



## Navy Medicine West: Ensuring Access to Care

In 2014, Navy Medicine West (NAVMED West) enlisted our analytical expertise to examine the patient populations for their Clairemont, Chula Vista, and San Diego East clinics. Part of the analysis involved investigating whether NAVMED West should relocate, consolidate, or expand the clinics and services to meet patient needs.

We set off using geographic information systems (GIS) analysis. GIS correlates time and location with things like people, diagnoses, and materials. We pored over the data and produced powerful maps yielding patterns and trends in patient demographics, drive times to clinics, and factors affecting the use of military or civilian care.

Key findings indicated that the patient populations at these clinics largely comprised retirees and dependents; the average drive time to a given clinic was around 15 minutes; and, the enrollees used direct care (from a military treatment facility) 2-3 times more than purchased care (from a private provider).

Based on the results of mapping these data points, NAVMED West leadership stated, “Terrific work. We can begin acting on this today.” Furthermore, they stressed that this capability should be used across the enterprise.

To learn more about how the Health Analysis Department can put GIS to work for you, contact:

[www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/health-analysis](http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/health-analysis).

