

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES TAKEN FROM THE AIDS.GOV BLOG

MASHUPS

What are mashups?

A mashup is a website “that combines data from more than one source into a single integrated tool”.¹ Data sources often include maps (such as [Google Maps](#)) and databases (such as business locations). Mashups depend on organizations sharing data. They also depend on software developers to create programs that can work together.

Why would I use a mashup?

- To search for and locate information and services.
- To share and connect with other people.
- To track information such as disease outbreaks.

How are people using mashups to respond to HIV?

- To connect people living with HIV to services such as housing and meals.
- To post and find HIV-related job openings.
- To host AIDS candlelight memorials.
- To illustrate the impact of hospital closures on low-income communities and communities of color.

What technology do I need to use a mashup?

You need a computer with an Internet connection to access mashups. Creating your own mashup requires a certain level of comfort with software technology, but there are several online tools for building mashups that do not require technical expertise - and many ready-made mashups can be customized by plugging in your own data or modifying the settings.

If you are interested in creating your own mashups, “plug and play” tools like [ZeeMaps](#) and [Dapper](#) can help you get started. [ProgrammableWeb](#) provides tutorials and resources related to mashups.

Where can I learn more about mashups?

Examples of mashups addressing HIV and AIDS include:

- AIDSportal: www.aidsportal.org
- International AIDS Candlelight Memorial of the Global Health Council: www.candlelightmemorial.org/coords/map

Examples of other public health mashups include:

- Health Care That Works: www.healthcarethatworks.org/maps/nyc
- Healthmap: www.healthmap.org/en
- HubMed: www.hubmed.org
- New York City Coalition Against Hunger: www.nyccah.org/maps/index.php
- Who is Sick?: www.whoissick.org/sickness

¹ Wikipedia, “Mashup (web application hybrid)”, Available at: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup_\(web_application_hybrid\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mashup_(web_application_hybrid)). Accessed on 12/29/08.