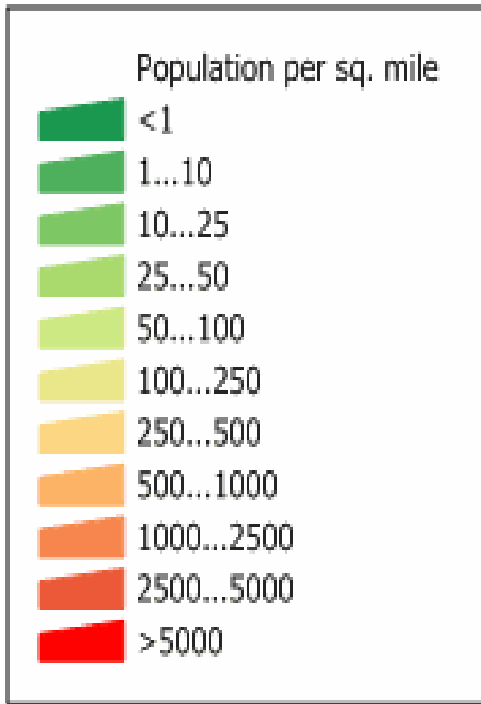


# The problem

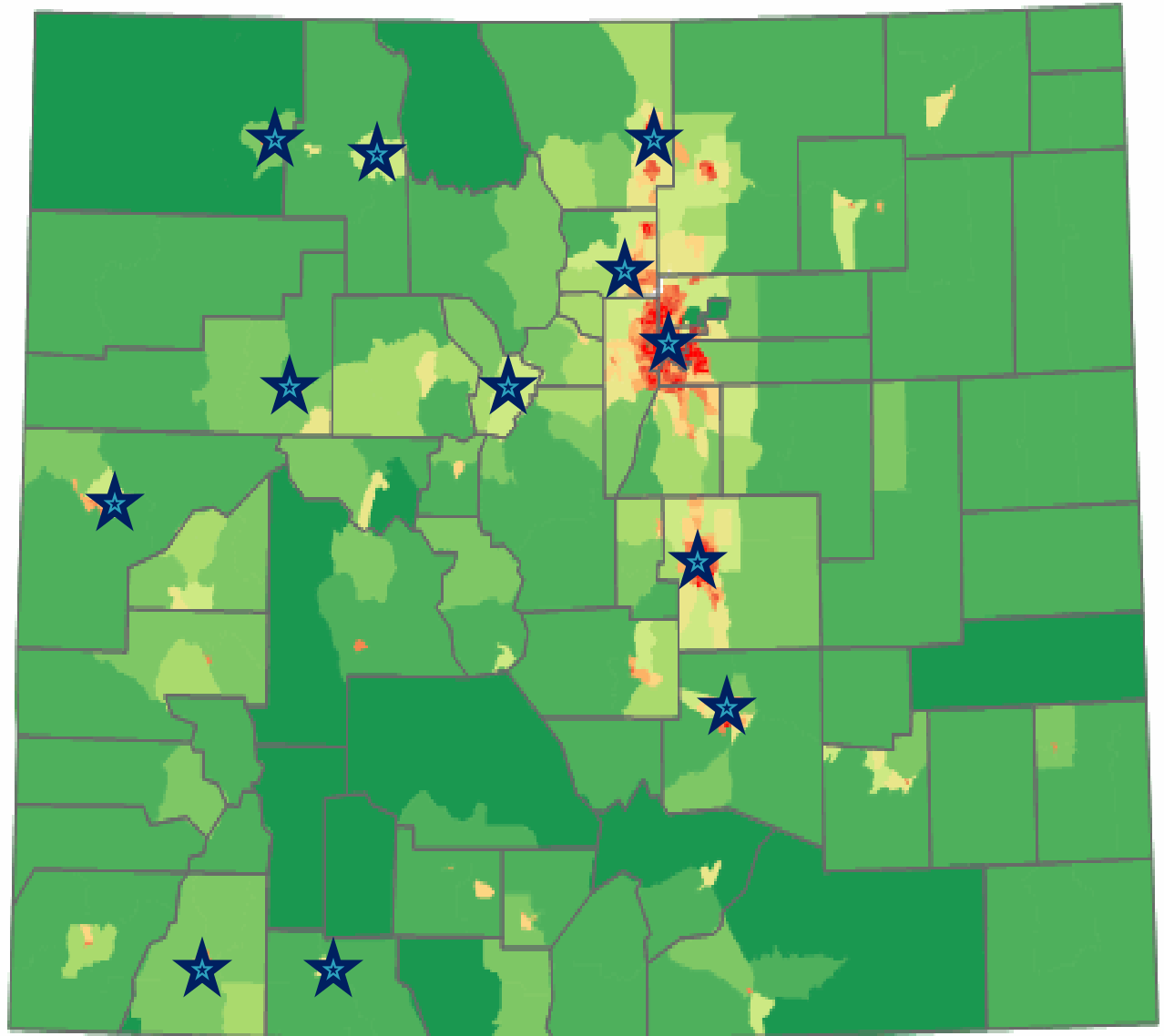
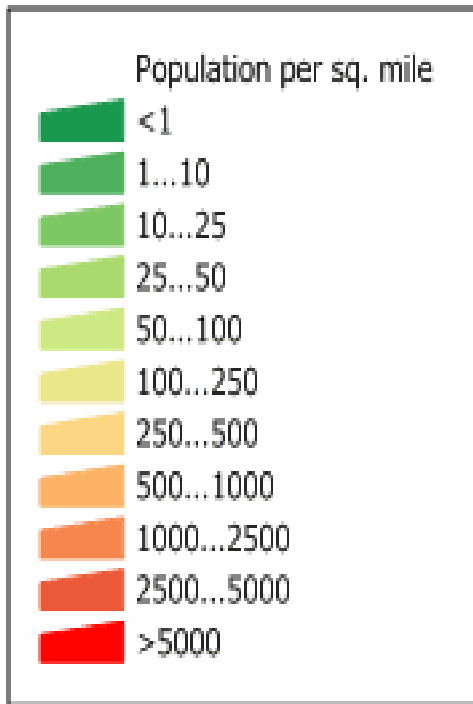


Source: U. S. Census Bureau  
Census 2000 Summary File 1  
population by census tract.



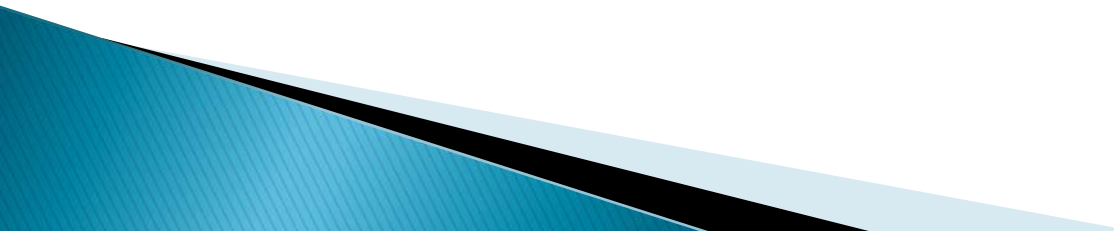


Source: U. S. Census Bureau  
 Census 2000 Summary File 1  
 population by census tract.




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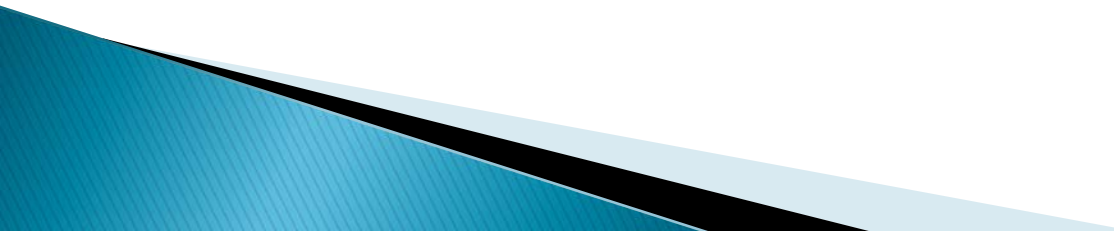
# The solution

- ▶ The solution consisted of different strategies to connect with clinics, community based organizations, and local public health departments that were already serving the areas that we wanted to reach
  - ▶ It took the cooperation and assistance of local partners to increase access to hepatitis C testing for mountain and rural areas
- 

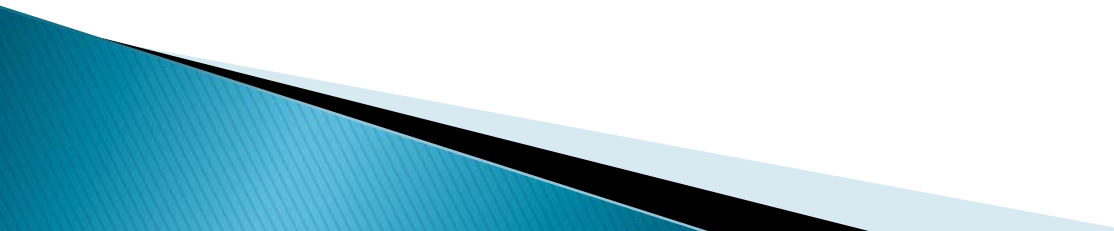
# Colorado AIDS Project

- ▶ Large organization with multiple offices
  - ▶ See large numbers of clients at risk of HCV infection
  - ▶ Main office is in Denver and was recently approved to open the second legal needle exchange in Colorado.
  - ▶ Northern office (NCAP)– serves Northern Colorado which includes the northeastern plains
  - ▶ Western Slope office (West CAP)– serves the mountain west area of the state
  - ▶ Southern office (SCAP)– serves the metro areas of Colorado Springs and Pueblo
- 

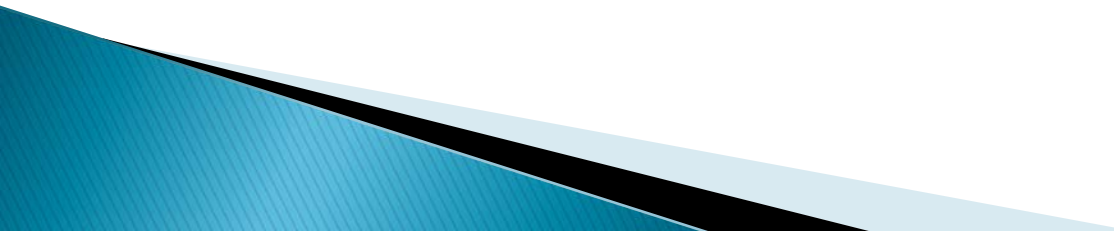
# Local Health Departments

- ▶ Added the San Juan Basin Health Department which serves the southwest region of the state, a region that we did not previously serve.
  - ▶ But some counties put public health services in the hands of Visiting Nurses Associations. Hence we added the Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurses Association.
- 

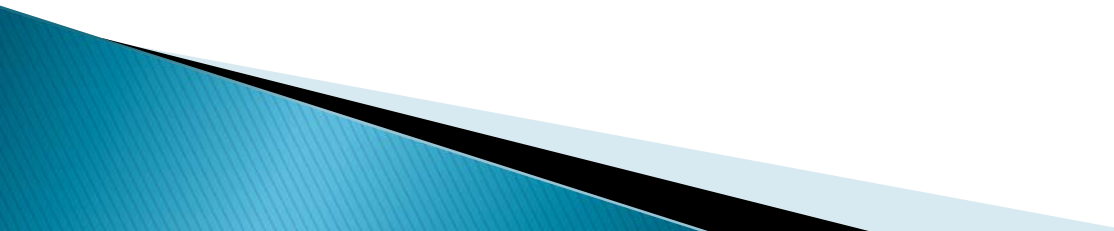
# Hep C Connection

- ▶ Strong community based organization with a wide network
  - ▶ Performs trainings to community organizations, providers, county jail health workers, among others
  - ▶ Widely disseminated information about the testing program whenever trainings were done around the state.
  - ▶ Asked state health staff to co-facilitate some of their trainings
- 

# How to Connect

- ▶ What can you offer them?
  - ▶ Free trainings
  - ▶ Free materials
  - ▶ Free expertise
  - ▶ Free information
  - ▶ Face to face meetings and trainings are more productive than phone calls or web based trainings
  - ▶ Personal relationships are key
  - ▶ Patience grasshopper...
- 

# End Result

- ▶ Colorado had 14 testing sites that served the larger metropolitan areas well
  - ▶ Now the state has 24 testing sites that continue to serve the metro areas as well as mountain areas and rural plains
  - ▶ Between all of our participating local public health agencies and organizations, we now serve all 64 counties in the state.
- 

# Contact information

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