Review of The Modern Language Association Language Map

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Citation Information
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[Visited Nov'04] By manipulating the reliable statistics gathered in the 2000 US Census, the creators of this site were able to extract language and linguistics data mounted on this unique and well-organized resource. An important utility for students, teachers, and anyone interested in learning about the linguistic and cultural composition of the US, the site provides color-coded maps of 33 language groups in the nation, by county or by ZIP code, and allows comparisons of two language groups or two states. Though the default mode shows languages by county, users can add layers (cities, rivers and lakes, highways, etc.) to create maps specific to their needs. And by clicking on Find Out More Detailed Information, one arrives at a page that allows searching by state, county, city, or ZIP code to find tabulated information on language speakers (broken down by age). All the possibilities are described in the formal tour offered on the home page. This clean and elegant site easily surpasses its closest counterpart, the non-interactive Ethnologue.com [http://www.ethnologue.com/], which provides various data from 1977 to 1990.

**Summing Up:** Essential. All collections; all levels.

**Reviewer:** R. Tolley-Stokes, East Tennessee State University

**Recommendation:** Essential

**Readership Level:** All Readership Levels, General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Researchers/Faculty, Two-Year Technical Program Students, Professionals/Practitioners

**Interdisciplinary Subjects:**

**Subject:** Reference

**Choice Issue:** feb 2005 vol. 42 no. 6

**Choice Review #:** 42-3131

**Review DOI:** 10.5860/CHOICE.42-3131