



# Leveraging Geospatial Web Platforms to Advance the Organization

PSSG-Transforming Information into Insight

PRESENTED BY:

Kevin Willis, Supervisory Geographer, MBA, GISP, PMP, SSGB

# The Planning Systems Support Group (PSSG) Identity & Mission

## Who we are:

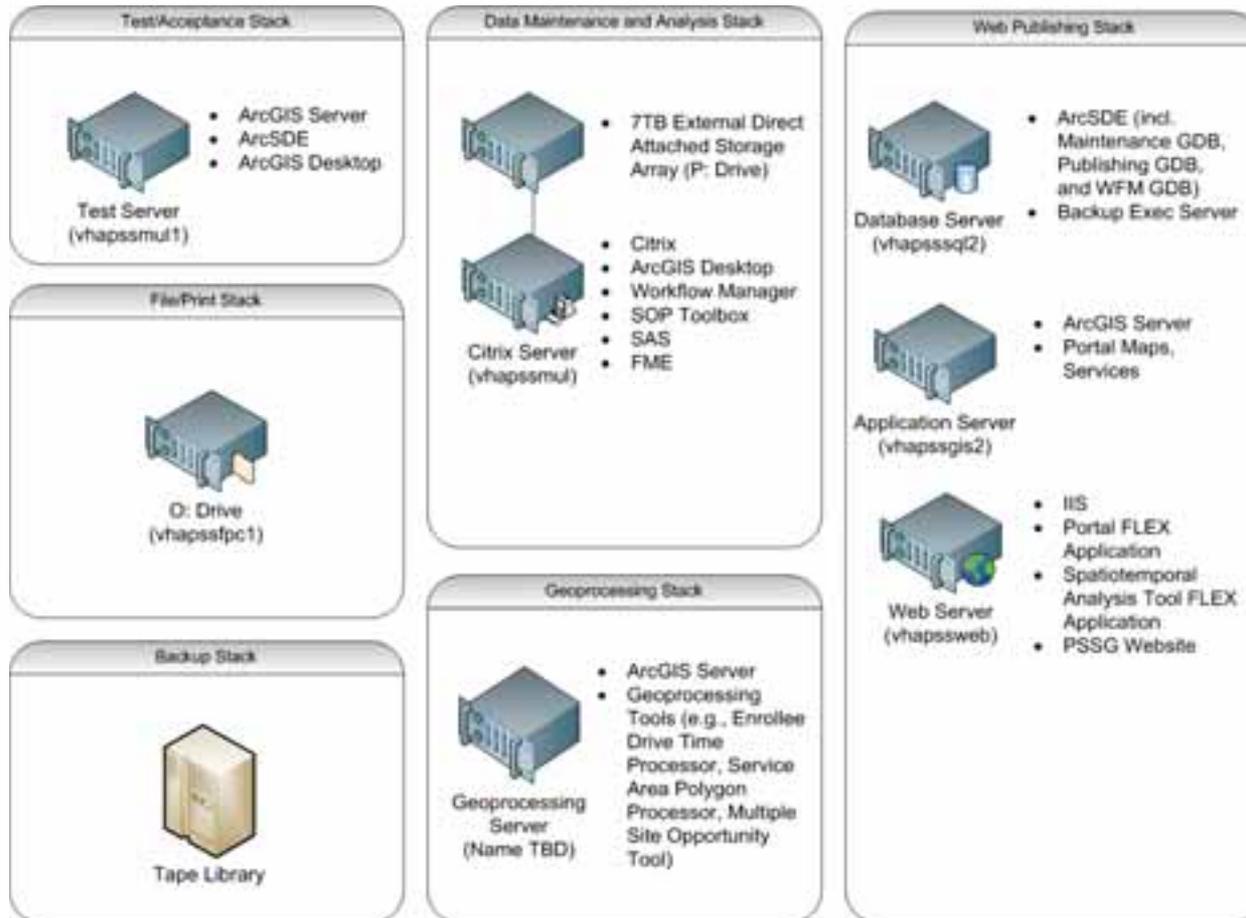
- Planning Systems Support Group (PSSG), the GIS office within the VHA Office of Policy & Planning
- Four geographers and support staff
- Contract support from Penobscot Bay Media and GIS, Inc.

## Mission:

- To turn information into insight by leveraging geospatial analyses to optimize health care accessibility and delivery of services through population-based planning

# Existing GIS Enterprises Infrastructure

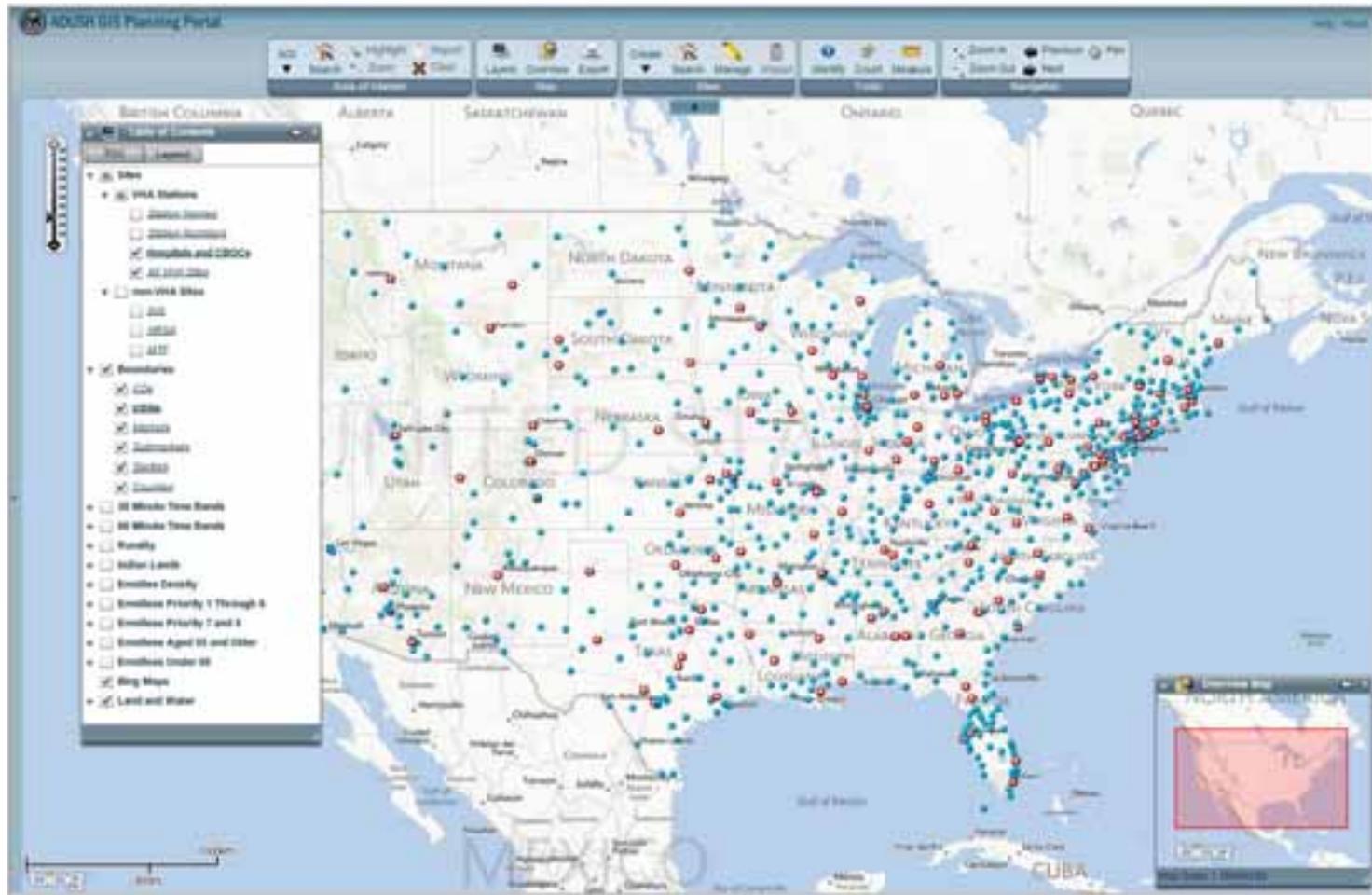
## Internal Foundation



# Expanding the GIS Footprint

## ADUSH GIS Planning Portal

Hybrid mapping solution that provides simple and easy-to-use GIS capabilities to every VA user



# Expanding the GIS Footprint

## Web Platforms to Advance the Organization

### Community Analyst

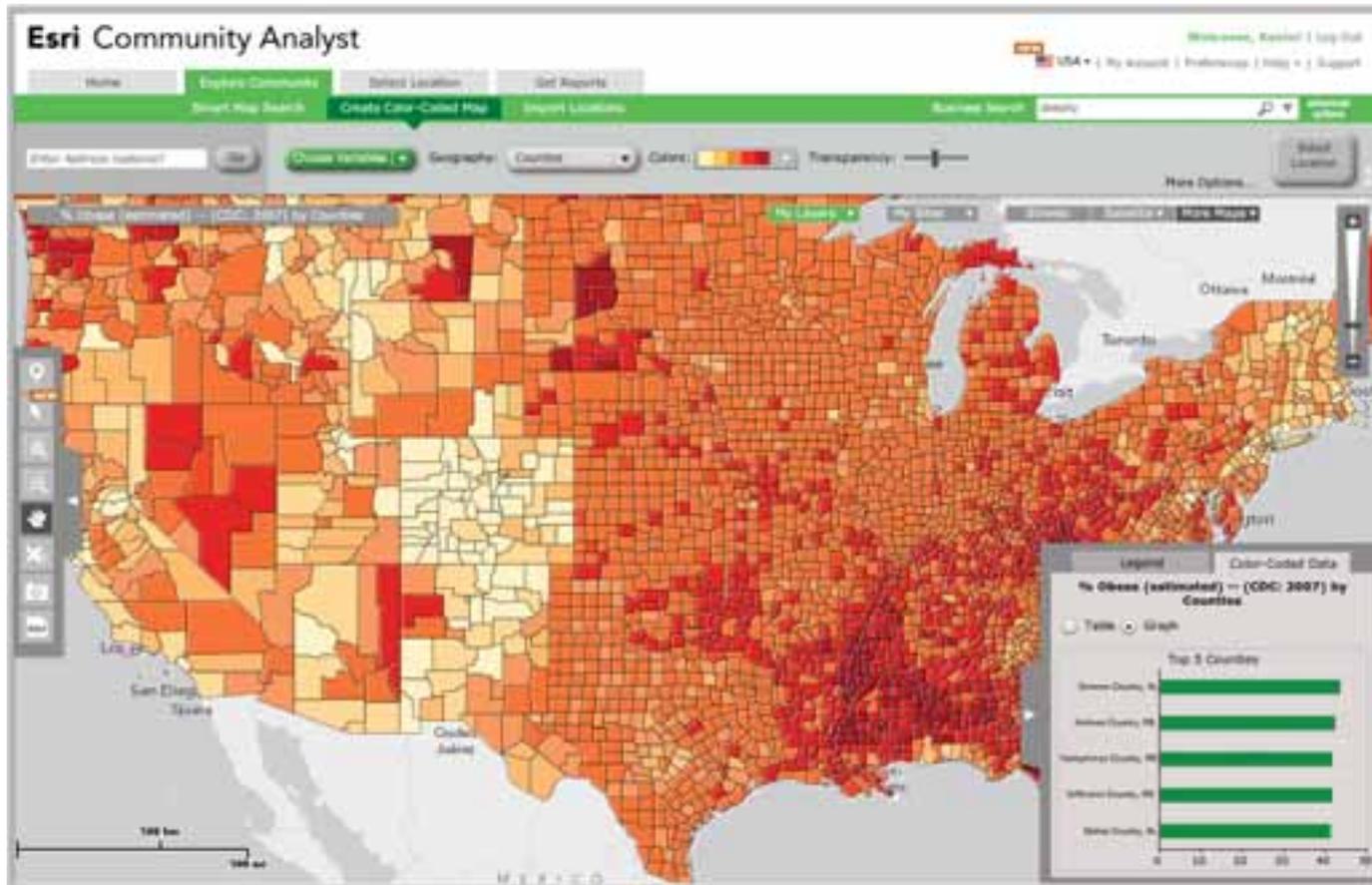
*(Cloud-based mapping solution that provides simple and easy-to-use GIS capabilities to every user)*

- Identify high risk populations using up to five customizable criteria
- Place health clinics for greatest community impact
- Learn more about the types of people that live in at-risk communities and how best to reach them
- Leverage to show gap analyses or correlations between the general population and the Veterans population

# Community Analyst

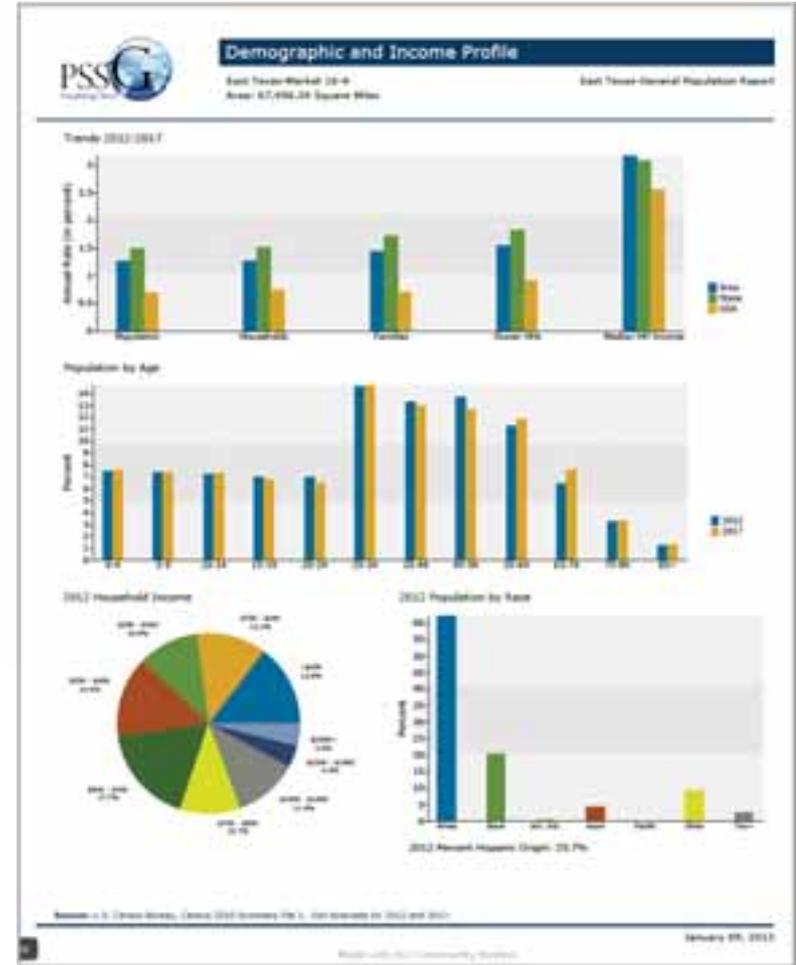
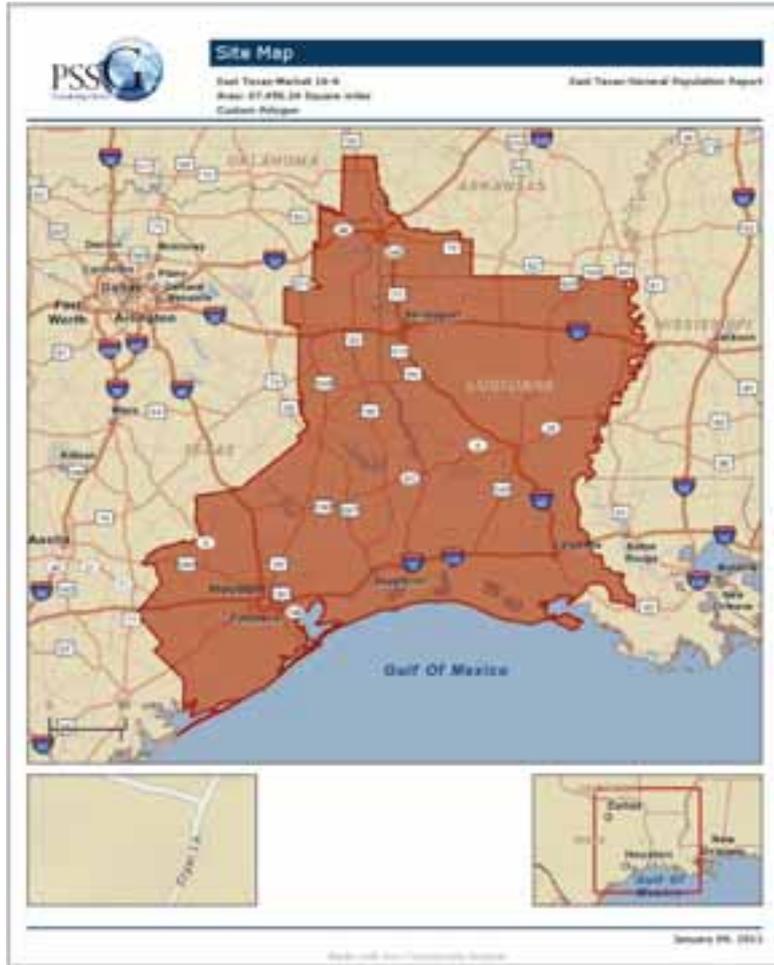
## Spatial Demographics at Your Fingertips (% of Obesity by County)

Community Analyst is a Web-based system that allows you to view and analyze demographic, public, and third-party sources of data to better understand the overall community in question and make better policy decisions. With Community Analyst, you can understand and compare communities more deeply and on a factual level.<sup>2</sup>



# PSSG Leverages Community Analyst Reporting

## Robust Geospatial Analyses and Reporting



# PSSG Leverages Community Analyst Reporting

## General Population Statistics within VA Geographical Boundaries

PSSG		Demographic and Income Profile		East Texas Market 10-A		East Texas General Population Report	
		East Texas Market 10-A		Area: 67,456.14 Square Miles			
<b>Summary</b>							
	Census 2010	2012	2017				
Population	6,222,666	6,796,221	10,428,478				
Households	3,426,619	3,978,694	7,767,062				
Family	2,085,239	2,437,944	4,696,109				
Average Household Size	0.75	0.70	0.70				
Owner Occupied Housing Units	3,025,510	3,240,173	4,421,530				
Renter Occupied Housing Units	3,081,486	3,278,527	3,325,532				
Median Age	34.3	34.8	34.9				
<b>Trends: 2012 - 2017 Annual Rate</b>							
		State	National				
Population	1.24%	1.49%	0.99%				
Households	1.20%	1.57%	2.74%				
Family	1.42%	1.72%	0.77%				
Owner (%)	1.54%	1.82%	2.21%				
Median Household Income	2.19%	-0.27%	1.03%				
<b>Households by Income</b>							
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
< \$15,000		630,046	16.0%	613,491	15.6%		
\$15,000 - \$24,999		439,834	11.2%	444,514	11.2%		
\$25,000 - \$34,999		302,842	7.6%	319,899	8.2%		
\$35,000 - \$49,999		396,436	10.0%	471,319	12.0%		
\$50,000 - \$74,999		622,222	17.7%	685,524	17.8%		
\$75,000 - \$99,999		375,134	9.5%	406,247	10.3%		
\$100,000 - \$149,999		402,967	10.3%	467,221	12.0%		
\$150,000 - \$249,999		146,296	3.7%	174,309	4.7%		
\$250,000+		133,276	3.5%	156,219	4.0%		
Median Household Income		344,300		329,613			
Average Household Income		346,840		479,694			
Per Capita Income		374,522		421,993			
<b>Population by Age</b>							
	Census 2010	2012	2017				
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
0 - 4	718,214	7.6%	717,721	7.2%	705,911	6.8%	
5 - 9	708,198	7.4%	713,699	7.4%	779,219	7.4%	
10 - 14	637,256	7.2%	702,130	7.2%	779,167	7.2%	
15 - 19	698,202	7.2%	695,262	7.0%	697,114	6.7%	
20 - 24	668,221	6.9%	699,133	7.0%	678,639	6.5%	
25 - 29	1,369,029	14.4%	1,431,207	14.6%	1,338,907	12.7%	
30 - 34	1,197,049	13.0%	1,099,899	10.3%	1,007,708	10.0%	
35 - 39	1,046,820	11.7%	1,041,686	10.7%	1,022,961	10.7%	
40 - 44	1,036,461	10.9%	1,011,840	11.7%	1,011,636	10.0%	
45 - 49	872,739	6.2%	827,066	6.4%	792,801	7.6%	
50 - 54	619,215	3.2%	621,719	3.2%	691,498	6.6%	
55+	123,999	1.2%	123,219	1.2%	123,627	1.2%	
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>							
	Census 2010	2012	2017				
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
White Alone	5,915,931	62.9%	6,096,417	62.9%	6,294,617	61.2%	
Black Alone	1,971,889	20.7%	2,063,249	20.9%	2,067,400	20.0%	
American Indian Alone	29,830	0.0%	62,861	0.6%	71,400	0.7%	
Asian Alone	404,896	4.5%	491,840	4.9%	524,560	5.0%	
Pacific Islander Alone	5,247	0.1%	6,084	0.1%	6,421	0.1%	
Some Other Race Alone	695,216	6.0%	862,940	6.2%	1,060,222	10.2%	
Two or More Races	290,516	2.3%	281,668	2.7%	315,163	3.0%	
<b>Hispanic Origin (Any Race)</b>							
	Census 2010	2012	2017				
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
	2,362,249	34.2%	3,019,668	35.7%	3,086,616	29.2%	

PSSG		Medical Expenditures		East Texas Market 10-A		East Texas General Population Report	
		East Texas Market 10-A		Area: 67,456.14 Square Miles			
<b>Demographic Summary</b>							
	2010	2012		2010	2012		
Population	6,440,403	6,428,478		10,428,478	10,428,478		
Households	3,426,619	3,978,694		7,767,062	7,767,062		
Family	2,437,944	2,437,944		4,696,109	4,696,109		
Median Household Income	\$46,079	\$37,183		\$37,183	\$37,183		
Males per 100 Females	95.7	95.0		95.0	95.0		
<b>Population by Age</b>							
	2010	2012		2010	2012		
Population 15 Years	7.9%	7.9%		10.3%	10.3%		
Population 65+ Years	10.7%	10.7%		12.7%	12.7%		
Median Age	34.3	34.7		34.7	34.7		
<b>Spending Potential</b>							
	Index	Amount	Spend	Total			
Health Care	90	\$1,747.58	\$12,027,492,094				
<b>Medical Care</b>							
	Index	Amount	Spend	Total			
Physician Services	89	\$1,717.28	\$6,467,419,994				
Nursing Services	101	\$222.82	\$272,609,505				
Dental Services	93	\$294.71	\$1,022,382,028				
Other Services	89	\$99.18	\$447,412,562				
Self Health, W/Alone	103	\$29.81	\$179,175,506				
Hospital Inpatient and Hospital Services	103	\$129.89	\$485,193,273				
Convalescent or Nursing Home Care	71	\$16.41	\$37,039,444				
Other Medical Services (1)	90	\$106.75	\$275,960,256				
Prescription Drugs	103	\$102.77	\$107,103,496				
Prescription Drugs	101	\$98.79	\$1,081,951,019				
Nonprescription Vitamins	99	\$24.27	\$288,262,228				
Medicine Prescription Drug Products	99	\$49.83	\$199,267,225				
Supplies and Contact Lenses	96	\$71.76	\$289,242,270				
Hearing Aids	95	\$14.76	\$48,276,332				
Medical Equipment for General Use	104	\$6.29	\$11,876,109				
Other Medical Supplies (2)	87	\$42.10	\$207,149,303				
<b>Health Insurance</b>							
	Index	Amount	Spend	Total			
Blue Cross/Blue Shield	99	\$237.66	\$1,069,168,994				
Commercial Health Insurance	100	\$260.29	\$1,296,459,199				
Health Maintenance Organization	97	\$112.89	\$1,087,127,180				
Medicare Programs	99	\$281.24	\$1,211,765,683				
Long Term Care Insurance	93	\$74.40	\$276,591,077				
Other Health Insurance (2)	90	\$100.29	\$276,966,444				

**Note:** (1) The Spending Potential Index (SPI) is a weighted index and represents the amount spent for a product or service relative to a national average of 100. Index only and does not equal the \$ spending.  
 (2) Other Medical Services includes: Physical, Medical, Podiatry, Chiropractic, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Massage, Therapeutic, Treatment, Allied Health, Diagnostic, Diagnostic, and Diagnostic Services.  
 (3) Other Medical Supplies includes: Contact Lenses, Hearing Aids, Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medical Equipment, Dental and Medical Equipment for General Use, and Medical Equipment and Consumable Medical Equipment.  
 (4) Other Health Insurance includes Medicare Supplemental and Other Health Insurance including: Medigap, Health Maintenance Organization, and Health Maintenance Organization.  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau for 2010 and 2012; Consumer Spending Data are derived from the 2010 and 2012 Consumer Expenditure Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# Expanding the GIS Footprint

## Web Platforms to Advance the Organization

### ArcGIS Viewer for Flex Web Apps

Hybrid mapping solution that provides simple and easy-to-use GIS capabilities to every user

- Ready to deploy GIS Web client mapping application specifically built to serve health care policy and program needs
- Easily configurable to meet customer business needs and requirements  
PSSG can customize viewer to focus on delivery to meet business needs  
no vendor support or expensive contracts
- Mapping platform allows end users to create and print customizable maps in a variety of sizes and empowering end users to create maps with little or no mapping experience

# Health Care Planning Model (HCPM) Maps

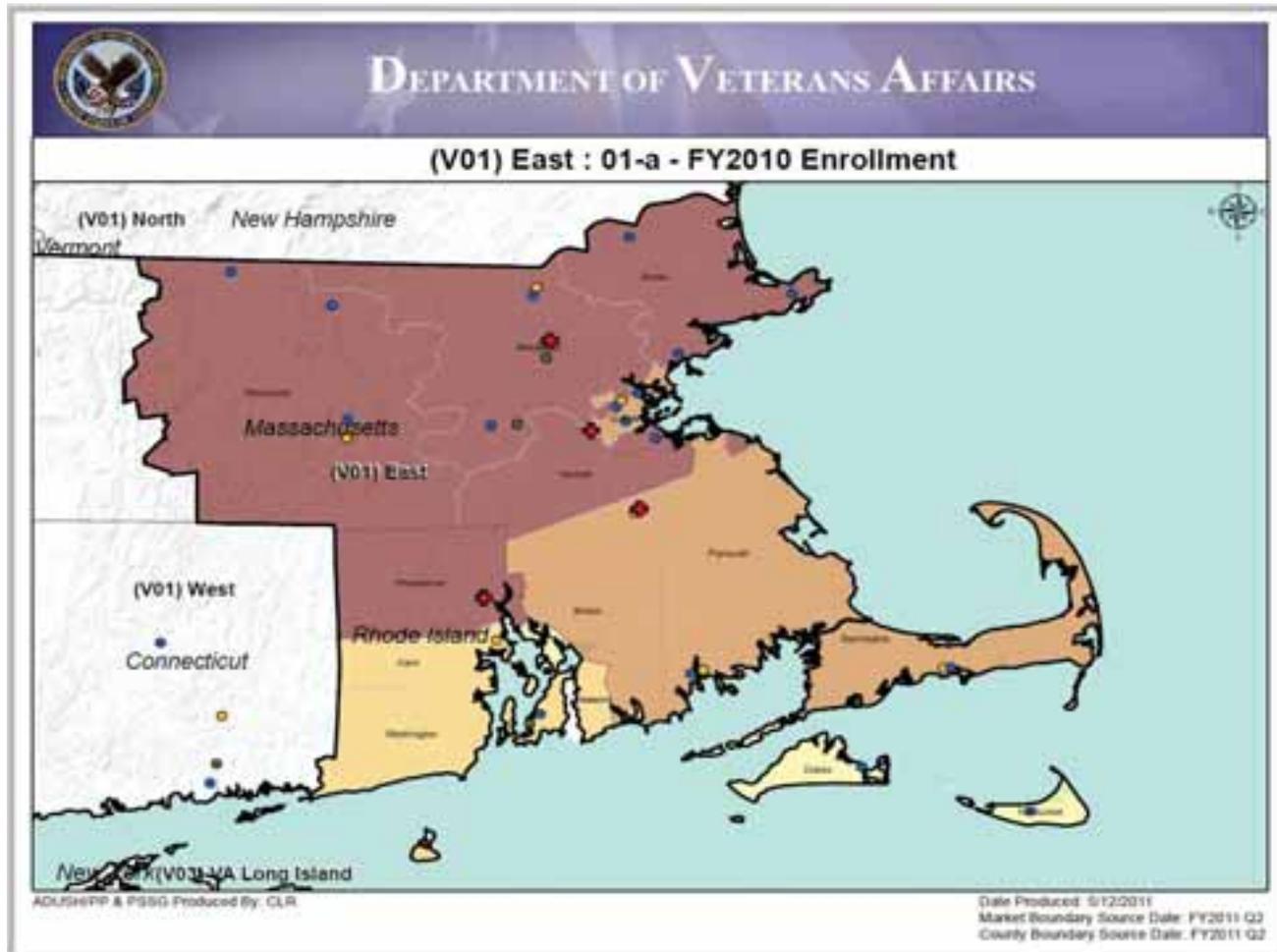
Last Year - Library of Static PDF Maps

The screenshot shows the VA Intranet website for the Planning Systems Support Group (PSSG). The main heading is "HCPM Market Maps". Below the heading is a navigation bar with numbers 1 through 23. Underneath is a legend for "VET POP LEGEND - ENROLLEE LEGEND - National Map". The main content is a table with columns for VISN, VISN Enrollee Maps (2010), VISN Enrollee Maps (2020), VISN VetPop Maps (2010), and VISN VetPop Maps (2020). The table lists maps for VISN 1, 2, and 3, with specific regional sub-categories.

VISN	VISN Enrollee Maps (2010)	VISN Enrollee Maps (2020)	VISN VetPop Maps (2010)	VISN VetPop Maps (2020)
1	<a href="#">East/01-a</a>	<a href="#">East/01-a</a>	<a href="#">East/01-a</a>	<a href="#">East/01-a</a>
	<a href="#">Far North/01-b</a>	<a href="#">Far North/01-b</a>	<a href="#">Far North/01-b</a>	<a href="#">Far North/01-b</a>
	<a href="#">North/01-c</a>	<a href="#">North/01-c</a>	<a href="#">North/01-c</a>	<a href="#">North/01-c</a>
	<a href="#">West/01-d</a>	<a href="#">West/01-d</a>	<a href="#">West/01-d</a>	<a href="#">West/01-d</a>
2	<a href="#">Central/02-b</a>	<a href="#">Central/02-b</a>	<a href="#">Central/02-b</a>	<a href="#">Central/02-b</a>
	<a href="#">Eastern/02-a</a>	<a href="#">Eastern/02-a</a>	<a href="#">Eastern/02-a</a>	<a href="#">Eastern/02-a</a>
	<a href="#">Finger Lakes/02-e</a>	<a href="#">Finger Lakes/02-e</a>	<a href="#">Finger Lakes/02-e</a>	<a href="#">Finger Lakes/02-e</a>
	<a href="#">South Tier/02-f</a>	<a href="#">South Tier/02-f</a>	<a href="#">South Tier/02-f</a>	<a href="#">South Tier/02-f</a>
3	<a href="#">VA Long Island /03-a</a>			
	<a href="#">VA Metro New York /03-b</a>			
	<a href="#">VA New Jersey /03-c</a>			

# Health Care Planning Model (HCPM) Maps

Example - One of the Static PDF Maps



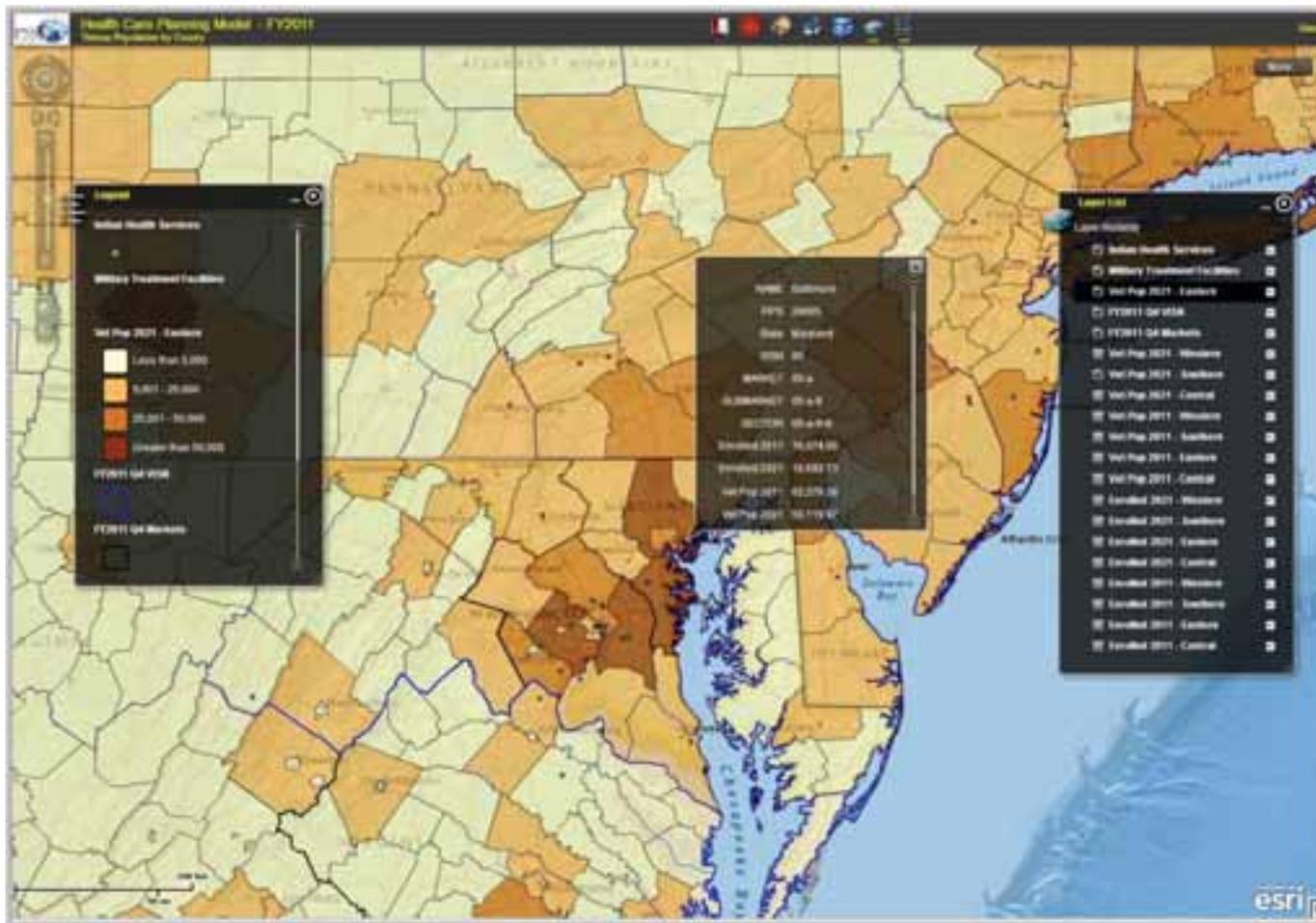
# Health Care Planning Model (HCPM) Flex Viewer

NOW - Empowering users to customize their own market maps



# Health Care Planning Model (HCPM) Flex Viewer

NOW - Empowering users to customize their own market maps



# Health Care Reform Impact

## Flex Viewer - Mapping at Your Fingertips

Leveraging the Power of GIS to Assist with Health Care Reform Impact Analysis



# ArcGIS Online for Organizations

## Innovatively Collaborative by Empowering VHA Employees

HOME GALLERY MAP GROUPS MY CONTENT Find maps, applications and more... Q

### Veterans Health Administration (10P)

#### VHA Featured Maps

- ACA - State Medicaid Expansion & Healthcare
- ACA - Veteran Impact Analysis (VIA)
- Compare Healthcare Costs by Income
- VIA and Public Healthcare Services

**Deputy Under Secretary for Health Policy and Services (10P)**  
GIS Healthcare Enterprise Service & Support (GHES)  
To support the VHA through the leveraging of geospatial technologies

**VHA Mission**  
Honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.

The Veterans Health Administration is home to the United States' largest integrated health care system consisting of 152 medical centers, nearly 1,400 community-based outpatient clinics, community living centers, Vet Centers and Domiciliarys. Together these health care facilities and the more than 53,000 independent licensed health care practitioners who work within them provide comprehensive care to more than 0.3 million\* Veterans each year.

Source: <http://www.va.gov/health/about/10p.asp>

**Make a Map »**  
Create a map that can be viewed in a browser, desktop or mobile device. Share it on a blog, via email, or embed it in a website.

**ArcGIS for Developers »**  
Build custom web and mobile applications that incorporate your maps and data.

# ArcGIS Online Web Maps

## VHA Health Care Services and Demand

This is a basic example of how the power of GIS can be leveraged to visually show proportionally our health care facilities and enrollee demands by state.



# ArcGIS Online Web Apps

## VHA Health Care Service & Live Weather Events

This is a basic example of how the power of GIS can be leveraged to visually show the proximity of VA facilities in relation to minor and major weather related events in near real time using NOAA data feeds.



# GIS Case Studies: An ROI Approach

## The PSSG - Delivering Data Driven Results

### CASE STUDY: Geospatial Technologies Assist with Optimizing Mobile Vet Center Assignments



#### Introduction Statement:

GIS technologies and methodologies provide decision-makers with the ability to "visualize choices" on a local, regional or national level. Recently the Readjustment Counseling services (RCS) had to consider how to best allocate finite resources on a national scale. Their outreach to the Planning Systems Support Group (PSSG) dovetailed into a collaborative effort between these two offices to enhance assets to care for our mobilized Veterans on so proudly serve.

#### Background:

Since the middle of 2011, the PSSG has applied the advanced location-allocation analysis tool provided by ArcGIS software to assist planners with recommendations on where to best place new facilities. Additionally, the PSSG has used maximum coverage and attendance methodologies to derive unique hybrid outputs to assist decision-makers in identifying the spatial gaps that should be considered as new candidate sites. PSSG's analysis has assisted executive planners and high level stakeholders in applying selected criteria and data to estimate the future impact of site openings and closings. This work demonstrates the potential of using GIS technologies to be the "tool of choice, to help visualize choice" within the VHA.

#### The Issue:

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Veterans Center Program currently has 50 mobile Veterans Centers. VHA is seeking to cover mobile RV units. The Office of the Deputy Secretary tasked RCS with recommending options to best allocate these new 50 mobile sites, with a focus on rural and highly rural community outreach with a proximity to military bases.

#### Criteria:

- Proximity to military bases with a population of 10K or more
- Focus on Rural areas
- Use 2010 Veterans Population data aggregated at the county level as demand points
- Only include county outside with a Veterans population of 1,000 to 25,000
- Range of radius to use nearest.

#### The Solution:

The PSSG provided preliminary location-allocation analysis to the RCS to assist them with the placement of these 50 new Mobile Vet Center vehicles nationwide. This analysis complemented other information available to the RCS to optimally place these new mobile vehicles nationwide.



### CASE STUDY: VA & HRSA Mental Health Collaboration - Leveraging Geospatial Awareness



#### Introduction:

Geospatial information systems (GIS) technologies and spatial methodologies provide decision-makers with the ability to "visualize choices" at the local, regional and national levels. Recently, the Planning Systems Support Group (PSSG) provided data, maps and analysis to inform a collaborative effort between the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and Veterans Affairs Office of Mental Health Services (OMHS). This initial support required an assessment on options to best aggregate, standardize and represent numerous mental health facility related data with a very short response. As a result of this effort, the Office of Policy Analysis and Forecasting (OPAF), and the OMHS embraced a broader view of applying GIS analysis to better inform mental health care policies and programs.

#### Background:

Since the summer of 2011, the PSSG has applied spatial analysis and tools to assist with various population health initiatives. For example, the PSSG recently assessed options to reduce health inequities relative to health care access and resource distribution. The PSSG specializes in providing data analysis to assist decision-makers in identifying spatial gaps in health care access and better aligning health care services with our veteran and/or population needs. This includes projecting the future impact of facility openings and closings utilizing current and projected Veterans population data. PSSG's work clearly demonstrates the value of using GIS technologies to be the VHA "tool of choice, to help visualize choice" for population health care access and resource distribution options.

#### The Issue:

Program directors requested timely and accurate spatial views of HRSA Health Centers and VA facilities data. The analysis included locating and displaying Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and HRSA Community Health Centers with the number of Veterans served at these health centers, Facility Service Areas (FSA), observed to mean rates within provider FSA, and Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse points of care to provide a visual understanding of which health centers offer behavioral and substance abuse services.

Communicating these data to others in tabular format only provides a limited amount of insight. When presenting this data visually on a map, PSSG was able to turn this information into insight and provide stakeholders with the ability to quickly identify areas of concern and opportunities to focus resources. If a picture is worth a thousand words, then visualizing a thousand points geographically represents countless opportunities for inter-agency collaboration to better serve our Veterans.

#### The Solution:

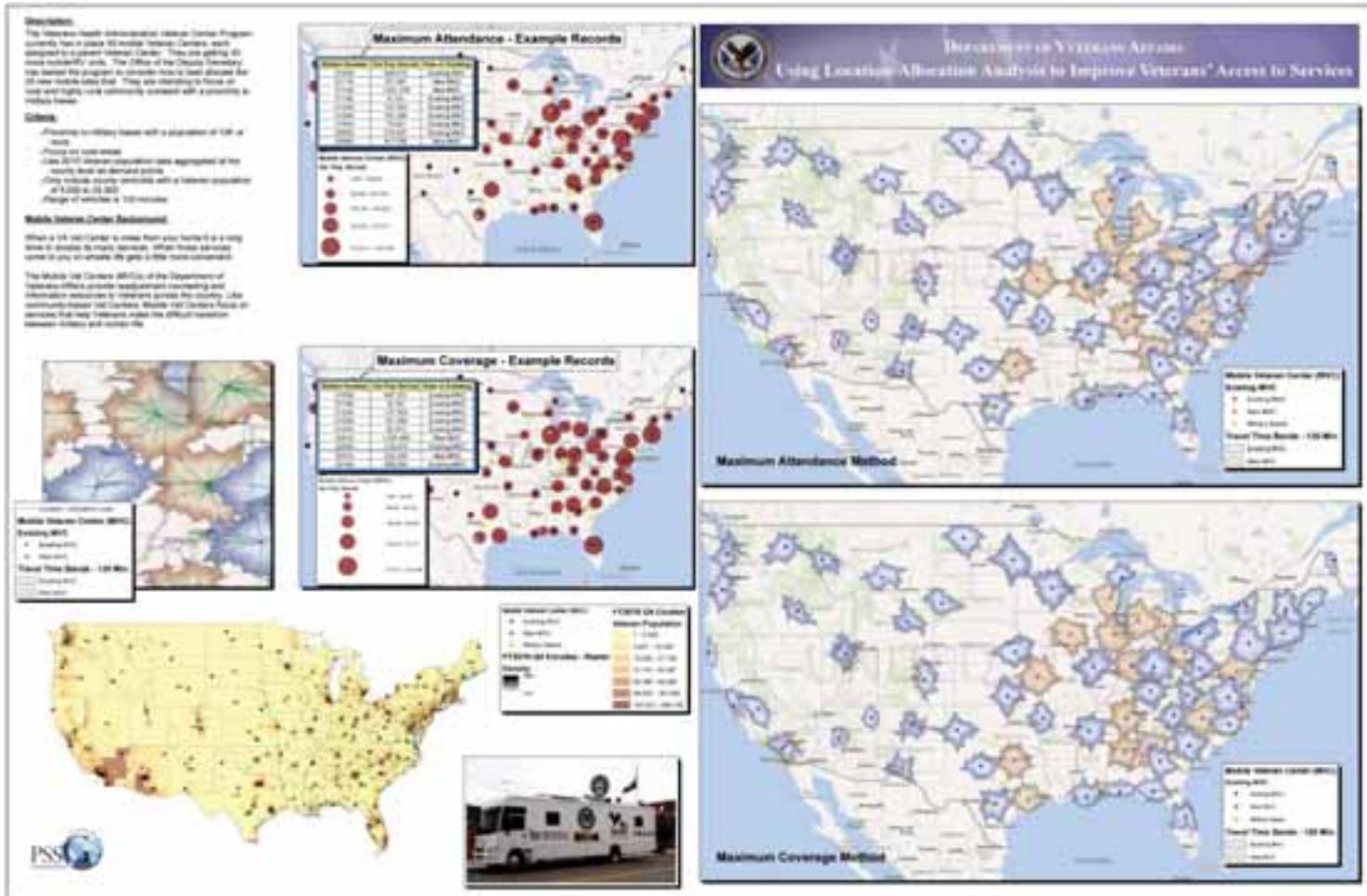
The PSSG has created static maps to the next level. Utilizing available technology of a professional and enhanced web mapping platform called ArcGIS Online, the PSSG developed and deployed a robust interactive web mapping experience to provide and users the ability to view and search population health related data, such as provided in this. The viewer map titled "Behavioral Health Points of Care." This is one example of what can result when VHA and HRSA combine innovation with collaboration from a spatial perspective.



# GIS Industry Leading Products

Where geospatial analyses and cartographic excellence converge

This map has been selected for the upcoming "Mapping the Nation" full color yearly publication



# Questions/Comments?

