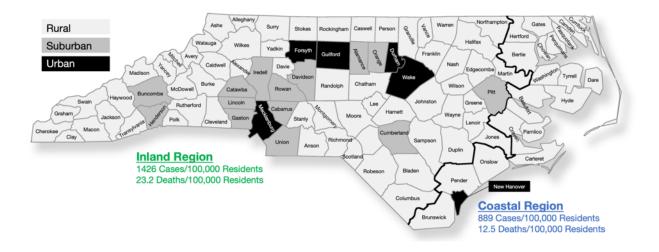
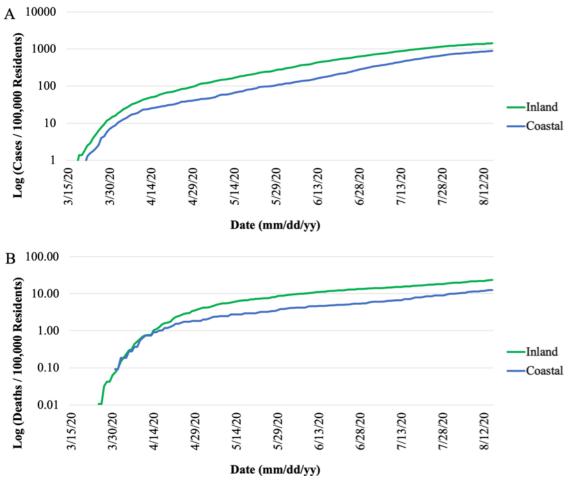


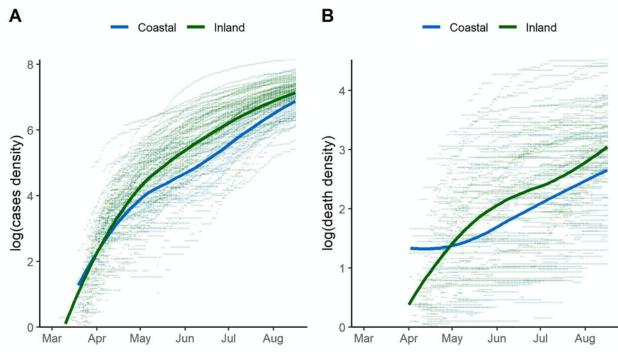
**Figure 1:** Box plots displaying the percentage of White persons, Black persons, people over the age of 65, and median household income in the inland versus coastal region of NC. Z-scores comparing the coastal region mean to the inland region mean are shown for each variable.



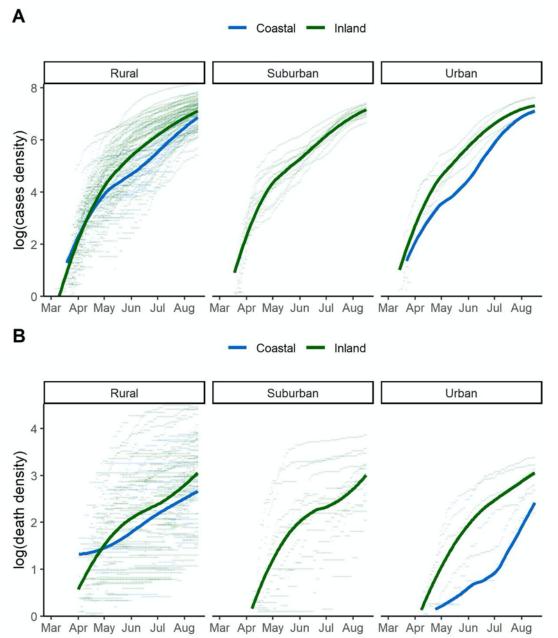
**Figure 2:** Map of NC with coastal versus inland and population-density affiliations by county, plus a comparison of cumulative COVID-19 cases and deaths per 100,000 residents in the coastal versus inland region of NC on 15 August 2020.



**Figure 3:** Cumulative prevalence of COVID-19 cases (3A) and deaths (3B) per 100,000 residents between 15 March 2020 and 15 August 2020 for NC inland versus coastal region.



**Figure 4:** Local regression analysis demonstrating average new COVID-19 cases/100,000 residents/day and deaths/100,000 residents/day. Each point on the graph represents the log of the case or death density for an individual county on a specific date which was utilized in calculating the displayed regression line.



**Figure 5:** Local regression analysis demonstrating average new COVID-19 cases/100,000 residents/day and deaths/100,000 residents/day for rural, suburban, and urban NC. Each point on the graph represents the log of the case or death density for an individual county on a specific date which was utilized in calculating the displayed regression line.