

GIS Quick Tips

Presented by CDC's Division of Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention GIS Exchange

For more information visit the GIS Exchange website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/maps/gisx/index.html>

Strategies for Symbolizing Densely Clustered Point Data Strategies That Don't Involve Aggregation

1. Choose different symbol styles for points with different attributes.
2. Create the point symbol with no fill, outline only.
3. Create point symbols with transparent fill.

Strategies That Use Aggregation

1. Collect Events— User can determine the radius within which points will be aggregated into a single symbol.
2. Disperse Marker— Must use with a shapefile in a geodatabase. This tool disperses only the representations of the point data and does not change the geo-coordinates of the points.
3. Spatial Join—Join the points to another layer that includes the areal unit appropriate to your analysis. You will get a count of the number of points that fall within that areal unit (zip code, census block, etc.).

