

**Different approaches to naming gender-inclusive  
language in Spanish:  
A data-driven contribution to the transnational debate**

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## **Where are we standing?**

We come to this conference as Latin American feminist linguists

Practice-based reflections generated in Indisciplinadx: Feminist Linguistics Circle

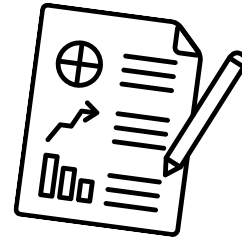
We approach the subject from a glottopolitical perspective

The political component of language in use in postcolonial contexts



## gender-inclusive language

'Gender-inclusive language' is **diverse discursive and linguistic strategies** pertaining to the broader social process for eradicating patriarchy; it is a political stance developed collectively by women and LGBTQ+ communities from their multiple subjectivities --hence faces glottopolitical challenges. These strategies **take place within numerous geographies and bodies** where they intertwine with the complexity of other intersectional and systemic forms of oppression.



## What data are we working with?

Four common names given to gender-inclusive language in Spanish

We identified these names across Indisciplinadx's sessions

Queries on Google with those names from 2004 to 2021

Retrieved from Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends))



## Gender-inclusive language labels explored in Google Trends

lenguaje inclusivo

'inclusive language'

lenguaje no sexista

'non-sexist language'

lenguaje neutro

'neutral language'

lenguaje no binario

'non-binary language'

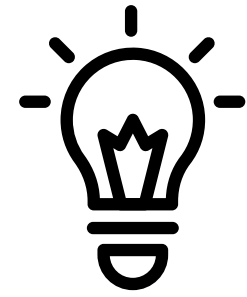


## Questions we asked to our data

What is the global trend of the frequency of the names?

How do those trends in the data vary geographically over time?

How do those trends relate to feminism , LGBTQ+ movements, and other social events?



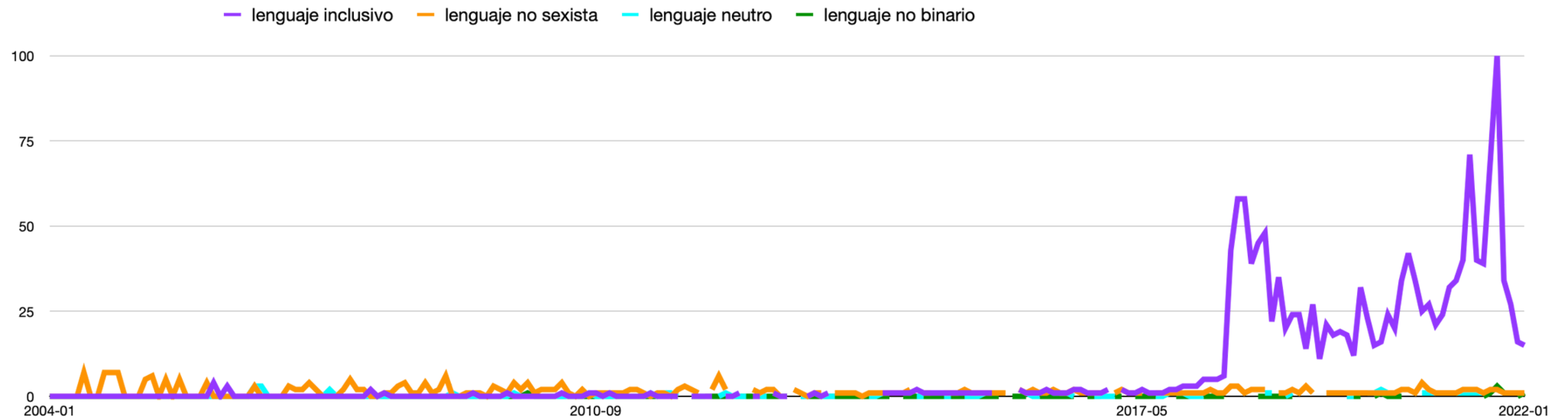
## Findings

**What is the global trend of the frequency of the names?**



# Global trend of the frequency of the names

January 2004 to December 2021



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Geographical distribution of the queries per name (1/5)



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

## Geographical distribution of the queries per name (2/5)



Colombia

Ecuador

Peru

Bolivia

Chile

**lenguaje inclusivo**

'inclusive language'

**&**

**lenguaje no sexista**

'non-sexist language'

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Geographical distribution of the queries per name (3/5)



Spain

**lenguaje no binario**

'non-binary language'

**&**

**lenguaje inclusivo**

'inclusive language'

**&**

**lenguaje no sexista**

'non-sexist language'

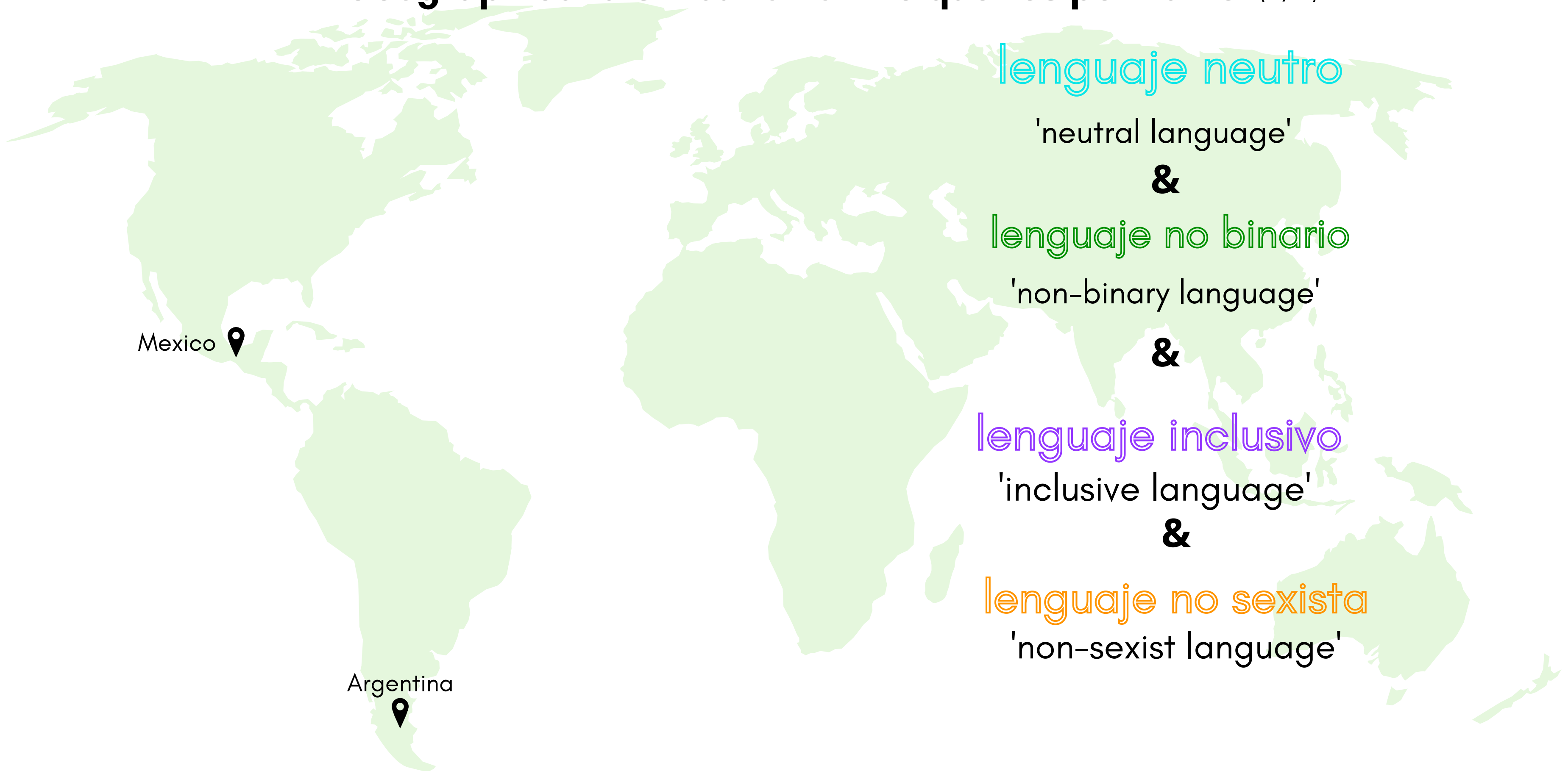
Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Geographical distribution of the queries per name (4/5)



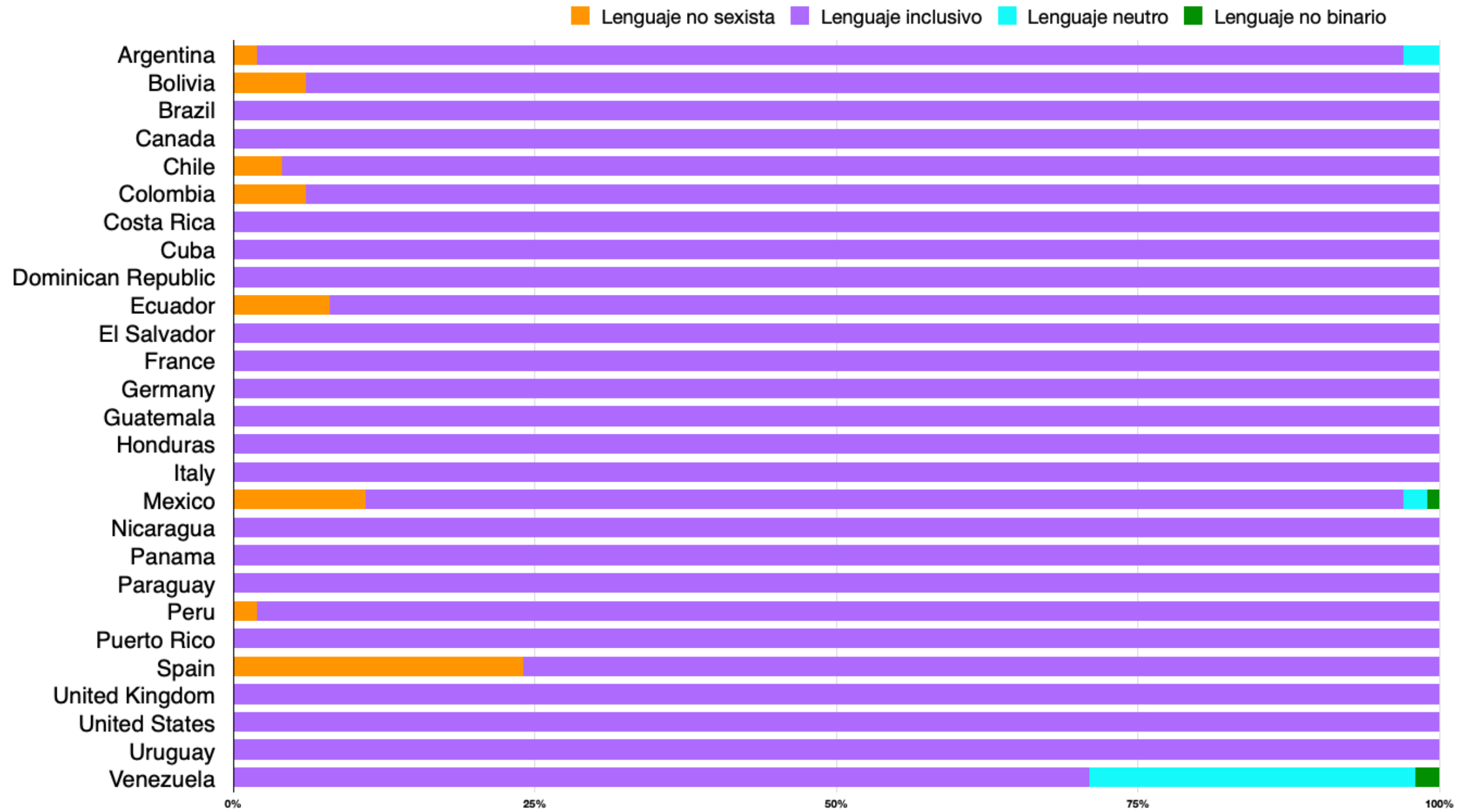
Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Geographical distribution of the queries per name (5/5)



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Geographical frequency of the queries per name



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

**How the trends found in the data vary geographically over time?**



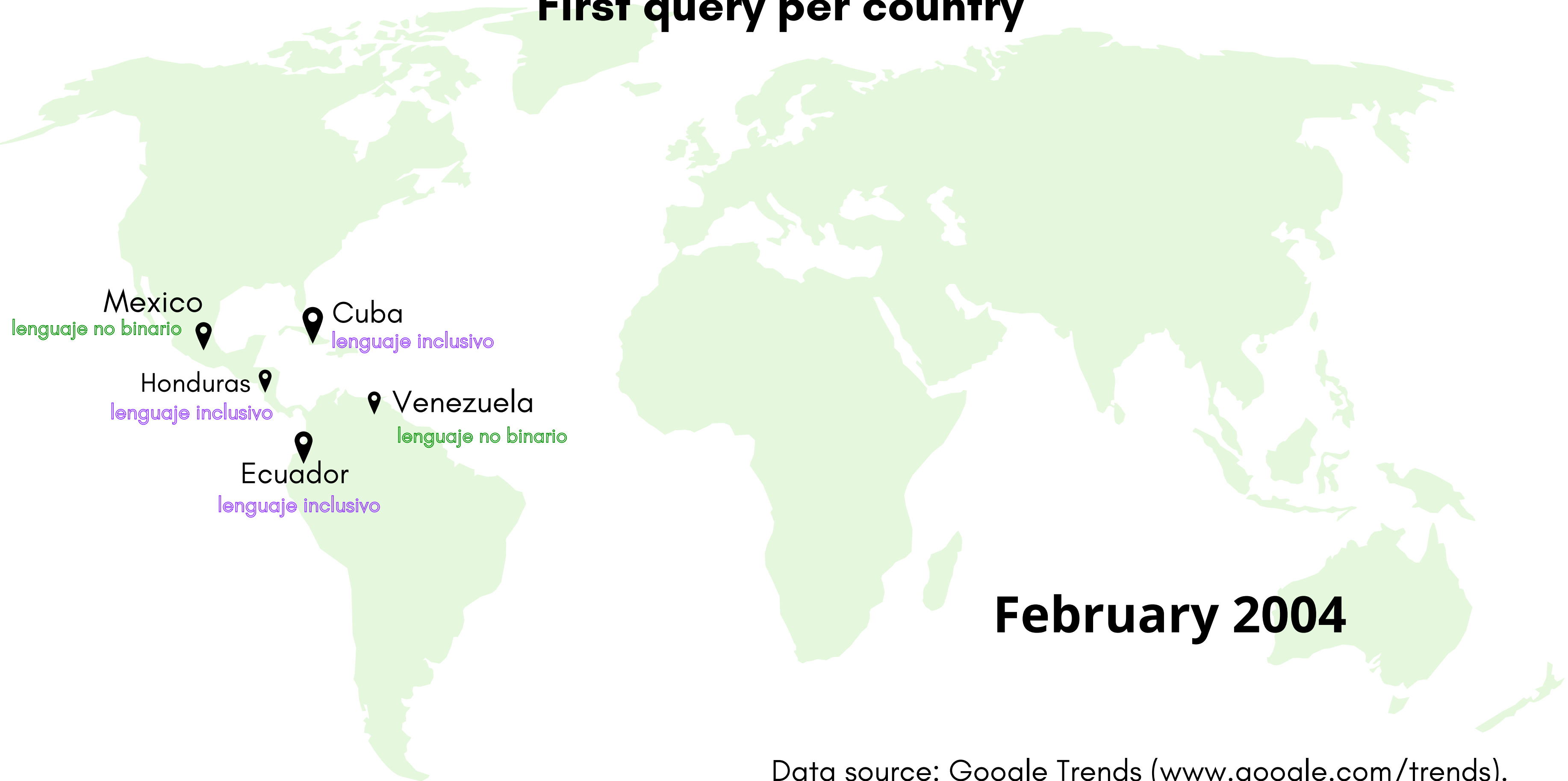
# First query per country



**January 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

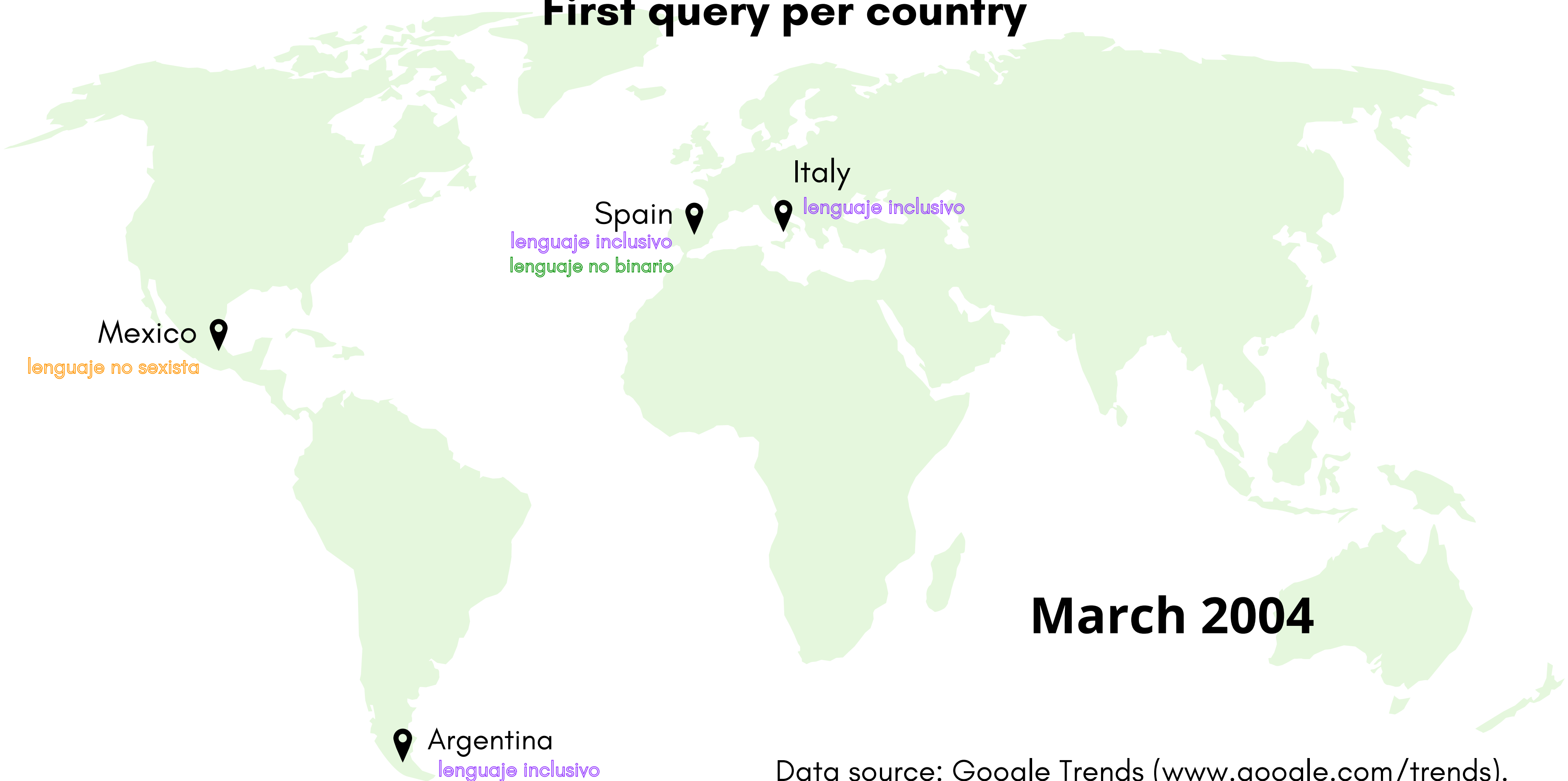
# First query per country



**February 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country



**March 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

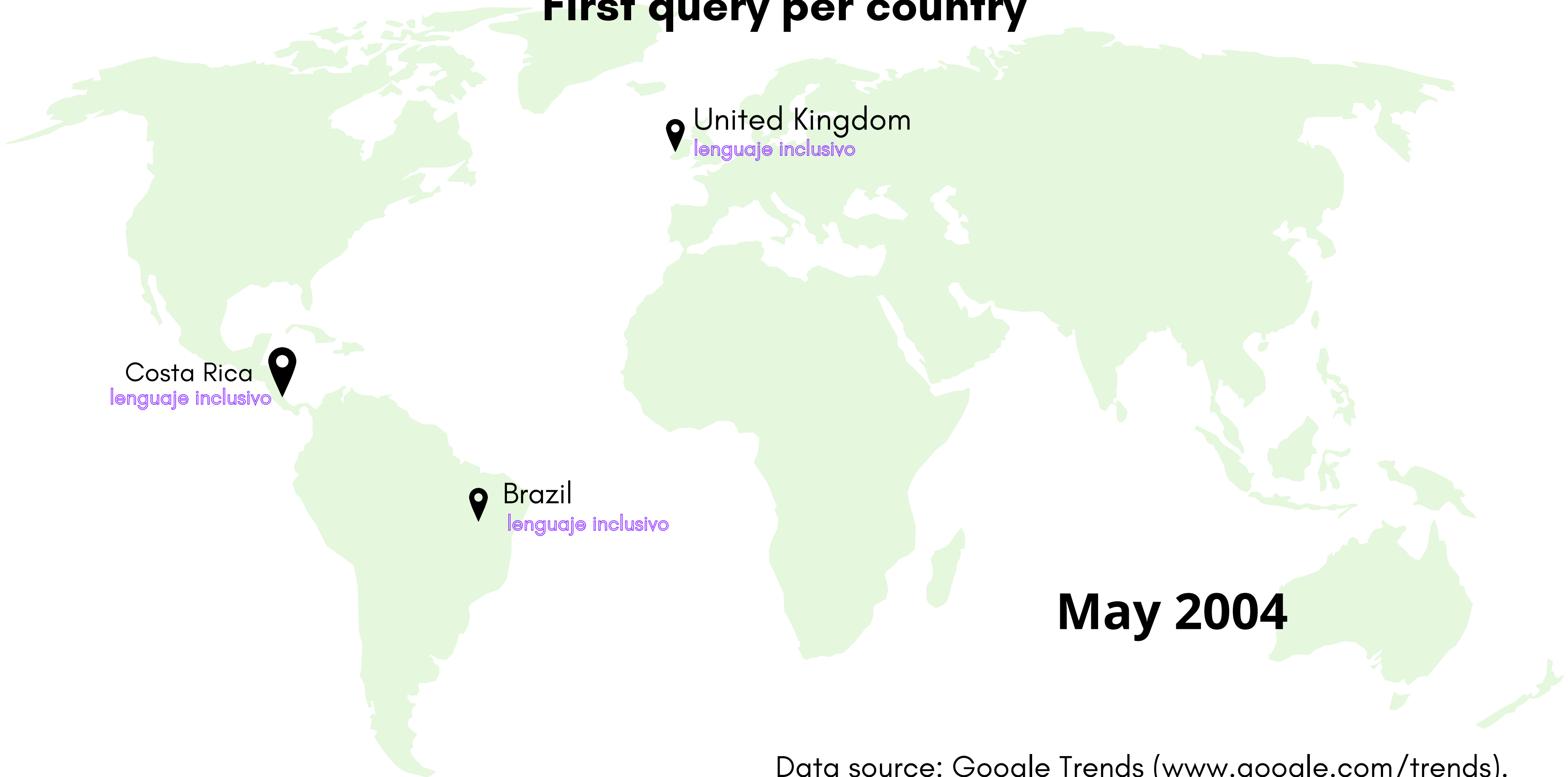
# First query per country



**April 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

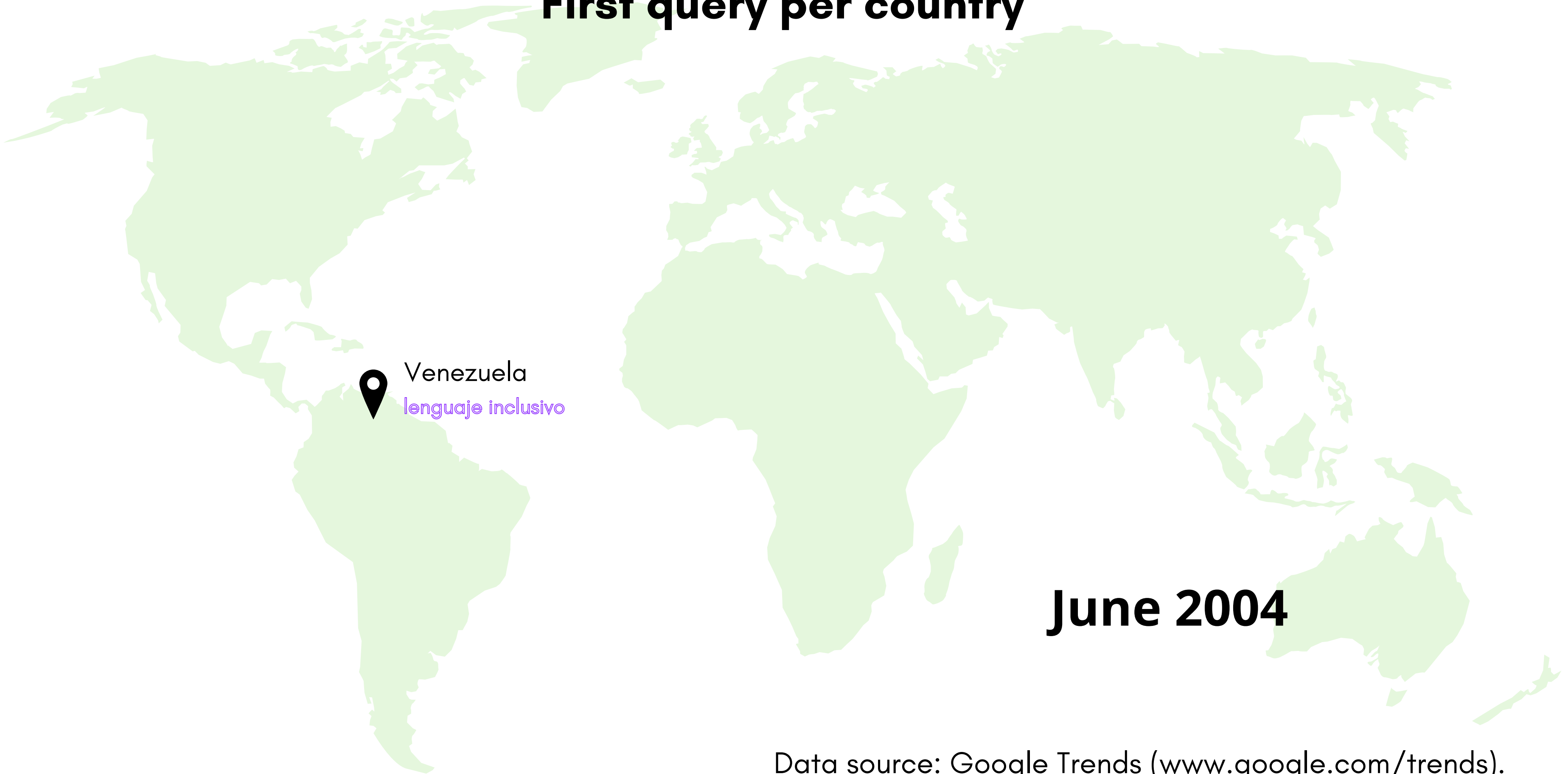
# First query per country



**May 2004**

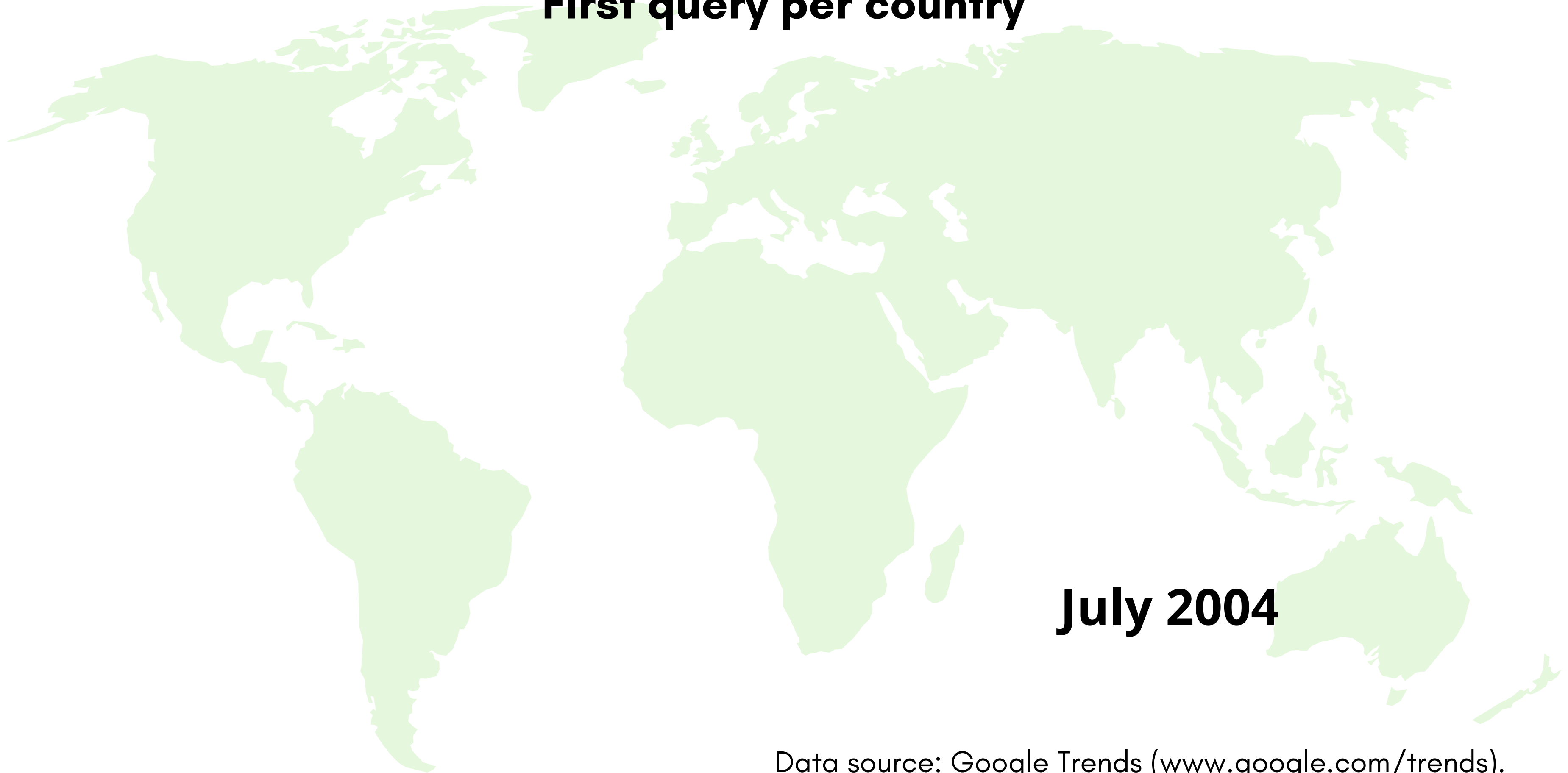
Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

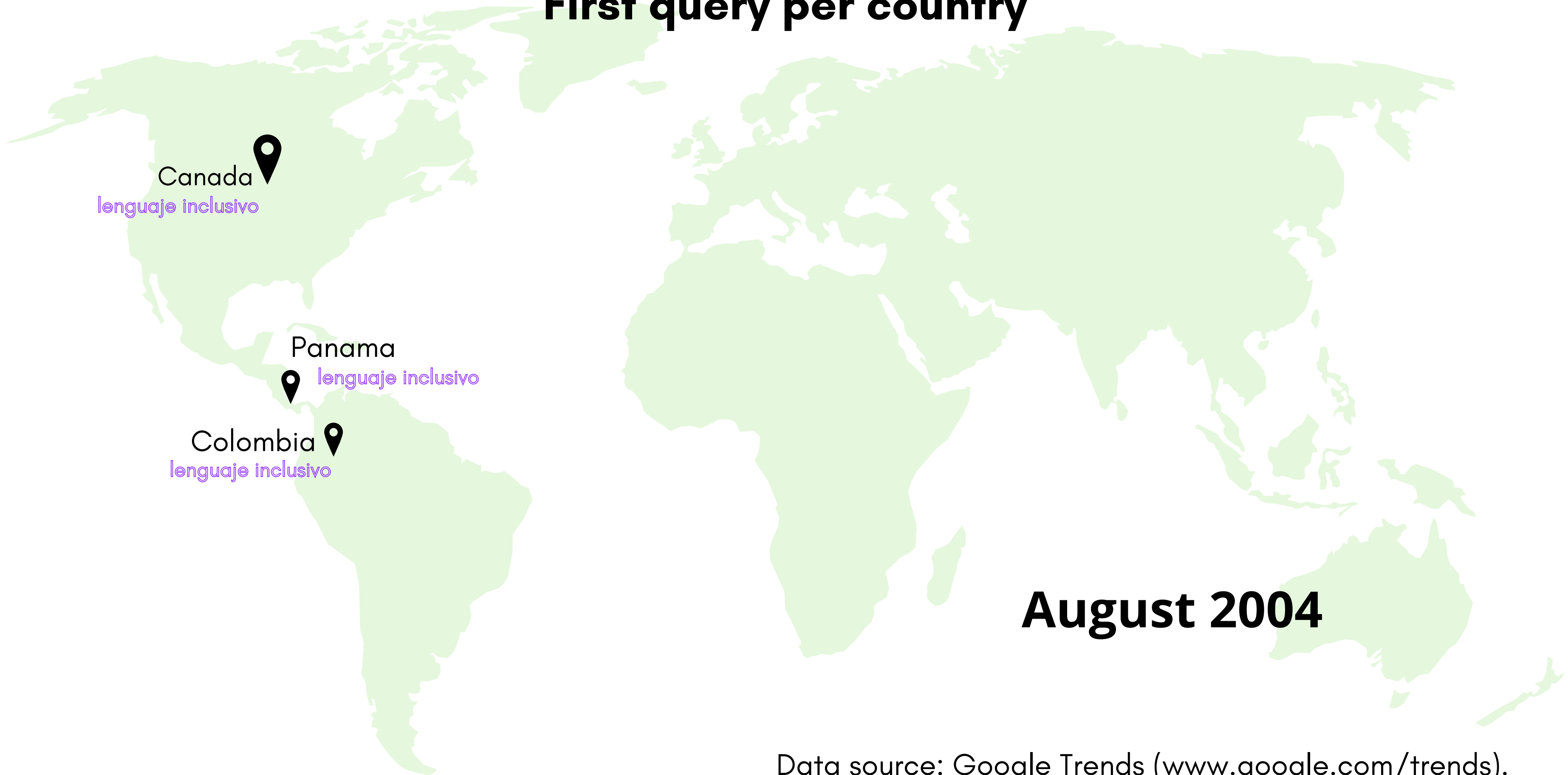
# First query per country



**July 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country



**August 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).



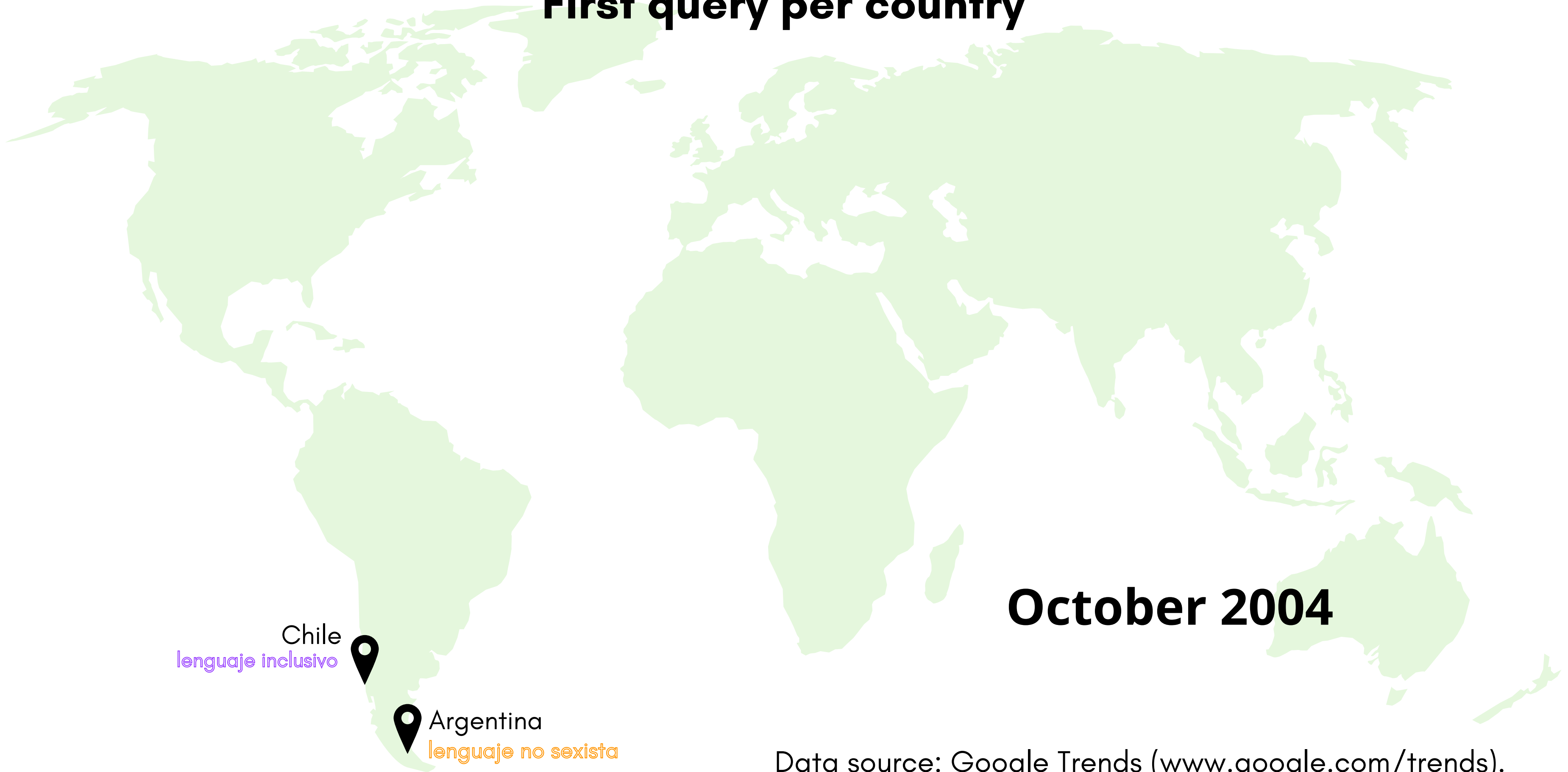
# First query per country

Ecuador  
lenguaje no sexista

September 2004

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

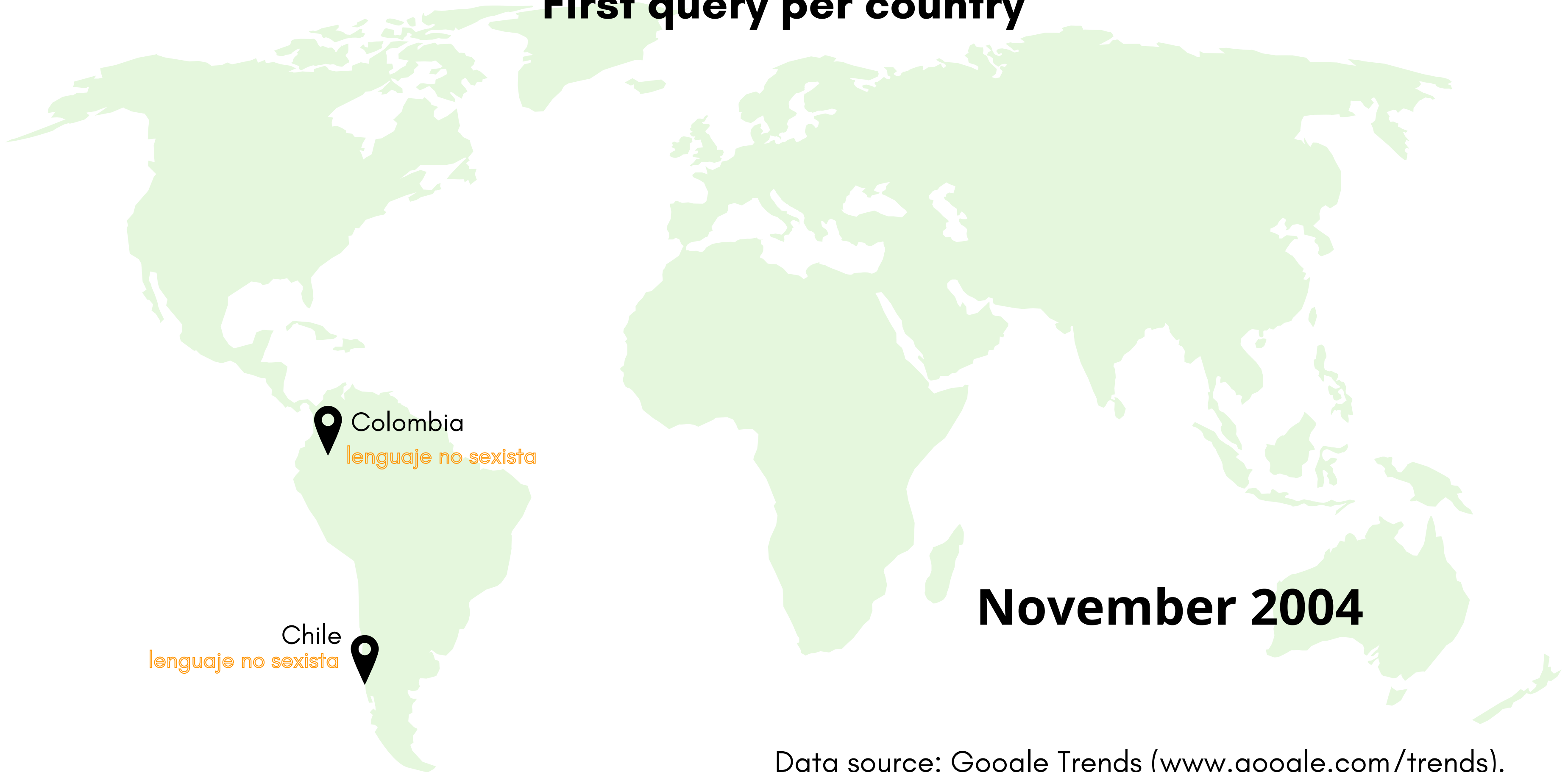
# First query per country



October 2004

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

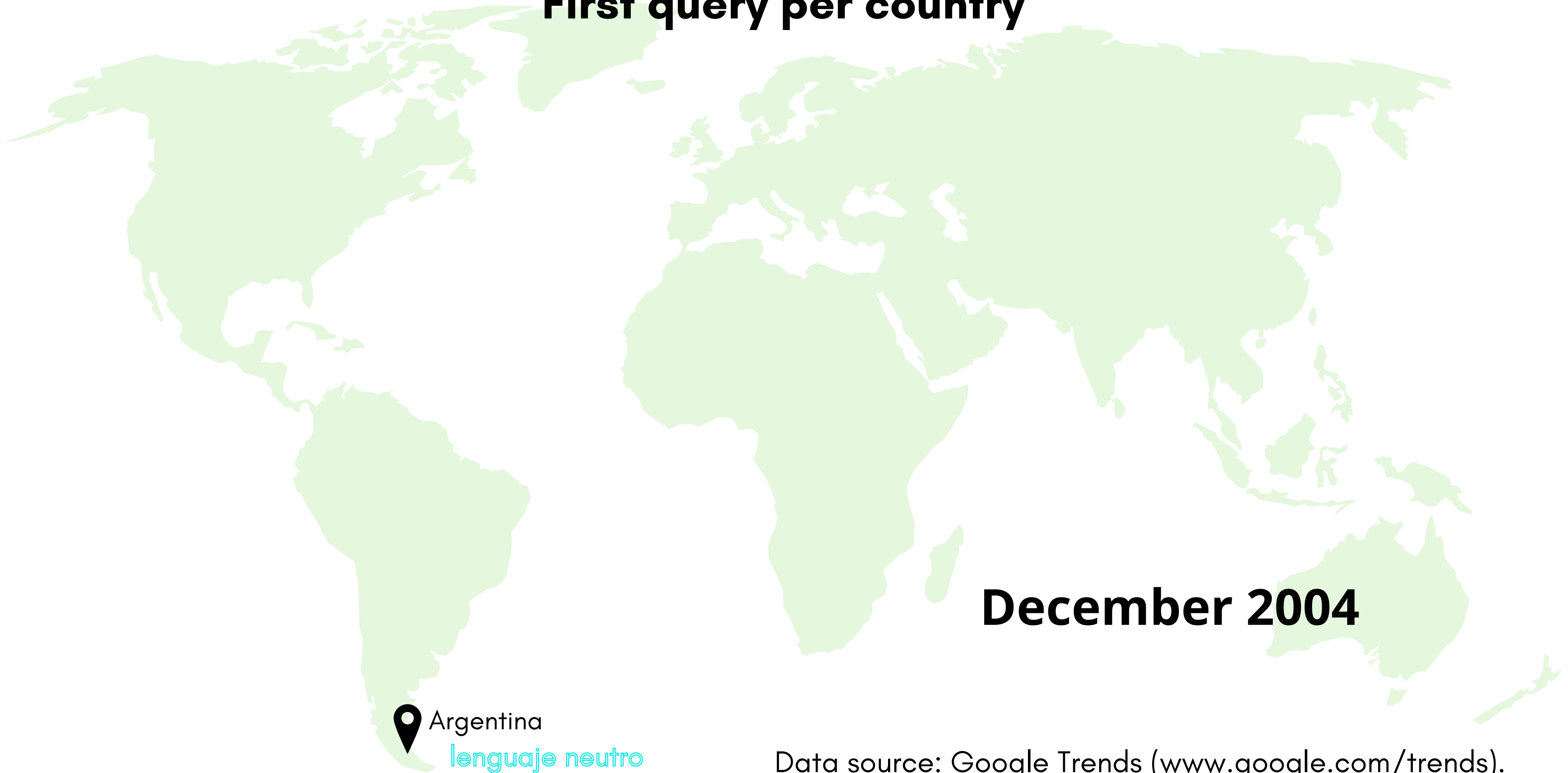
# First query per country



**November 2004**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country



Argentina  
lenguaje neutro

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country

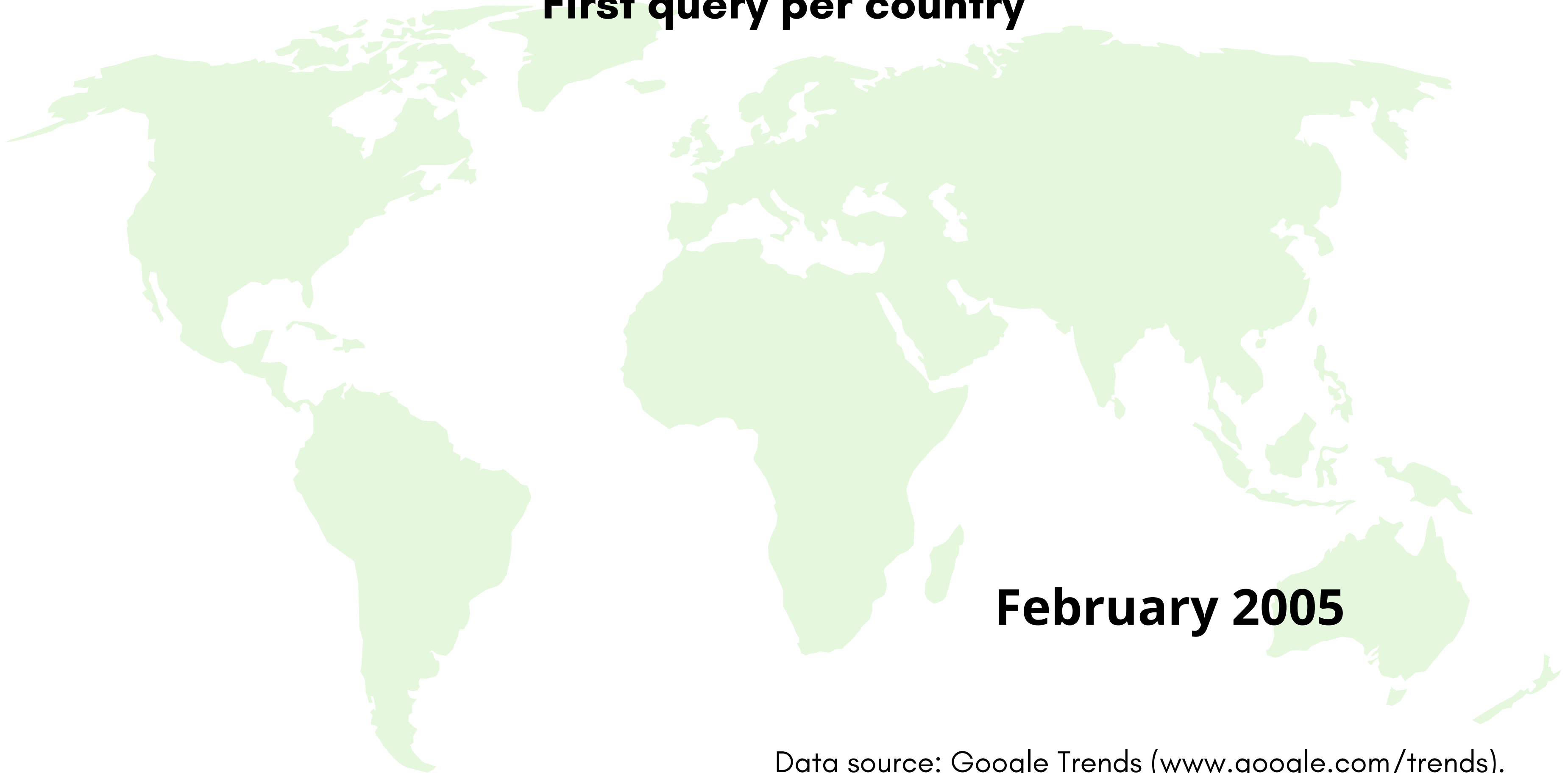
Nicaragua  
lenguaje inclusivo



January 2005

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

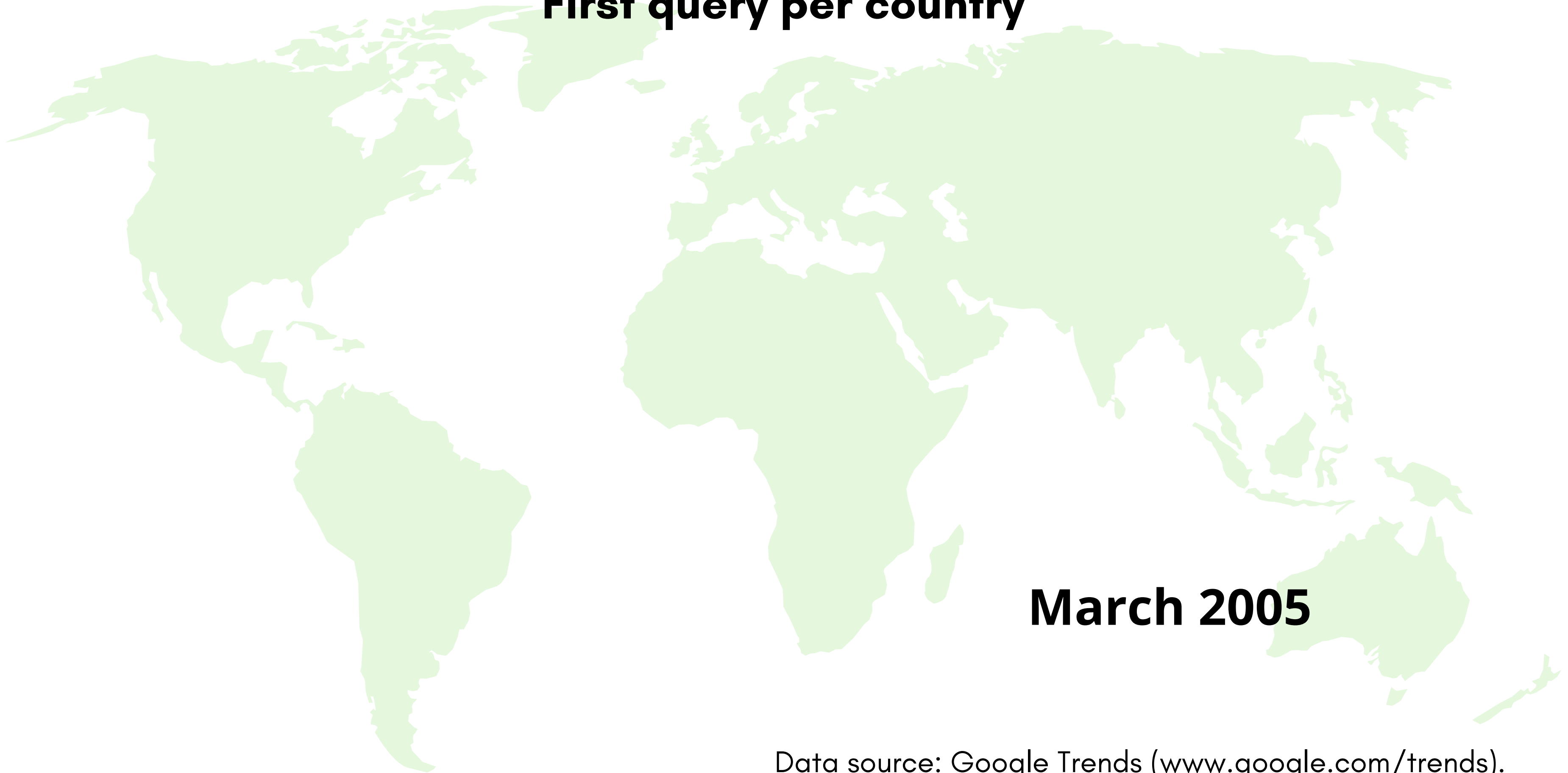
# First query per country



**February 2005**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

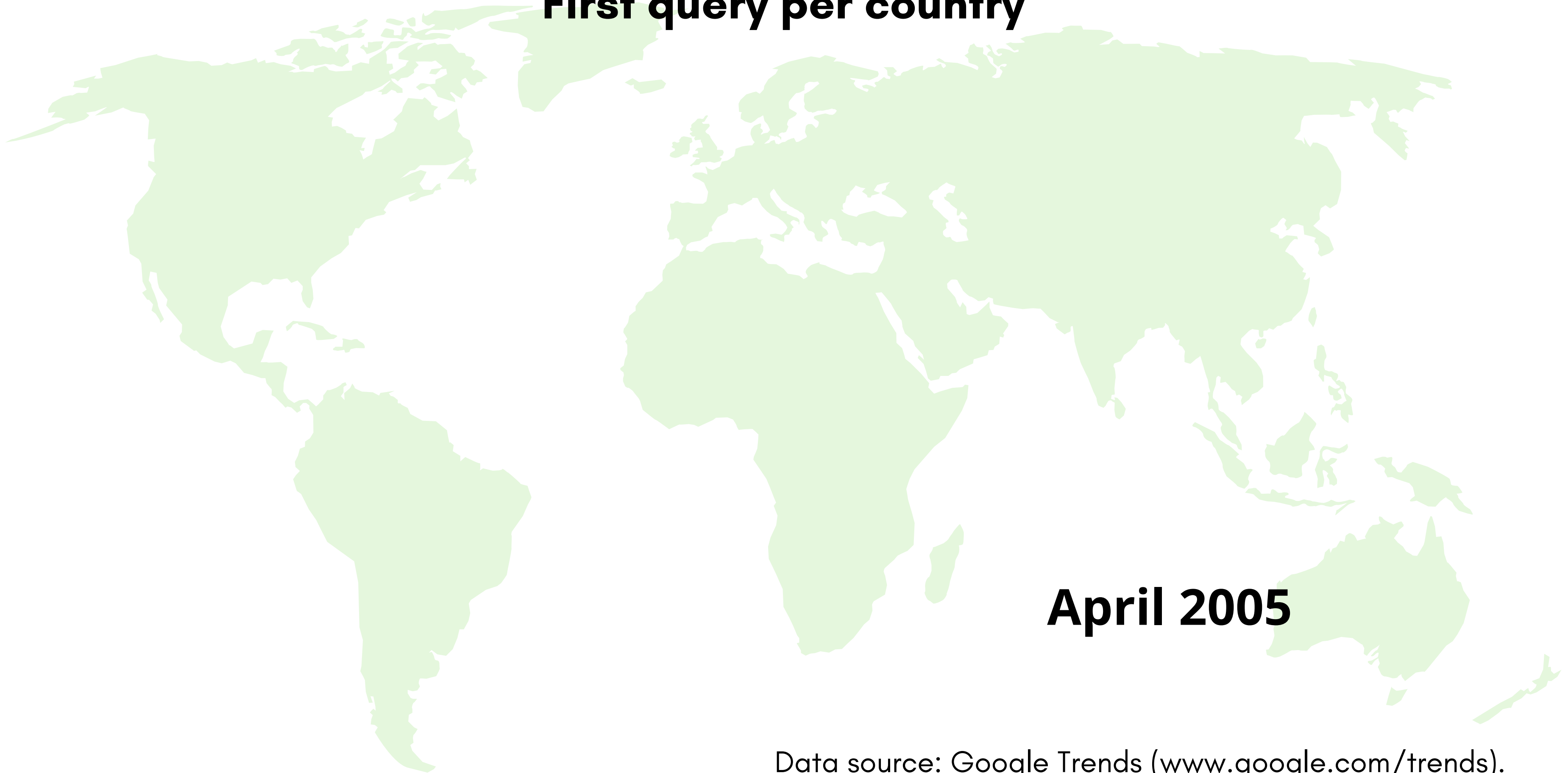
# First query per country



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Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country

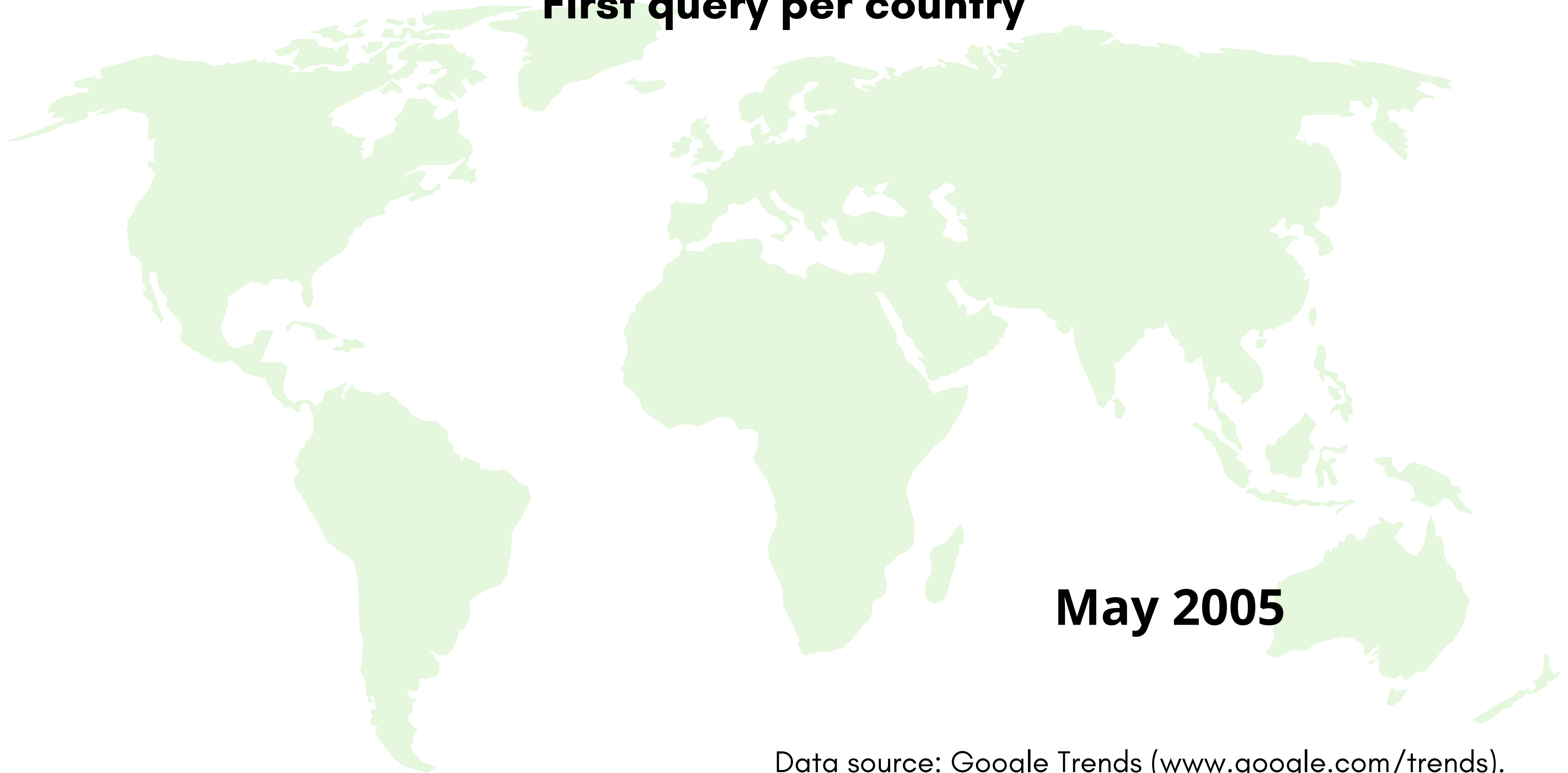


**April 2005**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).



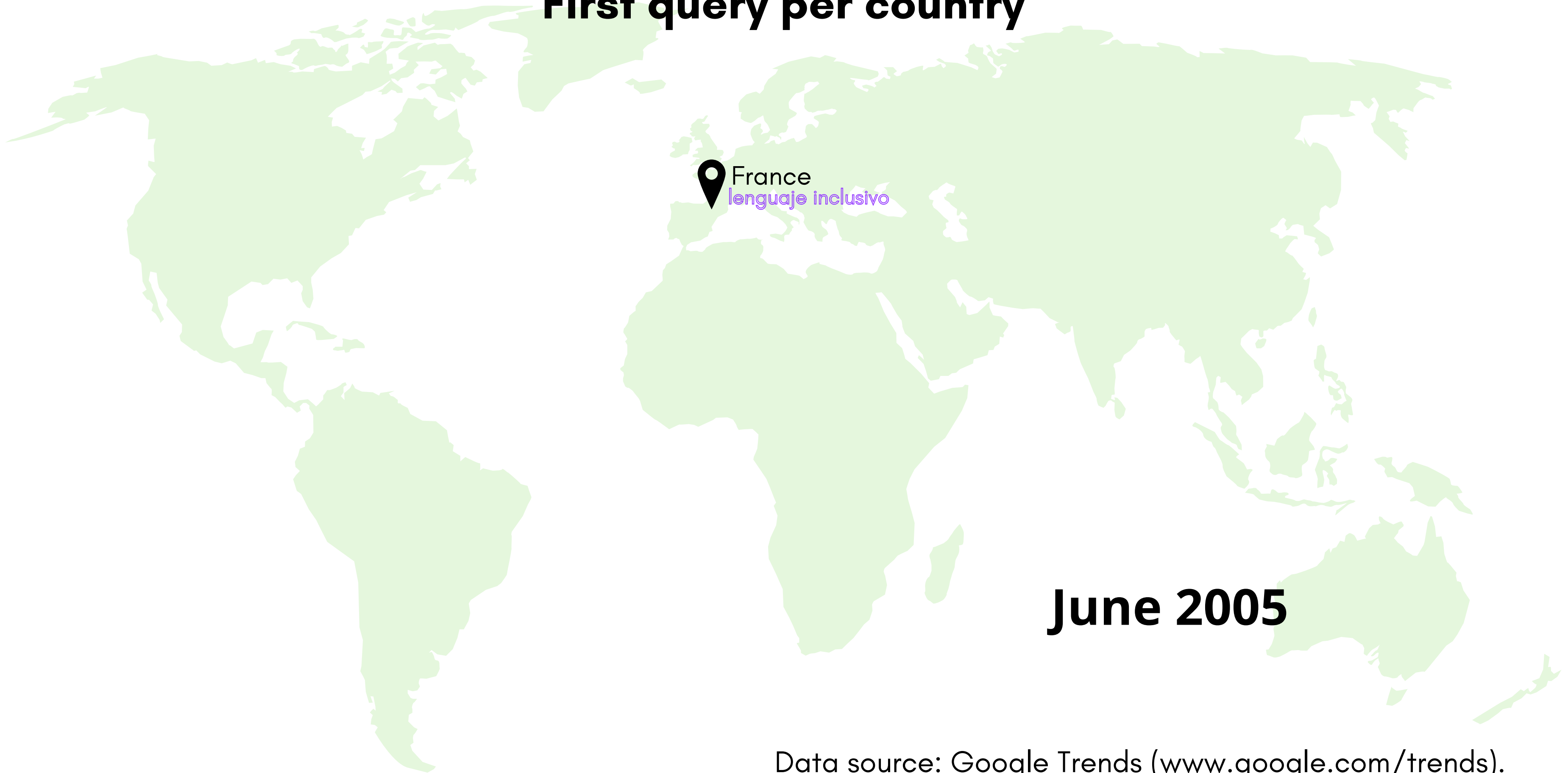
# First query per country



**May 2005**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

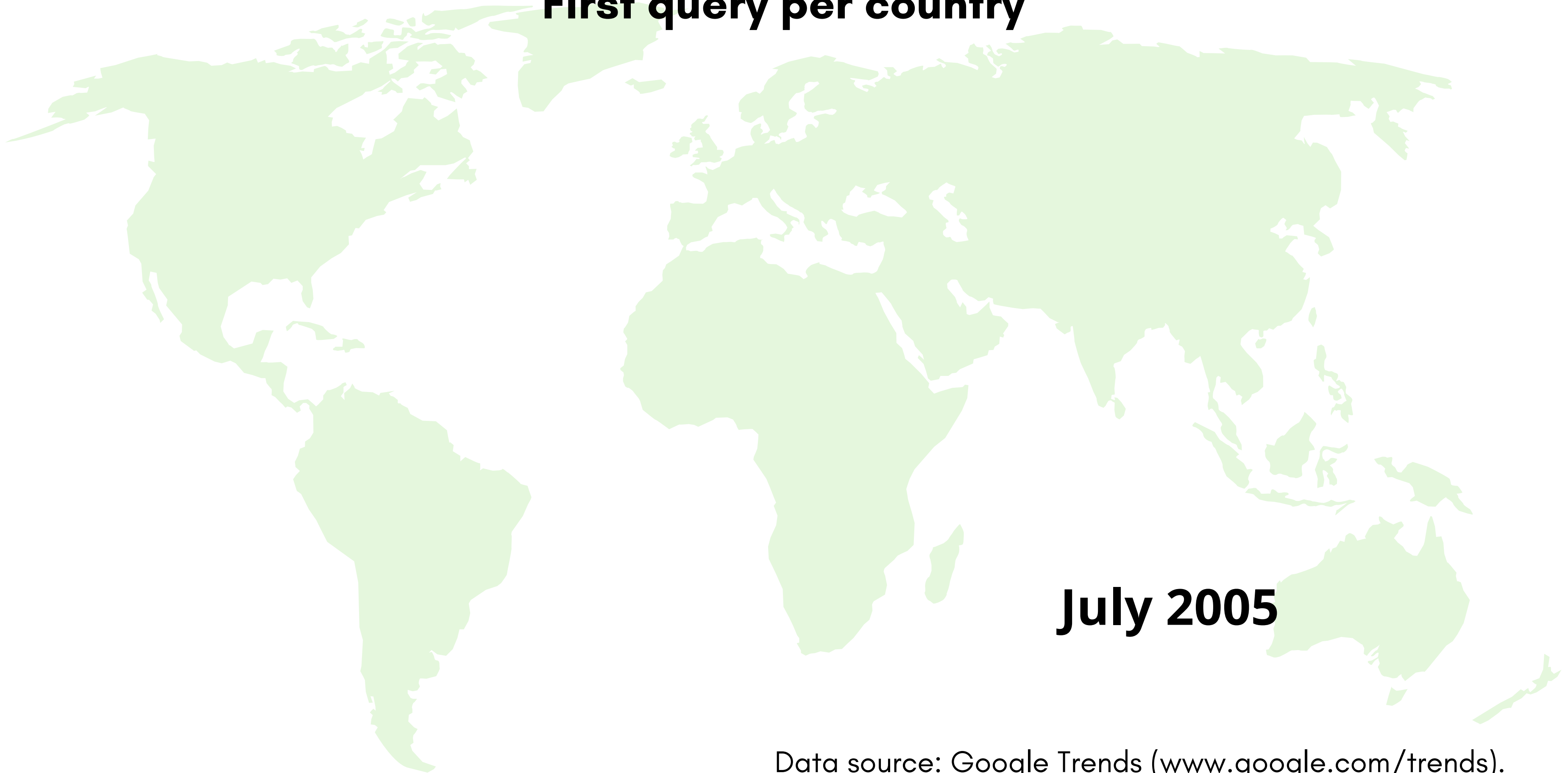
# First query per country



**June 2005**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

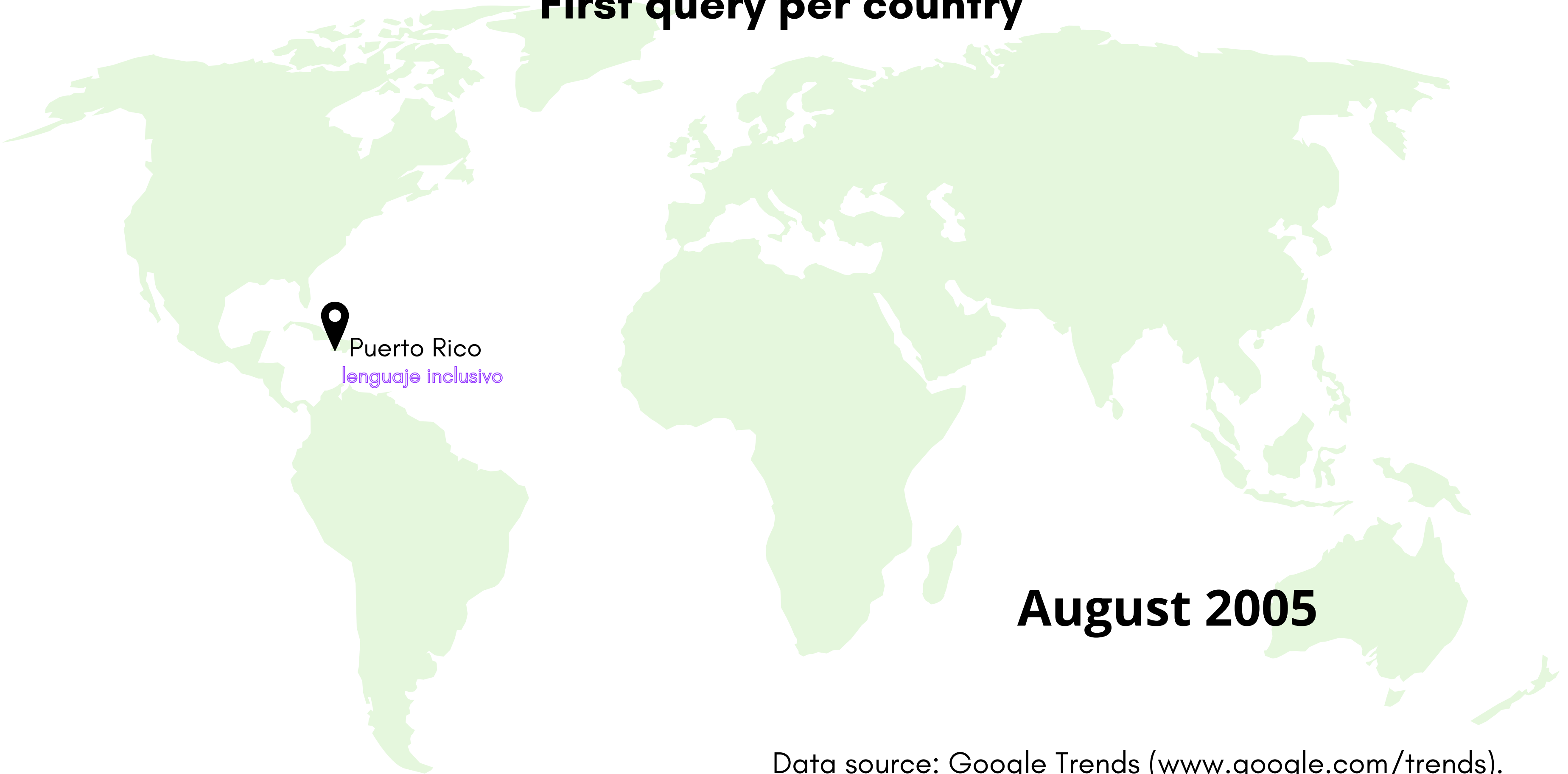
# First query per country



**July 2005**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# First query per country



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

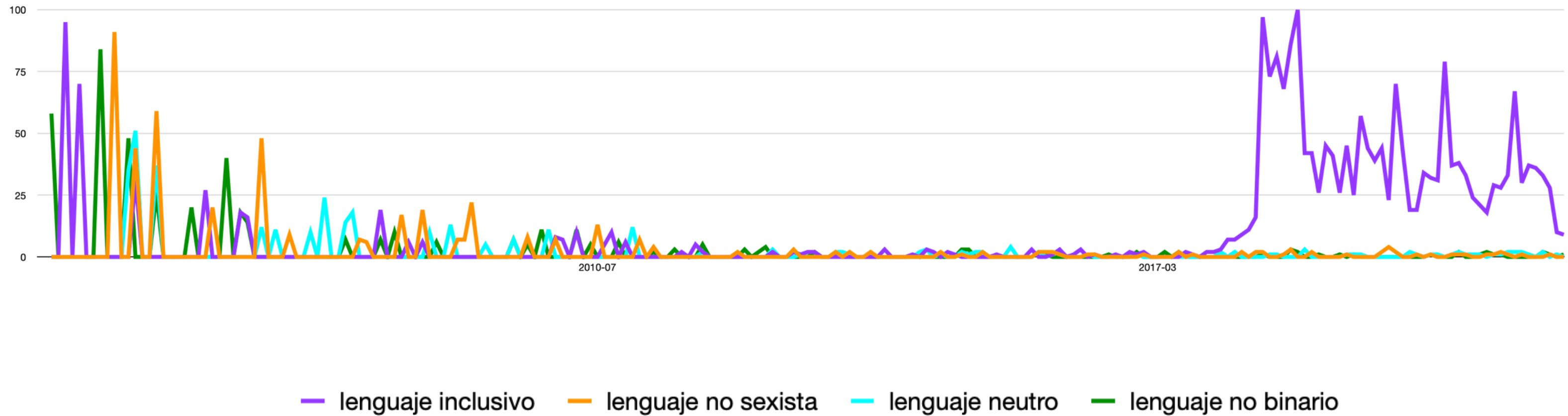
# **Trend of the frequency of the names per country**

**countries with queries for all the names**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

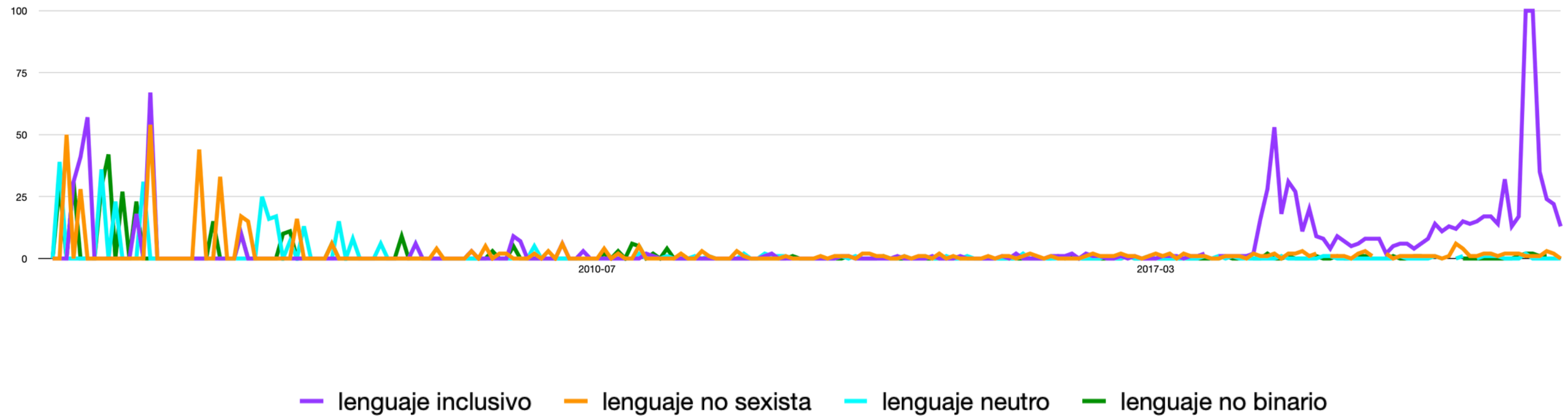
## Argentina



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

## Mexico



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

## countries with queries for 3 names

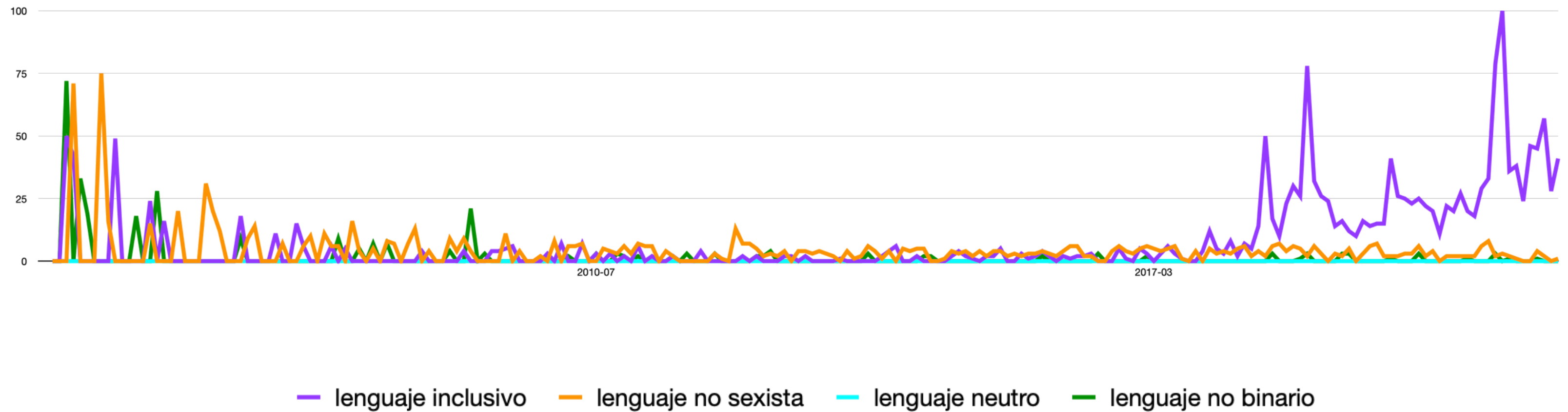
— lenguaje inclusivo — lenguaje no sexista — lenguaje neutro — lenguaje no binario

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).



# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

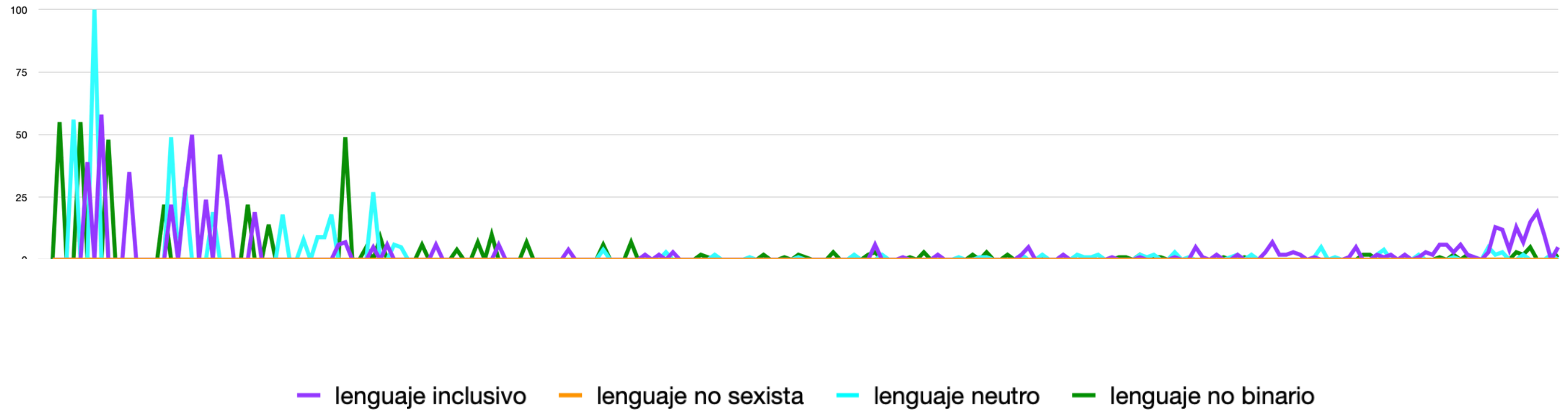
## Spain



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

## Venezuela



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

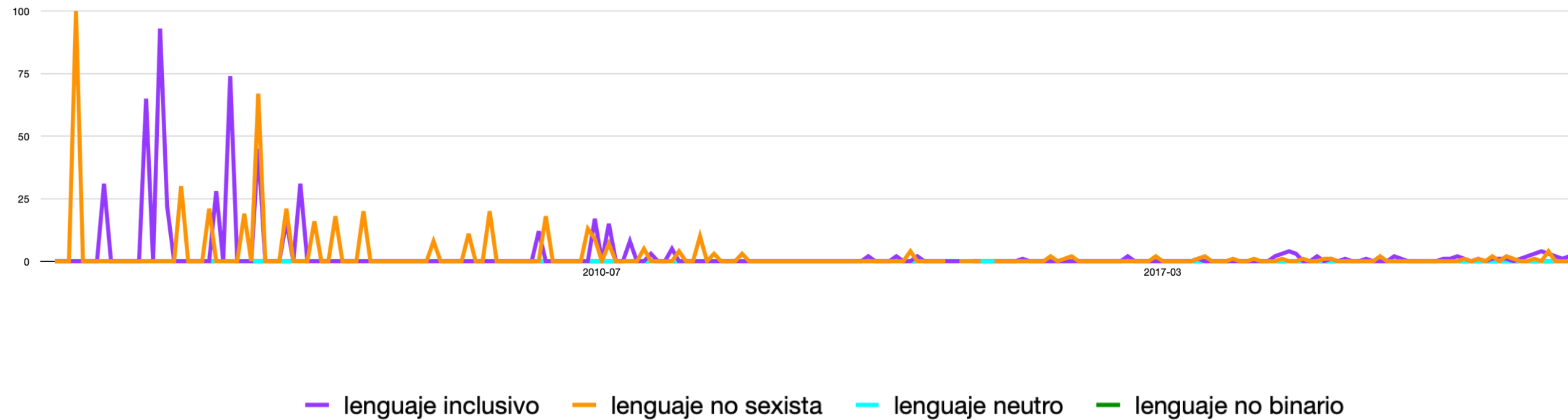
# **Trend of the frequency of the names per country**

**countries with queries for 2 names  
'lenguaje inclusivo' vs 'lenguaje no-sexista'**

Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

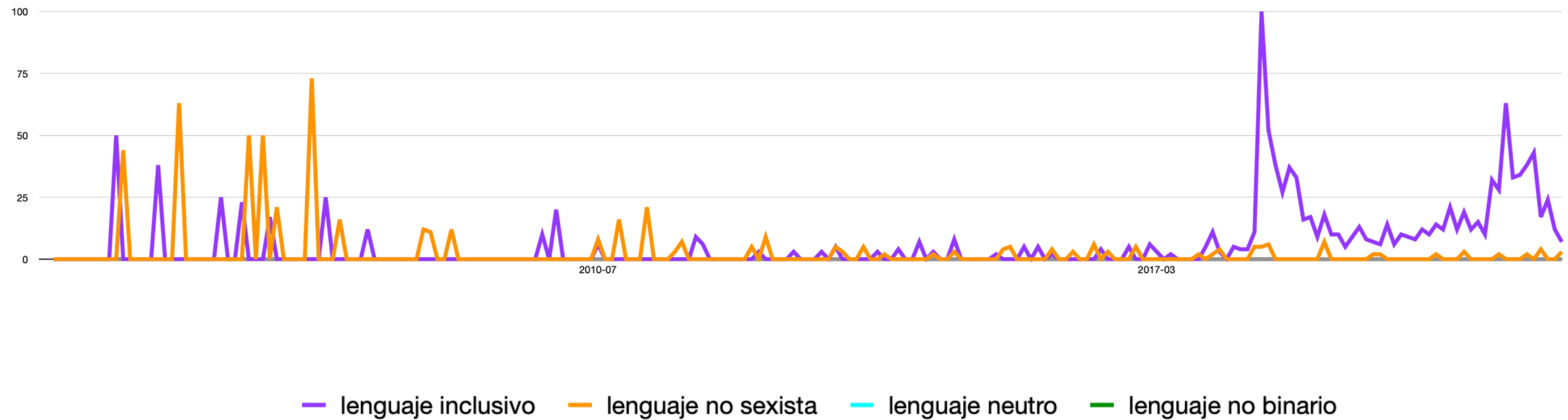
## Bolivia



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

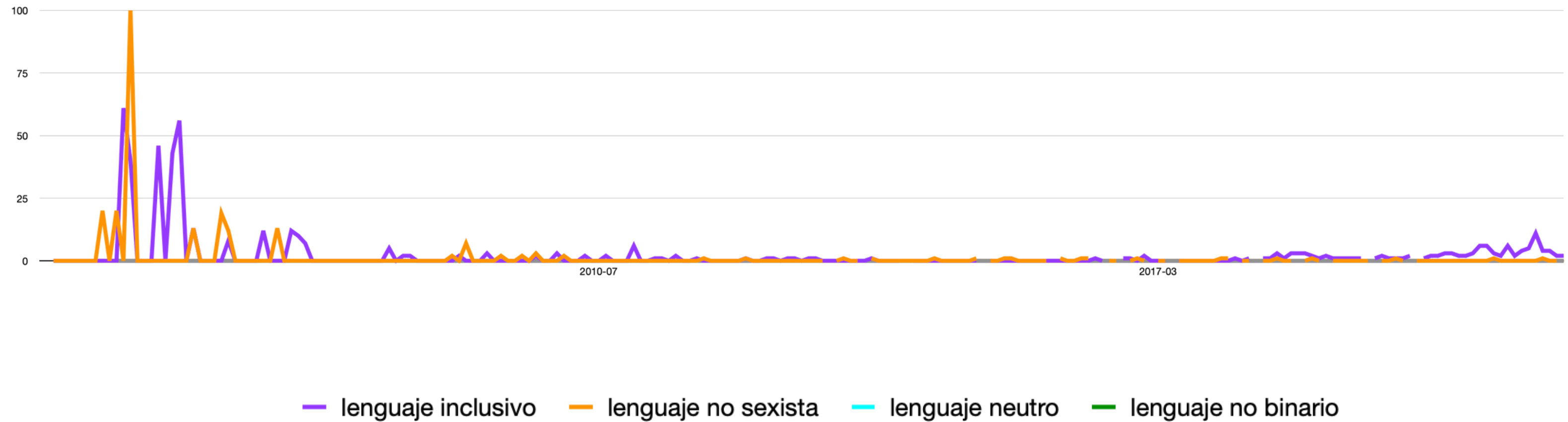
## Chile



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

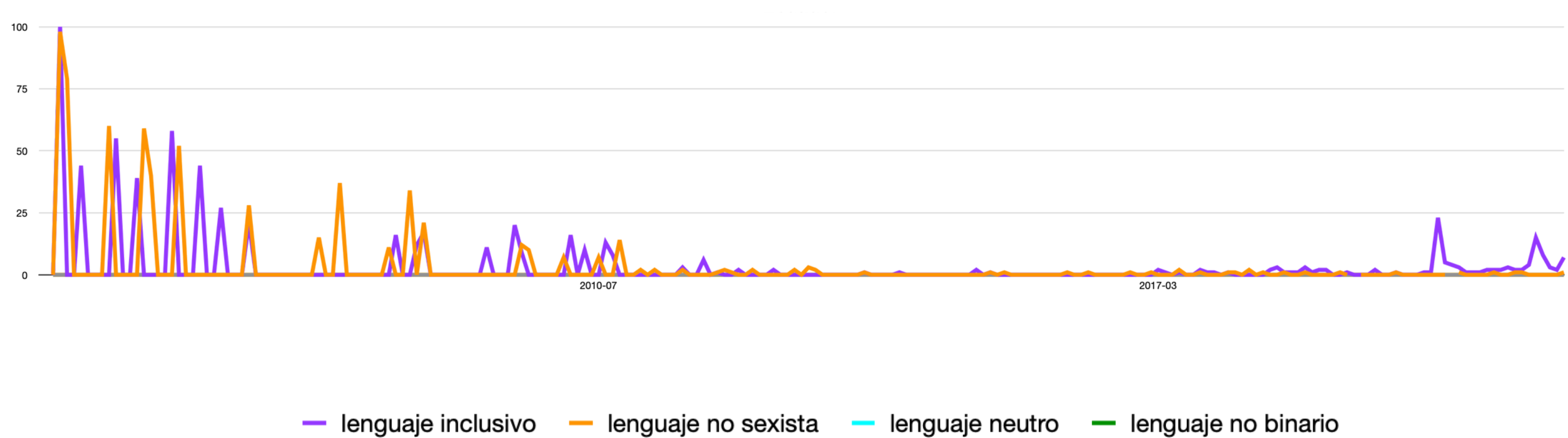
## Colombia



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

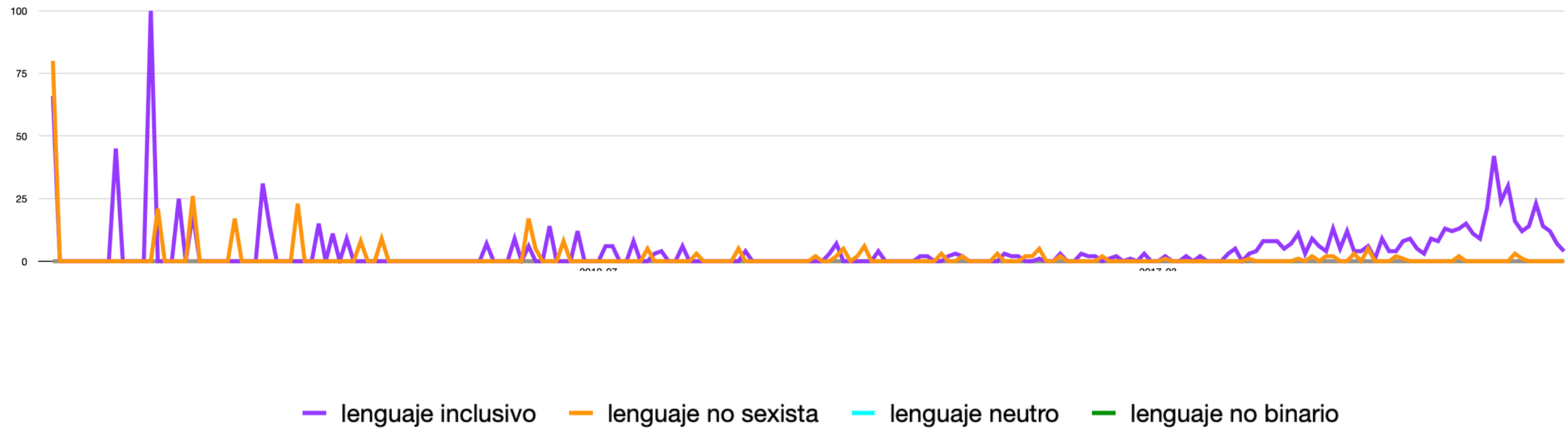
## Ecuador



Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).

# Trend of the frequency of the names per country

## Peru



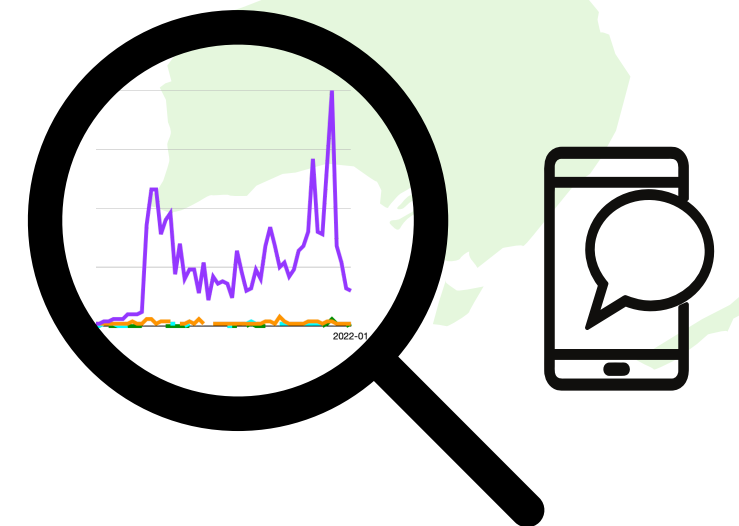
Data source: Google Trends ([www.google.com/trends](http://www.google.com/trends)).



**How do those trends relate to feminism, LGBTQ+ movements, and other political events?**

**A glottopolitical approach to our data**

**2015 #NiUnaMenos**



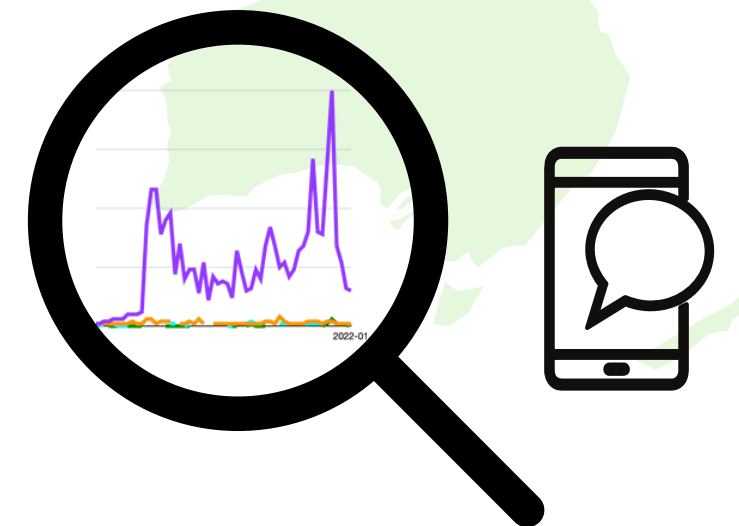
# A glottopolitical approach to our data

2017 #MeToo



**A glottopolitical approach to our data**

**2018 Green Wave  
Abortion Latin American  
rights movement**



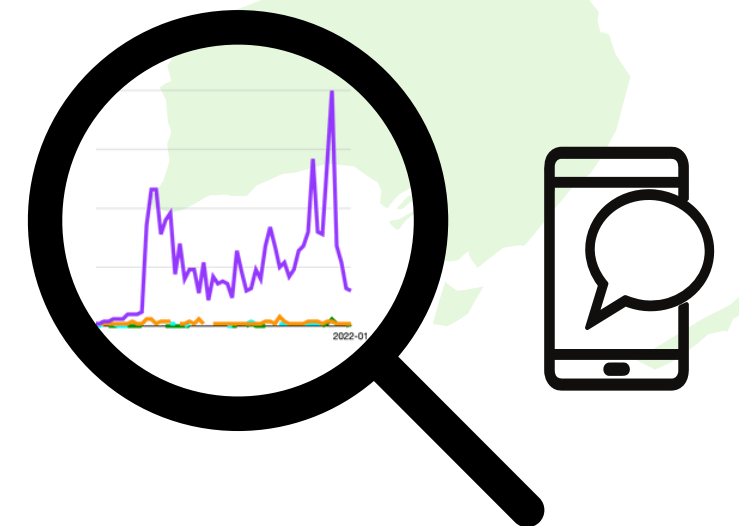
# **A glottopolitical approach to our data**

**2018 Spanish congress woman requested gender-inclusive language in the constitution**



# A glottopolitical approach to our data

**2019 Chilean performance**  
**'A rapist on your path'**



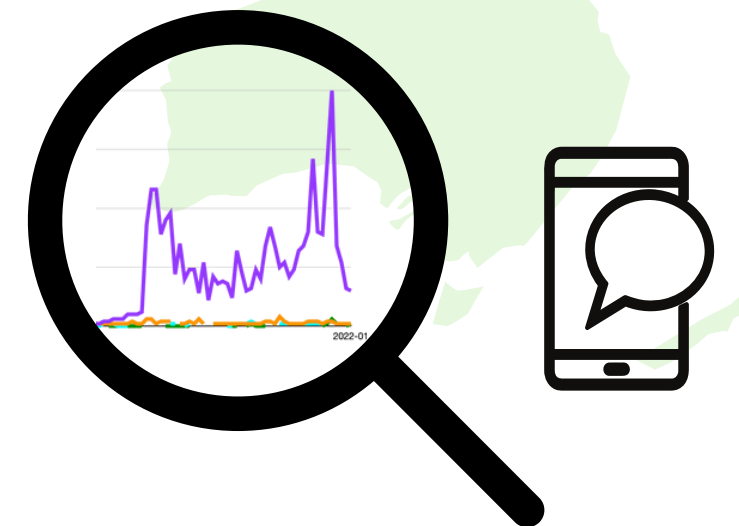
**A glottopolitical approach to our data**

**2020 Royal Academy presents  
a report against  
gender-inclusive language in  
Spanish constitution**



# A glottopolitical approach to our data

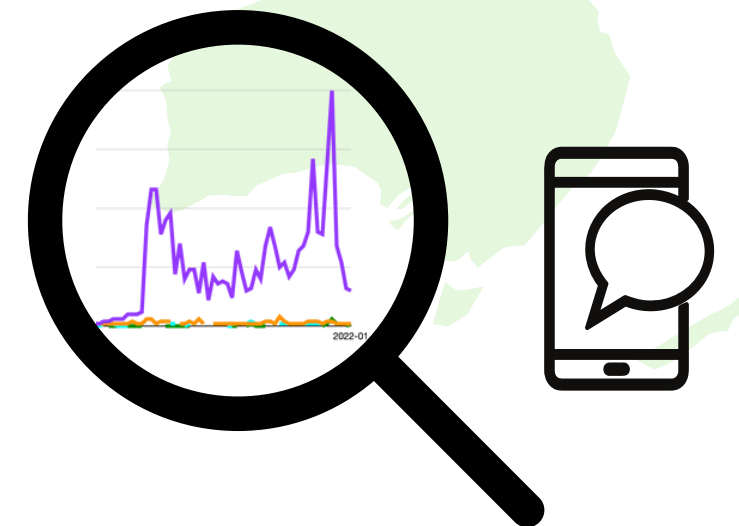
2021 'Compañere'





## **A glottopolitical approach to our data**

**2021 Parliamentarian efforts from  
Peru, Chile, Uruguay, Spain  
looking to prohibit 'gender-inclusive language'**



**Gender-inclusive language in Spanish as a transnational phenomenon,  
changing across time and space**

**final remarks**



## References

Salerno, Paula & Villarroel Tores, Natalial (eds). (2022). Dossier de Lingüística Feminista: una experiencia indisciplinada. *LL Journal*, vol.17. Retrieved [here](#)

del Valle, José. (2015). Lo político del lenguaje y los límites de la política lingüística panhispánica. *Boletín De Filología*, 49(2), pp. 87 -112. Retrieved [here](#)

del Valle, José. (2013). Linguistic emancipation and the academies of the Spanish language in the twentieth century: the 1951 turning point. In José del Valle (ed). *A Political History of Spanish. The Making of a Language*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 229-248.

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**¡Gracias!**

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