Preliminary Remarks:

Assumptions: For the purpose of this project, I will only be accounting for States, so I will not include U.S. territories, such as Guam, or the District of Columbia. I also categorized a city as dense if it had a population >100,000 people.

Data sources:

The New York Times:
1. https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/11/06/us/elections/results-senate-elections.html
2. https://www.nytimes.com/elections/2016/forecast/senate

I used both the 2016 and 2018 midterm elections to weigh the political affiliations of each state because not all members of congress are up for reelection every couple of years.

United States Census:
1. https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-state-total.html
2. https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/map/US/PST045219
3. https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/popest/tables/2010-2019/state/totals/nst-est2019-01.xlsx?#

These data were used to account for population statistics like obesity, age, population density, and so forth.

World Info:
1. https://worldpopulationreview.com/states/median-household-income-by-state/
2. https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/us/

Used to calculate the median household income by state.

Medicare:
1. https://data.medicare.gov/widgets/xubh-q36u

The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania:
https://wrds-www.wharton.upenn.edu/

Used Wharton's database to obtain data for number of hospital beds in the United States.

Federal Aviation Administration:
1. https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats/passenger/?year=2009
2. https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats/passenger/media/cy18-commercial-service-enplanements.pdf

Used FAA's data to retrieve enplanement records in 2018.