University of Idaho

GISday

Geographic Information System (GIS) Day Fact Sheet

Background/Purpose

GIS Day is a world-wide event that takes place annually. It began in 1999 and at University of Idaho, GIS Day has been a tradition since 2007. The event provides a forum and opportunity to bring scholars, students, professionals, businesses and the public together to focus on geospatial technologies and to demonstrate their many uses—presently and what's to come in the near future.

GIS Day is an interactive, hands-on, information sharing event where attendees and participants learn the impact geospatial technologies are having in answering research questions and solving real-world problems—ultimately making a positive difference in our society.

What is GIS?

Location, location, location. It has been referred to as *The Science of Where*^{TM}. A geographic information system (GIS) is a computer system that enables you to visualize, analyze, and interpret geographic data. GIS is being used all around us every day from disaster response to navigation systems in your car to location-based services for your phone. GIS is valuable because it enables you to interpret and understand information based on location.

General Facts

- The University of Idaho Library is the main sponsor and GIS Day event organizer
- The 2017 U of I GIS Day hosts 10 Lighting Talks and 17 interactive exhibits and posters
- GIS software is used by most, if not all, academic colleges at the University of Idaho. Recent examples:
    - Glacier Park Tree Mortality
    - Locations of Clearest Skies for Solar Eclipse
- Double-digit growth is projected for the global GIS market from 2017-2023[1]
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts cartography & photogrammetry to be one of the 20 fastest growing occupations in the U.S. from 2014-2024[2]
- GIS is applicable to most every academic discipline, business and government entity
- GIS technology use is wide-spread in today's society including the areas of navigation, government services and emergency services.

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[1] https://www.psmarketresearch.com/market-analysis/geographic-information-system-market
[2] https://www.bls.gov/ooh/fastest-growing.htm