

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Database of the Geologic Map of North America—
Adapted from the Map by J.C. Reed, Jr. and others (2005)

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Scale 1:5,000,000
USGS Data Series 424
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INTRODUCTION

The Geological Society of America's (GSA) Geologic Map of North America (Reed and others, 2005; 1:5,000,000) shows the geology of a significantly large area of the Earth, centered on North and Central America and including the submarine geology of parts of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. This map is now converted to a Geographic Information System (GIS) database that contains all geologic and base-map information shown on the two printed map sheets and the accompanying explanation sheet. We anticipate this map database will be revised at some unspecified time in the future, likely through the actions of a steering committee managed by the Geological Society of America (GSA) and staffed by scientists from agencies including those responsible for the original map compilation.

With publication of this database, the preparation of any type of simplified map is made significantly easier. More important perhaps, the database provides a more accessible means to explore the map information and to compare and analyze it in conjunction with other types of information (for example, land-use, soils, biology) in order to better understand the complex inter-relations among factors that affect Earth resources, hazards, ecosystems, and climate.

GETTING STARTED

The GMNA geodatabase and associated files are bundled in a single downloadable zip file called USGS_DS_424.zip.

To install:

Download USGS_DS_424.zip (~75 MB space required) to local hard drive

Open with Winzip or other zip utility and click the "Extract" button (highlighting of the individual files is not necessary)

Extract contents to a destination on the local hard drive

A folder will be created called USGS_DS_424

Inside the folder, click GMNA.mxd to launch the map document

FOLDER CONTENTS

When USGS_DS_424.zip is extracted, a folder by the same name is created. The contents of the folder are:

GMNA.mxd – ArcGIS map document that launches ArcMap.

GMNA.gdb – ArcGIS file geodatabase containing comprehensive spatial data.

GMNA.pmf – ArcReader portable map file that launches ArcReader.

"Layer_files" – Folder containing ArcGIS symbology files for feature classes in the file geodatabase.

GMNA.style – ESRI style file containing the symbology used in the GMNA.

EXPLANATION OF MAP UNITS

The *Explanation of Map Units* from the Geologic Map of North America by Reed and others, 2005. (*Used with permission*).

METADATA

The geologic unit class has associated metadata viewable and exportable through ArcCatalog. To view the metadata file, simply click on the "Geologic_unit" feature class in ArcCatalog and then click the Metadata tab.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

ArcGIS Desktop 9.2 or higher

Windows Vista /Windows XP/Windows 2000

CPU Speed: 1.0 GHz recommended or higher

Processor: Intel Pentium or Intel Xeon Processors

Memory/RAM: 512 MB minimum, 1 GB recommended or higher

Display Color: Greater than 256 color depth

Data Disk Space Requirements: ~75MB File Geodatabase and associated files (Unzipped)

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