

Changing face of extremism in the United States of America

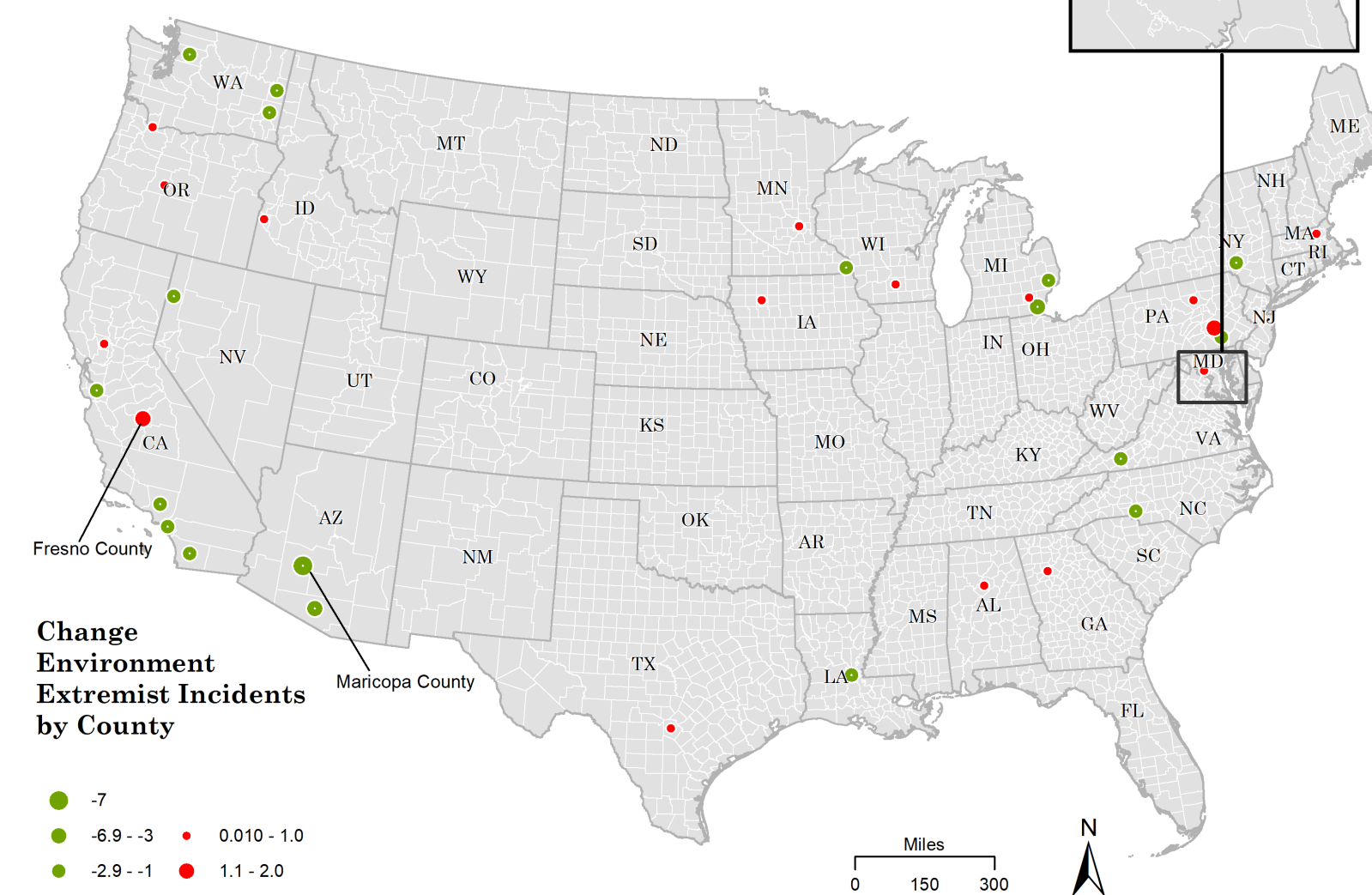
Tracking the ideological change of extremist incidents from 2001 to 2018

INTRODUCTION

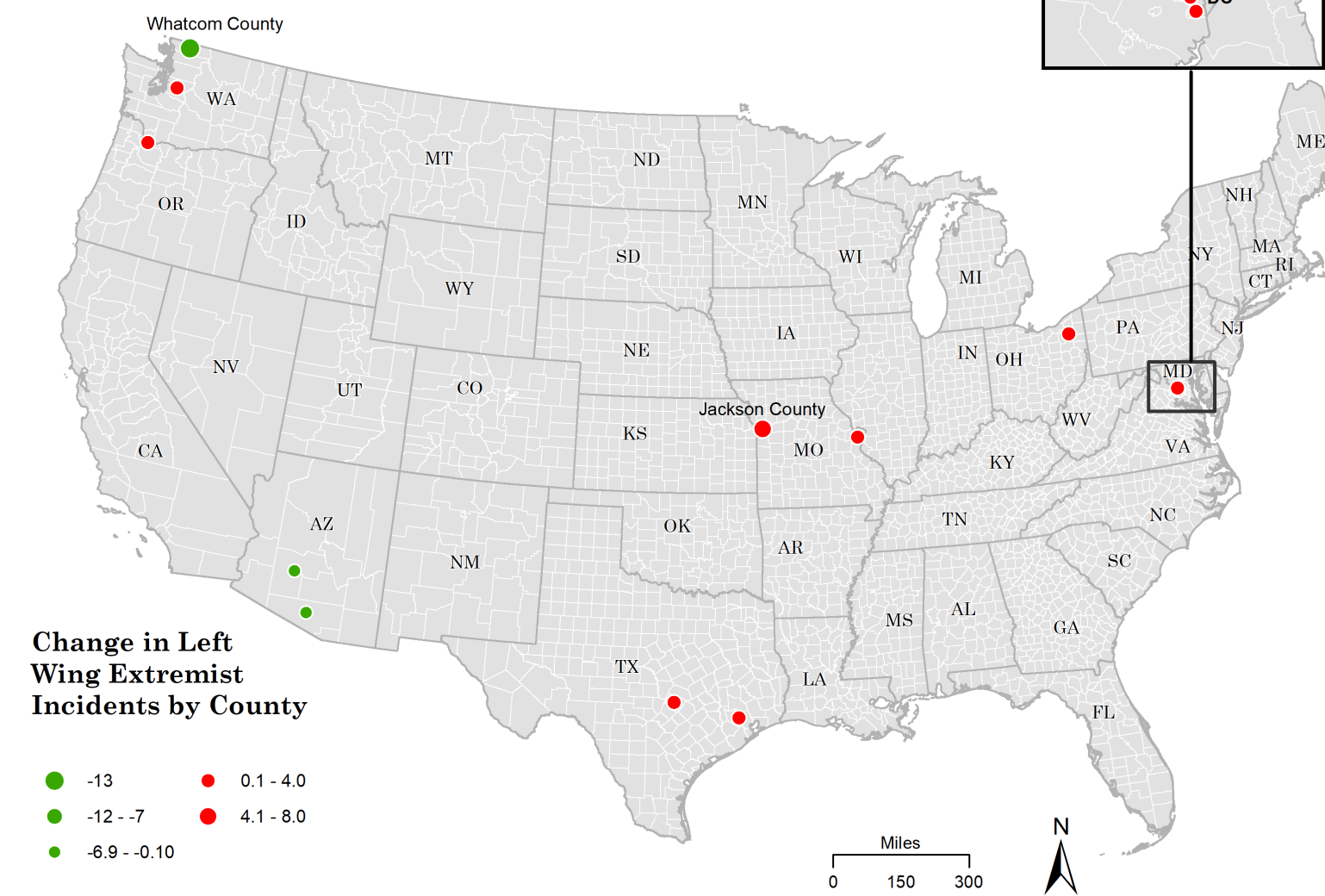
“Time only moves in one direction. Remember that. Things always change.” - Mohsin Hamid, The Reluctant Fundamentalist

From bombings to school shootings, extremist incidents in the US have taken different forms after 2001. It is therefore essential to understand how has the ideologies dictating these events changed from then (2001) to now (2018). The project takes a deep dive into 6 different ideologies, namely environmental, left-wing, right-wing, nationalist/separatist, religious and single issue. It visualizes the ideologies that are thriving and also the ones that are dying.

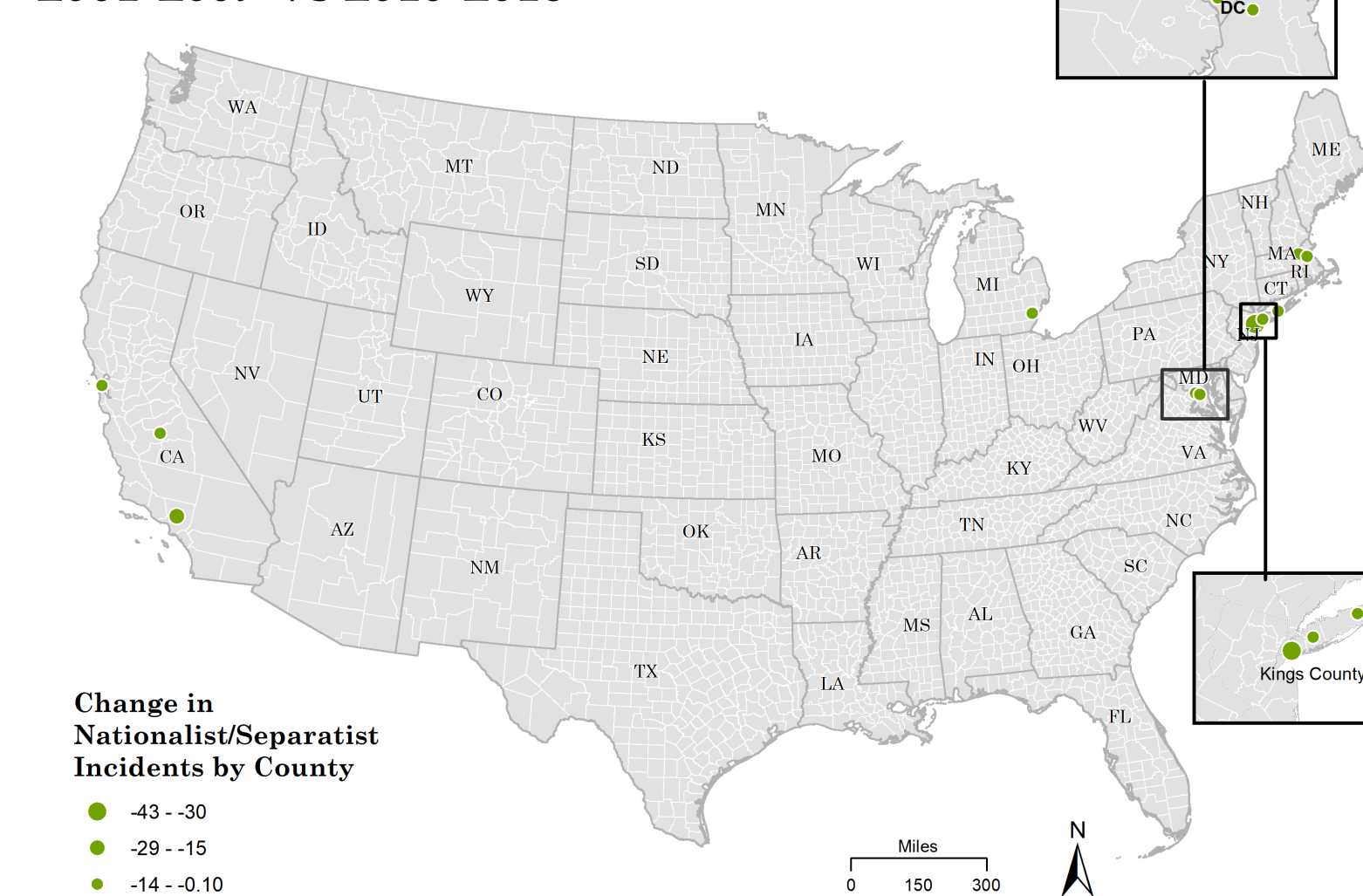
Change in environmental extremist incidents in Continental USA from 2001-2009 Vs 2010-2018



Change in left-wing extremist incidents in Continental USA from 2001-2009 Vs 2010-2018



Change in nationalist/separatist extremist incidents in Continental USA from 2001-2009 Vs 2010-2018



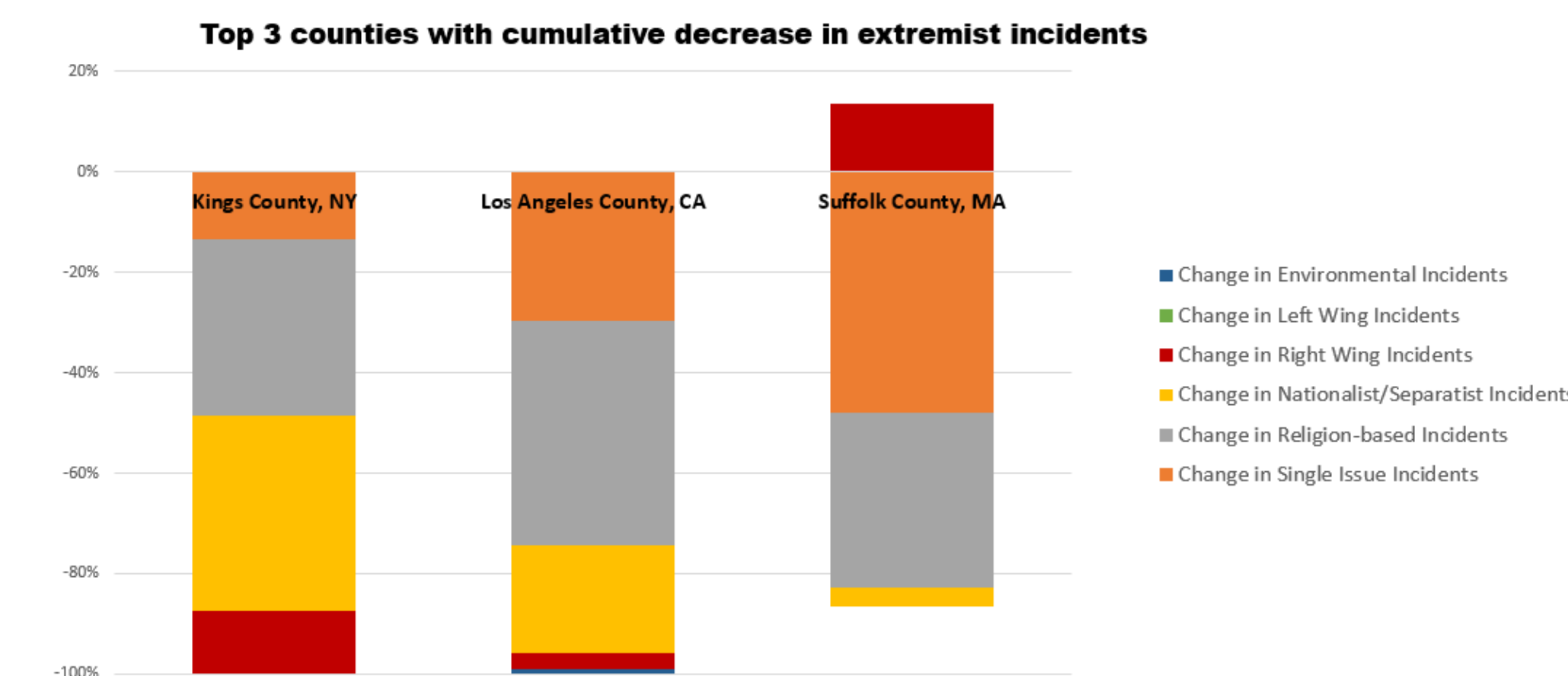
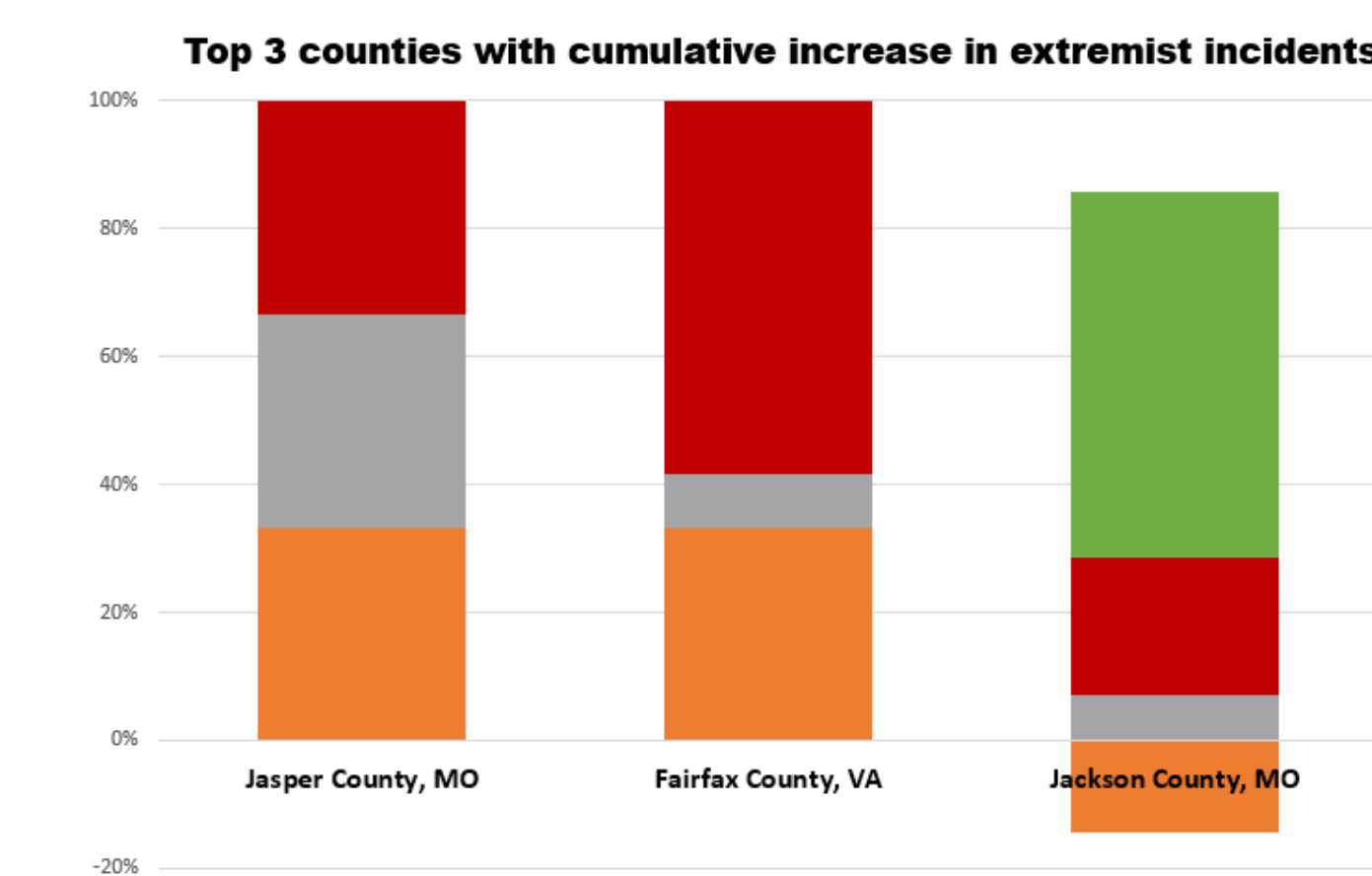
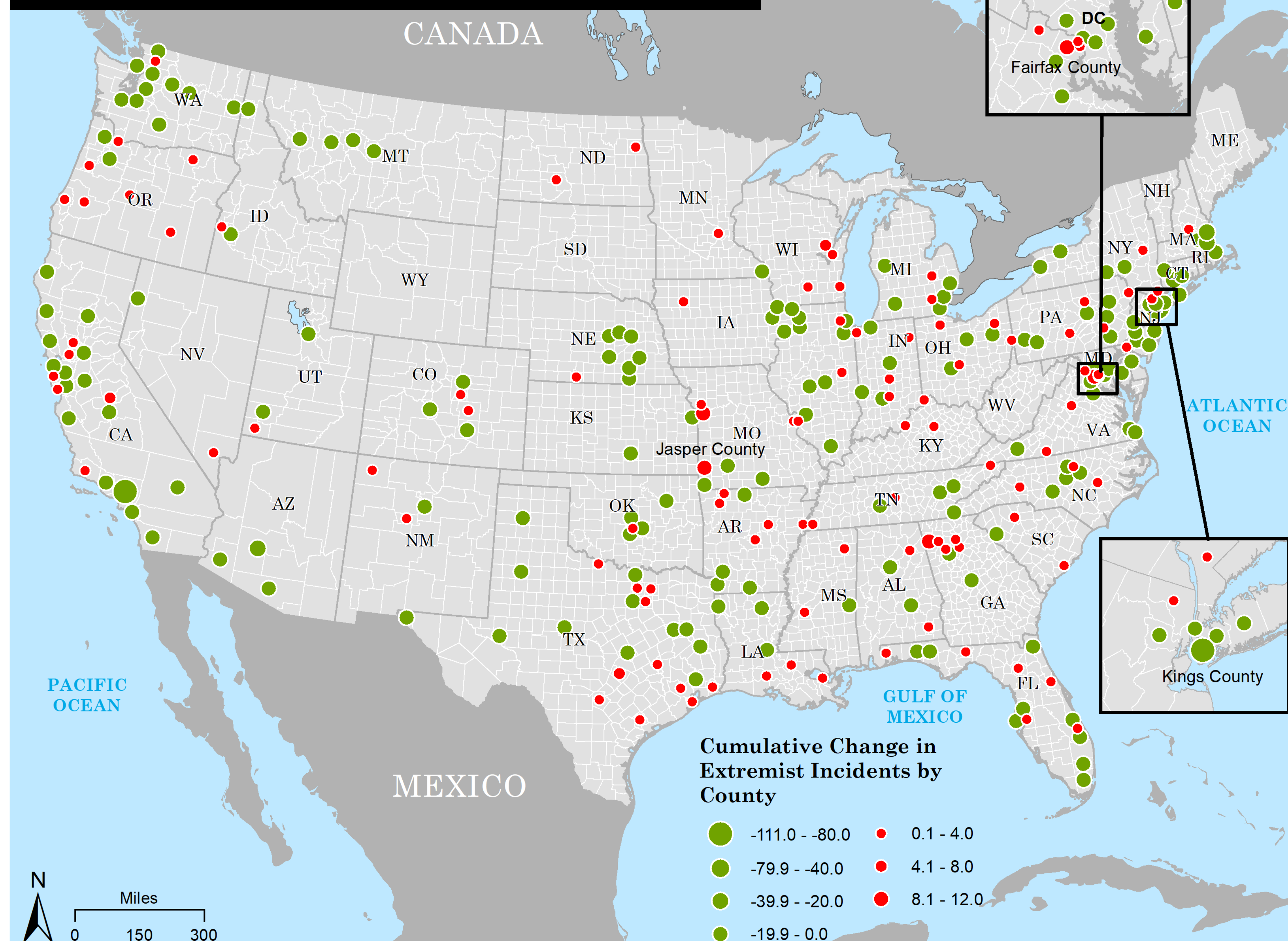
METHODS

Spatial Questions:

- 1) Which counties in the US have seen the maximum rise in extremist incidents for each kind of ideology?
- 2) Which counties in the US continue to see a cumulative rise in extremist incidents and what is the percentage contribution by each changing ideology?

Display XY Data Tool helps to plot spatial points of the incident coordinates available from TEVUS. Those points are converted to county polygons using the Spatial Join tool. Field calculator available in the attribute table helps to perform the subtraction function to calculate change between the time periods (2010-18 & 2001-2009). For the cumulative map, a sum of all the subtraction functions was taken to determine that which counties in the US continue to exhibit a rise (red) in extremist incidents and the ones that show a fall (green). The size of the dots is proportional to the change in incidents for each county.

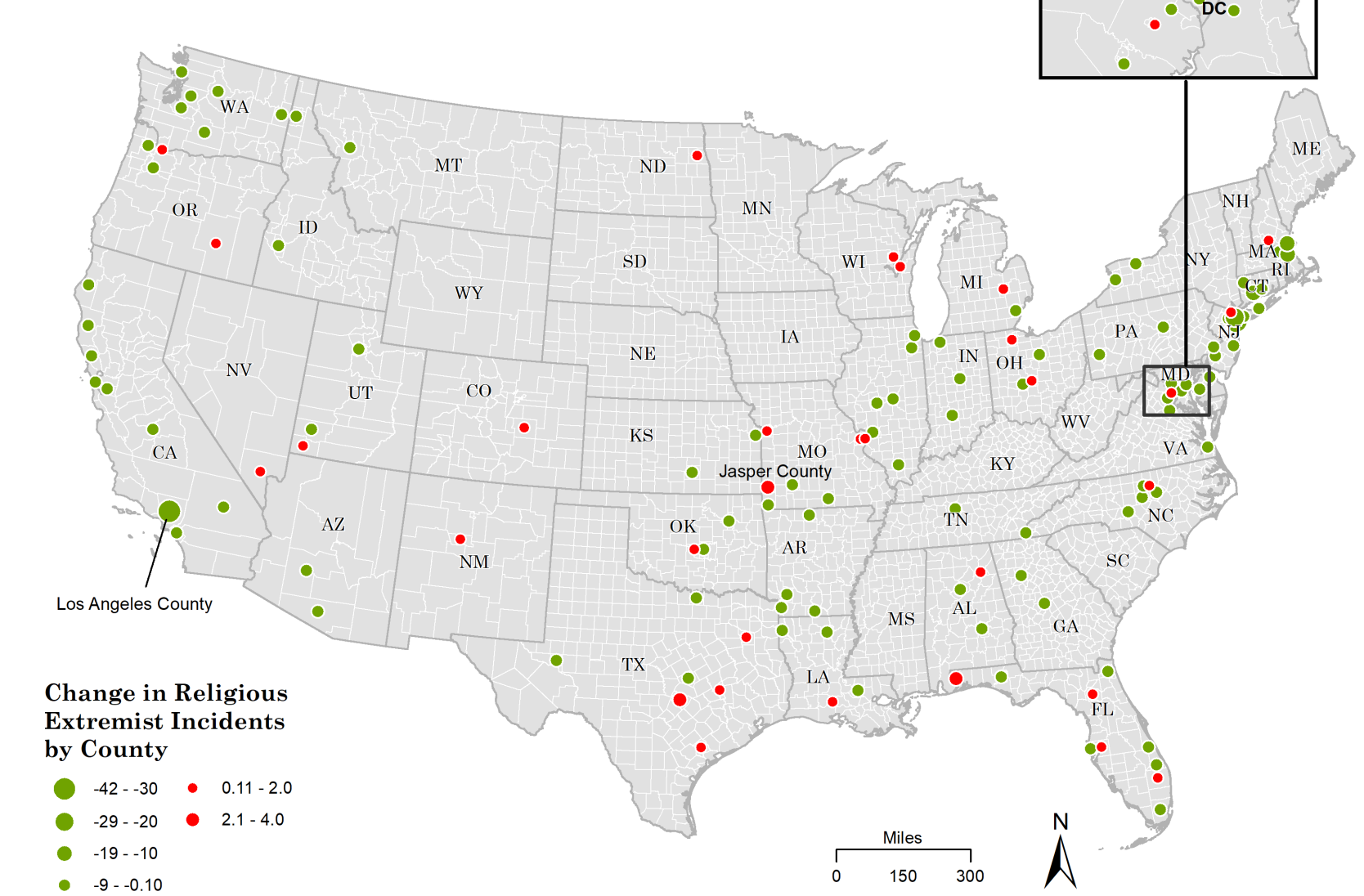
CUMULATIVE CHANGE IN EXTREMIST INCIDENTS



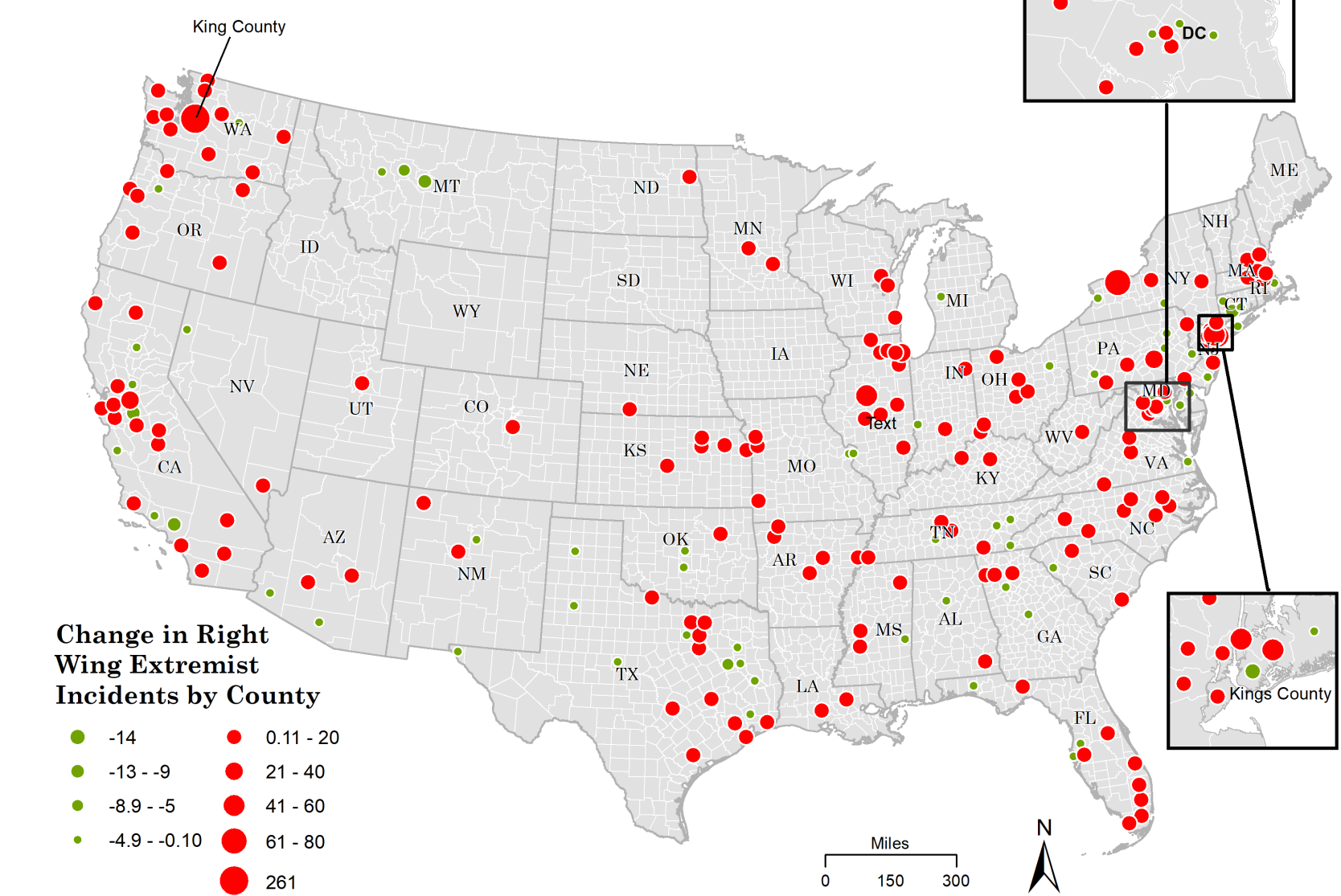
RESULT ANALYSIS & LIMITATION

The top counties with significant rise and fall in extremist incidents for each ideology are labeled in each map. The maps show a significant rise in right-wing and fall in single-issue, left-wing, & nationalist/separatist ideologies for extremist incidents nation-wide. The results strongly indicate that the extremist events over time have empowered the pre-existing extremist ideologies than creating new ones. The limitation of this poster is that it only documents locations of extremist 'incidents' and is in no way reflective of ideologies of residents in the county. Perpetrators of extremist incidents may come from anywhere.

Change in religious extremist incidents in Continental USA from 2001-2009 Vs 2010-2018



Change in right-wing extremist incidents in Continental USA from 2001-2009 Vs 2010-2018



Change in single-issue extremist incidents in Continental USA from 2001-2009 Vs 2010-2018

