

3. EDUCATION GRAPHIC ESSAY

US ROUTE 12 BUFFER
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A child's turf is an ordered space in which the child plots data points at important spots. I will use maps generated on a geographical information system (Atlas GIS for Windows, v. 3.0) as one set of tools to broaden student perspective. The student population will be mainly 9-10 year old students from urban and suburban settings. I hope to initially probe three areas of student perspectives:

- a. Their sense of space immediately around them in their daily lives, including their school, home, block, city, county, and state;
- b. Their sense of the order of the physical world around them, including cardinal directions, directions of major roads and highways, positions of buildings, cities, and states along U.S. 12 (base map in Figure 1);
- c. Their knowledge of the people, buildings, and stories behind their known turf (sample of a map set shown in Figure 2).

I am most interested in finding where different student maps end, where their Unknown begins, and what they think is beyond.

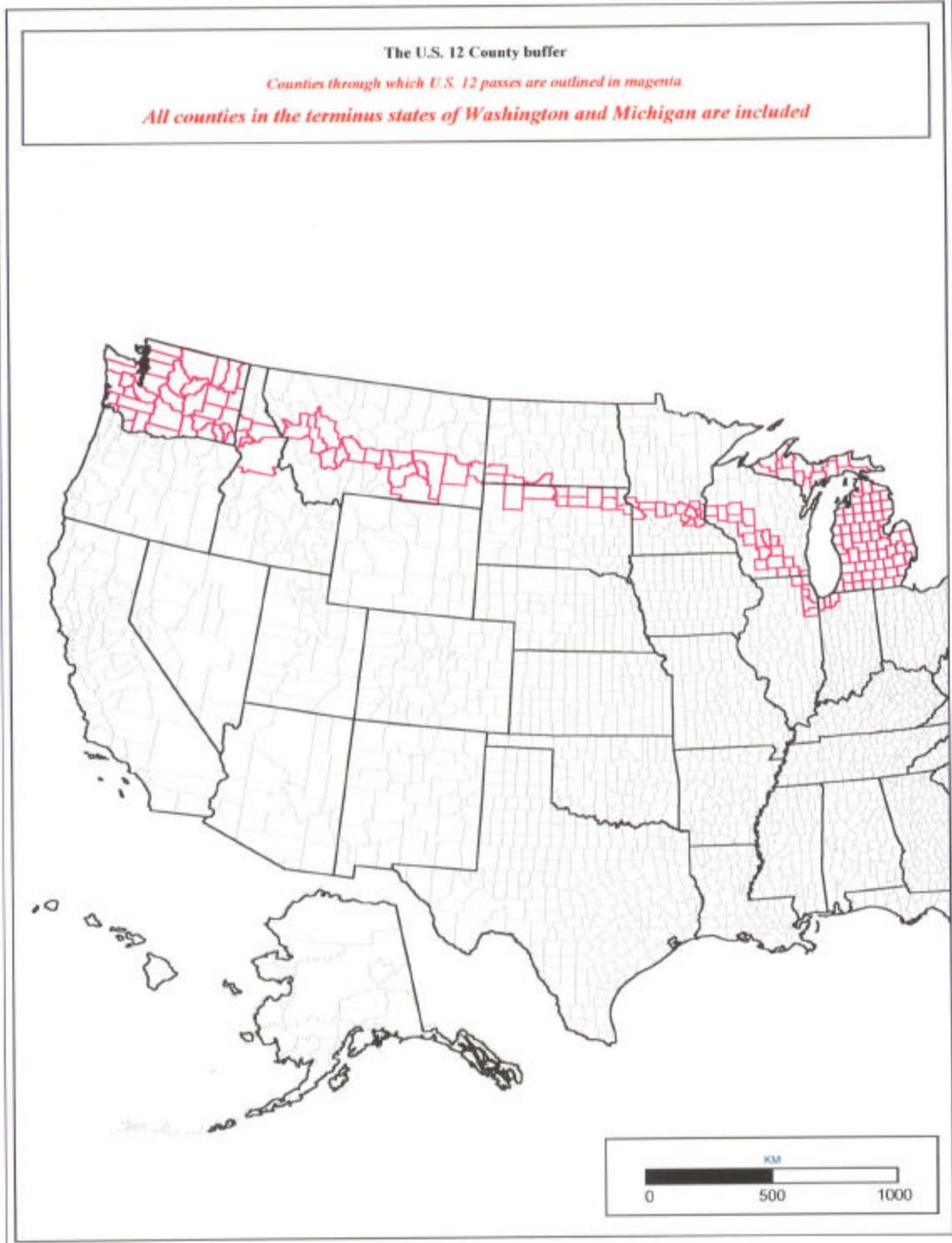


Figure 1. U.S. 12 county buffer.

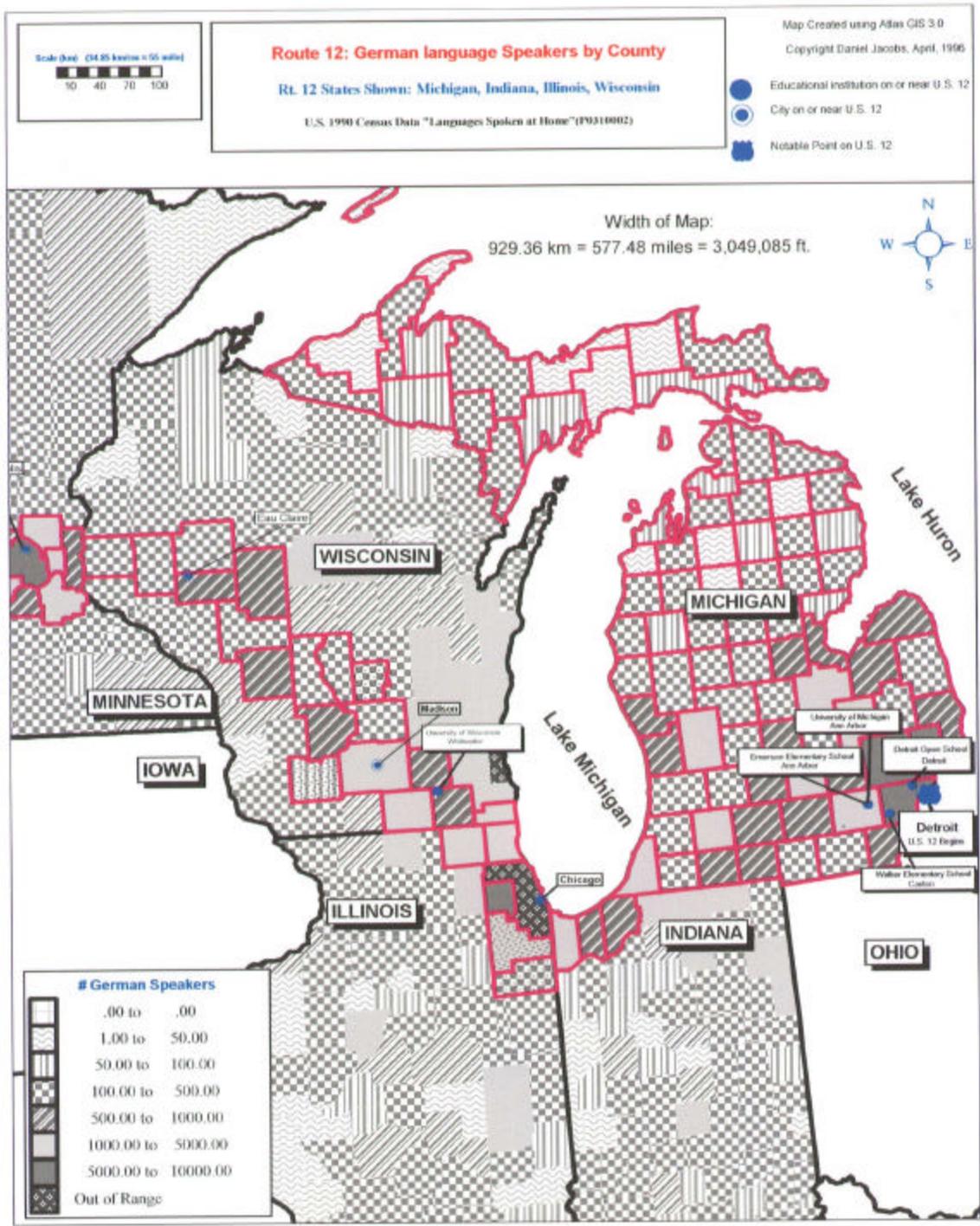


Figure 2. Number of German speakers by county; U.S. 12 buffer outlined in magenta.