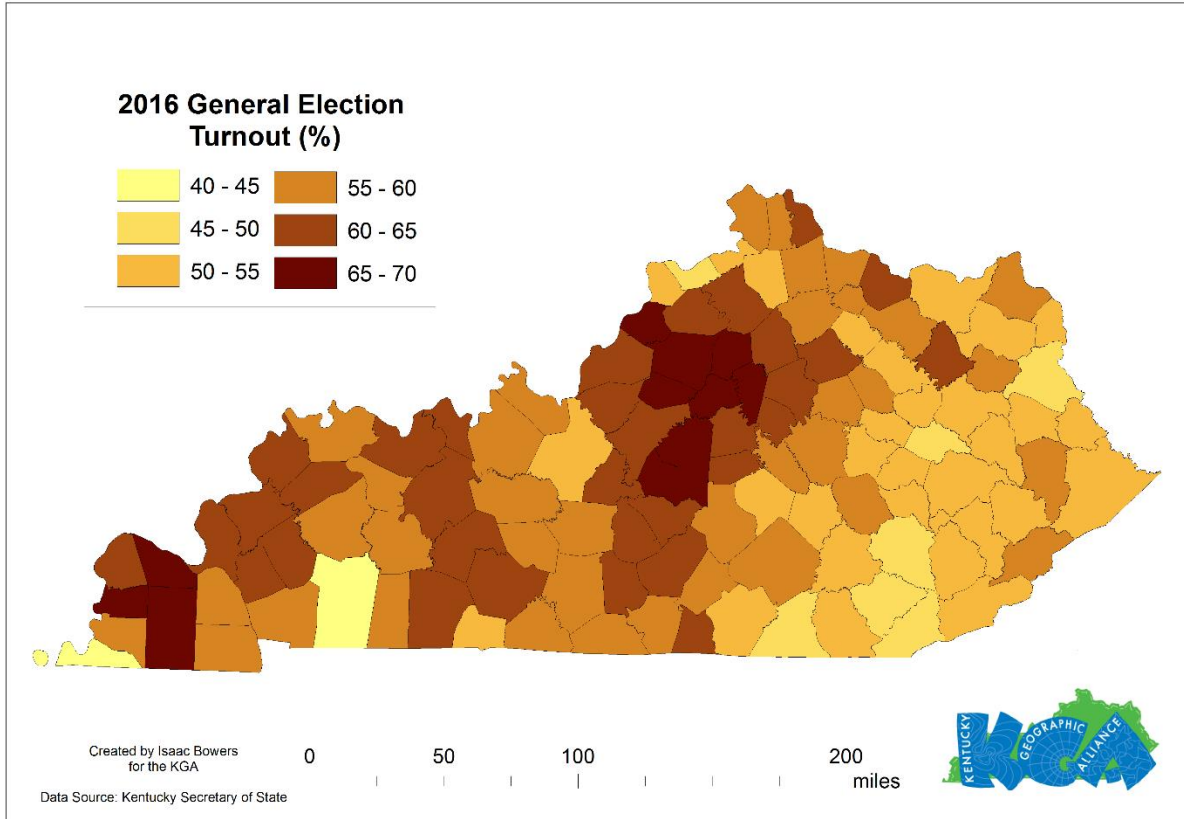


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# KENTUCKY IN THE NEWS

The Kentucky Geographic Alliance – March 2017

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This month, the Kentucky Secretary of State, Allison Lundergan-Grimes, released the official [finalized results](#) of the 2016 General Election that took place on November 8, 2016. These carefully tabulated results also included the number of registered voters in each county and precinct in the state, as well as the percentage of these voters who actually cast ballots. This percentage is commonly referred to as “voter turnout”. Over 59% of registered voters turned out for this election.

In the map above, the statistics released by the Secretary of State are visualized in a county-level voter turnout map. Which areas have the highest voter turnout? Which have the lowest? It is important to note that even the areas with the highest voter turnout still have a turnout rate of below 70%. That means only about three-quarters of all registered voters cast a ballot in the 2016 General Election.

Geographers are interested in election results to identify specific patterns. These patterns vary from social change based on economic variability to basic party loyalty, to name a few. Other factors play a role in voter turnout. Over 59% of Kentuckians voted in this election, which is a higher-than-usual turnout.

