



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

Basic Training

Battlemind to Home Symposium

What is Measuring Communities?

A social indicators project which allows users to obtain military-specific information about communities' strengths and gaps.

Designed for use by variety of individuals including local, regional and state decision makers, employers, elected officials and community organizations.

www.measuringcommunities.org

Who We Are

Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University

Conducts research on issues that affect military and veteran families and works to shape policies, programs and practices that improve their well-being

Purdue Center for Regional Development

Pioneering new ideas and strategies that contribute to regional collaboration, innovation and prosperity



Background

- Over 2 million OIF/OEF/OND veterans are joining over 20 million veterans already in the population – and an even larger number of family members
- An additional million will leave military service in the next decade
- These veterans and their families present both challenges and opportunities to communities
- While there is interest in community support, little data are available to track community efforts and progress

Modeled after Community Mobilization Efforts

- Joining Forces (White House)
- Joining Community Forces (National Guard)
- Community Blueprint (Points of Light)
- Policy Academies (SAMHSA)
- Military Child Education Coalition
- Easter Seals
- State-specific efforts (e.g., Illinois, Arizona, Minnesota, etc.)

Our Effort

- Goal:
 - To drive forward the conversation about community support for military and veteran families
- Guiding Principles:
 - Focus on indicators available for all locations
 - Locate agency-specific indicators
 - Recognize “aspirational” indicators

Our Effort

- Approach:
 - Tie to Community Blueprint and mobilization efforts
 - Include stakeholders in development
- Products:
 - Website
 - Reporting tools
 - End-user products



MEASURING COMMUNITIES

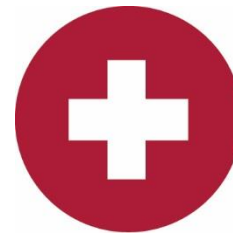
Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

SITE COMPONENTS

Domains and Icons

Domains are broad topic areas

Each domain is represented by an icon and individual color throughout the site.



Indicators and Data

- Indicators
 - Measurement of some aspect of the **domain**
 - Feature to help understand the context or geography of where SMVF live
 - Multiple indicators for each domain
- Data
 - 30+ different data sources from reliable and nationally representative
 - Updated at least yearly with some more frequently
 - Data source listed under each indicator

Mapping Indicators: Geographies

Most Common Geographies:

State

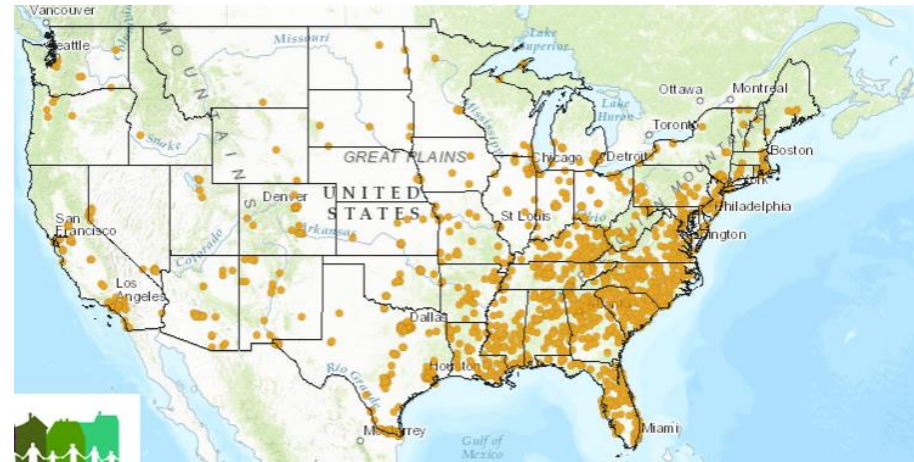
County

Other Geographies:

Congressional Districts

Zip Code

Census Tract Data





MEASURING COMMUNITIES

Mapping Progress for Military & Veteran Families

SITE TOUR

Log-in Page



WELCOME TO MEASURING COMMUNITIES!

Thank you for being a partner with us as we work to make the site as beneficial as it can be. Together we can make communities stronger for military and veteran families.

Please enter your Organizational ID* as well as your name and email address.

Organizational ID

First Name

Last Name

Email

SUBMIT

**Required every 90 days, or when you log in from a computer we don't recognize
Don't have one but are interested in obtaining one? [Contact us](#) for more information.*

Landing Page

3 ways to enter

Enter map by single topic



Home

About

Newsroom

Map

Resources

Contact Us

EXPLORE BY TOPIC



Medical Care



Financial



Behavioral Health



K-12 Education



Housing



Legal



Post-Secondary Education



Employment



Community



Demographics

WHAT IS MEASURING COMMUNITIES?

This tool is designed to help you learn about a community's support systems for military and veteran families. You can use our interactive maps to display this information using national and regional data reflecting military- and veteran-specific data about employment, education, medical and other issues.

State/County Snapshot

\$9,600

The amount of the federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit employers can receive for hiring a veteran.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

LATEST NEWS

- > **Communities step up for homeless veterans**
Collaborations help reduce the number of homeless veterans.
- > **50-state milestone reached on behalf of military children**
All 50 states have now adopted a military family-friendly policy.
- > **Webinar provides tools for financial professionals to help military, veteran families**
Communities and advocacy groups support military and veteran families.

Master map

Master map



State/County snapshots >

Sign up for updates >

Snapshots

The Snapshot is the quickest way to get information on states and counties.

Draws information from the site to produce a standardized one-page document which you can print or save to a pdf.



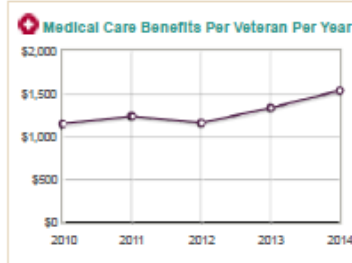
STATE/COUNTY SNAPSHOTS

The Snapshot is a tool for users that provides a picture of the military population in a state or county. The standard snapshot contains commonly used information. The customized snapshot provides some standard information but also allows the user to select information that is of interest.



Select type of snapshot to view

BARROW COUNTY, GEORGIA SNAPSHOT

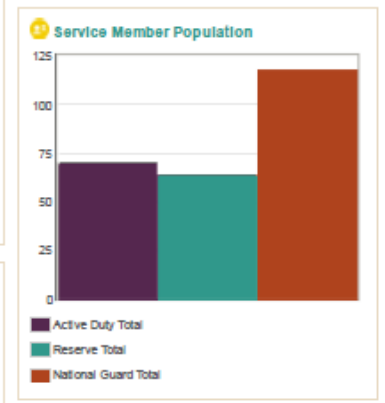
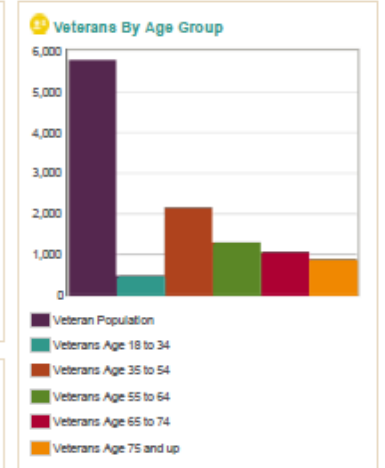
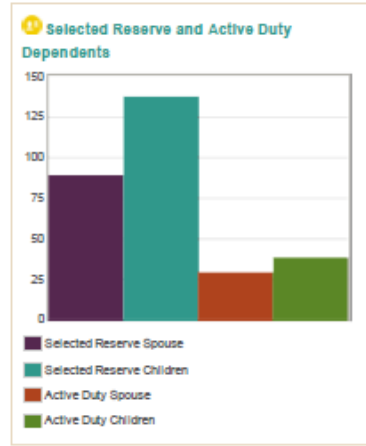
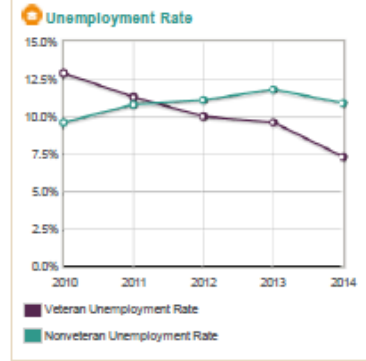
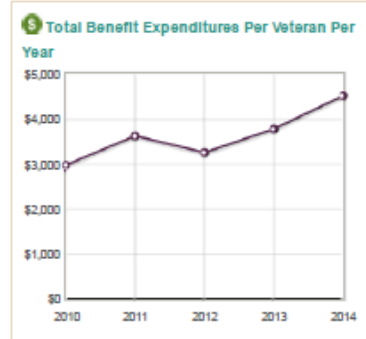


2 In Barrow County, Georgia 744 veterans received compensation for disabilities in 2014. 218 or 29% were from 70% to 100% disabled.

3 For year 2014 in Barrow County, Georgia the veteran population of 5,771 was 95.0% male and 5.0% female.

4 There are no VA medical facilities located in Barrow County, Georgia.

There are 3 identified SAMHSA Substance Abuse facilities located in Barrow County, Georgia.



Sample Snapshot

Topic Page



Description of topic as it relates to military



FINANCIAL

Military families can experience changes to income, benefits and expenses. Their resources may change depending on how they serve. For example, veterans' financial supports may be different from those of an active duty family. This tool provides information about financial resources and benefits.



Topic-specific indicators



Financial Indicators

Our interactive tools can display:

- Compensation and pension administered to veterans;
- State benefits; and
- VA benefit administration offices (CVSO) by location.

Tips for using map, table or graph



How to Navigate

- 📍 Example By Map
- 📊 Example By Table
- 📈 Example By Graph

View data by Map, Table or Graph



Explore

- 📍 By Map
- 📊 By Table
- 📈 By Graph

Indicator Information



Indicator Definition and Data Sources

| | |
|---|---|
| Compensation and pension administered to veterans | + |
| State benefits | + |
| VA benefit administration offices by location | + |

How to Navigate

How to Navigate



“How to Navigate” provides a quick view of how to use Map, Table or Graph.

Select an option to view document

To Display Financial Information in Table Form

Select “By Table”:



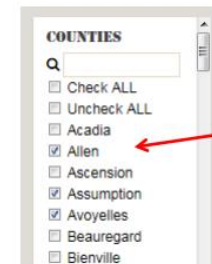
Select the indicator you would like information on and the state which you would like to view:



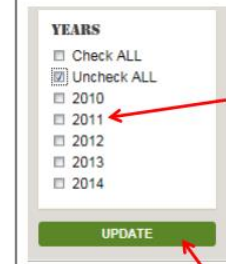
Use “Data Fields” drop down menu (if available) to select the information you want to see.



Next, check the specific county or counties you wish to display.



Some indicators will also allow you to select the choice to select specific years of information.



Once you have checked the information you would like, you would like, click the “Update” button.

Indicator Definitions

Indicator Definition and Data Sources

County Unemployment: Veteran & Civilian Rates -

Definition: Veteran rates and civilian rates at the county level. This information was obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of about 60,000 households that provides data on employment and unemployment in the United States. This is a 5-year trend displayed at the county level.

Source: American Community Survey 2010-2014

View: Map, table or graph

Display: Thematic

County Unemployment By Age: Veteran and Civilian Rates +

State Unemployment: Veteran & Civilian Rates +

VA Facilities: Employment Support -

Definition: VR&E: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Office.

Source: U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

View: Table or map.

Map Display: Location

Each indicator includes

- the definition
- the source of the data
- view on map, table or graph
- how data is displayed on map – location, thematic or dot density

Table and Graph

Tables are most appropriate for:

- Multiple data fields
- Data from many counties

| Arkansas | | | | | | |
|----------|------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-------|
| County | Year | County Fips 5 | Name 1 | Street 1 | City | Zip |
| Arkansas | 2015 | 05001 | United Family Services | 1600 South Main Street | Stuttgart | 72160 |
| Baxter | 2015 | 05005 | Youth Bridge | 706 South Main Street | Mountain Home | 72653 |
| Baxter | 2015 | 05005 | OMART Inc | 116 Snowball Drive | Gassville | 72635 |
| Benton | 2015 | 05007 | Youth Bridge | 1200 West Walnut Street | Rogers | 72756 |
| Benton | 2015 | 05007 | Pinnacle Counseling | 5500 Pinnacle Point Drive | Rogers | 72758 |
| Boone | 2015 | 05009 | Youth Bridge | 107 East Crandall Avenue | Harrison | 72601 |

Graphs are most appropriate for:

- Comparing data over time
- Comparing counties
- Not all indicators can be graphed.



What is a FIPS code (Data field)

DATA FIELDS

Q

Display up to 5 data fields.

- County Fips 5
- Name 1
- Name 2
- Street 1
- Street 2
- City
- State
- Zip

FIPS county code (Federal Information Processing Standard)

- 5-digit codes which uniquely identifies counties and county equivalents in the US.

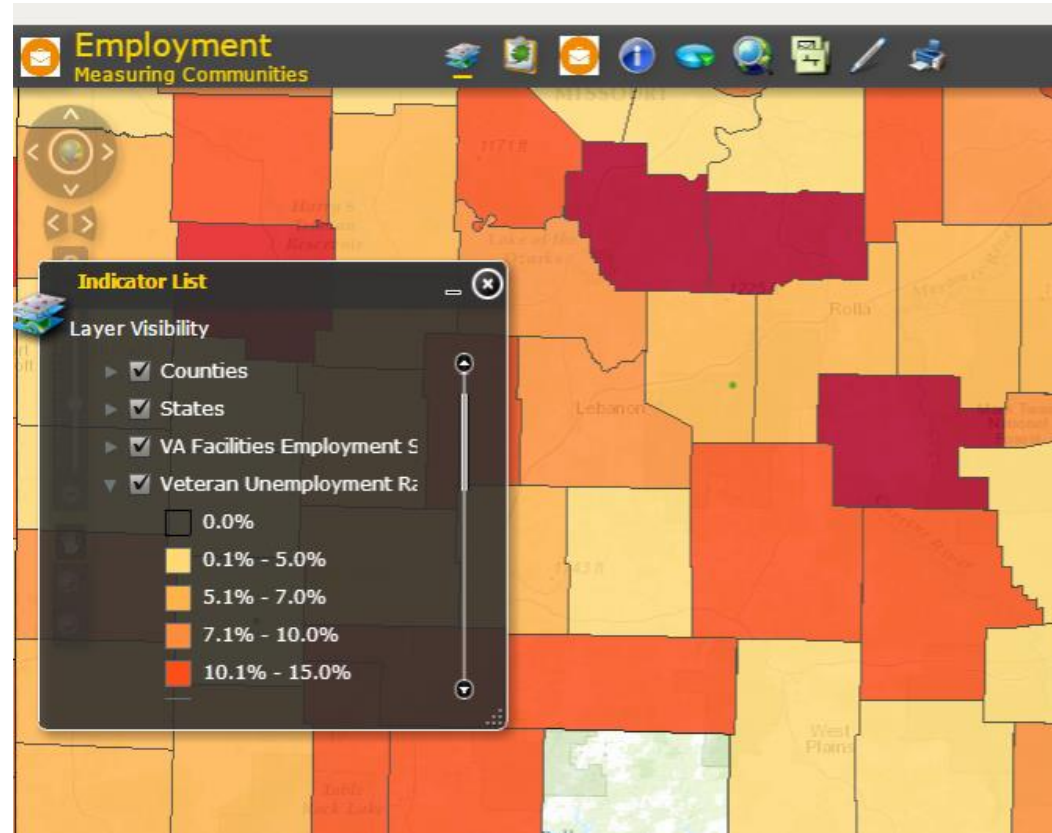
- 31 states have a Washington County:

Helps distinguish which Washington County it is: IN, PA, VA, OH, TN, MN, FL, NY, OR, or other?

Maps

Maps are most appropriate for:

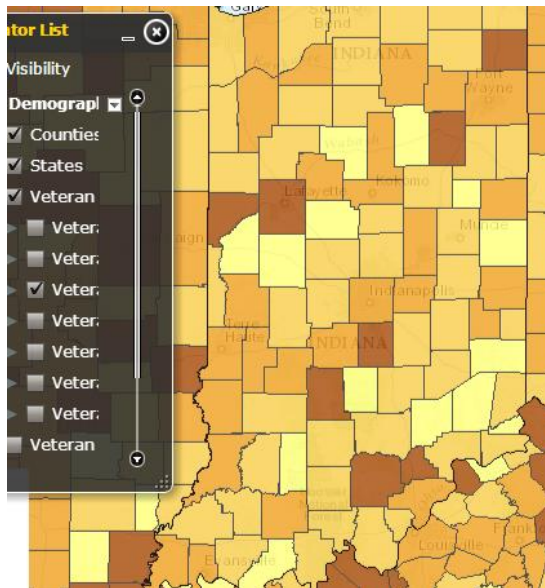
- comparing counties
- viewing multiple indicators from one domain at one time
- identifying gaps
- plotting multiple indicators from different domains at one time (Master Map)



Data Displays

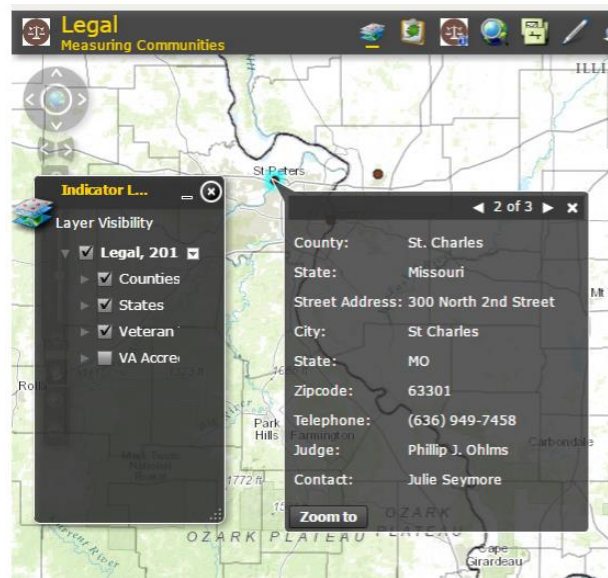
Thematic

Gradient color to show density of something – darker the color the “more” of something



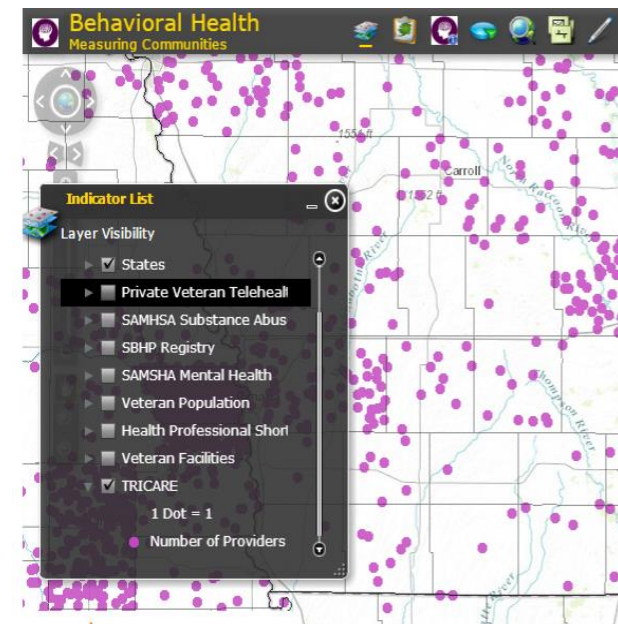
Location

Individual dots to notate location of indicator – click on dot and get location information


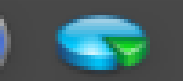


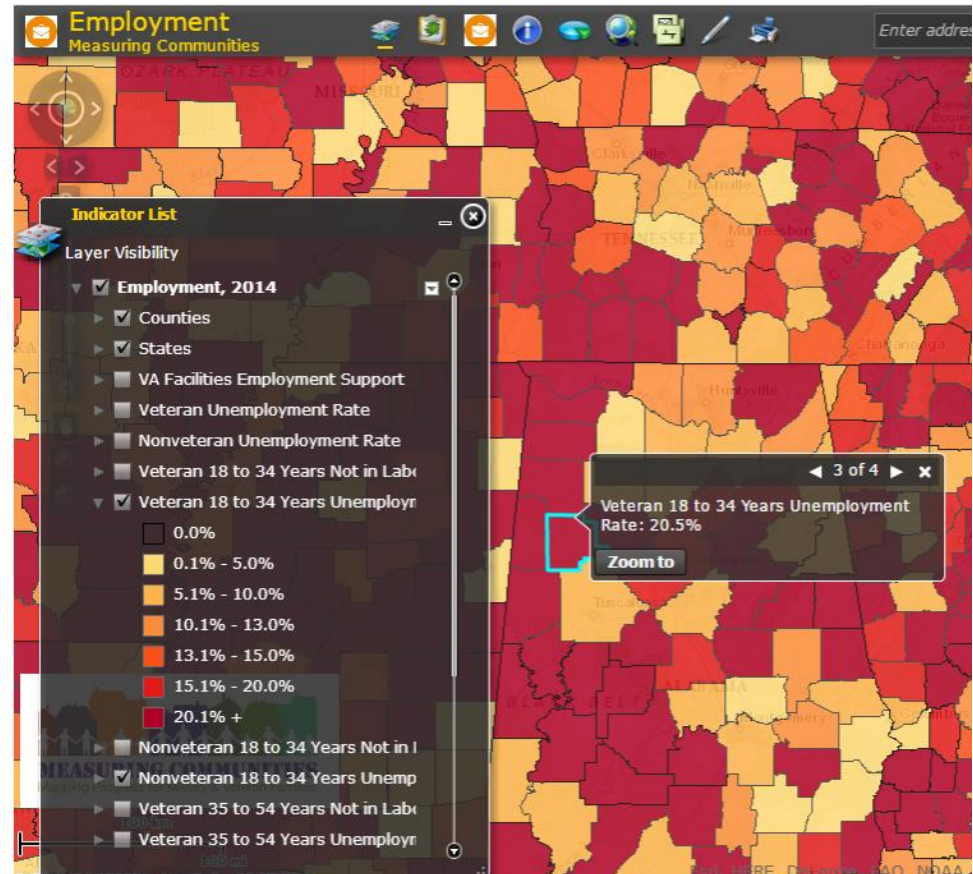
Dot Density

Individual dots to show how much in a certain area.



Individual Domain Map

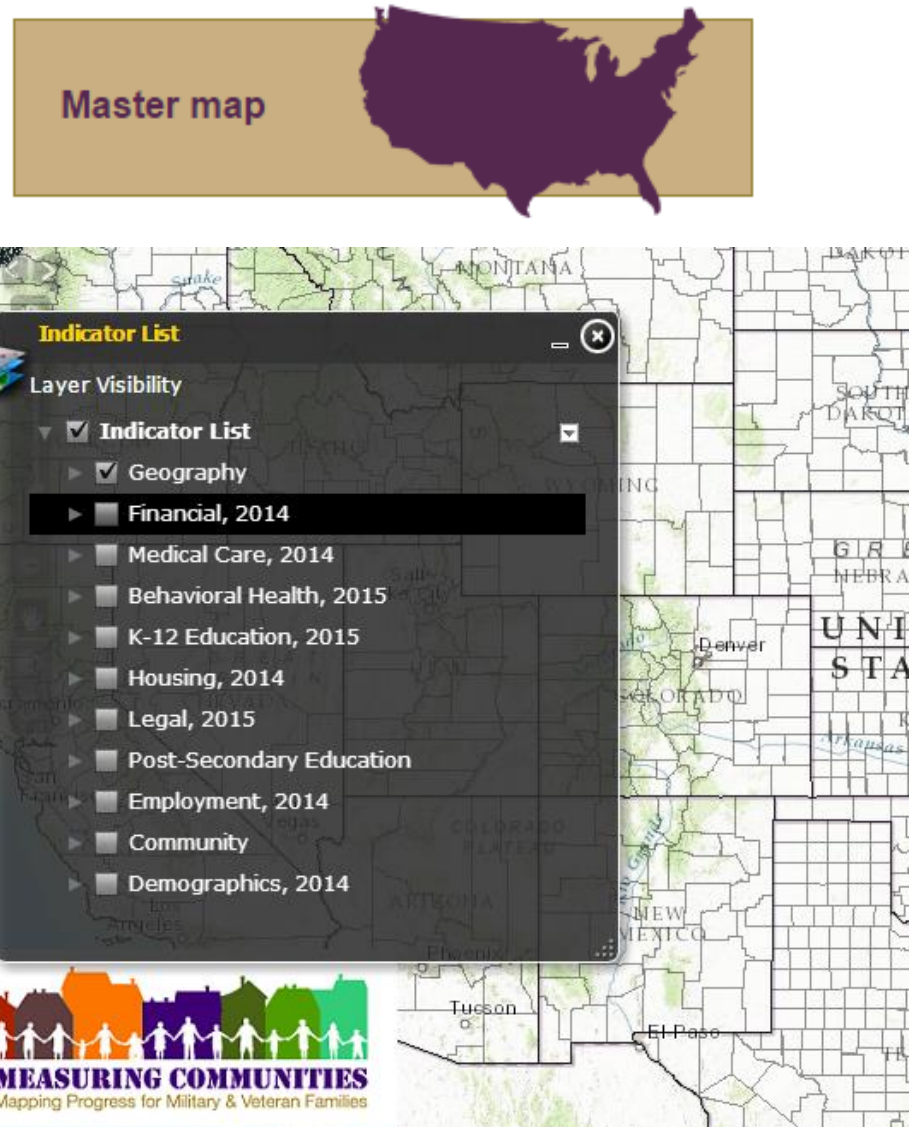
- Mapped indicators for an individual domain
- Indicator list – click 
- Use drop down list to select indicators
- Zoom to geographical area of interest
- Select county or use chart tool  to create geographical area to view



Master Map

- Contains all domains on one map
- Can compare across domains
- For best results, limit number of indicators to compare
- Can download certain data sets

NOTE: the more indicators you choose, the longer the map takes to load.



Downloading Data

- Table:

Print Table

Export Selected Fields to Excel

Export Full Table to Excel

- Graph:

Print Graph

- Map:

Choose tab for available data

Attribute table expands with click on arrow

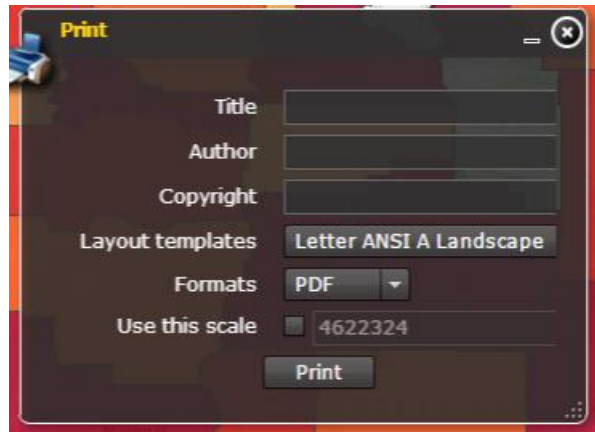
Choose table options to download in CSV format

| Cou... | State: | Ty... | Regi... | Grantee organization: | Areas served: |
|--------------|----------------|-------|----------|---|--|
| Albany | New York | HVRP | 2 Boston | Albany Housing Coalition Inc. | Cities of Albany, Troy, Schenectady, as |
| Cook | Illinois | HVRP | 3 Chicag | America Works of Illinois | Chicago, Cook County |
| New York | New York | HVRP | 2 Boston | America Works of New York Inc. | New York City (all 5 boroughs: Queens, Bronx, Staten Island, Brooklyn, M |
| Anne Arundel | Maryland | HVRP | 2 Philad | Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation | Anne Arundel County |
| Buncombe | North Carolina | HVRP | 1 Atlant | Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry | Ashville, Buncombe Cty, NC |

Printing your map



Click the **print icon** in the upper task bar and fill out information in the **print dialogue box**.

A screenshot of a 'Print' dialog box. It has a title bar with 'Print' and window control buttons. The dialog contains several input fields: 'Title', 'Author', and 'Copyright'. Below these are 'Layout templates' with a dropdown menu showing 'Letter ANSI A Landscape', 'Formats' with a dropdown menu showing 'PDF', and 'Use this scale' with a checkbox and the value '4622324'. A 'Print' button is at the bottom.

The Print Tool

Use map video tutorial located under **Resources Tab**

HINT: Choose only one thematic indicator for map printing. Multiple indicators will not show up in the legend. Location and dot density will show in legend.

User Support – Video Tutorials

VIDEO TUTORIALS

Videos to assist with using the resources found on Measuring Communities.



Navigating the Map



The Make Chart Tool



The Draw & Measure Tool



The Identify Tool

Launch Strategy

- Limited access launch to strategically aligned organizations working in the military and veteran space
- Identify goals for using the site and help track if organization is meeting those goals
- Organizational ID: **BMTH17MC**
 - **Battlemind attendees use the temporary ID – active through October 12, 2017**
- Help MFRI and your organization understand if progress and impact is being made

We welcome your questions
and comments!

kbroniar@purdue.edu