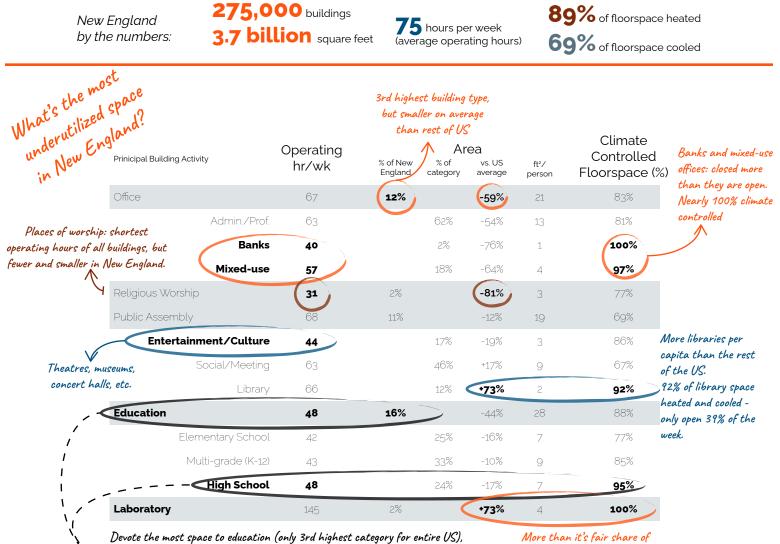
Cool, Comfy, Empty Buildings: An Inventory of Underutilized Commercial Buildings

We devote an increasing amount of land and energy to heating and cooling indoor spaces: commercial buildings in which we work and play...some of the time. While some buildings, like hospitals, lodging, and warehouses, churn around the clock, many are closed more often than they are open. Is there a better way to utilize the these spaces? Which are the worst offenders?



Yyet these building open < 1/3 of the time.

Nearly all high schools have heating and cooling, but are still only open 29% of the time.

laboratories, which are universally climate controlled. They are well used, open almost 21 hours a day.

Data sourced for per capita space calculations derived from the Energy Information Administration (https://www.eia.gov/consumption/ Commercial Building Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS) Averages calculated here represent building-weighted means based on provided weighting factors. Salient primary building activity categories shown here were selected based on rank order w.r.t. operating hours and per capita floor space, with warehouse, storage and vacant categories omitted.

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