

Population Density, Housing Availability and, Commute Times

Regional Comparisons Among New London-Norwich, CT; Norfolk-Newport News, VA; and Jacksonville, FL

The Challenge

As Congress contemplates a second round of military base realignments and closures, this presentation centers on maps I developed to support arguments for keeping the US Submarine Base in Groton operating in favor of consolidating the facility to the base in Newport News, VA or King's Bay, GA near Jacksonville, FL.

The Regions

Since the US Census Bureau defines its geographies on the basis of population, expanding the compact Norwich-New London, CT-Westerly, RI core [city] based statistical area or CBSA square mileage permits comparison of population density, housing availability, and commute times with the more expansive Norfolk-Newport News, VA and Jacksonville, FL-Kings Bay, GA CBSA's

Building the Region

- The Norwich-New London, CT-Westerly, RI CBSA covers just over 800 square miles compared to Norfolk-Newport News's 2,900 and Jacksonville's 3,400.
- Adding Census blocks adjacent to the Norwich-New London CBSA brings its population and area to within five percent of Norfolk's and 20% of Jacksonville's
- The expanded New London CBSA's population varies from the southern regions by about 20%

Building the Region Part 2

- Census tracts appended to the Norwich-New London CBSA come from five Connecticut counties:
 - Windham
 - Tolland
 - Hartford
 - Middlesex
 - New Haven
- . . . and Rhode Island counties of Providence, Kent, and Washington

Retrieving Data

- The US Census Bureau provides ESRI shape files of geographies including places and census tracts.
- MapInfo TAB files translated from shape files contain geographic and attribute data. Data copied from the Census Bureau Web site into an Excel Spreadsheet then are used to populate fields in the TAB file.

Populating Data Fields

- From Census.gov:

Norwich-New London, CT Metro Area

Estimate

Total:	13,635
For rent	2,498
Rented, not occupied	979
For sale only	1,521
Sold, not occupied	73
For seasonal, recreational, or occasional use	5,349
For migrant workers	0
Other vacant	3,215

Populating Data Fields

- To Excel

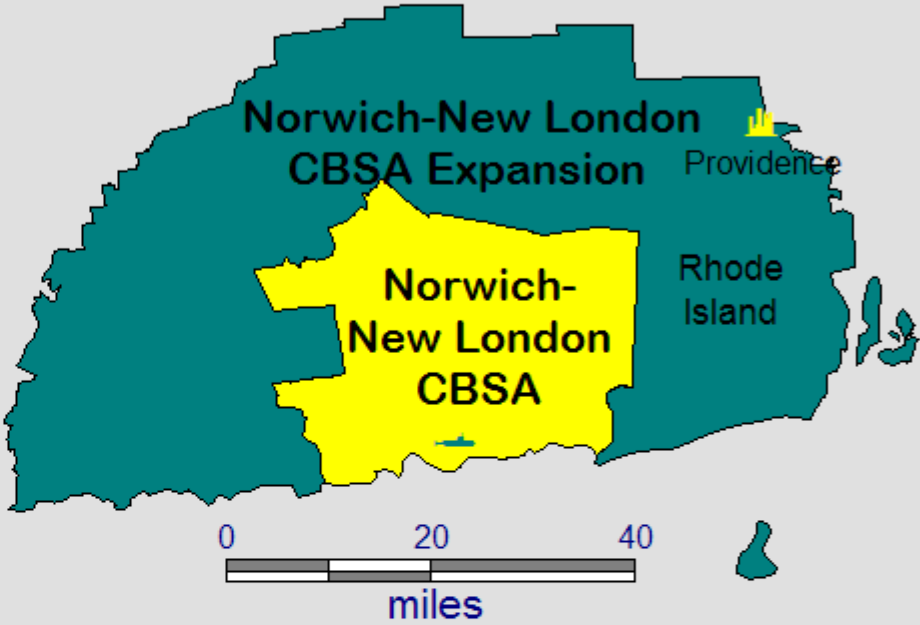
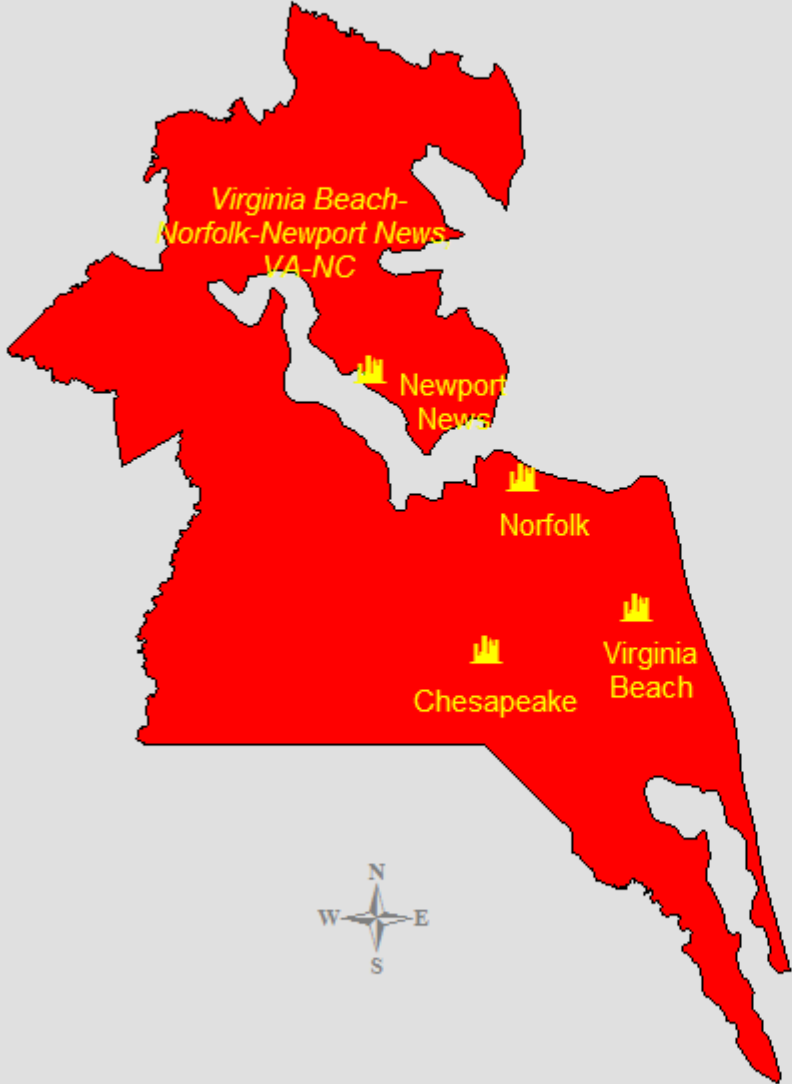
	Total:	For Rent	Rented, Not Occupied	For Sale Only	Sold, Not Occupied	For Seasonal, Recre- ational, or Occaional Use	For Migrant Workers	Other Vacant
Norwich- New London, CT Metro Area	13,635	2,498	979	1,521	73	5,349	0	3,215

Populating Data Fields

- To MapInfo TAB

CBSA_Name	Total_Units	Total_Vacant	For_Rent	For_Sale_Onl	Rented_or_Sold_NO	Seasona	For_Migrant_Worker	Other_Vacant
N-NL-Wstrly	127,566	13,496	2,596	1,013	575	7,061	5	2,246

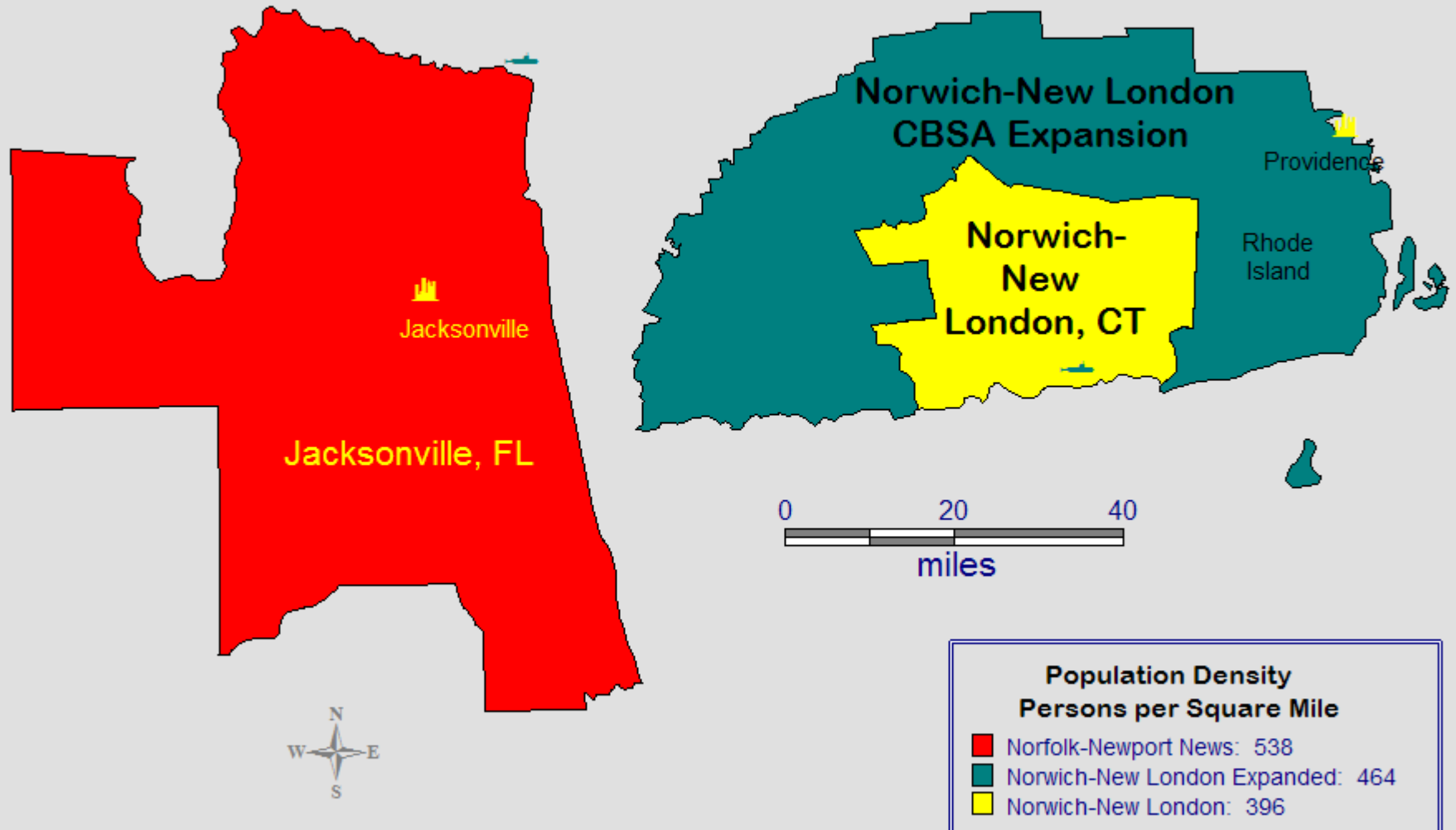
Norfolk-Newport News and Equallized Norwich-New London CBSA



Population Density Persons per Square Mile	
■	Norfolk-Newport News: 538
■	Norwich-New London Expanded: 464
■	Norwich-New London: 396

- 🏙️ City of More Than 125,000
- 🚢 US Submarine Base

Jacksonville-Kings Bay and Equallized Norwich-New London CBSA

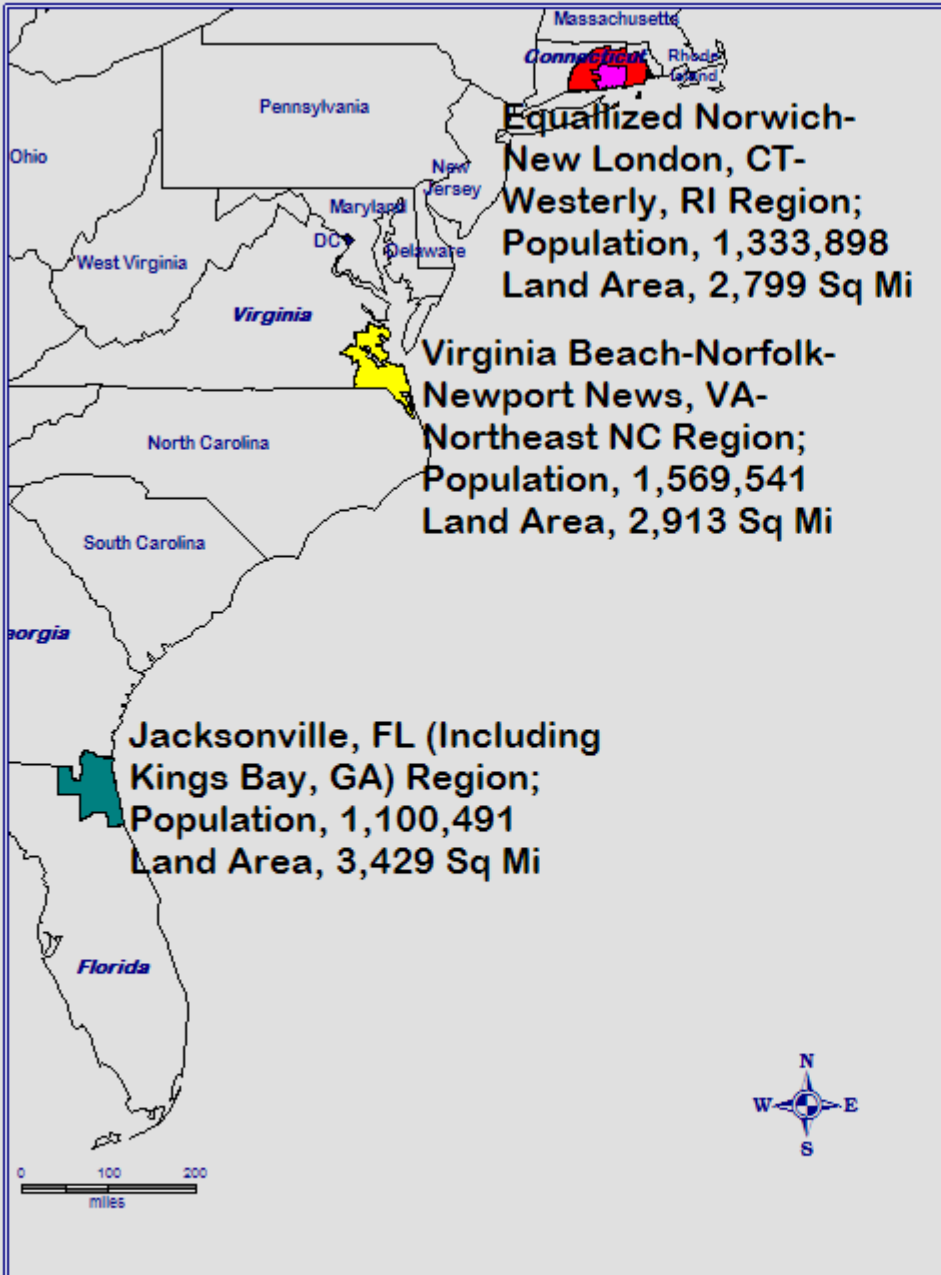


Graphics

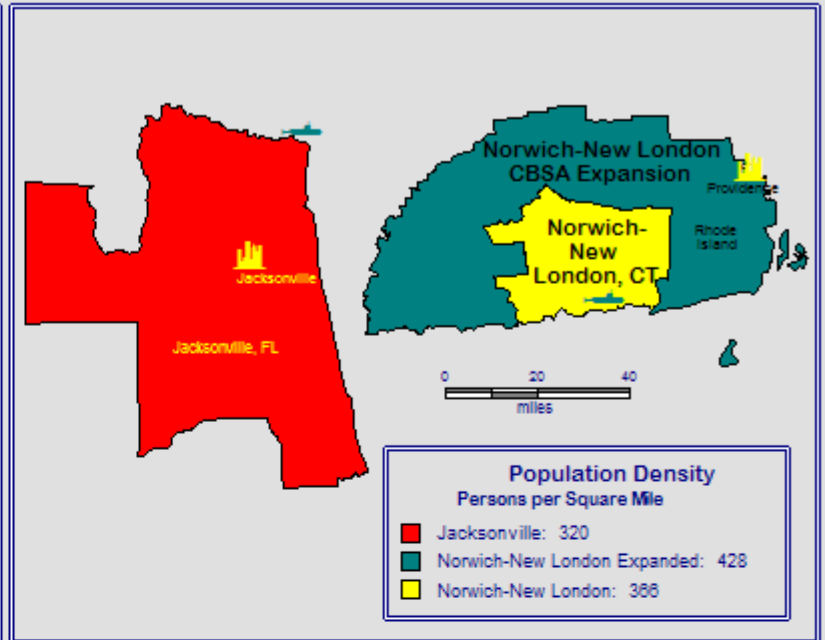
- Labels describing regions by population and land area in square miles.
- Color coded—or what cartographers call choropleth--maps show population density in persons per square mile by region

Elements

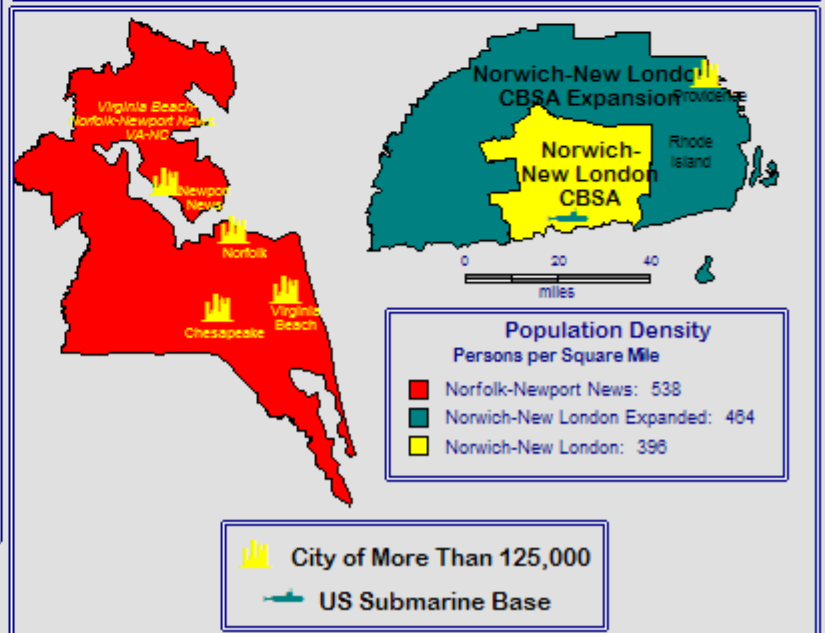
- From the map of New England, mid-Atlantic, and southeastern states we can see where the CBSA's are located relative to each other.
- The inset maps on the right allow us to compare population densities.



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Norwich-New London Region expanded for land area and population compatibility with Norfolk-Newport News and Jacksonville Regions



Housing Availability

- The US Census Bureau's American Fact Finder found on the Census.gov Web site contains data on housing characteristics:

http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?_afpt=table

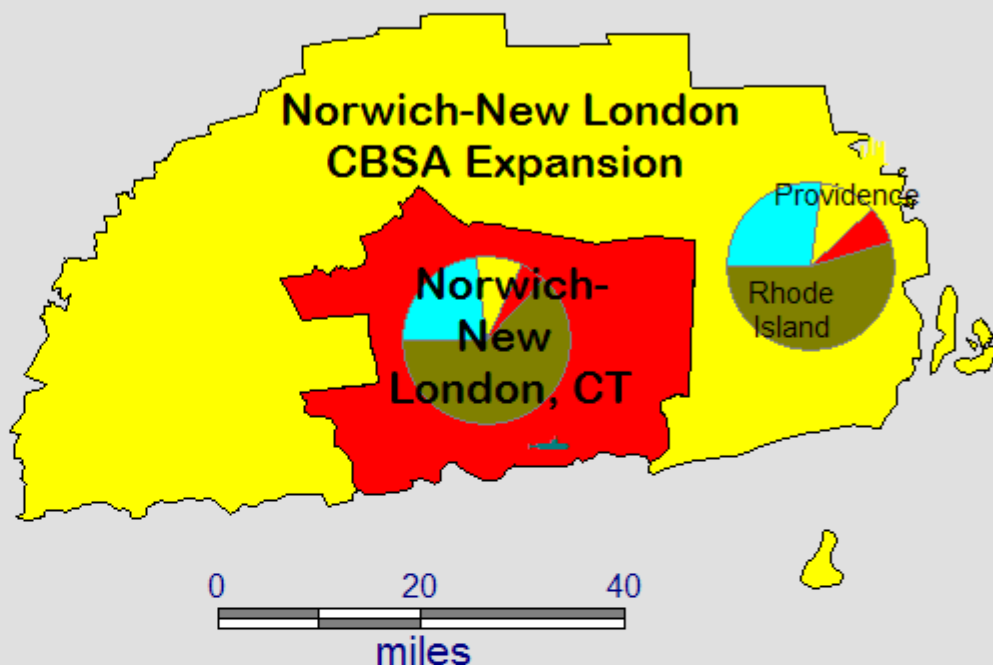
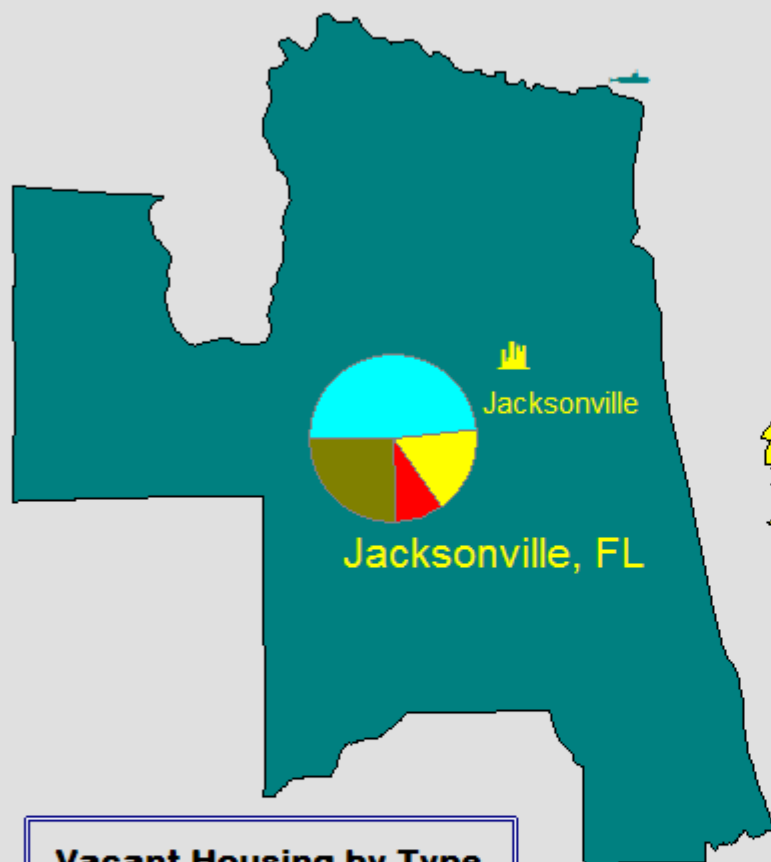
General Housing Characteristics

- From the General Housing Characteristics file—called Summary File or SF 1—I extracted these data for comparison:

Total units

- Total vacant
- For rent
- For sale only
- Rented or sold, not occupied
- Seasonal
- For migrant wrkrs
- Other vacant

Norwich-New London and Jacksonville-Kings Bay Housing Vacancies



Vacant Housing by Type



- For Rent
- For Sale Only
- Vacant but Rented or Sold
- Seasonal

- City of More Than 125,000
- US Submarine Base

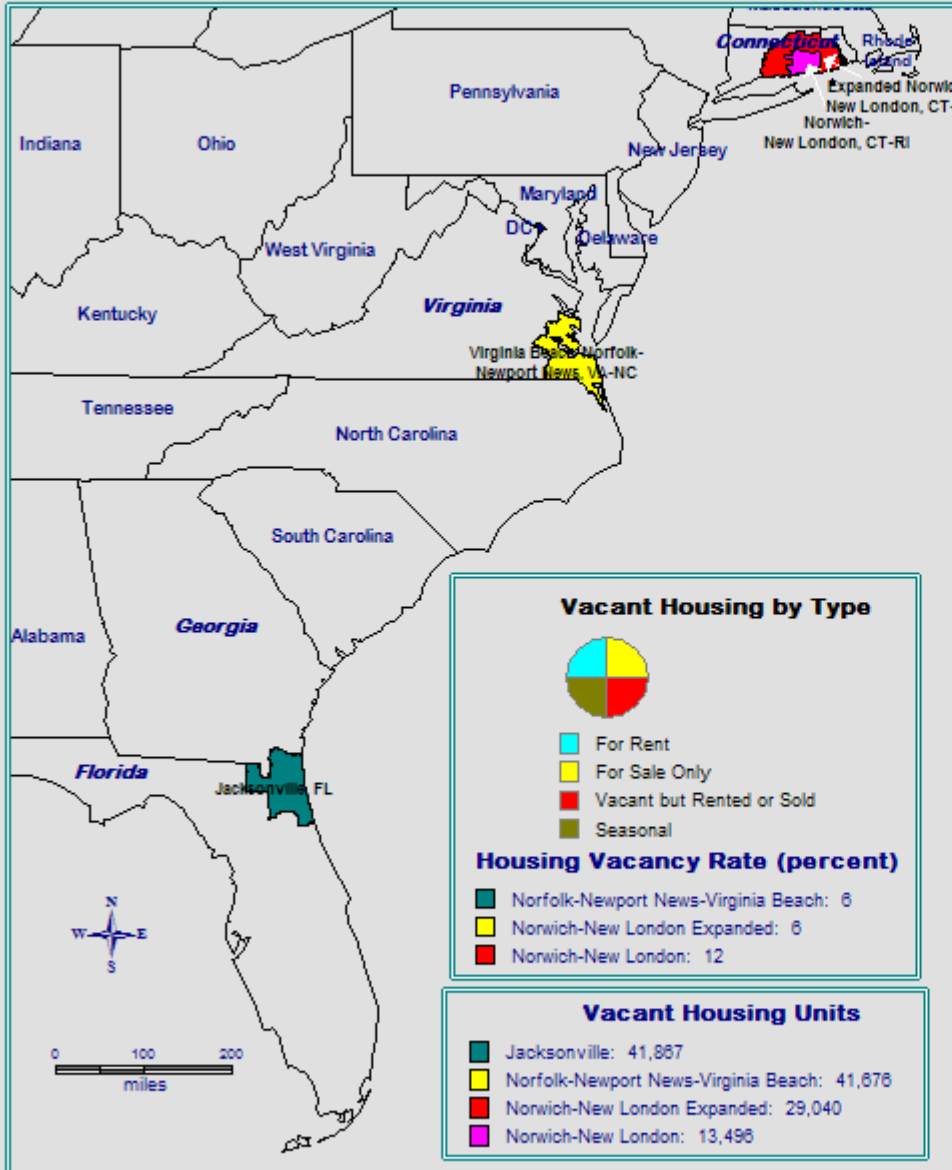
Housing Vacancy Rate (percent)

- Jacksonville, FL: 9
- Norwich-New London Expanded CBSA: 6
- Norwich-New London, CT-RI: 12

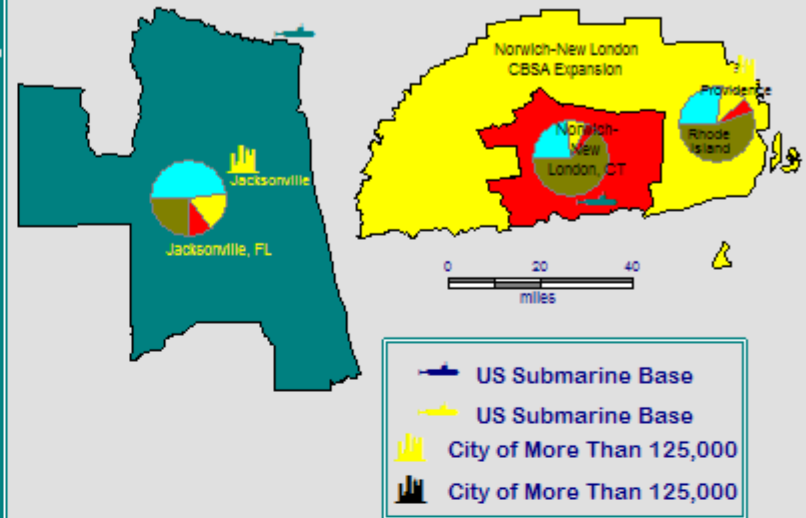
Graphics

- Pie charts show the type of availability and their proportions among each region's housing units.
- Color codes show the volume and proportion of vacant units by region

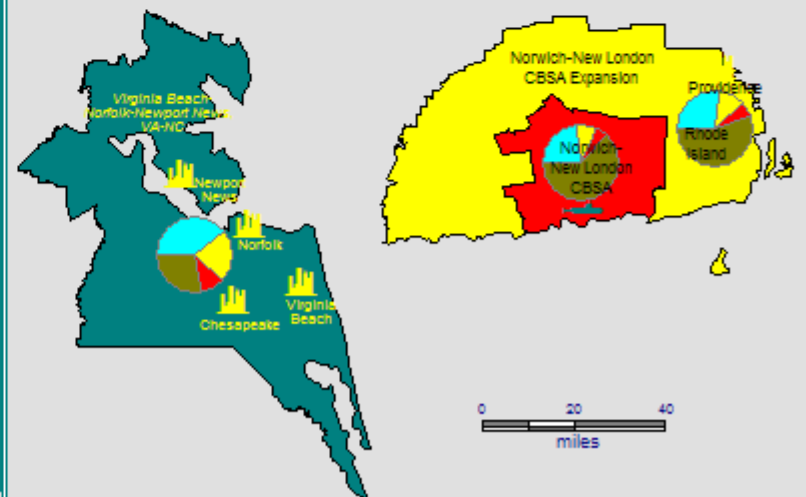
Norwich-New London, CT-RI; Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC; and Jacksonville, FL Core [City] Based Statistical Areas (CBSA)



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Norwich-New London CBSA expanded for land area and population compatibility with Norfolk-Newport News and Jacksonville CBSA



Commute Times

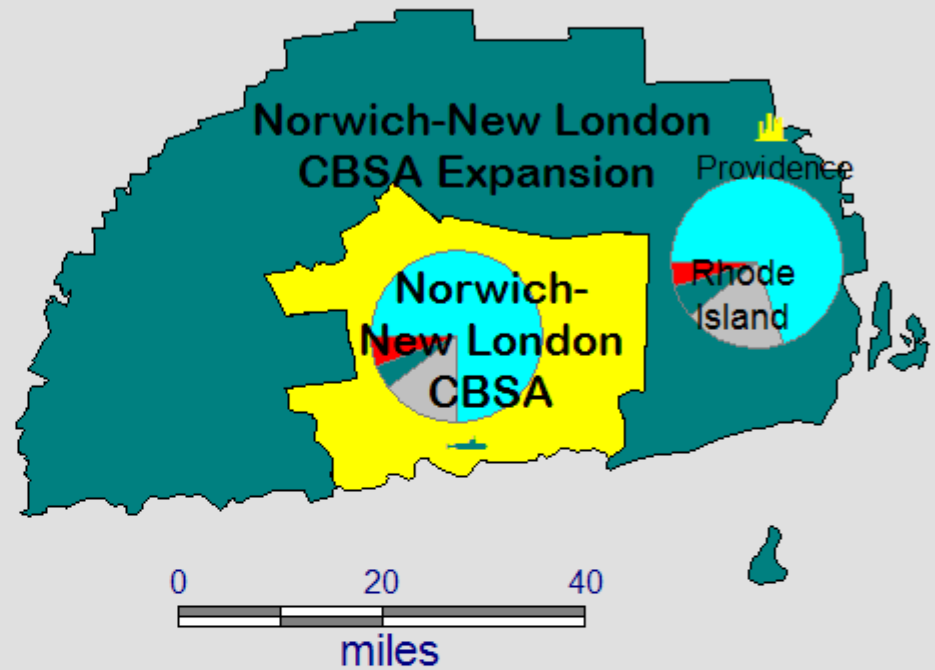
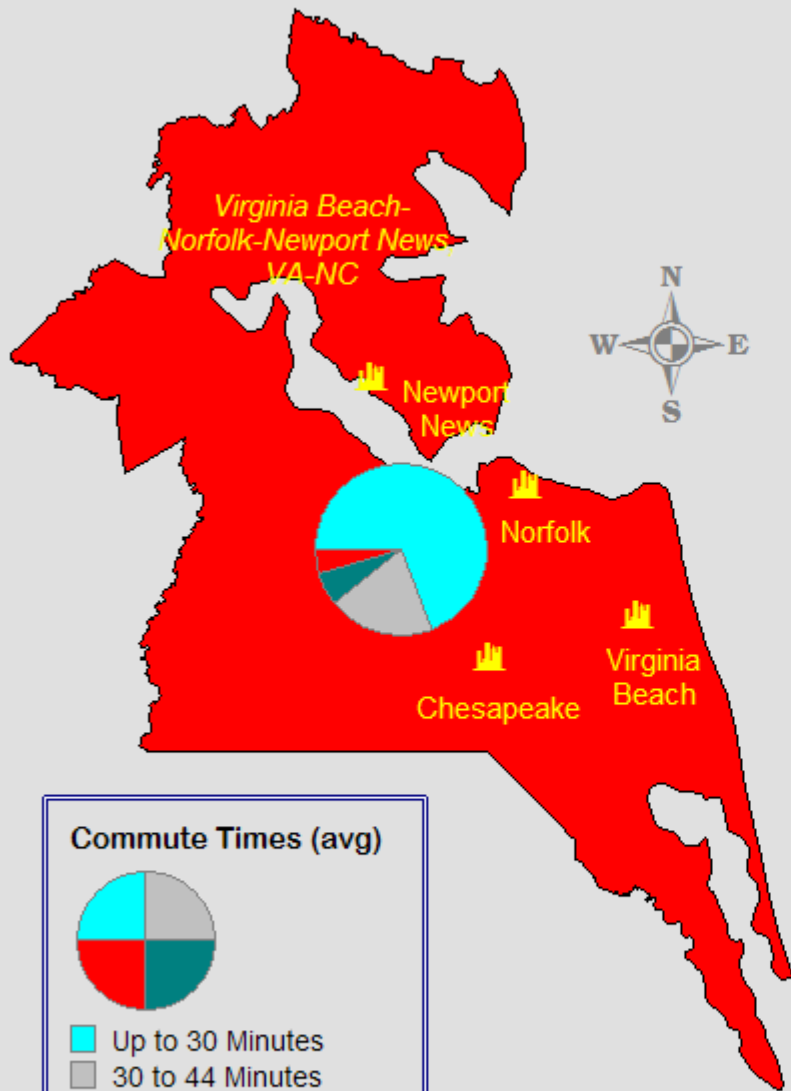
- As a quality of life measure, the time commuters spend on the journey to work can have a significant impact on leisure time:

http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_11_3YR_B08603&prodType=table

Travel Time to Work

- From the American Community Survey, the three-year average estimated journey to work times can be called into a table in five-minute increments up to sixty minutes.
- To keep the graphics simple, I reduced the number of travel time intervals to four:
 - Up to 30 minutes
 - 30 to 44 minutes
 - 30 to 44 minutes
 - 60 minutes or longer

Norwich-New London and Norfolk-Newport News Commuter Counts



Commuter Times (avg)



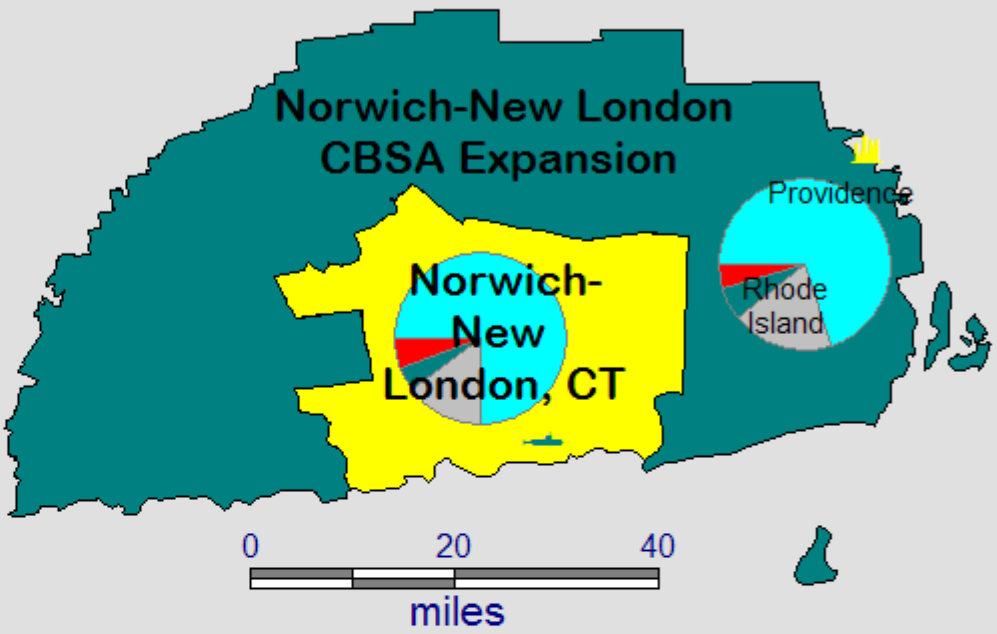
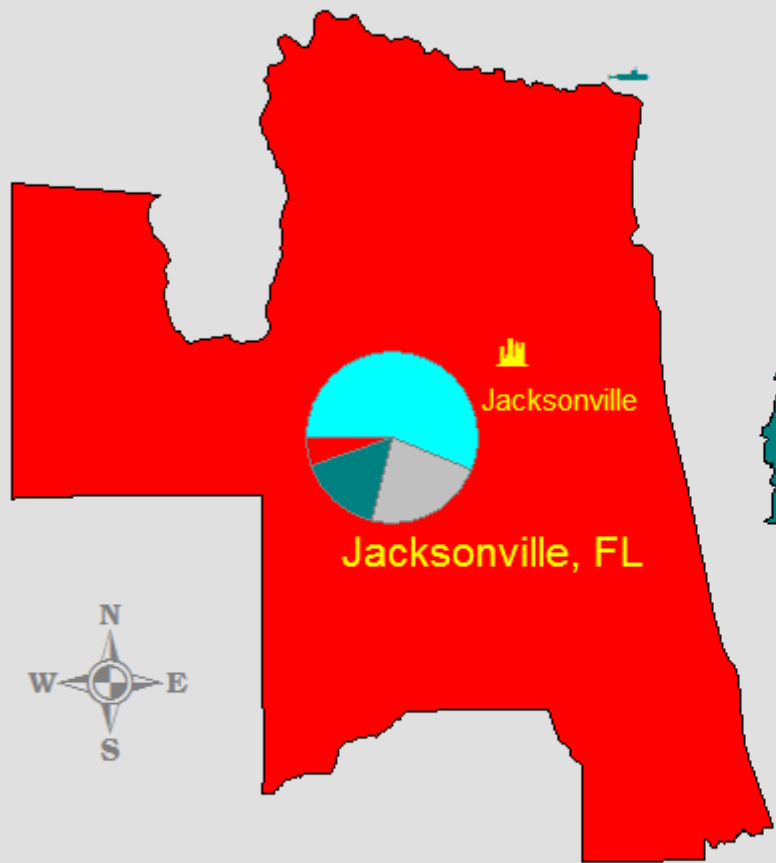
- Up to 30 Minutes
- 30 to 44 Minutes
- 45 to 59 Minutes
- 60 Minutes or More



- City of More Than 125,000
- US Submarine Base

CBSA Commuters


- Norwich-New London: 142,248
- Norwich-New London Expanded: 505,531
- Norfolk-Newport News: 740,059

Norwich-New London and Jacksonville Commuter Counts



 City of More Than 125,000
 US Submarine Base

Commuter Times (avg)



■ Up to 30 Minutes
■ 30 to 44 Minutes
■ 45 to 59 Minutes
■ 60 Minutes or More

CBSA Commuters

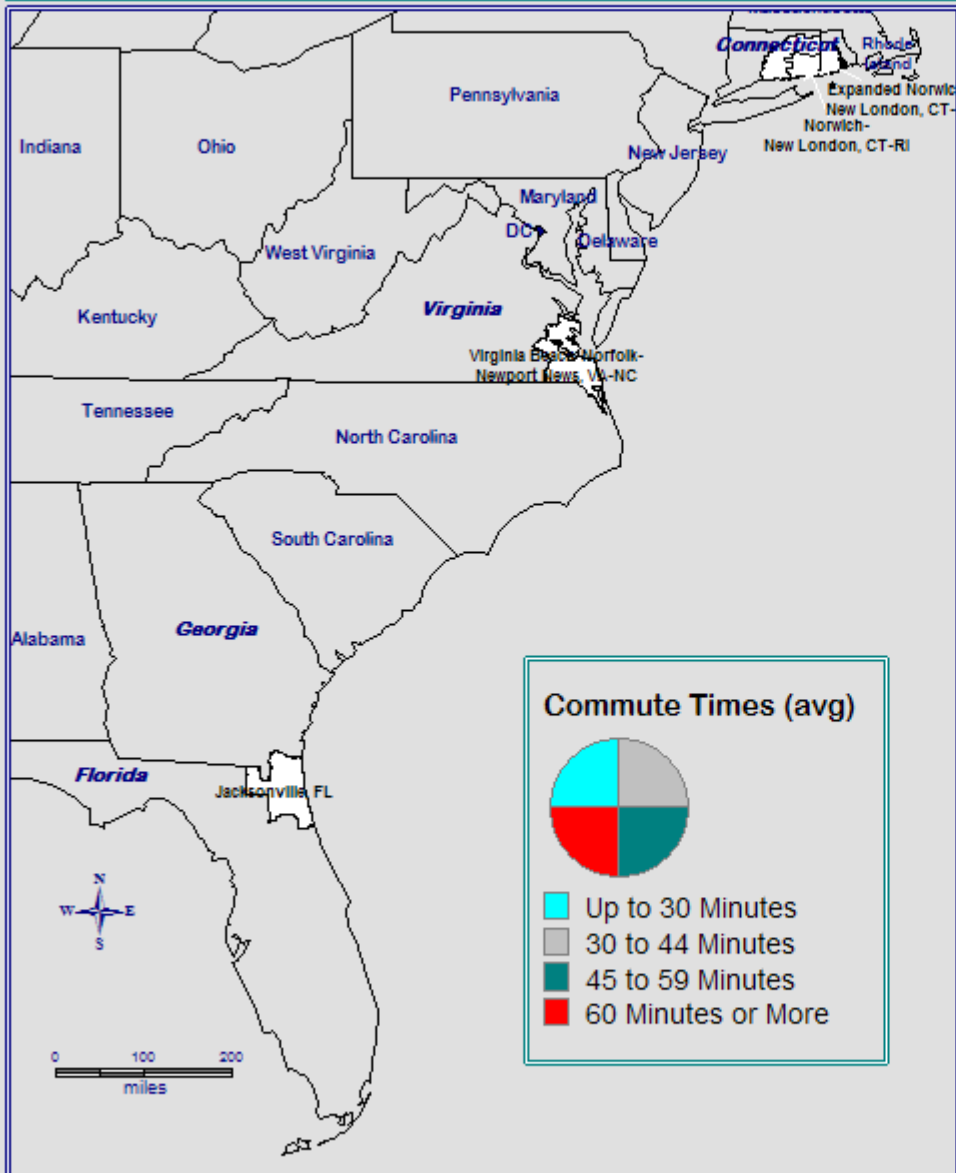
- Jacksonville, FL: 515,651
- Norwich-New London Extra CBSA: 505,531
- Norwich-New London, CT-RI: 142,248

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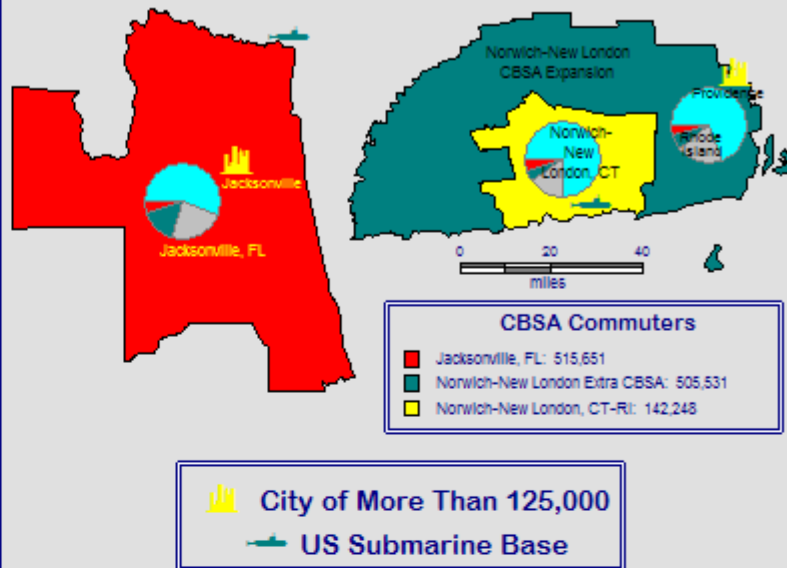
Graphics

- Pie charts display the four categories of travel to work times from which we see that Norwich-New London commuters are more likely to spend less than a half hour getting to work while commuters in Jacksonville are most likely to have a 30- to 45-minute commute.
- Choropleth maps display total commuters for each CBSA.

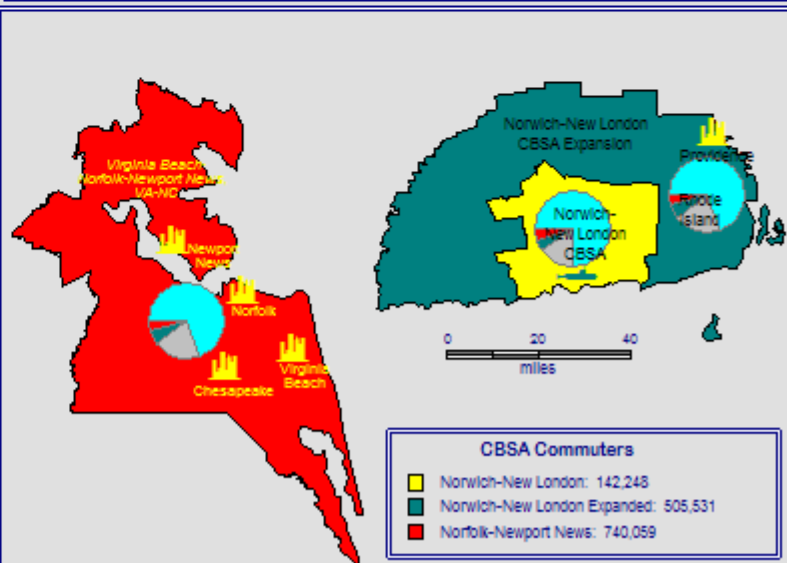
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Questions and Contact

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