

LIBRARY SUPPORT FOR GIS

THE FREE & EASY WAY!

Rebecca C. Hyde, MLIS
Research & Instruction Librarian, Saint Louis University
SLRLN TechExpo
March 1, 2017

WHAT IS GIS?

“GIS is the common abbreviation for geographic information systems, a powerful and widely used computer database and software program that allows scientists to link geographically referenced information related to any number of variables to a map of a geographical area.”

-Gale Encyclopedia of Science

“GIS is a technological field that incorporates geographical features with tabular data in order to map, analyze, and assess real-world problems.”

-GIS Lounge

“...A GIS IS A COMPUTER SYSTEM CAPABLE OF ASSEMBLING, STORING, MANIPULATING, AND DISPLAYING GEOGRAPHICALLY REFERENCED INFORMATION (THAT IS DATA IDENTIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR LOCATIONS).”

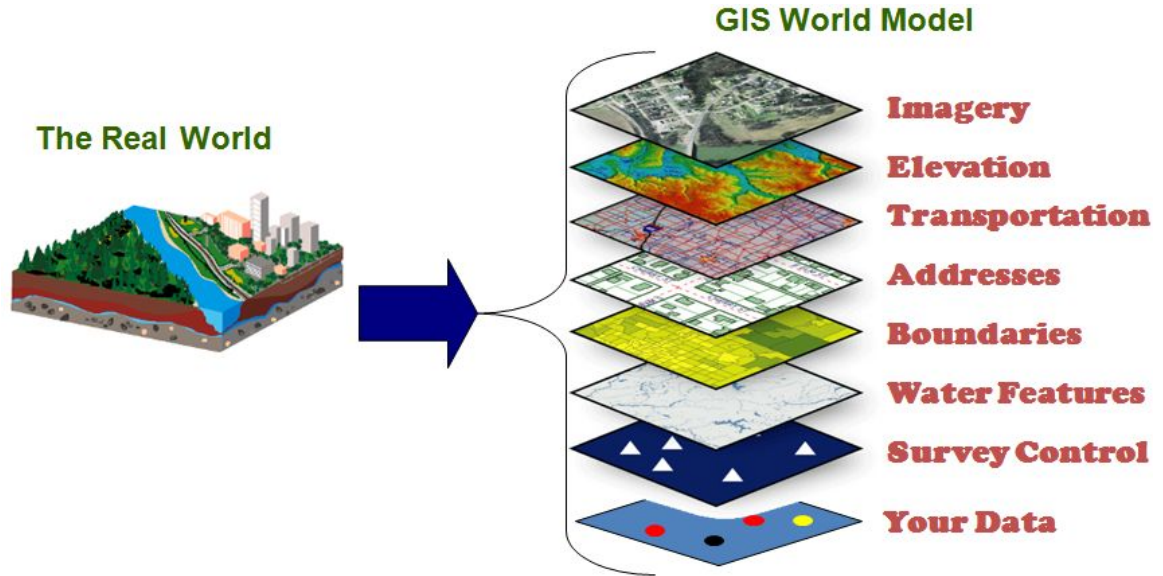
-US GEOLOGICAL SERVICE



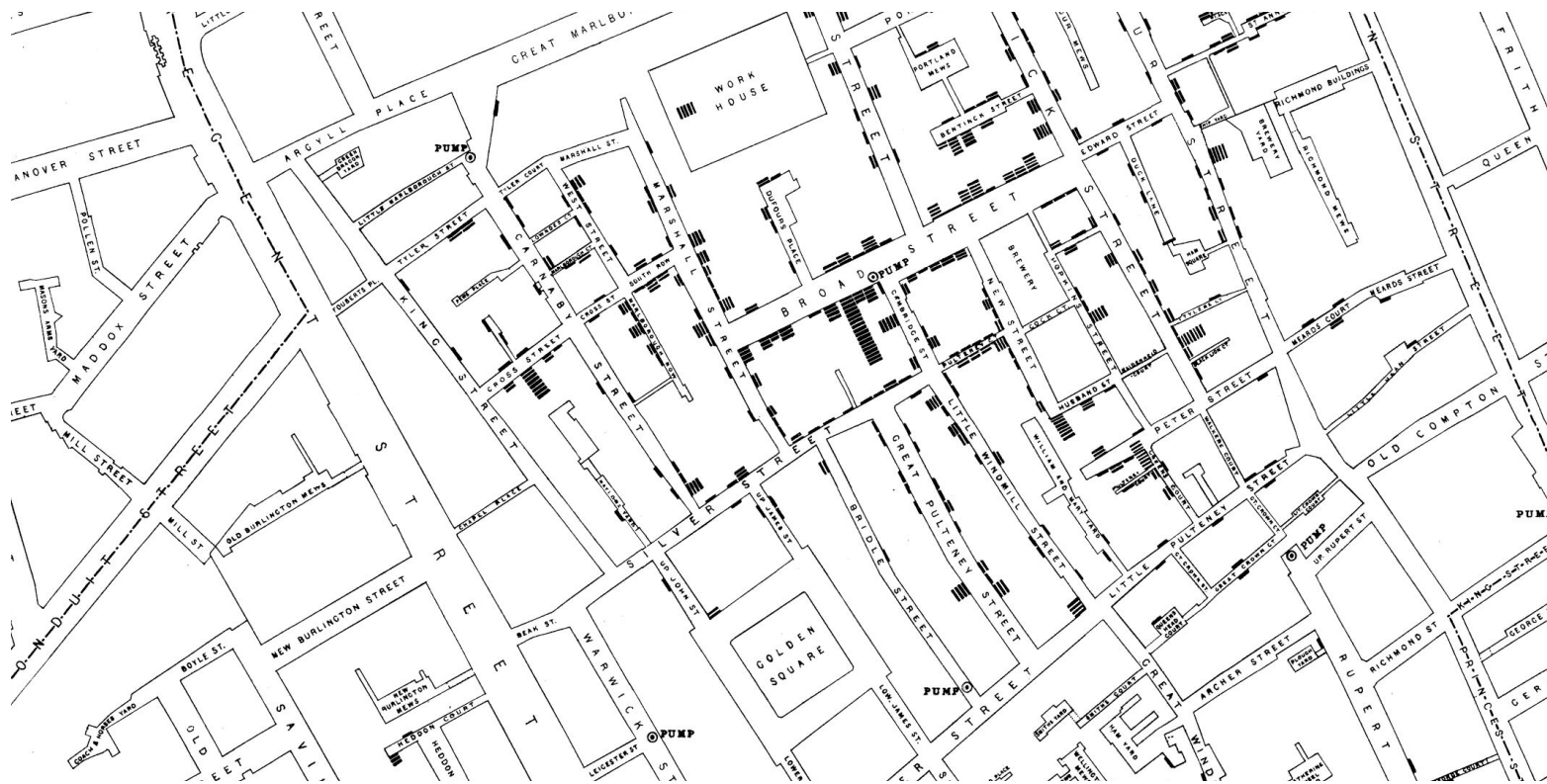
WHAT IS GIS?

"A GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS) LETS US VISUALIZE, QUESTION, ANALYZE, AND INTERPRET DATA TO UNDERSTAND RELATIONSHIPS, PATTERNS, AND TRENDS."

-ESRI



JOHN SNOW'S 1854 LONDON CHOLERA MAP



From: https://www.udel.edu/johnmack/frec682/cholera/snow_map.png

WHAT IS GIS?

Geographic Information Systems

AND

Geographic Information Science

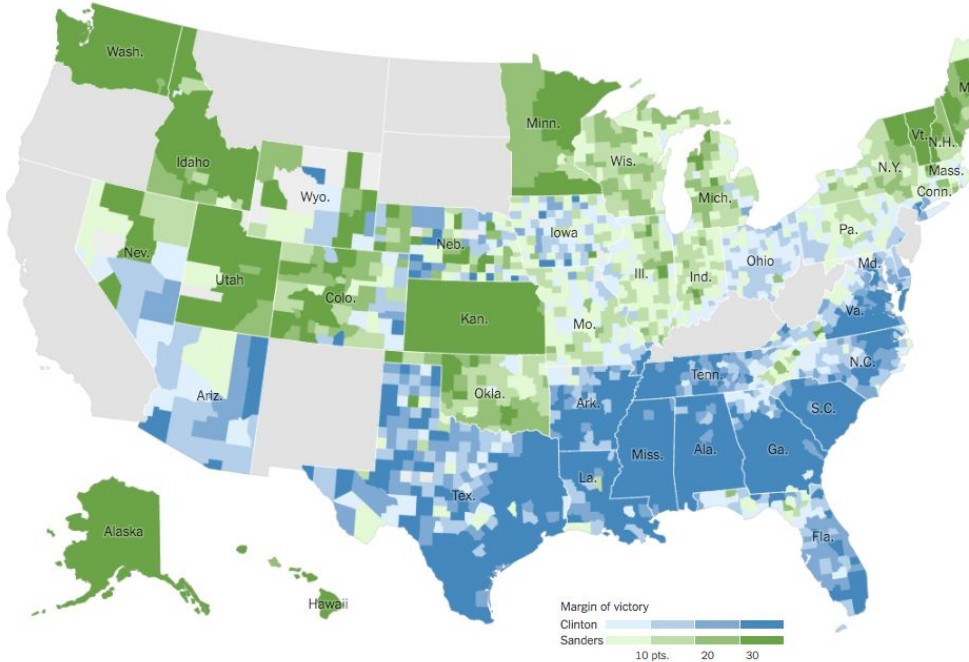
(sometimes GISci or Geospatial Science)



2016 PRIMARY MAPS

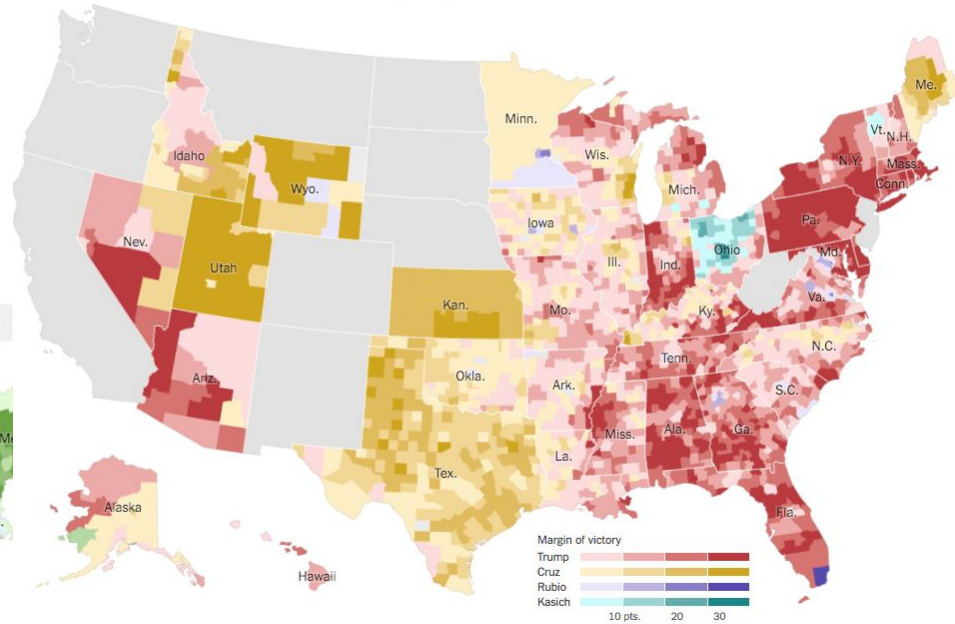
Democrats

Updated May 10



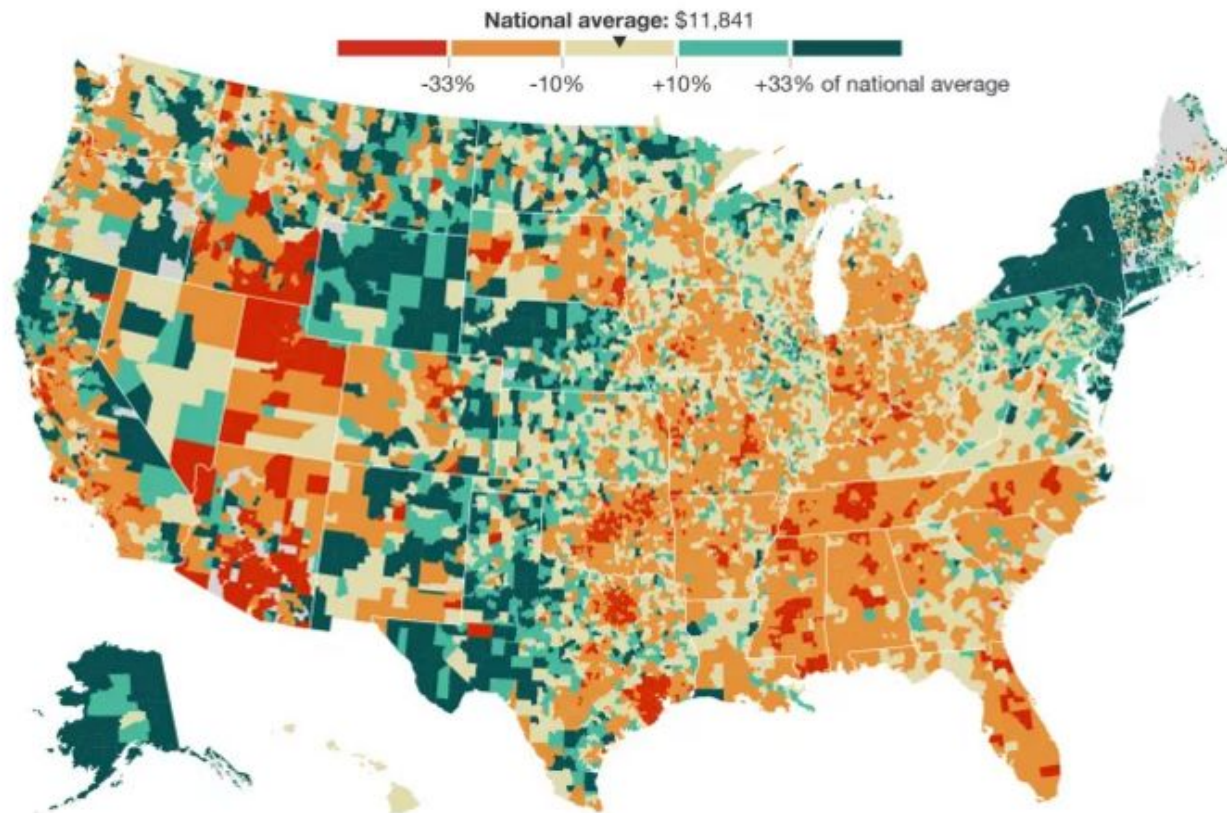
Republicans

Updated May 10



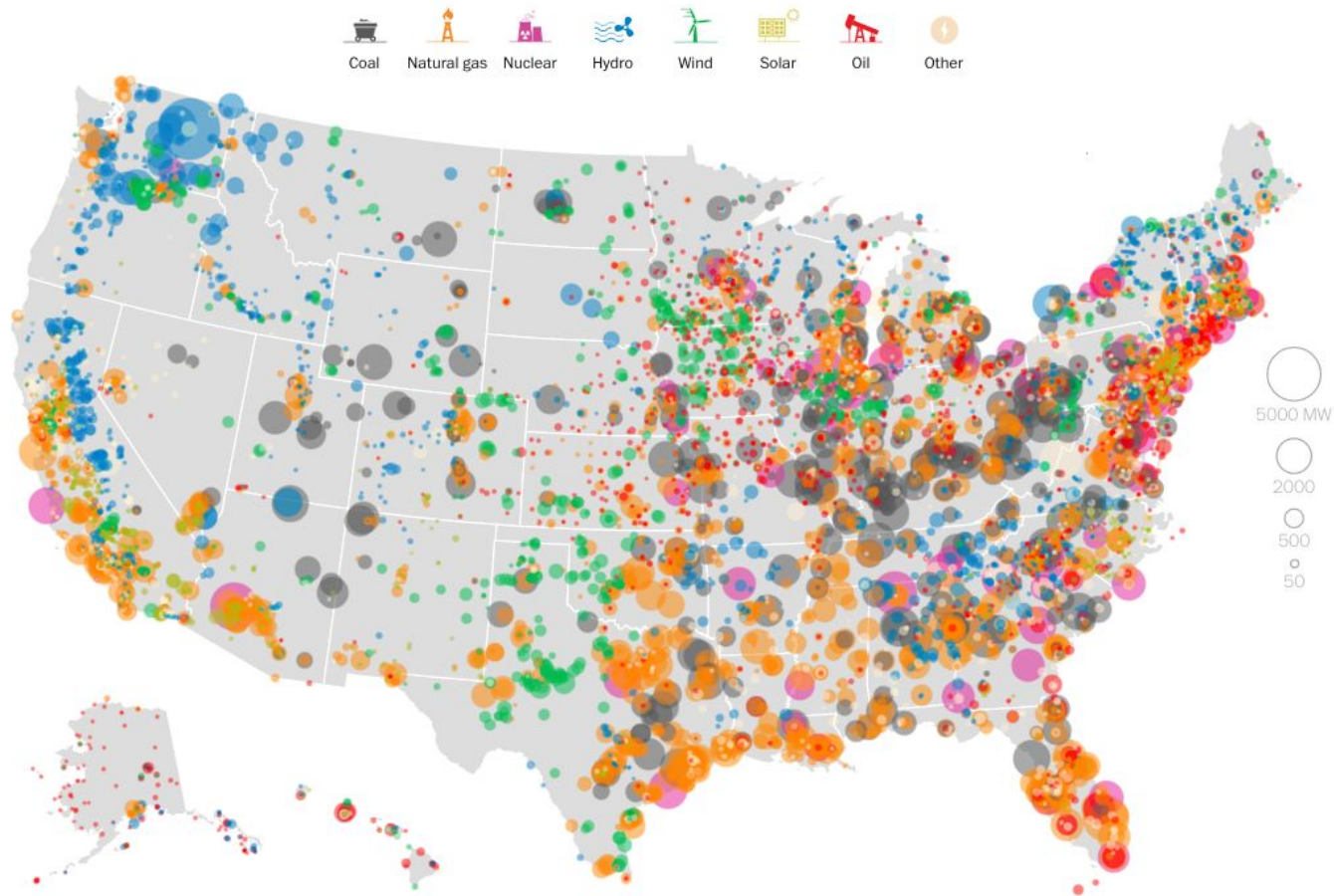
From: <http://www.nytimes.com/elections/2016/national-results-map>

SCHOOL DISTRICT SPENDING PER STUDENT



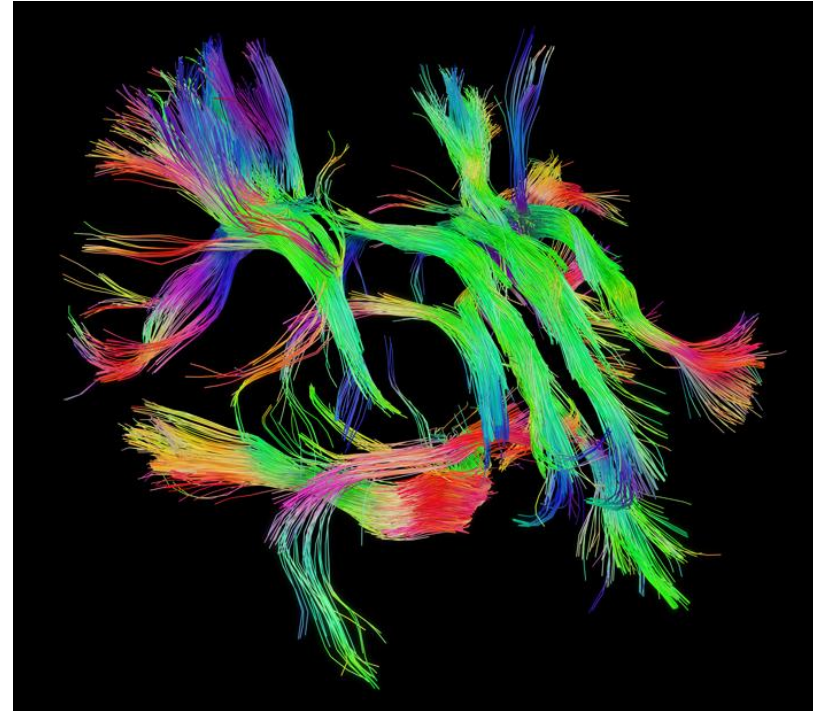
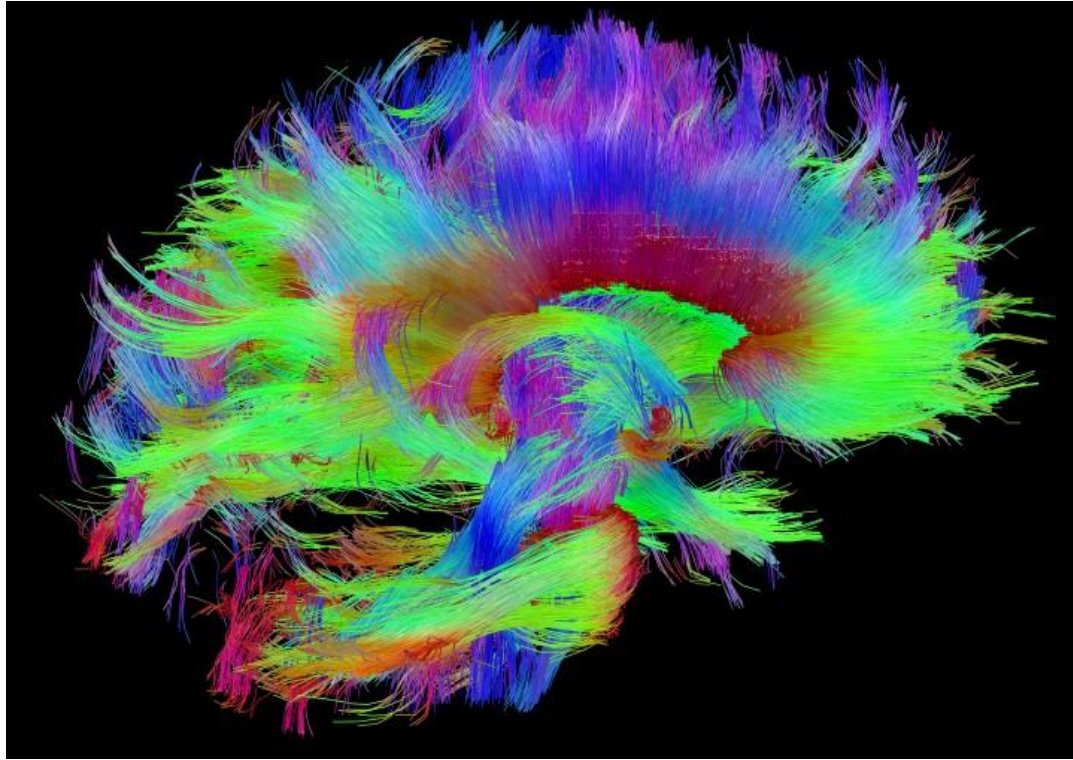
From: <https://flowingdata.com/2016/04/21/school-district-spending-per-student/>

PLANT CAPACITY BY POWER SOURCE IN MEGAWATTS



From: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/national/power-plants/>

HUMAN CONNECTOME PROJECT BRAIN MAPS

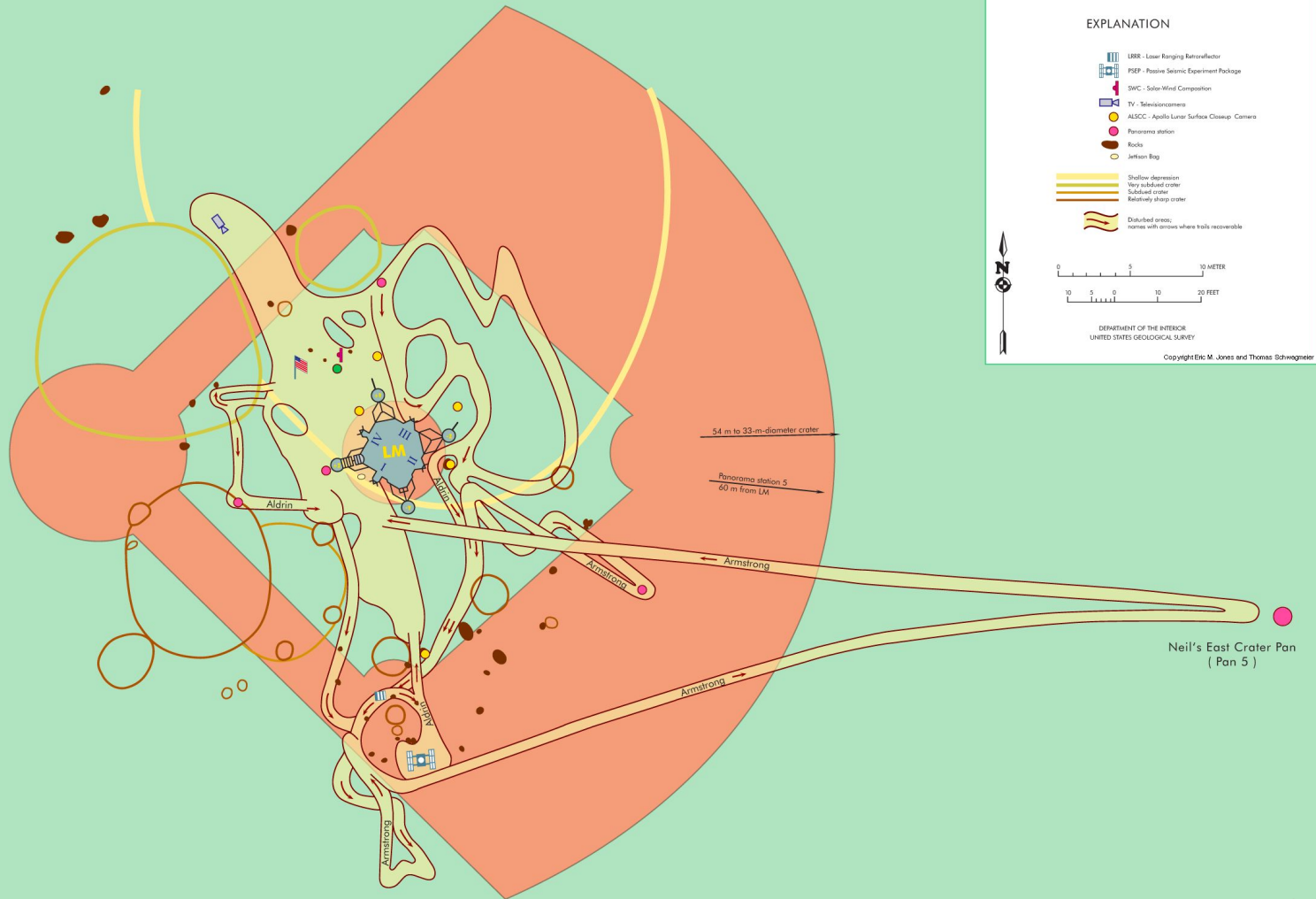


From: <http://www.humanconnectomeproject.org/gallery/>



"THE APPLICATION OF GIS IS LIMITED ONLY BY
THE IMAGINATION OF THOSE WHO USE IT."

-JACK DANGERMOND, CO-FOUNDER OF ESRI






ROLE OF THE LIBRARY

ACCESS TO GIS DATA & TOOLS

- Tools for creating simple GIS
 - With data provided
 - With your own data
- Finding GIS data



“I NEED A MAP FOR
MY PRESENTATION”

CENSUS EXPLORER

census.gov/censusexplorer/

Selected data from the Census & County Business Patterns

Maps focused on commuting, retail data, population estimates, etc

Share maps & embed into websites

Maps based on commercial product Social Explorer

Some control over look & feel

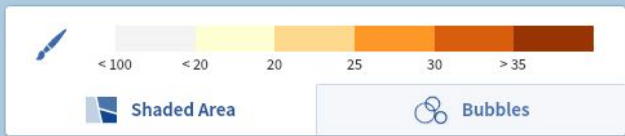




Select a Measure
Under 20 years

Show by
County

Enter address or geography



Population Estimates & Social Explorer

Data subject to sampling variability

CENSUS BUSINESS BUILDER (CBB)

census.gov/data/data-tools/cbb.html

Perfect for patrons researching a business startup

Small business edition & regional analyst edition

Data on potential customers/residents, consumer spending, businesses

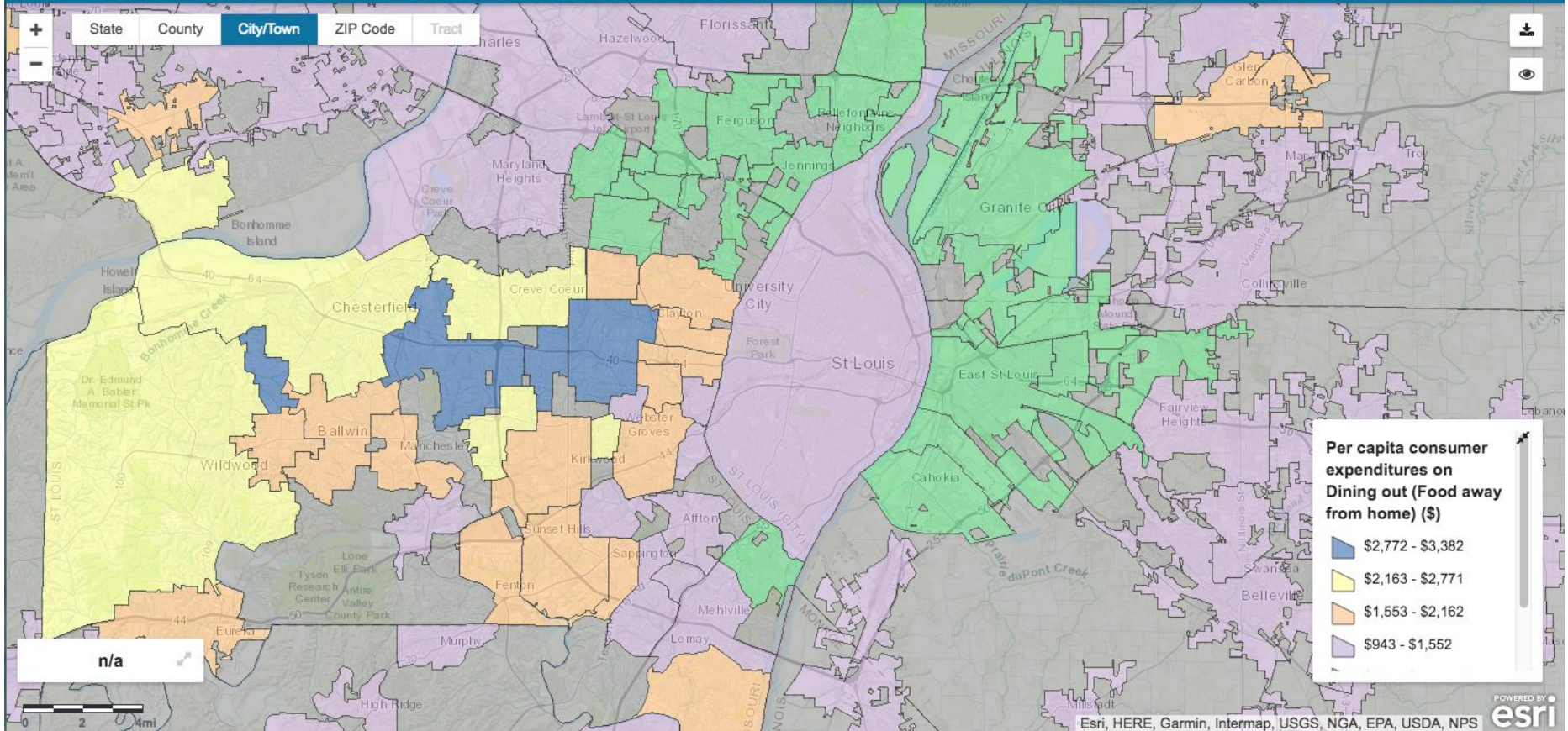
Mapping & data for all sectors of the economy in a user defined region

Mapping & data for market research on individual sectors

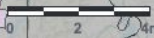
Powered by ESRI



+ State County City/Town ZIP Code Tract



n/a



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC - MAPMAKER INTERACTIVE

[Mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org](https://www.mapmaker.nationalgeographic.org)

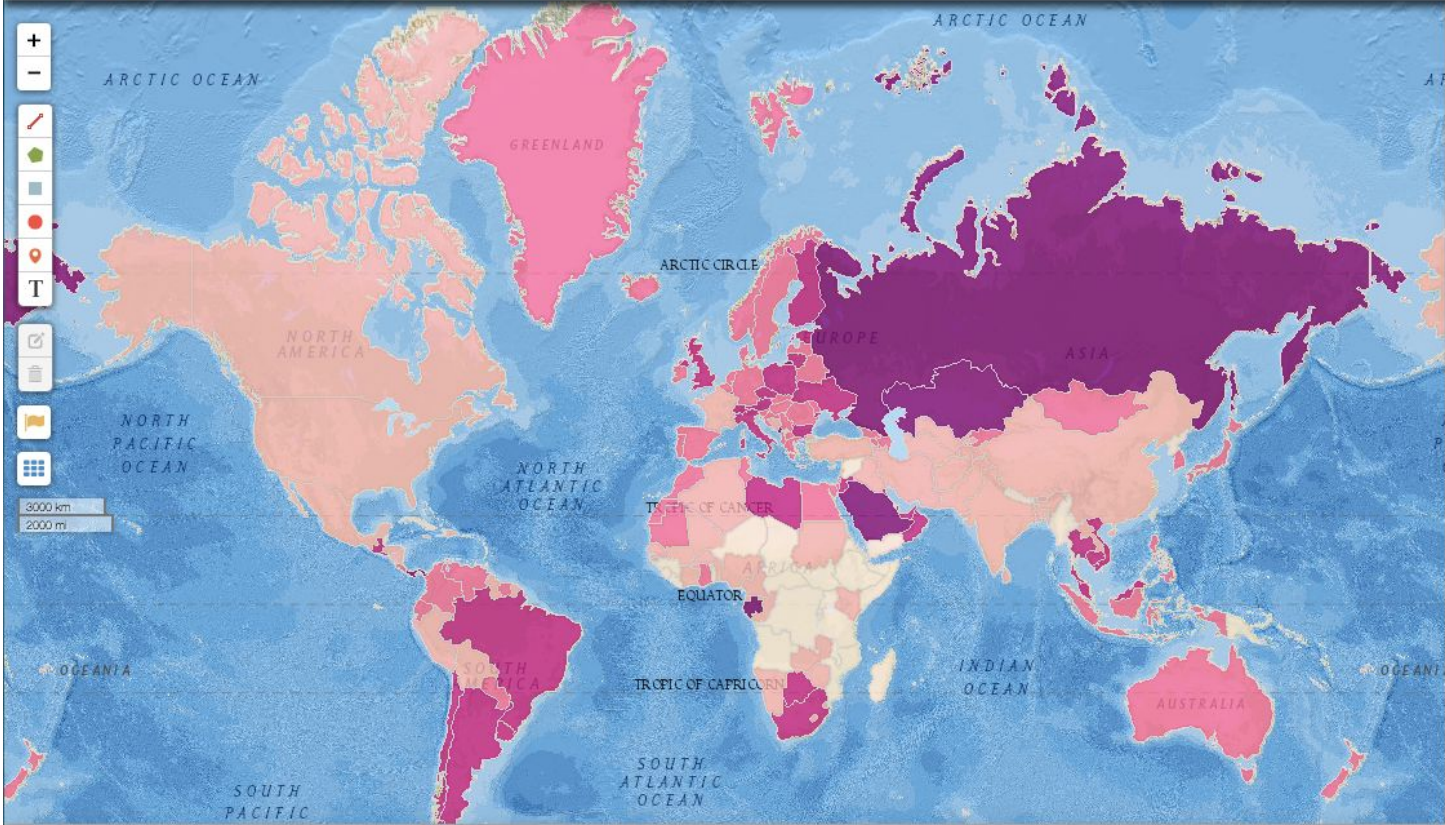
Perfect for school research projects & presentations

Variety of base maps plus ability to add markers, text & shapes allows for some customization

Global data layers related to climate, economy, food, energy, water & more

Ability to save, print & share maps online





Legend | Layers | Base Maps | Data

Add Layer

Below are the layers currently displayed on the map. Drag and drop the layers below to reorder them on the map



Mobile Cellular Subscription: (per 100 people)

Transparency



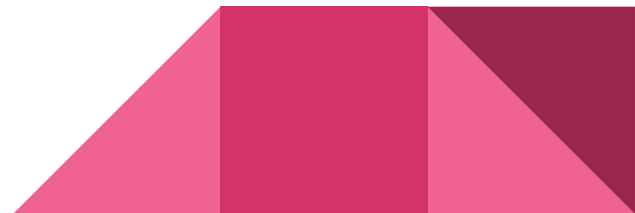
TOOLS YOUR LIBRARY MIGHT PURCHASE

Social Explorer

DataPlanet

Policy Map

Simply Map





FREE GIS TOOLS FOR THE INEXPERIENCED USER

MAPPING A LIST OF LOCATIONS - MY MAPS GOOGLE

google.com/mymaps

Simple to use, most people are already familiar with the map interface

Search & add locations or upload a spreadsheet with up to 2,000 addresses

Share maps online for free; can have multiple editors

Change the base layer map for some customization



MAPPING A LIST OF LOCATIONS - MAPLINE



mapline.com

More unique look & feel

Easy map creation using excel file of locations

Allows for mapping up to 500 global addresses a day in free model

Has additional data layers you can add to your maps (\$\$)

Has web hosting (\$\$) & map sharing options

MAPPING A LIST OF LOCATIONS - ZEEMAPS

ZeeMaps

zeemaps.com

Built on Google maps

No signup required to create a map

Create maps using excel, csv file, etc. plus crowd sourcing & search

Options to pay per map (PDF download, no ads, etc.)

Hosts interactive maps (up to 5 for free)



MAPPING ALL THE DATA! - CARTO



Carto.com

Powerful online GIS with low barrier to entry

Greater control over look & feel

Share interactive map via link or embed in your website

Add your own data as XLS, CSV, SHP, KML, etc.

Includes large library of data layers



FINDING GIS DATA

FREE GIS DATA ONLINE - FROM THE GOVERNMENT

[Data.gov](https://data.gov)

Portal for U.S. government data

Allows for filtering by geospatial data

& USE USA.GOV TO SEARCH FOR
GOVERNMENT DATA LAYERS!



FREE GIS DATA ONLINE - LOCAL SOURCES

Missouri Spatial Data Information Service (MSDIS) Geoportal:

geoportal.missouri.edu/geoportal

(Geospatial data from county governments, East-West Gateway,
State level agencies & more!)

St. Louis Regional Data Exchange: stlouisdata.org

(GIS layers and data uploaded from researchers,
planners and others in the region.)



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Free online training from ESRI

arcg.is/2i2FjUw

Info on data and other resources

libguides.slu.edu/GIS

Articles & info for all levels from GIS Lounge

Gislounge.com

Make a Map! GIS Lite & Quick Map Tools

libguides.northwestern.edu/GISLite





THANK YOU!

FIND THIS PRESENTATION ONLINE! [BIT.LY/SLRLNGIS](https://bit.ly/slrlngis)

EMAIL ME! [RHYDE1@SLU.EDU](mailto:rhyde1@slu.edu)