



Need a Map?

Maps, Mapping, and Geospatial Services in Libraries

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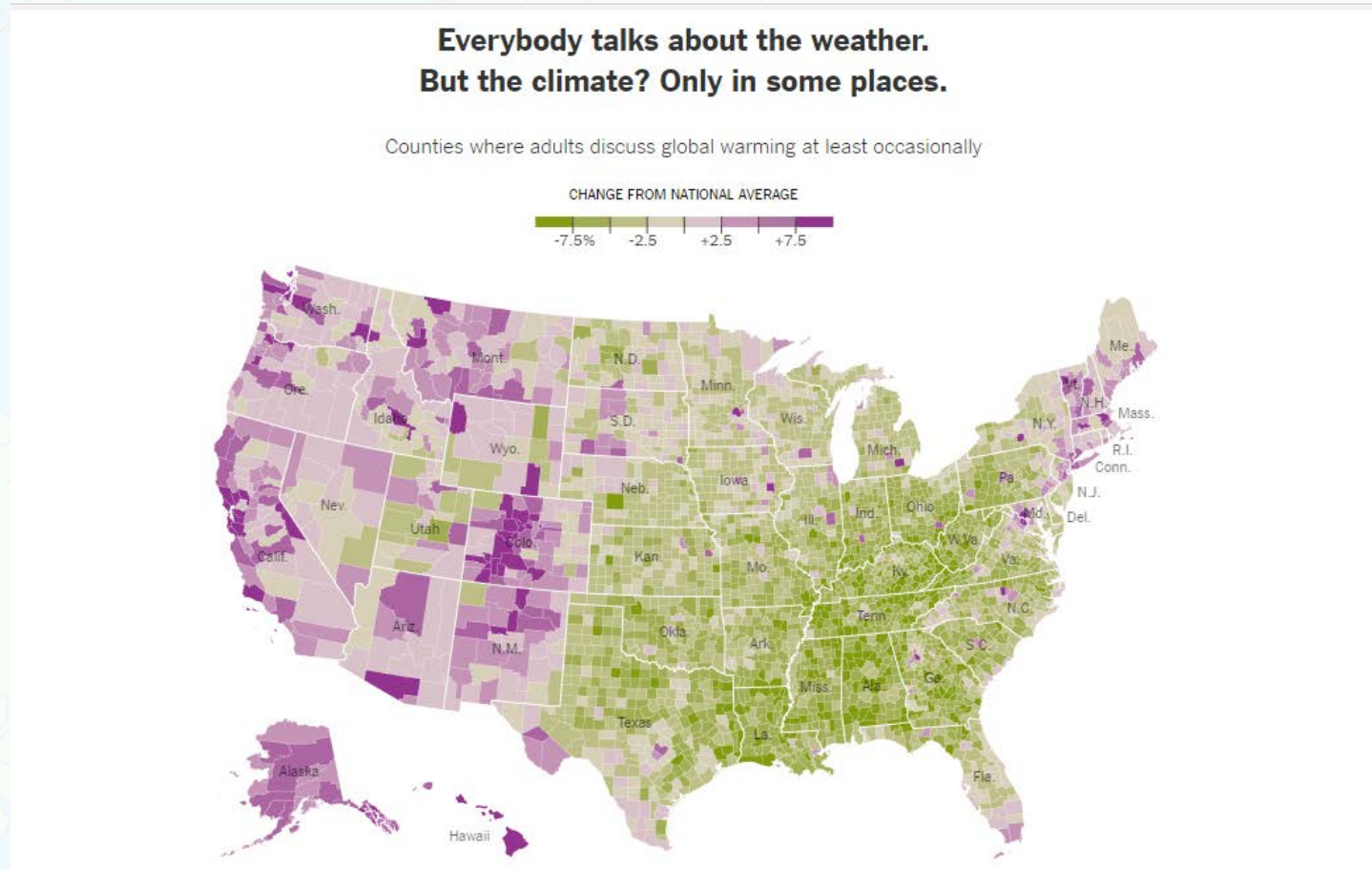


When was the last time you used a map?

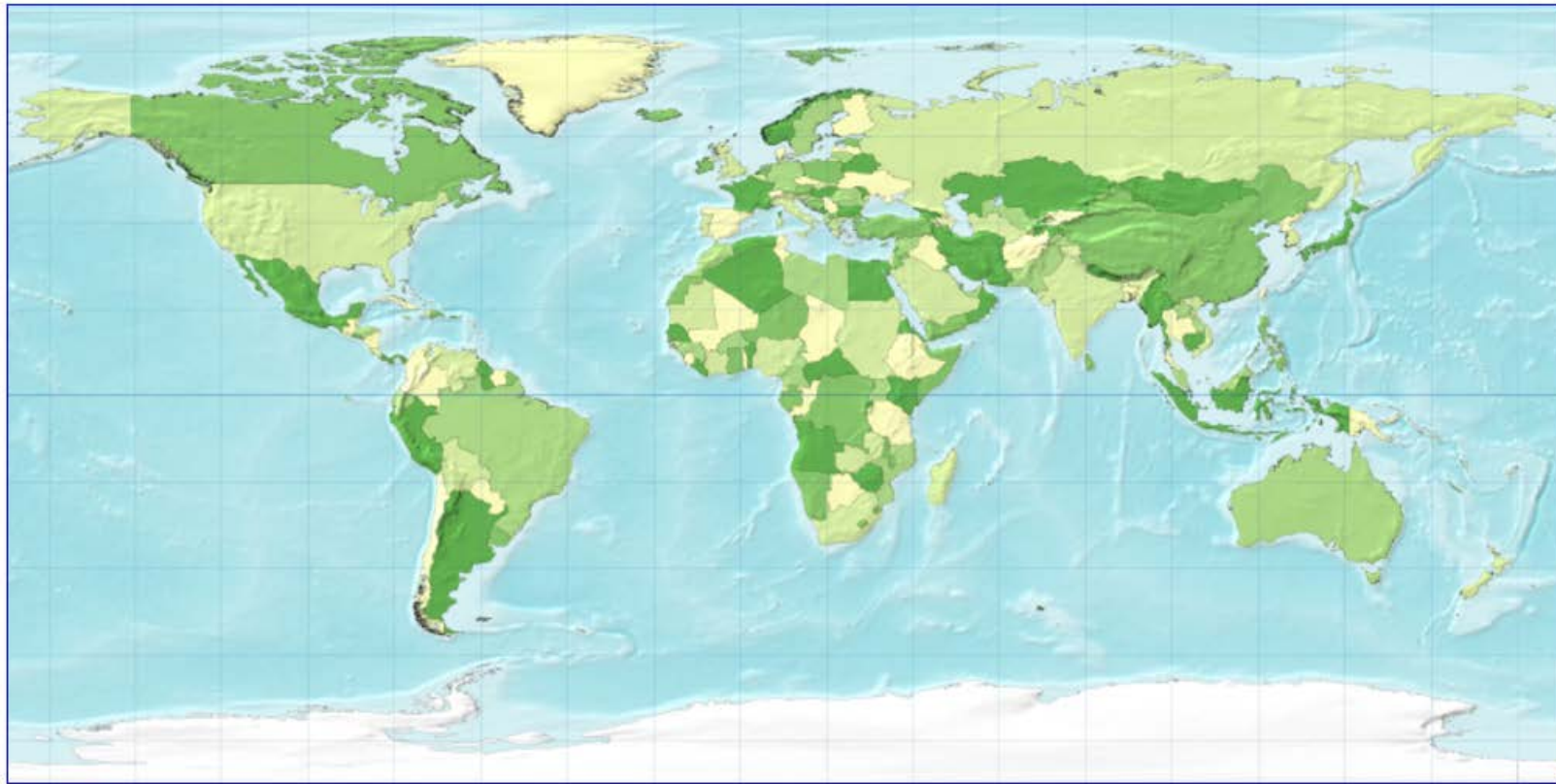
What did you use it for?

- Planning travel – local and distant
- Genealogy research
- Find out about a place that someone in your family has moved to
- School research
- City governments for planning
- Market research for a business
- Find out about a place in the news
- Historical research
- Decoration
- Design ideas
- Status symbol!

Maps are Useful for Information and to Show Patterns



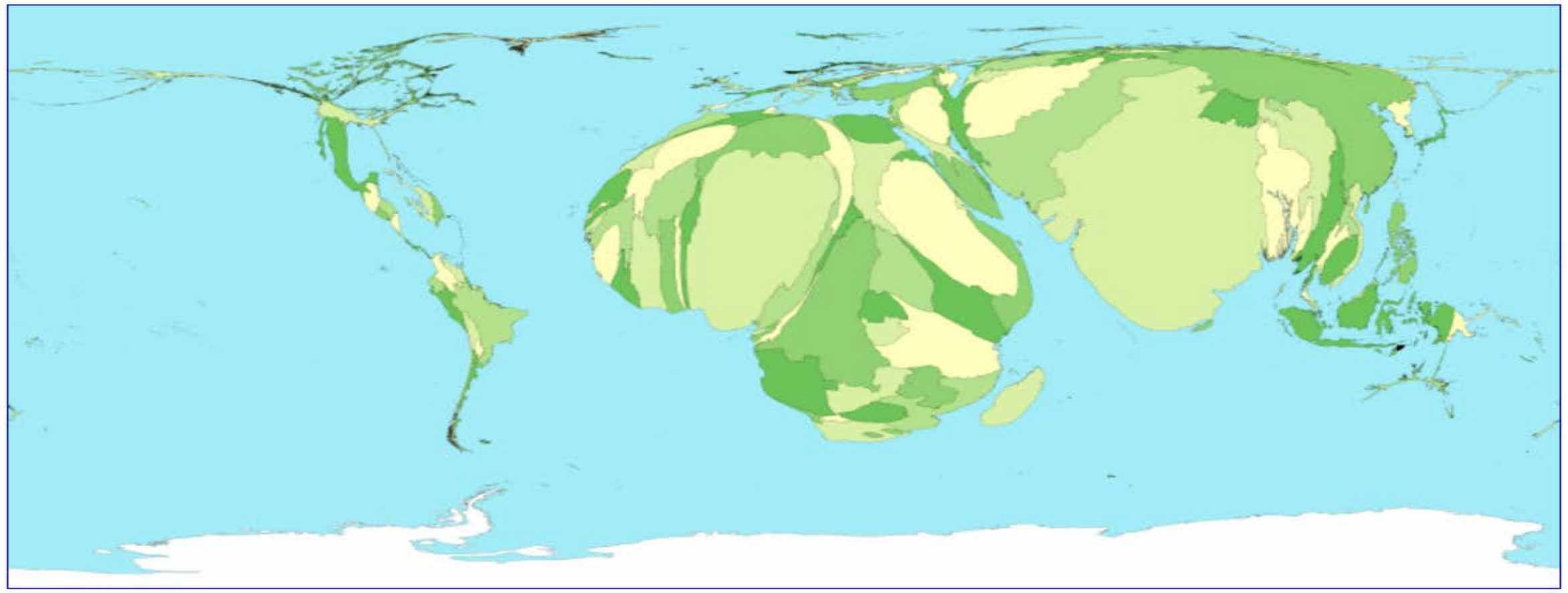
Maps can Make Things Clearer, More Quickly





From: <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/cartograms/>

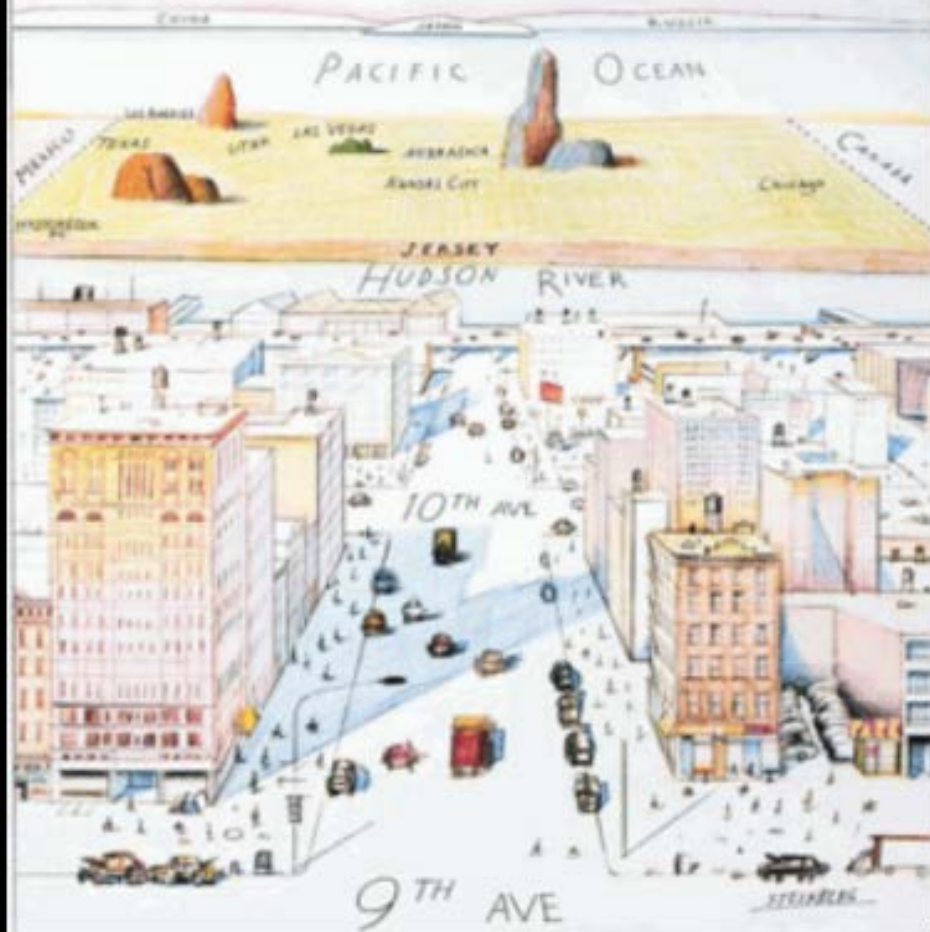
Child mortality



Mar. 29, 1976

THE NEW YORKER

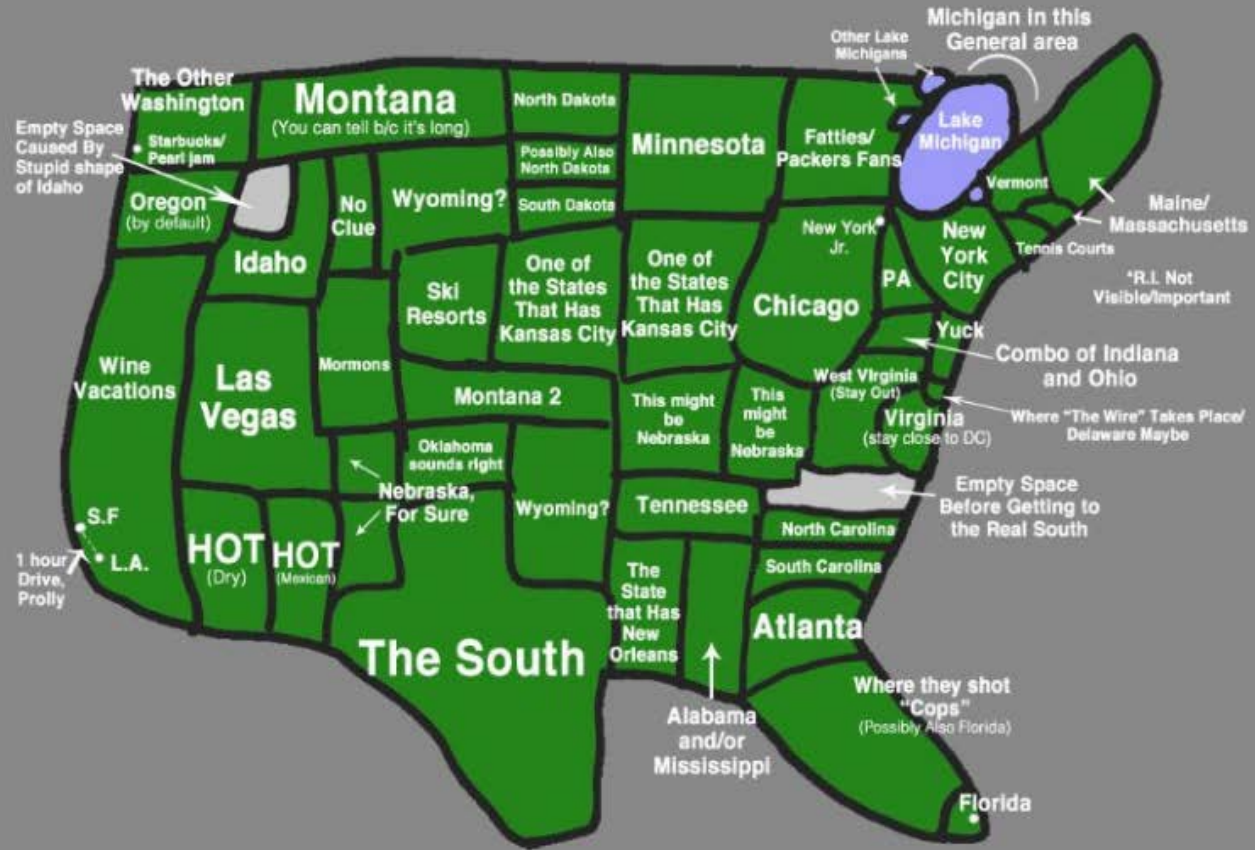
Price 75 cents



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/View_of_the_World_from_9th_Avenue#/media/File:Steinberg_New_Yorker_Cover.png

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS SEEN BY A NEW YORKER

*Map to Scale





Terminology


- Maps
- Geospatial services
- Geospatial resources
- Geographic information systems (GIS)
- Geolocation
- GPS (global positioning system)
- Geotagging/Geocoding
- Geo-IP
- Geocaching

Why maps in libraries?



For the same reason we have other collections and services in our libraries- because they are useful to people, because people might not have access to them otherwise, because we can provide help in using them to find information and for enjoyment.

Including maps of our libraries! Floors, levels, collection locations.



Map Collections in Libraries

- Historic maps (worldwide, regional, local)
- Road maps and travel atlases
- Wall maps (worldwide, regional, local)
- Atlases – general (world, state, county) and thematic (political, climate)
- Globes
- State and local government maps
- “topo maps” or “quads” USGS Quadrangle Maps
- U.S. Government produced maps: USDA (soils maps, Forest Service maps, NOAA, Census, CIA, Defense Mapping Agency)
- United Nations maps, maps from mapping offices in other countries
- Helpful to have staff in the library that can help people find and use maps

Changes with Technology – more geographic information, more formats

- Aerial photography
- Satellite imagery
- Computers





Online Maps and Geographic Information

- Scanned maps from print collections
- E-versions of atlases and maps
- Directional maps created by organizations, businesses on websites
- Map interfaces such as Google Maps, MapQuest, Google Earth, OpenStreetMap, Scribble Maps
- Aerial photographs and satellite imagery
- Geographic data sources and repositories



GIS (Geographic Information Systems)

- Wikipedia: A *geographic information system (GIS)* is a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present spatial or geographic data.
- Libraries use GIS for planning, understanding their communities
- Libraries provide services related to GIS in a number of different ways:
 - Lead people to data
 - Provide hardware and software
 - help people use GIS



Other Geospatial Services

- Housing maps created in the community (academic libraries and IRs; public library local special collections)
- Create maps from items in library collection (e.g. where research on a topic is being done)
- Enhancing a collection by tying it into maps (e.g. pioneer diaries on a map)
- Creating a local resources online geospatial guide (local attractions)
- Programming with geospatial information: creating maps, contributing to online maps (OpenStreetMap), geocaching

Maps, Mapping, and Geospatial Services in Your Library



- What uses for maps and geospatial services might your patrons have?
- Consider: community activities, popular personal activities, unique local resources (cultural, natural), ethnicity and culture of local population, kinds of businesses, area history, student research areas
- Consider who you might work with to make a service available through cooperative effort
- There is a wealth of options – from simple and inexpensive to resource intensive and complex – choose what is right for your library



Resources

- ALA [Map & Geospatial Information Round Table \(MAGIRT\)](http://www.ala.org/magirt/)
www.ala.org/magirt/
- ESRI Environmental Systems Research Institute <http://www.esri.com>
- Maps and GIS journal articles (found in library research databases)
- Local teachers and practitioners <http://www.uen.org/k12educator/> and search GIS (for example)
- Online browsing
- Other librarians