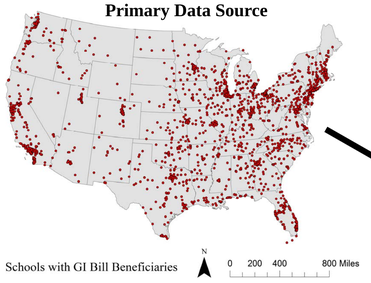
Where is the Veteran Community?

Since the adoption of the post 9/11 GI Bill in 2009, veterans have had unprecedented opportunities to further their education and gain valuable vocational training. In 2012, there were over 945,000 GI Bill beneficiaries in the United States. As the war in Afghanistan comes to an end, this figure will continue to increase. With technical military training and proven leadership ability under their belt, veterans can contribute significant added value to a variety of industries. This project uses a federal dataset published in February 2014 by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Education to provide analysis on the location of GI Bill Beneficiaries in the United States in 2012. Vector analysis includes DoD data on exit flows of veterans from military bases, DVA data on Veterans Success On Campus Representatives, and DOE data on facility locations in order provide context to the allocation of federal resources relevant to veterans and their families. The analysis seeks to inform policy makers on how to federal allocate resources, where to advertise career and internship programs, and how best to engage with the veteran community.

Primary Data Source



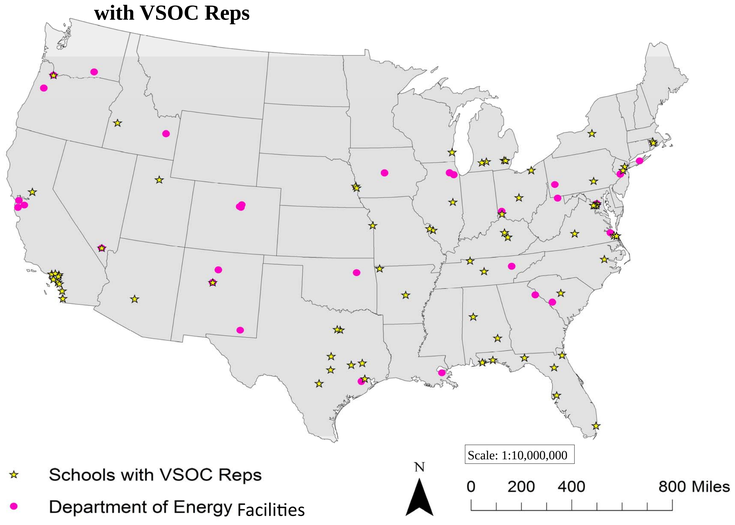
Vector Analysis

Methodology

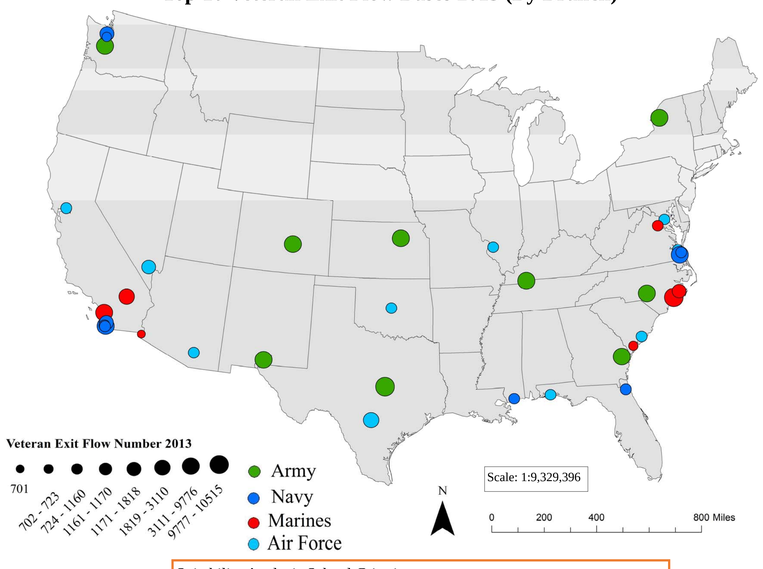
Suitability Analysis

The "Select by Location" tool was used to find schools in the United States that had Veterans Success on Campus (VSOC) Representatives, were close to a military base with a large exit flow of veterans, and were close to a Department of Energy facility. The exact criteria are provided below. Federal policy makers can target these 11 schools for programs and career opportunities for the veteran community.

CONUS Department of Energy Facilities and Schools with VSOC Reps



Top 10 Veteran Exit Flow Bases 2013 (By Branch)



Suitability Analysis School Criteria:

- Must have a VSOC REP
- Must be within 50 miles of a top 10 veteran exit flow base
- Must be within 50 miles of a Department of Energy facility

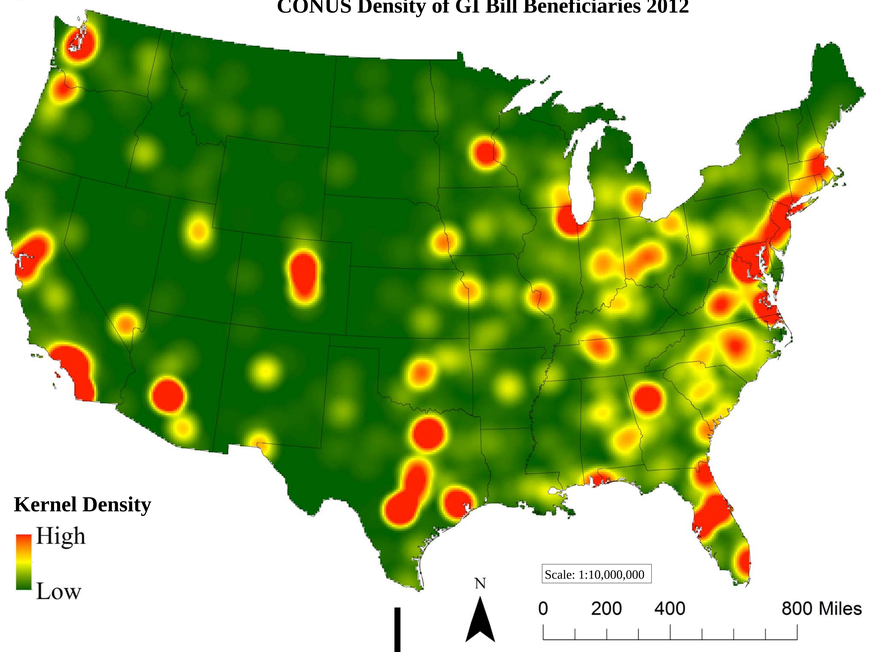
School	City	State	Number of Beneficiaries	Graduation Rate	VSOC Contact Information
Tidewater Community College-VIRGINIA BEACH	Virginia Beach	VA	3009	14.1%	Carla.Riggins@va.gov
Old Dominion University	Norfolk	VA	2906	49.1%	April.Miller@va.gov
ECPI University	Virginia Beach	VA	2115	39.6%	Maureen.Gibson@va.gov
George Mason University	Fairfax	VA	1701	65.9%	Demetria.Brooks@va.gov
Saint Leo University- South Hampton Roads Center	Virginia Beach	VA	1481	43.5%	Saundra.Hayes@va.gov
University of Nevada Las Vegas	Las Vegas	NV	1066	41.5%	Anthoneal.Newman@va.gov
Tidewater Community College-Norfolk	Norfolk	VA	976	14.1%	Donecia.Lawson@va.gov
Northern Virginia Community College-Annandale	Annandale	VA	900	21.8%	Jason.Hunter@va.gov
Northern Virginia Community College - Alexandria	Alexandria	VA	861	21.8%	Jason.Hunter@va.gov
Norfolk State University	Norfolk	VA	754	35.6%	Donecia.Lawson@va.gov
George Mason University	Washington	DC	699	79.6%	Roger.Deason@va.gov

Raster Analysis

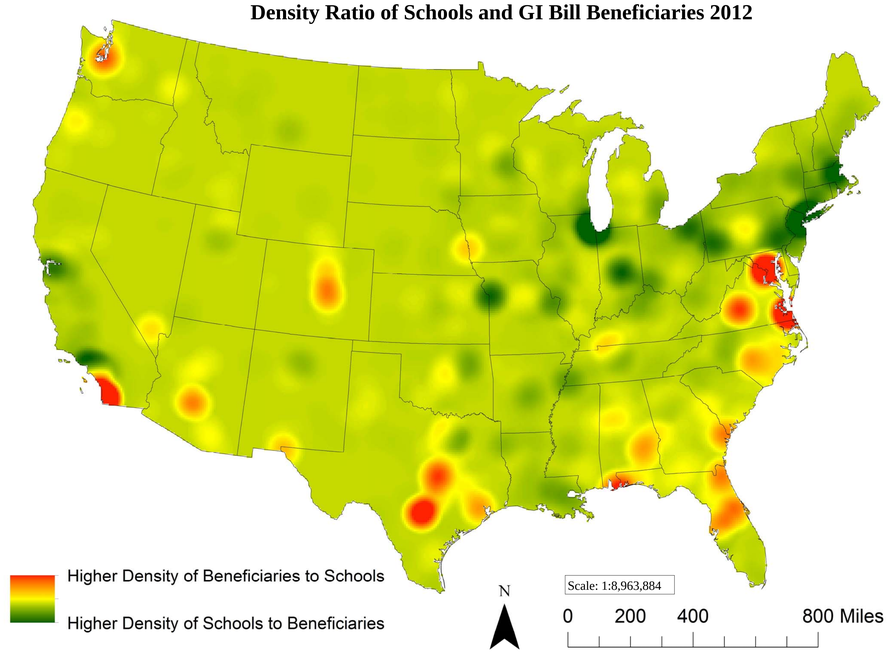
Methodology

Kernel Density Tool	Raster Calculator
Arc Map's Kernel Density tool was used to perform density analysis on the point dataset of GI Bill beneficiaries in the United States. Kernel Density is more effective than Point Density because it weights the proximity of schools within a defined radius, whereas point density only measures density within a defined radius without taking proximity of the points into account.	The Raster calculator was used to subtract the density of schools with # of GI Bill beneficiaries as the calculated variable from the point data (schools only). The output raster provides a density map that shows the ratio between the density of schools and beneficiaries.

CONUS Density of GI Bill Beneficiaries 2012



Density Ratio of Schools and GI Bill Beneficiaries 2012



Conclusions

Department of Energy:

- The Department of Energy should consider targeting Southern California for internships or future laboratory sites . Currently, DOE has facilities in the Bay Area, but does not have a presence in the Southern California, where a high density of GI Bill beneficiaries, several major Marine and Navy military installations, and several VSOC representatives exist.

Department of Veterans Affairs:

- There is a high density of GI Bill beneficiaries in central Colorado that are underserved. Currently, the DVA has no VSOC reps at any Colorado Schools. DVA could also benefit from the high Army veteran exit flow from the nearby Ft. Collins base and multiple Department of Energy labs in the area.

Suitability Analysis:

- The distribution of VSOC rep schools that are close to a Department of Energy facility, and a military base with a high veteran exit flow are highly concentrated between Washington D.C. and Virginia Beach, VA. Separated by about 200miles of roadway, this area can be targeted for innovative veterans transition programs by collaborating with VSOC reps at the schools listed in the suitability analysis

Cartographer: Konrad Gessler

Tufts University | School of Arts and Sciences

Date: 5/2/2014

Projection: North America Albers Equal Area Conic

Data Sources: DoD DHRA Employee (Veteran Exit Flows), GI Bill Comparison Tool Source Data (GI Bill Beneficiaries data), www.vetsuccess.va.gov (VSOC Reps/school), http://energy.gov/