

**Handout for November 2017 Newsletter**  
**Mapping Consumer Price Inflation in GeoFRED®**

**Purpose.**

1. Create an international geographical map of consumer price inflation.
2. Edit the map by changing the interval values of its legends and modifying its color.
3. Interpret the economic information displayed in the map.

**Pedagogical Rationale.** This assignment requires that you first search for data online, select a particular series, and display them in the form of a geographical map. Next, you will edit the format of the map. Lastly, you will interpret the economic information displayed in the map. These tasks will develop your proficiency in searching for, manipulating, and interpreting data.

**Grading.** Your grade will be determined by (a) how precisely you complete the search and manipulation data tasks and (b) how accurate your interpretation of the data is.

**Steps to Search for and Manipulate the Data.** Follow these steps:

1. Access <https://geofred.stlouisfed.org> and click on “Build New Map.”
2. Click on “Tools” and under “CHOOSE DATA > Data:” select “Inflation, consumer prices.”
3. Click on “EDIT LEGEND” select “Interval Method > User defined” and “Define maximum interval values.”
  - 0
  - 2
  - 5
  - 10
  - 380.78
4. Click on “CHOOSE COLORS” and select from “Multi Hue” the right-most color scheme from the second row (tagged “ylorrd”)

**Discussion Prompts.** Answer the following questions:

1. Name three countries experiencing double-digit inflation, or hyperinflation.
2. Name three countries experiencing negative inflation, or disinflation.
3. (EXTRA CREDIT) Consider the fact that the World Bank, the source of the data, did not report consumer price inflation rates for Venezuela and Argentina in 2016. Search online for news related to inflation in those two countries and explain what [The Billion Prices Project](#) is.