

Sediment Geological Survey Locations Taken by the Atlantic Continental Margin Program

The data that I am using is a collection of sediment surveys collected by the Atlantic Continental Margin Program (ACMP) from 1955 to 2014. This data details the exact locations for the survey and the specific findings thereof. These findings range from how deep into the ocean the survey was conducted to the quality of the sediment itself.

This data works as a map chart due to how precise each survey's location was recorded. From this, each survey could be plotted against a map to see the areas of concentration for all surveys taken found within the data.

Plotting this, seen in the picture above of the PNG in the associated folder, it is clear that most surveys were conducted on the East coast of the USA. Now then, the name of the program that has collected the data specifies the Atlantic Continental Margin. This explains why the majority of the data is on the East coast, connecting with the Atlantic Ocean. However, this raises a question as to why there is data that is not located in the Atlantic. The easiest explanation is that the ACMP incorporated and compiled data from other programs into the same one to allow for more diverse analyses. This explains why there are clusters in the Great Lakes region, Gulf of Mexico area, and the Pacific coast.

An insight that can be found from this plot is where the ACMP focuses on gathering sediment from. Sediment being any matter that settles to the bottom of a

CS4770 Ashlea Walker Map Chart 3/21/2019

liquid, in this case the ocean. Some sediment is more noteworthy than others which may warrant further investigation in other surveys. From the chart above, the areas with the most concentration, and therefore more investigation, can be found near Massachusetts and near Maine, around New Jersey and Connecticut, and near the tip of Louisiana. These areas in particular are more likely than the others to have more complete and interesting information with them.