

PopMap

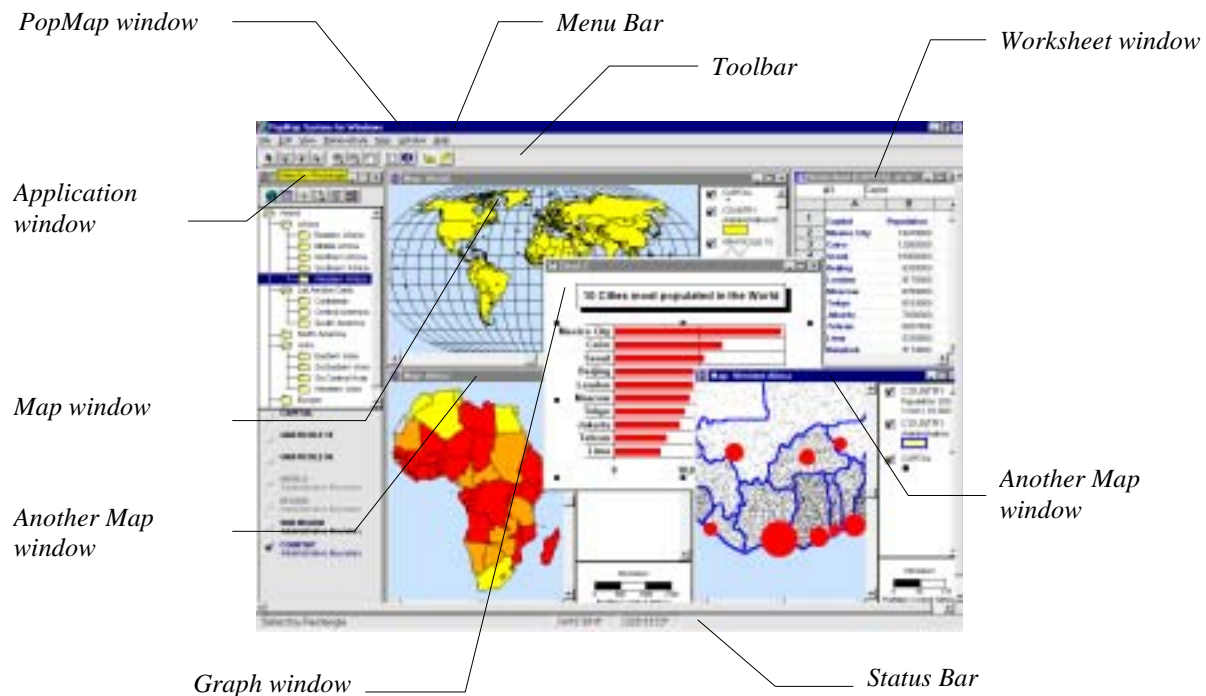
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Basics

PopMap (4.2) is a freeware package, developed by the interregional project “Computer Software and Support for Population Activities” in the United Nations Statistics Division, in collaboration with the Viet Nam Institute of Information Technology. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provided funding support. Please note that PopMap is no longer supported.

PopMap is an integrated, easy-to-use software package for developing a geographical information database of population related data. The package offers a wide range of useful features and innovations, combining statistical graphics, spreadsheet and mapping capabilities.

PopMap Interface



PopMap includes: (1) a set of tools for creating, editing and maintaining a geographic database with multidisciplinary statistics, map features and community-based facilities; (2) a collection of capabilities for retrieving and processing data in a worksheet environment, and for creating statistical graphs; (3) a collection of capabilities for analyzing, interpreting, and developing effective data presentations using maps; and (4) the ability to integrate mapping, statistical graphics and worksheet options. These tasks are accomplished by using different modules: Data Editor, Map Editor, Data Retrieval System, Application Setup, and Data Conversion.

Features

PopMap provides support for: (a) *the most common thematic mapping options*: [conventional choropleth mapping for quantitative data (range map) and qualitative data (individual map); dot density mapping, graduated symbol mapping, bar chart mapping and pie chart mapping]; and (b) *an assortment of graph options including the most commonly used graph types* [bar graph, line graph, area graph, scatter plots, and pie chart as well as combination graphs (e.g., bar and line graphs superimposed), other graph types (e.g., radar chart), and options for 3-D graphs].

PopMap stores spatial data in a proprietary format. However, one of the strengths of PopMap is that geographic data files from many common GIS and mapping system formats can be easily imported and exported: including AtlasGIS (BNA), MapInfo (MIF), AutoCAD (DXF), and ArcView shape files (.SHP).

The graphic, worksheet and mapping options provide the user with much flexibility in data analysis, interpretation and visualization. This flexibility in analysis and particularly visualization means that in some ways PopMap, like some full-fledged GIS systems, is a useful tool for exploratory spatial data analysis. PopMap is less useful for confirmatory analysis, though through creative use of worksheet files and with coupling interfaces to other statistical or mapping systems such analysis is possible.

PopMap Resources

A few years ago the PopMap website contained many useful resources including PowerPoint presentations, presented papers, and other technical support resources such as sample datasets on over 130 country applications with base maps. While PopMap is no longer supported the software and many of the accompanying resources are available on the UNFPA 1999 CD-ROM.

References

DESIPA UN Statistics Division. 1999. *PopMap for Windows Integrated Software Package for Geographic information, Maps and Statistical Graphics: User Guide* (Computer Software and Support for Population Activities, INT/96/P74). Available with PopMap on the UNFPA CD-ROM 1999.

Stephen A. Matthews. 1999. *Working with PopMap: Integration of Population, Reproductive Health and Geographic Databases*. Statistics Division, United Nations: New York.

The PopMap User Guide and the Workbook are available on the UNFPA CD-ROM 1999 and in the PRI Computer Lab (806 Oswald).

Penn State Resources

One or two individuals may have personal copies of PopMap (e.g., Stephen Matthews). Stephen's copy of the manual is available in the Computer Lab (806 Oswald).