Geographers study where people are located on the earth as well as the characteristics of people located in an area, such as age, religion, or education level. The map above shows where Oregonians who are 10-14 years old live.

Geographers use maps to show relationships between humans and the environment. One example is where we farm and ranch. The places above that are in green show where we grow crops like fruits and vegetables. These areas are close to rivers so that the crops can be watered. Places where we ranch are large, open areas where ranchers graze cattle, such as in Southeast Oregon.

The Uses of Geography

Geographers use maps to help understand the past and plan for the future. Many people use maps regularly at their jobs to plan for the future. Some examples are:

- City planners
- Hydrologists
- Tour guides
- Weather forecasters
- Pilots
- Delivery people
- Park rangers
- Wetland managers
- Police and firefighters