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Abstract

A survey study was conducted to evaluate the use of GIS in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. A questionnaire was mailed to a total of 80 agencies to evaluate the use of hardware, operating software, application software, data, maps, and personnel. Thirty questionnaires were returned, a percent of 35.5%, which showed that PCs, Windows 2000, and ESRI and INTERGRAPH software were the most common used. Planning and municipal data, and airphoto maps were the most common available and used data and maps. Also the study showed that most of the personnel available were managers, or department mangers.

Although, the number and use of GIS in the Kingdom has been increased from three to thirty in last ten years, the study recommend that GIS standards and specifications are so urgently needed in order to use available GIS properly. Due to the rapid development in GIS at the local and international levels, further studies are needed in order to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of GIS in the Kingdom.



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