EXPLORE Health Path

CAREER CATEGORIES

Medical, Heath Care and Animal Health

First Responders

Community, Human and Personal Care Services

Sciences (Life and Social)

LEARN MORE @ www.powerfulgeography.org @ PowerfulGeoUSA
EXPLORE Medical, Health Care and Animal Health

CAREER EXAMPLES

Medical and Health Care

Physician
Surgeon
Pediatrician
Nurse
Registered Nurse (RN)
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
Nurse Practitioner
Physician Assistant
Medical Assistant
Nursing Aide/Assistant
Pharmacist
Medical Laboratory Technologist
Radiologic Technologist
Physical Therapist
Occupational Therapist
Occupational Health and Safety Specialist
Speech-Language Pathologist
Respiratory Therapist
Paramedic
EMT (Emergency Medical Technician)
Clinical Research Coordinator
Health Information Technician
Healthcare Consultant
Dietitians and Nutritionist
Home Health Aide
Alternative and Complementary Medicine
Allied Health and Medical Assisting Services
Podiatrists
Psychiatrist
Chiropractor
Dentist
Dental Hygienist
Genetic Counselors
Optometrist
Optician
Ophthalmologist
Orthotists and Prosthetists
Audiologist
Massage Therapist
Dermatologist
Certified Midwife
Medical Billing Specialist
Medical Coding Specialist
Hospital Administrator
Public Health Specialist
Medical Transcriptionist

Animal Health

Veterinarian
Veterinary Technician
Veterinary Assistant
Animal Caretaker
Animal Behaviorist
Animal Control Officer
Zoologist
Wildlife Biologist
Veterinary Pathologist
Animal Nutritionist
Animal Physical Therapist
Animal Groomer
Animal Trainer
Equine Therapist
Veterinary Practice Manager
Animal Welfare Advocate
Veterinary Radiologist
Veterinary Surgeon
Veterinary Ophthalmologist
Veterinary Dermatologist
Animal Shelter Manager
Animal Nutrition Sales Representative
Veterinary Laboratory Technician
Animal Pharmaceuticals Researcher
Veterinary Acupuncturist
Animal Breeder
Veterinary Anesthetist
Veterinary Epidemiologist
Zookeeper
Veterinary Parasitologist
Wildlife Rehabilitator
Veterinary Dentist
Animal Massage Therapist
Veterinary Oncologist
Veterinary Immunologist
Animal Geneticist
Veterinary Microbiologist
Veterinary Pathobiologist
Veterinary Virologist
Veterinary Clinical Pharmacologist

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EXPLORATION
Medical, Health Care and Animal Health

CAREER EXPLORATION

Pick 2-3 jobs that interest you from the list of career examples. Write them down.

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Where (location) would you need to go to pursue (or get) these jobs?

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What are some of the qualifications (for example: skills, degrees, knowledge) you need to have these jobs?

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How could you make an impact in the world with these jobs?

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Geographical data is used to map the spread of diseases, track disease prevalence, and identify high-risk areas, enabling targeted healthcare interventions and resource allocation.

Geography helps in analyzing healthcare accessibility by assessing geographic barriers, population distribution, and healthcare facility locations to ensure equitable access to healthcare services for all communities.

Geographical knowledge is utilized to assess environmental health risks, such as air and water quality, soil contamination, and exposure to toxins, enabling the implementation of effective public health policies and interventions.

Geography is employed in conducting epidemiological studies to examine the relationship between disease patterns and geographic factors, contributing to the understanding of disease transmission and the development of effective public health strategies.

Geographical analysis aids in planning the location of health facilities, considering population density, demographic trends, and transportation accessibility to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of healthcare services to communities.

Geography plays a crucial role in disaster response and management by assessing geographical vulnerabilities, identifying at-risk populations, and planning for emergency healthcare services to mitigate the impact of natural disasters and health emergencies.

Geographical techniques are used to conduct spatial analysis of health data, allowing for the identification of health disparities, geographic clusters of diseases, and underlying social determinants of health for targeted health interventions.

Geography is applied in health policy planning by assessing regional health disparities, demographic variations, and socioeconomic factors to develop comprehensive and inclusive health policies that address the diverse healthcare needs of different geographic populations.

Geography aids in the implementation of telehealth and remote healthcare services by assessing technological infrastructure, geographic connectivity, and healthcare access gaps to ensure the effective delivery of virtual healthcare services to remote and underserved communities.

Geography is utilized in global health initiatives by analyzing geographic variations in disease prevalence, healthcare infrastructure, and sociocultural contexts to develop international health programs and policies that address global health challenges and promote health equity worldwide.
Animal Health

Geographical data is used to monitor the spread of animal diseases, track disease outbreaks, and identify geographic hotspots, facilitating targeted disease control and prevention measures.

Geography aids in mapping zoonotic diseases, assessing their geographic distribution, and identifying regions where human-animal interactions pose a high risk of disease transmission, enabling the implementation of strategies for disease management.

Geographical analysis is used to plan the location of veterinary practices, considering animal population density, transportation accessibility, and regional demand for veterinary services to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care for different communities.

Geography is employed in monitoring wildlife health, assessing habitat changes, and tracking wildlife migration patterns to understand the impact of environmental factors on wildlife health and to develop conservation strategies for wildlife populations.

Geography plays a crucial role in animal emergency response and disaster management by assessing geographic vulnerabilities, identifying at-risk animal populations, and planning for the provision of veterinary care during natural disasters and emergencies.

Geographical techniques are used in conducting veterinary epidemiological studies, allowing for the analysis of disease prevalence among animal populations, the identification of disease clusters, and the investigation of environmental factors that contribute to animal health risks.

Geography aids in controlling vector-borne diseases in animals by assessing vector habitats, identifying disease transmission patterns, and implementing targeted vector control measures to minimize the spread of vector-borne diseases among animal populations.

Geographical analysis is employed in wildlife conservation planning by assessing biodiversity hotspots, identifying critical habitats, and mapping wildlife corridors to develop conservation strategies that promote the protection and preservation of endangered animal species.

Geography is applied in the development of animal health policies, considering regional animal health disparities, environmental risk factors, and socio-economic contexts to implement comprehensive animal health policies that ensure the welfare and well-being of animals in different geographic regions.

GIS technology is utilized in veterinary research for spatial data analysis, disease modeling, and habitat assessment, allowing for the integration of geographical information into veterinary research projects to enhance the understanding of animal health patterns and to support evidence-based veterinary medicine.
Using veterinary methods, such as fecal exams, for parasite analysis and physical exams of livestock to determine health status gave me information not usually available to geographers. Veterinary skills also provided additional modes of analysis and interpretation. When asked what causes diarrhea in their livestock, nomads sometimes report its cause as “dirty grass.” Knowing that there exist specific kinds of intestinal parasites of livestock whose infective larvae actually crawl up to the tips of grass blades to facilitate ingestion, and that these cause serious disease, was important in my research. Because this occurs mostly during the wetter parts of the year, it is no less important to know that anthrax spores pose a similar threat during dry periods and after harvests, when livestock graze especially close to the soil surface. Other researchers may have discounted the “dirty grass” answer as ignorant or superstitious, or as some kind of general infectious condition. For my work, the answer, taken in conjunction with observations about time of year and rain/drought conditions, provided important and concise information. I cross-checked this information against other interview questions concerning parasites seen by the nomads at slaughter, against diseases reported by the government agriculture office, and against the fecal exams I conducted. The ability to move between social science and veterinary languages when interviewing nomads or, equally, veterinary extension agents, made my research more effective.

FIND LOCAL GEOGRAPHERS

*INSTRUCTIONS* CONDUCT AN ONLINE SEARCH TO FIND LOCAL INDIVIDUALS WHO DO THE JOB YOU ARE INTERESTED IN.

WRITE DOWN THEIR NAME, JOB TITLE, AND USE THE LINES TO WRITE DOWN WHAT THEY DO.

*EXTENSION* IF POSSIBLE, TRY AND INTERVIEW THE PERSON AND ASK THEM HOW THEY USE GEOGRAPHY! WRITE YOUR FINDINGS IN THE OPEN SPACES.
### Medical, Health Care and Animal Health

#### Expand

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First Responders

CAREER EXAMPLES

- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Paramedic
- Firefighter
- First Responders
- Flight Paramedic
- 911 Emergency Dispatcher
- Critical Care Paramedic
- Trauma Nurse
- Emergency Room Physician
- Disaster Relief Medical Officer
- Search and Rescue Medic
- Tactical Medic
- Wilderness Medic
- Combat Medic
- Pre-hospital Care Nurse
- Emergency Department Nurse
- Air Ambulance Medical Crew
- Hospital Trauma Team Member
- Disaster Response Nurse
- Critical Care Transport Nurse
- Emergency Medical Dispatcher
- Emergency Room Technician
- Mobile Intensive Care Nurse

LEARN MORE  www.powerfulgeography.org  @PowerfulGeoUSA
Pick 2-3 jobs that interest you from the list of career examples. Write them down.

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Where (location) would you need to go to pursue (or get) these jobs?

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What are some of the qualifications (for example: skills, degrees, knowledge) you need to have these jobs?

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How could you make an impact in the world with these jobs?

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First responders use geographic knowledge to quickly and efficiently navigate through various terrains and road networks to reach the scene of an emergency. Knowledge of the local geography helps first responders identify potential access points in remote or rural areas, allowing them to reach individuals in need of assistance, even in challenging and less accessible terrains. They also use geographic knowledge to quickly locate critical facilities such as hospitals, police stations, fire stations, and other emergency services in the vicinity of the emergency, ensuring timely access to necessary resources.

Understanding geographical data helps them identify high-risk areas, such as high-crime areas, hazardous zones prone to natural disasters, and regions with high accident rates, allowing them to be better prepared for potential emergencies.

They use geographic knowledge to plan and establish the most efficient evacuation routes during natural disasters or other emergencies, ensuring the safe and swift movement of affected populations to secure locations. And by understanding the geography of the affected area, first responders can better assess the impact of natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes, or wildfires, and plan their response and relief efforts accordingly.

Geographic information helps first responders create maps, mark search areas, and determine the most effective search and rescue strategies when looking for missing persons or individuals in distress. Understanding terrain and topography helps them anticipate challenges in accessing remote or rugged areas, enabling them to make informed decisions about the appropriate equipment and resources needed for the operation.

They leverage their geographic knowledge to manage traffic during emergencies by controlling traffic flow and redirect vehicles away from affected areas, ensuring the smooth movement of emergency vehicles and reducing congestion.

They use geographic data to identify potential environmental hazards such as chemical plants, gas pipelines, or nuclear facilities, allowing them to take necessary precautions and develop effective response plans. By understanding these geographical vulnerabilities of their jurisdiction, first responders can develop comprehensive disaster preparedness plans tailored to the specific risks and challenges presented by the local geography.

First responders leverage geographic knowledge to understand the local weather patterns and how they might impact their response efforts, enabling them to anticipate and prepare for weather-related emergencies such as storms, floods, or extreme heat.

First responders use their geographic knowledge to collaborate with neighboring jurisdictions during large-scale emergencies, facilitating the sharing of resources, manpower, and vital information for a more effective and coordinated response across different geographical areas.
“Spatial justice is concerned with equitable access to resources and opportunities. In many cases, improvements in living conditions and the distribution of services have been unequally shared across individuals, groups and geographical areas, with potential health consequences on vulnerable groups. There is indeed growing evidence of associations between residential location in socially deprived areas and a wide variety of health conditions, premature and preventable deaths and mental health and suicide. Socioeconomically disadvantaged areas are more likely to amplify conditions of material deprivation through a number of underlying interconnected mechanisms, leading to cumulative vulnerabilities: (1) neighbourhoods that concentrate low-income groups with higher potential for poor health outcomes; (2) environments with high exposure to risk factors such as air pollution and road traffic and (3) environments that discourage healthy behaviours, for example, due to low access to green areas, shops and facilities. Since these disturbances are common, although not systematically associated to social deprivation, the geography of public healthcare facilities is normally expected to attenuate socio-spatial discrepancies by providing equal opportunities for at-risk population. This is not always the case, however, as the so-called ‘inverse care law’ prevails in many settings, meaning that deprived areas tend to have worse geographical access to healthcare. Contrasting with these conclusions, other studies have found that disadvantaged areas are actually better served. Low geographical accessibility to healthcare services has been found to be a strong factor of reduced utilisation. The well-known distance-decay effect has been identified in the usage of health services. This, again, tends to deepen the gap between better-off and deprived areas. While disparities in access to healthcare and their resulting health outcomes are increasingly well documented, most of the existing literature on travel times to hospital emergency services are based either on private car use or on travel time only between patients’ location and hospital. Access to emergency services not only depends on the distance to the nearest hospital, but also on how far the patients are from an emergency medical services (EMSs) that can take them to the final destination.”


“Emergency medical service units average 7 minutes from the time of a 911 call to arrival on scene. That median time increases to more than 14 minutes in rural settings, with nearly 1 of 10 encounters waiting almost a half hour for the arrival of EMS personnel. Longer EMS response times have been associated with worse outcomes in trauma patients. In some, albeit rare, emergent conditions (e.g., cardiopulmonary arrest, severe bleeding, and airway occlusion), even modest delays can be life threatening.”


“The research indicated that EMS in urban areas are more likely to have shorter prehospital times, response times, on-scene times, and transport times when compared to EMS operating in rural areas. Additionally, urban patients with out-of-hospital cardiac arrest or trauma were found to have higher survival rates than rural patients. EMS in urban areas were generally associated with improved performance measures in key areas and associated higher survival rates than those in rural areas. These findings indicate that reducing key differences between rural and urban settings is a key factor in improving trauma patient survival rates. One of the key differences between rural and urban EMS related to on-scene time, and the increased time in rural locations could not be attributed solely to geographic isolation. It is possible that EMS require additional time on-scene in rural areas as a consequence of the longer response time, but this was not clear, and other unexplored factors could be evident.”

**EXPERIENCE**

First Responders

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**FIND LOCAL GEOPHYSICS**

*INSTRUCTIONS* CONDUCT AN ONLINE SEARCH TO FIND LOCAL INDIVIDUALS WHO DO THE JOB YOU ARE INTERESTED IN.

WRITE DOWN THEIR NAME, JOB TITLE, AND USE THE LINES TO WRITE DOWN WHAT THEY DO.

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**EXTENSION** IF POSSIBLE, TRY AND INTERVIEW THE PERSON AND ASK THEM HOW THEY USE GEOGRAPHY! WRITE YOUR FINDINGS IN THE OPEN SPACES.

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Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________

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## First Responders

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CAREER EXAMPLES

Community, Human and Personal Care Services

- Community Health Worker
- Health Educator
- Daycare Centers
- Elderly Care Facilities
- Rehabilitation Counselors
- Recreational Therapists
- Health Promotion Specialist
- Community Outreach Coordinator
- Public Health Advocate
- Community Health Nurse
- Health and Wellness Coordinator
- Community Health Researcher
- Patient Advocate
- Health Program Coordinator
- Community Health Advisor
- Health Disparities Analyst
- Health Policy Analyst
- Community Nutritionist
- Community Health Planner
- Health Coach
- Social and Community Service Manager
- Community Health Development Officer
- Nonprofit Health Organization Administrator
- Health Equity Coordinator
- Community Health Consultant
- Health Information Specialist
- Community Health Volunteer Coordinator
- Community Health Grant Writer
- Community Health Improvement Specialist
- Fitness Trainers and Instructors
- Emergency Management Directors
EXPLORER 
Community, Human and Personal Care Services

1. Pick 2-3 jobs that interest you from the list of career examples. Write them down.
   - __________________________
   - __________________________
   - __________________________

2. Where (location) would you need to go to pursue (or get) these jobs?

3. What are some of the qualifications (for example: skills, degrees, knowledge) you need to have these jobs?

4. How could you make an impact in the world with these jobs?
Community, Human, and Personal Care Services

APPLYING GEOGRAPHY

Geographical data helps in identifying underserved communities that may have limited access to healthcare services, allowing professionals to allocate resources and develop targeted outreach programs.

Personal healthcare professionals use geographic data to understand regional health disparities and their impact on individual patients. This understanding helps them tailor healthcare plans and interventions that account for the specific challenges and resources available in the patient’s geographic area.

Geographical information aids in mapping the prevalence of diseases within specific regions, enabling professionals to identify patterns and implement targeted health interventions and preventive measures.

Professionals use geographic data to plan and allocate resources for the development of healthcare facilities, ensuring that communities have adequate access to hospitals, clinics, and other essential health services.

Geographic knowledge helps in understanding environmental health risks and factors that may impact community health, such as air and water quality, enabling professionals to implement measures to mitigate these risks and promote healthier living conditions.

Professionals use geographic information to plan and execute targeted vaccination and immunization campaigns, ensuring that vulnerable populations receive necessary vaccines and are protected against preventable diseases.

Geographic data helps in understanding the demographics and cultural backgrounds of communities, enabling professionals to develop culturally sensitive health education programs tailored to the specific needs of different populations.

Professionals use geographic knowledge to coordinate emergency response services during health crises, ensuring that resources and support are efficiently distributed to areas in need, especially during outbreaks or natural disasters.

Geographical data analysis helps in assessing the accessibility of healthcare services for different communities, allowing professionals to identify gaps and develop strategies to improve access for underserved populations.

Professionals use geographic data to analyze the influence of social determinants of health, such as income, education, and access to resources, on community well-being, helping them develop targeted interventions to address these disparities.

Geographic knowledge assists in planning and implementing community health interventions, such as health fairs, wellness programs, and screenings, ensuring that these initiatives are strategically located and accessible to the target population.
“Without health workers there is no health, and understanding the geographical complexities of occupational hierarchies, distribution, location and circulation of human health resources remains a rich and necessary field of health geography. The pandemic has made it clear that developed world health systems rely on internationally trained immigrant health professionals to fulfil critical roles, but their centrality contrasts with issues of hierarchy and division that beset the health professions.

The consequences of the pandemic reflect and exacerbate existing societal inequality, and strengthen the case for global action to enhance human life as articulated through the aspirational agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SDG 3 “Good Health and Wellbeing” is central to all the multi- and inter-sectoral goals that comprise the ambitious plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. Health care professionals are central to achieving the SDGs. [...] Health geographers have not fully recognized the significance and the rich potential fields of analysis that accompany a focus on health care workers. The COVID-19 pandemic has reasserted the importance of attending to this issue.”


“Geo-computation, from my understanding, is the “art and science of solving complex geographical (spatial) problems through computation” (Source unknown). I want to take this opportunity to iterate that Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Geographical Information Sciences (GISc) are NOT interchangeable. I strongly believe that we as geographers can do a lot more than make maps. This belief has been the central tenet of my career in public service. We can assist decision-making in the most scientific method with our understanding of space and spatial changes over time. I have several projects that are currently being implemented where I am using geo-computational methodologies, but we will have to wait for them to be released through SAMHSA. For me, it is impossible to resolve mental health and substance abuse disparities and encourage health equity without spatial thinking and geo-computation. SAMHSA (specially CBHSQ) understands that and encourages discussion on applying geo-computation while also supporting and encouraging researchers to use https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/ for analytical and geo-computational purposes, among many other projects.”

- Suparna Das, Branch Chief Supervisory Statistician at the Treatment Services Branch, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Link to Interview.
**FIND LOCAL GEOGRAPHERS**

*INSTRUCTIONS* Conduct an online search to find local individuals who do the job you are interested in.

Write down their name, job title, and use the lines to write down what they do.

*EXTENSION* If possible, try and interview the person and ask them how they use geography! Write your findings in the open spaces.
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EXPAND
Community, Human and Personal Care Services

MAKING CONNECTIONS
HOW IS THIS CAREER IMPACTED BY THESE THEMES?
HOW DOES THIS CAREER IMPACT THESE THEMES?

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EXPLORE Sciences

CAREER EXAMPLES

Life Sciences

Medical Scientist
Biomedical Engineer
Microbiologist
Immunologist
Epidemiologist
Biostatistician
Biochemist
Biophysicist
Pharmacologist
Toxicologist
Clinical Research Associate
DNA and Genetic Scientist
Pathologist
Virologist
Neuroscientist
Molecular Biologist
Health Data Analyst
Public Health Researcher
Bioinformatics Specialist
Medical Lab Technologist
Health Informatics Specialist
Clinical Trials Researcher
Pharmaceutical Research Scientist
Medical Genetic Counselor
Clinical Immunologist
Cell Biologist
Exercise Physiologist
Nutritional Scientist
Biomedical Ethicist
Health Economist
Medical Entomologist
Health and Safety Engineer

Social Sciences

Public Health Researcher
Health Policy Analyst
Health Educator
Medical Sociologist
Community Health Worker
Health Psychologist
Health Program Evaluator
Social Worker in Health Care
Health Care Policy Advisor
Epidemiologist

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How could you make an impact in the world with these jobs?

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EXPLORE

Social Science

Social scientists use geographic data to conduct spatial analyses of various social phenomena, such as crime rates, population distribution, and socioeconomic disparities, helping them understand how these factors are influenced by geographical location and spatial patterns. Geographic knowledge enables them to investigate regional disparities in access to resources, such as education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, allowing them to identify areas that require targeted interventions to address social inequalities. They use geographic information to study cultural landscapes, including the spatial distribution of cultural practices, traditions, and belief systems, helping them understand the connections between culture and geography and how these interactions shape societies. Geographic data is used to map social networks and connections within communities, helping social scientists visualize the relationships between individuals, groups, and organizations in specific geographic areas and analyze the social dynamics within these networks. They utilize geographic knowledge to assess patterns of migration, urbanization, and demographic changes, allowing them to understand the social implications of population movements and the impact of urban development on communities and societies.

APPLYING GEOGRAPHY

Life Science

Life scientists use geographic data to identify and understand health disparities among different populations, helping them pinpoint geographical regions where specific health issues are more prevalent. This information can guide public health interventions and resource allocation to address these disparities. Geographic knowledge allows life scientists to study the spatial distribution of diseases, such as the prevalence of certain diseases in different regions. This can provide valuable insights into the environmental, social, and behavioral factors influencing disease transmission and help in the development of targeted public health strategies. By considering geographic factors, life scientists can assess how environmental conditions, such as air quality, water quality, and exposure to pollutants, may impact human health in specific regions. This understanding can inform public health policies and interventions aimed at reducing environmental health risks. Geographic knowledge helps them examine the effects of urban environments on human health, including factors such as access to healthcare, availability of green spaces, and exposure to environmental pollutants. Understanding these influences can inform urban planning and public health initiatives aimed at promoting healthier living conditions in urban areas.

Life scientists use geographic data to map and analyze population health trends across different geographic regions, enabling them to identify areas with specific health needs and develop targeted healthcare interventions tailored to the unique challenges of each location. Geographic knowledge is utilized to study human genetic diversity across different populations and geographical regions. This research helps in understanding the genetic factors contributing to the susceptibility or resistance to certain diseases and can aid in the development of personalized and region-specific healthcare approaches. They use geographic information to study the impact of social determinants of health, such as socioeconomic status, education, and access to healthcare, on the well-being of different communities. This understanding can inform policies and interventions aimed at addressing social disparities and improving overall population health. Life scientists consider geographic factors to assess the impact of climate change on human health, including the spread of vector-borne diseases, changes in food security, and the increase in natural disasters. This information can guide the development of adaptation strategies and policies to minimize the adverse health effects of climate change on human populations.

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**Life and Social Science**

“I find that if an effect is strong enough to matter to public health, it will be evident through maps and scatterplots and straightforward regression models. More sophisticated methods can help tease out subtle differences, but while these may be statistically significant, they are rarely clinically significant. In other words, we needn’t worry too much about differences of 10% when there are enough 50% and 100% differences to go around. Accordingly, I still rely quite heavily on the spatial analysis techniques and methods I learned in my master’s level courses, in particular. What has been most valuable has not been the specific technical skills (I don’t do a whole lot of GIS, in fact), but the repeated application of geographical thinking: repeatedly asking the question, why does something exist more in one place than in another place? Approaching problems from that angle often leads to an insight no one else has had before.”

Frank Boscoe, PhD  
Research Scientist  
New York State Cancer Registry  
Link to Interview

“Geography is critical to my work; I stress the value of GIS and mapping skills in providing visualization to the management team, which can be as simple as information about where healthcare facilities are located. My advice for current students is to broaden their technical skills by taking GIS related courses, as well as those in statistics and programming. To strengthen her knowledge as a public health analyst, she is working towards sharpening her SAS programming skills through training and reading related technical articles. Her continuing education goal is to pursue a master’s degree in public health to enhance my comprehensive understanding of public health issues. Reflecting on geographic skills used in the workplace, I recognize the importance of the applications of GIS and spatial statistics in public health, especially in Emergency Management. Equally important, she observes, are project management skills that include the ability to think independently and “break down a project into smaller pieces to sequentially complete each part and then to bring the individual parts together.”

Nancy Tian, PhD  
Public Health Analyst  
U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps  
Link to Interview

“Geography became my favorite subject in middle school. Being the student with the most geographic knowledge in my class helped me build great confidence, which eventually led me to explore a career in geography. After choosing GIS as my undergraduate major, my determination to choose a career as a geographer was enhanced by the joy of creating knowledge from data. Ever since then, I have been consecutively involved in multiple projects funded by U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. National Science Foundation, and Canadian Institutes of Health Research to apply my geospatial knowledge and skills to analyze, model, and visualize problems resulting from the interaction of social and physical environments. My training in geography has helped me to identify research topics with spatial components and provided me with the skills to conduct research independently. I have also become proficient in performing desktop geospatial analysis, building web-based applications, and developed a self-motivation to keep learning new skills. I believe that all the learning and training experiences have improved my competency in the job market.”

Xiaohui Liu, PhD  
Postdoctoral Intramural Research Training Awardee, National Institutes of Health  
Link to Interview
FIND LOCAL GEOGRAPHERS

*INSTRUCTIONS* CONDUCT AN ONLINE SEARCH TO FIND LOCAL INDIVIDUALS WHO DO THE JOB YOU ARE INTERESTED IN.

WRITE DOWN THEIR NAME, JOB TITLE, AND USE THE LINES TO WRITE DOWN WHAT THEY DO

EXTENSION* IF POSSIBLE, TRY AND INTERVIEW THE PERSON AND ASK THEM HOW THEY USE GEOGRAPHY! WRITE YOUR FINDINGS IN THE OPEN SPACES

Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________

Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________

Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________

Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________

Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________

Name: __________________________
Job Title: ________________________
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Region</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Caribbean</td>
<td>Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle East and North Africa</td>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Asia and Russia</td>
<td>East Asia</td>
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<td>South Asia</td>
<td>Oceania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Geography</td>
<td>Human Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Places and Region</td>
<td>Environment and Society</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Making Connections**

How is this career impacted by these themes? How does this career impact these themes?
REFLECTIONS

WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY’S ROLE IN THE CAREER THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AND ASPIRE TO BECOME? WRITE A SUMMARY.