

# The Center on Philanthropy & Public Policy

## **AN ATLAS OF FOUNDATION PHILANTHROPY IN CALIFORNIA, 1999**

**James M. Ferris  
Elizabeth A. Graddy**

**Research Paper - 9  
January 2002**

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## **ABOUT THE CENTER ON PHILANTHROPY AND PUBLIC POLICY**

The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy promotes more effective philanthropy and strengthens the nonprofit sector through research that informs philanthropic decision making and public policy to advance public problem solving. Using California and the West as a laboratory, the Center conducts research on philanthropy, volunteerism, and the role of the nonprofit sector in America's communities.

In order to make the research a catalyst for understanding and action, the Center encourages communication among the philanthropic, nonprofit, and policy communities. This is accomplished through a series of convenings and conversations around research findings and policy issues to help key decision makers work together more effectively to solve public problems and to identify strategies for action.

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**Elizabeth A. Graddy** is a Professor in the University of Southern California's School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and Director of the School's Program in Public Policy. Her expertise is in industrial organization economics, public policy, and quantitative analysis. Her research interests are in how industry and organizational structure affect performance, particularly the role of ownership (for-profit, nonprofit, and public), and how information asymmetry and uncertainty affect institutional choice and effectiveness. Most recently, these interests have led to research on the structure and performance of healthcare, philanthropic, and nonprofit organizations. Earlier work focused on products liability outcomes, occupational regulation, the contracting decisions of local governments, and the evolution of new industries. She is currently studying the structure of California philanthropy, and the role of public-private alliances in providing healthcare.

# **CONTENTS**

<b>LIST OF MAPS</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>FOREWORD</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>WHAT IS THE CAPACITY OF CALIFORNIA PHILANTHROPY?</b>	<b>1</b>
How is California's foundation capacity distributed throughout the state?	2
How is California's foundation capacity distributed by type of foundation throughout the state?	9
How has the growth in foundation capacity been distributed across the state?	28
<b>WHAT IS THE REACH OF PHILANTHROPY WITHIN CALIFORNIA?</b>	<b>31</b>
What is the geographic distribution of grants in California?	32
What is the geographic distribution of grants in California by subject areas?	35
How do the patterns of giving to California recipients differ for California foundations versus non-California foundations?	47
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>53</b>

## **List of Maps**

### **All Foundations**

<b>1.</b>	<b>The location of California foundations</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Number of foundations, 1999</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Foundation assets, 1999</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Foundation giving, 1999</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Gifts to foundations, 1999</b>	<b>8</b>

### **Community Foundations**

<b>6.</b>	<b>The location of community foundations</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Community foundation assets</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Community foundation assets per capita</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Community foundation giving</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Community foundation giving per capita</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Gifts to community foundations</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Gifts to community foundations per capita</b>	<b>19</b>

### **Corporate Foundations**

<b>13.</b>	<b>The location of corporate foundations</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b>Number of corporate foundations</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>Corporate foundation giving</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>Gifts to corporate foundations</b>	<b>24</b>

### **Operating Foundations**

<b>17.</b>	<b>The location of operating foundations</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>18.</b>	<b>Number of operating foundations</b>	<b>27</b>

### **Growth in Number of Foundations**

<b>19.</b>	<b>Number of large foundations</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>20.</b>	<b>New large foundations</b>	<b>30</b>

## **Foundation Grantmaking**

<b>21. Grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>22. Grant dollars received per nonprofit, 1999</b>	<b>34</b>

## **Grantmaking patterns in California, by subject area, for California and non-California Foundations**

<b>23. Arts &amp; culture grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>24. Education grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>25. Environment &amp; animals grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>26. Health grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>27. Human services grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>28. International affairs &amp; human rights grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>29. Public &amp; society benefit grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>30. Science &amp; technology grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>31. Social science grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>32. Religion grant dollars received per capita, 1999</b>	<b>46</b>

## **Grantmaking Patterns by California and non-California Foundations**

<b>33. Grant dollars received per capita from California foundations, 1999</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>34. Grant dollars received per capita from non-California foundations, 1999</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>35. Grant dollars received per nonprofit from California foundations, 1999</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>36. Grant dollars received per nonprofit from non-California foundations, 1999</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>37. Percentage of grant dollars received from California foundations, 1999</b>	<b>52</b>

## Foreword

With the increasing scale, pace, and complexity of philanthropy in the state, The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy has embarked on creating a statistical and spatial profile of California foundations to better understand their capacity, their scope, and their reach.

This Atlas, part of the baseline analysis project, reveals the spatial patterns of California foundations across the state, using the county as the unit of analysis. The analysis considers: the capacity for foundation philanthropy within the state by examining the profile of foundations in each county – the number, total assets, total giving, and gifts received; and the reach of foundation philanthropy by examining the grantmaking patterns across California counties. These findings provide a baseline for future study of foundations and their impact on public policy within California and beyond.

The data on which these maps are based are derived from The Foundation Center's Foundation and Grants Index databases under a special licensing agreement. The assistance of Steven Lawrence and Loren Renz of The Foundation Center was invaluable throughout this project. The mapping analysis was done by the USC Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Lab under the direction of John Wilson and the assistance of Jed Fehrenbach. Jeremy Scharfenberg was particularly helpful in preparing the data for the analysis.

The Center would like to acknowledge the support of The James Irvine Foundation for funding this project, and thank the project's advisory group members—Lucy Bernholz, Lon Burns, Miyoko Oshima, Charles Slosser, Russy D. Sumariwalla, and Caroline Tower for sharing their knowledge and insights about California's foundation community.

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# AN ATLAS OF FOUNDATION PHILANTHROPY IN CALIFORNIA, 1999

## Introduction

The strength of California's foundation sector is evident in its size. California had over 4,200 grantmaking foundations in 1999, representing over \$68 billion in assets, and almost \$2.9 billion in total giving.<sup>1</sup> However, as we seek to understand the capacity and the reach of foundation philanthropy in terms of the everyday lives of Californians, it is important to understand the spatial dimensions of foundations and their philanthropy. This analysis examines:

- The **capacity** of California's foundations in terms of their location, numbers, assets, total giving, and gifts received across the state
- The **reach** of foundation philanthropy in terms of the geographical distribution of the grants across the state's 58 counties

## What is the Capacity of California's Foundations?

The capacity of California's foundation sector can be measured on several dimensions: the number of foundations operating within the state; the assets of those foundations; and the extent of their giving (or grantmaking). In addition, the change in the sector's capacity is reflected by the gifts received by these foundations in the current year.<sup>2</sup>

In this *Atlas*, we will use these different measures to answer three questions that will illustrate the geographic distribution of the capacity of California foundation philanthropy:

- How is California's foundation capacity distributed throughout the state?
- How is California's foundation capacity distributed by type of foundations throughout the state?
- How has the growth in foundation capacity over the 1980s and 1990s been distributed across the state?

---

<sup>1</sup>Foundation Center, *California Foundations*, 2001. Figures include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in the latest fiscal year.

<sup>2</sup> Foundations are not limited to practicing their philanthropy in the communities where they are located. Nevertheless, most foundations focus their work in or near the communities in which they reside.

The geographic analysis reveals the concentration of philanthropic capacity in two regions within the state: coastal southern California<sup>3</sup> and the San Francisco Bay Area<sup>4</sup>. These two areas lead the state regardless of the measure of capacity used. The relative dimensions of this concentration are revealed below as we consider each of the three questions in order. Together, the analysis of these questions provides a guide for understanding the capacity of foundation philanthropy in California and how it is distributed throughout the state.

### **How is California's foundation capacity distributed throughout the state?**

The distribution of the capacity of California's grantmaking foundations is presented in five maps (Maps 1-5); they present location of foundation headquarters, number of foundations, assets, giving, and gifts received, each by county.<sup>5</sup> These maps reveal that the foundation capacity is concentrated in two regions of the state: the coastal southern California and the San Francisco Bay area.

In terms of the number of foundations (Map 2), Los Angeles County alone has 1,542, or 37 percent, of the state's 4,208 foundations. If one adds Orange and San Diego counties, 2,180 foundations, or 52 percent, are headquartered in these three southern California counties. San Francisco County has the second largest number of foundations, with 586, or 14 percent. These foundations, combined with those in the five other Bay area counties, total 1,275, or 30 percent, of the state's foundations.

At the other end of the spectrum, seven California counties had no foundations in 1999 (Alpine, Colusa, Glenn, Mariposa, Mono, Sierra, and Yuba), and an additional eight had only one foundation (Amador, Calaveras, Del Norte, Imperial, Lassen, Madera, Modoc, and Plumas). As is evident in Maps 1 and 2, these counties are concentrated in the northern and central parts of the state. The Central Valley, with the exception of Fresno and Tulare counties, and northern California, with the exception of Humboldt, Shasta, and Mendocino counties, have little foundation presence.

These concentrations are similar when one examines the distribution of foundation assets (Map 3) and total giving (Map 4). Foundations in Los Angeles County had assets of \$27 billion (almost 40 percent of all assets). The next largest county in terms of foundation assets was Santa Clara County with \$16.7 billion. Eight counties had over \$1 billion in foundation assets, all in either the San Francisco Bay area or coastal southern California.<sup>6</sup> The foundations in these eight counties represented 94 percent of all foundation assets. In contrast, 16 counties each had less

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<sup>3</sup> Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties.

<sup>4</sup> Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.

<sup>5</sup> Source: Foundation Center, 2001. Data sources utilized include: questionnaires mailed out annually to more than 22,000 foundations, foundation web sites, and 990-PF data from the IRS. Since community foundations do not file 990 forms, data for these entities are gathered from surveys and foundation publications. Given the variation in reporting times across data sources, the fiscal picture of the 50,201 active U.S. foundations usually contains data spanning four years. For this analysis, 70 percent or 35,149 foundation listings contained 1999 or early 2000 fiscal data, representing 85 percent of the total assets and 81 percent of the total giving reported.

<sup>6</sup> Only Contra Costa County has less than \$1 billion in foundation assets.

than \$1 million in foundation assets. These counties are, for the most part, located in the northern and eastern parts of the state.

The \$2.9 billion in foundation giving in 1999 was also concentrated (Map 4). Los Angeles County again led with \$1.1 billion, with Santa Clara County second at \$534 million, and San Francisco County close behind at \$469 million. Not surprisingly, the eight counties with the highest levels of assets were also those with the highest giving. Together, these three counties accounted for 92 percent of all giving. In contrast, 31 counties each had less than \$1 million in giving.

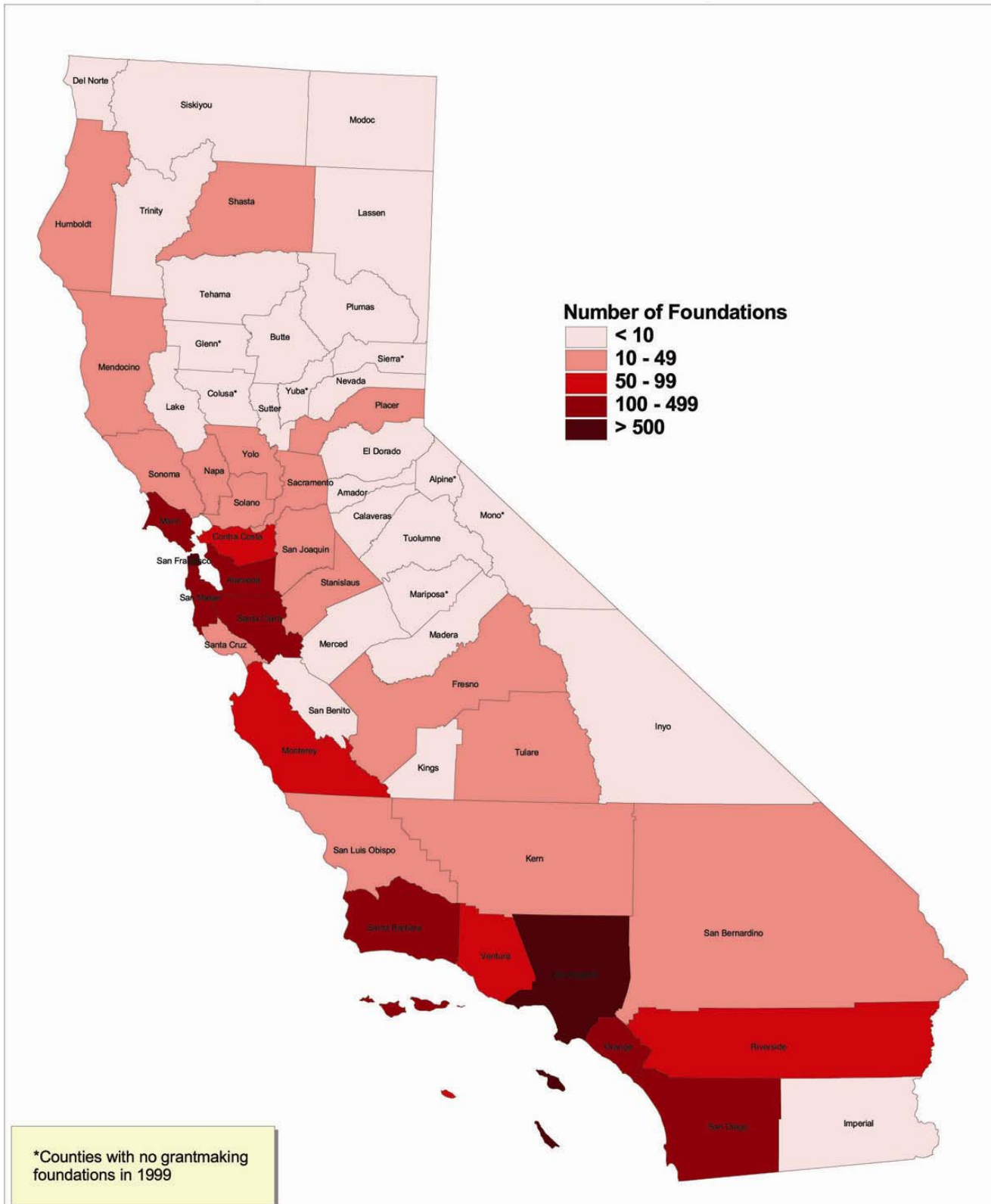
Finally, Map 5 reveals the distribution of gifts received, a measure of the growth in the grantmaking capacity of these foundations. These foundations received \$4.3 billion in gifts in 1999. Santa Clara County received \$1.8 billion, 42 percent of all gifts received in the state. Los Angeles County was second with almost \$1.2 billion. Foundations in San Francisco, San Mateo, San Diego, and Orange counties received between \$200 and \$400 million in 1999. The only county outside the two regions that received a large amount of gifts was Napa County (\$81 million). Finally, foundations in 12 counties received no gifts. Again, most of these counties are located in the central and northern parts of the state.

## Map 1. The location of California foundations



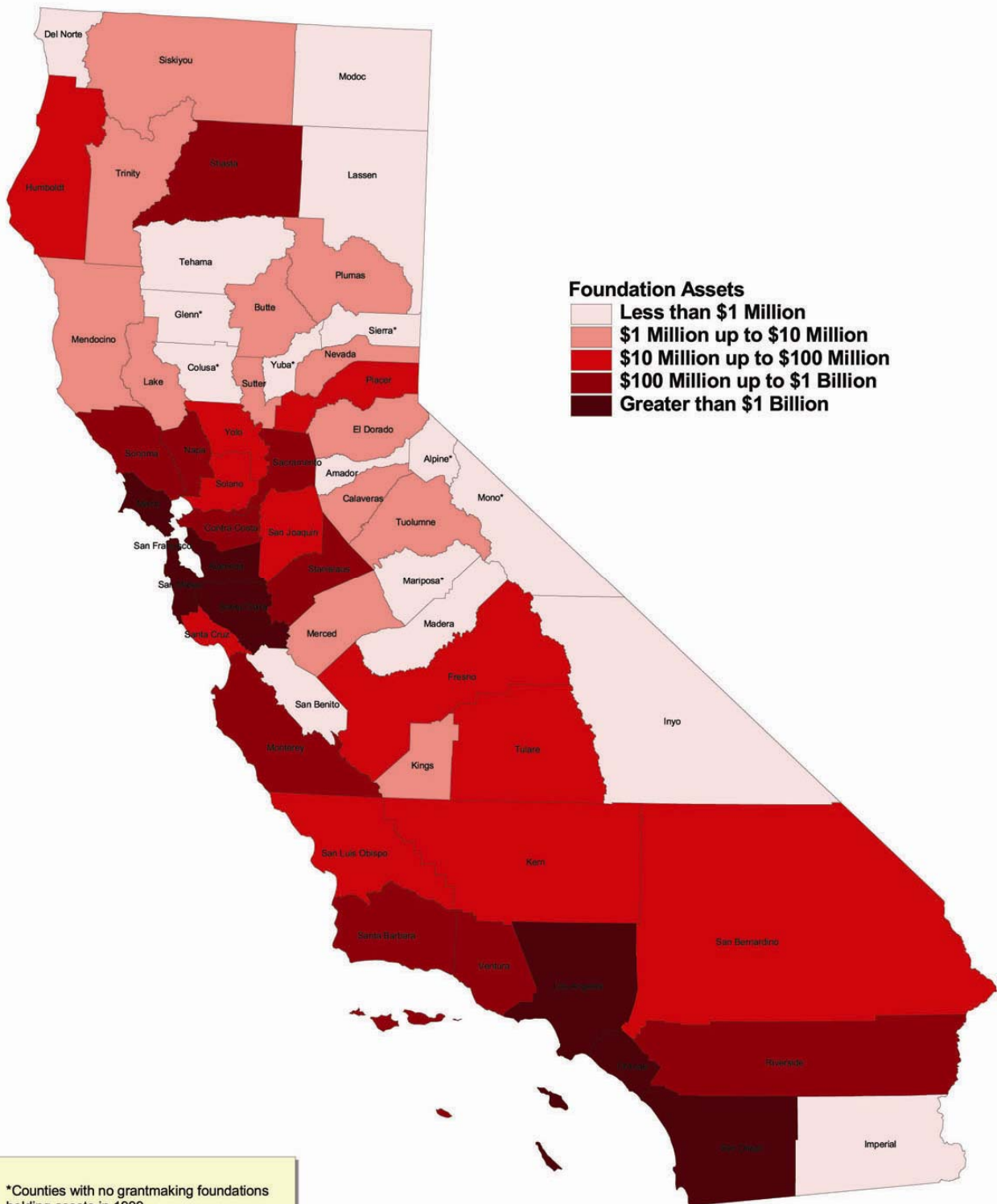
Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

## Map 2. Number of foundations, 1999



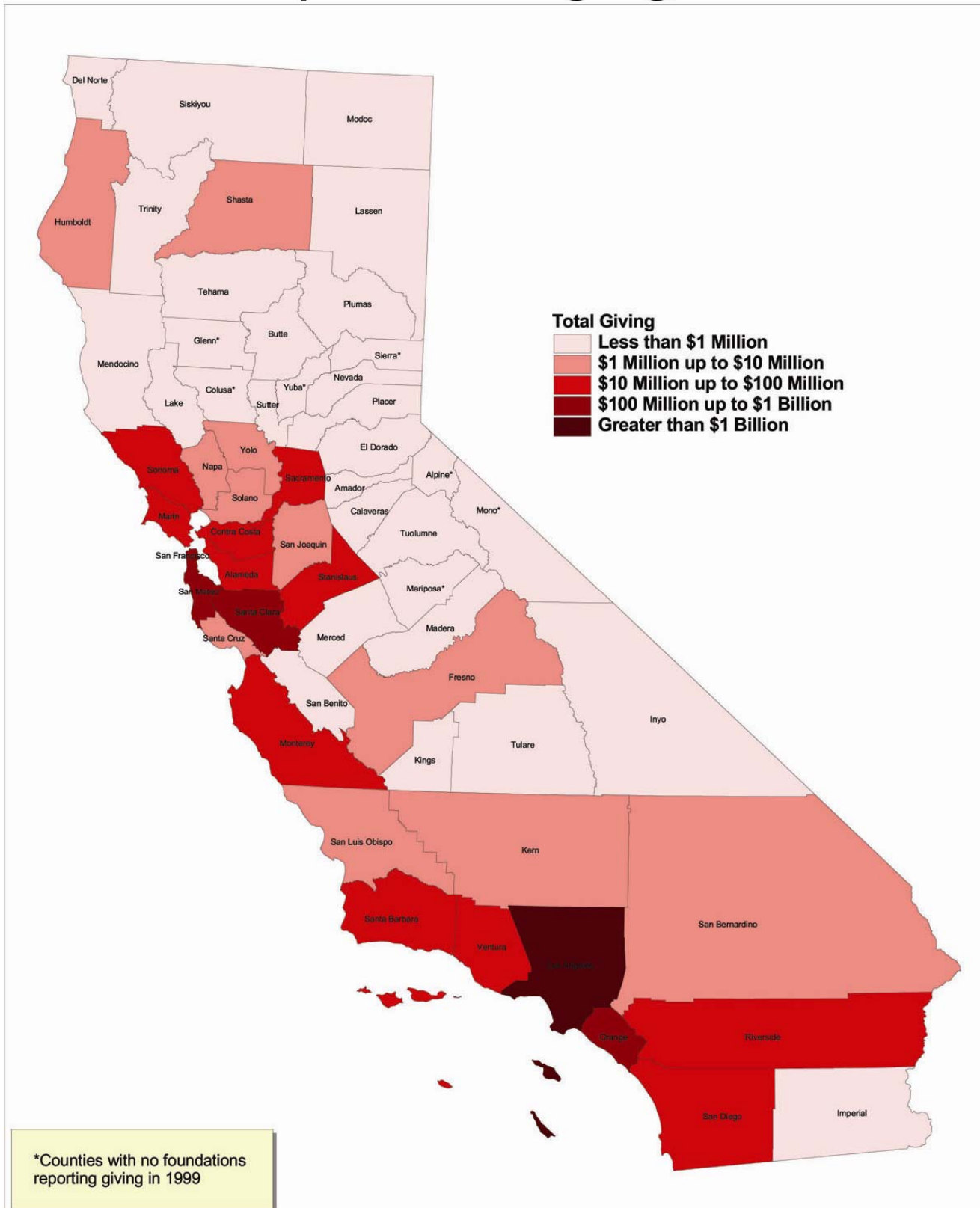
Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

### Map 3. Foundation assets, 1999



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

## Map 4. Foundation giving, 1999



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.



**Gifts Received**

- Less than \$1 Million
- \$1 Million up to \$10 Million
- \$10 Million up to \$100 Million
- \$100 Million up to \$1 Billion
- Greater than \$1 Billion

\*Counties with no grantmaking foundations reporting gifts received in 1999

8



## How is California's foundation capacity distributed by type of foundation throughout the state?

The philanthropic capacity of California's foundation sector is differentiated by type of foundation (see Exhibit 1 for description of the four major foundation types). Of the 4,208 grantmaking foundations in the state, 3,755 (89 percent) are independent, 319 (8 percent) are operating, 100 (2 percent) are corporate, and 34 (one percent) are community.<sup>7</sup> The assets, giving, and gifts received by foundation type are summarized below:

Type of Foundation	Assets	Giving	Gifts Received
Independent	\$51,315,046,248	\$2,260,454,613	\$1,712,657,036
Operating	11,631,738,035	92,671,992	1,649,392,453
Corporate	1,148,156,709	157,285,705	171,071,359
Community	4,202,157,571	385,135,959	787,659,455

It is noteworthy that community foundations represent less than one percent of all foundations, but they account for 6 percent of the assets, 13 percent of the giving, and 18 percent of gifts received. Operating foundations, although only eight percent of foundations, account for 17 percent of the assets, three percent of giving, and 38 percent of the gifts received. Foundation types are thus arrayed differently depending on the most meaningful measure of capacity for that foundation type.

Since independent foundations represent 89 percent of the foundations, their capacity patterns are not significantly different from those of all foundations. Therefore, here we examine the spatial patterns of the community, corporate, and operating foundations to see if they differ from foundations in general. The key observations from this analysis of specific foundation types are:

- Community foundations, like all foundations, are concentrated in the Bay area and southern California. But they also represent an important philanthropic resource in a few counties outside those regions, most notably Humboldt County.
- Corporate foundations have the most limited presence in the state. They are located in only 17 counties, and are heavily concentrated in southern California and the Bay area.
- Operating foundations, in contrast, are spread throughout the state. Forty-one California counties house at least one operating foundation. Their presence is particularly notable in northern California.

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<sup>7</sup> Source: Foundation Center, 2001. Figures include only grantmaking foundations.

### Exhibit 1: FOUNDATION TYPES

**Independent foundation:** a private foundation with an endowment created—typically by an individual or family—to make grants for public purposes such as aid to social, educational, religious and charitable nonprofit organizations. They are required to pay out at least five percent of the value of their assets for charitable purposes. These payments, which include grants, administrative costs and other charitable expenses, are termed qualifying distributions.

**Corporate foundation:** a private foundation with close ties to a corporation that provides funding through an endowment, annual contributions, or a combination of the two. The grantmaking of corporate foundations tends to be in fields related to corporate activities or in communities where the corporation is active. Some corporations choose to do their grantmaking through their operations budget rather than through a corporate foundation, and some do both.

**Operating foundation:** a private foundation that uses its endowment primarily to support activities done in-house such as operating a museum (e.g., The J. Paul Getty Trust) or a research organization (e.g., Henry J. Kaiser Foundation), rather than grantmaking to nonprofit organizations. They make relatively few grants. Many make no grants.

**Community foundation:** a public foundation in which funds are generated from individual and corporate donations, and the bequests and trusts of individuals. Often the endowments of these foundations are built up through the use of donor-advised or donor-directed funds, enabling individuals to direct their grantmaking. Their boards represent the community; and they often limit their discretionary grants to nonprofit organizations in the local community—a specific city or county—or region.

### Community Foundations

Community foundations are similar to all foundations in their concentration in the Bay Area and in southern California. They differ, however, in their more limited prevalence (they are absent from over half the state's counties), and in their greater importance in a few specific counties, especially Humboldt County.

**Number of Foundations.** The 34 community foundations in the Foundation Center database are located in 26 counties.<sup>8</sup> In all but five counties, there is only one community foundation per county. Fresno, Orange and Santa Clara counties each have two, San Diego has three, and Los Angeles County has four.

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<sup>8</sup> They are the Anaheim Community Foundation, California Community Foundation, Claremont Community Foundation, Coalinga Community Foundation, Coastal Community Foundation, Community Foundation for Monterey County, Community Foundation of the Napa Valley, Community Foundation of Riverside County, The Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County, Community Foundation Silicon Valley, Corcoran Community Foundation, Crockett Community Foundation, The East Bay Community Foundation, El Dorado Community Foundation, Fresno Regional Foundation, Glendale Community Foundation, Humboldt Area Foundation, Los Altos Community Foundation, North Valley Community Foundation, Marin Community Foundation, Mendocino County Community Foundation, Orange County Community Foundation, Pasadena Foundation, Peninsula Community Foundation, Rancho Santa Fe Foundation, Sacramento Regional Foundation, The San Diego Foundation, The San Francisco Foundation, Santa Barbara Foundation, The Sonoma County Community Foundation, Sonoma Area Foundation, Streams in the Desert Community Foundation, Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation, and Ventura County Community Foundation.

**Foundation Assets.** California's community foundations held \$4.2 billion in assets in 1999, with considerable concentration in the Bay area and in southern California (Map 7). Marin County was the largest community foundation in terms of assets, with over \$1.2 billion. The combined assets of the six Bay area counties<sup>9</sup> represented 68 percent of the state's community foundation assets. The six southern California counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura accounted for almost 26 percent. Together these 12 counties accounted for 94 percent of all community foundation assets within the state. The only county in northern California with substantial community foundation assets was Humboldt with \$51 million.

Community foundations typically fund within their geographic boundaries.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, it is useful to consider the concentration of foundation assets per capita<sup>11</sup> (Map 8). Marin County, with per capita assets over \$5,000 in 1999, was by far the highest. The mean among counties with community foundations was \$321. The median, however, was just \$45. As is apparent in Map 8, standardizing by population does not significantly diminish the concentration of community foundation resources in the Bay area or in southern California. It does, however, reveal the relative importance of community foundations in Humboldt, Monterey, Tuolumne, and Sonoma counties.

**Total Giving.** Giving by California community foundations totaled \$385 million in 1999. Los Angeles County, although only the third largest county in term of community foundation assets, led in giving with almost \$116 million. Three other counties exceeded \$50 million in giving: San Francisco, Marin, and Santa Clara.

Some standardization is necessary, however, in viewing giving patterns. A map of giving per capita (Map 10) reveals the disproportionate benefit residents of the Bay area enjoy from community foundations. Marin County averaged about \$210 per resident, compared with an average among counties with community foundations of \$18 and a median of \$3. Only two other counties exceeded \$50 per person, San Francisco and San Mateo. Humboldt county residents, however, received the fourth highest level of per capita support from community foundations, at \$32 per person. Most striking, however, was the relative position of Los Angeles county residents, where giving amounted to less than \$12 per capita.

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<sup>9</sup> Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.

<sup>10</sup> In general, community foundations located in a local area, such as a county, typically fund within that county. There are some community foundations that have a broader reach such as the San Francisco foundation that serves San Francisco, Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Mateo counties. Thus, caution is urged in interpreting the per capita maps.

<sup>11</sup> Population data source: State of California, Department of Finance, *Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999*.

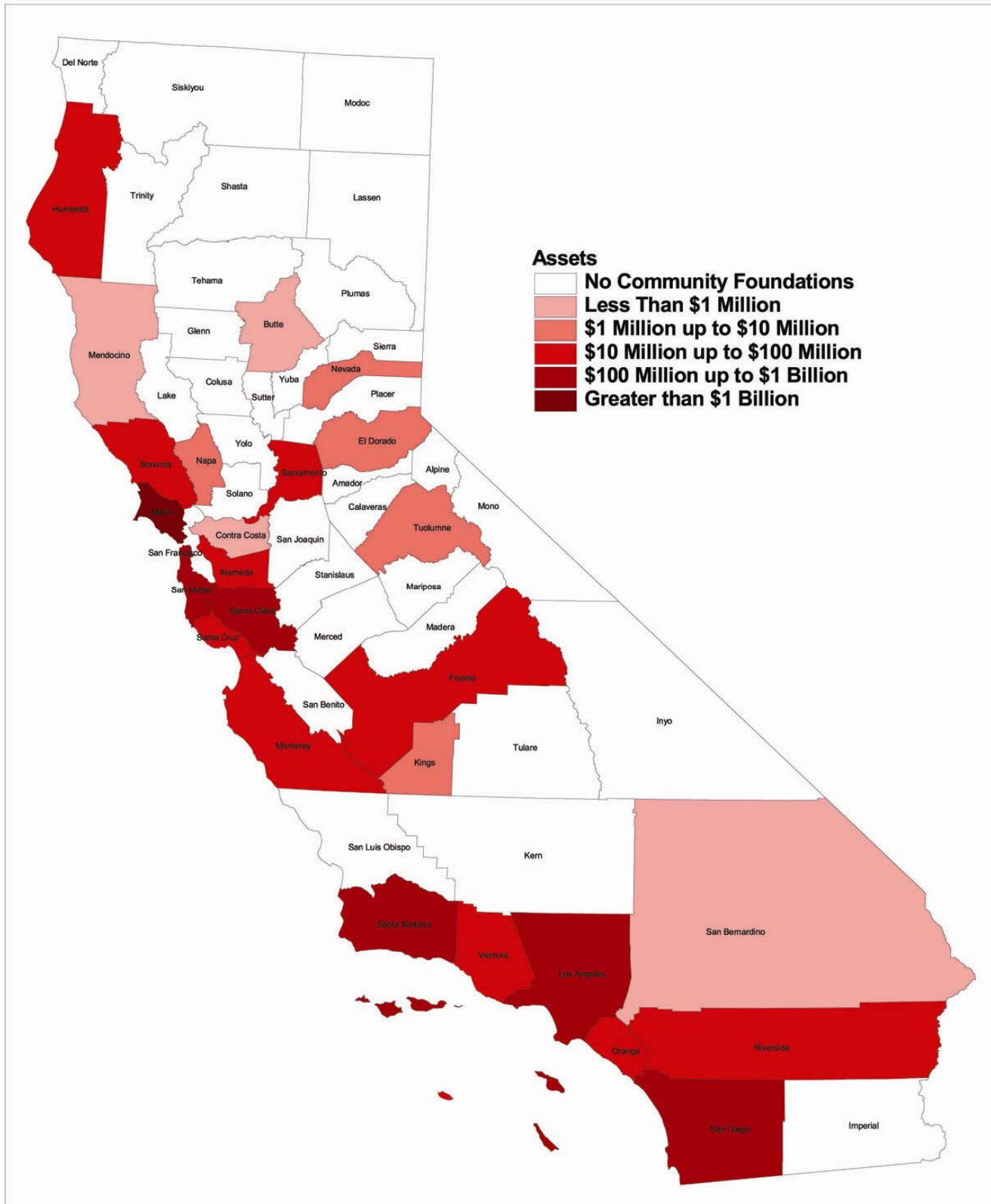
**Gifts Received.** Community foundations received almost \$788 million in gifts in 1999. Santa Clara County led with almost \$171 million, followed closely by Los Angeles County at \$170 million. Although the familiar strength of the Bay area and southern California was apparent when gifts received are mapped (Map 11), growth was also widespread: 18 of the 26 counties received gifts to community foundations in excess of \$1 million in 1999. In per capita terms (Map 12), gifts received by the Bay area community foundations again skew the statewide patterns. Marin and San Mateo counties led with \$139 and \$138 per capita, while the average across counties with community foundations is \$30 and the median is \$9. Once again Humboldt County was notable at almost \$51 per person, while Los Angeles was notable at only \$17 per person. So, despite Los Angeles County community foundations receiving the second largest total amount of gifts in 1999, these gifts fell significantly below the county average in per capita terms.

## Map 6. The location of community foundations



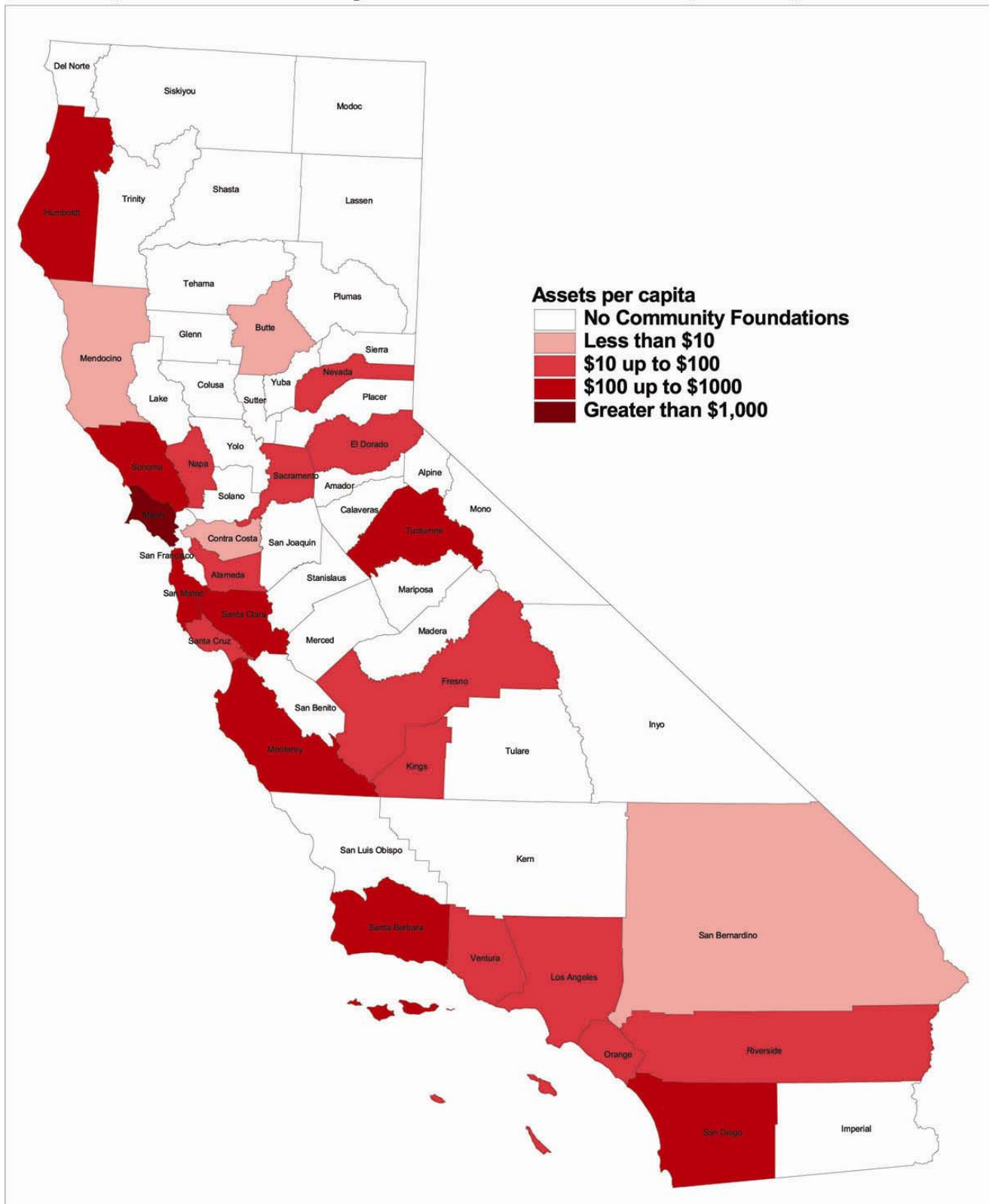
Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

## Map 7. Community foundation assets



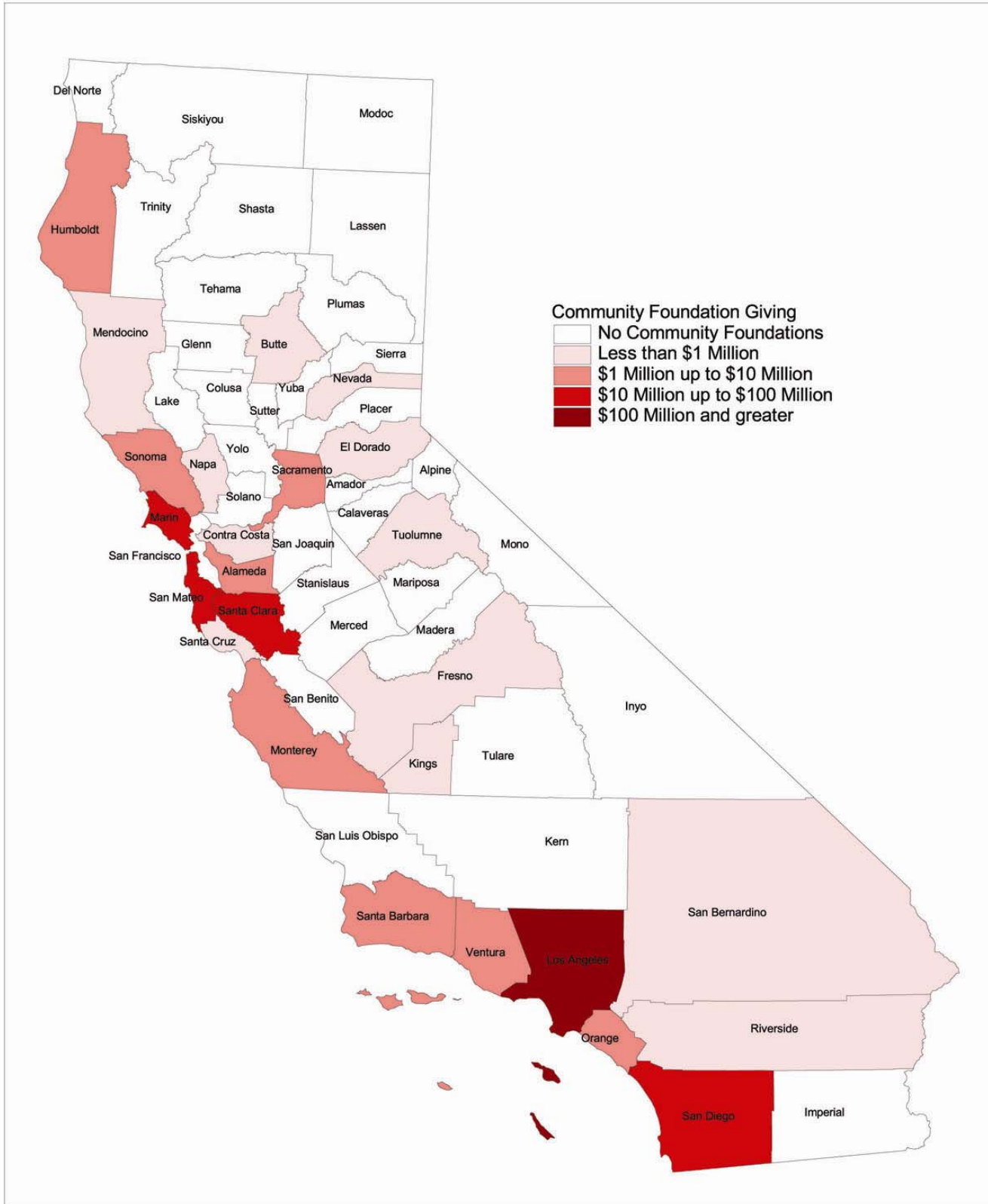
Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

## Map 8. Community foundation assets per capita, 1999



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

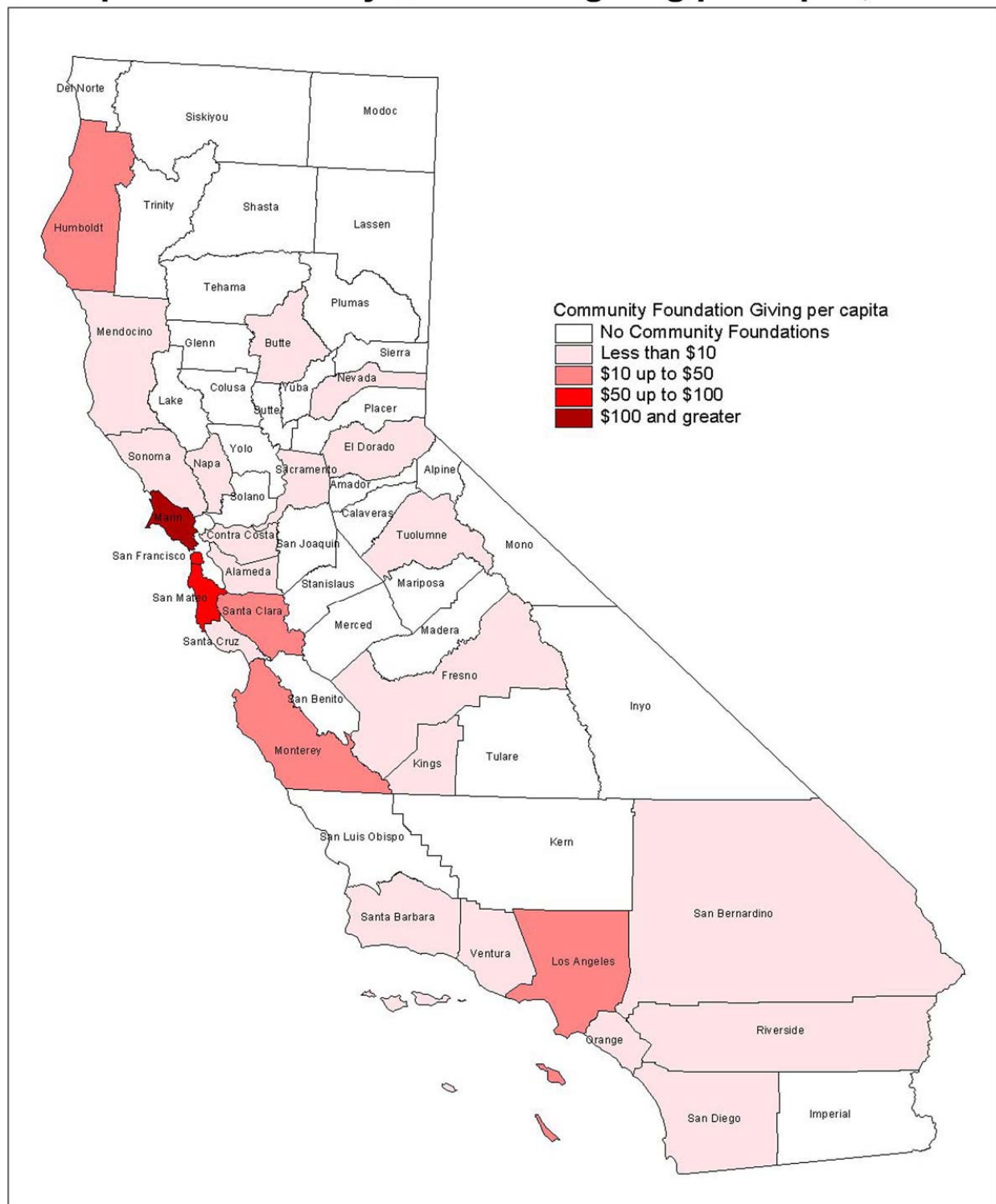
## Map 9. Community foundation giving



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.



# Map 10. Community foundation giving per capita, 1999



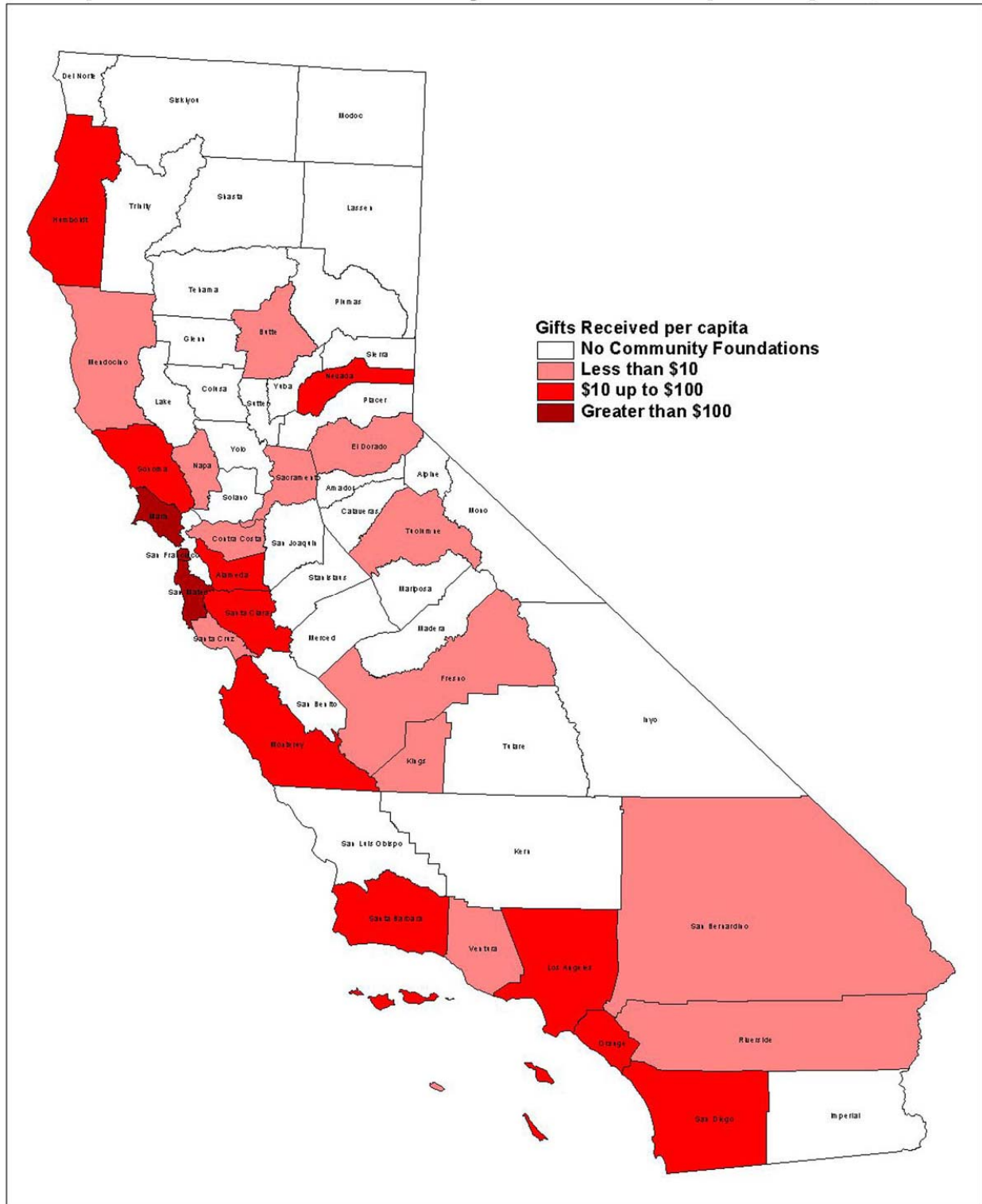
Data Sources: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

**Gifts Received**

- No Community Foundations
- Less Than \$1 Million
- \$1 Million up to \$10 Million
- \$10 Million up to \$100 Million
- Greater than \$100 Million

Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

**Map 12. Gifts to community foundations per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

## Corporate Foundations

The spatial distribution of California's corporate foundations is presented in Maps 13-16, and includes their numbers, giving, and gifts received.<sup>12</sup>

**Number of Foundations.** California's 100 corporate foundations are located in only 17 counties. Los Angeles County has the most with 43. Most of the remaining foundations are headquartered in the Bay area or in other parts of southern California. Shasta County has the only northern California corporate foundations; the Central Valley has none (Maps 13 and 14).

**Foundation Giving.** Corporate foundations gave \$157 million in 1999. Seventy-six percent of this giving was by foundations in only four counties – San Francisco, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, and Santa Barbara.<sup>13</sup> San Francisco and Santa Barbara County corporate foundations led in giving per capita averaging \$29,000 and almost \$20,000 respectively. The average among counties with corporate foundations was just over \$6,000.

**Gifts Received.** Gifts to corporate foundations exceeded \$171 million in 1999. Corporate foundations in San Francisco County received \$78.6 million; corporate foundations in Los Angeles County were second at almost \$38 million. Sacramento County had the greatest total of gifts received by corporate foundations outside southern California and the San Francisco Bay area, with gifts of \$1.2 million.

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<sup>12</sup> Given the tendency of many corporate foundations not to have significant endowments, maps of foundation assets are not provided for corporate foundations. In addition, because the grantmaking area of corporate foundations extends beyond their corporate headquarters, maps based on per capita figures are not provided either.

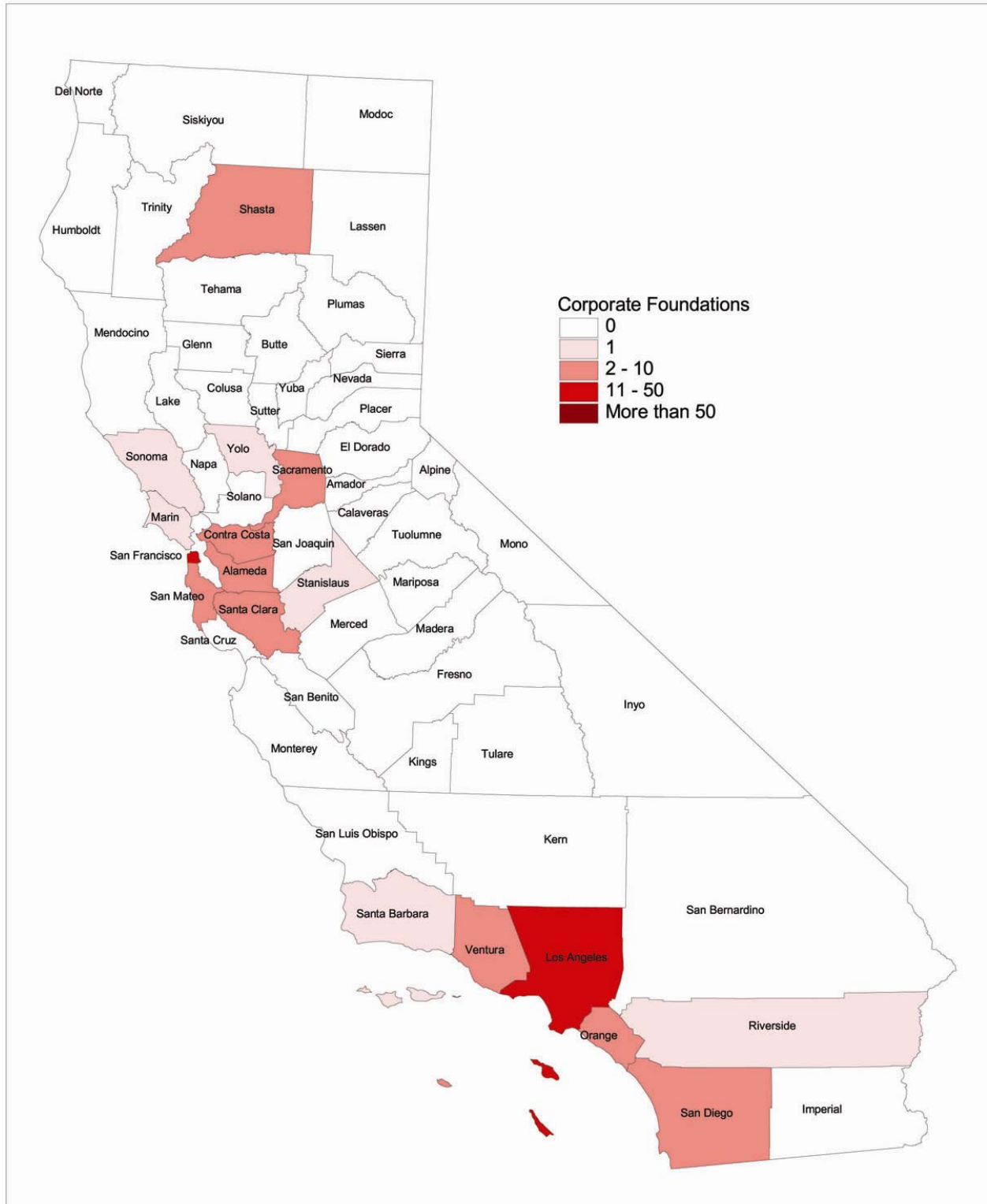
<sup>13</sup> Of course, corporate grantmaking need not be limited to the county in which a foundation is headquartered.

## Map 13. The location of corporate foundations



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

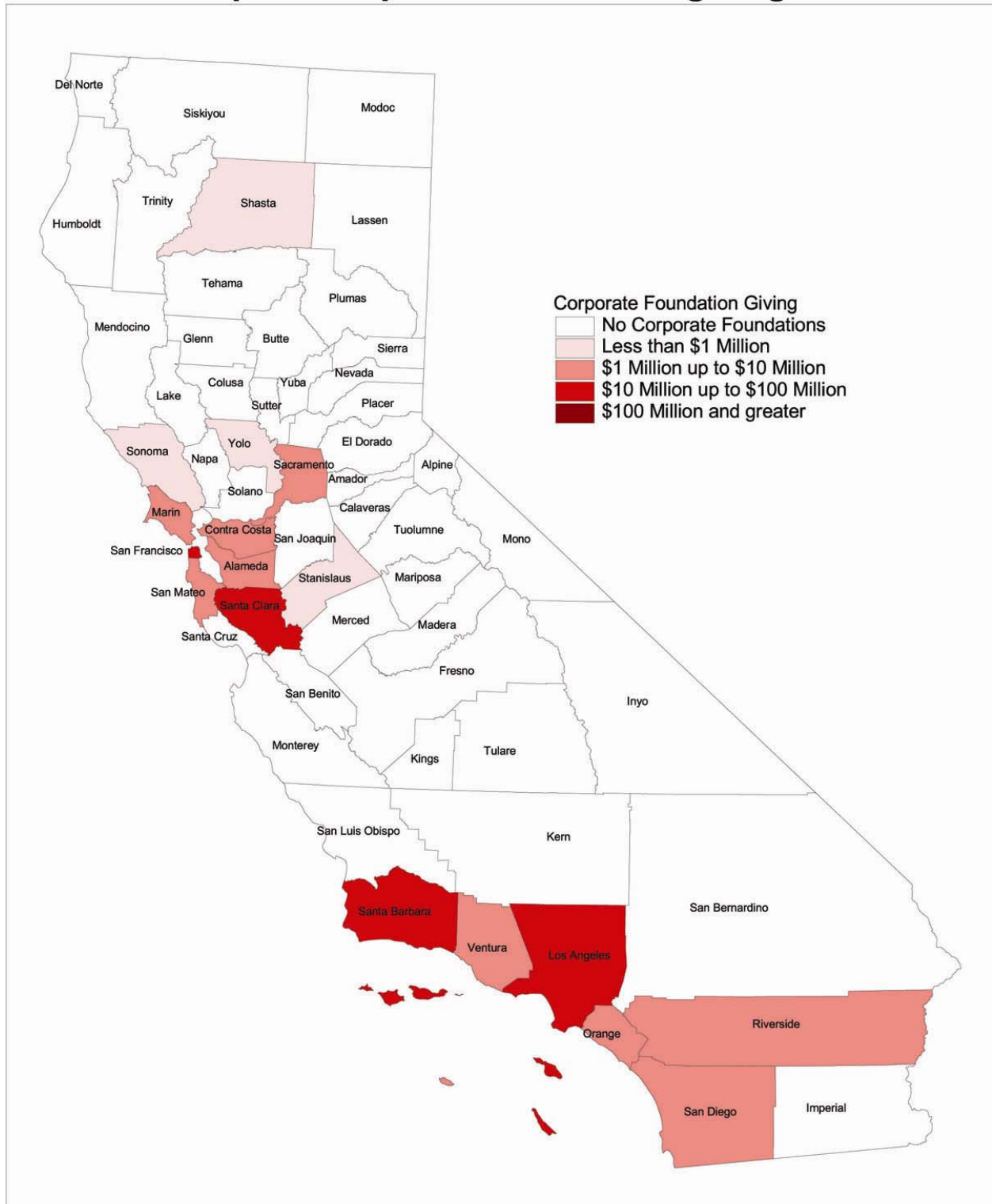
## Map 14. Number of corporate foundations



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

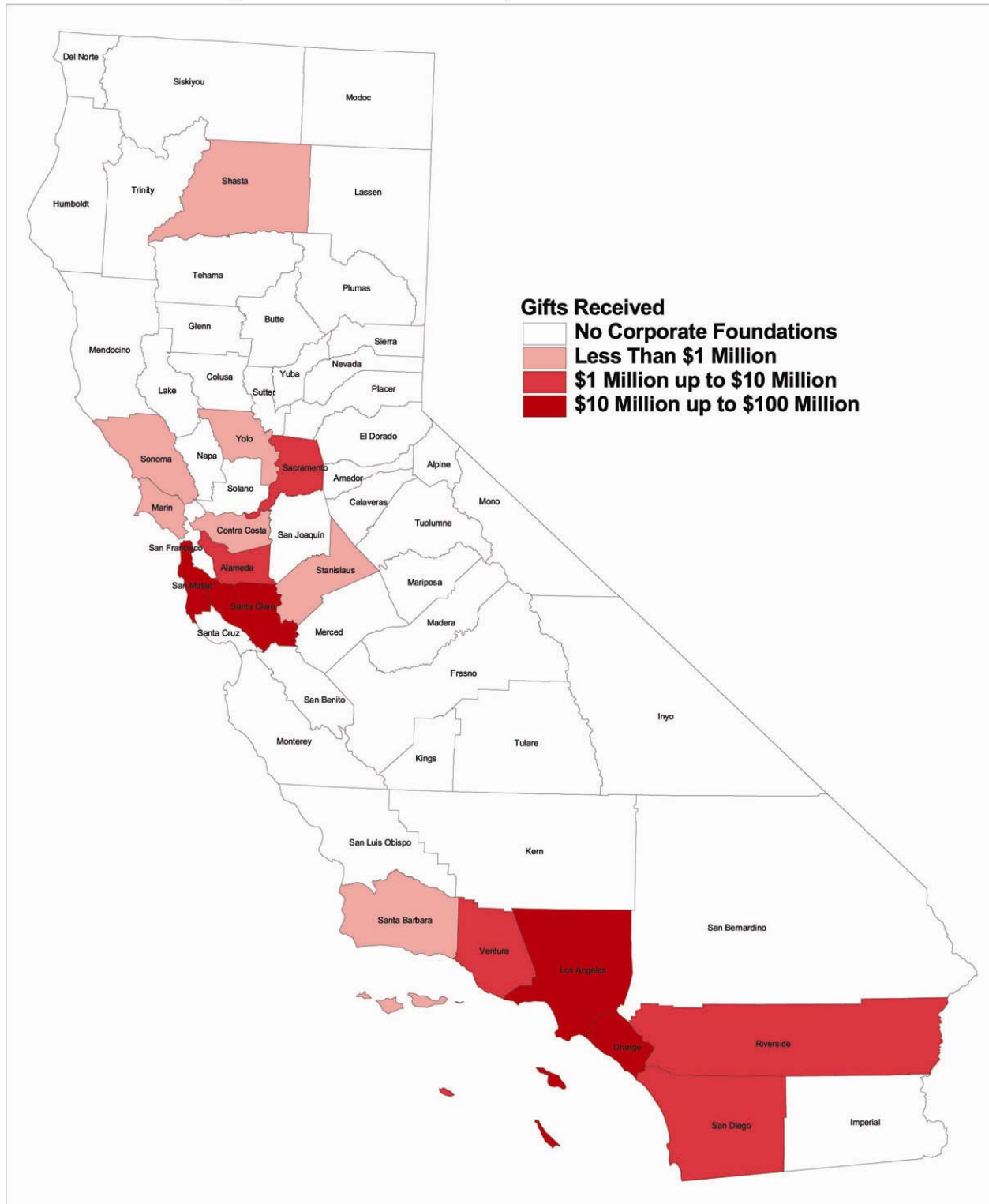


## Map 15. Corporate foundation giving



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

## Map 16. Gifts to corporate foundations



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.



## Operating foundations

The spatial distribution of California's 319 grantmaking operating foundations is presented in Maps 17 and 18.<sup>14</sup>

**Number of foundations.** Operating foundations are located in 41 counties, making them more prevalent than any other foundation type except independent foundations. Of particular note is their presence in northern California where most other foundation types are missing. Los Angeles County houses the most operating foundations with 86 (27 percent).

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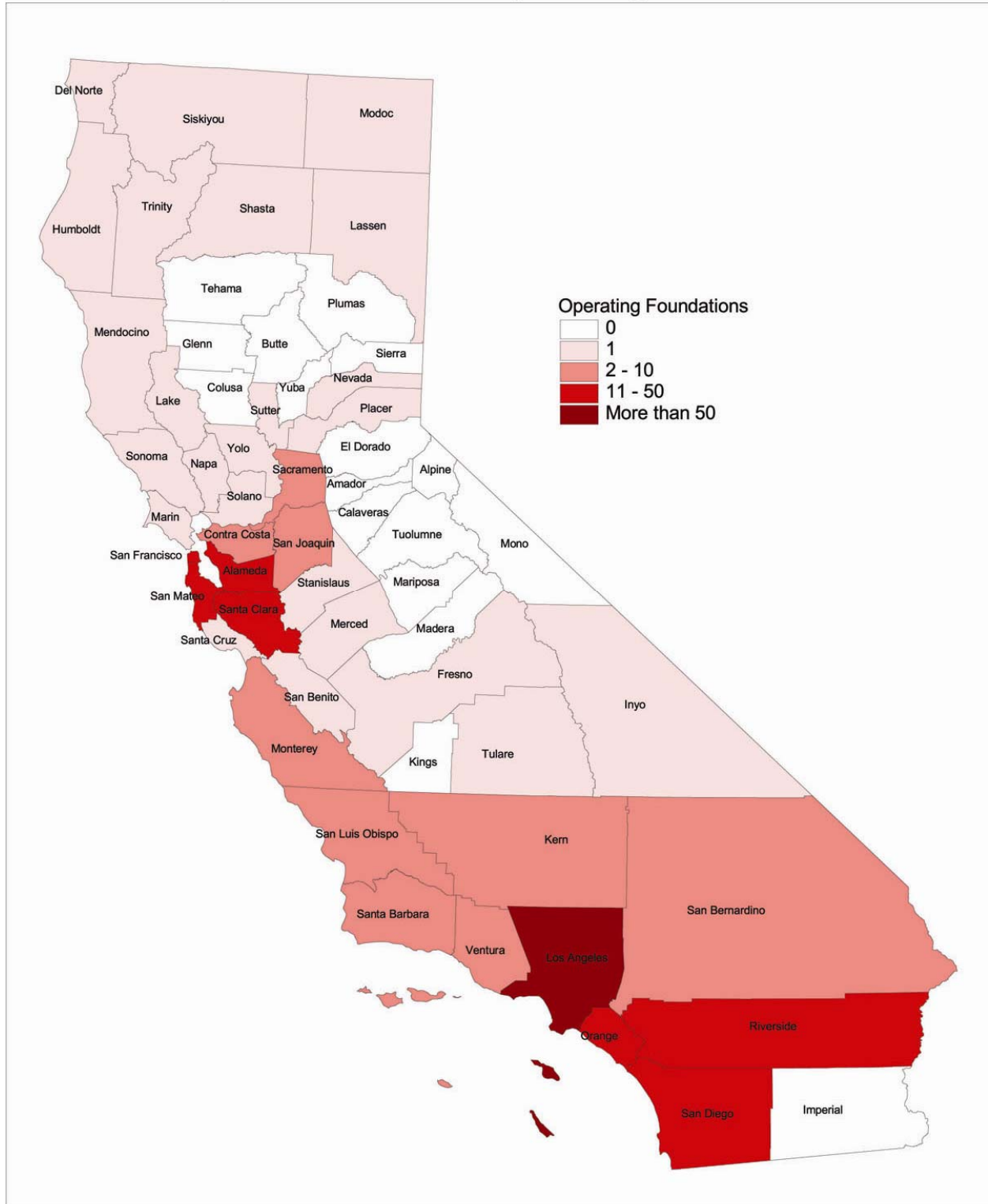
<sup>14</sup> Given the relatively limited grantmaking of operating foundations, only maps of location and numbers are provided here.

## Map 17. The location of operating foundations



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

## Map 18. Number of operating foundations



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data mapped include only foundations with giving of at least \$1 in latest fiscal year.

### **How has the growth in foundation capacity been distributed across the state?**

The 1980s and 1990s were periods of rapid growth in California's foundation sector. During each of these two decades the number of larger California foundations, those with at least \$1 million in assets or making grants of \$100,000 or more,<sup>15</sup> roughly doubled in number from 572 in 1979, to 1057 in 1989, to 1943 in 1999.

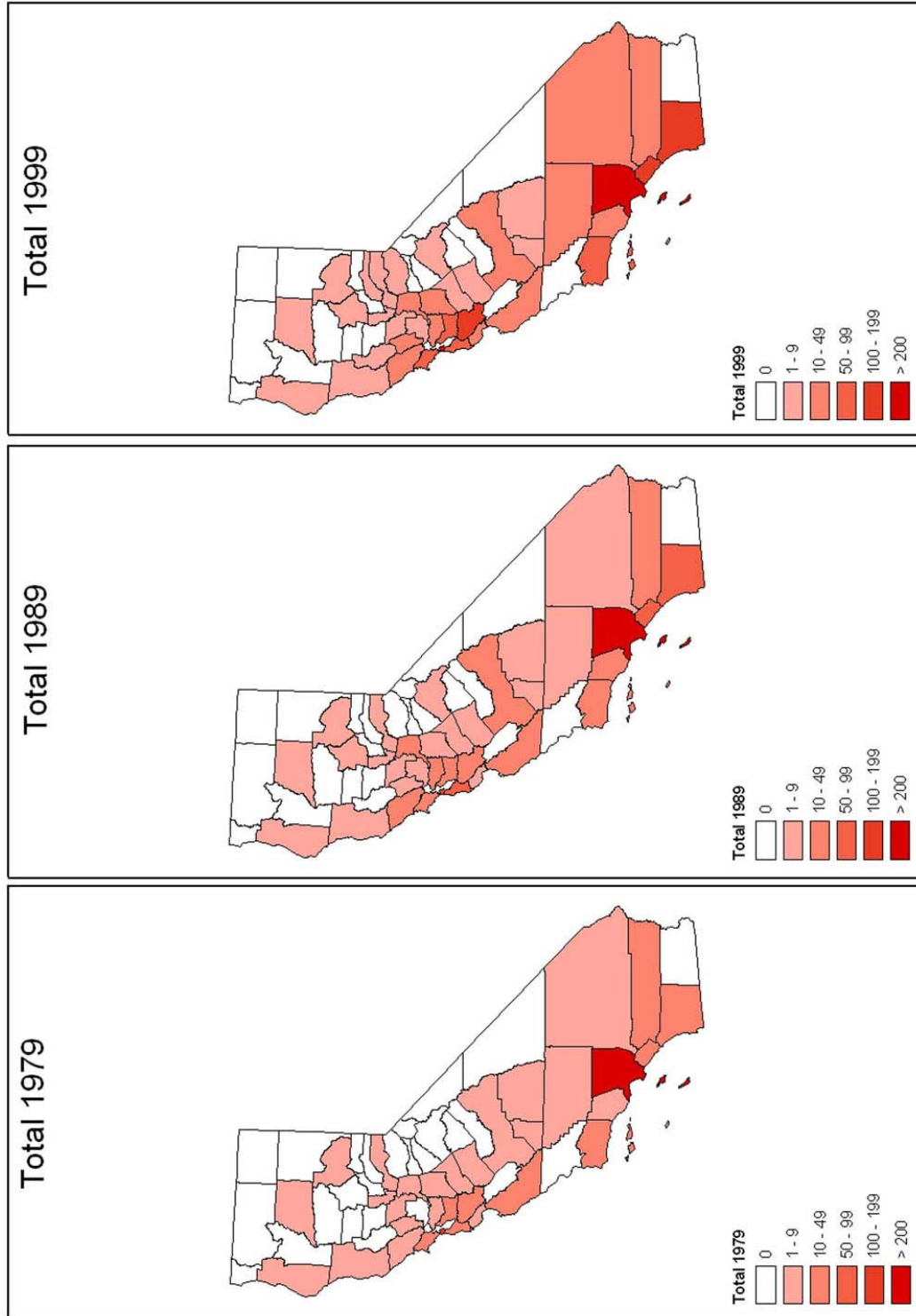
Los Angeles County added the most foundations, 199 (41 percent) of the 485 larger foundations created in California from 1980-89, and 300 (34 percent) of the 886 larger foundations created from 1990-99. San Francisco County had the second largest increase, adding 69 from 1980-89, and 115 from 1990-99.

Map 19 presents the number of larger foundations by county, while Map 20 shows the number of new larger foundations established in each period. For the most part, foundations were established during the 1980s and 1990s in counties that already had a strong philanthropic presence. The preponderance of foundation growth (91 percent) in the 1980s and in the 1990s occurred in the 12 counties that had at least ten larger foundations in 1979. With the exception of Monterey County, all these counties are in the Bay area (San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Alameda, Marin, and Contra Costa counties) or southern California (Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, Santa Barbara, and Riverside counties). Among these counties, Santa Clara County had the largest percentage growth over the two decades, increasing from 15 to 108 larger foundations. The majority of counties with only a few larger foundations remained roughly constant in their number of larger foundations throughout these periods. Notable exceptions include Santa Cruz County, which went from one foundation in 1979 to 11 in 1999, and Ventura County, which went from four 1979 to 22 in 1999.

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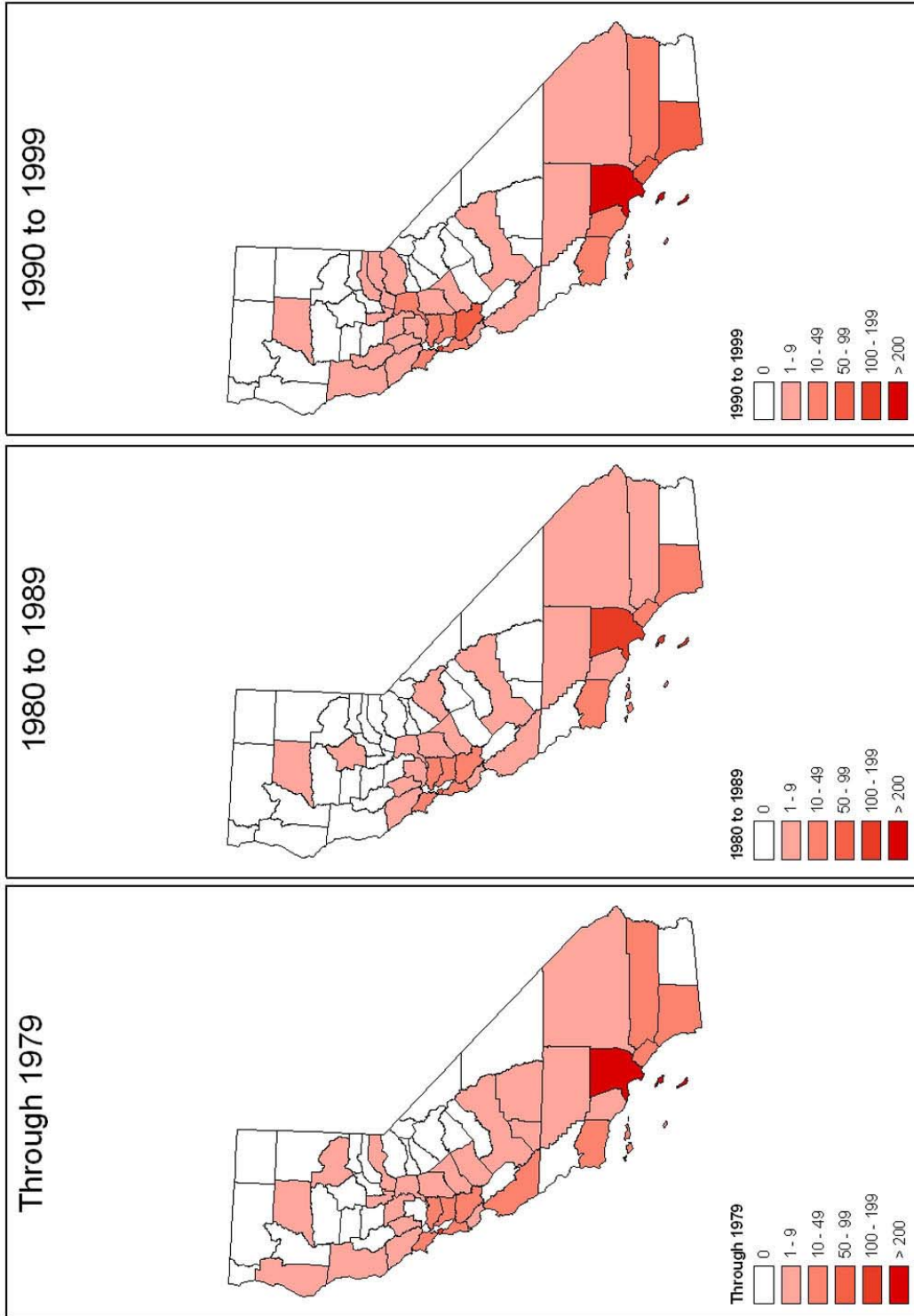
<sup>15</sup> Source: Foundation Center, 2001. Among the 2,089 larger California foundations, establishment date was available for 1,943 or 93 percent. Larger is defined by the Foundation Center as foundations with assets in excess of \$1 million in 1999, or total giving of at least \$100,000 in 1999.

# Map 19. Number of large foundations



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data on 1,943 of the 2,089 California foundations with assets in excess of \$1 million or total giving of at least \$100,000 in 1999.

**Map 20. Number of new large foundations established by period**



Data Source: The Foundation Center, California Foundations, 2001, data on 1,943 of the 2,089 California foundations with assets in excess of \$1 million or total giving of at least \$100,000 in 1999.

## What is the Reach of Foundation Philanthropy within California?

The reach of foundation philanthropy in California is best illustrated by examining the geographic distribution of foundation grants across the state's 58 counties. We explore the spatial patterns of grant recipients based on the Foundation Center grants database in this section of the *Atlas*.<sup>16</sup>

This database includes information on 12,468 California grants, representing the grants made to California recipients in amounts of \$10,000 or more by 1,016 larger private and community foundations in the U.S., including 800 of the largest 1,000 foundations as determined by total giving. This database includes 115 California foundations. Grants made to California recipients by the sampled U.S. foundations totaled \$1.485 billion in 1999, \$1.02 billion (69 percent) of which came from California foundations.

In this spatial analysis, we address three questions:

- What is the geographic distribution of grants in California?
- What is the geographic distribution of grants in California by subject area?
- How do the geographic grantmaking patterns of California foundations differ from national foundations within the state?

There are three key findings from this analysis.

First, spatial patterns in grant dollars reveal the success of the Bay area as well as Monterey, Humboldt, Sacramento, and Yolo counties in attracting grant dollars. They exceed average levels in both per capita and per nonprofit terms. Southern California, on the other hand, is less successful than would be expected given its strength in capacity, while the Central Valley's lack of success mirrors its relative lack of capacity.

Second, there is considerable grant concentration in a few counties for most subject areas. The Bay area is strong in grants per capita in almost all subject areas. Northern California is strong in environment and health. Southern California is notably low in per capita terms in almost all subject areas.

Third, California foundations are relatively more important sources of funding in the Central Valley and mid-state, while non-California foundations are relatively more important in northern California.

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<sup>16</sup> Source: Foundation Center, Grants Index database, 2001. The grants included in this database represent approximately half of all U.S. foundation giving. This database does not include grants from donor-designated funds of community foundations or grants to individuals.

## **What is the geographic distribution of grants in California?**

Grants to California recipients by the 1,016 large foundations in the Foundation Center grants sample database were aggregated by county. Los Angeles County received \$440 million and San Francisco County received \$333 million, together representing 52 percent of the \$1.485 billion in total grants. To put the geographic distribution in perspective, however, some standardization is necessary. Two are presented – grant dollars per capita (in Map 21) and grant dollars per nonprofit<sup>17</sup> (in Map 22). Both measures reveal considerable concentration.

When county-level grant dollars are divided by population, the county average is \$28 in grant dollars per person. There is, however, considerable variation across California. San Francisco County received the most dollars per capita, \$418, and three other counties, Monterey, Marin, and Alameda, averaged between \$100 and \$200 per capita. Seven counties received no grants (Alpine, Amador, Del Norte, Glenn, Lake, Lassen, and Mariposa counties).

The San Francisco Bay area fared very well compared to the rest of the state. Only Contra Costa County failed to obtain more per capita grant dollars than the average county. The six Bay area counties received 48 percent of the grant dollars, but house only 17 percent of the state's population. Southern California had lower per capita levels of grant dollars. Los Angeles County averaged only \$45 per person, and no other southern California county exceeded the county average of \$28. Several counties outside these two regions were successful at attracting grant dollars. Monterey County was the most successful with \$177 per person, Humboldt County attracted \$69 per person, and Sacramento, Yolo, and Sierra counties exceeded the county average. Finally, the Central Valley is notable in that the counties across this region had low levels of grant dollars.

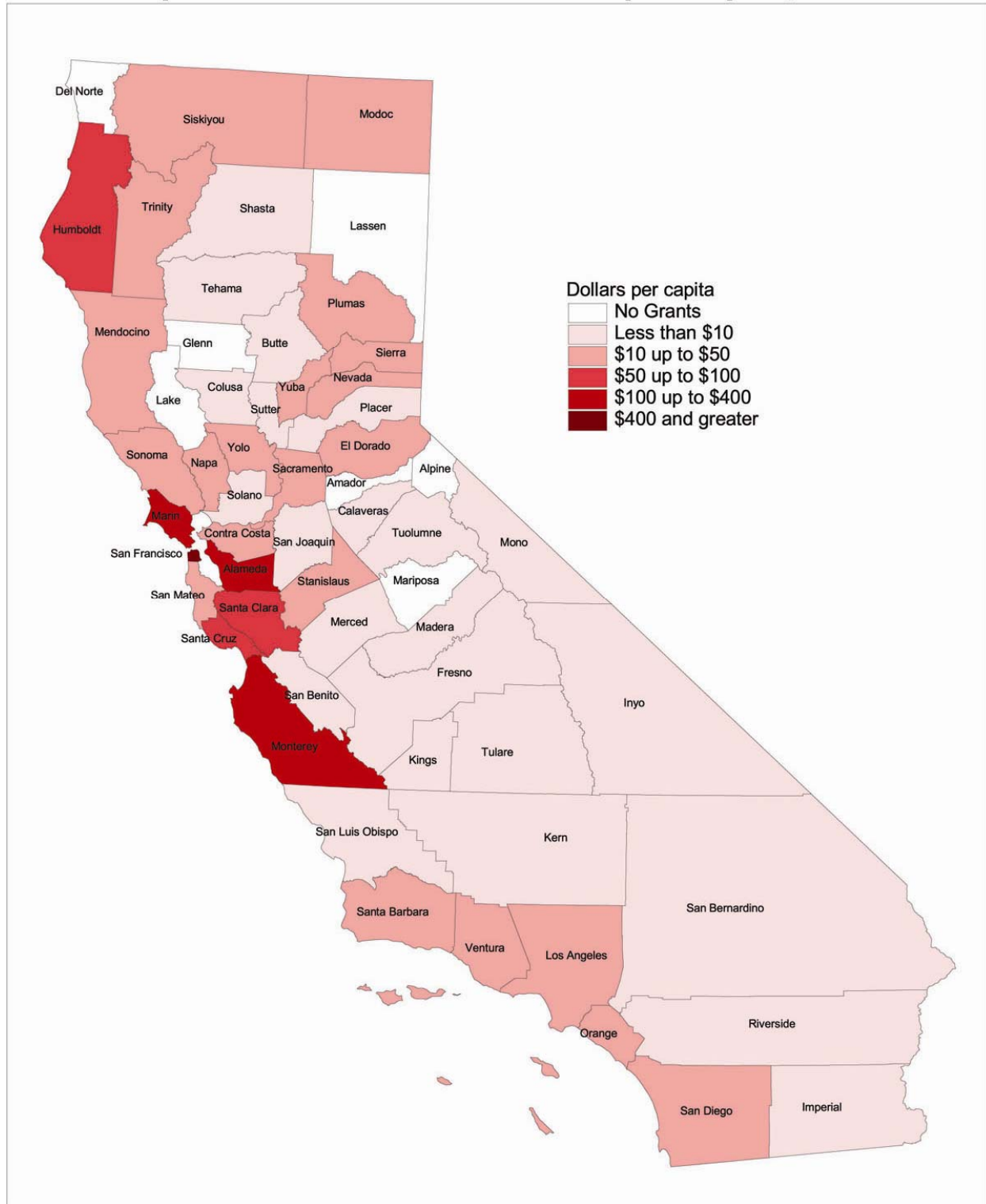
The patterns are similar when one considers grant dollars per nonprofit organization. Monterey and San Francisco counties are the most successful in these terms, averaging over \$185,000 in grants per nonprofit. Of the eight counties that exceeded \$50,000 in grants per nonprofit, four are Bay area counties (San Francisco, Santa Clara, Alameda, and Marin), and only one is in southern California (Los Angeles at \$66,000). Monterey, Sacramento, and Humboldt are the remaining three, mirroring their success in grants per capita. Five other counties exceed the county average of \$27,000 – Yolo, Santa Cruz, San Mateo, San Diego, and Stanislaus. The Central Valley averages low levels of grant dollars when standardized by numbers of nonprofits, just as it did in per capita terms.

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<sup>17</sup> The number of nonprofits in the county is a useful basis for standardization since foundations do the great majority of their grantmaking to nonprofit organizations. The data source for nonprofits is: National Center for Charitable Statistics, *Reporting Public Charities in California, by County, Circa 1998*, November 2000.

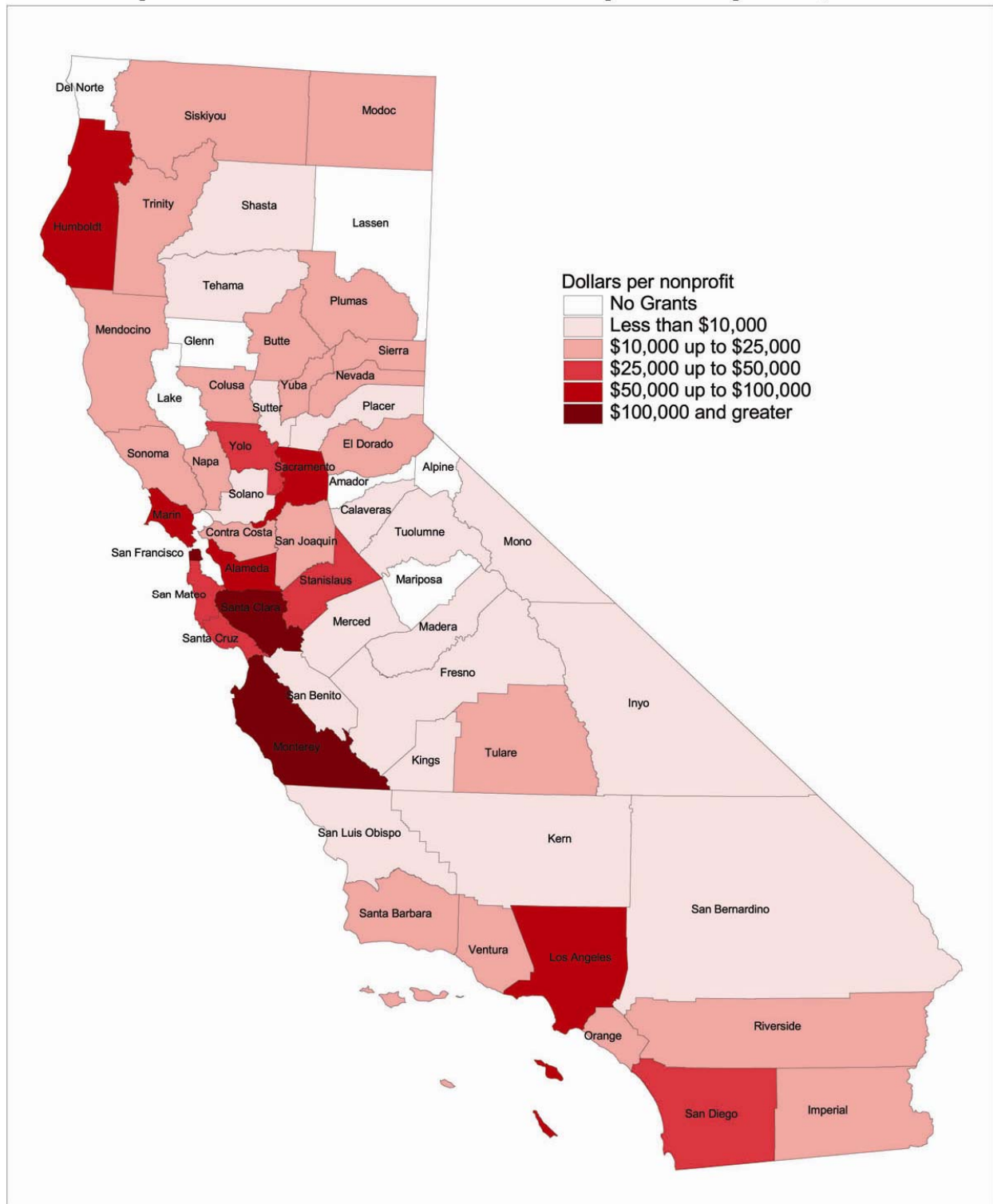


## Map 21. Grant dollars received per capita, 1999



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

## Map 22. Grant dollars received per nonprofit, 1999



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001, data mapped include a sample of grants representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars in 1999; and National Center for Charitable Statistics, Reporting Public Charities in California, by County, Circa 1998, November 2000.

## What is the geographic distribution of grants in California by subject areas?

There were notable differences in the geographic distribution of grant dollars across subject areas. The grants were sorted by subject focus into the ten major areas (arts & culture, education, environment & animals, health, human services, international affairs & human rights, public & society benefit, science & technology, social science, and religion),<sup>18</sup> and aggregated by county. The total grant dollars were then divided by the county's population, and the resultant spatial distributions are presented in Maps 23 to 32.

Health and education were the subject focus of the most grants – \$ 335 million and \$334 million respectively, representing 45 percent of all grant dollars in the state. Both reveal considerable geographic variation. The county average for health grants was almost \$7 per capita; the median was only \$2 per capita (Map 27). Four counties attracted health grants in excess of \$25 per person – San Francisco, Sierra, Humboldt, and Sacramento. Six more counties exceeded \$10 per person – Santa Clara, Yolo, Alameda, Marin, Mendocino, and Los Angeles. All these counties except Los Angeles are in the northern part of the state. All the Central Valley and all of southern California, except Los Angeles and San Diego, received less than \$5 per capita in health grants.

The pattern for education grants was even more concentrated (Map 24). The county average for education grants was \$5.55 per person; the median was almost \$1. This skewed distribution was driven by San Francisco County, which attracted over \$100 per person in education grants. Only five other counties exceeded \$10 per person—Alameda, Santa Clara, Marin, Santa Cruz, and Yolo. All except Yolo are located near the Bay area. Los Angeles County, the only southern California county to exceed the county average, attracted \$9 per person.

Human services attracted \$214 million, or 14 percent, of all 1999 grants (Map 27). The county per capita average was almost \$5; the median was \$1.28. San Francisco and Marin counties were the most successful in per capita terms, receiving \$65 and \$48 respectively. Only two other counties exceeded \$10 per person in human services grants – Alameda and Santa Cruz. All four counties are in the same part of the state. Counties attracting between \$5 and \$10 per person, however, are distributed more broadly in the state. Los Angeles, however, with \$6 per person, was the only southern California county to exceed the county average.

Arts & culture attracted almost \$166 million (11 percent) of 1999 grants (Map 23). The county per capita average for arts and culture grants was \$2.59; the median was only

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<sup>18</sup> Subject Area Definitions are based on the Foundation Center's Grants Classification System: *Arts and Culture*: Arts--multipurpose, Media and communications, Visual arts/architecture, Museums, Performing arts, Humanities, Historic preservation. *Education*: Elementary and secondary, Vocational and technical, Higher education, Graduate and professional, Adult and continuing, Library science/libraries, Student services, Educational services. *Environment*: Environment, Animals and wildlife. *Health*: General and rehabilitative, Hospitals and medical care, Reproductive health care, Public health, Specific diseases, Medical research, Mental health. *Human Services*: Crime, justice, and legal services, Employment, Food, nutrition, and agriculture, Housing and shelter, Safety and disaster relief, Recreation and sports, Youth development, Human services—multipurpose. *International*: International affairs, development, peace, and human rights. *Public/Society Benefit*: Civil rights and social action, Community improvement and development, Philanthropy and voluntarism, Public affairs. *Science and Technology*: General science, Physical science, Technology, Life science. *Social Science*: Social science and economics, Interdisciplinary/other. *Religion*.

25 cents. Only five counties exceeded \$10 per person in grants (San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Alameda, and Marin). These grants were thus heavily concentrated on the mid-coastal counties. Only two other counties exceeded \$5 per person – Los Angeles and Santa Clara.

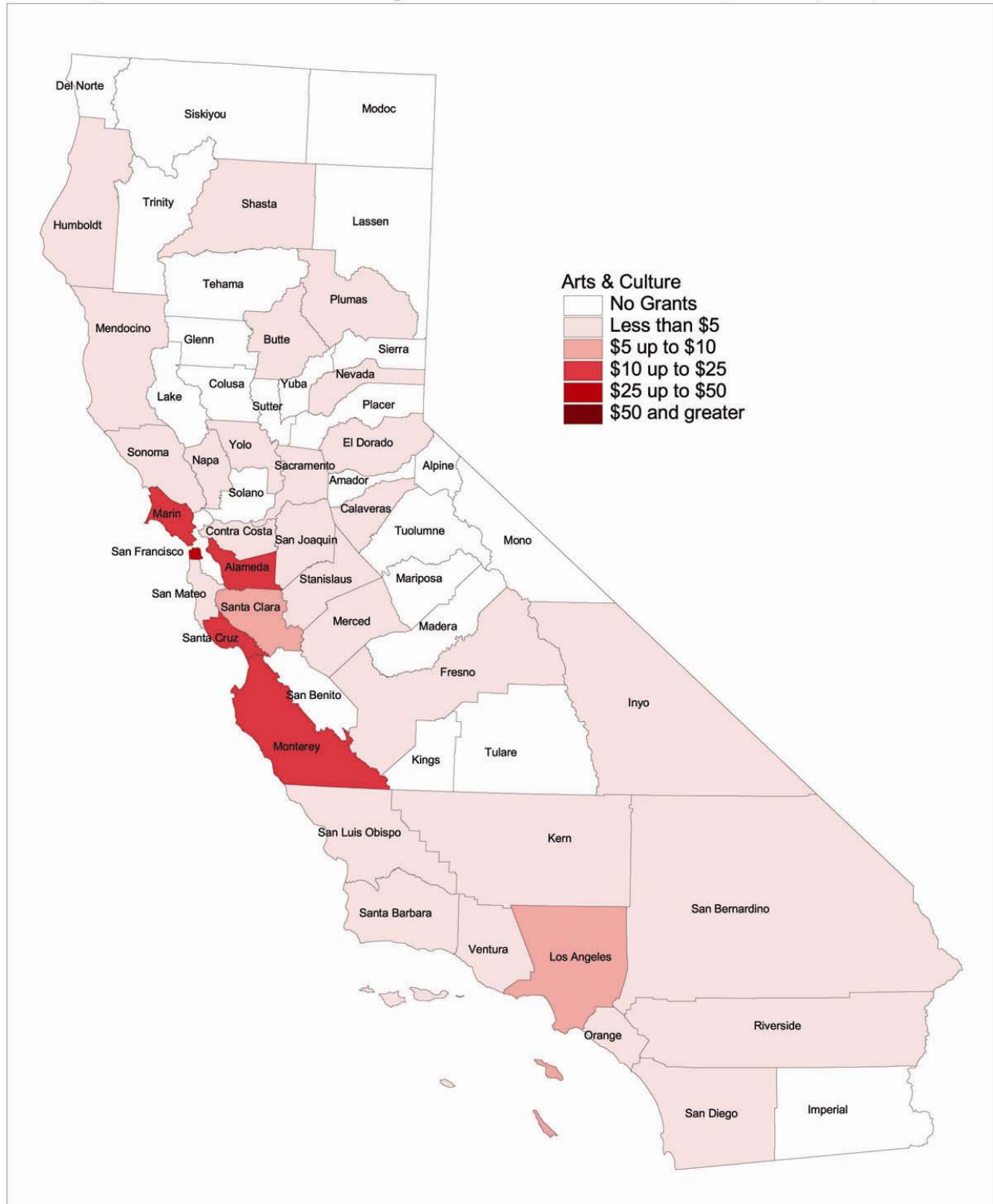
Environment & animal grants had a very different geographic distribution (Map 25). This focus attracted \$130 million (almost nine percent) of the 1999 grants, with a county average of almost \$5 per person, and a median under \$1. Although San Francisco and Marin counties led in grants per capita, northern California counties were more successful in attracting grants in this area than they had been in other areas. Trinity, El Dorado, Humboldt, and Plumas counties received over \$10 per capita in grants supporting the environment and animals. The only southern California County to exceed the average was Santa Barbara with just over \$5.

Grants to support public & society benefit totaled \$123 million (8 percent) of 1999 grants (Map 29). The county average was \$2 per person, and the median was 22 cents. These grants were heavily concentrated in a few counties. Only five counties (San Francisco, Alameda, Santa Clara, Marin, and Nevada) exceeded \$5 per person in these grants, and were dominated by San Francisco with \$51. Twenty-six counties received no grants in this area.

Science & technology grants totaled \$104 million (seven percent) of 1999 grants (Map 30). This was one of the most concentrated grant areas, with a county average of \$3 per person, but a median of zero. Monterey County was the substantial outlier at \$132 per person. Only two other counties exceeded \$5 per person in these grants – Santa Cruz and Santa Clara. Thirty-five counties received no grants in this area.

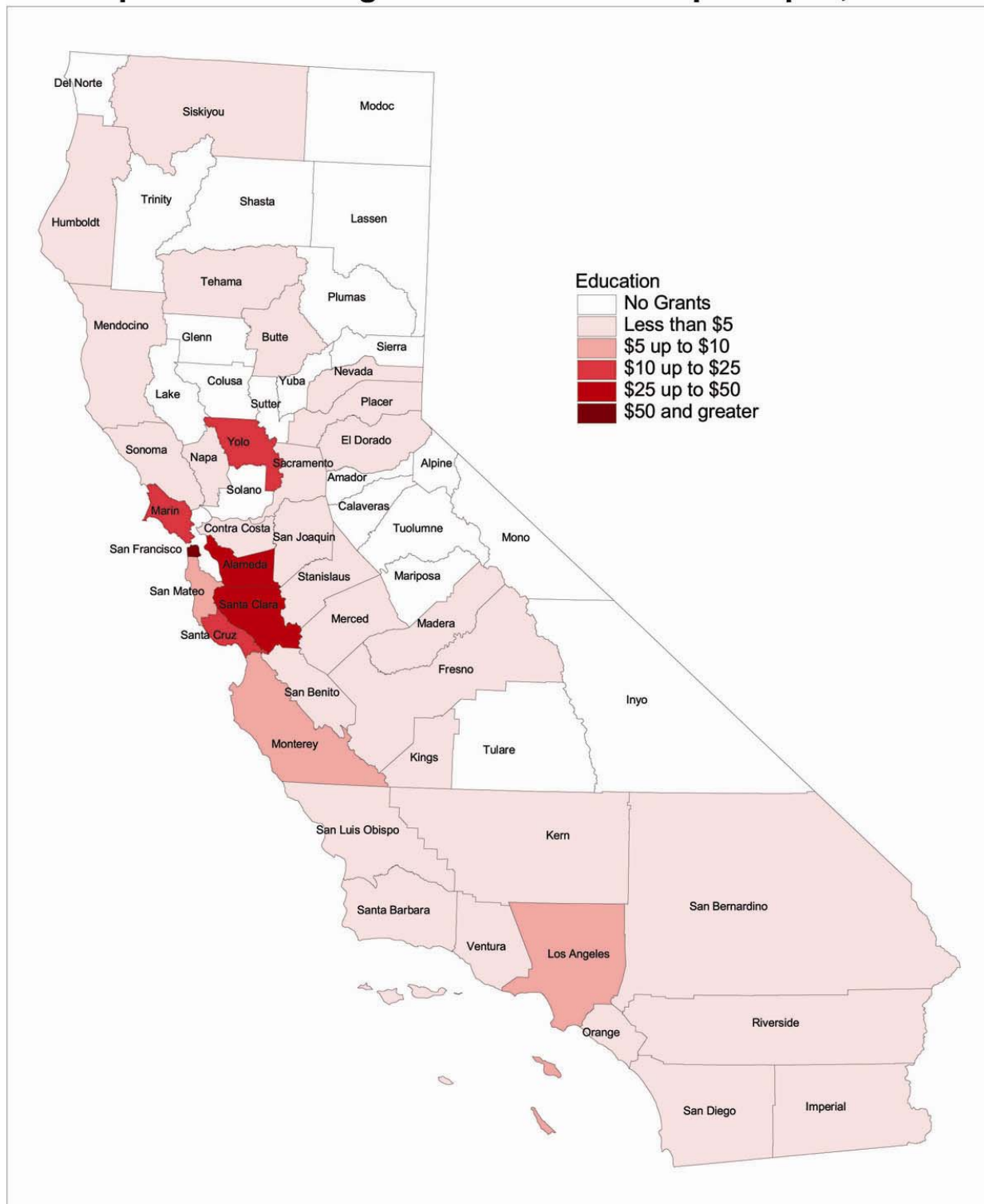
Grants in each of the remaining three areas – international affairs & human rights (Map 28), social science (Map 31), and religion (Map 32) – totaled less than \$30 million each in 1999. The county per capita average in each area was less than \$1 and the median in all three was zero. In international affairs & human rights, Humboldt County dominated with almost \$17 in grant dollars per person. Only 14 other counties received grants in this area. In the social science area, only Monterey County exceeded \$5 per capita in grants, and only 15 other counties received any grants in this area. No county dominated in religion grants, but Orange County had the highest level at \$3 per person. Twenty other counties received grants in this area.

**Map 23. Arts & culture grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

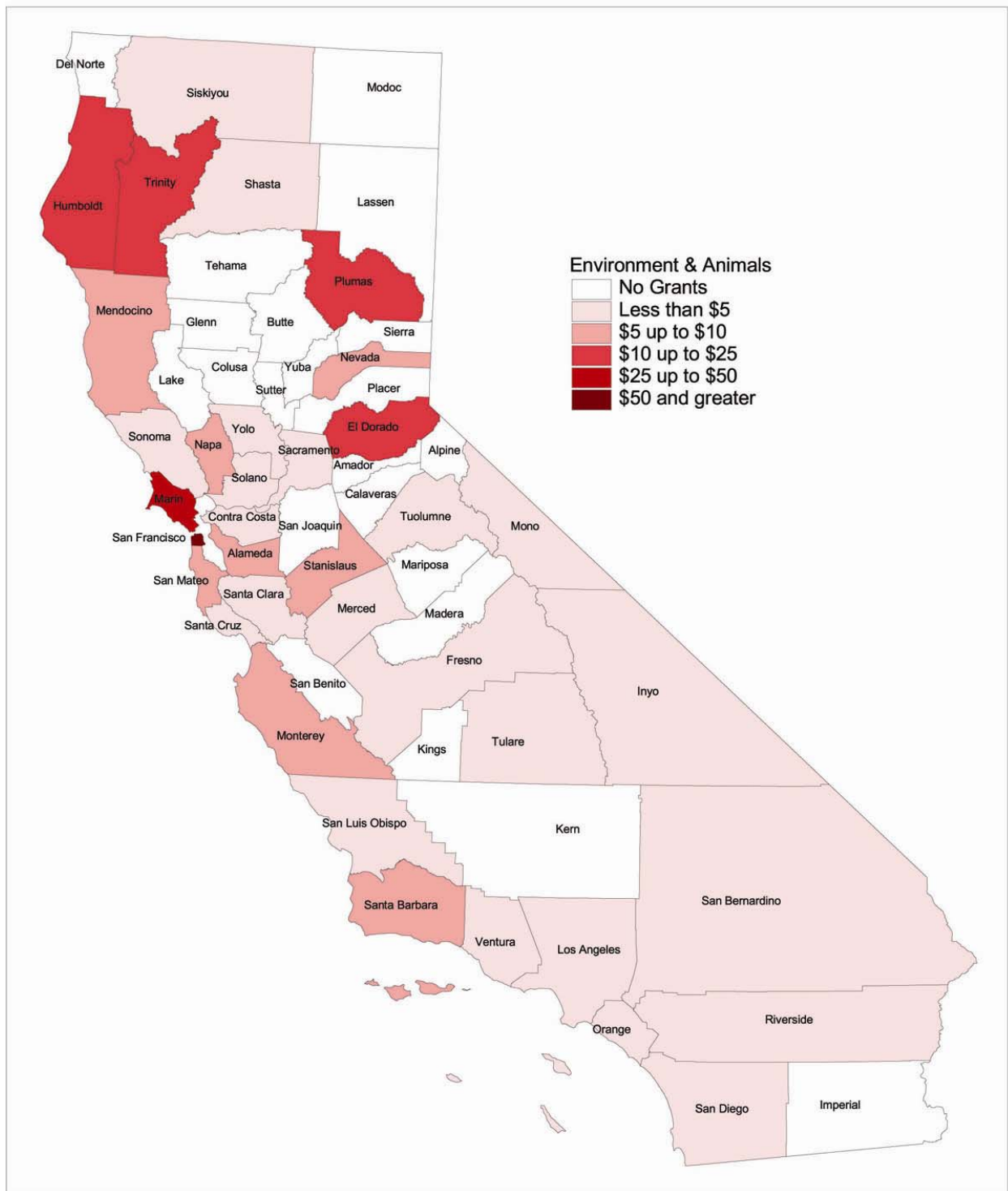
**Map 24. Education grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

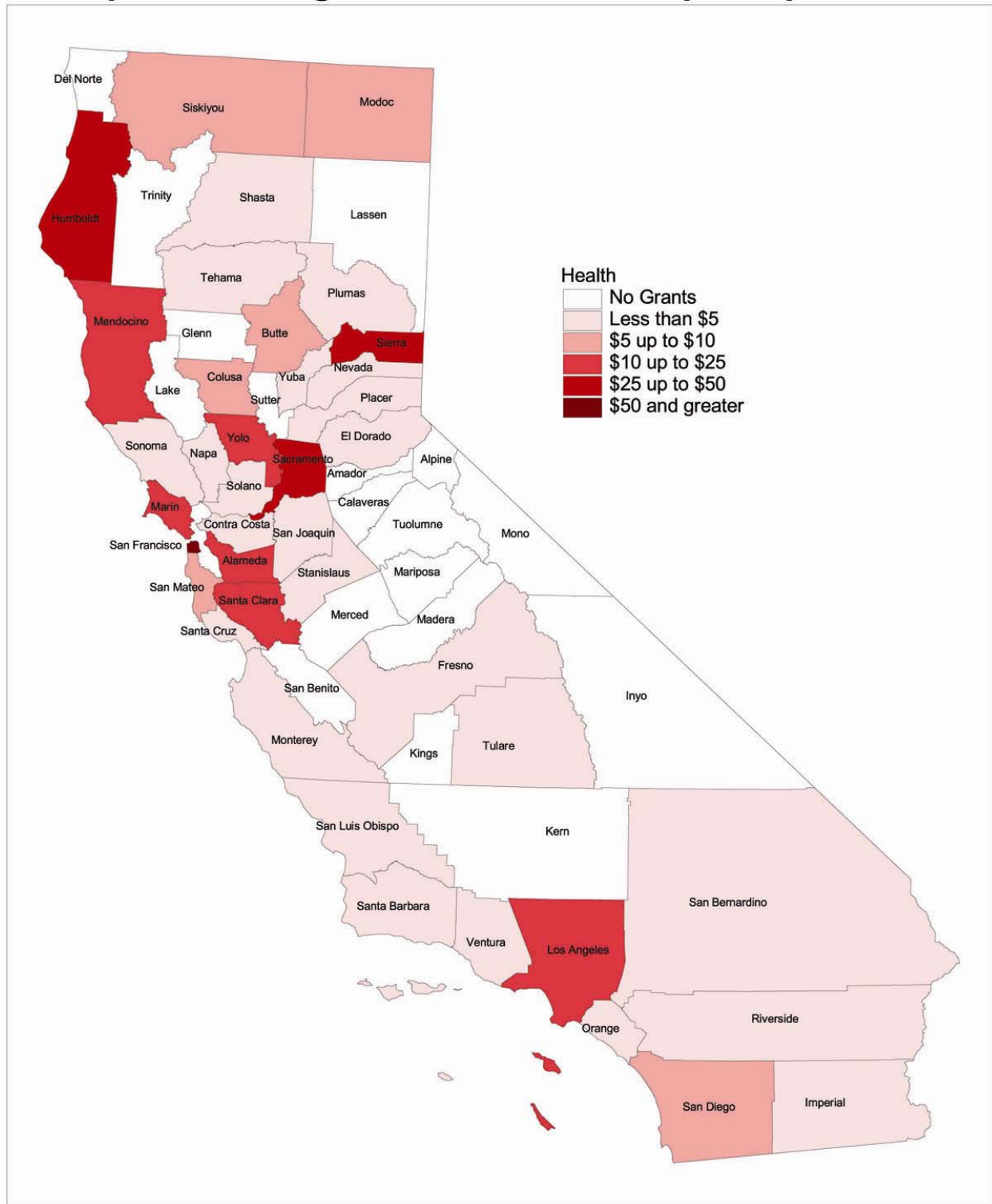


**Map 25. Environment & animals grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

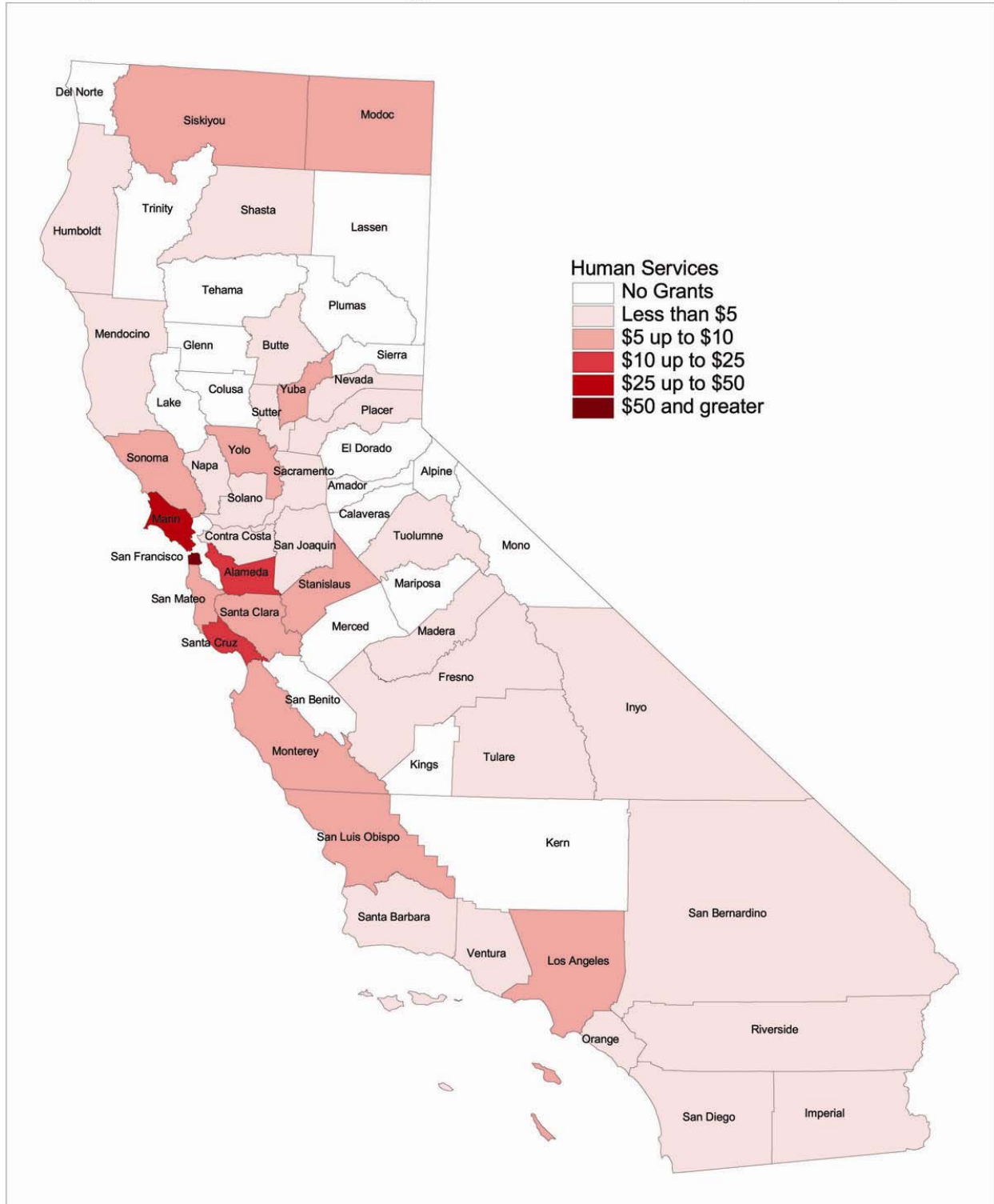
## Map 26. Health grant dollars received per capita, 1999



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

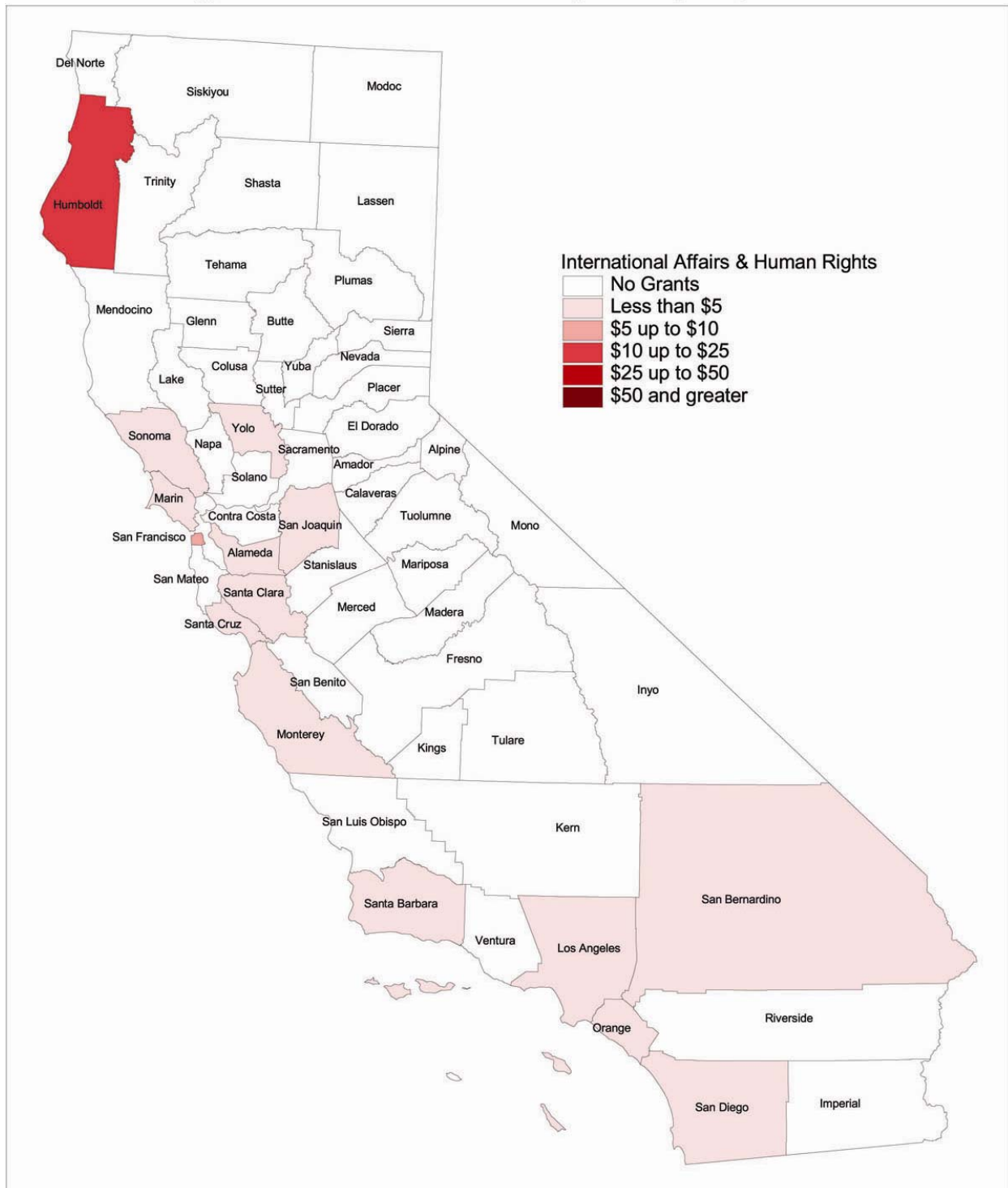


**Map 27. Human services grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



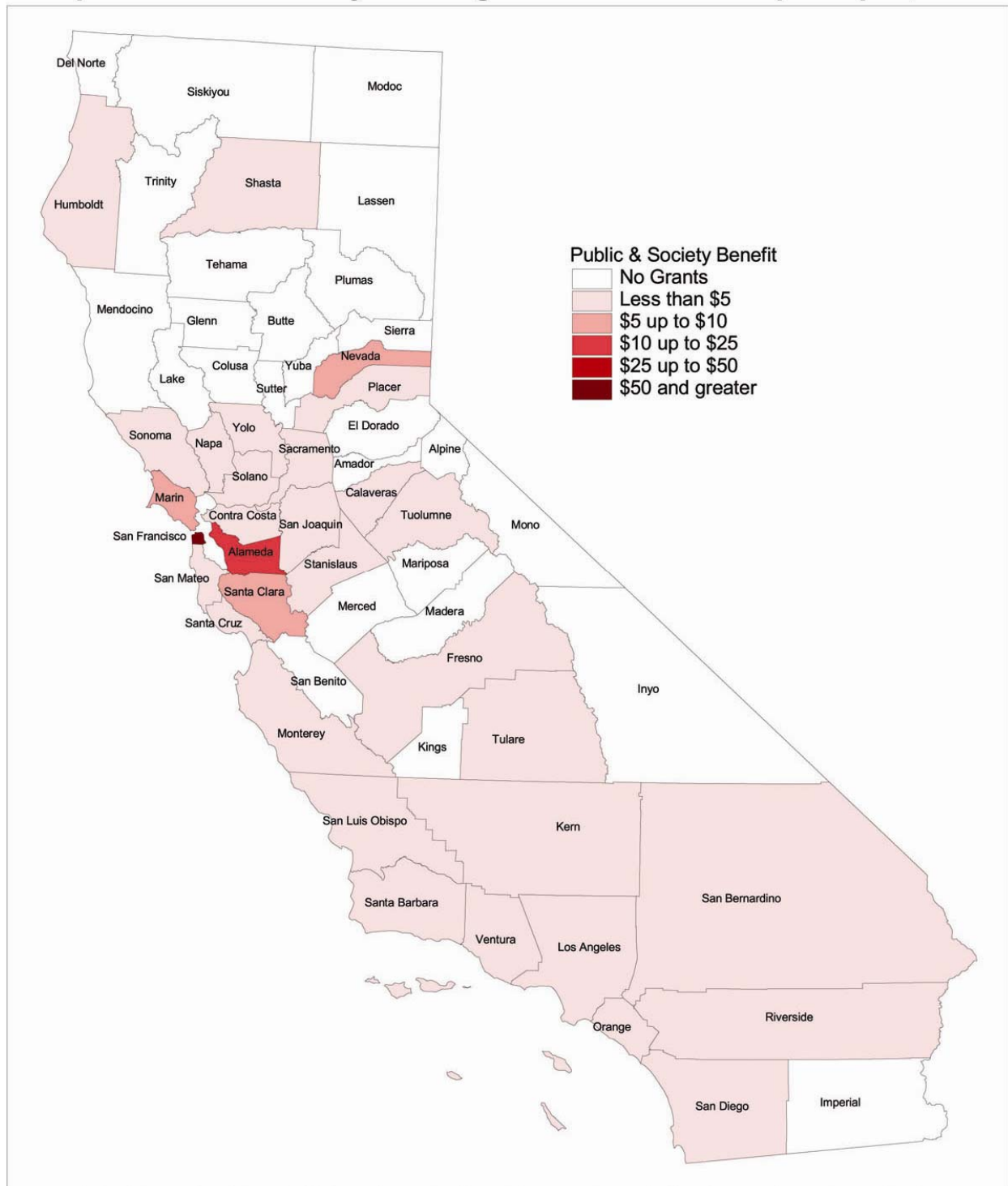
Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

**Map 28. International affairs & human rights  
grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



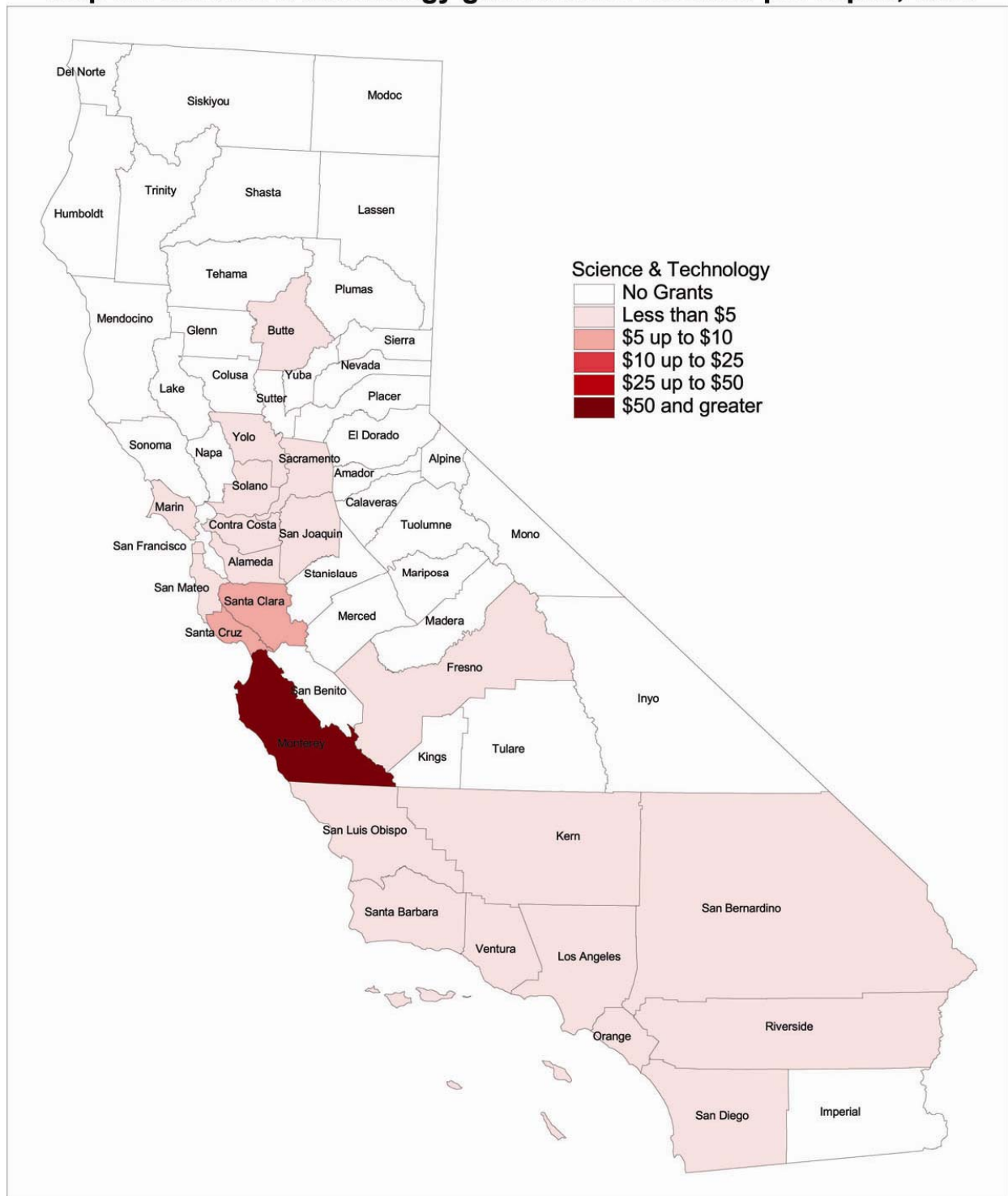
Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

**Map 29. Public & society benefit grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



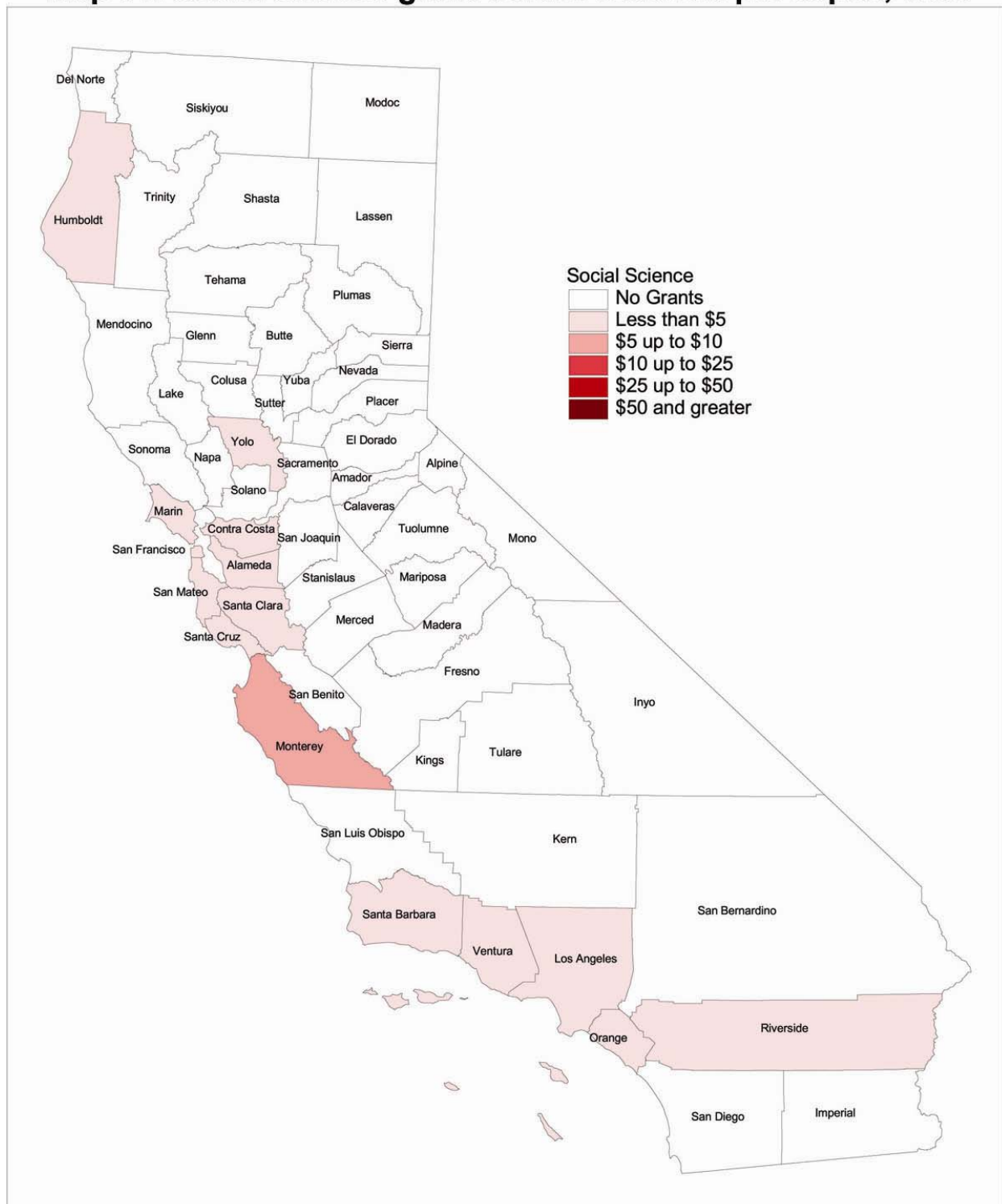
Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

**Map 30. Science & technology grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

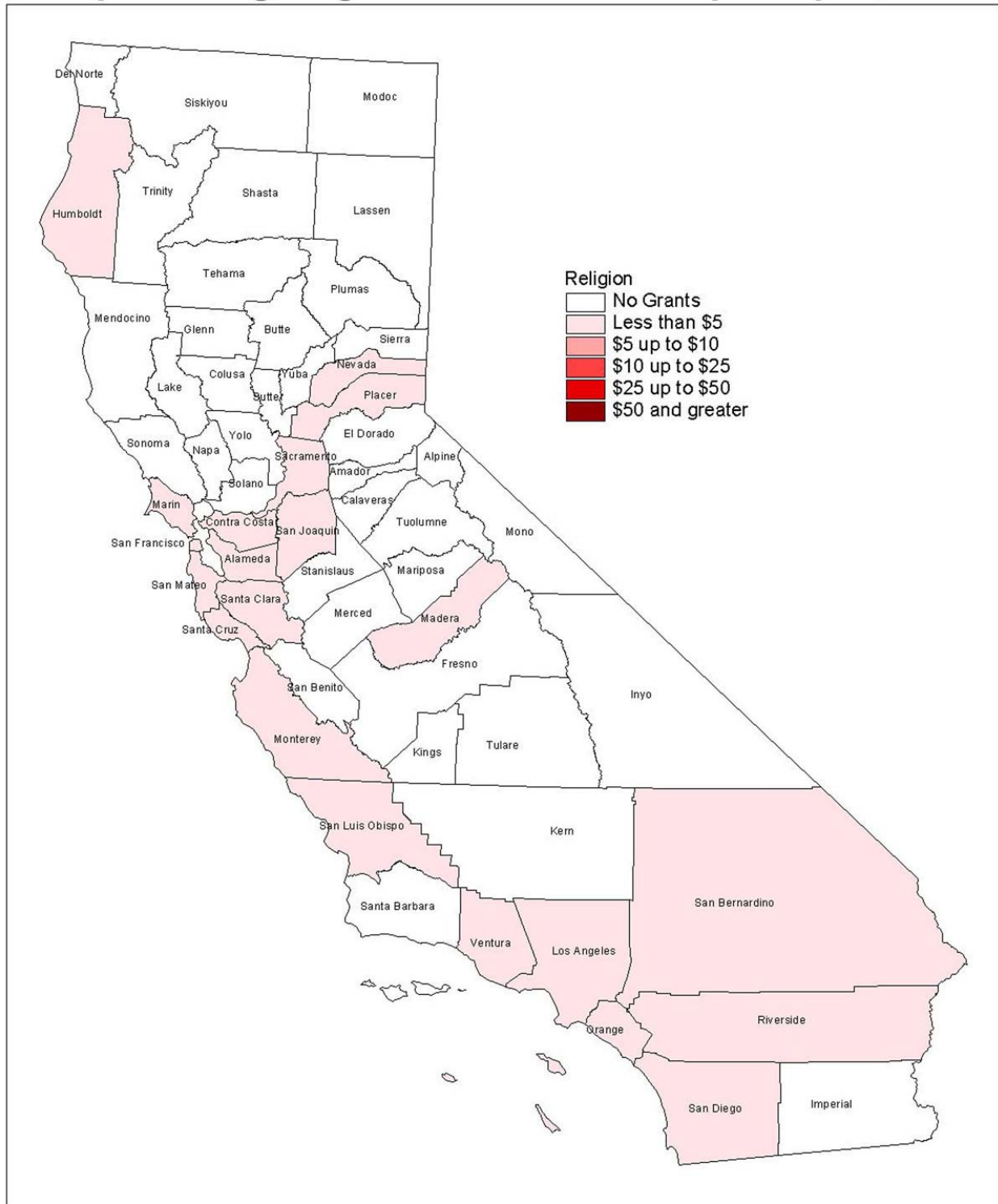
**Map 31. Social science grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.



**Map 32. Religion grant dollars received per capita, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

## **How do the patterns of giving to California recipients differ for California foundations versus non-California foundations?**

In 1999, only 69 percent of grantmaking to California recipients in the sample originated from the 115 California foundations. This raises the question of how this grantmaking differs from the patterns of non-California foundations. We analyzed the differences from three perspectives – grants per capita (Maps 33 and 34), grants per nonprofit (Maps 35 and 36, and the percentage of grant dollars from California foundations (Map 37). We found that despite an overlap in emphasis in the Bay area, the geographic patterns of grantmaking within the state did differ between California and non-California foundations.

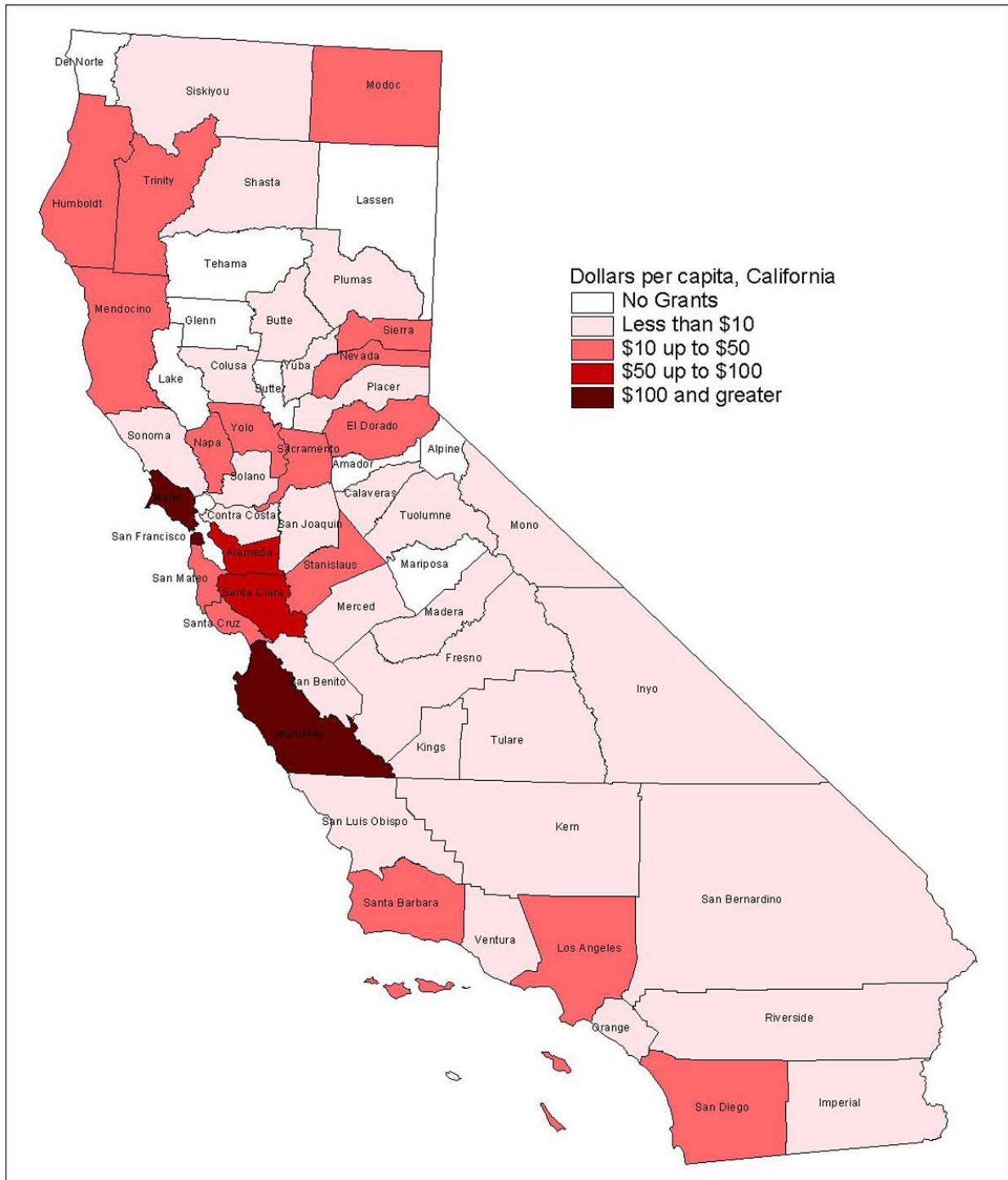
Grant dollars per capita across counties averaged almost \$20 from California foundations, and almost \$8 from non-California foundations. San Francisco, Monterey, and Marin Counties received over \$100 per capita from California foundations, followed by Santa Clara and Alameda Counties, which received over \$50 per capita (Map 33). The top recipients of grants from non-California foundations also include San Francisco County, but no other county came close to its \$189 per capita level (Map 34). Four counties received between \$20 and \$50 per capita – Alameda, Humboldt, Santa Clara, and Yolo. Los Angeles County received above average grants per capita from both sources, \$32 from California foundations and \$13 from non-California foundations.

As already noted, seven counties received no grants from foundations in the sample. Two counties, however, Sutter and Tehama, only received grants from non-California foundations, and nine counties (Imperial, Inyo, San Benito, Trinity, Modoc, Colusa, Kings, Mono, and Sierra) only received grants from California foundations. So, as one would expect, California foundations had broader coverage in the state.

The pattern is similar in grant dollars per nonprofit. California foundations averaged \$20,000 per nonprofit across counties, while non-California foundations averaged almost \$7,000 per nonprofit. The top five counties in grants per nonprofit from California foundations were Monterey, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Alameda and Sacramento counties. The top five from non-California foundations were San Francisco, Alameda, Santa Clara, Humboldt, and Yolo. Thus, although the San Francisco Bay area dominates for both sets of funders, there are differences outside that region. Los Angeles County received well above the average from both groups.

Map 37 summarizes these distributional differences in a single map by presenting the percentage of grant dollars from California foundations. California counties averaged 72 percent of their grants from California foundations, so counties in the top two categories (greater than 75 percent) received less than a proportionate share from non-California foundations. This map thus makes clear the importance of California foundations in providing grants for the Central Valley, mid-coastal counties, and mid-state counties, and the relative importance of non-California foundations to northern California counties.

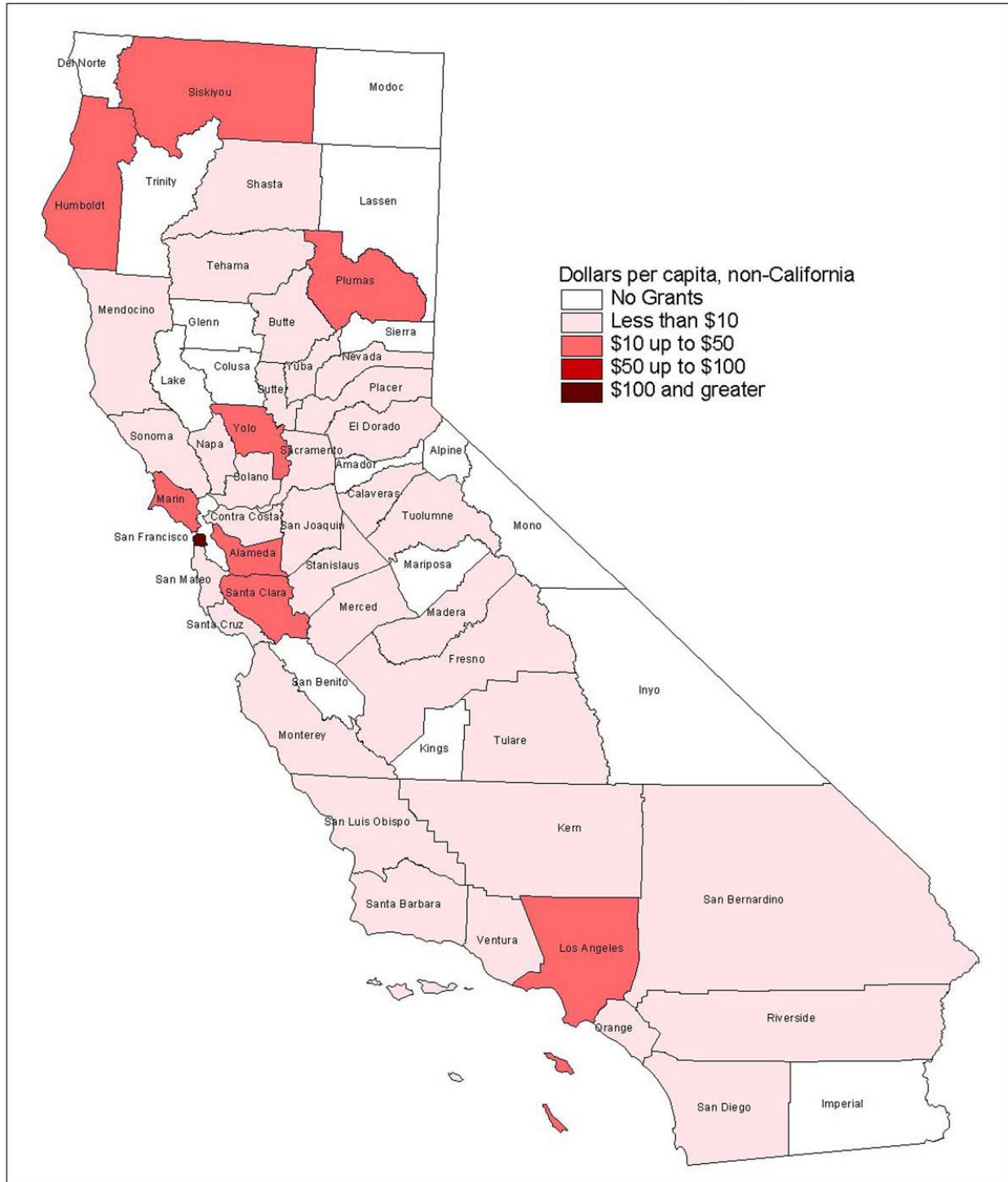
**Map 33. Grant dollars received per capita  
from California foundations, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.



**Map 34. Grant dollars received per capita from non-California foundations, 1999**



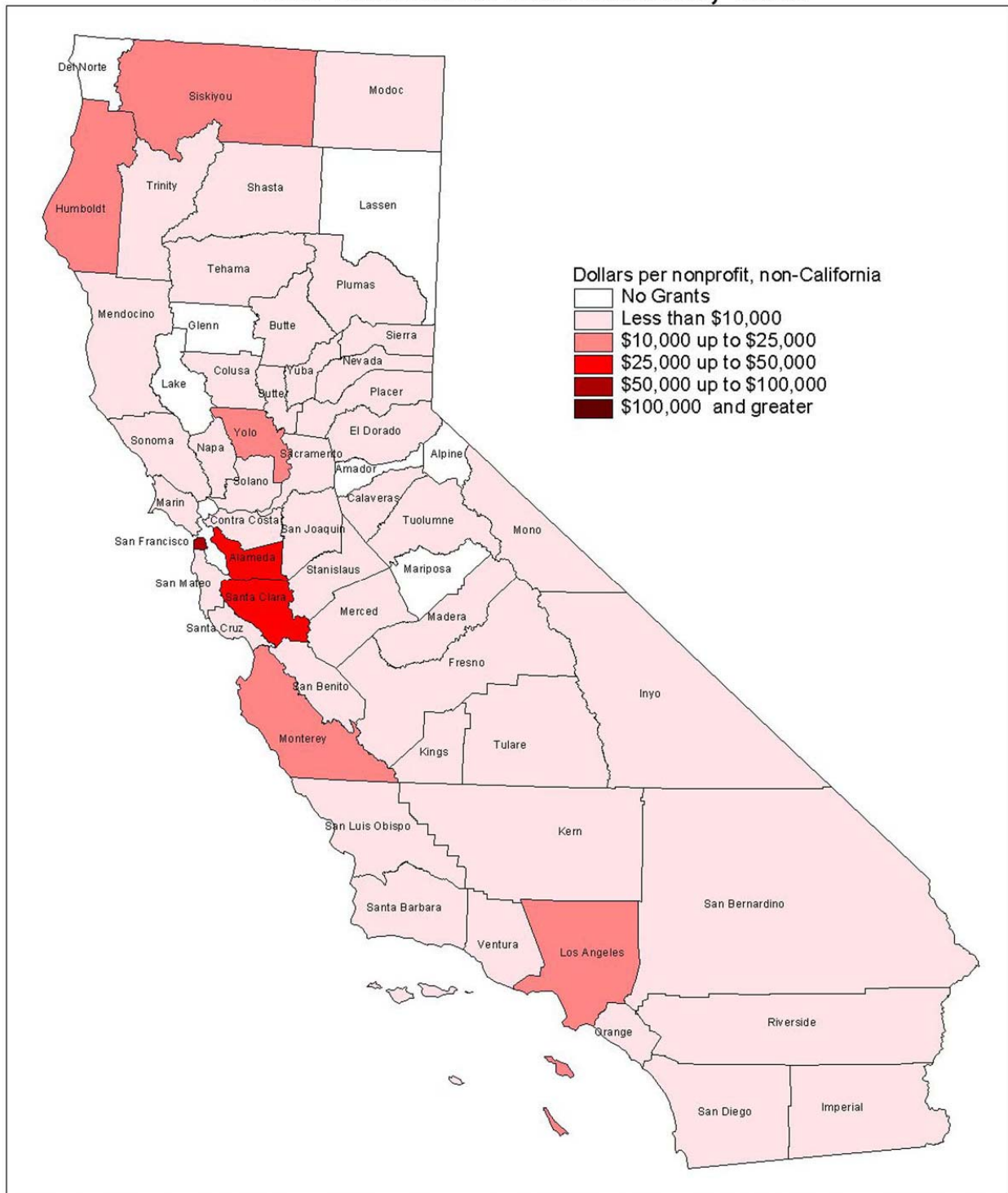
Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped of grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

**Dollars per nonprofit, California**

- No Grants
- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 up to \$25,000
- \$25,000 up to \$50,000
- \$50,000 up to \$100,000
- \$100,000 and greater

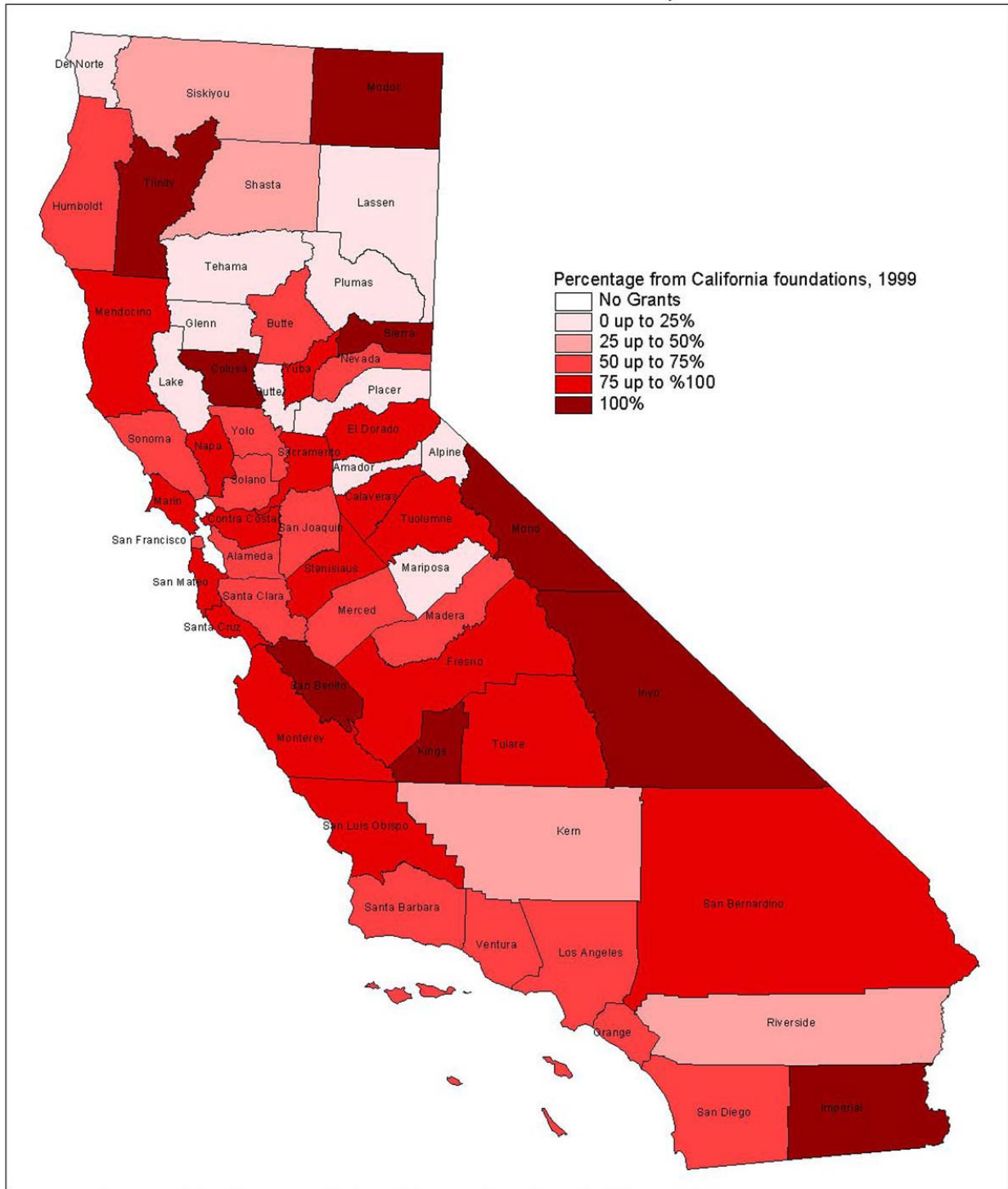
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**Map 36. Grant dollars received per nonprofit from non-California foundations, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001, data mapped include a sample of grants representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars in 1999; and National Center for Charitable Statistics, Reporting Public Charities in California, by County, Circa 1998, November 2000.

**Map 37. Percentage of grant dollars received from California foundations, 1999**



Data Sources: The Foundation Center, Grants Index Sample, 2001: Grant dollars mapped are of grants \$10,000 or more from a sample of Foundations, representing at least half of all U.S. and California grantmaking dollars; and State of California, Department of Finance: Total Population of California Counties, January 1, 1999.

## Summary

In summary, this *Atlas* reveals several interesting patterns in the capacity and reach of California foundations within the state. The most notable is the geographic concentration of both philanthropic capacity and reach.

Philanthropic capacity is concentrated in two regions within the state – coastal southern California<sup>19</sup> and the San Francisco Bay Area<sup>20</sup>, and the concentration is evident regardless of the measure of capacity one uses. Conversely, there is little evidence of philanthropic capacity outside these regions. Fifteen California counties had at most one grantmaking foundation in 1999. The lack of capacity was notable in both northern California (with the exception of Shasta and Humboldt counties) and in the Central Valley (with the exception of Fresno and Tulare counties). Moreover, the patterns in growth suggest that these regional patterns of concentration have been reinforced over the past two decades. For the most part, large foundations in the 1980s and 1990s were established in counties that already had a strong philanthropic presence.

Since the measures of capacity are based on foundation location, they do not presuppose that grantmaking itself is as concentrated as the capacity patterns would suggest. Foundations could focus much of their giving outside their home base. And, indeed, the *Atlas* reveals a different spatial pattern of grantmaking to California recipients. Relying on grants of \$10,000 or more from a sample of large U.S. foundations, the spatial analysis revealed that per capita grant dollars are concentrated in the San Francisco Bay area, and in Monterey and Humboldt Counties. This concentration holds across almost all subject areas. San Francisco County leads in per capita grant dollars in six of the ten grant subject areas. Monterey County leads in Science and Social Science grant dollars, and Humboldt county leads in International Affairs/Human Rights grant dollars. Only in Religion grant dollars does another county (Orange County) dominate.

Even more interesting, however, is the relatively poor showing of southern California in per capita grant dollars, despite the region's philanthropic capacity. This finding coupled with the low level of per capita grant dollars in the Central Valley raises questions about whether the distribution of philanthropic dollars across the state are reaching the areas of greatest need. Answering this question is beyond this analysis. Here we provide only the first step, identifying the geographic patterns that existed in 1999. Future questions include whether the patterns observed in 1999 are repeated in future years, and whether the observed patterns can provide the basis for a in-depth analysis of the appropriateness of the distribution of philanthropic dollars in the state and presumably their impact.

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<sup>19</sup> Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties.

<sup>20</sup> Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties.