

Integrated Assessment of Veteran's Services in Dallas

A nighttime photograph of the Dallas skyline. In the foreground, the golden dome and columns of the Southern Methodist University (SMU) building are illuminated. The background shows a dense cityscape with various skyscrapers, some of which are lit up with colorful lights. The sky is a deep orange and red, suggesting sunset or sunrise. The SMU logo is visible in the bottom left corner.

SMU



Integrated Assessment of Veteran's Services in Dallas

SMU Research Team

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Introduction, Purpose, Intent

This assessment, conducted by **SMU faculty, staff, stakeholders, and students**, focuses on identifying the **needs, challenges, and opportunities** for enhancing services for Dallas's **40,000 veterans**.

Approach



Veteran Innovation &
Insight Forum



Veteran Support Service
Impact Analysis



Dallas Veteran Location
and Mobility Project:
Geospatial Analysis for
Veteran Support

Veteran Innovation & Insight Forum: Engaging Stakeholders to Understand Challenges

Core Approach

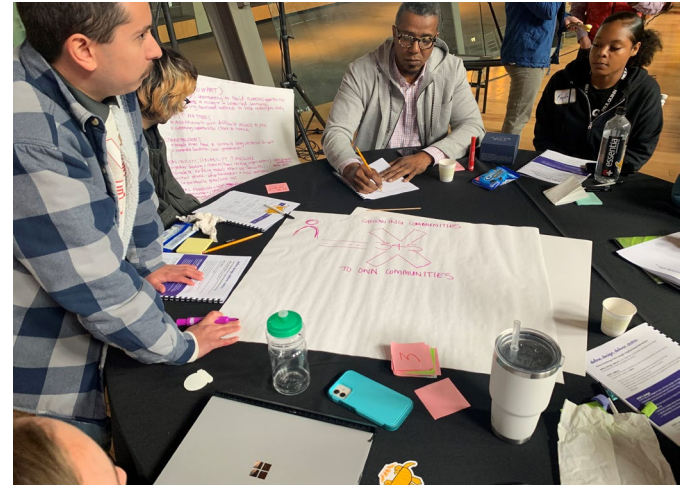
- **Collaborative Discussions:** Foster open dialogue to capture diverse perspectives.
- **Hands-On Activities:** Use interactive methods to identify challenges and opportunities.

Inclusive Engagement

- Veterans, service providers, and **stakeholders are at the heart of our process.**
- **Priority:** Listening and learning from lived experiences to shape problem understanding.

Focus on the Problem

- **Before Solutions:** We ensure challenges are fully understood before proposing actionable strategies.



Veteran Support Service Impact Analysis Combining VIIF Results with ACS

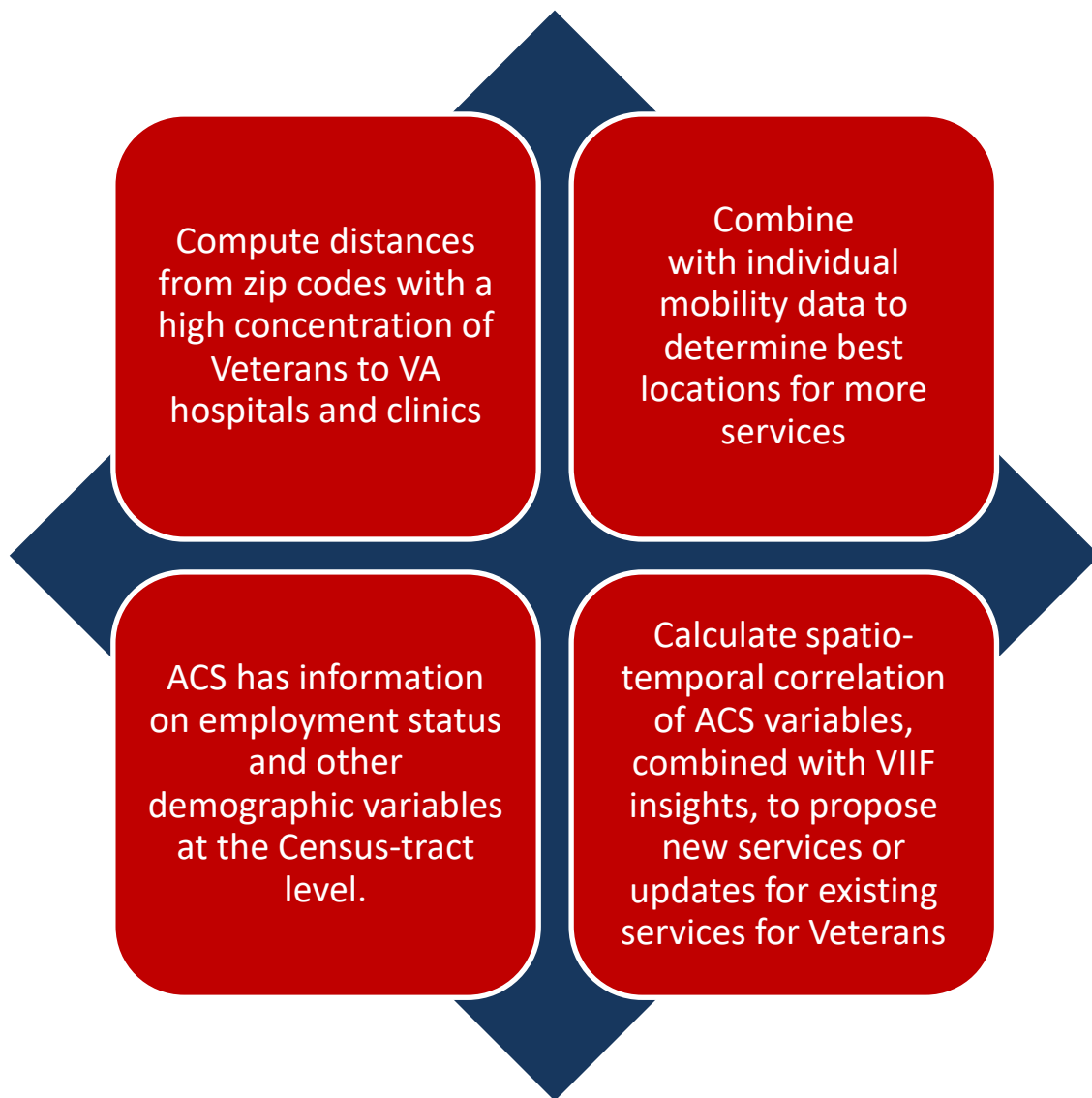
Key Insights:

- Uncover critical service gaps and logistical challenges faced by veterans in Dallas combined results of **American Community Survey (ACS)** census data and **Veteran's Information and Insight Forum (VIIF)**.
- Understand commonalities such as education, language spoken at home, income, disability, and employment status within Census tracts and zip codes with a large population of veterans.

Why It Matters

- **Data-Driven Analysis:** Provides evidence to inform strategic decisions for addressing gaps.
- **Veteran-Centric Solutions:** Ensures findings align with veterans' lived experiences and priorities.

Rigorous Spatio-temporal Analysis



Dallas Veteran Location & Mobility Project:

Geospatial Analysis of Veteran Support

Core Approach

Identify logistical challenges and service gaps impacting veterans through the Forum, followed by GIS data analysis to map, expand, verify, and analyze the extent.

Geospatial Data Visualization Research

Data Collection: mine existing geospatial data, including Harvey's map highlighting Dallas veteran households, local and national GIS (ACS), transportation, healthcare, housing, parks and facilities.

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Dallas Veteran Location & Mobility Project: Geospatial Analysis of Veteran Support

Geospatial Analysis

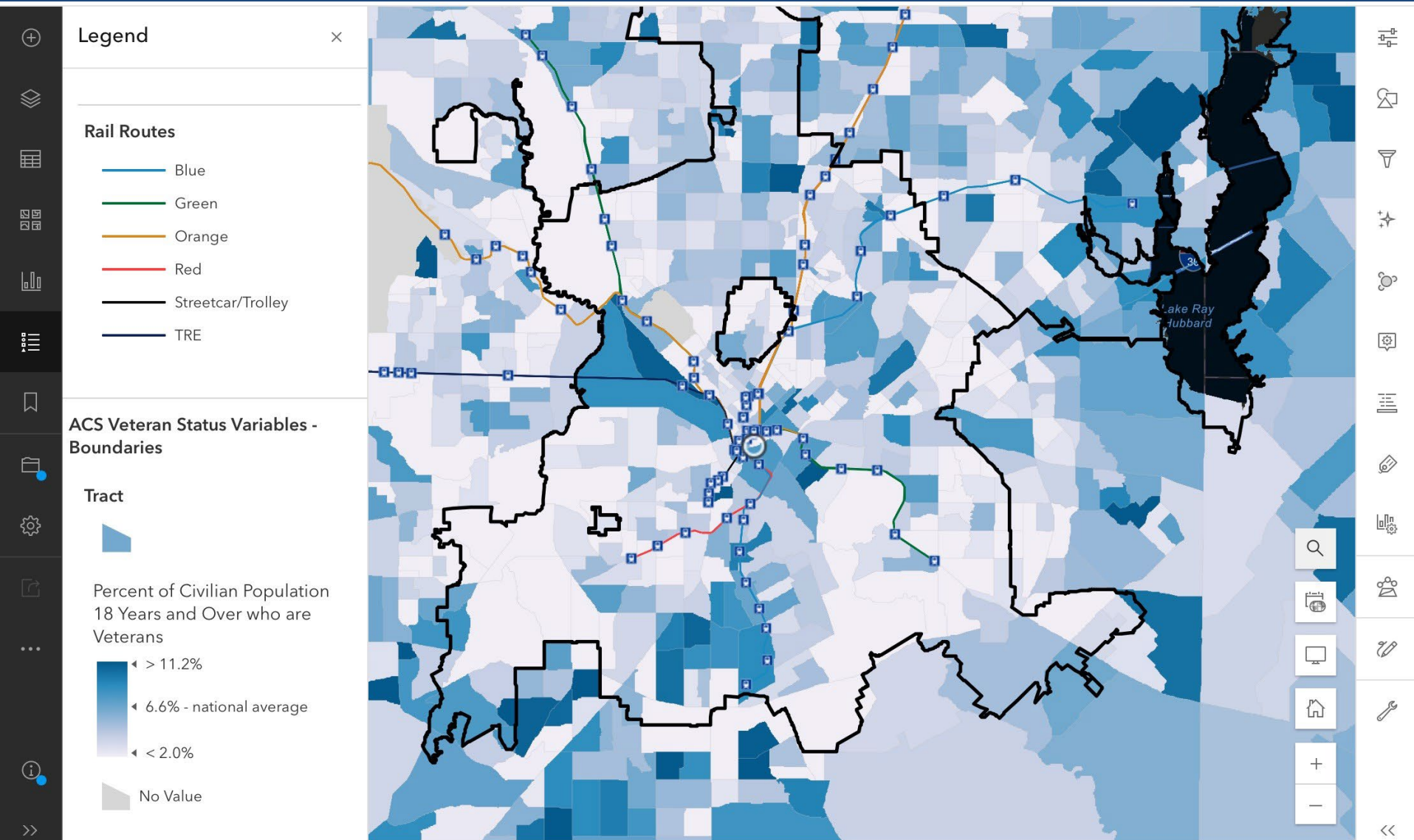
- **Service Analysis:** Leverage data to assess veteran households' proximity to critical services and identify accessibility gaps.
- **Mobility Patterns:** Analyze veteran navigation between home, work, and essential services.
- **Partner Validation:** Collaborate with veterans to verify findings.
- **Spatially bounded statistical analysis:** utilize geospatial tools to undertake location-specific data analysis of service need hotspots, ensuring integration of qualitative and quantitative spatial data outcomes into geographically specific analysis.
- **Develop Temporal Map Sequence:** calculate and identify priorities for specific service needs .

Significance

- **Service Deserts and Hotspots:** Pinpoint and verifies regions where services are inaccessible or underutilized.
- **Localized Insights:** Integrates contextual factors specific to Dallas to address unique veteran needs.
- **Actionable Recommendations:** Provides practical, veteran-informed recommendations to improve service accessibility and utilization.



Preliminary Veteran Zone and transport identification study



Data Driven

Veteran-Centered Insights: Actively engage veterans and service providers through targeted forums and in-depth interviews to capture first-hand perspectives and lived experiences.

Rigorous Evidence-Driven Analysis: Utilize proven qualitative and quantitative research methods to deeply analyze the problem, uncover root causes, and inform actionable, tailored solutions.

Deep Local Knowledge: Our close ties to Dallas provide a unique ability to understand and address the specific challenges facing the community.

SMU's Commitment: As a leading research institution in Dallas, SMU is dedicated to delivering transformative, evidence-based solutions tailored to the city's needs.

Project Goal and Timeline

Our aim is to assess veterans' needs in Dallas, identify service gaps, evaluate municipal support, enhance veteran services, and deliver actionable, data-driven recommendations for equitable improvements.

Monthly
Updates
to Meet
Delivery
Schedule

Phase 1 (Months 1-3): Launch of the Veterans Innovation and Insight Forum

Phase 2 (Months 4-6): Survey and Geospatial Analysis Data Collection

Phase 3 (Months 7-9): Analyze Data and Draft Report

Phase 4 (Months 10-12): Finalize Report and Recommendations

Why Team SMU?

Rising Research Power

SMU is a R1 university, showcasing a commitment to excellence and being Dallas' research institution.

Cutting-Edge Resources

High-performance computing and advanced tools support innovative solutions.

Expertise

A multidisciplinary team brings decades of experience in data analysis and qualitative research.

Community Commitment

Your team and SMU engages deeply with local communities to address pressing challenges, such as improving veteran services.

Transparency

Regular updates, clear timelines, and detailed reporting ensure accountability throughout the project.

Actionable Results

Each phase is designed to deliver data-driven, practical recommendations for real-world impact.



Thank You!

References

U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2018-2022 5-year estimates:

<https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes.html>

Dallas GIS rest services:

<https://services2.arcgis.com/rwnOSbfKSwyTBcwN/ArcGIS/rest/services>

<https://services2.arcgis.com/rwnOSbfKSwyTBcwN/ArcGIS/rest/services>

North Texas Central Council of Governments GIS data:

<https://geospatial.nctcog.org/server/services>