Maps and Geospatial Information from the Federal Government

Marcy Bidney, Penn State University
Maps and Geospatial Data in general
Finding maps/data produced by the Federal Gov’t
Data
International maps/data
Demos

Agenda
Maps today are not just about finding your way

- Map as visualization
- Map as analysis
- Map as teacher

What is a map?
I’d like to find a map of school districts in Idaho

I’d need a map of housing affordability in Los Angeles

Agency Approach?

- Department of Education
- Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Geospatial Platform
- Data.gov
I need a map showing population change by county in NJ from 1980-1990

Is there a map that shows the increase in the use of cell phones from 1980-1990

It doesn’t always exist
Other places to find data

- State geospatial portal
- ESRI
- Natural Earth Data
- Data.gov
- World Resources Institute
- Diva-GIS
Atlases are rich sources for a variety of data

- Digital Ag Atlas of Myanmar
- Atlas of World Languages in Danger

Don’t forget the atlas
Visualizations

Gapminder
Openheat Map
Many Eyes
Visual.ly

Gov’t (and NGO) Data Outside the Gov’t
International

Africa
- Liberia
- Kenya
- Botswana

Afghanistan
- Information Management Services

Europe
- European Union
  - GMES
  - My Ocean

India
- Census of India

UK
- Ordinance Survey
Questions?

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Evaluation
December 16: PubMed, PubMed Central, and Medlineplus - What's the difference? with Lea Leininger, UNCG

January 5: Creative Commons with Rosalind Tedford, Wake Forest University

Spring: International organizations and more!

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Upcoming Accidental Librarian Webinars