



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning

2007 SURVEY OF VETERAN ENROLLEES' HEALTH AND RELIANCE UPON VA

WITH SELECTED COMPARISON TO THE
1999 – 2005 SURVEYS

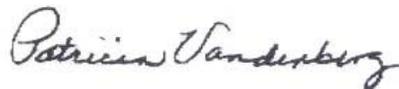
May 2008

PROLOGUE

VA decision makers have an obligation to all stakeholders to proactively seek ways to improve our health care delivery system. In order to provide the best possible care in the most appropriate setting and to improve health care delivery to veterans, accurate information is needed and gathered in reliable ways such as through large-scale surveys. The 2007 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA provides decision makers with information insight to guide planning, policy, and budget decisions which support the Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) mission.

Each year, since enrollment began in 1999, VHA has conducted a major review of past actual, current actual, and future potential demand for VHA enrollment, health care services, and associated expenditures for veterans. This review of veteran demand for VA health care services involves the continuing refinement of the VHA Enrollee Health Care Projection Model (EHCPM). This model integrates data on veteran population, VHA enrollment, VA actual unit costs, both VA and private sector workload measures, and, in particular, enrollee characteristics and health measures from the VHA surveys of enrollees conducted by the Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning.

Enrollee surveys comprise a fundamental source of data and information on enrollees that cannot be obtained in any other way than through surveys. The survey data can help guide decisions and also provide insight into different populations such as returning Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve service members who have participated in the Gulf War.

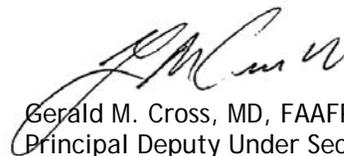


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This report provides decision makers with descriptive information about enrollees collected from the 2007 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA. Although the primary purposes of the VHA enrollee surveys are as critical inputs into VHA EHCPM and the Secretary's enrollment level decision processes, enrollee data provided in this report may also be useful in a variety of strategic analysis areas at the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) level. It also includes selected comparisons with the 1999-2005 enrollment populations.

The following report contains enrollee data from the 2007 survey on marital status, period of service, combat status, ethnicity and race, employment status, public and private health care coverage, uninsured enrollees, Medicare coverage, Medicare Part D coverage, prescription drug benefit or coverage, number and costs of over-the-counter and prescription medications, perceived health status, and smoking status, categorized by priority, age, and income levels. Also included in this report is new information on data gathered from a small sub-sample of respondents regarding the key drivers for use of VA health care services.

This report has been produced by the Healthcare Analysis and Information Group, Strategic Planning, Policy Analysis, and Enrollment and Forecasting Services within VHA's Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning.



Gerald M. Cross, MD, FAAFP
Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Health

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Strategic planning is essential for successful business operations. A full understanding of stakeholders is an important element in providing safe, effective, efficient, and compassionate health care, when and where it is needed. The VHA Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH) for Policy and Planning routinely conducts an update of the national Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA (VHA Survey of Enrollees, or SoE). The SoE is a national telephone survey whose purpose is to provide information that is incorporated into annual VHA projections of enrollment, utilization, and expenditures, as well as a variety of high level VHA budget and policy related analyses. Telephone interviews were completed in September 2007 and analyses of the data are ongoing. The 2007 SoE was based on a stratified random sample of enrollees and the target number of completed interviews was 42,000. The average interview length was 17 minutes. Each Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) had approximately 2,000 enrollees surveyed, optimally allocated to give valid estimates by priority and type of enrollee (Pre/Post¹) at the VISN level.

Methodology Notes

Improvements in the survey since it was last conducted in 2005 include: more detailed questions on health insurance and, in particular, prescription drug coverage. Also new in 2007 were questions asked to a sub-sample of the respondents. These questions attempt to identify the key drivers that compel enrollees to utilize VA health care services.

¹ There are two enrollee types – Enrollee Pre and Enrollee Post. Enrollee Pre is defined as an enrollee who used the VA Health Care System during fiscal years 1996, 1997, or 1998 and enrolled during the first six months of enrollment (between October 1, 1998 and March 31, 1999). Enrollee Post is defined as all other veteran Enrollees in the master enrollment database. These two enrollee types have been and continue to be tracked and projected separately because these two populations exhibit different morbidity and reliance characteristics and thus, different demand for health care services.

The questions probe enrollees' reasons for use and perceptions of VA Health Care Services. The new questions vastly expand the analytical potential and budget and policy relevance of the survey data.

Information on the following attributes of the enrollee population and specific variables from the 2007 Survey of Enrollees are reported for:

Priority Level	Prescription Drug Coverage
Age	Outpatient Prescription Costs
Marital Status	Prescription Medications
Period of Service	Over-the-Counter Medications
Employment Status	Cigarette Smoking
Insurance Coverage:	Pre/Post Enrollee
- Medicaid	Household Income
- TRICARE/TRICARE For Life	Race and Ethnicity
- Medicare	Combat Status
- Medicare Part D	VISN/State of Residence
- Private Insurance	Key Drivers of Enrollees'
Planned Future Use	Health Care Decision Making
Self-Reported Health Status	

Discussion

The 2007 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA provided some interesting insights into the VHA enrollee population. The purpose of this report is to provide decision makers with descriptive information about enrollees collected from the VHA 2007 survey. This survey, along with the previous surveys, was designed using optimally stratified random sampling techniques to represent VHA enrollees. The reports can be found at <http://www.va.gov/vhareorg> on the internet. All reports focus on the areas which show interesting differences and have the potential to help inform VA leadership in its development of VHA policies and strategic planning, including the following: socioeconomic characteristics of the enrollee population, public and private insurance coverage, health status measures, and future use of VA health care services by the veteran enrollee population. Each chapter describes the survey

results at the national level analyzed by priority, age, and income groups and then reports similar results at the VISN level.

Findings

There were a number of key findings in the 2007 survey. The median age of enrollees was 63 years, similar to the median age of all veterans of 59.8 years. For the most part, enrollees were male, married, and white. Most enrollees had one dependent, served in the military for over 6 years, and were released from active duty more than 36 years ago. Forty-one percent were exposed to combat.

Although there was explosive growth in VHA enrollment between 1999 (the first year of enrollment) and 2002, there has been a slowdown in this growth in recent years. The slowdown is due in part to the suspension of enrollment of Priority 8 veterans in 2003. The slowdown is also tempered by the number of deaths in the enrollee population. Between 1999 and 2002, the data showed a large increase in enrollees in the Priority 7-8 Group. However, since that time, smaller changes have been noted between surveys, and since the suspension of Priority 8 enrollees in 2003, the remaining Priority 8 enrollees within the VA system have shown a decrease from 32 percent in 2003 to 30 percent in 2007.

A slowdown in growth is also noted when comparing the enrollee population by Age Group. There had been an increase in the percent of enrollees age 65 or over between 1999 and 2002, but this trend has been decreasing since the 2003 survey, from 47 percent in 2003 to 46 percent in 2007.

The survey data showed very similar patterns to those described above in other areas measured. In general, while major differences were reported between the 1999 and 2002 surveys, the rate of change slowed considerably between 2002 and 2003, and the growth trend declined between 2003, 2005, and 2007.

For example, although the surge of Priority 7-8 enrollees between 1999 and 2003 resulted in more enrollees with Medicare coverage, the changes between 2003, 2005, and 2007 were relatively minor. These trends are evident across most survey questions, with most showing decreases in percent and number of enrollees.

Highlights of the 2007 survey include the finding that over 20 percent of enrolled veterans under age 65 are enrolled in Medicare. This sizable minority reflects a discrete population of younger disabled veterans enrolled in VHA. Conversely, 6 percent of enrollees age 65 or over do not have Medicare. Twenty-one percent of the enrolled veterans have neither public nor private health insurance coverage, more than double the estimated rate of uninsurance for the general veteran population.

Results from the 2005 survey reported that only 12 percent of enrollees with Medicare coverage planned to purchase Medicare Part D in 2006. Data from the 2007 survey show that 33 percent of 3.9 million enrollees who reported having Medicare Coverage, also reported having Medicare Part D coverage. In regards to medications, the average enrollee took 1.7 over-the-counter (OTC) medications per month, with 0.5 medications provided by VA, and 1.2 purchased independent of VA. Respondents were also asked about physician-prescribed medications. On average, enrollees took 4.7 prescription medications per month, with 3.4 of those medications provided by VA and 1.3 purchased independent of VA.

Demographics of the enrollee population have remained relatively unchanged. When comparing Priority Groups, Priority 5 shows a percentage decrease, from 33 percent in 2005, to 31 percent in 2007. There was a slight increase in the percent of enrollees age 65 or over, from 45 percent in 2005 to 46 percent in 2007. There was an increase in the percent of enrollees in the \$36,000+ Income Group, from 27 percent in 2005 to 32 percent in 2007. And as found since the 2003 survey, the majority (68%) of the enrollee population reported being married.

A new question in the 2005 survey and continued in 2007, asked enrollees about their active duty military service. The largest percentages of enrollees (38%) served during the Vietnam era, with the next highest percent (29%) serving just before that era, and 26 percent serving just after that era. Korean War veterans make up 18 percent of the enrollee population, and there has been a decline in World War II veterans since 2005. World War II veterans make up 16 percent of the enrollee population, down from 19 percent in 2005.

Questions were asked regarding enrollee ethnicity and race. Only 5 percent of the enrollees described themselves as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. Eighty-three percent of the enrollees responded that they are white. Less

than 3 percent of the enrollees chose more than one race option. This is consistent with Census 2000.

Since the 2005 survey, questions were asked regarding enrollee smoking status. A large percentage (69%) reported that they have at one time considered themselves a smoker. Of these, 31 percent are current smokers, and 24 percent reported that they have recently quit. It should be noted also that 30 percent of the enrollees reported that they have never smoked. Of the current smoker population, 40 percent reported combat exposure.

The 2005 and 2007 surveys added the questions about the enrollees' employment status. The majority of the enrollee population in both 2005 and 2007 was not in the labor force. Many enrollees are retired, or have physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from participating in the labor force. The enrollee self-reported unemployment rate is 17 percent, which is higher than the average annual unemployment rate. This is further discussed in Chapter 1.

Another interesting highlight involves enrollees' decision-making process about whether to utilize VA services. Enrollees were asked 64 questions in 11 major topic areas. Results showed that the highest level of agreement was for statements related to cost. The next most important factors were quality, overall image, and convenience.

Forty-two percent reported that they planned to use VA as their primary source of care, 13 percent for prescriptions only, 12 percent as backup to non-VA care, (i.e. for minor services), and 11 percent as a safety net (i.e. used only if needed). It is noteworthy that 14 percent have no plans to use VA health care services in the future.

The data clearly show that VHA continues to care for an enrollee population that perceives a worse health status than the general veteran or civilian populations. These results demonstrate an ongoing need within VHA for visionary leadership and a strong commitment to the provisions of appropriate, timely, and high-quality services to our core veterans.

VHA ENROLLEE SURVEY OVERVIEW

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a synopsis of the information collected by the ADUSH for Policy and Planning in the 2007 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA. This document also compares the 2007 data to the data collected in the previous surveys at the national level. VISN level data spreadsheets are provided at the end of each section.

VHA Enrollee Survey Objectives

Effective October 1, 1998, the Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 (Public Law 101-262) mandated that most veterans must be enrolled in VHA to receive care. Each year since mandated enrollment began, the Veterans Health Administration conducts a major review of past actual, current actual, and future potential demand for health care services from veterans. This review of veteran demand for VA health care services involves the continuing refinement of the VHA Enrollee Health Care Projection Model (EHCPM). Now in its seventh year, the VHA EHCPM has been continuously developed and refined in collaboration between VHA and the private sector health care actuarial firm, Milliman USA. The Model integrates data on veteran population, VHA enrollment, and utilization, actual unit costs, both VA and private sector workload measures, in particular, enrollee characteristics and health measures from the VHA survey of enrollees.

Methodology Notes

The percentages shown in the tables of this report indicate the proportion of the enrollee population having the characteristic of interest. The numerator is the number of enrollees in the VISN (or nation) with the characteristic, and the denominator is the VISN specific (or national) enrollee population in the Priority, Age, or Income Groups. In order to obtain both total enrollee population information as well as the desired amount of information across all Priority Groups and VISNs, these surveys use stratified samples. In addition, respondents in strata, (e.g., by Priority

Group), also are more similar, or homogeneous, than a simple random sample of people across all Priority Groups. It should be noted that the survey is self-reported and subject to individual interpretations; although data were validated for obvious errors, for the most part, the data were not independently confirmed.

Data in the report are from a survey sample. Inherent in a sample is sampling error. Since sampling error can be estimated, it is important to consider standard errors when comparing subpopulations, such as among VISNs. To assist such comparisons, standard errors information is available upon request.

VHA Enrollee Survey Statistics

The Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA is the sixth in a series of surveys of VHA enrollees conducted by ADUSH for Policy and Planning under multi-year Office of Management and Budget (OMB) authority. All six VHA surveys of enrollees consisted of telephone interviews with stratified random samples of enrolled veterans.

Each time the survey has been conducted, modifications were made to the survey instrument to reflect management's need for specific data and information on enrolled veterans. Sampling in the 2000 survey was restricted to Priority 5 and Priority 7-2 veterans who were new to the VHA enrollment system as of October 1, 1998. Sampling in the 1999, 2002, 2003, 2005, and 2007 survey was conducted for all Priority Groups relevant at the time of the survey.

The focus of this report is the results of the latest 2007 survey, with selected comparisons to previous survey data. In 2007, 42,587 enrollees completed the survey for a 50 percent cooperation rate. This is a decrease from the 73 percent cooperation rate in 2005. There are likely multiple factors contributing to this decrease.

Survey timing could have an impact on cooperation rate. In 2005, the survey was fielded in the Fall; while in 2007, the survey was fielded in the

Summer. Cooperation rates can decrease considerably during the Summer, as people may be spending less time at home.

Another contributing factor could be the increased occurrences of data loss in the private sector and government agencies since 2005, particularly the VA. This can contribute to a respondent's willingness to participate in a telephone survey.

In 2007, tests to improve response included sending a pre-survey notification letter to a sub-sample of the enrollees. It is important to note that the cooperation rate for enrollees who received the letter was much higher than those who did not. However, the letter was sent only to a portion of the sampled enrollees, therefore it did not have a measurable impact on the overall cooperation rate.

Starting with the 2005 survey, the method for selecting enrollees for the sample has been improved. The Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS) Death File, Health Eligibility Center (HEC) file, and Social Security Administration (SSA) Death Master File were utilized to exclude enrollees who have died. If a date of death was found in any of these files, the enrollee was excluded from the sample. In addition to these, the VA Vital Status File was used for the 2007 Survey of Enrollees to exclude deaths from the sample.

Previously, data from these files were not available; therefore, deaths were not necessarily excluded from the preceding enrollee populations that were used as the basis of the samples in 1999, 2002, and 2003.

Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA					
	1999	2002	2003	2005	2007
Weighted to represent the population of veteran enrollees'	3,642,537	6,175,694	6,742,676	6,704,149	7,186,950
Weighted population as of:	2/3/99	12/31/01	12/31/02	12/31/04	9/30/06
Stratified sample size: By VISN, enrollment priority, and pre or post enrollee	27,000	63,126	65,472	57,870	85,307
Number of completed interviews	19,686	37,528	41,704	42,094	42,587
Overall cooperation rate*	N/A	59.4%	63.7%	72.7%	49.9%
Interviews conducted during the following timeframe	Mar 1999	Apr-May 2002	Aug-Sep 2003	Nov-Dec 2004	Jul-Sept 2007
*Based on American Association for Public Opinion Research "cooperation rates" (in previous reports this was referred to as "response rate")					

Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, 2005 and 2007 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

CHAPTER 1

Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics of the Enrollee Population

Demographic and socioeconomic information provides a unique and useful view into the characteristics of the veteran enrollees. At the time of the survey, the median age of enrollees was 63 years. For the most part, enrollees are male, married, and white. Women represented 6 percent of the enrollee population. The largest percentage of enrollees (46%) had one dependent living with them. On average, enrollees had served in the military for over 6 years, and were released from active duty more than 36 years ago. Less than half of the enrollee population (41%) was exposed to combat during their service. The median personal income for enrollees was \$28,000.

Methodology Notes: The results of VHA's 2007 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA presented in this report are weighted to represent the population of veteran enrollees. The enrollee population, at the time of the survey weighting was 7,186,950. See Table 1.1 below for enrollee characteristics by Priority, Age, and Income Groups.

Unless otherwise noted, the source for all charts and figures in this report are from the 2007 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA. Survey data from 1999 through 2005 are also referenced.

Table 1.1

2007			
Weighted to Represent the Population of 7.2 Million Veteran Enrollees as of 12/31/2006			
Priority Group			
1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	National
2,392,828	2,658,993	2,135,129	7,186,950
33.3%	37.0%	29.7%	
Age Group			
< 45	45 - 64	65 +	National
813,578	3,060,671	3,312,701	7,186,950
11.3%	42.5%	46.1%	
Income Group			
<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK/Ref	National
3,808,438	2,296,043	1,082,469	7,186,950
53.0%	31.9%	15.1%	

Don't Know/Refused to Answer (DK/Ref)

- The largest segment of enrollees was in Priority Groups 4-6 at 37 percent.
- In 2007, approximately 46 percent of enrollees were age 65 or over, while 43 percent were 45-64, and 11 percent were under 45 years of age.
- Of those who reported household income, 53 percent reported incomes of less than \$36,000 in 2007. Note: Over 15 percent of the enrollees did not provide a response to the income question.

Priority Group

The Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 mandated VA establish and implement a national enrollment system to manage the delivery of health care services. Most veterans must be enrolled to receive care. Each enrollee is assigned a priority group based on the enrollee's specific eligibility status. Priority Groups range from 1 to 8. We can also look at each Priority Group separately. Priority Group 5 had the largest number of enrollees (31%). Priority Group 5 enrollees are rated zero (0) percent disabled with an annual income and net worth below the established VA Geographic Means Test (GMT) threshold. This was followed by those enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8 (30%). Priority Group 7 and 8 enrollees generally are zero (0) percent disabled with an annual income and net worth above the established VA Means Test threshold. Service connected enrollees in Priority Groups 1, 2, and 3, make up 33 percent of the enrollee population.

Figure 1.1

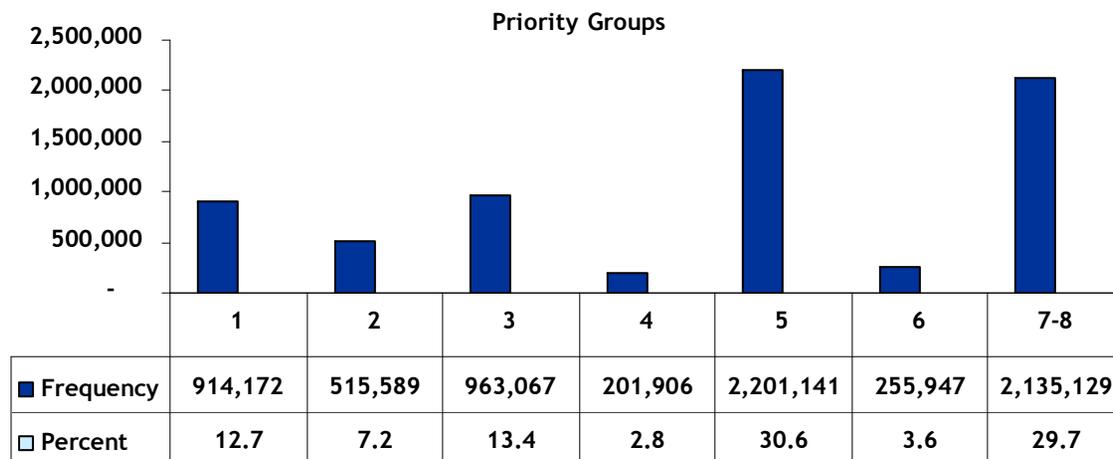


Table 1.2

2007 Socioeconomic Characteristics										
VISN	VISN Total	Priority			Age			Income		
		1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36,000	\$36000+	DK/Ref
1	315,822	101,224	104,295	110,303	37,734	113,439	164,649	161,367	101,133	53,322
		32.1%	33.0%	34.9%	11.9%	35.9%	52.1%	51.1%	32.0%	16.9%
2	201,504	53,786	74,717	73,002	22,638	79,888	98,977	103,522	65,705	32,277
		26.7%	37.1%	36.2%	11.2%	39.6%	49.1%	51.4%	32.6%	16.0%
3	320,694	77,414	109,360	133,920	29,778	105,291	185,625	150,531	113,647	56,516
		24.1%	34.1%	41.8%	9.3%	32.8%	57.9%	46.9%	35.4%	17.6%
4	427,286	98,305	168,237	160,744	38,610	156,737	231,940	238,188	118,615	70,483
		23.0%	39.4%	37.6%	9.0%	36.7%	54.3%	55.7%	27.8%	16.5%
5	168,208	68,281	56,729	43,199	20,583	72,669	74,956	75,641	60,246	32,321
		40.6%	33.7%	25.7%	12.2%	43.2%	44.6%	45.0%	35.8%	19.2%
6	376,953	145,510	134,269	97,173	57,602	161,192	158,158	212,804	110,708	53,441
		38.6%	35.6%	25.8%	15.3%	42.8%	42.0%	56.5%	29.4%	14.2%
7	425,147	183,488	137,983	103,677	55,308	219,536	150,304	205,951	149,870	69,326
		43.2%	32.5%	24.4%	13.0%	51.6%	35.4%	48.4%	35.3%	16.3%
8	599,311	205,753	202,177	191,381	48,595	240,404	310,311	316,691	189,310	93,310
		34.3%	33.7%	31.9%	8.1%	40.1%	51.8%	52.8%	31.6%	15.6%
9	334,935	110,500	144,723	79,713	43,862	151,982	139,093	200,245	91,474	43,216
		33.0%	43.2%	23.8%	13.1%	45.4%	41.5%	59.8%	27.3%	12.9%
10	263,074	67,693	125,449	69,932	27,072	117,298	118,705	162,676	67,609	32,789
		25.7%	47.7%	26.6%	10.3%	44.6%	45.1%	61.8%	25.7%	12.5%
11	314,298	88,850	122,945	102,502	36,953	127,916	149,429	185,136	86,956	42,206
		28.3%	39.1%	32.6%	11.8%	40.7%	47.5%	58.9%	27.7%	13.4%
12	321,447	75,603	116,334	129,510	29,775	141,424	150,248	160,458	111,508	49,481
		23.5%	36.2%	40.3%	9.3%	44.0%	46.7%	49.9%	34.7%	15.4%
15	294,007	80,930	130,355	82,721	25,308	124,953	143,745	176,340	74,710	42,957
		27.5%	44.3%	28.1%	8.6%	42.5%	48.9%	60.0%	25.4%	14.6%
16	601,804	199,771	261,248	140,785	63,751	277,035	261,018	344,862	166,392	90,550
		33.2%	43.4%	23.4%	10.6%	46.0%	43.4%	57.3%	27.6%	15.0%
17	335,834	137,687	128,326	69,820	40,175	165,589	130,070	166,401	119,819	49,614
		41.0%	38.2%	20.8%	12.0%	49.3%	38.7%	49.5%	35.7%	14.8%
18	289,712	109,116	98,526	82,070	25,092	133,512	131,108	145,960	104,811	38,941
		37.7%	34.0%	28.3%	8.7%	46.1%	45.3%	50.4%	36.2%	13.4%

2007 Socioeconomic Characteristics										
VISN	VISN Total	Priority			Age			Income		
		1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36,000	\$36000+	DK/Ref
19	212,743	74,408	73,928	64,406	27,671	92,455	92,617	109,853	72,569	30,321
		35.0%	34.8%	30.3%	13.0%	43.5%	43.5%	51.6%	34.1%	14.3%
20	325,281	142,223	104,521	78,537	50,885	142,810	131,586	168,986	112,399	43,896
		43.7%	32.1%	24.1%	15.6%	43.9%	40.5%	52.0%	34.6%	13.5%
21	305,042	115,361	108,077	81,604	40,225	128,355	136,463	142,689	116,537	45,816
		37.8%	35.4%	26.8%	13.2%	42.1%	44.7%	46.8%	38.2%	15.0%
22	382,160	136,796	140,809	104,554	49,365	178,818	153,977	177,728	142,626	61,806
		35.8%	36.8%	27.4%	12.9%	46.8%	40.3%	46.5%	37.3%	16.2%
23	371,690	120,130	115,983	135,576	42,598	129,368	199,723	202,408	119,399	49,883
		32.3%	31.2%	36.5%	11.5%	34.8%	53.7%	54.5%	32.1%	13.4%
National	7,186,950	2,392,828	2,658,993	2,135,129	813,578	3,060,671	3,312,701	3,808,438	2,296,043	1,082,469
		33.3%	37.0%	29.7%	11.3%	42.6%	46.1%	53.0%	31.9%	15.1%

Marital Status and Dependents

Research has shown that marital status is an indicator of the amount of a person's social support. The 2007 survey made an inquiry regarding the best description of enrollee current marital status.

The marital status of enrollees has remained relatively unchanged since the 2005 survey. Most of our enrollees (68%) reported being married; this was followed by 13 percent who reported being divorced, 10 percent who reported being single, and 7 percent who reported being widowed. Sixty one percent of the enrollees self-reported having 1-4 dependents including spouse and/or dependent children. A "dependent" was defined as anyone who relied on the respondent for at least half of that person's financial support.

Figure 1.2

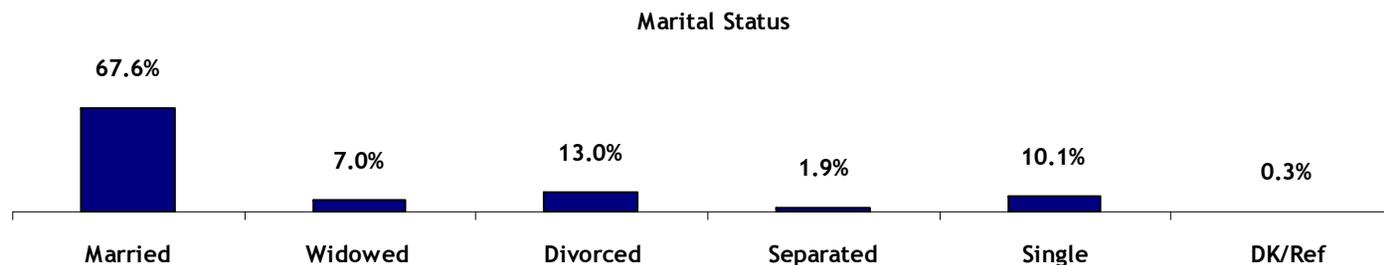


Table 1.3

VISN	Marital Status					
	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Single	DK/Ref
1	200,826	26,802	42,606	4,060	40,643	885
	63.6%	8.5%	13.5%	1.3%	12.9%	0.3%
2	134,914	19,119	19,322	3,300	23,940	909
	67.0%	9.5%	9.6%	1.6%	11.9%	0.5%
3	199,407	30,169	29,649	9,761	51,212	497
	62.2%	9.4%	9.2%	3.0%	16.0%	0.2%
4	286,632	39,735	49,401	5,175	45,293	1,050
	67.1%	9.3%	11.6%	1.2%	10.6%	0.2%
5	107,932	14,319	21,621	4,762	18,773	801
	64.2%	8.5%	12.9%	2.8%	11.2%	0.5%
6	268,849	22,174	45,402	8,470	31,822	236
	71.3%	5.9%	12.0%	2.2%	8.4%	0.1%
7	311,835	18,799	41,504	10,696	41,160	1,154
	73.3%	4.4%	9.8%	2.5%	9.7%	0.3%
8	409,952	46,068	93,669	10,410	38,503	709
	68.4%	7.7%	15.6%	1.7%	6.4%	0.1%
9	232,027	17,120	49,496	5,714	30,284	296
	69.3%	5.1%	14.8%	1.7%	9.0%	0.1%
10	166,140	21,213	35,179	7,141	33,226	174
	63.2%	8.1%	13.4%	2.7%	12.6%	0.1%
11	219,263	22,447	42,634	4,837	24,673	443
	69.8%	7.1%	13.6%	1.5%	7.9%	0.1%
12	206,198	21,975	38,124	6,581	47,196	1,373
	64.1%	6.8%	11.9%	2.0%	14.7%	0.4%
15	204,094	21,280	41,891	4,398	21,582	761
	69.4%	7.2%	14.2%	1.5%	7.3%	0.3%
16	419,959	47,813	71,212	15,251	45,673	1,896
	69.8%	7.9%	11.8%	2.5%	7.6%	0.3%
17	232,257	18,703	50,107	4,781	28,710	1,276
	69.2%	5.6%	14.9%	1.4%	8.5%	0.4%
18	199,432	16,916	40,583	7,496	23,382	1,903
	68.8%	5.8%	14.0%	2.6%	8.1%	0.7%
19	151,997	9,763	26,460	3,780	19,910	833
	71.4%	4.6%	12.4%	1.8%	9.4%	0.4%
20	231,352	19,705	44,083	3,887	25,036	1,218
	71.1%	6.1%	13.6%	1.2%	7.7%	0.4%
21	191,118	23,113	43,846	7,938	38,664	363
	62.7%	7.6%	14.4%	2.6%	12.7%	0.1%

VISN	Marital Status					
	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Single	DK/Ref
22	223,259	22,240	63,781	8,616	61,677	2,587
	58.4%	5.8%	16.7%	2.3%	16.1%	0.7%
23	263,940	24,398	43,989	2,543	36,254	566
	71.0%	6.6%	11.8%	0.7%	9.8%	0.2%
National	4,861,382	503,870	934,560	139,597	727,612	19,930
	67.6%	7.0%	13.0%	1.9%	10.1%	0.3%

Active Duty Period of Service/Combat Exposure

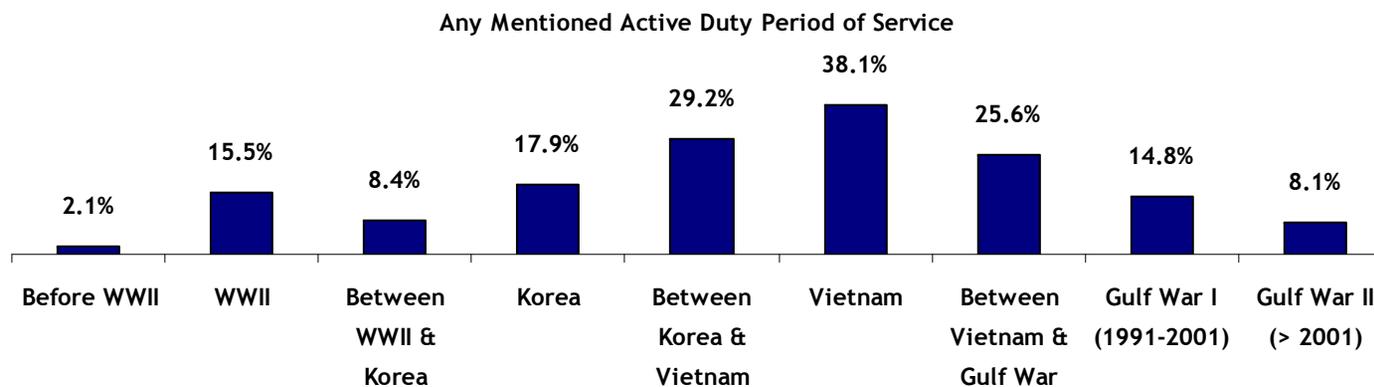
Enrollees were asked to provide the best description of their term of active duty military service. Most enrollees (85%) served only one continuous tour of duty, with no breaks in service. "One term of service" would be defined as a one-time discharge from the military after continuous service. It should be noted that the tour of duty often contains more than one period of service. For example, a veteran serving during the end of the Vietnam era would have two periods of service that includes the Vietnam War and the period between Vietnam and the Gulf War.

In addition to the above, 10 percent of the enrollees reported two active duty periods of service. During their first active duty period, 38 percent of the enrollees reported combat exposure.

In some cases, enrollees have experienced breaks in service, and therefore have served multiple terms of service. Enrollees were asked a series of questions to determine how many terms of active duty military service they served. They were asked not to include Reserve or National Guard training, or drill periods, unless they were "activated" at the time. It should be noted that the question asked enrollees to provide the "year" they started and ended each of these terms of active duty military service. Enrollees could list multiple periods of service, so percentages do not total 100 percent. (See Figure 1.3)

- The results revealed that the single largest component of the enrollee population (38%) served during Vietnam.
- Of the remaining statistics, 29 percent served between Korea and Vietnam, 26 percent served between Vietnam and Desert Shield/Desert Storm, 18 percent served during the Korean War, and 16 percent served during World War II.

Figure 1.3



Following each question regarding their active duty military service, enrollees were asked if they were ever in or exposed to combat during this term.

- Forty-one percent of enrollees reported combat exposure.
- Throughout all periods of services, enrollees reported being in or exposed to combat, with at least 30 percent of enrollees in all periods of service reporting combat exposure. The majority of enrollees (69%) who served before World War II reported combat exposure. This was followed by 55 percent of World War II enrollees and 54 percent of enrollees who served between Korea and Vietnam. Figure 1.4 shows all other statistics. Enrollees could list multiple periods of service, so percentages do not total 100 percent.

Figure 1.4

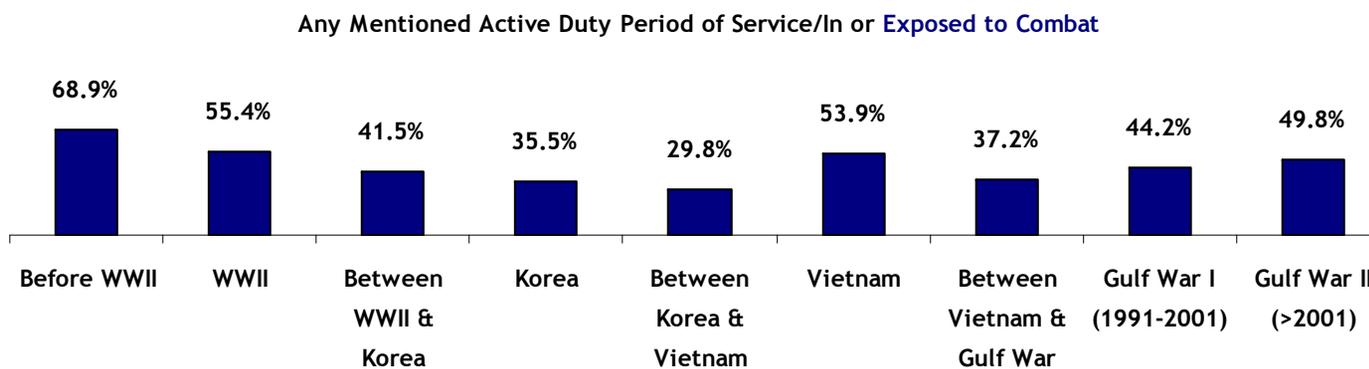


Table 1.4

VISN	Any Mentioned Active Duty Period of Service								
	Before WWII	WWII	Between WWII & Korea	Korea	Between Korea & Vietnam	Vietnam	Between Vietnam & Gulf War	Gulf War I (1991-2001)	Gulf War II (> 2001)
1	8,320	60,397	28,909	63,674	93,875	100,573	56,739	39,296	30,162
	2.6%	19.1%	9.2%	20.2%	29.7%	31.8%	18.0%	12.4%	9.6%
2	4,700	32,077	17,068	39,993	55,802	68,211	42,453	24,672	15,612
	2.3%	15.9%	8.5%	19.8%	27.7%	33.9%	21.1%	12.2%	7.7%
3	7,778	69,672	26,191	63,538	89,273	94,817	39,779	25,572	25,579
	2.4%	21.7%	8.2%	19.8%	27.8%	29.6%	12.4%	8.0%	8.0%
4	7,112	84,205	39,952	88,865	137,576	146,449	70,561	32,027	26,836
	1.7%	19.7%	9.4%	20.8%	32.2%	34.3%	16.5%	7.5%	6.3%
5	3,365	26,285	13,520	28,922	47,328	64,533	51,408	34,235	17,148
	2.0%	15.6%	8.0%	17.2%	28.1%	38.4%	30.6%	20.4%	10.2%
6	4,630	45,218	26,315	65,306	110,084	137,890	123,917	73,151	38,376
	1.2%	12.0%	7.0%	17.3%	29.2%	36.6%	32.9%	19.4%	10.2%
7	7,153	37,181	28,263	64,701	121,530	198,832	160,186	105,270	35,616
	1.7%	8.7%	6.6%	15.2%	28.6%	46.8%	37.7%	24.8%	8.4%
8	16,974	113,977	60,138	109,631	197,910	217,591	148,144	75,474	39,361
	2.8%	19.0%	10.0%	18.3%	33.0%	36.3%	24.7%	12.6%	6.6%
9	4,842	37,733	20,342	52,393	100,130	139,644	86,604	48,261	31,542
	1.4%	11.3%	6.1%	15.6%	29.9%	41.7%	25.9%	14.4%	9.4%
10	5,248	44,767	19,772	41,649	66,602	92,982	65,426	27,783	16,529
	2.0%	17.0%	7.5%	15.8%	25.3%	35.3%	24.9%	10.6%	6.3%
11	4,381	56,116	27,323	57,149	91,432	110,234	65,013	34,637	22,856
	1.4%	17.9%	8.7%	18.2%	29.1%	35.1%	20.7%	11.0%	7.3%
12	6,420	52,988	27,173	58,117	84,177	117,336	65,376	32,388	20,527
	2.0%	16.5%	8.5%	18.1%	26.2%	36.5%	20.3%	10.1%	6.4%
15	6,404	53,030	23,433	52,617	80,899	105,406	63,530	30,054	15,489
	2.2%	18.0%	8.0%	17.9%	27.5%	35.9%	21.6%	10.2%	5.3%
16	9,935	73,916	49,376	103,668	186,554	250,200	166,424	93,113	41,227
	1.7%	12.3%	8.2%	17.2%	31.0%	41.6%	27.7%	15.5%	6.9%
17	7,908	41,612	31,045	55,815	98,976	162,739	117,495	72,783	30,795
	2.4%	12.4%	9.2%	16.6%	29.5%	48.5%	35.0%	21.7%	9.2%
18	5,848	38,668	22,493	50,251	93,534	124,662	78,770	45,914	29,384
	2.0%	13.3%	7.8%	17.3%	32.3%	43.0%	27.2%	15.8%	10.1%
19	3,731	29,887	16,530	40,140	59,427	76,941	59,606	36,539	23,258
	1.8%	14.0%	7.8%	18.9%	27.9%	36.2%	28.0%	17.2%	10.9%
20	9,552	43,518	27,433	51,460	87,598	132,459	108,419	59,023	29,593
	2.9%	13.4%	8.4%	15.8%	26.9%	40.7%	33.3%	18.1%	9.1%

VISN	Any Mentioned Active Duty Period of Service								
	Before WWII	WWII	Between WWII & Korea	Korea	Between Korea & Vietnam	Vietnam	Between Vietnam & Gulf War	Gulf War I (1991-2001)	Gulf War II (> 2001)
21	8,306	49,499	27,674	51,292	83,891	122,068	71,945	50,455	30,668
	2.7%	16.2%	9.1%	16.8%	27.5%	40.0%	23.6%	16.5%	10.1%
22	9,188	55,979	40,990	65,820	107,146	157,073	118,796	78,659	33,232
	2.4%	14.6%	10.7%	17.2%	28.0%	41.1%	31.1%	20.6%	8.7%
23	7,164	70,061	33,273	78,592	107,345	115,335	76,209	42,119	25,695
	1.9%	18.8%	9.0%	21.1%	28.9%	31.0%	20.5%	11.3%	6.9%
National	148,959	1,116,788	607,213	1,283,594	2,101,087	2,735,972	1,836,799	1,061,427	579,485
	2.1%	15.5%	8.4%	17.9%	29.2%	38.1%	25.6%	14.8%	8.1%

Percentages do not total 100 percent because enrollees may have responded with multiple periods of service.

-Before World War II (WWII): <1942

-WWII: 1942-1946

-Between WWI and Korea: 1947-1950

-Korea: 1951-1954

-Between Korea and Vietnam: 1955-1964

-Vietnam: 1965-1974

-Between Vietnam and Gulf War: 1975-1990

-Gulf War: 1991-2001, >2001

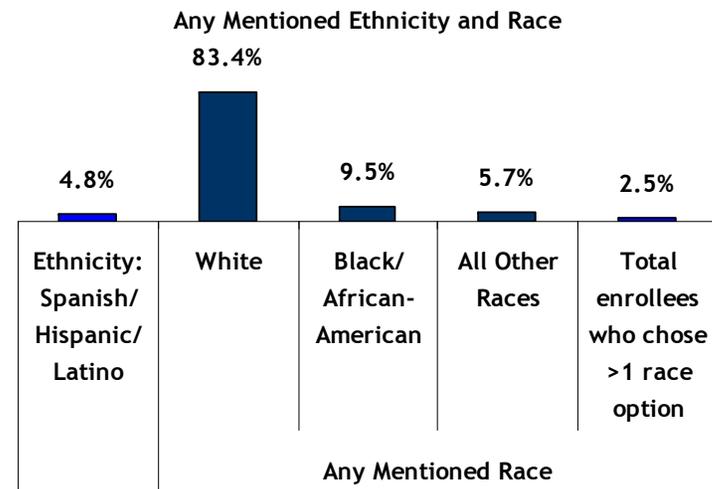
Ethnicity and Race

The 2007 survey also asked questions about Ethnicity and Race.

- Enrollees were first asked if they would describe themselves as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. Only 5 percent of the enrollees responded “yes” to this question. This shows no change from Census 2000 information.
- The next set of questions asked enrollees to describe their race. They were told that they could choose more than one. Six million or 83 percent of the enrollees responded that they were white and 10 percent responded that they were black. This also shows no change from Census 2000.
- Other races combined were 5.7 percent including 4.3 percent American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.9 percent Asian, and 0.5 percent Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.
- The percent of enrollees who chose more than one race option was 2.5 percent.

Note: Due to small numbers in the other race categories, only national level data is presented.

Figure 1.5



Employment Status

In order to better understand the socioeconomic characteristics of the enrollee population, starting in 2005, a question was asked regarding enrollee employment status. Figure 1.6 depicts the statistics regarding enrollee employment status.

Figure 1.6



- The majority of enrollees (61%) are not in the labor force, as would be expected since many enrollees (46%) are 65 or over.
- Twenty percent of the enrollees were employed full time, and 4 percent were self-employed full time.
- Five percent of enrollees reported being employed part time, and 3 percent reported being self-employed part time.
- Seven percent of enrollees reported being unemployed. Unemployment can influence uninsurance rates in the enrollee population. Uninsurance information is discussed in Chapter 2.

Table 1.5

VISN	Employment Status						
	Employed Full Time	Self-Employed Full Time	Employed Part Time	Self-Employed Part Time	Unemployed	Not in the Labor Force	DK/Ref
1	64,468	19,147	13,291	11,027	15,136	191,478	1,275
	20.4%	6.1%	4.2%	3.5%	4.8%	60.6%	0.4%
2	40,909	5,189	11,119	6,059	9,255	128,150	823
	20.3%	2.6%	5.5%	3.0%	4.6%	63.6%	0.4%
3	48,395	9,911	18,485	6,975	19,116	217,629	182
	15.1%	3.1%	5.8%	2.2%	6.0%	67.9%	0.1%
4	66,200	20,642	23,455	8,431	22,211	283,904	2,443
	15.5%	4.8%	5.5%	2.0%	5.2%	66.4%	0.6%
5	47,685	5,186	5,213	4,018	9,734	95,269	1,103
	28.3%	3.1%	3.1%	2.4%	5.8%	56.6%	0.7%

VISN	Employment Status						
	Employed Full Time	Self-Employed Full Time	Employed Part Time	Self-Employed Part Time	Unemployed	Not in the Labor Force	DK/Ref
6	79,902	11,354	17,509	9,358	32,538	224,137	2,156
	21.2%	3.0%	4.6%	2.5%	8.6%	59.5%	0.6%
7	116,834	20,087	17,201	12,857	33,297	222,156	2,716
	27.5%	4.7%	4.0%	3.0%	7.8%	52.3%	0.6%
8	97,247	29,644	23,114	12,847	31,123	403,728	1,608
	16.2%	4.9%	3.9%	2.1%	5.2%	67.4%	0.3%
9	61,778	13,138	15,354	8,484	23,841	209,733	2,608
	18.4%	3.9%	4.6%	2.5%	7.1%	62.6%	0.8%
10	52,483	8,340	10,538	8,285	21,924	160,942	562
	20.0%	3.2%	4.0%	3.1%	8.3%	61.2%	0.2%
11	46,559	11,049	16,488	10,880	24,620	203,279	1,422
	14.8%	3.5%	5.2%	3.5%	7.8%	64.7%	0.5%
12	58,897	17,034	15,913	10,208	29,122	186,221	4,052
	18.3%	5.3%	5.0%	3.2%	9.1%	57.9%	1.3%
15	50,744	9,494	14,048	6,748	17,686	192,331	2,954
	17.3%	3.2%	4.8%	2.3%	6.0%	65.4%	1.0%
16	125,764	17,650	16,761	18,484	47,661	372,486	2,998
	20.9%	2.9%	2.8%	3.1%	7.9%	61.9%	0.5%
17	85,113	13,676	9,894	12,184	27,334	184,691	2,942
	25.3%	4.1%	2.9%	3.6%	8.1%	55.0%	0.9%
18	62,008	14,395	13,759	8,386	11,692	176,917	2,555
	21.4%	5.0%	4.7%	2.9%	4.0%	61.1%	0.9%
19	47,575	11,636	12,338	8,480	12,947	118,997	770
	22.4%	5.5%	5.8%	4.0%	6.1%	55.9%	0.4%
20	78,792	12,619	15,471	12,880	20,323	184,063	1,134
	24.2%	3.9%	4.8%	4.0%	6.2%	56.6%	0.3%
21	61,857	11,293	18,801	10,515	19,522	182,353	702
	20.3%	3.7%	6.2%	3.4%	6.4%	59.8%	0.2%
22	92,261	17,343	14,205	14,887	33,278	206,184	4,002
	24.1%	4.5%	3.7%	3.9%	8.7%	54.0%	1.0%
23	73,094	26,563	23,739	9,896	12,322	220,633	5,441
	19.7%	7.1%	6.4%	2.7%	3.3%	59.4%	1.5%
National	1,458,563	305,390	326,697	211,890	474,682	4,365,281	44,447
	20.3%	4.2%	4.5%	2.9%	6.6%	60.7%	0.6%

Unemployment Rate by VISN

Along with employment and unemployment statistics, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor reports data on unemployment rates, which is defined as the percent of the labor force that is unemployed. More precisely, the unemployment rate is the number of unemployed persons divided by the labor force, where the labor force is the number of unemployed persons plus the number of employed persons. The basic concepts are people with jobs are employed, people who do not have jobs and are looking for jobs are unemployed, and people who meet neither labor market test are not in the labor force.

The unemployment rate for enrollees was calculated using the following formula: $\text{Unemployment Rate} = 100 \times [\text{unemployed} / (\text{employed} + \text{unemployed})]$. These findings are based on self-reported data.

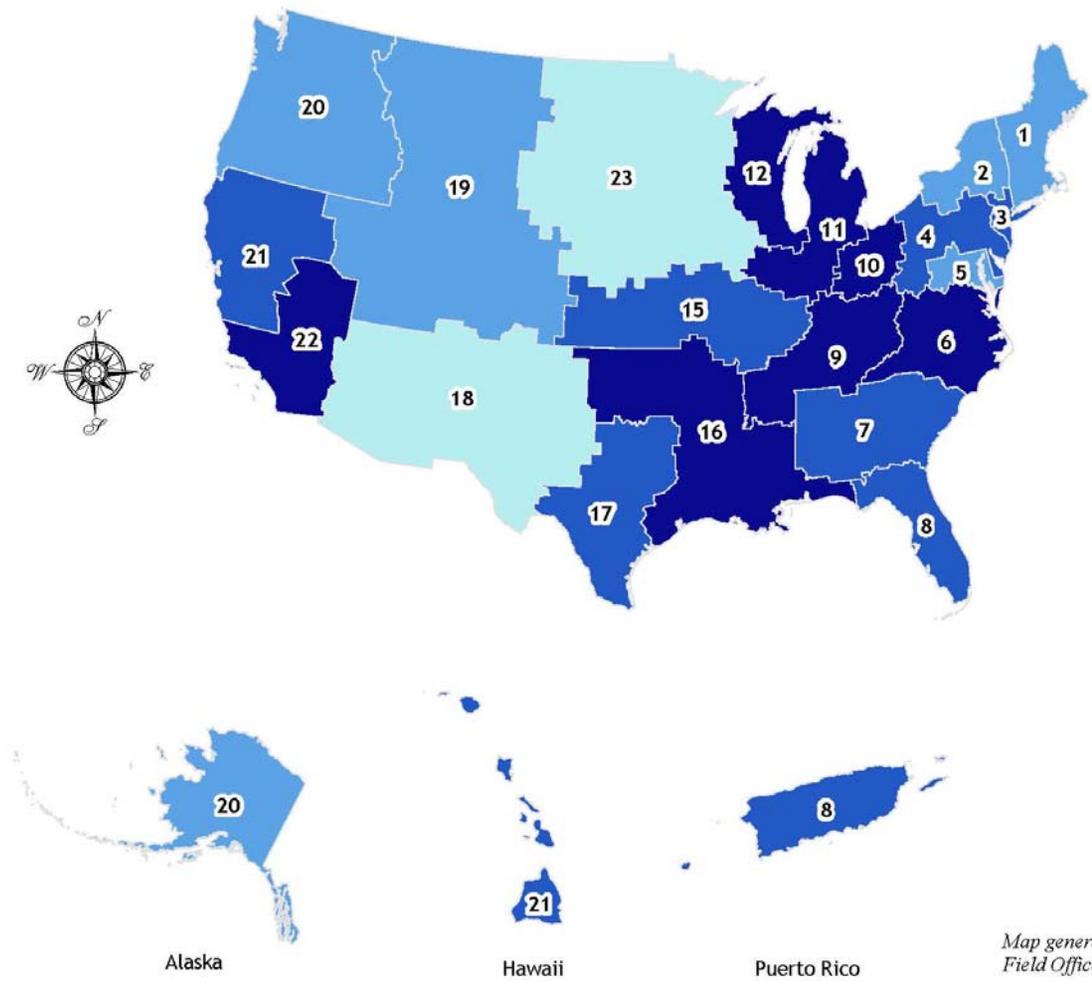
- Nationally, the unemployment rate for enrollees is 17 percent. The average annual U.S. civilian unemployment rate was 5 percent for the year ending 2006.
- VISN 11 has the highest unemployment rate at 22.5 percent, followed by VISN 12 at 22.2 percent, and VISN 6 at 21.6 percent.
- VISN 23 has the lowest unemployment rate at 8.5 percent; however, even this rate is higher than the September 2007 national rate of 5 percent for the general U.S. civilian labor force 16 years and over as reported by the BLS. (See Map 1.1)

Map 1.1



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Enrollee Self-Reported Unemployment Rate



Legend

- 8.46 - 11.96
- 11.97 - 15.46
- 15.47 - 18.96
- 18.97 - 22.46

VISN	Unemployment Rate
1	12.30
2	12.76
3	18.58
4	15.76
5	13.55
6	21.60
7	16.63
8	16.04
9	19.45
10	21.59
11	22.46
12	22.20
15	17.92
16	21.06
17	18.44
18	10.61
19	13.93
20	14.51
21	16.00
22	19.35
23	8.46
National	17.09

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Enrollee Population Overview

- Between 2005 and 2007, the number and percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 increased to 2.4 million (33%) in 2007 from 2.1 million (32%) in 2005. Priority Groups 4-6 decreased as a percentage of the enrollee population from 38 percent in 2005 to 37 percent in 2007, although the actual number of enrollees increased from 2.6 million to 2.7 million. Priority Groups 7-8 decreased to 2 million (30%) in 2007 from 2.1 million (32%) in 2005.
- Between 2005 and 2007, the number and percent of enrollees in the under age 45 Age Group decreased, from 14 percent in 2005 to 11 percent in 2007. In the 45-64 Age Group an increase was noted, from 41 percent 2005 to 43 percent in 2007.
- The number and percent of enrollees 65 or over increased from 2005 to 2007; the number increased from 2.1 million to 2.7 million and the percent increased from 45 percent in 2005 to 46 percent in 2007.
- Between 2005 and 2007, the number and percentages of enrollees in the \$36,000+ Income Group increased. Conversely, the number and percentage of enrollees in the <\$36,000 Income Group decreased. In 2005, 60 percent or 4 million enrollees reported incomes under \$36,000, compared to 53 percent or 3.8 million in 2007. In 2005, 27 percent or 1.8 million enrollees reported incomes of \$36,000+, compared to 32 percent or 2.2 million in 2007. The percentage of enrollees who did not know or refused to answer the income question increased from 13 percent in 2005 to 15 percent in 2007.

Enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6 by VISN

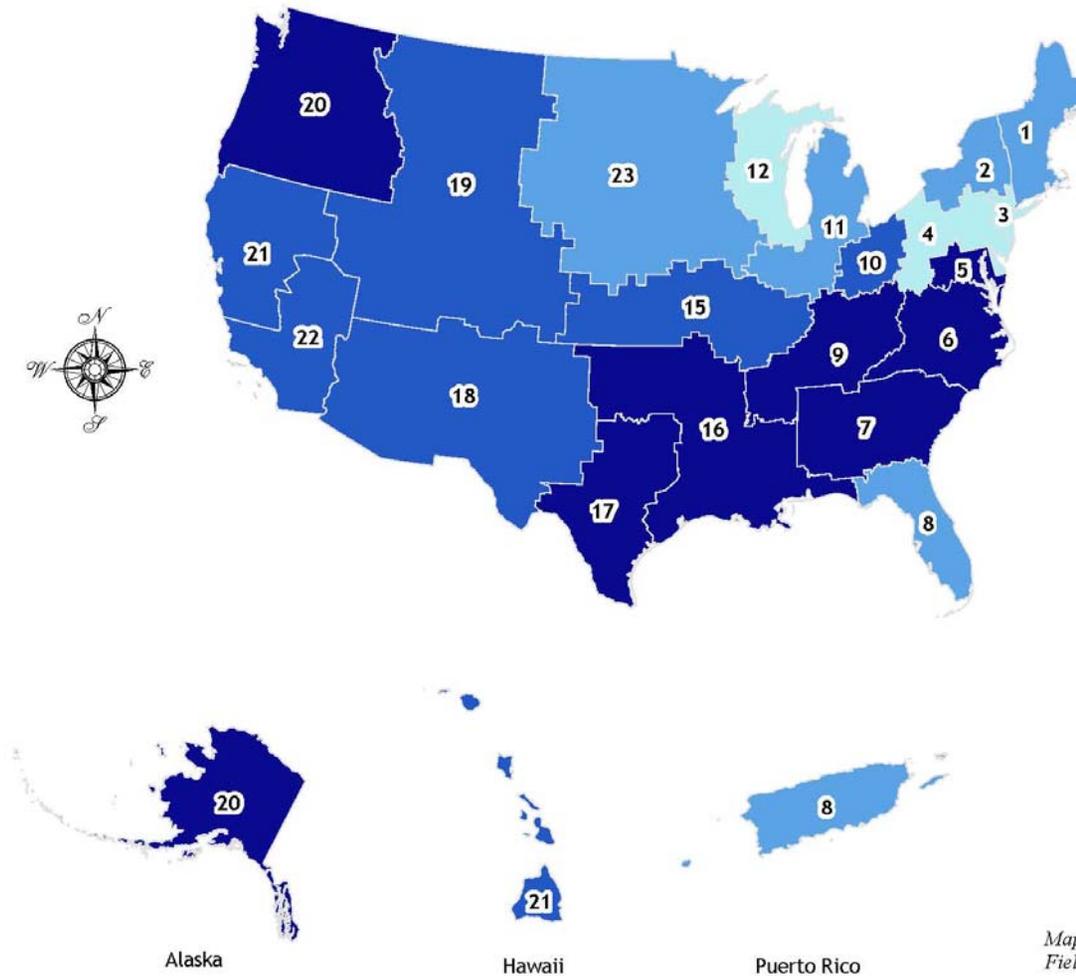
- In 2007, data revealed VISN 17 ranked first in the percentage of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6 with 79 percent, followed by VISN 16 with 77 percent.
- The VISN with the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6 was VISN 3 with 58 percent.

Map 1.2



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Percent of Enrollees in Priority 1-6



Legend

- 58% - 63%
- 64% - 68%
- 69% - 73%
- 74% - 79%

VISN	P1-6	VISN Enrollee Population	%
1	205,519	315,822	65.1%
2	128,503	201,504	63.8%
3	186,774	320,694	58.2%
4	266,542	427,286	62.4%
5	125,010	168,209	74.3%
6	279,779	376,952	74.2%
7	321,471	425,147	75.6%
8	407,930	599,310	68.1%
9	255,223	334,936	76.2%
10	193,142	263,074	73.4%
11	211,795	314,297	67.4%
12	191,937	321,447	59.7%
15	211,285	294,006	71.9%
16	461,019	601,804	76.6%
17	266,013	335,834	79.2%
18	207,642	289,712	71.7%
19	148,336	212,742	69.7%
20	246,744	325,281	75.9%
21	223,438	305,042	73.2%
22	277,605	382,159	72.6%
23	236,113	371,689	63.5%
National	5,051,821	7,186,950	70.3%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8 by VISN

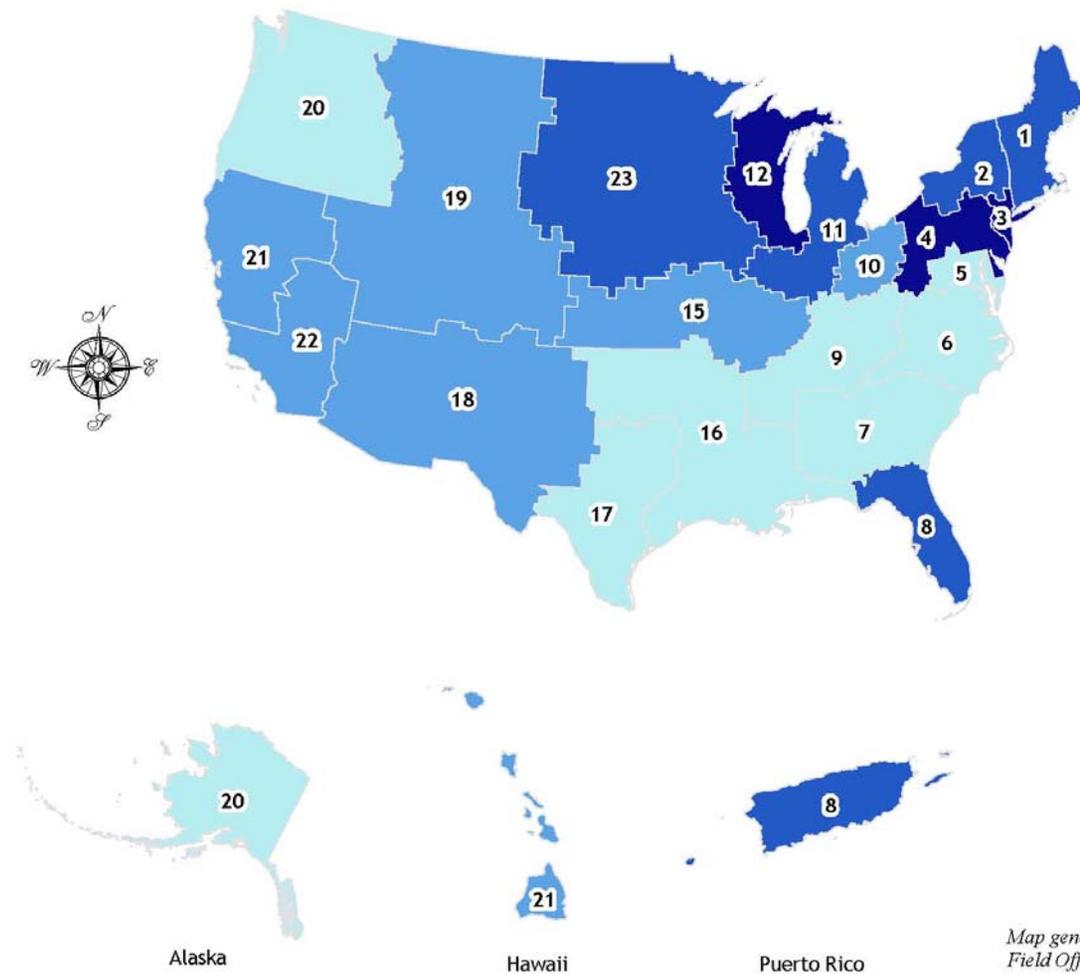
- In 2007, data revealed VISN 3 ranked first in the percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8, with 42 percent.
- VISN 17 had the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8, with 21 percent.

Map 1.3



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Percent of Enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8



Legend

- 20% - 26%
- 27% - 31%
- 32% - 36%
- 37% - 42%

VISN	P7-8	VISN Enrollee Population	%
1	110,303	315,822	34.9%
2	73,002	201,504	36.2%
3	133,920	320,694	41.8%
4	160,744	427,286	37.6%
5	43,199	168,209	25.7%
6	97,173	376,952	25.8%
7	103,677	425,147	24.4%
8	191,381	599,310	31.9%
9	79,713	334,936	23.8%
10	69,932	263,074	26.6%
11	102,502	314,297	32.6%
12	129,510	321,447	40.3%
15	82,721	294,006	28.1%
16	140,785	601,804	23.4%
17	69,820	335,834	20.8%
18	82,070	289,712	28.3%
19	64,406	212,742	30.3%
20	78,537	325,281	24.1%
21	81,604	305,042	26.8%
22	104,554	382,159	27.4%
23	135,576	371,689	36.5%
National	2,135,129	7,186,950	29.7%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Enrollees Age 65 or Over by VISN

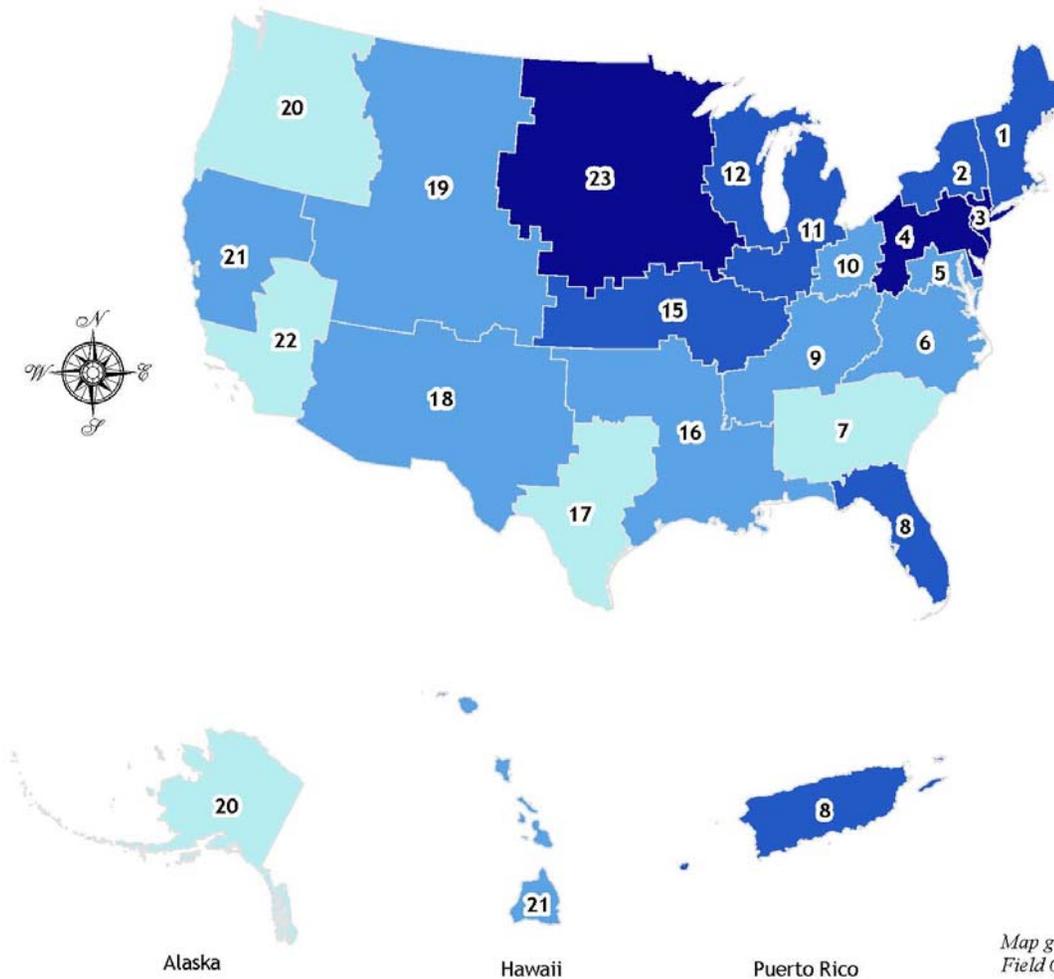
- In 2007, data revealed VISN 3 ranked first in the percentage of enrollees age 65 or over with 58 percent.
- The VISN with the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees age 65 or over was VISN 7 with 35 percent.

Map 1.4



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Percent of Enrollees Age 65 or Over



Legend

- 35% - 40%
- 41% - 46%
- 47% - 52%
- 53%- 58%

VISN	65+	VISN Enrollee Population	Percent
1	164,649	315,822	52.1%
2	98,977	201,504	49.1%
3	185,625	320,694	57.9%
4	231,940	427,286	54.3%
5	74,956	168,209	44.6%
6	158,158	376,952	42.0%
7	150,304	425,147	35.4%
8	310,311	599,310	51.8%
9	139,093	334,936	41.5%
10	118,705	263,074	45.1%
11	149,429	314,297	47.5%
12	150,248	321,447	46.7%
15	143,745	294,006	48.9%
16	261,018	601,804	43.4%
17	130,070	335,834	38.7%
18	131,108	289,712	45.3%
19	92,617	212,742	43.5%
20	131,586	325,281	40.5%
21	136,463	305,042	44.7%
22	153,977	382,159	40.3%
23	199,723	371,689	53.7%
National	3,312,701	7,186,950	217.0%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Enrollees with Incomes Less Than \$36,000 by VISN

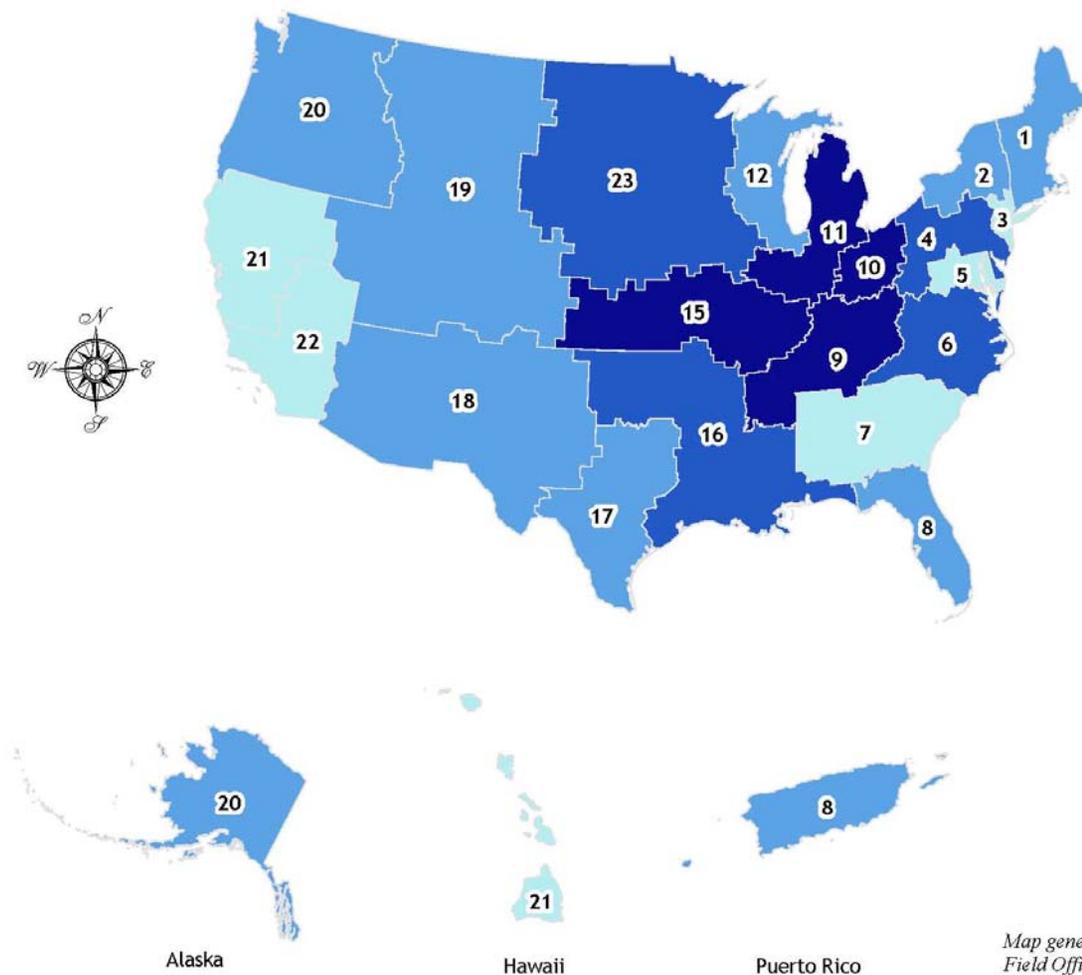
- In 2007, data revealed VISN 10 ranked first in the percentage of enrollees with incomes less than \$36,000 with 62 percent.
- The VISN with the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees with incomes less than \$36,000 was VISN 5 with 45 percent.

Map 1.5



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Percent of Enrollees with Income <\$36,000



Legend

- 44% - 48%
- 49% - 53%
- 54% - 57%
- 58% - 62%

VISN	<\$36K	VISN Enrollee Population	Percent
1	161,367	315,822	51.1%
2	103,522	201,504	51.4%
3	150,531	320,694	46.9%
4	238,188	427,286	55.7%
5	75,641	168,209	45.0%
6	212,804	376,952	56.5%
7	205,951	425,147	48.4%
8	316,691	599,310	52.8%
9	200,245	334,936	59.8%
10	162,676	263,074	61.8%
11	185,136	314,297	58.9%
12	160,458	321,447	49.9%
15	176,340	294,006	60.0%
16	344,862	601,804	57.3%
17	166,401	335,834	49.5%
18	145,960	289,712	50.4%
19	109,853	212,742	51.6%
20	168,986	325,281	52.0%
21	142,689	305,042	46.8%
22	177,728	382,159	46.5%
23	202,408	371,689	54.5%
National	3,808,438	7,186,950	53.0%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

CHAPTER 2

Public and Private Health Insurance Coverage of the Veteran Enrollee Population

Methodology Notes: The survey questions to identify the status of public or private coverage for enrollees have been continually refined since the first Survey of Enrollees conducted in 1999. The ever-expanding need for more detailed information on the VHA enrollee population has led VHA to add additional health insurance coverage questions in each survey since then. In addition to the 1999 categories of Medicare, Medicaid, and Private or Group Insurance, beginning in 2002 the surveys split the private group insurance into Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) or Managed Care coverage versus non-HMO or non-Managed Care coverage. The 2005 Survey added a question about Medigap Supplemental coverage. In 2005, the Medigap question included a note to the telephone interviewer to provide further clarification that it “does not include TRICARE For Life Plan.” In 2007, similar questions were asked; however, the question phrasing was changed to facilitate understanding by the respondent. A question was also added to determine if enrollees were aware that they were enrolled in VA. Medicare questions have continuously been revised to improve data collection and analysis. Medicare coverage is discussed later in this chapter.

Overall Results

Below are the overall results for Public and Private Health Insurance coverage and uninsurance of enrollees. (See Table 2.1 for 2007 details.)

- Over 79 percent of enrollees had some type of public or private health insurance coverage.
- The percent of enrollees with public and private coverage has fluctuated between the 2005 and 2007 surveys, with a decrease in Medigap (22%) and Medicaid (8%), and a slight increase in private insurance coverage (31%).
- Between 2005 and 2007, there was a decrease in uninsured enrollees, from 21.1 percent in 2005 to 20.8 percent in 2007. This could be due to the influx of new Priority 6 enrollees, who, based on previous survey results, tend to have higher incomes and are more likely to carry health insurance coverage. The change could also be due to some extent to the Priority 7-8 enrollees still in the system. This segment of the population continues to shift to Medicare eligibility.
- Results from the 2005 survey reported that only 12 percent of enrollees with Medicare coverage *planned* to purchase Medicare Part D in 2006. Data from the 2007 survey show that 18 percent of enrollees reported having Medicare Part D coverage. When looking at this coverage as a percentage of enrollees with Medicare coverage, 1.3 million (33%) of the 3.8 million enrollees with Medicare coverage responded that they have Medicare Part D coverage.

Table 2.1

2007 Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed													
	Medicare					Medicaid	TRICARE	Private HMO	Private Non HMO	Private Insurance Total*	Private Drug Coverage	VA Drug Coverage	No Coverage
	Medicare Advantage	Medicare Part A	Medicare Part B	Medigap	Medicare Part D								
3,883,340	669,656	2,695,771	2,533,256	1,574,432	1,296,401	582,909	1,101,485	1,017,199	971,703	2,213,567	1,791,997	4,671,587	1,494,095
54.0%	17.2%	83.9%	78.8%	49.0%	33.4%	8.1%	15.3%	14.2%	13.5%	30.8%	81.0%	65.0%	20.8%

Percentages do not total 100 percent because enrollees may have multiple coverage

*Total does not include Don't Know/Refused

Uninsurance

The term “uninsurance” refers to the lack of any type of health insurance coverage, either public or private. There are a variety of sources for point-in-time uninsurance data on the U.S. population but there are few reliable sources for the enrollee population. For the veteran population, there is the National Survey of Veterans (NSV), last completed in 2001 (NSV 2001); and for VHA enrollees, there are only the VHA enrollee surveys.

Overall Uninsurance Trends

Methodology Notes: The health insurance coverage probes in the enrollee surveys from 2002 through 2007 have been re-coded to identify enrollees who, at the time of their interviews, had no health insurance coverage, either public or private, (i.e., who were uninsured or not covered), versus enrollees who had at least some public or private coverage, (i.e., were insured or covered). The health insurance coverage probes for all surveys since 2002 were increasingly more exhaustive than the 1999 probes, therefore, the data on uninsurance derived by re-coding of the health insurance probes provide more reliable indicators of overall public or private coverage or non-coverage of VHA enrollees.

- The data revealed a slight decrease between 2005 and 2007 in enrollees without public or private insurance coverage from 21.1 percent in 2005 to 20.8 percent in 2007. Although there was a slight increase between 2002 and 2003, the VHA enrollee survey data revealed a decline between 1999 and 2007 in enrollee public or private uninsurance rates (other than VA) from 28 percent of all enrollees in 1999 to 21 percent of all enrollees in 2007.
- It is important to note that the number of uninsured VHA enrollees increased from 1,013,046 in 1999 to 1,606,081 in 2007. These increases are largely due to the fact that enrollment increased from 3,642,537 enrollees to 7,186,950 enrollees between the 1999 and 2007 surveys, and the overall increase includes the numbers of Priority 5 veterans in particular, who are lower income and are most often uninsured. In 2007, 2,201,141 million enrollees were in Priority 5.
- The 2006 Current Population Survey reported that 16 percent of all Americans were without insurance during 2006. In the 2001 National Survey of Veterans (a point-in-time survey), it was estimated that approximately 10 percent of all veterans were without insurance

Uninsurance by Priority Groups

Uninsurance rates in Priority Groups 1-3 and 7-8 showed a decline between 2005 and 2007. In contrast, there was slight increase in the proportion of Priority Groups 4-6 that were uninsured across the same period. The number of enrollees has increased in all Priority Groups, reflecting the overall increase in enrollment.

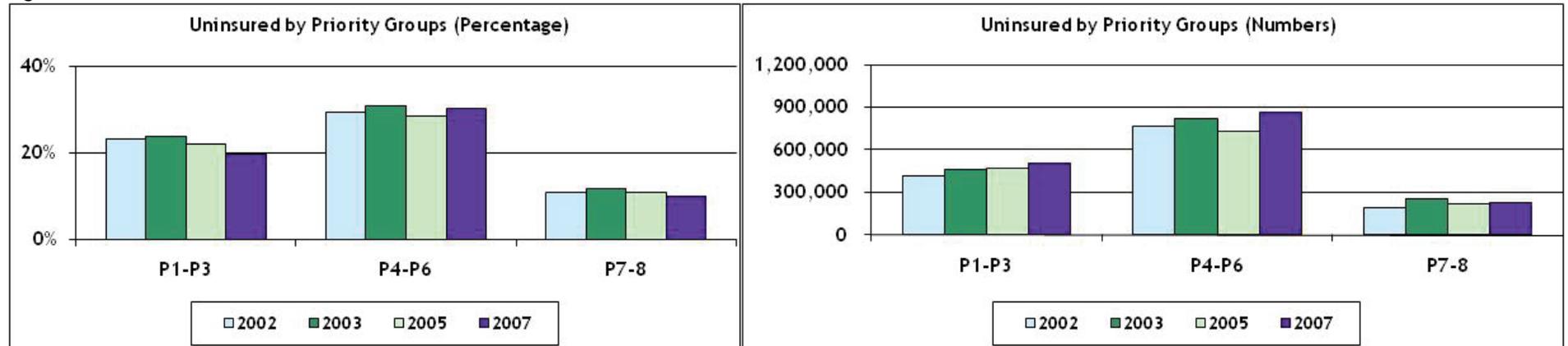
- Priority Groups 4-6 had the highest percentage of enrollees lacking any public or private insurance coverage.
- Additionally, this group has seen an increase since 2005. In Priority Groups 4-6, 29 percent were uninsured in 2005, this increased to 31 percent in 2007. The percent of enrollees who are uninsured in Priority Groups 4-6 has fluctuated between the four surveys but generally reflects a downward trend. This may be due to Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom enrollees who come in as Priority 6 and may not have coverage yet through an employer.
- Priority Groups 1-3 and 7-8 have seen a decrease in the percentage of uninsured enrollees since 2005.
- The number of uninsured enrollees has increased between 2005 and 2007.

Table 2.2

Uninsured by Priority Group			
	1-3	4-6	7-8
2002	417,338	763,385	190,917
	23.1%	29.3%	10.8%
2003	462,248	817,486	252,586
	23.8%	30.7%	11.8%
2005	470,813	731,145	215,921
	22.0%	28.7%	10.7%
2007	508,481	869,283	228,317
	19.8%	30.4%	9.9%

Denominator is the national enrollee population by Priority

Figure 2.1



Uninsurance by Age Groups

There were changes in the uninsurance rate among the Age Groups. While the numbers are increasing (because enrollment is increasing), the trend is definitely downward. However, the trend has not been as pronounced for enrollees in the under 45 Age Group.

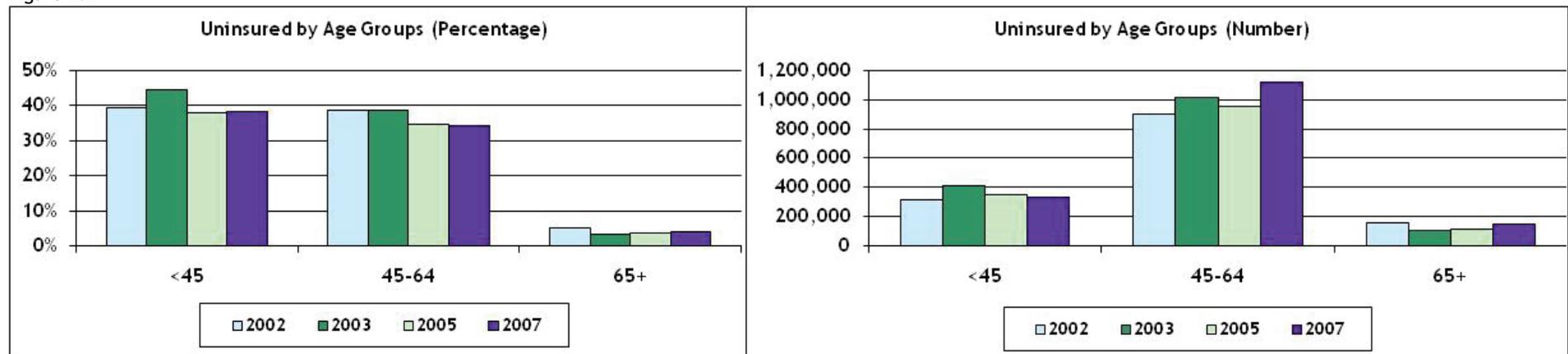
- The uninsurance data by Age Group reflect an increase in the uninsurance rates for the under 45 Age Group. In 2005, 37.8 percent of enrollees were uninsured; that rate increased to 38.3 percent in 2007.
- There was a slight decrease in uninsurance for the 45-64 Age Group from 35 percent in 2005 to 34 percent in 2007.
- There was a slight increase in uninsurance for enrollees 65 or over from 3.7 percent in 2005 to 4.1 percent in 2007.

Table 2.3

Uninsured by Age			
	<45	45-64	65+
2002	317,668	900,556	153,416
	39.4%	38.6%	5.1%
2003	412,829	1,014,495	104,996
	44.6%	38.6%	3.3%
2005	353,453	951,785	112,641
	37.8%	34.6%	3.7%
2007	335,206	1,123,784	147,090
	38.3%	34.2%	4.1%

Denominator is the national enrollee population by age

Figure 2.2



Uninsurance by Income Groups

There were changes in the uninsurance rate among the Income Group between the 2005 and 2007 surveys.

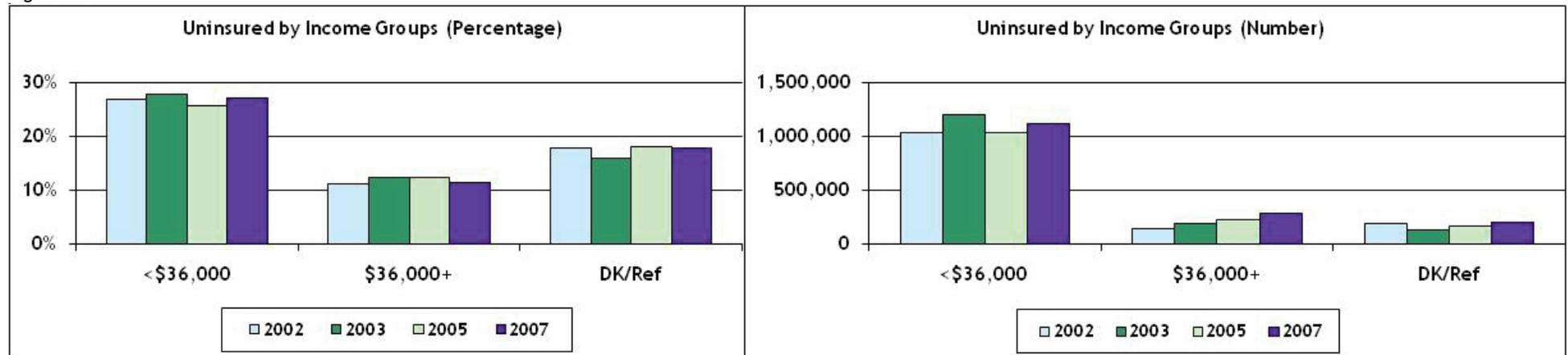
- For enrollees in the <\$36,000 Income Group, there was an increase in the percentage of uninsurance from 26 percent in 2005 to 27 percent in 2007.
- For the enrollees who did not provide a figure for their income, the uninsurance rate decreased from 18.2 percent in 2005 to 17.8 percent in 2007.

Table 2.4

Uninsured by Income			
	<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK/Ref
2002	1,040,311	141,951	189,378
	27.0%	11.2%	18.0%
2003	1,204,787	196,409	131,124
	27.8%	12.4%	16.0%
2005	1,036,291	220,419	161,169
	25.8%	12.3%	18.2%
2007	1,114,727	284,277	207,078
	27.2%	11.5%	17.8%

Denominator is the national enrollee population by Income

Figure 2.3



VISN Overview

- Between 2005 and 2007, the percent of veteran enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage shows fluctuations, with some VISNs showing an increase in percentage between 2005 and 2007, and some VISNs showing a decrease in percentage. Likewise, the numbers of enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage also shows fluctuations.
- In 2007, data revealed VISN 22, 16, and 17 ranked first regarding the highest percent of veteran enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage, with 25.8 percent, 25.5, and 24.4 percent respectively.
- The VISN with the lowest percent of veteran enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage was VISN 3 at 14 percent.

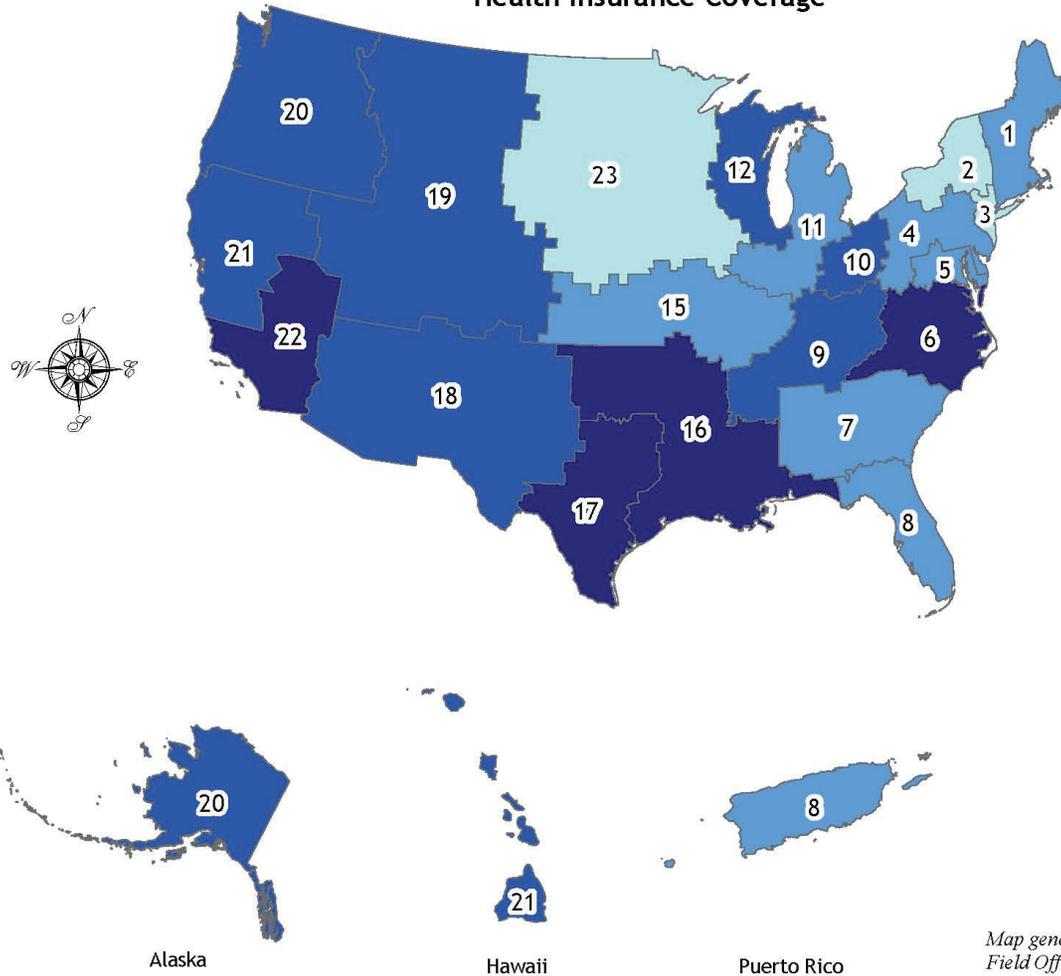
(VISN tables are located at the end of Chapter 2.)

Map 2.1

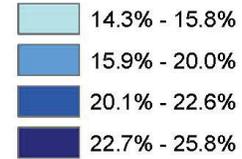


Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Enrollees with No Private or Public Health Insurance Coverage



Legend



VISN	No Coverage	VISN Enrollee Population	Percent
1	56,939	315,822	18.0%
2	31,911	201,504	15.8%
3	45,802	320,694	14.3%
4	77,355	427,286	18.1%
5	31,548	168,209	18.8%
6	90,634	376,952	24.0%
7	81,052	425,147	19.1%
8	114,282	599,310	19.1%
9	73,851	334,936	22.0%
10	59,509	263,074	22.6%
11	61,289	314,297	19.5%
12	71,838	321,447	22.3%
15	58,873	294,006	20.0%
16	153,576	601,804	25.5%
17	82,059	335,834	24.4%
18	62,312	289,712	21.5%
19	48,081	212,742	22.6%
20	71,274	325,281	21.9%
21	68,129	305,042	22.3%
22	98,675	382,159	25.8%
23	55,106	371,689	14.8%
National	1,494,095	7,186,950	20.8%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Medicare Coverage

Medicare enrollees may be defined as having coverage under Medicare Part A (hospital care) without Part B (coverage for physician visits), or Medicare Part A and Part B. The question regarding Medicare Part B coverage was only asked of enrollees who responded “yes” to Medicare Coverage (Question A1), and “yes, to Medicare Advantage Plan (Question A2); therefore, comparison is not available in 2005 for enrollees who have Medicare Part B without Part A.

Most individuals (59%) covered by Part A are also covered by Part B, although there is a premium associated with Part B coverage (paid for by Medicaid for low income dually eligible beneficiaries).

On Monday, December 8, 2003, the President of the United States signed into law the Medicare Prescription, Drug Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, Public Law 108-173. Availability of drug coverage through Medicare has shifted coverage trends for enrollees, which will be discussed further in the Prescription Drug Section of Chapter 3.

Enrollees with Medicare coverage represent 54 percent of the total enrollee population. The number of enrollees with Medicare coverage has more than doubled from 1,836,346 in 1999 to 3,883,340 in 2007. With the majority of our enrollee population having coverage, changes to Medicare will likely influence the way our enrollees utilize VA care.

Enrollees were also asked about coverage under Parts A and B.

- Most enrollees with Medicare (59%) are covered by Part A and B. A small percent of enrollees with Medicare Coverage have Medicare Coverage A without B (7%). An even smaller percentage (2%) had Medicare Part B without Part A.
- It should be noted that some enrollees who responded “yes” to Medicare Coverage responded “no” to both questions regarding Part A and Part B.

Table 2.5

Enrollees with Various Medicare Coverage					
	Medicare Part A without B	Medicare Part B without A	Medicare Part A and B	Total with Medicare Coverage	No Medicare
2007	259,309	73,029	2,291,881	3,883,340	3,203,905
	6.7%	1.9%	59.0%	54.0%	44.6%

Denominator for Medicare Part A without B, Medicare B without A, and Medicare Part A and B, is the enrollee population with Medicare Coverage.

Approximately 1.4 percent of the enrollees responded “Don’t Know” or refused to answer (DK/Ref) the questions regarding Medicare Coverage.

Medicare Coverage by Priority Group

- Priority Groups 7-8 has the largest percentage (64%) of enrollees with Medicare Part A and Part B.
- Over 56 percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 have no Medicare Coverage.

Table 2.6

Enrollees with Various Medicare Coverage by Priority												
2007	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part B without A			Medicare Part A and B			No Medicare		
	P1-P3	P4-P6	P7-P8	P1-P3	P4-P6	P7-P8	P1-P3	P4-P6	P7-P8	P1-P3	P4-P6	P7-P8
	69,875	114,446	74,988	20,143	27,536	25,349	600,667	750,241	940,973	1,349,279	1,210,951	643,674
6.9%	8.2%	5.1%	2.0%	2.0%	1.7%	59.3%	53.9%	63.6%	56.4%	45.5%	30.1%	

Medicare Coverage by Age Group

- The over 65 Age Group has the largest percentage (62%) of enrollees with Medicare Part A and Part B.
- Almost 6 percent of enrollees in the over 65 Age Group reported that they had no Medicare Coverage.

Table 2.7

Enrollees with Various Medicare Coverage by Age												
2007	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part B without A			Medicare Part A and B			No Medicare		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
	7,769	83,848	167,692	2,504	12,069	58,455	36,846	343,728	1,911,307	701,009	2,317,588	185,308
10.4%	11.8%	5.4%	3.4%	1.7%	1.9%	49.6%	48.5%	61.7%	86.2%	75.7%	5.6%	

Medicare Coverage by Income Group

- Enrollees in the \$36,000+ Income Group have the largest percentage (64%) of enrollees with Medicare Part A and Part B.
- Over 56 percent of enrollees in the \$36,000+ Income Group reported having no Medicare Coverage.

Table 2.8

Enrollees with Various Medicare Coverage by Income												
2007	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part B without A			Medicare Part A and B			No Medicare		
	<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK / Ref	<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK / Ref	<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK / Ref	<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK / Ref
	165,648	55,697	37,963	42,658	18,450	11,920	1,260,827	635,023	396,031	1,487,442	1,288,530	427,933
7.3%	5.6%	5.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	55.9%	64.4%	61.8%	39.1%	56.1%	39.5%	

VISN Overview (Medicare Part A and B)

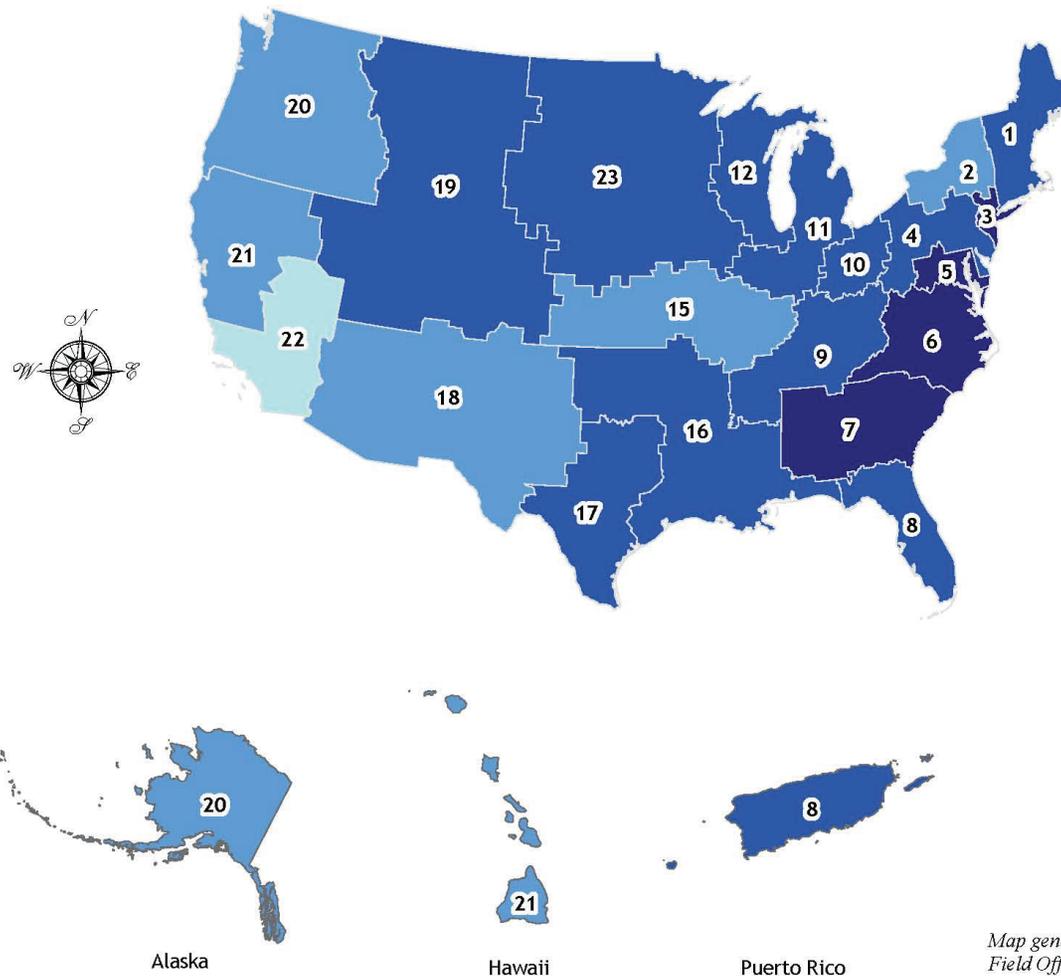
- Data revealed VISN 7 had the highest percent of veteran enrollees reporting Medicare Part A and B coverage with 65 percent.
- The VISN with the lowest percent of veteran enrollees reporting Medicare Part A and B coverage was VISN 22 with 46 percent.

Map 2.2



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Enrollees with Medicare Coverage Part A & B



Legend

- < 45%
- 46% - 55%
- 56% - 61%
- 62% - 65%

VISN	Medicare Part A & B	Enrollees with Medicare Coverage	Percent
1	108,975	182,504	59.7%
2	61,195	111,166	55.0%
3	133,608	211,761	63.1%
4	159,442	259,306	61.5%
5	52,796	83,878	62.9%
6	124,280	197,342	63.0%
7	124,942	191,076	65.4%
8	215,855	364,308	59.3%
9	112,619	183,210	61.5%
10	78,345	135,841	57.7%
11	110,597	179,428	61.6%
12	101,842	168,802	60.3%
15	99,098	178,711	55.5%
16	183,562	313,286	58.6%
17	99,560	161,796	61.5%
18	78,895	150,133	52.5%
19	64,766	106,625	60.7%
20	86,707	157,735	55.0%
21	83,817	153,446	54.6%
22	79,614	174,912	45.5%
23	131,367	218,074	60.2%
National	2,291,881	3,883,340	59.0%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Enrollment

Methodology Notes: A veteran must fill out an application to apply for benefits, including access to the VHA health system. The application is used to determine if there is qualifying service as a veteran, and placement into one of the priority groups. To determine enrollees' understanding of VA their enrollment, a new question was asked in the 2007 survey. Generally, to receive VA Medical Benefits, a veteran must be enrolled in the VA health care system. All individuals included in the survey sample were enrolled. Veterans who are enrolled will remain enrolled without having to re-apply for benefits annually.

Over 79 percent of enrollees responded that they are enrolled in VA health care. Another 1.2 million enrollees (17%) reported that they are not enrolled, not that they “don’t remember” enrolling. More than 4 percent of enrollees either don’t remember or do not know if they are enrolled. (Table 2.9)

These responses can also be analyzed by Pre and Post Enrollee types, and by Priority Groups.

- When compared to Post Enrollees, a greater percentage of Pre Enrollees indicated that they are enrolled in VA health care (83%). This may be due to some proportion of Post Enrollees being auto-enrolled. (See Table 2.9)

Table 2.9

Are you enrolled in VA health care?		Are you enrolled in VA health care?		Enrollee Type	
Response	Number/Percent	Response	Post	Pre	
Yes	5,687,300	Yes	3,690,771	1,996,529	
	79.1%		77.1%	83.2%	
No	1,204,144	No	895,869	308,275	
	16.8%		18.7%	12.9%	
I don't remember enrolling	28,614	I don't remember enrolling	19,458	9,156	
	0.4%		0.4%	0.4%	
Don't know	263,093	Don't know	179,250	83,842	
	3.7%		3.7%	3.5%	
Refused	3,800	Refused	2,761	1,039	
	0.1%		0.1%	0.0%	

- When looking at the data by priority, Priority 1 enrollees are the most likely to respond that they are enrolled.
- Priority 6 enrollees are most likely to respond that they are not enrolled (22.1%), followed by Priority 7-8 enrollees (21.4%).

Table 2.10

Are you enrolled in VA health care?							
Response	1	2	3	4	5	6	7-8
Yes	812,651	398,406	717,903	175,500	1,795,289	186,271	1,601,279
	88.9%	77.3%	74.5%	86.9%	81.6%	72.8%	75.0%
No	76,481	94,235	187,270	18,672	313,081	56,468	457,936
	8.4%	18.3%	19.4%	9.2%	14.2%	22.1%	21.4%
I don't remember enrolling	2,337	1,403	3,875	591	12,155	1,299	6,955
	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%
Don't Know	22,278	21,382	53,252	7,105	80,403	11,836	66,835
	2.4%	4.1%	5.5%	3.5%	3.7%	4.6%	3.1%
Refused	424	162	768	37	212	73	2,124
	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%

The vast majority of enrollees believe they are enrolled, however, over 1.4 million believe they are not, don't remember, or don't know if they are enrolled. Decision makers may want to look into this further.

Table 2.11

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Priority</u>									
VISN	Medicare			Medicare Advantage			Medigap		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
1	43,684	58,138	80,682	4,974	7,504	9,428	17,767	18,429	51,731
	43.2%	55.7%	73.1%	11.4%	12.9%	11.7%	45.9%	36.4%	72.6%
2	23,733	40,308	47,125	2,917	6,084	7,892	8,742	12,509	25,908
	44.1%	53.9%	64.6%	12.3%	15.1%	16.7%	42.0%	36.5%	66.0%
3	41,864	66,126	103,771	4,430	13,299	17,186	20,476	22,174	55,298
	54.1%	60.5%	77.5%	10.6%	20.1%	16.6%	54.7%	42.0%	63.9%
4	43,013	95,823	120,470	5,031	15,826	22,897	17,408	39,679	70,184
	43.8%	57.0%	74.9%	11.7%	16.5%	19.0%	45.8%	49.6%	71.9%
5	25,544	30,106	28,229	2,648	3,711	4,386	7,814	9,764	16,446
	37.4%	53.1%	65.3%	10.4%	12.3%	15.5%	34.1%	37.0%	69.0%
6	59,567	71,257	66,517	6,016	12,454	8,753	18,553	25,312	39,599
	40.9%	53.1%	68.5%	10.1%	17.5%	13.2%	34.6%	43.0%	68.6%
7	69,774	59,628	61,674	11,506	10,684	9,225	19,663	17,885	32,969
	38.0%	43.2%	59.5%	16.5%	17.9%	15.0%	33.7%	36.5%	62.9%
8	102,582	119,459	142,267	18,170	30,950	26,235	31,414	32,758	76,878
	49.9%	59.1%	74.3%	17.7%	25.9%	18.4%	37.2%	37.0%	66.3%
9	47,792	82,836	52,582	5,799	15,757	8,773	12,166	21,917	28,920
	43.3%	57.2%	66.0%	12.1%	19.0%	16.7%	29.0%	32.7%	66.0%
10	24,779	64,152	46,910	3,422	11,837	8,736	7,827	24,628	25,775
	36.6%	51.1%	67.1%	13.8%	18.5%	18.6%	36.6%	47.1%	67.5%
11	35,887	69,061	74,480	3,415	7,111	8,920	14,057	29,600	43,583
	40.4%	56.2%	72.7%	9.5%	10.3%	12.0%	43.3%	47.8%	66.5%
12	28,533	53,349	86,920	4,039	9,914	14,959	11,099	18,703	52,411
	37.7%	45.9%	67.1%	14.2%	18.6%	17.2%	45.3%	43.1%	72.8%
15	33,846	79,928	64,938	5,426	18,509	11,181	12,447	22,408	37,763
	41.8%	61.3%	78.5%	16.0%	23.2%	17.2%	43.8%	36.5%	70.2%
16	88,727	132,551	92,008	12,732	28,434	16,384	24,000	32,636	51,586
	44.4%	50.7%	65.4%	14.3%	21.5%	17.8%	31.6%	31.3%	68.2%
17	56,823	61,435	43,537	6,378	7,803	8,538	13,474	17,125	20,610
	41.3%	47.9%	62.4%	11.2%	12.7%	19.6%	26.7%	31.9%	58.9%
18	45,261	54,447	50,425	8,481	10,256	11,471	8,754	13,640	23,518
	41.5%	55.3%	61.4%	18.7%	18.8%	22.7%	23.8%	30.9%	60.4%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Priority									
VISN	Medicare			Medicare Advantage			Medigap		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
19	27,129	36,086	43,410	3,474	5,762	8,203	8,848	11,604	23,382
	36.5%	48.8%	67.4%	12.8%	16.0%	18.9%	37.4%	38.3%	66.4%
20	53,287	51,860	52,589	8,734	6,194	13,492	16,946	19,091	25,912
	37.5%	49.6%	67.0%	16.4%	11.9%	25.7%	38.0%	41.8%	66.3%
21	50,052	50,161	53,234	9,414	13,288	9,908	12,948	13,879	26,307
	43.4%	46.4%	65.2%	18.8%	26.5%	18.6%	31.9%	37.6%	60.7%
22	52,280	56,943	65,689	12,017	12,984	23,338	9,358	9,572	23,432
	38.2%	40.4%	62.8%	23.0%	22.8%	35.5%	23.2%	21.8%	55.3%
23	58,704	57,984	101,386	9,838	9,501	13,027	24,369	20,160	70,614
	48.9%	50.0%	74.8%	16.8%	16.4%	12.8%	49.9%	41.6%	79.9%
National	1,012,859	1,391,639	1,478,842	148,859	257,864	262,933	318,129	433,476	822,827
	42.3%	52.3%	69.3%	14.7%	18.5%	17.8%	36.8%	38.2%	67.7%

Table 2.12

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Priority									
VISN	Medicare Part A			Medicare Part B			Medicare Part D		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
1	32,251	41,196	61,508	28,808	34,239	59,120	12,864	21,628	23,912
	83.3%	81.4%	86.3%	74.4%	67.6%	83.0%	29.4%	37.2%	29.6%
2	16,301	27,352	32,475	15,070	23,061	31,290	6,590	14,348	12,690
	78.3%	79.9%	82.8%	72.4%	67.4%	79.8%	27.8%	35.6%	26.9%
3	31,717	43,256	77,597	29,665	42,281	75,206	11,274	27,725	38,711
	84.7%	81.9%	89.6%	79.2%	80.0%	86.9%	26.9%	41.9%	37.3%
4	32,719	69,300	84,452	30,647	62,438	78,763	12,846	35,432	38,168
	86.1%	86.6%	86.6%	80.7%	78.1%	80.7%	29.9%	37.0%	31.7%
5	19,219	21,868	20,654	17,895	19,173	20,039	7,773	10,210	8,537
	83.9%	82.8%	86.6%	78.2%	72.6%	84.0%	30.4%	33.9%	30.2%
6	44,109	47,976	51,954	41,611	43,292	51,591	16,490	23,465	19,080
	82.4%	81.6%	89.9%	77.7%	73.6%	89.3%	27.7%	32.9%	28.7%
7	50,627	43,864	47,573	48,143	37,418	47,178	22,005	25,231	21,675
	86.9%	89.6%	90.7%	82.6%	76.4%	90.0%	31.5%	42.3%	35.1%
8	70,955	77,898	102,836	67,866	65,897	99,110	27,117	44,457	44,791
	84.1%	88.0%	88.6%	80.4%	74.5%	85.4%	26.4%	37.2%	31.5%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Priority									
VISN	Medicare Part A			Medicare Part B			Medicare Part D		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
9	34,030	57,459	38,633	33,237	52,422	36,404	11,561	34,137	18,539
	81.0%	85.7%	88.2%	79.2%	78.1%	83.1%	24.2%	41.2%	35.3%
10	17,318	41,685	33,711	15,971	36,698	34,043	8,178	20,791	14,758
	81.1%	79.7%	88.3%	74.8%	70.1%	89.2%	33.0%	32.4%	31.5%
11	27,469	50,781	57,655	26,311	42,276	52,084	10,007	20,177	22,157
	84.6%	82.0%	87.9%	81.0%	68.2%	79.4%	27.9%	29.2%	29.7%
12	19,220	34,182	63,166	17,658	31,649	61,396	8,967	18,803	26,396
	78.5%	78.7%	87.8%	72.1%	72.9%	85.3%	31.4%	35.2%	30.4%
15	23,541	50,730	46,914	21,241	43,719	44,168	8,829	24,335	17,544
	82.8%	82.6%	87.3%	74.7%	71.2%	82.2%	26.1%	30.4%	27.0%
16	62,974	85,819	67,286	58,677	79,459	65,943	26,629	42,512	33,244
	82.9%	82.4%	89.0%	77.2%	76.3%	87.2%	30.0%	32.1%	36.1%
17	41,115	41,074	31,333	42,291	40,659	29,398	15,819	22,869	13,944
	81.5%	76.6%	89.5%	83.8%	75.8%	84.0%	27.8%	37.2%	32.0%
18	29,766	33,665	33,237	27,856	30,938	31,360	13,445	19,563	18,729
	80.9%	76.2%	85.3%	75.7%	70.0%	80.5%	29.7%	35.9%	37.1%
19	20,523	23,065	30,742	18,576	22,924	30,331	9,265	11,837	13,416
	86.8%	76.1%	87.3%	78.5%	75.6%	86.2%	34.2%	32.8%	30.9%
20	34,675	37,126	32,482	32,266	34,440	32,377	17,104	17,745	18,160
	77.8%	81.3%	83.1%	72.4%	75.4%	82.8%	32.1%	34.2%	34.5%
21	32,870	28,560	38,133	28,733	27,854	35,811	17,540	19,535	21,551
	80.9%	77.5%	88.0%	70.7%	75.5%	82.7%	35.0%	38.9%	40.5%
22	28,930	29,733	33,546	30,035	30,017	34,150	19,603	24,171	38,250
	71.9%	67.6%	79.2%	74.6%	68.3%	80.6%	37.5%	42.4%	58.2%
23	40,321	36,755	75,890	36,627	37,728	75,732	14,648	23,374	31,251
	82.5%	75.8%	85.9%	75.0%	77.8%	85.7%	25.0%	40.3%	30.8%
National	710,651	923,343	1,061,776	669,183	838,579	1,025,493	298,553	502,344	495,504
	82.3%	81.4%	87.3%	77.5%	74.0%	84.3%	29.5%	36.1%	33.5%

Table 2.13

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Priority</u>									
VISN	Private HMO			Private Non-HMO			Private Total		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
1	22,810	9,855	17,499	13,014	9,197	18,873	40,030	24,254	39,373
	22.5%	9.4%	15.9%	12.9%	8.8%	17.1%	39.5%	23.3%	35.7%
2	10,735	11,876	18,291	9,735	9,981	17,731	23,395	23,614	40,826
	20.0%	15.9%	25.1%	18.1%	13.4%	24.3%	43.5%	31.6%	55.9%
3	17,380	11,019	29,753	15,238	12,191	29,076	35,160	25,487	64,358
	22.5%	10.1%	22.2%	19.7%	11.1%	21.7%	45.4%	23.3%	48.1%
4	17,562	14,738	30,761	13,853	21,842	43,076	35,050	41,423	78,004
	17.9%	8.8%	19.1%	14.1%	13.0%	26.8%	35.7%	24.6%	48.5%
5	14,473	4,933	8,070	10,719	6,693	9,972	26,205	12,315	19,360
	21.2%	8.7%	18.7%	15.7%	11.8%	23.1%	38.4%	21.7%	44.8%
6	15,515	11,042	11,180	21,704	12,838	22,420	40,924	26,430	38,312
	10.7%	8.2%	11.5%	14.9%	9.6%	23.1%	28.1%	19.7%	39.4%
7	35,181	8,271	18,002	24,623	18,612	25,591	68,202	29,429	45,339
	19.2%	6.0%	17.4%	13.4%	13.5%	24.7%	37.2%	21.3%	43.7%
8	21,128	18,242	22,074	28,418	19,393	32,995	53,722	41,805	60,789
	10.3%	9.0%	11.5%	13.8%	9.6%	17.2%	26.1%	20.7%	31.8%
9	12,974	13,422	14,076	12,554	10,060	13,604	30,531	28,991	32,282
	11.7%	9.3%	17.7%	11.4%	7.0%	17.1%	27.6%	20.0%	40.5%
10	13,667	18,841	15,970	7,551	11,729	12,546	24,717	34,919	30,364
	20.2%	15.0%	22.8%	11.2%	9.3%	17.9%	36.5%	27.8%	43.4%
11	20,959	15,101	14,504	15,560	12,942	19,735	40,087	29,651	39,260
	23.6%	12.3%	14.1%	17.5%	10.5%	19.3%	45.1%	24.1%	38.3%
12	17,453	9,975	25,350	10,579	11,166	23,624	30,248	23,767	53,850
	23.1%	8.6%	19.6%	14.0%	9.6%	18.2%	40.0%	20.4%	41.6%
15	13,329	11,741	10,130	13,058	8,168	12,192	29,164	21,000	24,776
	16.5%	9.0%	12.2%	16.1%	6.3%	14.7%	36.0%	16.1%	30.0%
16	15,681	20,936	18,001	25,399	22,675	23,854	47,828	47,486	47,869
	7.8%	8.0%	12.8%	12.7%	8.7%	16.9%	23.9%	18.2%	34.0%
17	10,890	10,479	8,730	10,839	10,824	10,731	26,673	24,482	22,450
	7.9%	8.2%	12.5%	7.9%	8.4%	15.4%	19.4%	19.1%	32.2%
18	13,814	13,130	12,898	12,839	5,743	13,546	29,452	22,305	28,812
	12.7%	13.3%	15.7%	11.8%	5.8%	16.5%	27.0%	22.6%	35.1%

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Priority</u>									
VISN	Private HMO			Private Non-HMO			Private Total		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
19	11,142	7,949	8,782	9,168	6,844	10,950	24,852	16,240	21,966
	15.0%	10.8%	13.6%	12.3%	9.3%	17.0%	33.4%	22.0%	34.1%
20	20,700	13,413	9,778	19,109	14,222	13,191	48,073	30,489	26,134
	14.6%	12.8%	12.5%	13.4%	13.6%	16.8%	33.8%	29.2%	33.3%
21	25,562	15,307	19,056	11,981	13,712	10,231	42,043	31,868	32,068
	22.2%	14.2%	23.4%	10.4%	12.7%	12.5%	36.4%	29.5%	39.3%
22	29,494	22,626	25,907	9,216	4,369	10,549	40,902	28,293	37,603
	21.6%	16.1%	24.8%	6.7%	3.1%	10.1%	29.9%	20.1%	36.0%
23	18,498	21,568	14,979	23,378	11,418	24,066	46,443	37,027	44,797
	15.4%	18.6%	11.0%	19.5%	9.8%	17.8%	38.7%	31.9%	33.0%
National	378,945	284,463	353,791	318,535	254,617	398,550	783,700	601,276	828,591
	15.8%	10.7%	16.6%	13.3%	9.6%	18.7%	32.8%	22.6%	38.8%

Table 2.14

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Priority</u>									
VISN	Medicaid			TRICARE			No Coverage		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
1	9,167	14,860	10,214	17,758	4,371	6,855	22,138	23,097	11,703
	9.1%	14.2%	9.3%	17.5%	4.2%	6.2%	21.9%	22.1%	10.6%
2	3,219	11,435	6,172	10,831	3,725	4,569	10,367	16,712	4,833
	6.0%	15.3%	8.5%	20.1%	5.0%	6.3%	19.3%	22.4%	6.6%
3	5,386	15,755	12,073	9,478	1,667	7,693	11,521	27,910	6,372
	7.0%	14.4%	9.0%	12.2%	1.5%	5.7%	14.9%	25.5%	4.8%
4	5,511	15,562	16,447	16,719	10,468	8,051	23,422	45,336	8,597
	5.6%	9.3%	10.2%	17.0%	6.2%	5.0%	23.8%	26.9%	5.3%
5	4,020	6,553	3,572	28,205	4,569	5,107	10,253	17,285	4,010
	5.9%	11.6%	8.3%	41.3%	8.1%	11.8%	15.0%	30.5%	9.3%
6	10,170	12,770	5,669	51,309	8,024	10,544	33,642	45,982	11,010
	7.0%	9.5%	5.8%	35.3%	6.0%	10.9%	23.1%	34.2%	11.3%
7	7,725	17,980	6,576	80,610	15,933	18,462	27,715	43,574	9,762
	4.2%	13.0%	6.3%	43.9%	11.5%	17.8%	15.1%	31.6%	9.4%
8	13,023	18,234	8,561	77,114	5,855	17,142	37,231	58,417	18,635
	6.3%	9.0%	4.5%	37.5%	2.9%	9.0%	18.1%	28.9%	9.7%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Priority									
VISN	Medicaid			TRICARE			No Coverage		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8
9	5,009	16,001	6,017	36,612	5,269	7,088	23,147	42,702	8,002
	4.5%	11.1%	7.5%	33.1%	3.6%	8.9%	20.9%	29.5%	10.0%
10	4,370	12,008	3,786	14,927	3,955	3,997	15,665	37,667	6,178
	6.5%	9.6%	5.4%	22.1%	3.2%	5.7%	23.1%	30.0%	8.8%
11	3,872	15,409	7,468	17,306	5,269	6,054	16,087	36,111	9,092
	4.4%	12.5%	7.3%	19.5%	4.3%	5.9%	18.1%	29.4%	8.9%
12	4,192	11,693	11,386	16,674	5,554	7,268	16,098	44,078	11,661
	5.5%	10.1%	8.8%	22.1%	4.8%	5.6%	21.3%	37.9%	9.0%
15	4,762	14,075	7,873	22,367	5,209	6,115	15,988	36,887	5,999
	5.9%	10.8%	9.5%	27.6%	4.0%	7.4%	19.8%	28.3%	7.3%
16	9,252	33,159	6,077	72,459	8,650	17,729	51,252	86,424	15,899
	4.6%	12.7%	4.3%	36.3%	3.3%	12.6%	25.7%	33.1%	11.3%
17	8,389	10,463	4,820	72,399	10,871	10,226	27,634	43,798	10,628
	6.1%	8.2%	6.9%	52.6%	8.5%	14.6%	20.1%	34.1%	15.2%
18	5,820	8,701	4,418	47,300	3,827	9,550	20,424	28,479	13,408
	5.3%	8.8%	5.4%	43.3%	3.9%	11.6%	18.7%	28.9%	16.3%
19	2,704	7,934	4,079	27,973	3,160	6,853	14,246	24,899	8,937
	3.6%	10.7%	6.3%	37.6%	4.3%	10.6%	19.1%	33.7%	13.9%
20	10,283	9,381	6,208	51,541	4,229	7,036	30,593	28,736	11,944
	7.2%	9.0%	7.9%	36.2%	4.0%	9.0%	21.5%	27.5%	15.2%
21	5,026	12,583	3,076	35,236	4,756	8,035	22,200	36,812	9,117
	4.4%	11.6%	3.8%	30.5%	4.4%	9.8%	19.2%	34.1%	11.2%
22	8,731	13,548	4,852	53,345	9,533	9,620	24,122	58,176	16,377
	6.4%	9.6%	4.6%	39.0%	6.8%	9.2%	17.6%	41.3%	15.7%
23	8,870	11,749	14,213	24,299	9,204	4,930	19,283	25,589	10,235
	7.4%	10.1%	10.5%	20.2%	7.9%	3.6%	16.1%	22.1%	7.5%
National	139,502	289,851	153,556	784,464	134,097	182,924	473,027	808,671	212,397
	5.8%	10.9%	7.2%	32.8%	5.0%	8.6%	19.8%	30.4%	9.9%

Table 2.15

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Age									
VISN	Medicare			Medicare Advantage			Medigap		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	1,820	27,804	152,880	-	3,424	18,482	860	6,658	80,409
	4.8%	24.5%	92.9%	0.0%	12.3%	12.1%	47.2%	27.3%	59.8%
2	1,183	19,229	90,754	-	2,039	14,854	-	5,540	41,618
	5.2%	24.1%	91.7%	0.0%	10.6%	16.4%	0.0%	32.2%	54.8%
3	5,975	29,830	175,956	1,694	4,440	28,783	1,695	9,628	86,625
	20.1%	28.3%	94.8%	28.3%	14.9%	16.4%	39.6%	37.9%	58.9%
4	1,484	38,853	218,968	204	3,605	39,946	-	12,455	114,817
	3.8%	24.8%	94.4%	13.7%	9.3%	18.2%	0.0%	35.3%	64.1%
5	2,877	11,920	69,081	-	1,392	9,352	967	2,839	30,218
	14.0%	16.4%	92.2%	0.0%	11.7%	13.5%	33.6%	27.0%	50.6%
6	6,017	40,878	150,447	-	5,160	22,062	2,567	8,182	72,716
	10.4%	25.4%	95.1%	0.0%	12.6%	14.7%	42.7%	22.9%	56.6%
7	2,600	45,740	142,737	1,194	8,892	21,330	436	11,904	58,178
	4.7%	20.8%	95.0%	45.9%	19.4%	14.9%	31.0%	32.3%	47.9%
8	7,483	67,757	289,068	-	12,635	62,720	381	14,204	126,465
	15.4%	28.2%	93.2%	0.0%	18.6%	21.7%	5.1%	25.8%	55.9%
9	5,451	48,285	129,474	344	6,717	23,269	787	9,862	52,354
	12.4%	31.8%	93.1%	6.3%	13.9%	18.0%	15.4%	23.7%	49.3%
10	2,706	21,597	111,539	106	3,445	20,444	278	4,044	53,908
	10.0%	18.4%	94.0%	3.9%	15.9%	18.3%	10.7%	22.3%	59.2%
11	1,026	35,075	143,327	-	3,987	15,459	142	10,825	76,274
	2.8%	27.4%	95.9%	0.0%	11.4%	10.8%	13.8%	34.8%	59.7%
12	4,536	23,899	140,367	245	5,708	22,960	715	4,935	76,563
	15.2%	16.9%	93.4%	5.4%	23.9%	16.4%	16.7%	27.1%	65.2%
15	3,551	38,673	136,487	-	8,272	26,844	236	5,789	66,593
	14.0%	30.9%	95.0%	0.0%	21.4%	19.7%	6.6%	19.0%	60.7%
16	4,075	68,704	240,508	199	12,723	44,628	750	12,477	94,996
	6.4%	24.8%	92.1%	4.9%	18.5%	18.6%	19.4%	22.3%	48.5%
17	1,803	37,044	122,949	-	5,845	16,874	278	4,432	46,498
	4.5%	22.4%	94.5%	0.0%	15.8%	13.7%	15.4%	14.2%	43.8%
18	1,810	27,669	120,653	326	6,126	23,756	929	3,737	41,245
	7.2%	20.7%	92.0%	18.0%	22.1%	19.7%	62.6%	17.3%	42.6%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Age</u>									
VISN	Medicare			Medicare Advantage			Medigap		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
19	2,015	19,054	85,556	-	3,380	14,059	1,295	2,947	39,591
	7.3%	20.6%	92.4%	0.0%	17.7%	16.4%	64.3%	18.8%	55.4%
20	4,725	31,488	121,523	214	7,539	20,668	363	9,560	52,026
	9.3%	22.0%	92.4%	4.5%	23.9%	17.0%	8.1%	39.9%	51.6%
21	5,616	22,460	125,370	1,541	4,402	26,666	350	2,524	50,260
	14.0%	17.5%	91.9%	27.4%	19.6%	21.3%	8.6%	14.0%	50.9%
22	3,572	29,609	141,731	1,245	6,003	41,092	367	3,760	38,236
	7.2%	16.6%	92.0%	34.8%	20.3%	29.0%	15.8%	15.9%	38.0%
23	4,028	23,173	190,873	-	2,866	29,500	63	4,056	111,025
	9.5%	17.9%	95.6%	0.0%	12.4%	15.5%	1.6%	20.0%	68.8%
National	74,353	708,740	3,100,248	7,311	118,598	543,747	13,457	150,359	1,410,616
	9.1%	23.2%	93.6%	9.8%	16.7%	17.5%	20.1%	25.5%	55.2%

Table 2.16

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Age</u>									
VISN	Medicare Part A			Medicare Part B			Medicare Part D		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	1,820	19,942	113,192	961	13,170	108,036	395	8,727	49,282
	100.0%	81.8%	84.2%	52.8%	54.0%	80.4%	21.7%	31.4%	32.2%
2	724	12,781	62,622	800	10,485	58,137	680	3,199	29,749
	61.2%	74.4%	82.5%	67.6%	61.0%	76.6%	57.4%	16.6%	32.8%
3	4,281	20,396	127,894	3,725	18,750	124,676	3,058	8,444	66,208
	100.0%	80.3%	86.9%	87.0%	73.8%	84.7%	51.2%	28.3%	37.6%
4	1,184	28,459	156,828	1,039	24,830	145,978	93	9,242	77,112
	92.5%	80.7%	87.6%	81.1%	70.4%	81.5%	6.2%	23.8%	35.2%
5	2,598	8,127	51,016	2,137	6,968	48,000	1,074	3,533	21,913
	90.3%	77.2%	85.4%	74.3%	66.2%	80.4%	37.3%	29.6%	31.7%
6	6,017	27,056	110,966	5,318	22,976	108,200	2,565	11,330	45,141
	100.0%	75.8%	86.4%	88.4%	64.3%	84.3%	42.6%	27.7%	30.0%
7	1,088	32,092	108,884	792	27,932	104,015	1,203	16,203	51,504
	77.4%	87.1%	89.7%	56.3%	75.8%	85.7%	46.3%	35.4%	36.1%
8	6,075	45,216	200,398	7,483	33,306	192,085	3,906	16,288	96,171
	81.2%	82.0%	88.5%	100.0%	60.4%	84.9%	52.2%	24.0%	33.3%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Age									
VISN	Medicare Part A			Medicare Part B			Medicare Part D		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
9	2,833	35,520	91,770	1,899	31,088	89,076	1,206	15,745	47,287
	55.5%	85.5%	86.4%	37.2%	74.8%	83.9%	22.1%	32.6%	36.5%
10	2,018	13,518	77,177	580	10,872	75,259	406	7,211	36,110
	77.6%	74.5%	84.7%	22.3%	59.9%	82.6%	15.0%	33.4%	32.4%
11	1,026	20,525	114,354	526	17,191	102,954	667	12,141	39,531
	100.0%	66.0%	89.4%	51.2%	55.3%	80.5%	65.0%	34.6%	27.6%
12	1,405	13,194	101,968	1,789	11,522	97,393	1,732	7,698	44,736
	32.8%	72.5%	86.8%	41.7%	63.3%	83.0%	38.2%	32.2%	31.9%
15	3,024	24,896	93,264	2,521	18,382	88,225	1,176	10,847	38,686
	85.2%	81.9%	85.1%	71.0%	60.5%	80.5%	33.1%	28.0%	28.3%
16	3,876	46,421	165,782	3,458	38,749	161,871	616	18,981	82,788
	100.0%	82.9%	84.6%	89.2%	69.2%	82.6%	15.1%	27.6%	34.4%
17	1,384	22,961	89,177	1,803	23,434	87,112	1,803	11,359	39,470
	76.8%	73.6%	84.1%	100.0%	75.1%	82.1%	100.0%	30.7%	32.1%
18	1,041	14,740	80,887	1,226	12,075	76,853	304	7,025	44,408
	70.1%	68.4%	83.5%	82.6%	56.0%	79.3%	16.8%	25.4%	36.8%
19	1,841	11,327	61,161	2,015	9,201	60,614	1,191	5,557	27,770
	91.4%	72.3%	85.5%	100.0%	58.7%	84.8%	59.1%	29.2%	32.5%
20	2,309	19,021	82,952	2,347	16,344	80,392	938	9,856	42,216
	51.2%	79.4%	82.2%	52.0%	68.2%	79.7%	19.8%	31.3%	34.7%
21	2,762	15,365	81,436	1,846	12,583	77,969	1,109	4,490	53,027
	67.8%	85.1%	82.5%	45.3%	69.7%	79.0%	19.8%	20.0%	42.3%
22	433	17,092	74,685	2,257	14,990	76,955	491	11,063	70,470
	18.6%	72.4%	74.2%	97.0%	63.5%	76.5%	13.8%	37.4%	49.7%
23	270	14,945	137,751	3,362	9,912	136,814	146	6,736	62,392
	6.7%	73.6%	85.4%	83.5%	48.8%	84.8%	3.6%	29.1%	32.7%
National	48,012	463,595	2,184,164	47,882	384,759	2,100,615	24,758	205,674	1,065,969
	71.6%	78.6%	85.4%	71.4%	65.2%	82.2%	33.3%	29.0%	34.4%

Table 2.17

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Age									
VISN	Private HMO			Private Non HMO			Private Total		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	9,981	28,737	11,447	3,451	15,833	21,799	18,719	48,004	36,935
	26.5%	25.3%	7.0%	9.1%	14.0%	13.2%	49.6%	42.3%	22.4%
2	7,185	21,166	12,551	4,038	13,891	19,519	11,931	40,432	35,472
	31.7%	26.5%	12.7%	17.8%	17.4%	19.7%	52.7%	50.6%	35.8%
3	3,350	31,068	23,733	5,491	15,270	35,745	9,623	52,209	63,173
	11.2%	29.5%	12.8%	18.4%	14.5%	19.3%	32.3%	49.6%	34.0%
4	9,797	32,345	20,919	4,695	26,997	47,079	15,634	62,562	76,281
	25.4%	20.6%	9.0%	12.2%	17.2%	20.3%	40.5%	39.9%	32.9%
5	7,563	14,628	5,285	2,421	14,739	10,225	10,304	30,215	17,361
	36.7%	20.1%	7.1%	11.8%	20.3%	13.6%	50.1%	41.6%	23.2%
6	9,669	21,678	6,389	6,782	23,745	26,435	18,011	50,726	36,928
	16.8%	13.4%	4.0%	11.8%	14.7%	16.7%	31.3%	31.5%	23.3%
7	12,624	44,246	4,584	7,462	38,999	22,364	22,464	91,545	28,961
	22.8%	20.2%	3.0%	13.5%	17.8%	14.9%	40.6%	41.7%	19.3%
8	10,196	32,558	18,690	5,103	30,189	45,514	16,903	69,961	69,452
	21.0%	13.5%	6.0%	10.5%	12.6%	14.7%	34.8%	29.1%	22.4%
9	5,035	24,476	10,961	5,433	15,661	15,124	12,689	48,271	30,844
	11.5%	16.1%	7.9%	12.4%	10.3%	10.9%	28.9%	31.8%	22.2%
10	6,842	27,647	13,989	2,267	13,236	16,322	9,818	46,651	33,530
	25.3%	23.6%	11.8%	8.4%	11.3%	13.8%	36.3%	39.8%	28.2%
11	13,152	25,385	12,027	4,224	19,159	24,854	20,284	47,782	40,932
	35.6%	19.8%	8.0%	11.4%	15.0%	16.6%	54.9%	37.4%	27.4%
12	6,089	37,220	9,469	2,561	20,002	22,806	10,818	61,331	35,716
	20.5%	26.3%	6.3%	8.6%	14.1%	15.2%	36.3%	43.4%	23.8%
15	5,135	22,096	7,969	1,583	12,830	19,005	7,970	37,329	29,642
	20.3%	17.7%	5.5%	6.3%	10.3%	13.2%	31.5%	29.9%	20.6%
16	15,588	28,363	10,667	4,815	38,195	28,917	24,655	72,495	46,033
	24.5%	10.2%	4.1%	7.6%	13.8%	11.1%	38.7%	26.2%	17.6%
17	6,429	18,829	4,841	7,479	11,416	13,499	16,514	36,864	20,226
	16.0%	11.4%	3.7%	18.6%	6.9%	10.4%	41.1%	22.3%	15.6%
18	9,822	21,437	8,583	3,187	16,130	12,810	14,063	41,906	24,600
	39.1%	16.1%	6.5%	12.7%	12.1%	9.8%	56.0%	31.4%	18.8%

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Age									
VISN	Private HMO			Private Non HMO			Private Total		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
19	5,469	17,038	5,366	1,858	12,672	12,432	9,814	32,863	20,382
	19.8%	18.4%	5.8%	6.7%	13.7%	13.4%	35.5%	35.5%	22.0%
20	13,970	22,133	7,788	9,387	20,470	16,665	27,078	49,812	27,806
	27.5%	15.5%	5.9%	18.4%	14.3%	12.7%	53.2%	34.9%	21.1%
21	15,899	29,477	14,549	2,836	15,845	17,242	19,430	51,186	35,363
	39.5%	23.0%	10.7%	7.1%	12.3%	12.6%	48.3%	39.9%	25.9%
22	19,852	36,842	21,332	1,864	8,282	13,987	23,400	47,236	36,162
	40.2%	20.6%	13.9%	3.8%	4.6%	9.1%	47.4%	26.4%	23.5%
23	14,773	29,593	10,678	5,534	25,894	27,434	23,472	61,680	43,116
	34.7%	22.9%	5.3%	13.0%	20.0%	13.7%	55.1%	47.7%	21.6%
National	208,421	566,962	241,816	92,471	409,456	469,776	343,594	1,081,059	788,913
	25.6%	18.5%	7.3%	11.4%	13.4%	14.2%	42.2%	35.3%	23.8%

Table 2.18

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Age									
VISN	Medicaid			TRICARE			No Coverage		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	1,414	9,020	23,808	4,749	11,738	12,496	13,424	35,332	8,183
	3.7%	8.0%	14.5%	12.6%	10.3%	7.6%	35.6%	31.1%	5.0%
2	733	7,575	12,518	2,043	9,293	7,788	7,867	19,483	4,561
	3.2%	9.5%	12.6%	9.0%	11.6%	7.9%	34.8%	24.4%	4.6%
3	1,610	8,601	23,002	2,076	7,359	9,402	15,209	25,567	5,026
	5.4%	8.2%	12.4%	7.0%	7.0%	5.1%	51.1%	24.3%	2.7%
4	217	8,684	28,620	2,826	16,782	15,631	18,901	51,350	7,104
	0.6%	5.5%	12.3%	7.3%	10.7%	6.7%	49.0%	32.8%	3.1%
5	99	3,788	10,258	4,836	17,837	15,208	4,905	22,518	4,125
	0.5%	5.2%	13.7%	23.5%	24.5%	20.3%	23.8%	31.0%	5.5%
6	4,890	6,841	16,878	9,243	30,382	30,253	26,691	57,924	6,019
	8.5%	4.2%	10.7%	16.0%	18.8%	19.1%	46.3%	35.9%	3.8%
7	3,157	8,440	20,683	11,900	66,642	36,465	20,816	55,213	5,023
	5.7%	3.8%	13.8%	21.5%	30.4%	24.3%	37.6%	25.1%	3.3%
8	1,596	6,306	31,917	5,081	51,480	43,550	20,067	81,485	12,730
	3.3%	2.6%	10.3%	10.5%	21.4%	14.0%	41.3%	33.9%	4.1%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Age									
VISN	Medicaid			TRICARE			No Coverage		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
9	-	8,674	18,352	8,537	23,293	17,141	19,712	47,536	6,603
	0.0%	5.7%	13.2%	19.5%	15.3%	12.3%	44.9%	31.3%	4.7%
10	2,462	4,854	12,848	1,583	11,854	9,442	11,144	44,839	3,527
	9.1%	4.1%	10.8%	5.8%	10.1%	8.0%	41.2%	38.2%	3.0%
11	1,934	6,062	18,753	2,420	13,198	13,012	12,791	44,108	4,390
	5.2%	4.7%	12.6%	6.5%	10.3%	8.7%	34.6%	34.5%	2.9%
12	1,106	7,714	18,452	3,453	15,222	10,821	13,320	52,005	6,513
	3.7%	5.5%	12.3%	11.6%	10.8%	7.2%	44.7%	36.8%	4.3%
15	82	11,128	15,501	3,810	16,802	13,079	10,857	42,243	5,774
	0.3%	8.9%	10.8%	15.1%	13.4%	9.1%	42.9%	33.8%	4.0%
16	1,022	18,477	28,989	6,948	46,734	45,157	29,572	113,430	10,574
	1.6%	6.7%	11.1%	10.9%	16.9%	17.3%	46.4%	40.9%	4.1%
17	1,708	7,510	14,454	9,924	49,319	34,252	13,910	62,342	5,807
	4.3%	4.5%	11.1%	24.7%	29.8%	26.3%	34.6%	37.6%	4.5%
18	42	6,818	12,079	6,606	30,744	23,327	6,030	49,190	7,092
	0.2%	5.1%	9.2%	26.3%	23.0%	17.8%	24.0%	36.8%	5.4%
19	481	4,980	9,256	3,838	19,555	14,594	13,944	29,618	4,519
	1.7%	5.4%	10.0%	13.9%	21.2%	15.8%	50.4%	32.0%	4.9%
20	3,464	6,821	15,587	9,693	28,478	24,635	16,565	46,818	7,891
	6.8%	4.8%	11.8%	19.0%	19.9%	18.7%	32.6%	32.8%	6.0%
21	5,080	3,718	11,886	6,636	20,003	21,388	12,444	48,409	7,276
	12.6%	2.9%	8.7%	16.5%	15.6%	15.7%	30.9%	37.7%	5.3%
22	1,138	9,390	16,602	10,095	35,972	26,431	14,942	75,864	7,869
	2.3%	5.3%	10.8%	20.4%	20.1%	17.2%	30.3%	42.4%	5.1%
23	285	4,773	29,774	10,249	15,617	12,567	8,723	40,153	6,230
	0.7%	3.7%	14.9%	24.1%	12.1%	6.3%	20.5%	31.0%	3.1%
National	32,518	160,175	390,216	126,544	538,303	436,638	311,834	1,045,427	136,834
	4.0%	5.2%	11.8%	15.6%	17.6%	13.2%	38.3%	34.2%	4.1%

Table 2.19

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Income</u>									
VISN	Medicare			Medicare Advantage			Medigap		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	107,777	43,365	31,362	15,318	4,366	2,222	44,508	26,553	16,866
	66.8%	42.9%	58.8%	14.2%	10.1%	7.1%	48.1%	68.1%	57.9%
2	68,802	25,934	16,430	10,966	4,176	1,752	25,929	12,730	8,499
	66.5%	39.5%	50.9%	15.9%	16.1%	10.7%	44.8%	58.5%	57.9%
3	106,239	64,373	41,150	20,498	9,160	5,258	37,920	37,042	22,986
	70.6%	56.6%	72.8%	19.3%	14.2%	12.8%	44.2%	67.1%	64.0%
4	161,718	52,283	45,305	30,944	8,278	4,533	72,874	28,174	26,223
	67.9%	44.1%	64.3%	19.1%	15.8%	10.0%	55.7%	64.0%	64.3%
5	44,191	22,808	16,879	6,969	2,255	1,520	17,912	9,432	6,681
	58.4%	37.9%	52.2%	15.8%	9.9%	9.0%	48.1%	45.9%	43.5%
6	117,880	48,453	31,009	17,871	6,119	3,232	46,457	21,984	15,024
	55.4%	43.8%	58.0%	15.2%	12.6%	10.4%	46.5%	51.9%	54.1%
7	101,448	56,369	33,259	20,323	7,959	3,133	32,095	23,628	14,794
	49.3%	37.6%	48.0%	20.0%	14.1%	9.4%	39.6%	48.8%	49.1%
8	203,621	99,777	60,910	44,286	21,886	9,182	68,929	41,910	30,211
	64.3%	52.7%	65.3%	21.7%	21.9%	15.1%	43.3%	53.8%	58.4%
9	120,540	38,347	24,323	21,388	5,470	3,471	37,023	15,039	10,940
	60.2%	41.9%	56.3%	17.7%	14.3%	14.3%	37.3%	45.7%	52.5%
10	93,899	23,544	18,398	16,988	3,760	3,246	38,864	11,462	7,904
	57.7%	34.8%	56.1%	18.1%	16.0%	17.6%	50.5%	57.9%	52.2%
11	117,206	34,995	27,226	13,991	3,541	1,913	54,024	19,373	13,844
	63.3%	40.2%	64.5%	11.9%	10.1%	7.0%	52.3%	61.6%	54.7%
12	92,271	47,435	29,097	16,538	8,199	4,175	40,316	25,867	16,031
	57.5%	42.5%	58.8%	17.9%	17.3%	14.3%	53.2%	65.9%	64.3%
15	112,012	35,791	30,908	23,163	7,704	4,248	39,860	18,156	14,601
	63.5%	47.9%	72.0%	20.7%	21.5%	13.7%	44.9%	64.6%	54.8%
16	189,411	72,273	51,602	38,710	11,029	7,811	55,772	32,177	20,273
	54.9%	43.4%	57.0%	20.4%	15.3%	15.1%	37.0%	52.5%	46.3%
17	88,239	48,549	25,007	12,660	6,938	3,121	28,240	13,115	9,855
	53.0%	40.5%	50.4%	14.3%	14.3%	12.5%	37.4%	31.5%	45.0%
18	81,756	43,732	24,645	14,370	11,307	4,531	23,600	13,978	8,334
	56.0%	41.7%	63.3%	17.6%	25.9%	18.4%	35.0%	43.1%	41.4%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Income</u>									
VISN	Medicare			Medicare Advantage			Medigap		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
19	61,615	28,358	16,652	9,987	4,661	2,791	25,369	11,662	6,801
	56.1%	39.1%	54.9%	16.2%	16.4%	16.8%	49.1%	49.2%	49.1%
20	89,811	44,100	23,825	14,463	9,421	4,537	36,256	17,378	8,315
	53.1%	39.2%	54.3%	16.1%	21.4%	19.0%	48.1%	50.1%	43.1%
21	78,299	48,896	26,252	18,010	10,249	4,351	24,502	18,042	10,591
	54.9%	42.0%	57.3%	23.0%	21.0%	16.6%	40.6%	46.7%	48.4%
22	83,963	57,582	33,367	23,145	15,985	9,210	15,181	17,482	9,700
	47.2%	40.4%	54.0%	27.6%	27.8%	27.6%	25.0%	42.0%	40.2%
23	135,002	49,484	33,588	19,855	8,984	3,527	64,601	29,197	21,346
	66.7%	41.4%	67.3%	14.7%	18.2%	10.5%	56.1%	72.1%	71.0%
National	2,255,699	986,448	641,193	410,444	171,446	87,765	830,231	444,380	299,821
	59.2%	43.0%	59.2%	18.2%	17.4%	13.7%	45.0%	54.5%	54.2%

Table 2.20

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Income</u>									
VISN	Medicare Part A			Medicare Part B			Medicare Part D		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	77,095	33,943	23,917	68,129	30,739	23,299	34,629	14,281	9,495
	83.4%	87.0%	82.1%	73.7%	78.8%	80.0%	32.1%	32.9%	30.3%
2	46,120	18,248	11,760	40,866	17,107	11,448	22,585	5,497	5,546
	79.7%	83.9%	80.1%	70.7%	78.6%	78.0%	32.8%	21.2%	33.8%
3	72,449	48,389	31,733	69,220	47,431	30,500	40,563	22,257	14,891
	84.5%	87.6%	88.4%	80.7%	85.9%	85.0%	38.2%	34.6%	36.2%
4	111,785	39,522	35,164	100,877	39,038	31,933	54,685	15,755	16,007
	85.5%	89.8%	86.2%	77.1%	88.7%	78.3%	33.8%	30.1%	35.3%
5	31,318	17,829	12,594	28,487	16,452	12,167	14,974	5,985	5,561
	84.1%	86.7%	82.0%	76.5%	80.0%	79.2%	33.9%	26.2%	32.9%
6	83,854	37,046	23,139	77,781	35,335	23,377	36,573	14,169	8,293
	83.8%	87.5%	83.3%	77.8%	83.5%	84.2%	31.0%	29.2%	26.7%
7	69,356	45,175	27,533	62,536	44,681	25,522	38,857	18,824	11,229
	85.5%	93.3%	91.4%	77.1%	92.3%	84.7%	38.3%	33.4%	33.8%
8	140,193	69,512	41,983	124,868	66,669	41,337	64,204	33,110	19,051
	88.0%	89.2%	81.2%	78.4%	85.6%	79.9%	31.5%	33.2%	31.3%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Income									
VISN	Medicare Part A			Medicare Part B			Medicare Part D		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
9	83,397	27,996	18,729	76,772	27,599	17,691	44,765	11,218	8,254
	84.1%	85.2%	89.8%	77.4%	83.9%	84.8%	37.1%	29.3%	33.9%
10	62,780	17,649	12,284	56,443	17,890	12,378	32,104	7,156	4,467
	81.6%	89.2%	81.1%	73.4%	90.4%	81.7%	34.2%	30.4%	24.3%
11	88,283	27,939	19,683	76,917	23,737	20,017	35,169	8,988	8,184
	85.5%	88.8%	77.8%	74.5%	75.5%	79.1%	30.0%	25.7%	30.1%
12	62,364	34,076	20,127	58,447	33,363	18,894	29,017	14,626	10,523
	82.3%	86.8%	80.8%	77.2%	85.0%	75.8%	31.4%	30.8%	36.2%
15	73,457	24,993	22,735	64,851	24,005	20,272	32,490	10,055	8,164
	82.7%	89.0%	85.3%	73.0%	85.5%	76.0%	29.0%	28.1%	26.4%
16	126,161	54,095	35,823	114,970	54,119	34,991	63,115	22,478	16,792
	83.7%	88.3%	81.8%	76.3%	88.4%	79.9%	33.3%	31.1%	32.5%
17	59,584	36,954	16,984	58,034	35,361	18,953	31,366	14,104	7,161
	78.8%	88.8%	77.6%	76.8%	85.0%	86.6%	35.5%	29.1%	28.6%
18	52,207	28,281	16,181	48,069	27,336	14,749	25,902	16,970	8,865
	77.5%	87.2%	80.4%	71.3%	84.3%	73.3%	31.7%	38.8%	36.0%
19	41,645	21,470	11,216	40,388	20,522	10,919	19,938	9,627	4,952
	80.7%	90.6%	80.9%	78.2%	86.6%	78.8%	32.4%	33.9%	29.7%
20	59,735	29,837	14,710	56,771	27,397	14,915	29,900	16,739	6,370
	79.3%	86.0%	76.3%	75.3%	79.0%	77.3%	33.3%	38.0%	26.7%
21	47,723	33,485	18,354	45,713	30,123	16,562	28,936	17,617	12,072
	79.2%	86.6%	83.8%	75.8%	77.9%	75.6%	37.0%	36.0%	46.0%
22	41,767	32,187	18,255	40,743	34,177	19,282	39,447	25,380	17,197
	68.7%	77.4%	75.6%	67.0%	82.2%	79.8%	47.0%	44.1%	51.5%
23	93,655	34,927	24,384	89,604	35,807	24,676	44,240	16,448	8,586
	81.3%	86.2%	81.1%	77.8%	88.4%	82.1%	32.8%	33.2%	25.6%
National	1,524,930	713,553	457,288	1,400,487	688,887	443,882	763,458	321,285	211,659
	82.6%	87.6%	82.6%	75.9%	84.5%	80.2%	33.8%	32.6%	33.0%

Table 2.21

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Income</u>									
VISN	Private HMO			Private Non HMO			Private Total		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	10,379	33,302	6,483	12,875	18,475	9,733	29,822	55,377	18,457
	6.4%	32.9%	12.2%	8.0%	18.3%	18.3%	18.5%	54.8%	34.6%
2	11,044	22,742	7,116	15,743	13,922	7,784	29,941	41,552	16,342
	10.7%	34.6%	22.0%	15.2%	21.2%	24.1%	28.9%	63.2%	50.6%
3	15,180	33,659	9,312	17,149	28,348	11,009	33,544	68,798	22,662
	10.1%	29.6%	16.5%	11.4%	24.9%	19.5%	22.3%	60.5%	40.1%
4	14,213	37,041	11,807	39,409	30,546	8,816	61,748	69,643	23,086
	6.0%	31.2%	16.8%	16.5%	25.8%	12.5%	25.9%	58.7%	32.8%
5	6,271	16,160	5,045	9,395	12,836	5,153	17,013	30,018	10,849
	8.3%	26.8%	15.6%	12.4%	21.3%	15.9%	22.5%	49.8%	33.6%
6	15,609	17,271	4,856	22,217	27,454	7,291	41,425	49,484	14,756
	7.3%	15.6%	9.1%	10.4%	24.8%	13.6%	19.5%	44.7%	27.6%
7	13,963	35,782	11,709	23,235	32,552	13,038	45,125	72,235	25,610
	6.8%	23.9%	16.9%	11.3%	21.7%	18.8%	21.9%	48.2%	36.9%
8	22,800	26,790	11,853	27,825	36,533	16,448	58,449	67,500	30,367
	7.2%	14.2%	12.7%	8.8%	19.3%	17.6%	18.5%	35.7%	32.5%
9	16,481	18,579	5,412	14,918	15,985	5,315	38,474	39,053	14,277
	8.2%	20.3%	12.5%	7.4%	17.5%	12.3%	19.2%	42.7%	33.0%
10	19,491	23,883	5,103	13,559	9,709	8,558	38,419	35,393	16,187
	12.0%	35.3%	15.6%	8.3%	14.4%	26.1%	23.6%	52.3%	49.4%
11	16,624	28,612	5,328	22,516	19,009	6,712	42,530	53,138	13,330
	9.0%	32.9%	12.6%	12.2%	21.9%	15.9%	23.0%	61.1%	31.6%
12	10,517	35,570	6,691	16,782	21,765	6,823	31,040	61,099	15,726
	6.6%	31.9%	13.5%	10.5%	19.5%	13.8%	19.3%	54.8%	31.8%
15	12,319	18,239	4,642	13,512	12,953	6,953	27,584	34,600	12,756
	7.0%	24.4%	10.8%	7.7%	17.3%	16.2%	15.6%	46.3%	29.7%
16	20,928	30,458	3,233	32,098	30,189	9,640	63,819	65,074	14,289
	6.1%	18.3%	3.6%	9.3%	18.1%	10.6%	18.5%	39.1%	15.8%
17	11,262	16,076	2,761	9,582	16,484	6,328	24,668	38,215	10,722
	6.8%	13.4%	5.6%	5.8%	13.8%	12.8%	14.8%	31.9%	21.6%
18	14,149	22,649	3,044	11,459	16,994	3,674	29,401	43,270	7,898
	9.7%	21.6%	7.8%	7.9%	16.2%	9.4%	20.1%	41.3%	20.3%

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Income</u>									
VISN	Private HMO			Private Non HMO			Private Total		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
19	8,098	17,418	2,357	10,132	13,363	3,468	21,710	34,326	7,023
	7.4%	24.0%	7.8%	9.2%	18.4%	11.4%	19.8%	47.3%	23.2%
20	13,730	26,025	4,136	19,264	22,626	4,631	39,760	54,904	10,032
	8.1%	23.2%	9.4%	11.4%	20.1%	10.6%	23.5%	48.8%	22.9%
21	16,533	33,902	9,490	14,409	16,015	5,499	34,802	54,445	16,733
	11.6%	29.1%	20.7%	10.1%	13.7%	12.0%	24.4%	46.7%	36.5%
22	26,917	43,143	7,967	6,168	12,669	5,295	34,423	57,278	15,097
	15.1%	30.2%	12.9%	3.5%	8.9%	8.6%	19.4%	40.2%	24.4%
23	18,470	31,553	5,022	19,171	32,965	6,727	43,837	70,735	13,695
	9.1%	26.4%	10.1%	9.5%	27.6%	13.5%	21.7%	59.2%	27.5%
National	314,979	568,853	133,367	371,419	441,390	158,894	787,535	1,096,137	329,895
	8.3%	24.8%	12.3%	9.8%	19.2%	14.7%	20.7%	47.7%	30.5%

Table 2.22

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by <u>Income</u>									
VISN	Medicaid			TRICARE			No Coverage		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	23,330	5,663	5,248	7,760	15,794	5,430	35,171	12,013	9,755
	14.5%	5.6%	9.8%	4.8%	15.6%	10.2%	21.8%	11.9%	18.3%
2	13,391	3,719	3,716	6,149	10,180	2,795	20,146	6,559	5,206
	12.9%	5.7%	11.5%	5.9%	15.5%	8.7%	19.5%	10.0%	16.1%
3	21,237	7,650	4,327	5,593	9,113	4,131	31,747	7,998	6,058
	14.1%	6.7%	7.7%	3.7%	8.0%	7.3%	21.1%	7.0%	10.7%
4	22,907	6,373	8,240	14,163	14,043	7,033	52,774	15,680	8,901
	9.6%	5.4%	11.7%	5.9%	11.8%	10.0%	22.2%	13.2%	12.6%
5	8,592	2,195	3,358	8,321	20,689	8,870	19,569	6,893	5,087
	11.4%	3.6%	10.4%	11.0%	34.3%	27.4%	25.9%	11.4%	15.7%
6	19,645	4,415	4,549	21,003	36,583	12,292	67,412	12,510	10,712
	9.2%	4.0%	8.5%	9.9%	33.0%	23.0%	31.7%	11.3%	20.0%
7	23,462	5,601	3,217	30,826	64,372	19,808	58,376	10,242	12,434
	11.4%	3.7%	4.6%	15.0%	43.0%	28.6%	28.3%	6.8%	17.9%
8	27,160	8,575	4,083	24,946	55,580	19,585	80,540	21,035	12,708
	8.6%	4.5%	4.4%	7.9%	29.4%	21.0%	25.4%	11.1%	13.6%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees by Income									
VISN	Medicaid			TRICARE			No Coverage		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
9	18,581	3,275	5,170	16,103	26,546	6,320	51,036	14,569	8,246
	9.3%	3.6%	12.0%	8.0%	29.0%	14.6%	25.5%	15.9%	19.1%
10	15,815	2,316	2,032	6,982	12,062	3,834	46,879	9,515	3,116
	9.7%	3.4%	6.2%	4.3%	17.8%	11.7%	28.8%	14.1%	9.5%
11	20,464	4,114	2,171	12,626	12,064	3,940	46,218	7,250	7,821
	11.1%	4.7%	5.1%	6.8%	13.9%	9.3%	25.0%	8.3%	18.5%
12	18,637	6,612	2,023	8,744	15,628	5,124	48,874	12,986	9,978
	11.6%	5.9%	4.1%	5.4%	14.0%	10.4%	30.5%	11.6%	20.2%
15	19,499	3,131	4,080	10,249	19,414	4,028	47,189	6,356	5,328
	11.1%	4.2%	9.5%	5.8%	26.0%	9.4%	26.8%	8.5%	12.4%
16	34,476	6,003	8,009	30,111	54,145	14,582	101,479	24,763	27,334
	10.0%	3.6%	8.8%	8.7%	32.5%	16.1%	29.4%	14.9%	30.2%
17	14,821	5,855	2,996	19,845	54,488	19,162	56,250	16,521	9,288
	8.9%	4.9%	6.0%	11.9%	45.5%	38.6%	33.8%	13.8%	18.7%
18	11,388	5,887	1,663	14,584	36,223	9,871	44,399	11,457	6,457
	7.8%	5.6%	4.3%	10.0%	34.6%	25.3%	30.4%	10.9%	16.6%
19	10,126	2,659	1,932	7,654	23,961	6,372	33,598	7,150	7,333
	9.2%	3.7%	6.4%	7.0%	33.0%	21.0%	30.6%	9.9%	24.2%
20	16,568	6,071	3,233	14,345	34,003	14,458	49,174	13,445	8,655
	9.8%	5.4%	7.4%	8.5%	30.3%	32.9%	29.1%	12.0%	19.7%
21	13,841	5,244	1,599	12,356	28,516	7,155	43,736	16,474	7,919
	9.7%	4.5%	3.5%	8.7%	24.5%	15.6%	30.7%	14.1%	17.3%
22	15,800	7,084	4,245	20,019	39,079	13,400	62,718	22,145	13,812
	8.9%	5.0%	6.9%	11.3%	27.4%	21.7%	35.3%	15.5%	22.3%
23	23,535	6,448	4,849	15,774	16,728	5,932	39,719	8,894	6,493
	11.6%	5.4%	9.7%	7.8%	14.0%	11.9%	19.6%	7.4%	13.0%
National	393,276	108,891	80,742	308,153	599,208	194,124	1,037,001	264,455	192,639
	10.3%	4.7%	7.5%	8.1%	26.1%	17.9%	27.2%	11.5%	17.8%

Table 2.23

2007 Various Medicare Coverage Reported by Enrollees					
VISN	Medicare	No Medicare	Medicare Part A and B	Medicare Part A without B	Medicare Part B without A
1	182,504	126,858	108,975	18,295	3,487
	57.8%	40.2%	59.7%	10.0%	1.9%
2	111,166	87,195	61,195	9,184	2,117
	55.2%	43.3%	55.0%	8.3%	1.9%
3	211,761	107,289	133,608	13,003	4,144
	66.0%	33.5%	63.1%	6.1%	2.0%
4	259,306	164,709	159,442	14,472	3,954
	60.7%	38.5%	61.5%	5.6%	1.5%
5	83,878	81,942	52,796	6,181	2,051
	49.9%	48.7%	62.9%	7.4%	2.4%
6	197,342	175,651	124,280	10,629	3,565
	52.4%	46.6%	63.0%	5.4%	1.8%
7	191,076	230,548	124,942	13,672	2,451
	44.9%	54.2%	65.4%	7.2%	1.3%
8	364,308	231,556	215,855	25,271	4,225
	60.8%	38.6%	59.3%	6.9%	1.2%
9	183,210	147,883	112,619	11,814	3,540
	54.7%	44.2%	61.5%	6.4%	1.9%
10	135,841	122,891	78,345	9,510	2,176
	51.6%	46.7%	57.7%	7.0%	1.6%
11	179,428	128,791	110,597	18,278	3,113
	57.1%	41.0%	61.6%	10.2%	1.7%
12	168,802	150,327	101,842	9,502	2,518
	52.5%	46.8%	60.3%	5.6%	1.5%
15	178,711	114,523	99,098	16,287	1,995
	60.8%	39.0%	55.5%	9.1%	1.1%
16	313,286	273,119	183,562	22,699	8,312
	52.1%	45.4%	58.6%	7.2%	2.7%
17	161,796	165,325	99,560	8,410	3,145
	48.2%	49.2%	61.5%	5.2%	1.9%
18	150,133	134,778	78,895	9,021	2,826
	51.8%	46.5%	52.5%	6.0%	1.9%

2007 Various Medicare Coverage Reported by Enrollees					
VISN	Medicare	No Medicare	Medicare Part A and B	Medicare Part A without B	Medicare Part B without A
19	106,625	103,929	64,766	6,388	2,606
	50.1%	48.9%	60.7%	6.0%	2.4%
20	157,735	162,355	86,707	8,978	2,985
	48.5%	49.9%	55.0%	5.7%	1.9%
21	153,446	146,382	83,817	9,233	3,438
	50.3%	48.0%	54.6%	6.0%	2.2%
22	174,912	197,329	79,614	7,643	4,274
	45.8%	51.6%	45.5%	4.4%	2.4%
23	218,074	150,526	131,367	10,840	6,104
	58.7%	40.5%	60.2%	5.0%	2.8%
National	3,883,340	3,203,905	2,291,881	259,309	73,029
	54.0%	44.6%	59.0%	6.7%	1.9%

CHAPTER 3

Prescription Use

In 2003, Congress passed legislation (the Medicare Prescription, Drug Improvement, and Modification Act (MMA) of 2003) which authorized prescription drug coverage for Medicare beneficiaries. As reported earlier, 54 percent of enrollees have Medicare Coverage and were eligible to enroll in the Medicare prescription drug plan. Since the first year of implementation of this coverage (known as Medicare Part D coverage) was in 2006, the 2007 Survey of Enrollees was an ideal time to ask enrollees whether they had actually enrolled in Medicare Part D. Other related questions were also asked regarding prescription drug insurance coverage, utilization of prescription drugs and over-the-counter medication, and out-of-pocket costs for prescriptions.

Any Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage

Enrollees were asked whether they had prescription drug coverage from VA. Theoretically, all enrollees would respond positively since enrollment in VHA provides both prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications as a basic benefit with minimal co-payments.

Table 3.1

2007 VA Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage Reported		
	Number	Percent
Yes	4,671,587	65.0%
No	2,226,841	31.0%
Don't Know	281,212	3.9%
Refused	7,311	0.1%

- Only 65 percent answered that question in the affirmative, with 31 percent saying they did not have coverage, and 4 percent responding “don’t know”, or “refused to answer”.
- About one-third of enrollees either do not consider that their VA enrollment provides drug coverage or may not have realized they were enrolled in VA.

Awareness of VA prescription drug coverage can also be analyzed by comparing responses at the VISN level.

- Interesting variation was also reported here, with an average of 76 percent of enrollees in VISN 8 reporting VA prescription drug coverage and only 54 percent of enrollees in VISN 5 reporting the same. See Table 3.4 for results by VISN.

Awareness of VA drug coverage varies somewhat by age, priority, and income. See Table 3.2 for details; the table displays the percentage of “Yes” responses.

- Priority Group 7-8 are somewhat less likely to be aware of VA drug coverage (59%) compared to Priority Groups 1-3 and 4-6 (67% and 69%, respectively).
- Younger enrollees are also less likely to be aware of their VA drug coverage, with 54 percent of enrollees under age 45 realizing they have VA drug coverage compared to 68 percent of enrollees over age 65.
- Enrollees with incomes under \$36,000 per year were much more likely to be aware of their VA prescription drug coverage (73%) compared to enrollees with incomes of \$36,000+ per year (53%).

Table 3.2

2007 VA Drug Coverage Awareness of VA Drug Coverage									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	69,485	75,395	68,946	24,442	69,756	119,629	122,259	57,594	33,973
	68.6%	72.3%	62.5%	64.8%	61.5%	72.7%	75.8%	56.9%	63.7%
2	38,564	49,008	36,775	12,858	45,432	66,057	71,523	33,278	19,547
	71.7%	65.6%	50.4%	56.8%	56.9%	66.7%	69.1%	50.6%	60.6%
3	52,665	66,602	61,899	17,916	57,684	105,565	97,136	54,512	29,518
	68.0%	60.9%	46.2%	60.2%	54.8%	56.9%	64.5%	48.0%	52.2%
4	70,774	106,884	92,263	25,867	90,825	153,230	174,183	56,559	39,178
	72.0%	63.5%	57.4%	67.0%	57.9%	66.1%	73.1%	47.7%	55.6%
5	32,597	38,659	19,401	8,058	40,192	42,408	49,443	24,995	16,220
	47.7%	68.1%	44.9%	39.1%	55.3%	56.6%	65.4%	41.5%	50.2%
6	99,953	94,551	62,976	38,075	111,243	108,163	155,298	65,298	36,884
	68.7%	70.4%	64.8%	66.1%	69.0%	68.4%	73.0%	59.0%	69.0%
7	112,470	87,629	49,680	28,161	135,530	86,089	137,592	71,812	40,376
	61.3%	63.5%	47.9%	50.9%	61.7%	57.3%	66.8%	47.9%	58.2%
8	159,025	158,811	138,646	35,851	176,977	243,654	263,651	126,820	66,010
	77.3%	78.6%	72.4%	73.8%	73.6%	78.5%	83.3%	67.0%	70.7%
9	77,429	103,555	48,643	22,804	109,081	97,741	149,433	52,551	27,643
	70.1%	71.6%	61.0%	52.0%	71.8%	70.3%	74.6%	57.4%	64.0%
10	44,872	83,529	39,115	16,834	75,179	75,503	117,018	32,532	17,967
	66.3%	66.6%	55.9%	62.2%	64.1%	63.6%	71.9%	48.1%	54.8%
11	58,613	90,596	68,432	15,283	87,368	114,990	145,777	46,354	25,510
	66.0%	73.7%	66.8%	41.4%	68.3%	77.0%	78.7%	53.3%	60.4%
12	52,057	74,973	69,662	14,549	82,907	99,236	115,663	50,575	30,454
	68.9%	64.4%	53.8%	48.9%	58.6%	66.0%	72.1%	45.4%	61.5%
15	56,865	94,641	58,307	13,927	90,546	105,340	134,626	46,208	28,978
	70.3%	72.6%	70.5%	55.0%	72.5%	73.3%	76.3%	61.9%	67.5%
16	140,640	171,176	79,012	35,616	177,387	177,824	242,103	89,706	59,019
	70.4%	65.5%	56.1%	55.9%	64.0%	68.1%	70.2%	53.9%	65.2%
17	86,083	90,307	39,346	24,666	102,307	88,763	116,806	69,544	29,387
	62.5%	70.4%	56.4%	61.4%	61.8%	68.2%	70.2%	58.0%	59.2%
18	72,711	72,489	46,350	13,937	84,239	93,374	109,263	58,309	23,979
	66.6%	73.6%	56.5%	55.5%	63.1%	71.2%	74.9%	55.6%	61.6%

2007 VA Drug Coverage Awareness of VA Drug Coverage									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
19	46,661	45,206	38,490	10,904	55,682	63,771	76,949	36,170	17,238
	62.7%	61.1%	59.8%	39.4%	60.2%	68.9%	70.0%	49.8%	56.9%
20	86,905	72,663	44,674	23,146	90,483	90,612	122,516	57,445	24,280
	61.1%	69.5%	56.9%	45.5%	63.4%	68.9%	72.5%	51.1%	55.3%
21	74,479	78,777	46,179	21,908	83,826	93,701	108,266	62,570	28,598
	64.6%	72.9%	56.6%	54.5%	65.3%	68.7%	75.9%	53.7%	62.4%
22	82,680	92,356	48,836	22,374	111,663	89,834	120,638	68,351	34,882
	60.4%	65.6%	46.7%	45.3%	62.4%	58.3%	67.9%	47.9%	56.4%
23	85,647	72,391	92,581	14,889	87,096	148,634	149,090	64,955	36,573
	71.3%	62.4%	68.3%	35.0%	67.3%	74.4%	73.7%	54.4%	73.3%
National	1,601,175	1,820,199	1,250,212	442,065	1,965,403	2,264,119	2,779,235	1,226,138	666,213
	66.9%	68.5%	58.6%	54.3%	64.2%	68.3%	73.0%	53.4%	61.5%

All enrollees who responded positively to having private insurance coverage were asked if that coverage included prescription drugs.

Table 3.3

Private Insurance Includes Prescription Benefit (Private Insurance Coverage=2,213,567)		
	Number	Percent
Yes	1,791,997	81.0%
No	372,196	16.8%
Don't Know	47,733	2.2%
Refused	1,640	0.1%

- Eighty-one percent of those enrollees who responded positively to having private insurance coverage reported that this insurance provided prescription benefits.
- It is noted that 17 percent of enrollees did not report having any private insurance drug coverage.

Variation was noted by VISN. In VISN 23, only 73 percent of enrollees reported private insurance drug coverage, compared to 90 percent in VISN 22.

Table 3.4

VISN	Awareness of VA Prescription Coverage (all enrollees)			Private Insurance Drug Benefit (for enrollees covered by private insurance=2,213,567)			Medicare Part D Drug Benefit (for Medicare beneficiaries)		
	Yes	No	DK/Ref	Yes	No	DK/Ref	Yes	No	DK/Ref
1	213,826	92,570	9,425	84,502	15,961	3,195	58,404	113,398	10,702
	67.7%	29.3%	3.0%	81.5%	15.4%	3.1%	32.0%	62.1%	5.9%
2	124,348	68,090	9,066	74,379	11,699	1,757	33,628	69,791	7,746
	61.7%	33.8%	4.5%	84.7%	13.3%	2.0%	30.3%	62.8%	7.0%
3	181,166	125,479	14,049	106,776	16,056	2,172	77,710	121,256	12,795
	56.5%	39.1%	4.4%	85.4%	12.8%	1.7%	36.7%	57.3%	6.0%
4	269,921	143,628	13,736	125,124	25,391	3,962	86,446	157,558	15,301
	63.2%	33.6%	3.2%	81.0%	16.4%	2.6%	33.3%	60.8%	5.9%
5	90,657	67,546	10,005	49,901	7,223	755	26,520	52,408	4,951
	53.9%	40.2%	5.9%	86.2%	12.5%	1.3%	31.6%	62.5%	5.9%
6	257,481	105,748	13,723	81,302	21,920	2,443	59,035	124,582	13,724
	68.3%	28.1%	3.6%	76.9%	20.7%	2.3%	29.9%	63.1%	7.0%
7	249,780	161,620	13,747	114,488	24,890	3,591	68,911	112,840	9,325
	58.8%	38.0%	3.2%	80.1%	17.4%	2.5%	36.1%	59.1%	4.9%
8	456,481	124,186	18,643	123,204	30,298	2,814	116,365	220,734	27,209
	76.2%	20.7%	3.1%	78.8%	19.4%	1.8%	31.9%	60.6%	7.5%
9	229,627	94,076	11,233	72,774	17,463	1,568	64,237	111,994	6,979
	68.6%	28.1%	3.4%	79.3%	19.0%	1.7%	35.1%	61.1%	3.8%
10	167,516	83,547	12,010	77,124	11,369	1,506	43,726	83,548	8,567
	63.7%	31.8%	4.6%	85.7%	12.6%	1.7%	32.2%	61.5%	6.3%
11	217,642	88,156	8,500	84,927	23,170	901	52,340	116,000	11,087
	69.2%	28.0%	2.7%	77.9%	21.3%	0.8%	29.2%	64.7%	6.2%
12	196,693	116,914	7,840	82,560	22,196	3,109	54,166	105,235	9,401
	61.2%	36.4%	2.4%	76.5%	20.6%	2.9%	32.1%	62.3%	5.6%
15	209,813	75,601	8,592	58,703	14,715	1,523	50,708	115,406	12,597
	71.4%	25.7%	2.9%	78.3%	19.6%	2.0%	28.4%	64.6%	7.0%
16	390,828	185,712	25,265	121,813	18,129	3,240	102,385	188,124	22,778
	64.9%	30.9%	4.2%	85.1%	12.7%	2.3%	32.7%	60.0%	7.3%
17	215,736	104,218	15,880	60,643	10,977	1,984	52,632	95,498	13,666
	64.2%	31.0%	4.7%	82.4%	14.9%	2.7%	32.5%	59.0%	8.4%
18	191,550	84,247	13,916	67,195	11,253	2,121	51,737	85,300	13,096
	66.1%	29.1%	4.8%	83.4%	14.0%	2.6%	34.5%	56.8%	8.7%

VISN	Awareness of VA Prescription Coverage (all enrollees)			Private Insurance Drug Benefit (for enrollees covered by private insurance=2,213,567)			Medicare Part D Drug Benefit (for Medicare beneficiaries)		
	Yes	No	DK/Ref	Yes	No	DK/Ref	Yes	No	DK/Ref
19	130,357	71,080	11,305	49,506	12,349	1,203	34,518	64,440	7,668
	61.3%	33.4%	5.3%	78.5%	19.6%	1.9%	32.4%	60.4%	7.2%
20	204,241	102,591	18,449	79,172	20,527	4,997	53,009	95,312	9,414
	62.8%	31.5%	5.7%	75.6%	19.6%	4.8%	33.6%	60.4%	6.0%
21	199,434	88,369	17,238	88,540	15,129	2,311	58,626	80,175	14,645
	65.4%	29.0%	5.7%	83.5%	14.3%	2.2%	38.2%	52.2%	9.5%
22	223,871	133,733	24,555	95,569	9,753	1,476	82,024	76,117	16,771
	58.6%	35.0%	6.4%	89.5%	9.1%	1.4%	46.9%	43.5%	9.6%
23	250,618	109,727	11,344	93,795	31,727	2,745	69,273	132,828	15,973
	67.4%	29.5%	3.1%	73.1%	24.7%	2.1%	31.8%	60.9%	7.3%
National	4,671,587	2,226,841	288,523	1,791,997	372,196	49,374	1,296,401	2,322,545	264,395
	65.0%	31.0%	4.0%	81.0%	16.8%	2.2%	33.4%	59.8%	6.8%

Medicare Part D Coverage

Prescription drug coverage has been a hot topic in the United States political arena for the past several years. Prior to 2006, Medicare provided limited coverage for medication. In January 2006 the MMA became effective. The MMA provides those beneficiaries with Medicare benefits the opportunity to purchase a prescription coverage plan. These plans were designed to cover 75 percent of the first \$2,250 of prescription drug costs, leave a “doughnut hole” in coverage between \$2,250 and \$3,600, and to cover 95 percent of costs beyond those benefits. The prescription coverage plans were expected to carry, on average, a premium of \$420 per year (or \$35 per month) with a deductible of at least \$250 per year.

Enrollees were asked if they had Part D prescription coverage and private insurance prescription coverage. Only enrollees with Medicare coverage were asked about enrollment in Medicare Part D.

Table 3.5

Purchase of Medicare Part D by Medicare Beneficiaries		
	Number	Percent
Yes	1,296,401	33.4%
No	2,322,545	59.8%
Don't Know	260,937	6.7%
Refused	3,458	0.1%

- One-third of these enrollees reported having Medicare Part D prescription coverage.
- Sixty percent of those enrollees with Medicare Coverage reported they had not purchased Part D. This is a rather interesting finding, given the low cost of VA prescriptions (\$8.00 for each 30-day prescription) and only 12 percent of enrollees in the 2005 survey reported intent to purchase Part D. See Table 3.5 for national results.

Results may also vary by VISN. Forty-seven percent of Medicare covered enrollees in VISN 22 report having purchased Part D, while only 28 percent in VISN 15 report the same. See Table 3.4 with VA, Medicare, and Private insurance results by VISN.

In general, it would appear to be unlikely that any purchased prescription benefit would provide prescription drug coverage as reasonably as that offered by VA (\$8.00 co-pay for each 30-day prescription). However, those enrollees who purchased Medicare Part D were only slightly less likely to be aware that they already had VA prescription drug coverage (63%) compared to enrollees who reported being aware of their VA prescription drug coverage (65%).

Since over 50 percent of enrollees reporting Medicare coverage, understanding those who have purchased Medicare Part D is very important. Responses among those who purchased Part D were stratified by priority, age, and income. See Table 3.6 for results.

- Enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 were least likely to purchase Part D (30%) compared to enrollees in Priority Groups 4-6 (36%) or 7-8 (34%).
- Thirty-three percent of enrollees under age 45 reported purchasing Part D coverage compared to 29 percent between ages 45 and 64, and 34 percent of enrollees age 65 and over.
- There was less variation by income level; with 34 percent of enrollees with income less than \$36,000 per year who reported purchasing Part D compared to 33 percent of enrollees with income of \$36,000+ per year.

Table 3.6

Medicare Part D Drug Coverage Reported by Enrollees Survey by Priority, Age and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	12,864	21,628	23,912	395	8,727	49,282	34,629	14,281	9,495
	29.4%	37.2%	29.6%	21.7%	31.4%	32.2%	32.1%	32.9%	30.3%
2	6,590	14,348	12,690	680	3,199	29,749	22,585	5,497	5,546
	27.8%	35.6%	26.9%	57.4%	16.6%	32.8%	32.8%	21.2%	33.8%
3	11,274	27,725	38,711	3,058	8,444	66,208	40,563	22,257	14,891
	26.9%	41.9%	37.3%	51.2%	28.3%	37.6%	38.2%	34.6%	36.2%
4	12,846	35,432	38,168	93	9,242	77,112	54,685	15,755	16,007
	29.9%	37.0%	31.7%	6.2%	23.8%	35.2%	33.8%	30.1%	35.3%
5	7,773	10,210	8,537	1,074	3,533	21,913	14,974	5,985	5,561
	30.4%	33.9%	30.2%	37.3%	29.6%	31.7%	33.9%	26.2%	32.9%
6	16,490	23,465	19,080	2,565	11,330	45,141	36,573	14,169	8,293
	27.7%	32.9%	28.7%	42.6%	27.7%	30.0%	31.0%	29.2%	26.7%
7	22,005	25,231	21,675	1,203	16,203	51,504	38,857	18,824	11,229
	31.5%	42.3%	35.1%	46.3%	35.4%	36.1%	38.3%	33.4%	33.8%
8	27,117	44,457	44,791	3,906	16,288	96,171	64,204	33,110	19,051
	26.4%	37.2%	31.5%	52.2%	24.0%	33.3%	31.5%	33.2%	31.3%

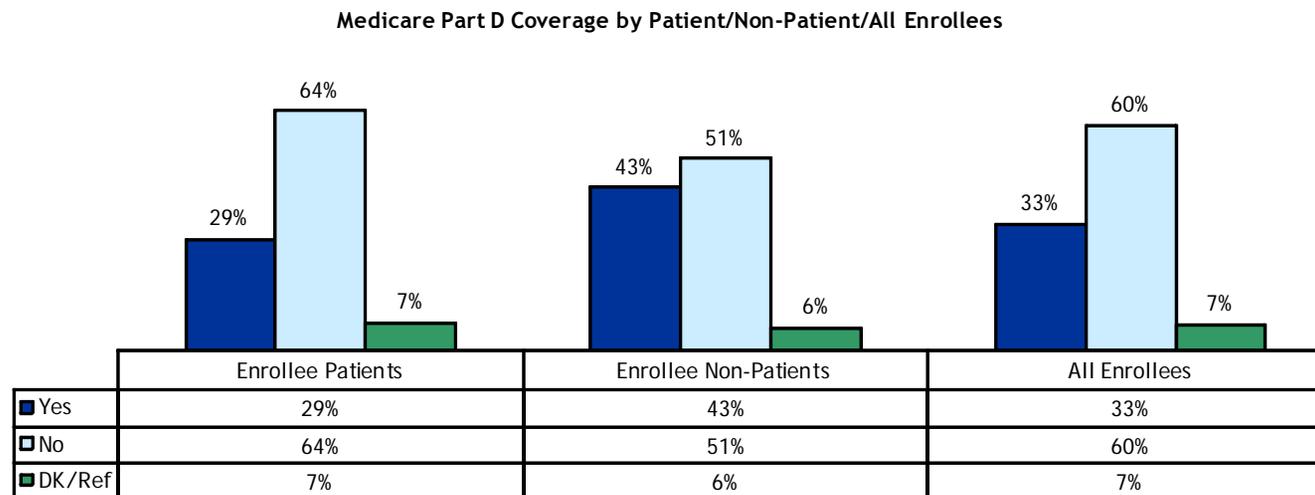
Medicare Part D Drug Coverage Reported by Enrollees Survey by Priority, Age and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	P1-3	P4-6	P7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
9	11,561	34,137	18,539	1,206	15,745	47,287	44,765	11,218	8,254
	24.2%	41.2%	35.3%	22.1%	32.6%	36.5%	37.1%	29.3%	33.9%
10	8,178	20,791	14,758	406	7,211	36,110	32,104	7,156	4,467
	33.0%	32.4%	31.5%	15.0%	33.4%	32.4%	34.2%	30.4%	24.3%
11	10,007	20,177	22,157	667	12,141	39,531	35,169	8,988	8,184
	27.9%	29.2%	29.7%	65.0%	34.6%	27.6%	30.0%	25.7%	30.1%
12	8,967	18,803	26,396	1,732	7,698	44,736	29,017	14,626	10,523
	31.4%	35.2%	30.4%	38.2%	32.2%	31.9%	31.4%	30.8%	36.2%
15	8,829	24,335	17,544	1,176	10,847	38,686	32,490	10,055	8,164
	26.1%	30.4%	27.0%	33.1%	28.0%	28.3%	29.0%	28.1%	26.4%
16	26,629	42,512	33,244	616	18,981	82,788	63,115	22,478	16,792
	30.0%	32.1%	36.1%	15.1%	27.6%	34.4%	33.3%	31.1%	32.5%
17	15,819	22,869	13,944	1,803	11,359	39,470	31,366	14,104	7,161
	27.8%	37.2%	32.0%	100.0%	30.7%	32.1%	35.5%	29.1%	28.6%
18	13,445	19,563	18,729	304	7,025	44,408	25,902	16,970	8,865
	29.7%	35.9%	37.1%	16.8%	25.4%	36.8%	31.7%	38.8%	36.0%
19	9,265	11,837	13,416	1,191	5,557	27,770	19,938	9,627	4,952
	34.2%	32.8%	30.9%	59.1%	29.2%	32.5%	32.4%	33.9%	29.7%
20	17,104	17,745	18,160	938	9,856	42,216	29,900	16,739	6,370
	32.1%	34.2%	34.5%	19.8%	31.3%	34.7%	33.3%	38.0%	26.7%
21	17,540	19,535	21,551	1,109	4,490	53,027	28,936	17,617	12,072
	35.0%	38.9%	40.5%	19.8%	20.0%	42.3%	37.0%	36.0%	46.0%
22	19,603	24,171	38,250	491	11,063	70,470	39,447	25,380	17,197
	37.5%	42.4%	58.2%	13.8%	37.4%	49.7%	47.0%	44.1%	51.5%
23	14,648	23,374	31,251	146	6,736	62,392	44,240	16,448	8,586
	25.0%	40.3%	30.8%	3.6%	29.1%	32.7%	32.8%	33.2%	25.6%
National	298,553	502,344	495,504	24,758	205,674	1,065,969	763,458	321,285	211,659
	29.5%	36.1%	33.5%	33.3%	29.0%	34.4%	33.8%	32.6%	33.0%

Enrollment in the VA health care system is creditable coverage for the purpose of Medicare D enrollment. Creditable coverage means that the VA prescription drug coverage is at least as good as Medicare Part D coverage. There could be several reasons why some enrollees choose to have this benefit.

- When analyzed by patients versus non-patients, non-patients (43%) are more likely to respond that they have Medicare Part D coverage than patients (29%).
- Most of our enrollees (68%) reported being married. A spouse of an enrollee can obtain VA benefits only if the spouse is a qualified veteran herself or himself. The spouse may choose to have Medicare Part D coverage.
- Enrollees may choose to have Medicare Part D coverage to obtain prescriptions drugs prescribed by non-VA physicians that are not on the VA formulary.
- Enrollees who are a patient or inmate in an institution of another government agency (i.e., a state veteran home, state mental institution, etc.) do not have creditable coverage from VA while in that institution.
- Some enrollees are auto-enrolled in Medicare Part D. Most individuals who qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid automatically receive the Medicare Drug Benefit. Additionally, individuals with full or low income subsidies are eligible to be automatically enrolled. These beneficiaries can enroll at any time throughout the year, and will not incur a late enrollment penalty. ("Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit's Projected Costs Continue to Drop", Press Release January 31, 2008)

Additional study is needed to more fully understand why enrollees, in general, and patients, in particular, choose to enroll in Medicare Part D.

Figure 3.1

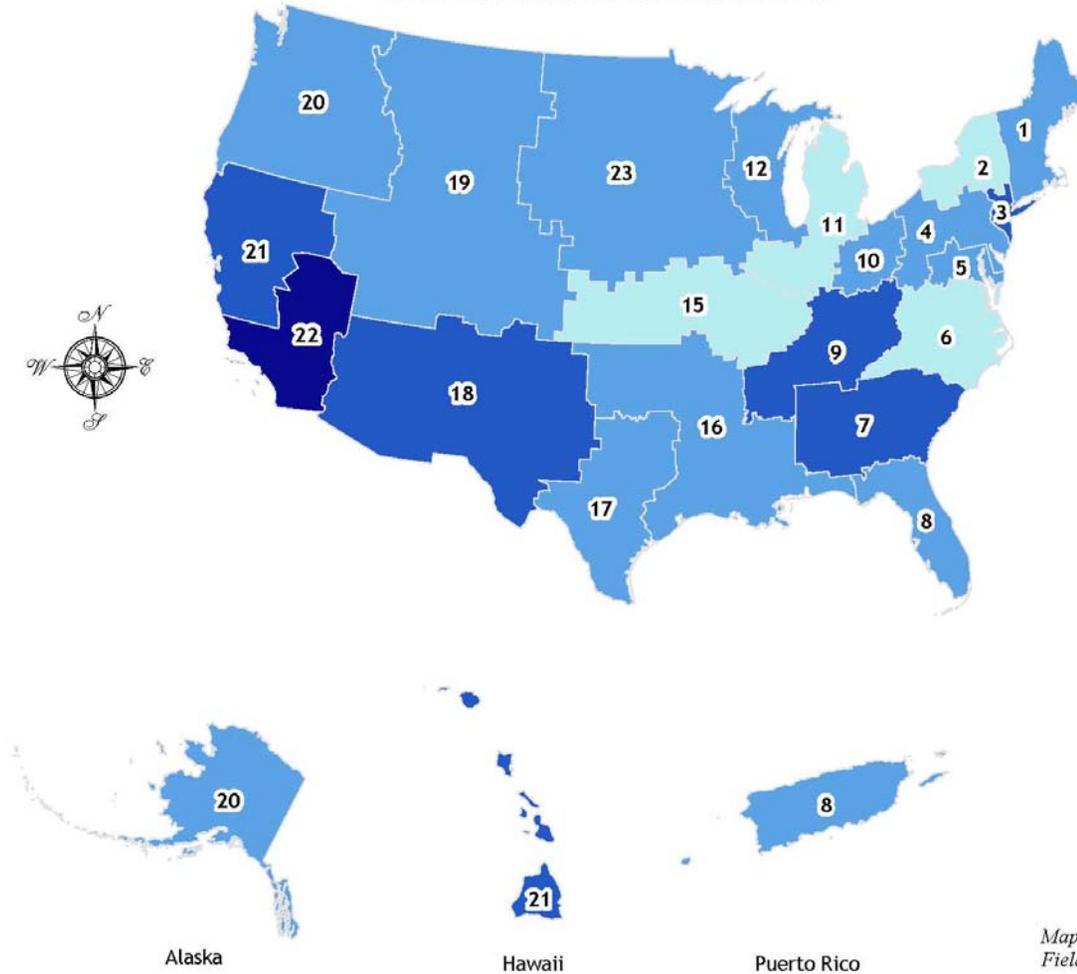


Map 3.1



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Purchase of Medicare Part D



Legend

- 28% - 30%
- 31% - 33%
- 34% - 38%
- 39% - 47%

VISN	Number	Percent
1	58,404	32.0%
2	33,628	30.3%
3	77,710	36.7%
4	86,446	33.3%
5	26,520	31.6%
6	59,035	29.9%
7	68,911	36.1%
8	116,365	31.9%
9	64,237	35.1%
10	43,726	32.2%
11	52,340	29.2%
12	54,166	32.1%
15	50,708	28.4%
16	102,385	32.7%
17	52,632	32.5%
18	51,737	34.5%
19	34,518	32.4%
20	53,009	33.6%
21	58,626	38.2%
22	82,024	46.9%
23	69,273	31.8%
National	1,296,401	33.4%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees
Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Over-the-Counter Medications in the Last 30 Days

Respondents of the survey were asked about the number of over-the-counter medication taken over the last 30 days.

Table 3.7

Number of OTC Medications in the Last 30 Days		
Number of OTC Medications (Median = 1, Mean = 1.7)	Number	Percent
0	2,666,953	37.9%
1	1,665,382	23.6%
2	1,056,834	15.0%
3+	1,653,893	23.5%

Enrollees reported from 1 (24%) to 50 (0.06%) over-the-counter (OTC) medications per month, with a median of 1 (mean of 1.7). Almost 38 percent of the enrollees reported no over-the-counter drug usage in the last 30 days.

Some small variation was noted in the number of OTC medications by VISN. The average number of OTC medications varied from 1.5 per enrollee in VISNs 2 and 22 to 2.0 per enrollee in VISN 11.

Enrollees who reported any OTC use in the last 30 days were asked how many of their OTC medication were obtained from VA in the last 30 days. The responses ranged from 0 (84%) to 50 (0.01%) with a median of 0 (mean of 0.5). Thus, the average enrollee takes 1.7 OTC medications per month; of those 1.7 OTC medications, 0.5 OTC medications were provided by VA and 1.2 were purchased independent of VA. Other health plans are a variable in the coverage of OTC medications for their enrollees. For example, while most plans cover items like syringes, insulin, and test strips, and some Medicaid plans cover various OTC medications, many plans do not cover OTC medications such as aspirin and milk of magnesia. Of course, the VHA co-payment (\$8.00 co-pay for each 30 day supply) may exceed the cost of the OTC medication, so that enrollees may choose to purchase it on their own.

Table 3.8

Number OTC Medications in Last 30 Days from VA (of enrollees reporting OTC use in last 30 days)		
Number of Medications (Median = 0, Mean = 0.5)	Number	Percent
0	3,664,790	84.3%
1	251,180	5.8%
2+	432,779	10.0%

- Only slight variation was noted within VISNs in the percent of enrollees reporting zero (0) percent of OTC medications being provided by VA. (See Table 3.9 for details)
- Approximately 84 percent of all enrollees who used OTC medications in the last 30 days reported receiving no OTC medications from VA.
- Only very slight variations were noted within VISNs, with the mean for all 21 VISNs varying from 0.4 to 0.6.

Table 3.9

2007 Over-the-Counter Medications Reported by Enrollees Surveyed							
VISN	Number of over-the-counter medications				From VA		
	0	1	2	3+	0	1	2+
1	119,874	74,429	44,977	70,080	161,530	8,353	18,498
	38.7%	24.1%	14.5%	22.7%	85.7%	4.4%	9.8%
2	80,067	53,943	29,410	34,751	100,580	5,903	11,216
	40.4%	27.2%	14.8%	17.5%	85.5%	5.0%	9.5%
3	124,701	67,179	46,041	75,919	163,270	7,355	16,815
	39.7%	21.4%	14.7%	24.2%	87.1%	3.9%	9.0%
4	169,657	104,998	53,320	92,090	214,865	11,030	23,867
	40.4%	25.0%	12.7%	21.9%	86.0%	4.4%	9.6%
5	62,592	42,882	25,909	33,269	85,433	6,385	9,336
	38.0%	26.0%	15.7%	20.2%	84.5%	6.3%	9.2%
6	133,951	78,590	58,870	99,508	195,685	11,689	27,823
	36.1%	21.2%	15.9%	26.8%	83.2%	5.0%	11.8%
7	146,645	102,227	69,349	99,136	239,471	14,877	15,998
	35.1%	24.5%	16.6%	23.8%	88.6%	5.5%	5.9%
8	214,359	128,592	93,402	147,953	311,133	20,765	36,001
	36.7%	22.0%	16.0%	25.3%	84.6%	5.6%	9.8%
9	127,031	79,402	40,891	79,926	164,595	9,426	25,146
	38.8%	24.3%	12.5%	24.4%	82.6%	4.7%	12.6%
10	104,074	62,967	39,051	53,571	129,926	11,947	13,091
	40.1%	24.2%	15.0%	20.6%	83.8%	7.7%	8.4%
11	98,916	82,300	42,311	86,711	180,106	10,098	20,450
	31.9%	26.5%	13.6%	27.9%	85.5%	4.8%	9.7%
12	118,107	79,137	46,932	72,052	165,024	10,435	21,650
	37.3%	25.0%	14.8%	22.8%	83.7%	5.3%	11.0%
15	103,753	69,982	43,359	67,427	149,023	12,309	18,326
	36.5%	24.6%	15.2%	23.7%	82.9%	6.9%	10.2%
16	234,484	134,121	91,839	127,840	286,246	31,948	32,287
	39.9%	22.8%	15.6%	21.7%	81.7%	9.1%	9.2%
17	113,867	80,641	48,494	86,133	175,493	10,833	25,285
	34.6%	24.5%	14.7%	26.2%	82.9%	5.1%	11.9%
18	112,120	64,961	40,952	65,533	138,808	12,128	19,414
	39.5%	22.9%	14.4%	23.1%	81.5%	7.1%	11.4%

2007 Over-the-Counter Medications Reported by Enrollees Surveyed							
VISN	Number of over-the-counter medications				From VA		
	0	1	2	3+	0	1	2+
19	78,656	52,041	34,323	43,916	111,135	6,747	11,758
	37.6%	24.9%	16.4%	21.0%	85.7%	5.2%	9.1%
20	111,542	73,100	52,833	80,322	173,274	10,037	22,074
	35.1%	23.0%	16.6%	25.3%	84.4%	4.9%	10.7%
21	120,686	63,587	44,711	70,802	152,026	8,248	18,130
	40.3%	21.2%	14.9%	23.6%	85.2%	4.6%	10.2%
22	157,080	86,643	51,204	80,569	179,890	16,114	20,453
	41.8%	23.1%	13.6%	21.5%	83.1%	7.4%	9.4%
23	134,790	83,659	58,655	86,385	187,278	14,552	25,162
	37.1%	23.0%	16.1%	23.8%	82.5%	6.4%	11.1%
National	2,666,953	1,665,382	1,056,834	1,653,893	3,664,790	251,180	432,779
	37.9%	23.6%	15.0%	23.5%	84.3%	5.8%	10.0%

Number of Prescriptions in the Last 30 Days

Respondents were asked about the number of prescriptions they used in the last 30 days. This question referred to all physician-prescribed medications. Enrollees reported from 1 (19%) to 50 (0.03%) prescription medications used in the last 30 days, with a median of 4 (mean of 4.7). Fifteen percent of the enrollees reported no prescription usage in the last 30 days. (See Table 3.10 for a distribution of all enrollee responses.) Little variation was noted in the number of prescriptions in the last 30 days by VISN. Enrollees in VISN 19 averaged 4.2 different prescription medications in the last 30 days, compared to an average of 5.4 in VISN 11. (See Table 3.12)

Table 3.10

Number Prescriptions in the Last 30 Days		
Number of Medications (Median = 4, Mean = 4.7)	Number	Percent
0	1,059,293	15.0%
1-2	1,361,388	19.3%
3-4	1,596,443	22.6%
5+	3,039,622	43.1%

Table 3.11

Number of Prescriptions in the Last 30 Days from VA (of enrollees reporting prescription use in the last 30 days)		
Number of Medications (Median = 2, Mean = 3.4)	Number	Percent
0	2,103,380	35.2%
1-2	930,979	15.6%
3-4	1,062,466	17.8%
5+	1,874,648	31.4%

Enrollees who reported prescription use in the last 30 days were then asked the number of prescriptions in the last 30 days obtained from VA. The responses ranged from zero (35%) to 50 (0.06%) with a median of 2 (mean of 3.4). Thus the average enrollee used 4.7 prescriptions within the last month; of the enrollees using prescribed medications, an average of 3.4 came from VA, and 1.3 were purchased independent of VA. In the 2005 survey, the comparable figures were an average of 4.7 prescriptions per month, with 3.9 on average being provided by VA, according to enrollees' self-reports.

The results by VISN show moderate variability. (See Table 3.12)

- Of those enrollees taking prescription medication, the average number of medications prescribed by VA providers ranged from 2.5 in VISN 3 to 4.2 in VISN 15.

Table 3.12

2007 Prescription Medications Reported by Enrollees Surveyed								
VISN	Number of Prescriptions in the Last 30 days				Number of Prescriptions in the last 30 days from VA			
	0	1-2	3-4	5+	0	1-2	3-4	5+
1	44,920	57,270	76,242	131,767	86,876	42,520	48,157	86,763
	14.5%	18.5%	24.6%	42.5%	32.9%	16.1%	18.2%	32.8%
2	27,258	43,474	43,666	83,504	69,354	29,060	26,193	45,640
	13.8%	22.0%	22.1%	42.2%	40.7%	17.1%	15.4%	26.8%
3	48,466	61,380	81,180	124,741	130,740	33,314	42,248	59,697
	15.3%	19.4%	25.7%	39.5%	49.2%	12.5%	15.9%	22.4%
4	54,621	83,530	98,352	183,718	139,478	54,160	61,873	106,636
	13.0%	19.9%	23.4%	43.7%	38.5%	15.0%	17.1%	29.4%
5	25,918	39,997	31,298	66,868	62,453	19,205	18,380	37,515
	15.8%	24.4%	19.1%	40.8%	45.4%	14.0%	13.4%	27.3%
6	42,373	70,426	87,101	170,327	96,758	53,755	62,632	114,411
	11.4%	19.0%	23.5%	46.0%	29.5%	16.4%	19.1%	34.9%
7	50,837	87,583	98,528	181,915	173,045	51,957	49,507	92,315
	12.1%	20.9%	23.5%	43.4%	47.2%	14.2%	13.5%	25.2%
8	73,192	112,642	129,923	271,597	146,219	100,212	101,901	160,282
	12.5%	19.2%	22.1%	46.2%	28.7%	19.7%	20.0%	31.5%
9	42,647	49,895	81,200	152,657	81,864	33,464	59,592	107,389
	13.1%	15.3%	24.9%	46.8%	29.0%	11.9%	21.1%	38.0%

2007 Prescription Medications Reported by Enrollees Surveyed								
VISN	Number of Prescriptions in the Last 30 days				Number of Prescriptions in the last 30 days from VA			
	0	1-2	3-4	5+	0	1-2	3-4	5+
10	44,300	48,026	54,673	112,622	75,541	34,225	31,780	73,695
	17.1%	18.5%	21.1%	43.4%	35.1%	15.9%	14.8%	34.2%
11	31,208	54,378	74,805	149,191	81,650	39,985	56,965	99,262
	10.1%	17.6%	24.2%	48.2%	29.4%	14.4%	20.5%	35.7%
12	56,327	69,630	59,372	130,391	94,776	42,161	44,806	77,151
	17.8%	22.1%	18.8%	41.3%	36.6%	16.3%	17.3%	29.8%
15	30,877	44,686	65,637	141,888	64,990	38,563	50,180	97,305
	10.9%	15.8%	23.2%	50.1%	25.9%	15.4%	20.0%	38.8%
16	101,550	96,221	125,284	267,460	148,583	72,246	91,133	175,362
	17.2%	16.3%	21.2%	45.3%	30.5%	14.8%	18.7%	36.0%
17	56,085	64,380	73,131	137,564	103,658	38,853	44,765	87,420
	16.9%	19.4%	22.1%	41.5%	37.7%	14.1%	16.3%	31.8%
18	54,334	57,288	62,437	110,166	78,944	37,905	41,614	70,450
	19.1%	20.2%	22.0%	38.8%	34.5%	16.6%	18.2%	30.8%
19	40,206	44,492	45,864	79,327	59,729	29,426	30,282	49,321
	19.2%	21.2%	21.9%	37.8%	35.4%	17.4%	17.9%	29.2%
20	52,902	71,855	73,686	122,420	96,160	44,300	46,290	80,490
	16.5%	22.4%	23.0%	38.2%	36.0%	16.6%	17.3%	30.1%
21	55,850	58,182	65,101	122,477	97,278	36,351	43,027	68,678
	18.5%	19.3%	21.6%	40.6%	39.7%	14.8%	17.5%	28.0%
22	65,128	71,735	85,721	153,017	131,003	51,625	48,487	78,075
	17.3%	19.1%	22.8%	40.7%	42.4%	16.7%	15.7%	25.3%
23	60,292	74,318	83,242	146,002	84,280	47,690	62,655	106,792
	16.6%	20.4%	22.9%	40.1%	28.0%	15.8%	20.8%	35.4%
National	1,059,293	1,361,388	1,596,443	3,039,622	2,103,380	930,979	1,062,466	1,874,648
	15.0%	19.3%	22.6%	43.1%	35.2%	15.6%	17.8%	31.4%

Out-of-Pocket Expense for Medications

The final question about medication coverage asked of all respondents was related to the out-of-pocket expenses for medications each month. Further study would be necessary to separate out those enrollees who reported no usage of either over-the-counter or prescription medications.

Table 3.13

2007 Monthly Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Medications		
Mean = \$71.90		
Median = \$22		
	Number	Percent
\$0	1,453,801	20.2%
\$1-20	1,343,927	18.7%
\$21-49	1,639,068	22.8%
\$49-199	1,659,042	23.1%
\$200+	420,442	5.9%
Don't Know	630,645	8.8%
Refused	40,024	0.6%

- Results ranged from \$0 (20%) to over \$200 (6%), with an average of \$72 and a median of \$22. Results were very skewed by extremely high outliers; therefore, the median should be considered the more representative amount.

Variation was displayed when reviewing monthly out-of-pocket medication cost by VISNs. Results were definitely skewed by enrollees reporting very high monthly expenses.

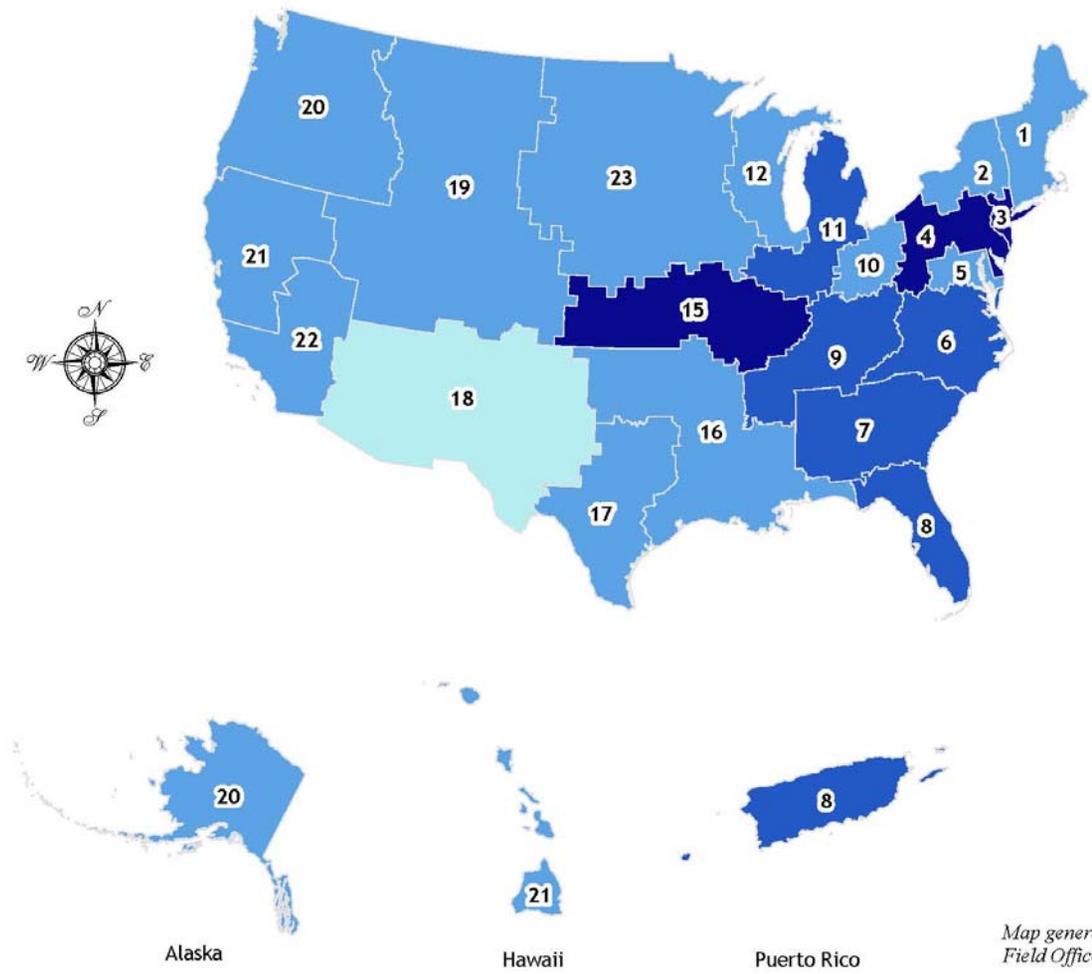
- The median out-of-pocket monthly cost ranged from \$18 in VISN 18 to \$30 in VISNs 3, 4, and 15. See Map 3.2 for a geographic depiction of the monthly mean out-of-pocket expenses by VISN.
- The mean reported monthly out-of-pocket cost varied from \$46 in VISN 18 to \$122 in VISN 4.

Map 3.2



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Median Monthly Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Medication



Legend

- <\$18
- \$19 - \$21
- \$22 - \$25
- \$26 - \$30

VISN	Median
1	\$ 20
2	\$ 21
3	\$ 30
4	\$ 30
5	\$ 20
6	\$ 25
7	\$ 25
8	\$ 25
9	\$ 25
10	\$ 20
11	\$ 25
12	\$ 20
15	\$ 30
16	\$ 20
17	\$ 20
18	\$ 18
19	\$ 20
20	\$ 20
21	\$ 20
22	\$ 20
23	\$ 20
National	\$ 22

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Table 3.14

Out-of-Pocket Expense for All Medication				
VISN	Median	25th Percentile	75th Percentile	Weighted Total
1	\$20	2	50	306,802
2	\$21	5	50	196,930
3	\$30	5	75	302,616
4	\$30	8	60	404,083
5	\$20	1	56	162,817
6	\$25	5	71	361,906
7	\$25	7	60	419,937
8	\$25	3	60	576,512
9	\$25	5	60	323,656
10	\$20	0	50	256,780
11	\$25	8	60	303,996
12	\$20	4	57	319,122
15	\$30	6	64	283,681
16	\$20	0	60	585,412
17	\$20	0	50	331,385
18	\$18	0	50	288,713
19	\$20	3	50	210,121
20	\$20	5	50	325,482
21	\$20	3	50	309,895
22	\$20	0	50	377,055
23	\$20	5	50	357,789
National	\$22	4	57	7,004,690

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CHAPTER 4

Key Drivers of Enrollees' Health Care Decision Making and Profiles of Different Types of Users

Methodology Notes: The Enrollee Health Care Projection Model (EHCPM) is updated annually to reflect the numbers of veterans who will enroll in VA health care, the services these enrollees will utilize, and the cost of those services. This information is then used to support strategic planning efforts, for preparation of budget submissions, and to answer Congressional requests for information. One of the most important underlying assumptions within the EHCPM relates to understanding which enrollees choose to use VHA health care services and why they make those choices. In the summer of 2006, VHA conducted qualitative research. The ultimate goal of this research exercise was to develop a set of survey questionnaire items for the survey that could be used to investigate the key drivers of enrollees' health care decision-making and/or to establish profiles of different types of users from that analysis. The objective in developing these items is to create a mechanism to better understand enrollees' choice to utilize VHA health care services: why veterans choose to enroll, why they choose to use VHA for the services that they do once they are enrolled, and what makes an enrollee depend on VHA for some, all, or none of their health care needs. The 2007 survey contained, for the first time, a series of questions designed to shed light on that very issue.

A random sample of 1,887 enrollee respondents was asked 64 additional questions designed specifically to begin to break down the decision-making processes used by enrollees to determine whether they should seek services from VA or utilize other options (e.g., private sector, Medicare, TRICARE, Medicaid, etc.). These 64 questions were divided into 11 categories (reliance, use of various kinds of services, use for various health conditions, reasons for enrolling, overall image, cost, quality, convenience, accessibility, availability, and other factors). Results for these 11 factors are described in this chapter. Since only 1,887 respondents were asked these questions, the results are only available at the national level and weighted to the enrollee population.

Use of and Reliance on VA Health Care Services

The first set of questions asked about enrollees' utilization and reliance on VA for health care services. Utilization is a fairly simple concept, whether enrollees utilize VA for all, most, some, or none of their health care services. Slightly over one-fourth of enrollees indicated they used VA for all of their health care services. About one of seven enrollees uses VA for most of their health care services, and just over 30 percent uses VA for some of their health care services. Just over 22 percent reported no use of VA health care services. Five percent reported they had no health care needs.

About one-fourth of enrollees use VA exclusively (note that about 21 percent of enrollees have no other insurance), just under 50 percent use VA partially for their health care needs, and about one-fourth of enrollees do not use VA health care services at all in a given year.

Reliance on VA is a slightly more complex concept. For example, enrollees that reported using VA exclusively would be said to be 100 percent reliant on VA. Conversely, those that reported not using VA at all would be considered 0 percent reliant. The remaining enrollees fall somewhere in between, picking and choosing between VA and other sources of health care coverage for services as they are needed. Here we observe fairly similar distributions to the earlier question about utilization. Slightly over one-fourth of enrollees report relying on VA for all their health care needs, one out of six relies on VA for most of their health care needs, just fewer than 30 percent rely on VA for some of their health care needs, and about 24 percent do not rely on VA at all for health care. Again, approximately 6 percent of enrollees reported no health care needs.

Figure 4.1

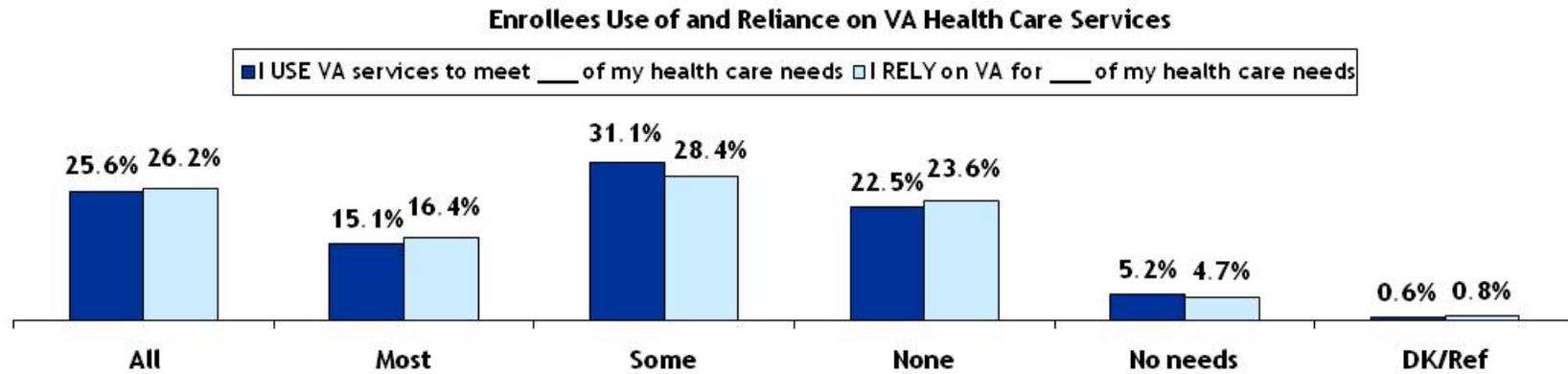


Table 4.1

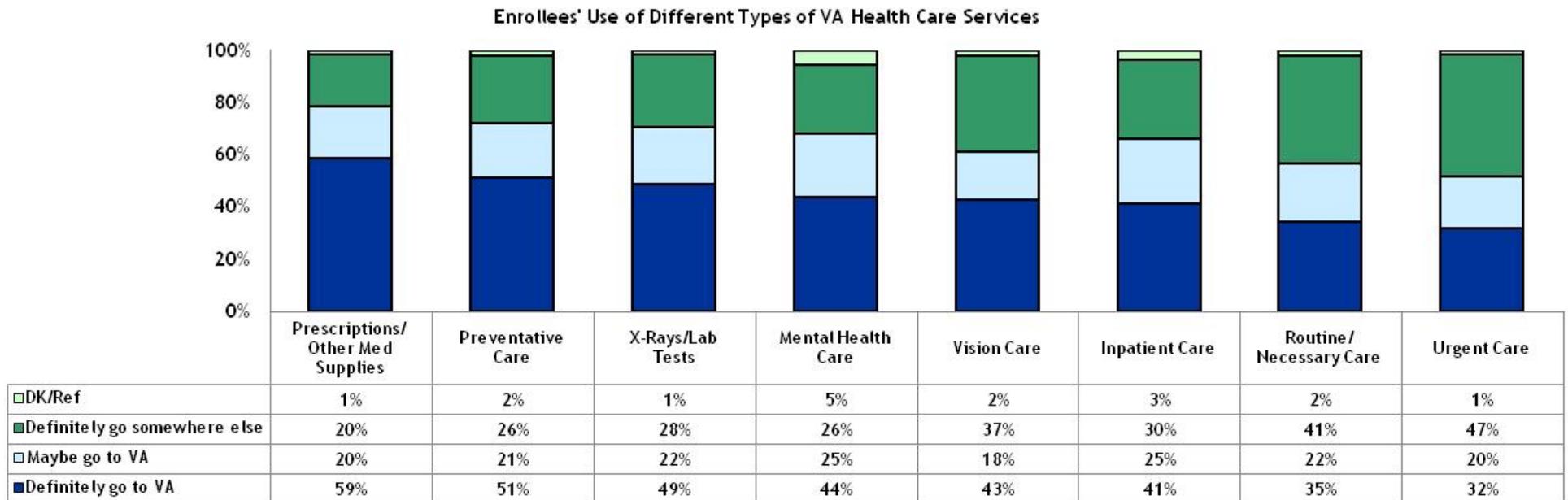
	I <u>USE</u> VA services to meet ___ of my health care needs		I <u>RELY</u> on VA for ___ of my health care needs	
All	83,819	25.6%	85,706	26.2%
Most	49,650	15.1%	53,721	16.4%
Some	101,915	31.1%	93,110	28.4%
None	73,596	22.5%	77,181	23.6%
No needs	16,891	5.2%	15,263	4.7%
DK/Ref	1,851	0.6%	2,739	0.8%

Use of Different Types of VA Health Care Services

The next set of questions asked more specifically about enrollees' intention to utilize VA services for specific types of health care (e.g. preventative care, x-rays/lab tests, mental health care, vision care, inpatient care, routine/necessary care, and urgent care). For each of these types of services, enrollees were asked if they would definitely, maybe, or definitely not utilize VA services. The results showed that enrollees are most likely to plan to use VA for prescriptions and other medical supplies. Almost 60 percent indicated they would definitely go to VA for prescriptions and other medical supplies. Just over half of enrollees reported they would use VA for preventative care (e.g., physicals, immunizations) and almost half reported they would definitely utilize VA for laboratory and radiology services. Enrollees were least likely to report they would definitely use VA for urgent care (32%). Routine or necessary care (e.g., for the flu or a cold) was the second least likely service enrollees indicated that they would definitely use VA (35%). Perhaps enrollees with other coverage such as Medicare already have primary care providers with whom they are comfortable.

Approximately 18 to 25 percent of enrollees reported they would maybe go to VA for these eight types of services. Finally, about 47 percent indicated they would definitely go somewhere else for urgent care, while only 20 percent reported they would definitely go somewhere else for prescriptions and other medical supplies.

Figure 4.2



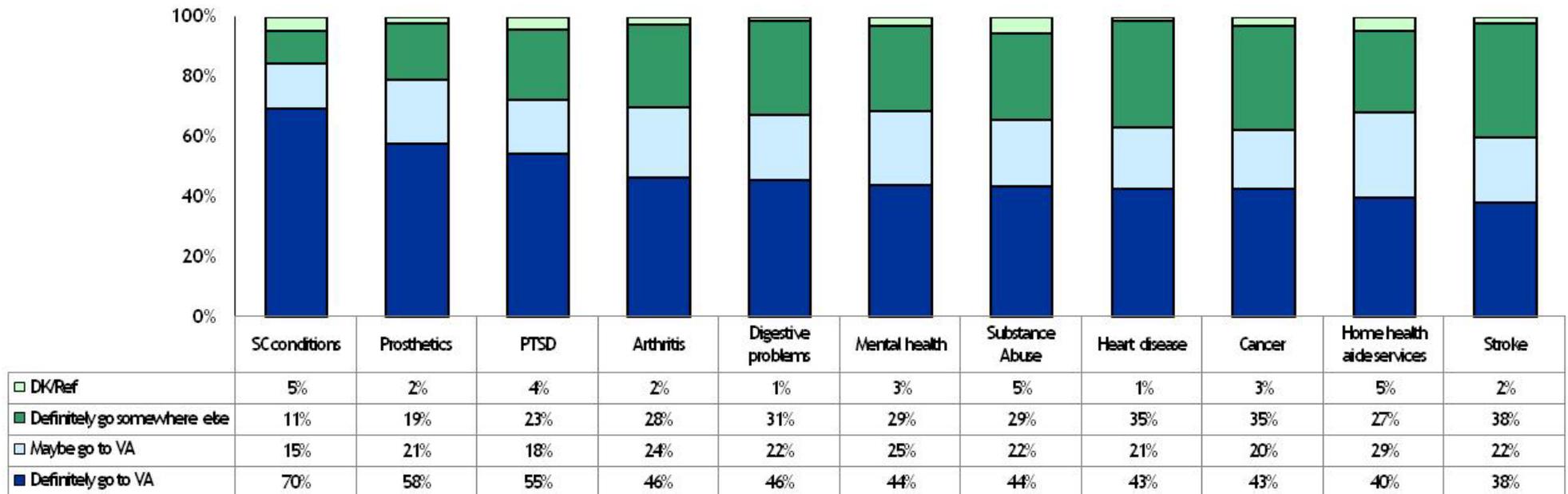
Use of VA Health Care Services for Common Health Problems, Conditions, or Services

The next set of questions probed enrollees' plans to utilize VA health care services for eleven common medical conditions. Almost 70 percent of respondents reported they would definitely utilize VA for their service-connected conditions. This is not unexpected as other studies have shown that the higher the enrollees' percentage of service-connection (SC), the higher the share of care VA delivers. Almost 58 percent of respondents indicated that they would definitely utilize VA for prosthetics and that almost 55 percent would definitely utilize VA for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) care. For the next grouping of common medical problems (arthritis, digestive problems, mental health care, and substance abuse services), between 43 percent and 46 percent of enrollees reported they would definitely go to VA. For heart disease, cancer, and stroke, between 38 and 43 percent of respondents reported they would definitely utilize VA. Responses of "Maybe go to VA" varied from almost 15 percent for service-connected conditions to 29 percent for home health aide services. Finally, enrollees reported most frequently that they would definitely go somewhere else for stroke (38%), heart disease (35%), and cancer (35%).

These results are very similar to studies of actual VHA utilization in prior years. Enrollees are most likely to utilize VA for pharmacy and other medical supplies, mental health care, and more common medical conditions and less likely to utilize VA for conditions that are more urgent or emergent in nature.

Figure 4.3

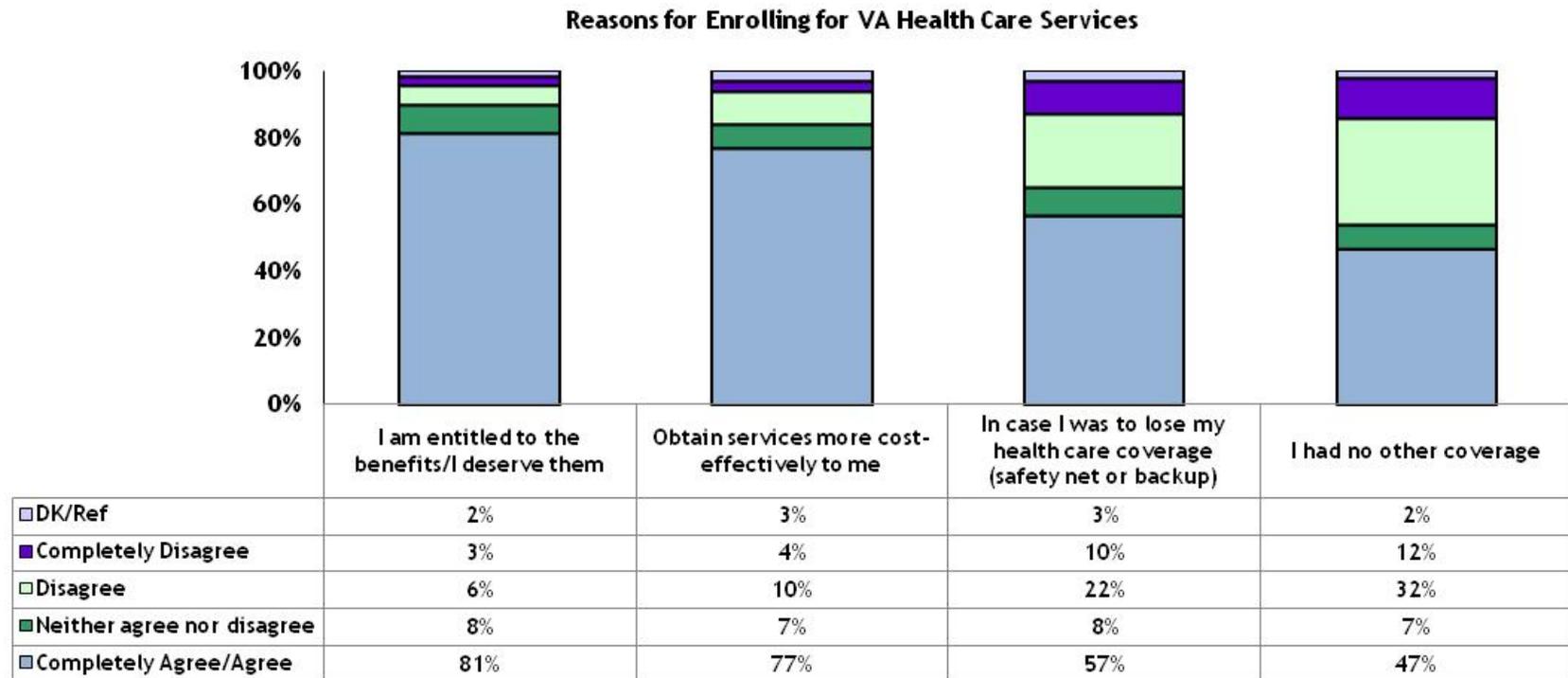
VA Health Care Services for Common Health Problems, Conditions, or Services



Reasons for Enrolling for VA Health Care Services

Enrollees were asked their reasons for enrolling for VA health care services. Respondents were to indicate their level of agreement with the following potential reasons for enrollment: fill gaps in coverage, cost-effectiveness, as a safety net or back-up in case other coverage was lost, being entitled to the benefits/deserving them, and possessing no other health care coverage. More than 81 percent of enrollees agreed they had enrolled because they were entitled to the health care benefits and deserved them. Almost 77 percent of enrollees agreed they had enrolled because VA health care benefits were more cost-effective. Approximately 57 percent enrolled in the event they lost other coverage and 52 percent agreed they had enrolled to fill gaps in their coverage. Almost 47 percent agreed they had enrolled because they had no other coverage. Although the availability of no other health care coverage at the time a veteran enrolls is not known (nor is it officially tracked over time), the percentage of enrollees that self-report no coverage other than VA has been consistently around 20 to 22 percent since the survey was initiated in 1999.

Figure 4.4

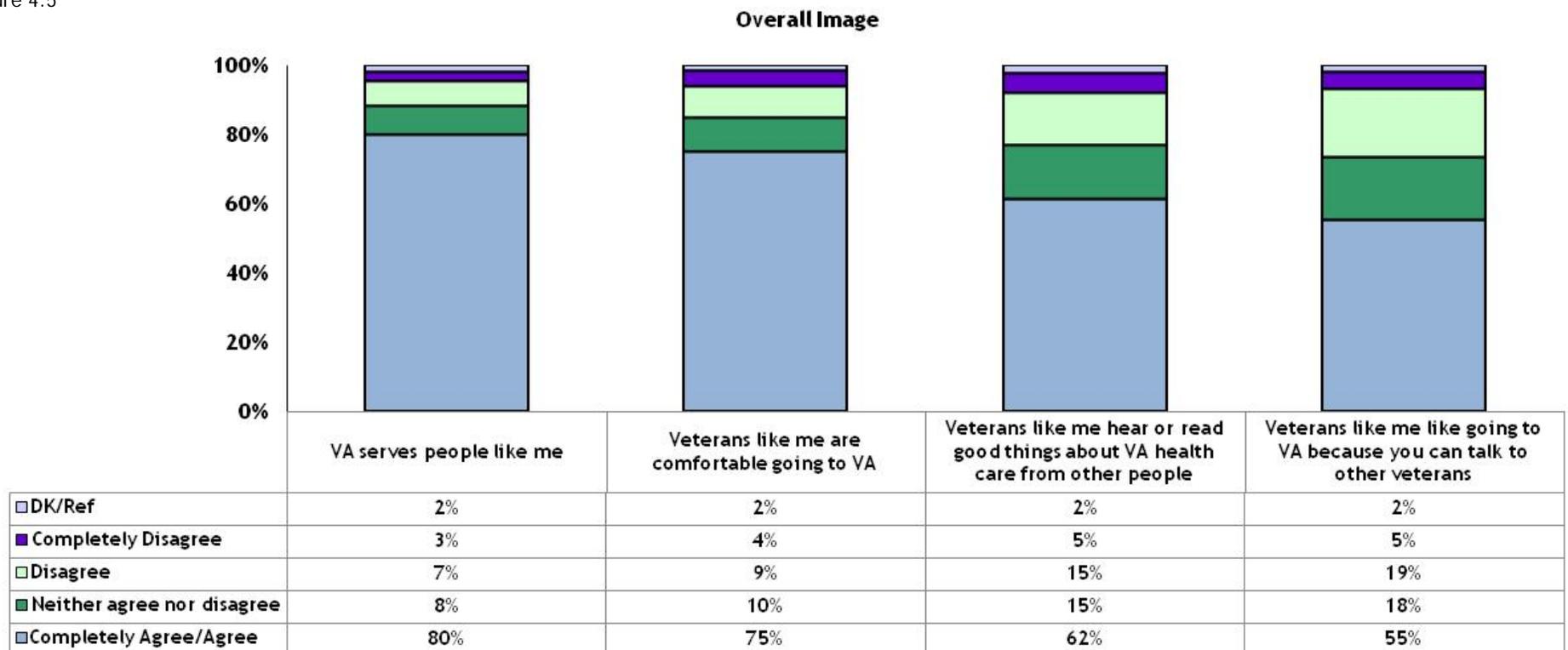


Overall Image of VA Health Care Services

The next several questions asked about factors which were known to be part of enrollees' decision-making process in determining whether to utilize VHA services, based on results of the qualitative research performed prior to implementing the 2007 survey. First, enrollees were asked about their perception of the overall image of VA health care services. Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with the following statements. VA serves people like me, veterans like me are comfortable going to VA, veterans like me hear or read good things about VA health care from other people, and veterans like me like going to VA because you can talk to other veterans.

Respondents showed highest degree of concurrence (80%) for VA serves people like me, followed by agreement with the comfort level of going to VA (75%). This was followed by hearing or reading good things about VA (62%), and having the ability to talk to other veterans (55%).

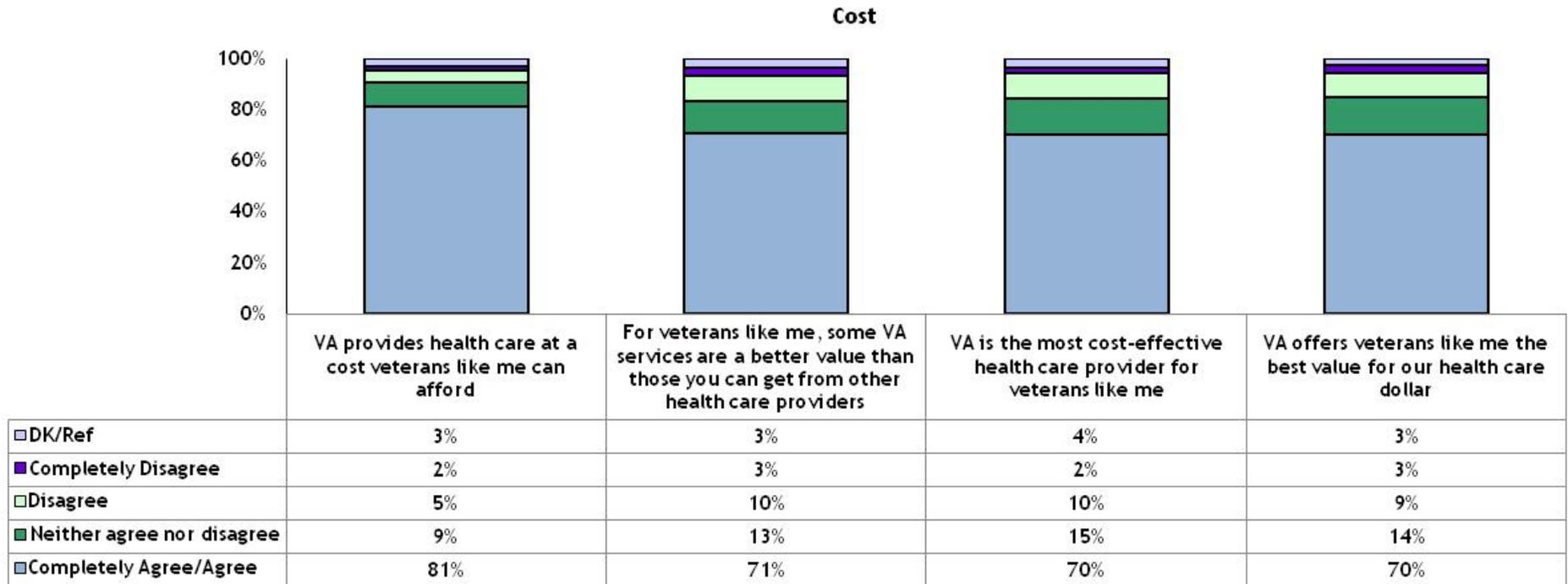
Figure 4.5



Perception of Cost of VA Health Care Services

Enrollees were asked to indicate their level of agreement with four statements about perception of VA cost. Generally the level of agreement was quite high for all four statements (at least 70%). The highest level of agreement (81%) was with the statement, "VA provides health care at a cost veterans like me can afford." The rates of concurrence with the other three statements covering cost effectiveness and value were comparable, that is about 70 to 71 percent.

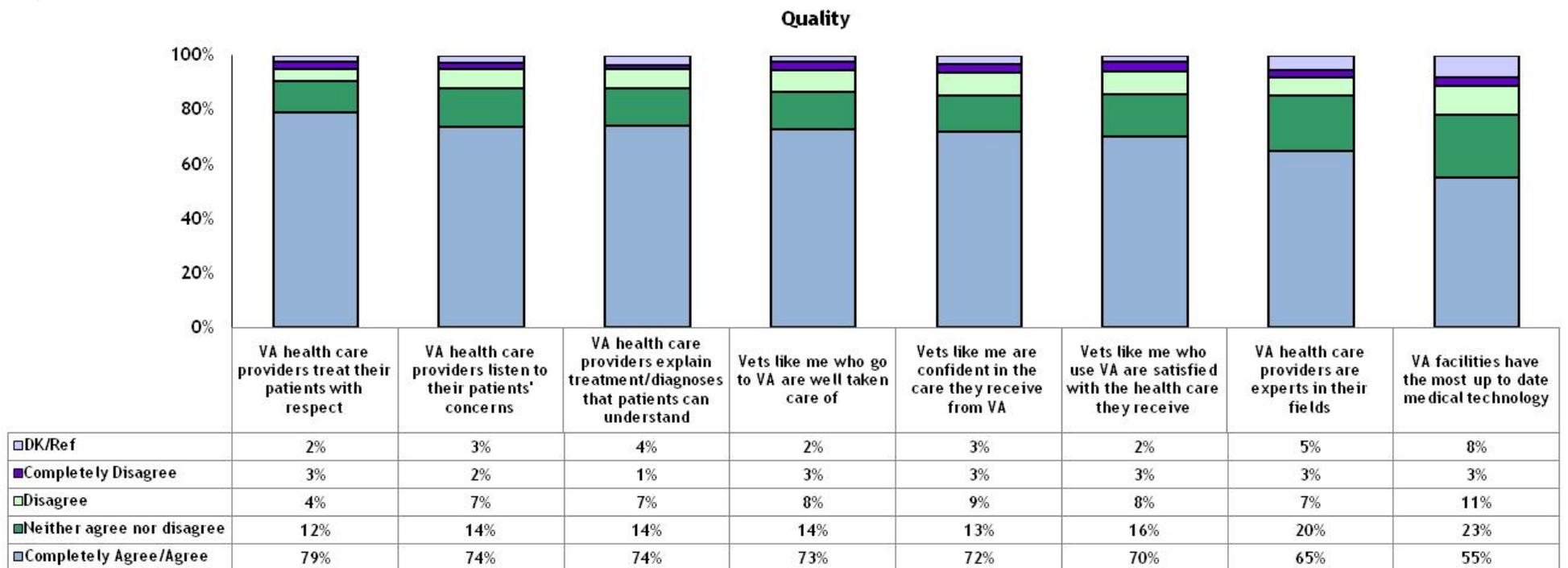
Figure 4.6



Perception of Quality of VA Health Care Services

The next questions dealt with enrollees' perceptions of the quality of VA health care. Enrollees were asked to indicate their level of agreement with eight statements regarding quality (being well taken care of, being satisfied, being confident in the care received, having up-to-date medical technology, having expert providers, and having providers that explain well, listen well, and treat patients with respect). Overall, agreement was relatively high, ranging from 55 percent to 79 percent. The highest level of concurrence was with the statement that VA health care providers treat their patients with respect (79%). The next four items showed agreement levels in the low seventies percentile (providers listen, veterans are well taken care of, veterans are confident in their care, and veterans are satisfied with their care). Although still a majority of respondents agreed, the lowest rate of concurrence on quality issues were with VA providers being experts (65%), VA providers explaining treatments and diagnoses (64%), and VA facilities having the most up-to-date medical technology (55%).

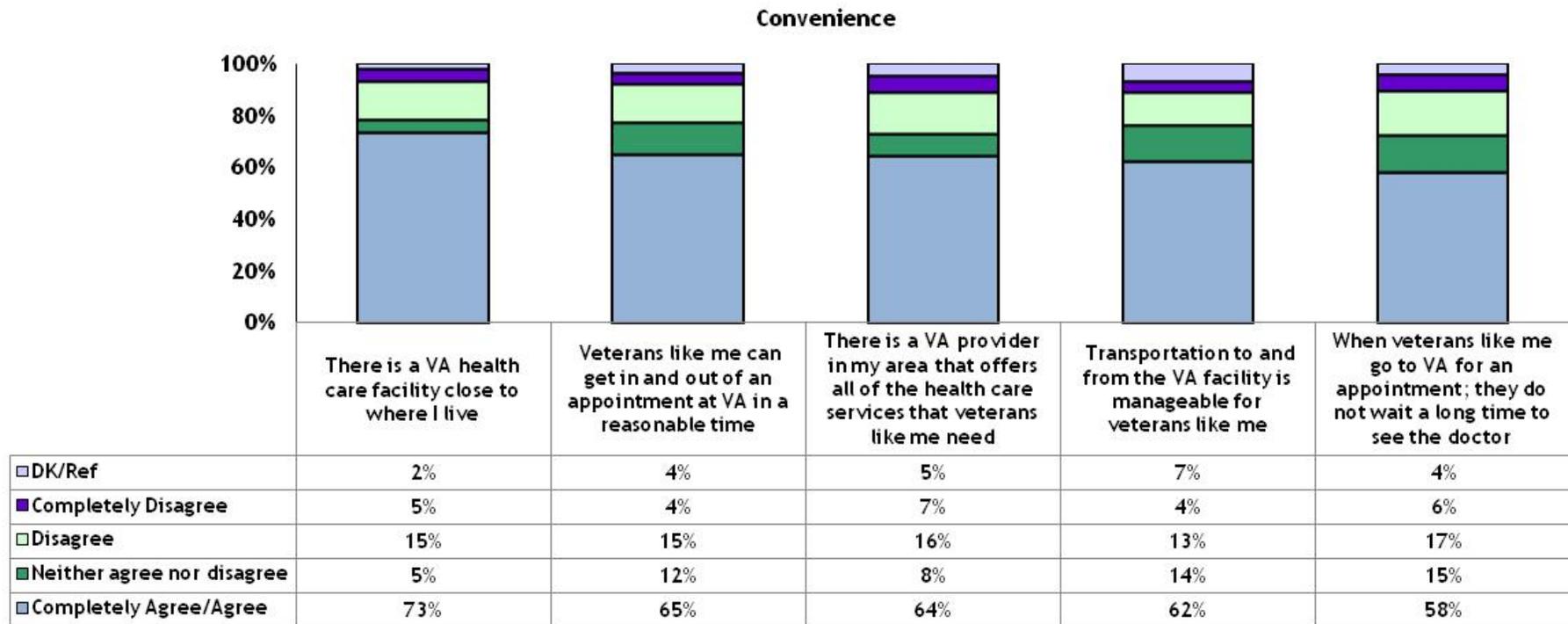
Figure 4.7



Perception of Convenience of VA Health Care Services

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of agreement with five questions about convenience (having a facility close, getting in and out of appointments, not waiting long to see the doctor when at an appointment, transportation which is manageable, and having a VA provider that offers all the services needed). In general, overall agreement here was less than cost or quality. The highest level of agreement was for the statement that there is a VA health care facility close to where the respondent lives (74%). Agreement rates were somewhat lower for the three questions that asked about getting in and out of appointments in a reasonable time (65%), having a VA provider in the area that offers all the needed VA services (64%), and having manageable transportation to VA facilities (63%). There was the least agreement with the statement that veterans do not have to wait a long time when they go for an appointment (58%).

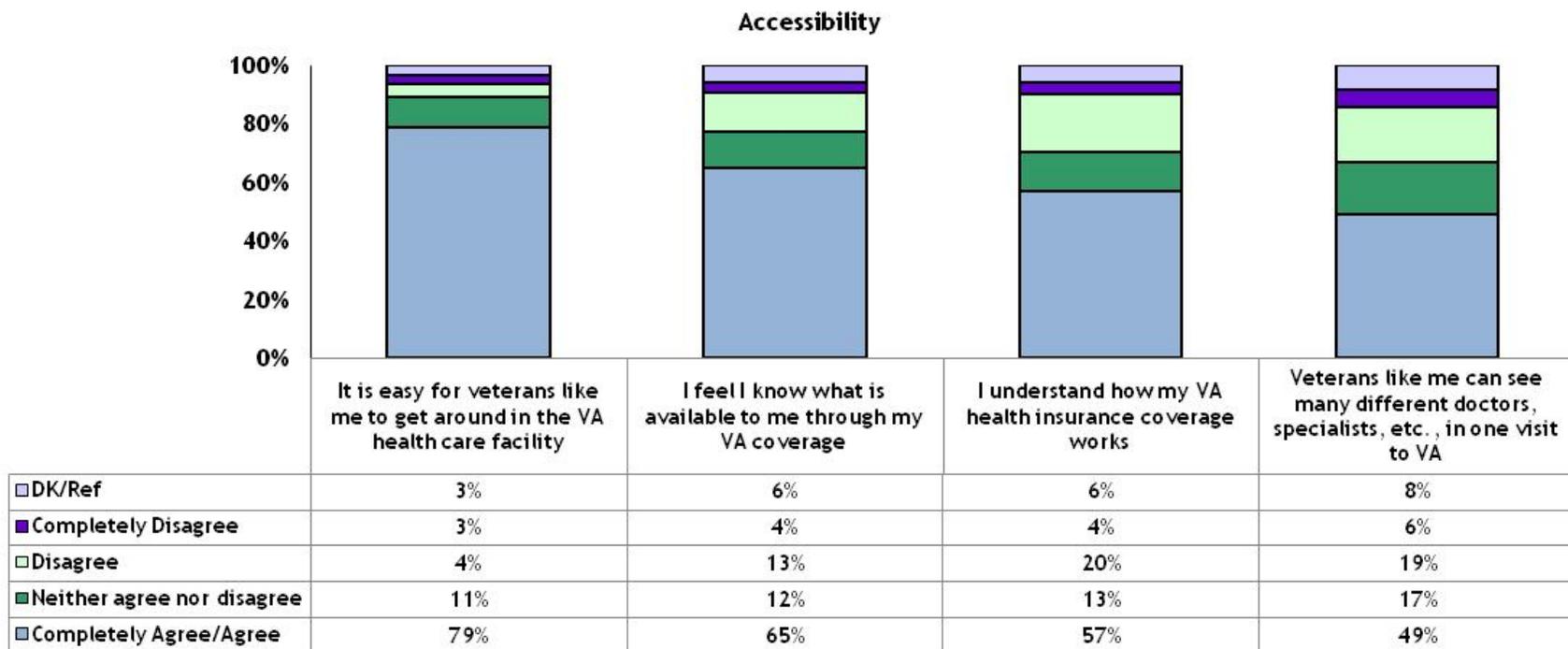
Figure 4.8



Perception of Accessibility of VA Health Care Services

Respondents were then asked about their perceptions of the convenience of VA services, specifically, ease of getting around facilities, seeing many different doctors in one visit, knowing what benefits are available through VA coverage, and understanding how VA coverage works. The highest level of agreement (almost 79%) was with the statement that it is easy to get around VA health care facilities. Almost two-thirds of enrollees (66%) agreed that they know what is available to them through their VA coverage, while almost 57 percent agreed that they understand how their VA coverage works. Forty-nine percent agreed they could see many different doctors in one visit.

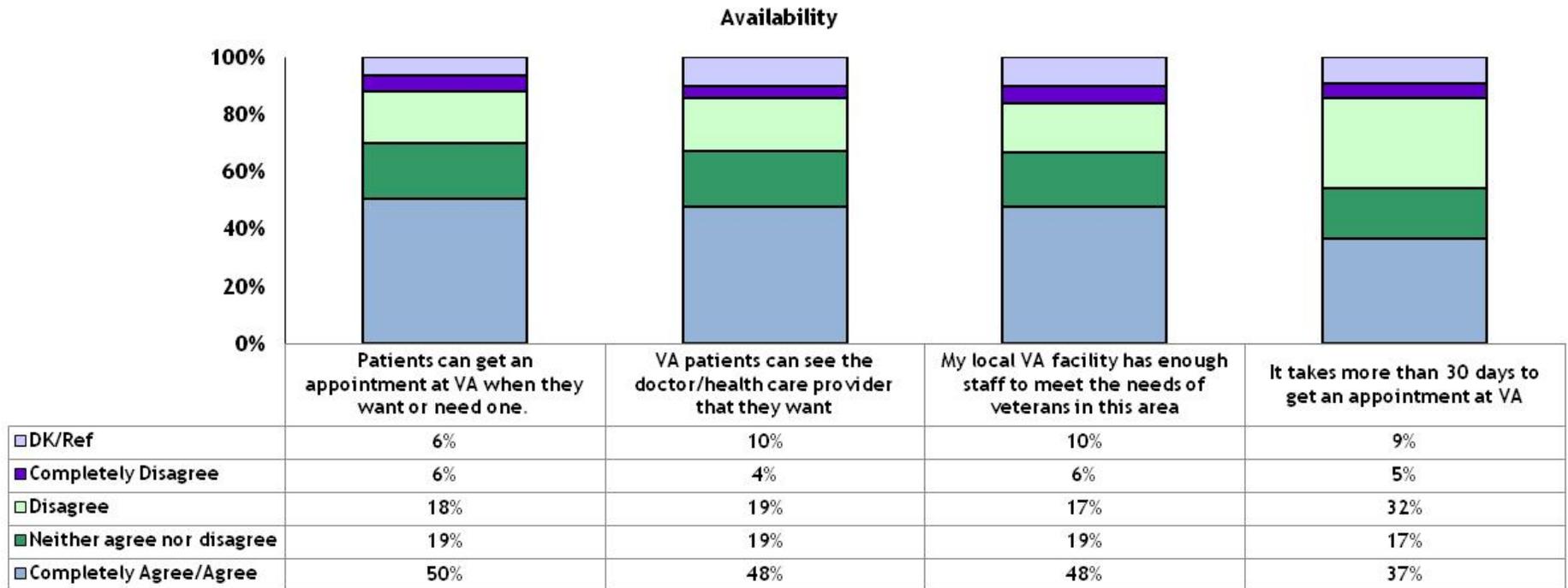
Figure 4.9



Perception of Availability of VA Health Care Services

In the next section, enrollees were asked their level of concurrence with statements about various aspects of availability of VA health care (e.g., can get an appointment when needed, see specialists when needed, see the providers they want, parking, adequate staffing). Generally, VA facilities are perceived as being located fairly conveniently; almost 76 percent agreed that it is easy to get to their local VA facility and about 67 percent agreed that parking is plentiful. Almost 57 percent agreed patients can see specialists when they want to and just over 50 percent agreed patients can get an appointment when they want or need one. Respondents' concurrence was less than 50 percent in three domains of availability: they can see the health care provider they want, that the local VA facility has enough staff to meet veterans' needs, and that they can get an appointment when they want or need one.

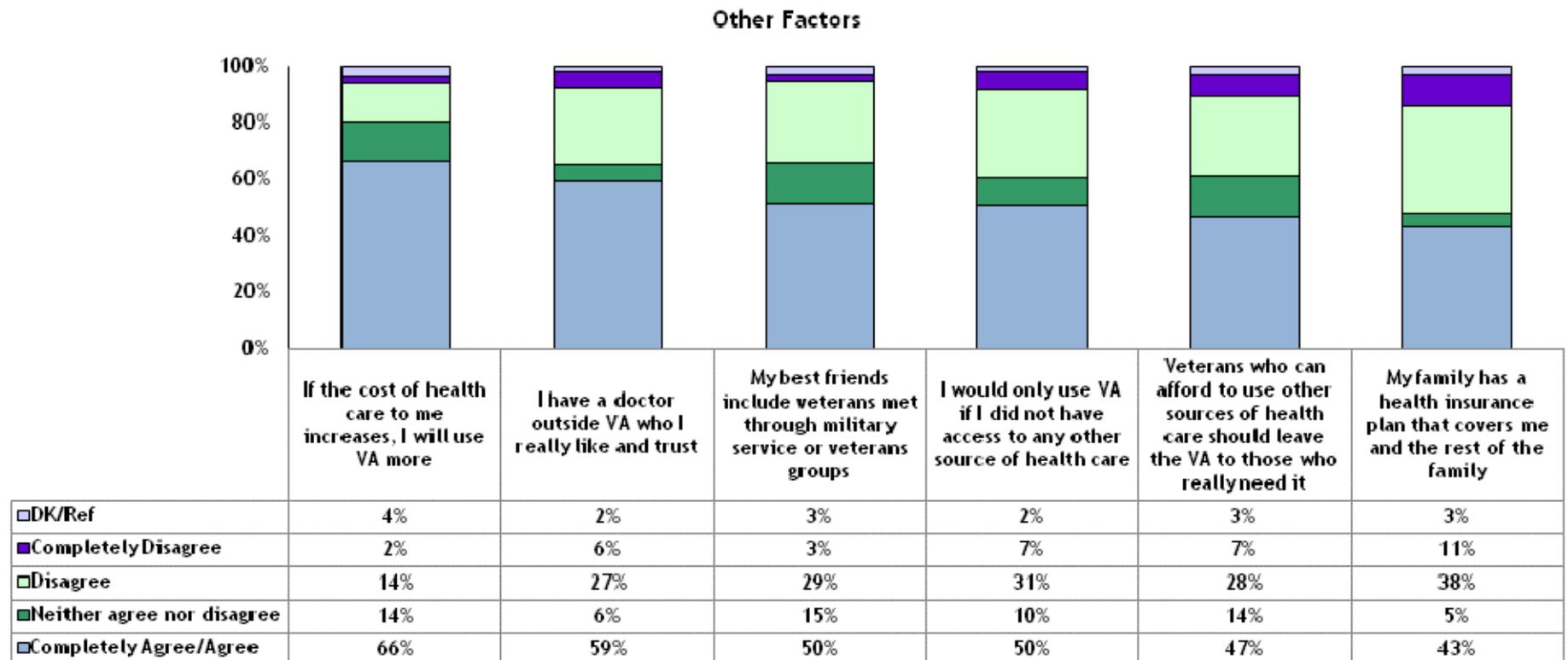
Figure 4.10



Perception of Other Factors Related to the Use of VA Health Care Services

There are a variety of other factors that were identified as influencing enrollee use of VA (best friends are veterans, need to use VA more if health care costs increase, use of VA only if no other source, having a doctor outside VA who is liked and trusted, having another family health insurance plan, and the belief that veterans who can afford other health care should do so). The highest level of agreement, underlining the importance of cost in enrollees' decision making processes, was with the statement that respondents would use VA more if the cost of health care increases (66%). Fifty-nine percent of respondents reported having a doctor outside VA whom they really like and trust. About 50 percent agreed that their best friends included veterans. Similarly, about 50 percent also agreed that they would only use VA if they did not have access to other sources of care. Interestingly, almost 47 percent agreed that veterans who can afford other sources of health care should leave VA to those who really need it (although 81 percent reported they agreed with the statement that they were entitled to and deserved VA health care benefits).

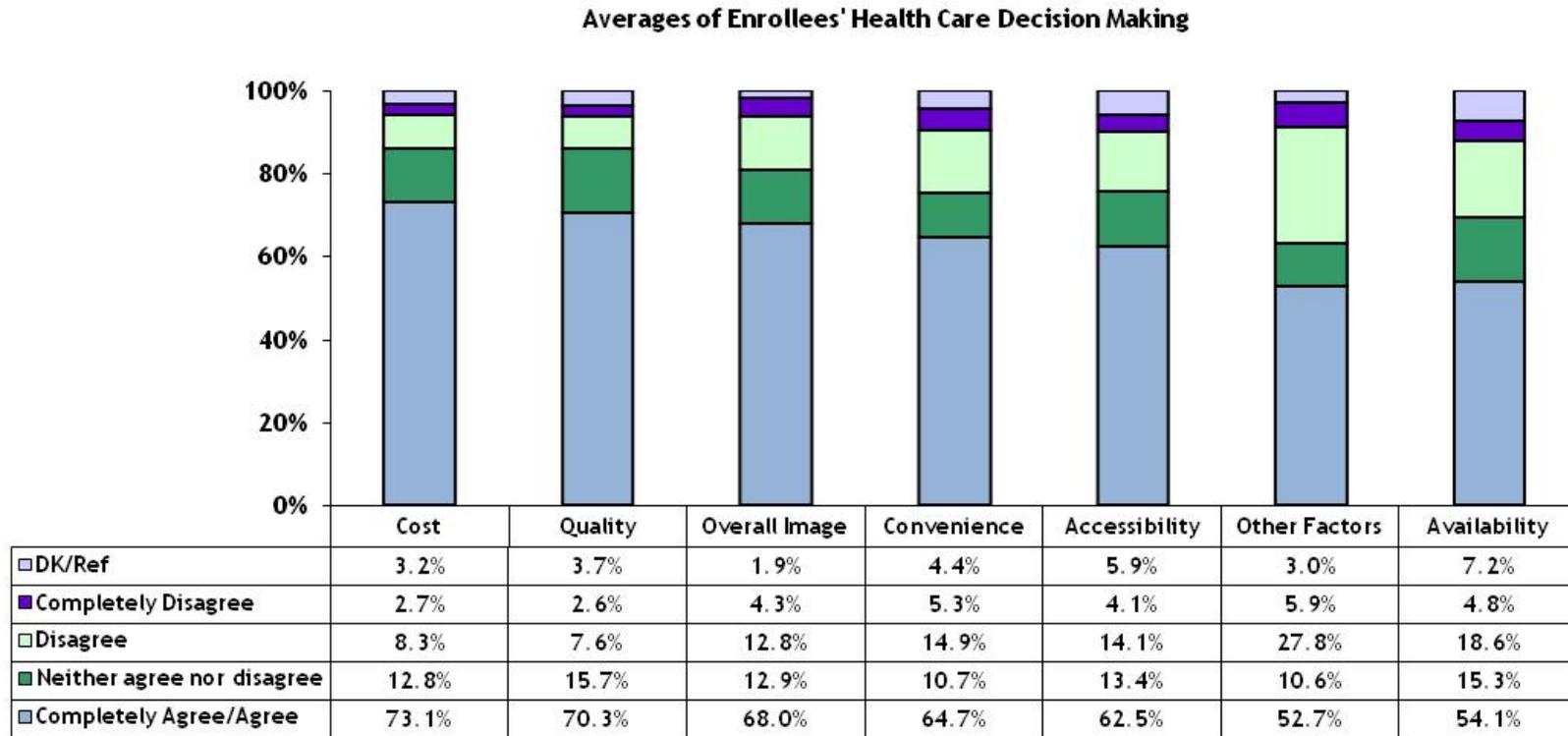
Figure 4.11



Averages of the Seven Major Factors

The seven major factors determined by enrollee focus groups to be part of enrollees' decision-making process about whether to utilize VA services were then averaged across all items to get a sense of priorities in enrollees' decision making. The highest level of agreement was found for statements related to cost. This is consistent with prior studies which show that the presence of other health care coverage was the most important factor in determining which enrollees utilize VA health care. In descending order, the next highest levels of agreement were with quality, overall image, and convenience.

Figure 4.12



Perceived Health Status

The final questions related to key drivers of health care decision making were asked of all 42,587 respondents. Perceived health status is typically a driver of health care utilization, with those reporting poor health being much more likely to utilize health care services. As in prior years, the percent reporting excellent, very good, or good health has remained in the mid-sixties percentile (65%), while the percent reporting fair or poor health has remained in the mid-thirties percentile (35%). The trend since 1999 toward higher percentages reporting good health is not due to individual respondents reporting better health, but rather to a change in the enrollee mix since eligibility reform.

Figure 4.13

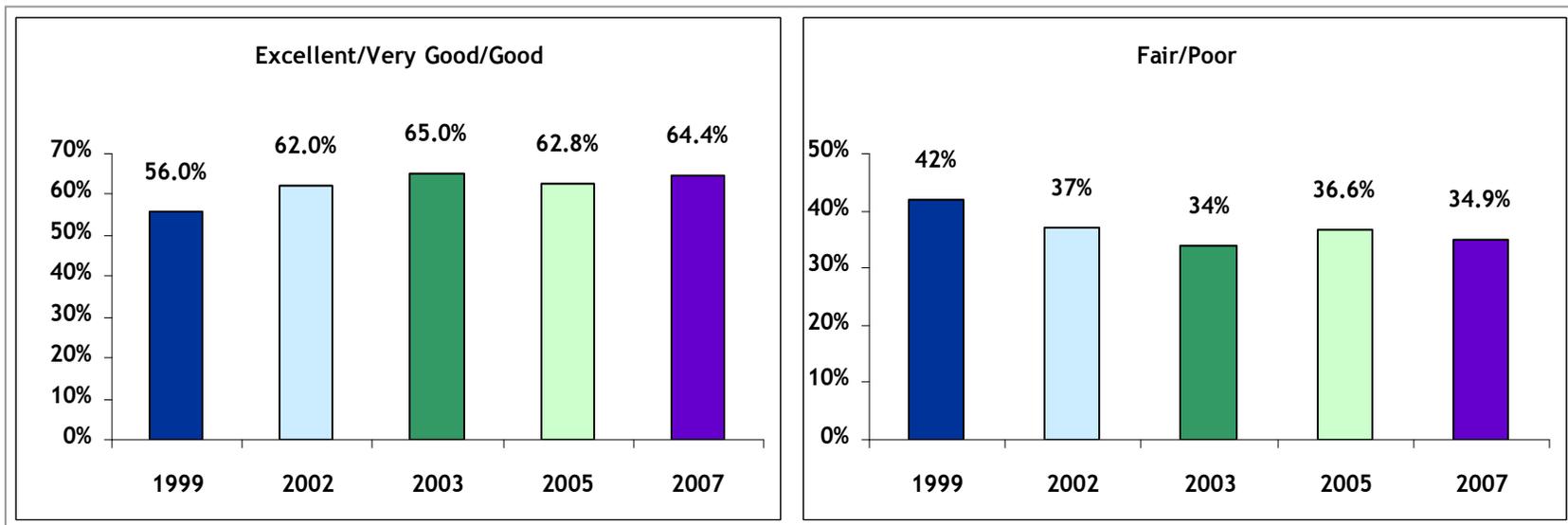


Table 4.12

Perceived Health Status	1999		2002		2003		2005		2007	
	3.6 Million Veteran Enrollees		6.2 Million Veteran Enrollees		6.7 Million Veteran Enrollees		6.7 Million Veteran Enrollees		7.1 Million Veteran Enrollees	
Excellent	361,019	9.9%	738,525	12.0%	869,815	12.9%	795,209	11.9%	876,358	12.2%
Very Good	666,537	18.3%	1,305,105	21.1%	1,568,206	23.3%	1,484,727	22.1%	1,693,207	23.6%
Good	1,025,541	28.2%	1,794,998	29.1%	1,939,220	28.8%	1,932,325	28.8%	2,056,879	28.6%
Fair	925,490	25.4%	1,341,332	21.7%	1,420,035	21.1%	1,464,448	21.8%	1,561,976	21.7%
Poor	608,656	16.7%	910,657	14.7%	897,872	13.3%	988,666	14.7%	946,034	13.2%
DK/Ref	55,293	1.5%	85,075	1.4%	47,529	0.7%	38,774	0.6%	52,497	0.7%

Perceived Health Status by Priority

Perceived health status varies a fair amount by priority groups, as might be expected. Overall, 58 percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 report excellent, very good, or good health; however, that varies from 49 percent in VISN 6 to 66 percent in VISN 22. For enrollees in Priority Groups 4-6, 60 percent report excellent, very good, or good health overall, although this varies from 50 percent in VISN 16 to 74 percent in VISN 23. Finally, for enrollees in Priority 7-8, 76 percent overall report excellent, very good, or good health, varying from 70 percent in VISN 9 to 81 percent in VISN 1.

Perceived Health Status by Age

Reviewing perceived health status by age reveals that 71% of enrollees under age 45 consider themselves to be in excellent, very good, or good health. This percentage drops to 60 percent for enrollees aged 45-64 and rises slightly to 67 percent for enrollees age 65 and over. There is some variability by VISN noted, with only 61 percent of enrollees in VISN 9 considering themselves to be in excellent, very good, or good health compared to 85 percent of enrollees in VISN 23. For those enrollees aged 65 and over, responses ranged from 58 percent of enrollees in VISN 7 to 73 percent of enrollees in VISN 12 considering their health to be excellent, very good, or good.

Perceived Health Status by Income

Of enrollees with income under \$36,000 per year, 59 percent considered their health to be excellent, very good, or good. This percentage varied from 54 percent in VISN 17 to 67 percent in VISN 12. Of enrollees with income over \$36,000 per year, 74 percent considered their health to be excellent, very good, or good. The percentage varied from 66 percent in VISN 6 to 82 percent in VISN 23.

Table 4.13
Don't Know/Refused
was not included

2007 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By <u>Priority</u>						
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	68,292	73,540	95,595	40,027	38,195	22,857
	62.8%	65.6%	80.6%	36.8%	34.1%	19.3%
2	33,380	53,255	61,653	24,031	26,535	15,799
	57.7%	66.3%	78.6%	41.6%	33.0%	20.1%
3	52,238	70,947	113,138	29,712	45,571	30,688
	62.8%	60.4%	78.6%	35.7%	38.8%	21.3%
4	57,795	120,351	129,788	46,691	57,940	42,617
	54.7%	66.5%	75.1%	44.2%	32.0%	24.7%
5	47,356	37,749	36,227	25,396	22,236	9,973
	64.5%	61.9%	78.0%	34.6%	36.5%	21.5%
6	77,940	84,868	73,683	77,674	58,959	30,377
	49.8%	58.8%	70.5%	49.7%	40.8%	29.1%
7	107,234	75,523	81,539	86,939	71,764	28,979
	54.4%	50.9%	73.2%	44.1%	48.4%	26.0%
8	128,312	125,888	153,189	89,926	89,939	50,991
	58.0%	57.9%	74.5%	40.7%	41.4%	24.8%
9	61,229	82,200	59,806	56,891	72,536	25,636
	51.5%	52.8%	69.8%	47.9%	46.6%	29.9%
10	40,419	84,022	59,175	32,102	50,748	15,799
	55.5%	62.3%	78.7%	44.1%	37.6%	21.0%
11	53,972	72,054	83,946	41,171	58,959	25,461
	56.5%	54.5%	76.2%	43.1%	44.6%	23.1%
12	51,721	82,956	111,024	29,144	40,995	27,975
	63.6%	66.3%	79.7%	35.9%	32.8%	20.1%
15	48,805	83,182	64,405	37,572	55,757	23,871
	56.1%	59.4%	72.4%	43.2%	39.8%	26.8%
16	108,683	141,336	116,458	103,774	137,836	33,896
	50.6%	50.3%	77.0%	48.3%	49.1%	22.4%
17	89,410	78,380	56,758	57,683	59,414	17,934
	60.4%	56.8%	75.6%	39.0%	43.1%	23.9%
18	69,342	71,275	69,295	46,897	32,860	17,945
	59.1%	67.3%	78.5%	40.0%	31.0%	20.3%

2007 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By <u>Priority</u>						
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
19	51,382	50,818	53,410	27,938	28,630	15,369
	64.2%	63.9%	77.1%	34.9%	36.0%	22.2%
20	92,388	69,830	64,788	58,122	41,936	19,403
	60.4%	62.2%	76.7%	38.0%	37.3%	23.0%
21	72,107	79,818	67,782	49,933	34,886	19,564
	58.1%	68.7%	77.3%	40.3%	30.0%	22.3%
22	97,046	96,114	88,921	49,067	54,489	22,297
	66.0%	63.5%	79.1%	33.4%	36.0%	19.8%
23	82,720	92,491	114,258	45,253	32,164	30,270
	64.1%	74.2%	78.4%	35.0%	25.8%	20.8%
National	1,491,770	1,726,598	1,754,837	1,055,942	1,112,351	527,698
	58.0%	60.4%	76.5%	41.1%	38.9%	23.0%

Table 4.14
Don't Know/Refused
was not included

2007 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By <u>Age</u>						
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	28,430	80,666	128,331	12,132	40,853	48,094
	70.1%	66.2%	72.5%	29.9%	33.5%	27.2%
2	20,750	53,938	73,600	3,585	31,320	31,459
	85.3%	62.8%	69.2%	14.7%	36.5%	29.6%
3	22,745	72,358	141,220	9,265	39,815	56,891
	71.1%	63.9%	70.8%	28.9%	35.2%	28.5%
4	31,141	103,737	173,056	10,363	61,555	75,329
	75.0%	61.6%	69.4%	25.0%	36.5%	30.2%
5	15,592	51,792	53,949	6,328	25,107	26,169
	70.5%	66.3%	67.0%	28.6%	32.1%	32.5%
6	38,553	91,583	106,355	23,367	80,598	63,045
	62.3%	52.9%	62.6%	37.7%	46.5%	37.1%
7	40,032	131,093	93,170	18,352	101,980	67,350
	67.3%	55.6%	57.7%	30.9%	43.2%	41.7%
8	42,031	144,712	220,646	10,206	110,815	109,836
	80.5%	56.0%	66.1%	19.5%	42.9%	32.9%

2007 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By Age						
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
9	28,881	86,169	88,186	18,268	76,790	60,005
	61.3%	52.7%	59.0%	38.7%	47.0%	40.1%
10	20,837	75,534	87,244	8,264	50,555	39,831
	71.6%	59.9%	68.4%	28.4%	40.1%	31.2%
11	32,750	74,381	102,841	6,973	62,759	55,859
	82.4%	54.1%	64.0%	17.6%	45.6%	34.8%
12	24,076	103,778	117,846	7,782	47,517	42,815
	75.2%	68.3%	73.0%	24.3%	31.3%	26.5%
15	18,533	76,980	100,879	8,672	55,856	52,672
	68.1%	57.3%	65.3%	31.9%	41.6%	34.1%
16	42,936	157,974	165,566	25,593	137,576	112,337
	62.7%	53.0%	59.0%	37.3%	46.2%	40.0%
17	28,646	103,556	92,346	14,540	73,807	46,684
	66.3%	58.2%	66.0%	33.7%	41.5%	33.4%
18	18,115	96,200	95,598	8,859	45,251	43,592
	67.2%	67.0%	67.8%	32.8%	31.5%	30.9%
19	21,224	65,391	68,994	8,520	33,319	30,097
	71.4%	65.8%	69.3%	28.6%	33.5%	30.2%
20	39,008	95,633	92,366	15,692	56,538	47,231
	71.3%	62.3%	65.3%	28.7%	36.8%	33.4%
21	30,631	86,890	102,186	12,330	50,117	41,935
	70.8%	63.0%	69.7%	28.5%	36.3%	28.6%
22	40,339	125,262	116,480	12,726	65,751	47,376
	76.0%	65.2%	70.4%	24.0%	34.2%	28.6%
23	38,983	98,319	152,167	6,807	40,110	60,770
	85.1%	70.7%	70.9%	14.9%	28.8%	28.3%
National	624,233	1,975,947	2,373,025	248,623	1,287,991	1,159,377
	71.4%	60.1%	66.6%	28.4%	39.1%	32.6%

Table 4.15
Don't Know/Refused
was not included

2007 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By <u>Income</u>						
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	111,317	85,503	40,608	61,790	23,211	16,079
	64.2%	78.6%	70.8%	35.6%	21.4%	28.1%
2	71,491	55,672	21,125	38,952	14,933	12,480
	64.2%	78.8%	60.9%	35.0%	21.1%	36.0%
3	95,617	96,467	44,240	65,195	25,376	15,400
	59.1%	79.0%	72.8%	40.3%	20.8%	25.3%
4	162,635	98,219	47,080	90,424	29,165	27,658
	63.5%	77.0%	62.1%	35.3%	22.9%	36.5%
5	48,944	50,779	21,609	31,305	13,793	12,506
	60.2%	78.4%	62.2%	38.5%	21.3%	36.0%
6	126,178	78,401	31,912	101,833	40,375	24,801
	55.2%	65.9%	55.6%	44.5%	33.9%	43.2%
7	107,905	113,213	43,178	111,469	47,094	29,120
	48.7%	70.3%	57.9%	50.3%	29.2%	39.1%
8	202,645	145,264	59,480	136,294	58,093	36,470
	59.5%	71.4%	59.3%	40.0%	28.5%	36.4%
9	106,299	69,372	27,565	107,973	28,491	18,600
	49.4%	70.5%	59.3%	50.2%	29.0%	40.0%
10	110,179	55,936	17,500	64,364	16,740	17,546
	63.0%	77.0%	49.6%	36.8%	23.0%	49.8%
11	113,739	70,881	25,352	83,609	22,290	19,691
	57.2%	75.8%	55.9%	42.0%	23.8%	43.4%
12	116,195	95,338	34,167	55,791	24,499	17,824
	67.4%	79.5%	64.2%	32.3%	20.4%	33.5%
15	113,140	58,603	24,648	75,239	21,300	20,661
	59.7%	73.0%	53.4%	39.7%	26.5%	44.7%
16	182,020	126,434	58,022	187,394	50,734	37,378
	49.1%	70.7%	59.6%	50.5%	28.4%	38.4%
17	97,269	94,020	33,259	81,354	34,500	19,177
	54.4%	73.0%	62.4%	45.5%	26.8%	36.0%
18	100,694	83,384	25,834	54,460	28,934	14,308
	64.2%	74.0%	61.7%	34.7%	25.7%	34.2%

2007 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By <u>Income</u>						
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
19	73,425	59,824	22,360	44,268	18,169	9,500
	62.2%	76.7%	68.6%	37.5%	23.3%	29.1%
20	107,652	87,934	31,421	72,788	32,890	13,783
	59.3%	72.8%	66.6%	40.1%	27.2%	29.2%
21	96,536	90,139	33,031	54,977	34,392	15,013
	62.9%	72.0%	67.1%	35.8%	27.5%	30.5%
22	123,986	115,249	42,846	66,130	37,626	22,097
	64.9%	75.2%	64.5%	34.6%	24.5%	33.3%
23	144,948	105,662	38,859	72,354	22,061	13,273
	66.6%	82.3%	72.5%	33.3%	17.2%	24.8%
National	2,412,814	1,836,295	724,096	1,657,962	624,664	413,365
	58.9%	74.4%	62.2%	40.5%	25.3%	35.5%

Planned Future Use

The final question in the key driver section of the survey asked enrollees how they plan to use VA services in the future. All survey respondents were asked this question. As in prior years when this question has been asked, the most common response is to use VA for primary care (42%), followed by plans to use VA for prescriptions (13%), for back-up care (12%), and as a safety net (11%). Between the 2005 and 2007 surveys, the proportion of respondents that indicated no plans to use VA services increased from just over 9 percent to 14 percent. In contrast, the percentage that expressed intent to use VA as a safety net increased from 8 percent to 11 percent. The overall pattern of responses to this question has changed since 2003 and additional analysis will be needed to discern the underlying reasons.

Figure 4.14

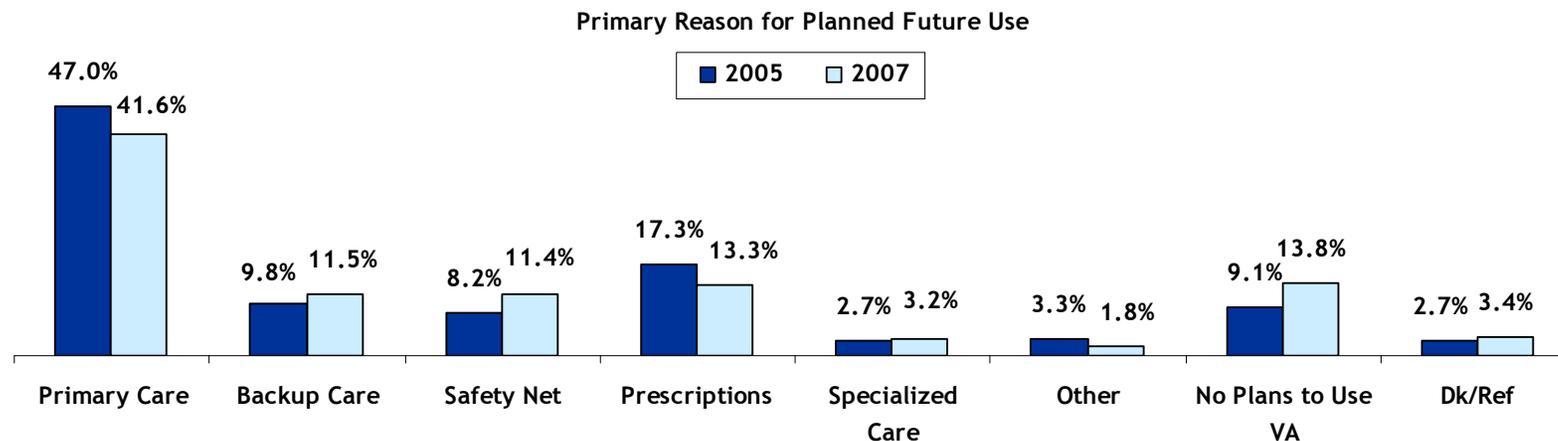


Table 4.17

	2003		2005		2007	
Primary Care	3,301,673	49.0%	3,148,146	47.0%	2,989,191	41.6%
Backup Care	1,422,489	21.1%	654,786	9.8%	826,064	11.5%
Safety Net			549,704	8.2%	820,110	11.4%
Prescriptions	1,075,959	16.0%	1,160,628	17.3%	959,342	13.3%
Specialized Care			183,912	2.7%	226,938	3.2%
Other	86,120	1.3%	218,332	3.3%	132,589	1.8%
No Plans to Use VA	622,759	9.20%	610,136	9.1%	989,005	13.8%
DK/Ref	233,676	3.4%	178,506	2.7%	243,712	3.4%

Reviewing planned future use by network reveals some interesting variations. For example, 32 percent of enrollees in VISN 3 plan to use VA in the future as a primary source of care, compared to 49 percent in VISN 9. Plans to use VA for prescriptions varied from seven percent in VISN 22 to 23 percent in VISN 11. Finally, 10 percent of enrollees in VISN 8 reported no plans to use VA in the future, compared to 18 percent in VISN 5.

Table 4.18

2007 Reasons for Planned Future Use Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by VISN								
VISN	Primary	Backup	Safety Net	Prescriptions	Specialized Care	Other	No Plans To Use VA	DK/Ref
1	118,398	30,941	34,323	56,338	12,106	6,622	47,888	9,205
	37.5%	9.8%	10.9%	17.8%	3.8%	2.1%	15.2%	2.9%
2	74,107	25,852	26,756	26,168	5,439	2,447	32,306	8,429
	36.8%	12.8%	13.3%	13.0%	2.7%	1.2%	16.0%	4.2%
3	101,059	41,289	43,857	48,950	10,628	9,249	55,753	9,910
	31.5%	12.9%	13.7%	15.3%	3.3%	2.9%	17.4%	3.1%
4	145,239	56,624	48,904	77,638	10,377	9,358	65,366	13,779
	34.0%	13.3%	11.4%	18.2%	2.4%	2.2%	15.3%	3.2%
5	63,050	19,149	22,280	15,194	8,789	3,986	30,120	5,641
	37.5%	11.4%	13.2%	9.0%	5.2%	2.4%	17.9%	3.4%
6	174,859	43,880	36,639	47,027	10,849	7,991	45,143	10,564
	46.4%	11.6%	9.7%	12.5%	2.9%	2.1%	12.0%	2.8%
7	164,937	67,825	54,326	42,630	16,286	6,732	61,956	10,457
	38.8%	16.0%	12.8%	10.0%	3.8%	1.6%	14.6%	2.5%

2007 Reasons for Planned Future Use Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by VISN								
VISN	Primary	Backup	Safety Net	Prescriptions	Specialized Care	Other	No Plans To Use VA	DK/Ref
8	278,416	64,194	63,539	83,262	16,599	11,363	62,356	19,581
	46.5%	10.7%	10.6%	13.9%	2.8%	1.9%	10.4%	3.3%
9	164,128	32,279	34,270	37,468	8,335	7,697	39,698	11,062
	49.0%	9.6%	10.2%	11.2%	2.5%	2.3%	11.9%	3.3%
10	105,716	29,406	28,286	41,843	5,107	6,948	39,534	6,234
	40.2%	11.2%	10.8%	15.9%	1.9%	2.6%	15.0%	2.4%
11	120,773	31,535	27,420	73,145	13,444	4,254	33,237	10,490
	38.4%	10.0%	8.7%	23.3%	4.3%	1.4%	10.6%	3.3%
12	125,886	38,447	34,812	51,693	7,093	5,716	43,829	13,970
	39.2%	12.0%	10.8%	16.1%	2.2%	1.8%	13.6%	4.3%
15	130,841	27,289	24,713	50,701	8,097	5,171	40,459	6,735
	44.5%	9.3%	8.4%	17.2%	2.8%	1.8%	13.8%	2.3%
16	294,305	50,762	52,636	60,605	15,305	8,675	88,818	30,699
	48.9%	8.4%	8.7%	10.1%	2.5%	1.4%	14.8%	5.1%
17	145,206	40,021	45,945	31,589	11,506	7,271	43,522	10,774
	43.2%	11.9%	13.7%	9.4%	3.4%	2.2%	13.0%	3.2%
18	135,405	31,851	31,435	27,695	7,563	4,217	43,032	8,514
	46.7%	11.0%	10.9%	9.6%	2.6%	1.5%	14.9%	2.9%
19	85,156	28,088	23,250	24,938	6,862	3,877	32,142	8,430
	40.0%	13.2%	10.9%	11.7%	3.2%	1.8%	15.1%	4.0%
20	127,083	45,459	43,744	36,168	13,214	5,686	43,221	10,705
	39.1%	14.0%	13.4%	11.1%	4.1%	1.7%	13.3%	3.3%
21	132,945	37,521	45,720	27,066	10,652	4,553	39,652	6,932
	43.6%	12.3%	15.0%	8.9%	3.5%	1.5%	13.0%	2.3%
22	156,253	45,216	58,647	27,433	18,029	5,777	57,561	13,244
	40.9%	11.8%	15.3%	7.2%	4.7%	1.5%	15.1%	3.5%
23	145,431	38,438	38,608	71,789	10,658	4,997	43,411	18,356
	39.1%	10.3%	10.4%	19.3%	2.9%	1.3%	11.7%	4.9%
National	2,989,191	826,064	820,110	959,341	226,938	132,589	989,005	243,712
	41.6%	11.5%	11.4%	13.3%	3.2%	1.8%	13.8%	3.4%

Enrollee Perceptions of VA Services

Methodology Notes: Forward selection regression analyses were used to analyze how enrollee perceptions of VA services impacted actual use of VA services. All 1,887 enrollees who answered the key driver questions were grouped into four utilization groups: VA-only, both VA and non-VA, non-VA-only, and no health care use/no health care needs. The perceptions that enrollees have of VA health care were moderate predictors (based on the size of standardized regression coefficients) and somewhat consistent predictors (one of them predicted all three types of health care utilization) of dependence on and utilization of VA services. (See Table 4.19, which shows the perceptions of VA service variables that emerged in regression analyses as statistically significant ($p < .01$) positive predictors (+), negative predictors (-), or non-predictors (blank) of the three utilization measures defined previously.)

Enrollees who currently depend on or utilize VA health care services showed three tendencies. Specifically, they:

- Gave positive ratings for the cost, availability and access, and location of VA health care services.
- Had greater knowledge of VA health care insurance (assessed as the average score for the two items: “I feel I know what is available to me through my VA coverage” and “I understand how my VA health insurance coverage works”).

Furthermore, reliance and dependence on VA health care was predicted by concurrence with statements regarding friends using VA health care, and increased use of VA more if health care costs increase.

Factors negatively relating to current and future VA utilization were:

- Higher availability of non-VA health care options;
- Viewing the VA as a provider of last resort (“I would only use VA if I did not have access to any other source of health care”);
- Holding belief that enrollees who can afford other care “should leave the VA to those to really need it.”

Table 4.19

Perceptions of VA Services Predicting Utilization of Health Care Services (self-reported)	Type of Utilization of VA Health Care Services		
	Reliance and Dependence	Self-Reported Utilization	Actual Utilization
Cost-effectiveness	+	+	
Quality		+	
Location/Convenience of facilities	+	+	
Availability and accessibility of services	+		+
Friends using VA health care	+		
Availability of Non-VA health care alternatives	-	-	-
Feels they would only use VA if had no other source of health care	-	-	
Knowledge of the VA health insurance	+	+	
Feels they would use VA more if their cost of health care increases	+		
Agrees that it takes more than 30 days to get an appointment at VA		+	
Believes enrollees who can afford other sources should leave the VA for those who need it	-		-

With respect to the four types of health care utilization, enrollees with more positive perceptions of the convenience of location of VA services were more likely to use VA and less likely to use non-VA sources of care. (See Table 4.20, which shows the perceptions of VA service variables that emerged in regression analyses as statistically significant ($p < .01$) positive predictors (+), negative predictors (-), or non-predictors (blank) of the self-reported utilization measures defined previously.) Conversely, enrollees with higher ratings of the availability of non-VA health care alternatives were less likely to use VA-only and more likely to use non-VA services or VA and non-VA services. Having friends who use the VA health care system positively related to dependence on VA, but also positively related to using non-VA sources of care.

Table 4.20

Perceptions of VA Services Predicting Utilization of Health Care Services (self-reported)	Type of Self-Reported Utilization			
	VA-only (504)	VA and Non-VA (764)	Non-VA-only (344)	None (275)
Cost-effectiveness	+			
Quality			-	
Location/convenience of VA facilities	+		-	
Friends using VA health care			+	
Availability of non-VA health care alternatives items	-	+	+	-
Feels they would only use VA if had no other source of health care		-	+	+
Awareness of VA health insurance	+	-		

The strength of the relationship between important perceptions of VA health care services and utilization of health care services is presented in Table 4.21. Among the four utilization groups, VA-only users had the highest proportion of respondents with positive ratings of the quality, cost, location (about 85%), and availability of VA health care services (65%), as well as knowledge of VA insurance (69%). VA-only users also had the smallest proportion of enrollees who reported high availability of non-VA health care alternatives (13%). However, non-VA-only users had the smallest proportion of enrollees with positive ratings of the quality, cost, location (about 54%), and availability of VA health care services (31%), as well as knowledge of VA insurance (40%). Non-VA-only users also had the highest proportion of enrollees who reported high availability of non-VA health care alternatives (61%).

About two-thirds of non-users of any health care feel favorably about the cost, quality, and convenience of VA health care services, and would use VA health care if they have no other health care alternatives. Only one-third indicate they have access to other health care alternatives available to them. As additional data are gathered from subsequent surveys, further understanding may be garnered about key drivers influencing non-users of VA.

Table 4.21

Health Care Utilization by Perceptions of VA Services (self-reported) <i>Positive ratings of:</i>	Type of Self-Reported Utilization				All Enrollees (1,887)
	VA-only (504)	VA and Non-VA (764)	Non-VA-only (344)	None (275)	
Positive ratings of cost of VA health care services	87%	72%	52%	68%	70%
Positive ratings of quality of VA health care services	85%	80%	55%	71%	73%
Positive ratings of convenience of location of VA health care facilities	84%	68%	54%	63%	68%
Positive ratings of availability and accessibility of VA health care services	65%	53%	31%	45%	49%
High availability of non-VA health care alternatives	13%	41%	61%	30%	37%
Feels they would only use VA if had no other source of health care	41%	39%	67%	60%	50%
High degree of knowledge of the VA health insurance	69%	62%	40%	58%	58%

Note 1: Based on the weighted data that controls for the non-response bias.

The two health status variables, pertaining to one's perceptions of health and "lack of health care needs" were strong predictors (based on the size of standardized regression coefficients) and somewhat consistent predictors (one of them predicted all three types of health care utilization) of dependence on and utilization of VA services. Not surprisingly, enrollees with no identified health care needs/use and with higher rating of health status were less likely to depend on or utilize any type of health care services, either VA or non-VA. (See Table 4.22)

Table 4.22

Health Factors Predicting Utilization of Health Services (self-reported)	Type of Utilization of VA Health Services		
	Reliance and Dependence	Self-Reported Utilization	Actual Utilization
No health care needs	–	–	–
Health status, compared to other people		–	

The descriptive results for the health factors indicate that the overwhelming majority of users of VA services report having health care needs (about 97%), and more than a third of the users rate their health status as fair or poor. (See Table 4.23) Non-users of any of the services had the smallest proportion of enrollees who report having health care needs (32%).

Table 4.23

Percent of Enrollees Who Utilize Health care with Different Health Factors (self-reported)	Type of Self-Reported Utilization				All Enrollees (1,887)
	VA-only (504)	VA and Non-VA (764)	Non-VA-only (344)	None (275)	
Have health care needs	97%	98%	91%	32%	84%
Fair or poor health status, compared to other people	40%	36%	36%	40%	38%

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CHAPTER 5

Cigarette Smoking Status

According to the Health and Human Services Department, cigarette smoking continues to be the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. Knowing this, it is important to understand the smoking habits of our enrollee population. Improvements in the 2005/2007 surveys include questions on Cigarette Smoking Status.

Enrollees were asked if they had smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their entire life (Question D2). If the response was other than “no”, these were classified as enrollees who had ever smoked, or the “smoker population”. This smoker population was then asked to clarify if they now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all (Question D3). For the purpose of this report, if they responded that they now smoke cigarettes “every day” or “some days” they were classified as “current smokers.” However, if they responded “not at all” to this question, they were classified as “former smokers.” Finally, if the enrollee responded “no”, they have not smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their entire life; they were classified as “never smoked.”

Next, the enrollee smoker population was asked if during the past 12 months, they had stopped smoking for more than one day because they were trying to quit smoking (Question D4). Again, for the purpose of this report, if they responded “yes” to this question, they were classified as “recent quitters” (e.g., enrollees who during the past 12 months stopped smoking for more than one day because they were trying to quit smoking).

These responses can be evaluated in several different ways. Smoking status can be compared as a percent of the enrollee population by Priority, Age, and Income Groups. It can be compared as a percentage of the enrollee smoking status, (e.g., current smoker, former smoker, or recent quitter). And the responses can be evaluated as a percent of the response to the question that determined the smoker population.

When looking at the entire enrollee population, 5 million, or 70 percent, reported they have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their life. These are enrollees who have ever smoked. Of these, 3.4 million, or 70 percent, of the enrollees who have ever smoked responded that, at the time of the survey, they do not smoke at all, in other words, they are former smokers. Finally, 30.0 percent of the enrollee population has never smoked.

When you compare this by Priority, 83 percent of Priority 7-8 enrollees who have ever smoked are former smokers. When compared by Age, 87 percent of the 65 or over Age Group are former smokers. When compared by Income, 75 percent of the \$36,000+ Income Group are former smokers.

Current smokers can be described as the portion of enrollees who responded “yes, don’t know, or refused” to the question asking if they have ever smoked, and then responded that they now smoke “every day” or “some days.” Of the entire enrollee population, 22 percent are current smokers. This is somewhat higher than the 21 percent of all adults (45.3 million people) in the general population, as noted in the Center for Disease Control November 2007 Fact sheet; Adult Cigarette Smoking in the United States: Current Estimates. Forty percent of the current smokers reported combat exposure.

When current smoker is used as the denominator, the largest percents are Priority Group 4-6 with 51 percent, Age Group 45-64 with 64 percent, and the less than \$36,000 Income Group with 65 percent of the current smokers.

When the smoker population is used as the denominator, 31 percent are current smokers. When compared by Priority, 40 percent of Priority Groups 4-6 who have ever smoked are current smokers. When compared by Age, 60 percent of the less than 45 Age Group who have ever smoked are current smokers. When compared by Income, 36 percent of the less than \$36,000 Income Group who have ever smoked are current smokers.

Recent quitters can be described as the portion of the enrollees who responded that they have ever smoked and that during the last 12 months they stopped smoking for more than one day because they were trying to quit smoking. Of the entire enrollee population, 17 percent are recent quitters. When the smoker population is used at the denominator, 24 percent are recent quitters. When compared by Priority, 30 percent of Priority Groups 4-6 who have ever smoked are recent quitters. When compared by Age, 46 percent of the less than 45 Age Group who have ever smoked are recent quitters. When compared by Income, 27 percent of the less than \$36,000 Income Group who have ever smoked are recent quitters. (See Table 5.1 for the numbers and percentages described above.)

All of the results from the 2007 survey are slightly improved from 2005 survey.

- When looking at the enrollee population, 69 percent responded that they have ever smoked.
- Of those enrollees who were asked if they now smoke every day, some day, or not at all, 31 percent are current smokers and 69 percent are former smokers.
- Of the enrollee population who has ever smoked, 24 percent are recent quitters.
- Thirty percent of the enrollees responded that they have never smoked.

Table 5.1

Enrollee Smoking Status	Priority Group			Age Group			Income			2007 Total Enrollee Smoking Status	2005 Total Enrollee Smoking Status
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref		
*D2-Yes/DK Ref: Enrollees Who Have Ever Smoked	1,599,186	1,983,426	1,449,587	421,569	2,268,636	2,341,994	2,813,929	1,498,970	719,299	5,032,198	4,770,915
% Smoker Population*	31.8%	39.4%	28.8%	8.4%	45.1%	46.5%	55.9%	29.8%	14.3%	100%	100%
% Enrollee Population	66.8%	74.6%	67.9%	51.8%	74.1%	70.7%	73.9%	65.3%	66.4%	70.0%	71.2%
D2-No: Never Smoked	793,642	675,567	685,542	392,010	792,035	970,707	994,508	797,074	363,170	2,154,752	1,886,413
% Never Smoked	36.8%	31.4%	31.8%	18.2%	36.8%	45.0%	46.2%	37.0%	16.9%	100%	100%
% Enrollee Population	33.2%	25.4%	32.1%	48.2%	25.9%	29.3%	26.1%	34.7%	33.6%	30.0%	28.1%
D3-Every Day/Some Days: Current Smokers	506,707	793,631	247,419	251,675	985,851	310,231	998,618	369,500	179,639	1,547,757	1,485,496
% Current Smokers	32.7%	51.3%	16.0%	16.3%	63.7%	20.0%	64.5%	23.9%	11.6%	100%	100%
% Smoker Population*	31.7%	40.0%	17.1%	59.7%	43.5%	13.2%	35.5%	24.7%	25.0%	30.8%	31.1%
% Enrollee Population	21.2%	29.8%	11.6%	30.9%	32.2%	9.4%	26.2%	16.1%	16.6%	21.5%	22.2%
D3-Not at all: Former Smokers	1,092,479	1,189,795	1,202,168	169,894	1,282,785	2,031,763	1,815,312	1,129,469	539,660	3,484,441	3,319,049
% Former Smokers	31.4%	34.1%	34.5%	4.9%	36.8%	58.3%	52.1%	32.4%	15.5%	100%	100%
% Smoker Population*	68.3%	60.0%	82.9%	40.3%	56.5%	86.8%	64.5%	75.3%	75.0%	69.2%	69.6%
% Enrollee Population	45.7%	44.7%	56.3%	20.9%	41.9%	61.3%	47.7%	49.2%	49.9%	48.5%	49.5%
D4-Yes: Recent Quitters	420,380	588,849	220,316	192,748	730,107	306,689	770,015	333,576	125,953	1,229,544	1,196,242
% Recent Quitters	34.2%	47.9%	17.9%	15.7%	59.4%	24.9%	62.6%	27.1%	10.2%	100%	100%
% Smoker Population*	26.3%	29.7%	15.2%	45.7%	32.2%	13.1%	27.4%	22.3%	17.5%	24.4%	25.1%
% Enrollee Population	17.6%	22.1%	10.3%	23.7%	23.9%	9.3%	20.2%	14.5%	11.6%	17.1%	17.8%
**Yes" DK/Ref Response to Question D2	1,599,186	1,983,426	1,449,587	421,569	2,268,636	2,341,994	2,813,929	1,498,970	719,299	5,032,198	4,770,915
Enrollee Population	2,392,828	2,658,993	2,135,129	813,578	3,060,671	3,312,701	3,808,438	2,296,043	1,082,469	7,186,950	6,704,150

VISN Overview (Current Smokers)

The number and percent of current smokers has shown change since the 2005 survey. While the percent of current smokers have gone down at a national level, some VISNs showed an increase in percentage between 2005 and 2007. Most VISNs however have seen a decrease in the percent of current smokers.

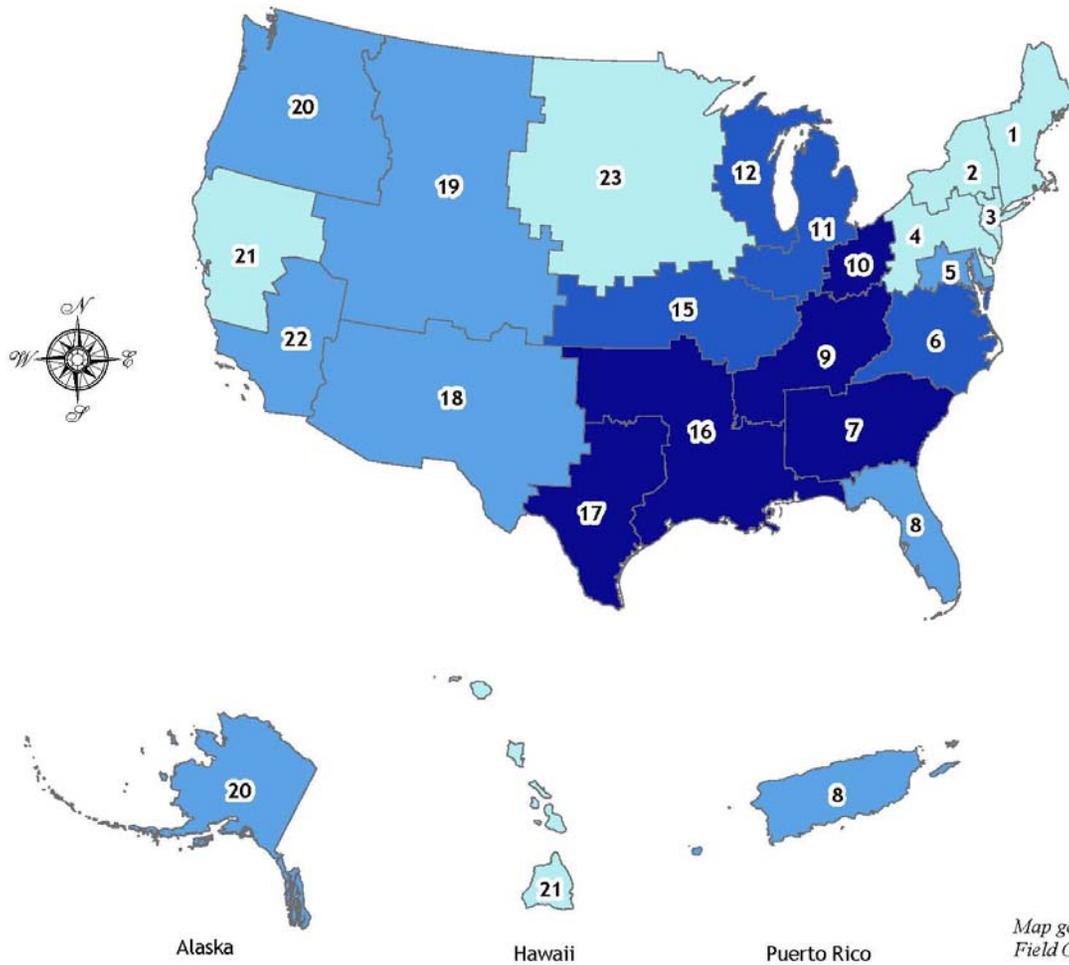
- In 2007, data revealed VISNs 10 and 9 have the highest percentage of current smokers, with 27 percent and 26 percent respectively.
- VISNs 23 and 3 had the lowest percentage of current smokers, with 16.5 and 16.6 percent respectively.
- When comparing 2007 to 2005 data, most VISNs showed a decrease in the percent of current smokers, with VISN 11 showing the most difference. VISN 11 data showed 28 percent of enrollees who reported they were current smokers, compared to 22 percent in 2007.
- VISNs that showed an increase in the percent of current smokers were VISNs 3, 7, 10, 15, 16, 17, and 22, with VISN 17 showing the largest increase, from 20 percent in 2005 compared to 25 percent in 2007.

Map 5.1



Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

2007 Current Smokers



Legend

- 16% - 18%
- 19% - 20%
- 21% - 24%
- 25% - 27%

VISN	Current Smokers	Enrollees	Percent Smokers
1	56,642	315,822	17.9%
2	36,680	201,504	18.2%
3	53,237	320,694	16.6%
4	74,538	427,286	17.4%
5	32,961	168,209	19.6%
6	87,825	376,952	23.3%
7	108,889	425,147	25.6%
8	118,564	599,310	19.8%
9	88,038	334,936	26.3%
10	70,463	263,074	26.8%
11	69,261	314,297	22.0%
12	76,800	321,447	23.9%
15	71,258	294,006	24.2%
16	152,268	601,804	25.3%
17	84,960	335,834	25.3%
18	58,757	289,712	20.3%
19	44,018	212,742	20.7%
20	67,249	325,281	20.7%
21	55,152	305,042	18.1%
22	78,721	382,159	20.6%
23	61,476	371,689	16.5%
National	1,547,757	7,186,950	21.5%

Source: 2007 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance in VA

Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group
Field Office of the ADUSH for Policy and Planning

Table 5.2

2007 Current Smokers Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	19,781	27,028	9,833	11,780	32,893	11,969	32,765	17,783	6,094
	28.2%	36.6%	12.2%	61.3%	39.0%	9.9%	27.7%	25.2%	17.0%
2	11,830	15,147	9,702	4,138	25,795	6,747	20,107	12,366	4,207
	33.3%	26.4%	19.8%	37.6%	43.1%	9.5%	26.7%	28.3%	18.4%
3	11,862	26,026	15,349	10,027	26,254	16,956	31,072	16,616	5,550
	21.4%	32.6%	17.5%	69.9%	31.7%	13.5%	27.5%	22.7%	15.1%
4	21,377	38,561	14,599	11,653	46,926	15,959	46,440	18,433	9,665
	33.7%	34.9%	13.6%	66.5%	42.4%	10.4%	29.0%	24.0%	21.8%
5	10,857	18,278	3,827	4,309	21,483	7,169	19,105	8,014	5,842
	25.6%	46.5%	13.9%	49.3%	43.7%	14.0%	36.5%	21.8%	29.0%
6	31,278	42,339	14,208	19,814	51,680	16,332	56,606	20,893	10,327
	32.5%	44.3%	20.7%	71.3%	43.5%	14.4%	37.9%	28.5%	27.3%
7	47,326	46,274	15,288	17,639	74,675	16,575	66,367	29,324	13,197
	37.6%	45.8%	22.3%	64.2%	46.0%	15.7%	44.0%	30.4%	27.2%
8	44,275	53,635	20,654	14,549	72,726	31,289	77,740	28,487	12,336
	31.8%	35.5%	15.8%	53.2%	41.7%	14.3%	33.3%	21.7%	21.9%
9	32,252	44,072	11,714	19,568	48,158	20,312	52,773	20,834	14,431
	39.3%	38.8%	19.9%	80.7%	40.2%	18.4%	33.9%	32.4%	41.6%
10	18,612	43,247	8,604	14,118	43,391	12,954	50,260	13,736	6,467
	38.5%	44.7%	17.1%	73.2%	48.8%	14.8%	39.9%	28.2%	31.1%
11	20,565	38,212	10,484	14,286	43,323	11,653	44,941	16,980	7,341
	31.6%	38.9%	15.2%	58.8%	41.8%	11.1%	31.6%	28.4%	23.9%
12	18,398	42,878	15,524	15,087	46,788	14,925	47,057	16,582	13,161
	34.9%	46.8%	18.0%	75.9%	43.3%	14.5%	38.6%	22.4%	37.9%
15	16,990	43,135	11,132	10,493	48,600	12,164	53,042	9,432	8,783
	30.6%	40.2%	19.0%	68.0%	47.8%	11.7%	38.0%	18.0%	29.8%
16	47,779	88,652	15,838	18,181	105,948	28,139	110,494	25,201	16,573
	35.0%	45.0%	16.6%	60.2%	49.4%	15.3%	42.8%	22.9%	27.3%
17	26,785	46,440	11,734	10,894	59,419	14,646	56,327	20,552	8,081
	30.9%	47.4%	24.9%	54.4%	50.1%	15.7%	43.6%	28.3%	27.0%
18	22,521	25,875	10,360	6,501	40,654	11,602	35,359	16,457	6,940
	32.1%	34.7%	18.4%	50.3%	43.1%	12.4%	32.4%	25.0%	26.7%
19	14,550	22,313	7,155	7,037	26,765	10,215	30,054	9,753	4,210
	32.9%	43.0%	17.2%	56.4%	44.0%	15.8%	39.7%	22.2%	23.1%
20	27,598	30,622	9,029	12,044	44,667	10,538	43,569	15,794	7,886
	30.6%	36.9%	16.7%	45.6%	42.6%	11.0%	33.8%	22.4%	28.4%
21	20,341	28,220	6,591	11,308	34,746	9,099	31,540	19,200	4,412
	25.7%	35.9%	13.2%	51.0%	38.2%	9.6%	31.3%	25.4%	14.0%

2007 Current Smokers Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
22	23,182	44,098	11,440	11,298	53,171	14,252	53,302	17,026	8,393
	29.2%	44.3%	16.8%	47.0%	44.2%	13.9%	42.1%	20.7%	22.0%
23	18,546	28,578	14,352	6,953	37,788	16,735	39,697	16,035	5,744
	22.8%	33.7%	15.3%	41.7%	37.9%	11.7%	26.9%	20.6%	16.8%
National	506,707	793,631	247,419	251,675	985,851	310,231	998,618	369,500	179,639
	31.7%	40.0%	17.1%	59.7%	43.5%	13.2%	35.5%	24.7%	25.0%

Table 5.3

2007 Former Smokers Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	50,437	46,719	70,795	7,448	51,411	109,093	85,381	52,799	29,772
	71.8%	63.4%	87.8%	38.7%	61.0%	90.1%	72.3%	74.8%	83.0%
2	23,663	42,315	39,207	6,856	34,118	64,211	55,246	31,326	18,612
	66.7%	73.6%	80.2%	62.4%	56.9%	90.5%	73.3%	71.7%	81.6%
3	43,515	53,746	72,320	4,317	56,448	108,816	81,905	56,464	31,211
	78.6%	67.4%	82.5%	30.1%	68.3%	86.5%	72.5%	77.3%	84.9%
4	41,990	71,832	93,013	5,859	63,776	137,200	113,849	58,276	34,710
	66.3%	65.1%	86.4%	33.5%	57.6%	89.6%	71.0%	76.0%	78.2%
5	31,525	20,994	23,772	4,430	27,646	44,215	33,275	28,746	14,269
	74.4%	53.5%	86.1%	50.7%	56.3%	86.0%	63.5%	78.2%	71.0%
6	64,966	53,289	54,283	7,976	67,088	97,475	92,717	52,314	27,507
	67.5%	55.7%	79.3%	28.7%	56.5%	85.6%	62.1%	71.5%	72.7%
7	78,507	54,772	53,302	9,845	87,613	89,123	84,303	67,030	35,248
	62.4%	54.2%	77.7%	35.8%	54.0%	84.3%	56.0%	69.6%	72.8%
8	94,908	97,567	109,919	12,789	101,708	187,897	155,410	102,878	44,105
	68.2%	64.5%	84.2%	46.8%	58.3%	85.7%	66.7%	78.3%	78.1%
9	49,757	69,519	47,182	4,695	71,711	90,053	102,752	43,484	20,222
	60.7%	61.2%	80.1%	19.3%	59.8%	81.6%	66.1%	67.6%	58.4%
10	29,779	53,447	41,790	5,161	45,525	74,330	75,763	34,923	14,330
	61.5%	55.3%	82.9%	26.8%	51.2%	85.2%	60.1%	71.8%	68.9%
11	44,445	60,141	58,675	10,026	60,222	93,012	97,055	42,828	23,379
	68.4%	61.1%	84.8%	41.2%	58.2%	88.9%	68.4%	71.6%	76.1%
12	34,336	48,651	70,865	4,789	61,191	87,872	75,002	57,310	21,540
	65.1%	53.2%	82.0%	24.1%	56.7%	85.5%	61.4%	77.6%	62.1%
15	38,555	64,294	47,315	4,946	53,164	92,054	86,621	42,855	20,688
	69.4%	59.8%	81.0%	32.0%	52.2%	88.3%	62.0%	82.0%	70.2%

2007 Former Smokers Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
16	88,892	108,250	79,555	12,030	108,606	156,062	147,645	84,947	44,105
	65.0%	55.0%	83.4%	39.8%	50.6%	84.7%	57.2%	77.1%	72.7%
17	59,798	51,612	35,398	9,138	59,222	78,448	72,917	52,033	21,858
	69.1%	52.6%	75.1%	45.6%	49.9%	84.3%	56.4%	71.7%	73.0%
18	47,556	48,590	46,042	6,413	53,575	82,200	73,835	49,277	19,076
	67.9%	65.3%	81.6%	49.7%	56.9%	87.6%	67.6%	75.0%	73.3%
19	29,681	29,603	34,495	5,445	34,066	54,269	45,651	34,095	14,034
	67.1%	57.0%	82.8%	43.6%	56.0%	84.2%	60.3%	77.8%	76.9%
20	62,591	52,292	45,044	14,394	60,307	85,228	85,434	54,637	19,856
	69.4%	63.1%	83.3%	54.4%	57.4%	89.0%	66.2%	77.6%	71.6%
21	58,665	50,491	43,220	10,859	56,326	85,191	69,073	56,295	27,007
	74.3%	64.1%	86.8%	49.0%	61.8%	90.4%	68.7%	74.6%	86.0%
22	56,252	55,538	56,532	12,747	67,032	88,543	73,453	65,190	29,679
	70.8%	55.7%	83.2%	53.0%	55.8%	86.1%	57.9%	79.3%	78.0%
23	62,662	56,133	79,440	9,731	62,032	126,471	108,024	61,761	28,449
	77.2%	66.3%	84.7%	58.3%	62.1%	88.3%	73.1%	79.4%	83.2%
National	1,092,479	1,189,795	1,202,168	169,894	1,282,785	2,031,763	1,815,312	1,129,469	539,660
	68.3%	60.0%	82.9%	40.3%	56.5%	86.8%	64.5%	75.3%	75.0%

Table 5.4

2007 Recent Quitters Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	18,311	18,873	9,415	10,254	24,292	12,052	27,385	14,391	4,823
	26.1%	25.6%	11.7%	53.3%	28.8%	10.0%	23.2%	20.4%	13.4%
2	9,891	13,329	7,779	3,368	19,026	8,605	18,470	8,802	3,727
	27.9%	23.2%	15.9%	30.6%	31.8%	12.1%	24.5%	20.1%	16.3%
3	9,598	23,617	16,917	9,371	24,777	15,984	28,033	16,934	5,164
	17.3%	29.6%	19.3%	65.3%	30.0%	12.7%	24.8%	23.2%	14.0%
4	17,013	25,343	15,746	5,242	33,474	19,385	32,221	17,628	8,253
	26.8%	23.0%	14.6%	29.9%	30.2%	12.7%	20.1%	23.0%	18.6%
5	9,624	9,797	3,004	2,460	14,674	5,292	12,676	7,238	2,510
	22.7%	24.9%	10.9%	28.1%	29.9%	10.3%	24.2%	19.7%	12.5%
6	22,877	32,469	12,886	14,168	38,794	15,269	43,497	16,978	7,757
	23.8%	34.0%	18.8%	51.0%	32.7%	13.4%	29.1%	23.2%	20.5%

2007 Recent Quitters Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
7	38,208	35,536	11,471	13,065	56,704	15,445	52,451	21,936	10,827
	30.4%	35.2%	16.7%	47.5%	34.9%	14.6%	34.8%	22.8%	22.3%
8	42,881	44,837	15,861	11,680	64,422	27,477	63,784	33,324	6,471
	30.8%	29.7%	12.1%	42.7%	36.9%	12.5%	27.4%	25.4%	11.5%
9	27,246	34,512	8,382	14,390	40,615	15,135	44,768	17,520	7,852
	33.2%	30.4%	14.2%	59.3%	33.9%	13.7%	28.8%	27.2%	22.7%
10	14,638	29,191	8,324	8,078	28,180	15,895	36,341	11,255	4,557
	30.2%	30.2%	16.5%	41.9%	31.7%	18.2%	28.8%	23.1%	21.9%
11	19,750	27,377	10,263	12,653	31,293	13,444	33,406	17,022	6,962
	30.4%	27.8%	14.8%	52.0%	30.2%	12.8%	23.5%	28.5%	22.7%
12	12,605	25,463	12,338	8,142	29,343	12,921	33,739	11,204	5,463
	23.9%	27.8%	14.3%	41.0%	27.2%	12.6%	27.6%	15.2%	15.7%
15	13,730	31,498	11,457	7,948	35,983	12,755	41,036	9,887	5,762
	24.7%	29.3%	19.6%	51.5%	35.4%	12.2%	29.4%	18.9%	19.6%
16	38,908	70,262	15,211	15,177	81,699	27,505	89,055	21,765	13,561
	28.5%	35.7%	15.9%	50.2%	38.1%	14.9%	34.5%	19.8%	22.3%
17	19,718	30,411	8,511	7,887	37,946	12,807	37,087	16,652	4,900
	22.8%	31.0%	18.1%	39.4%	32.0%	13.8%	28.7%	22.9%	16.4%
18	15,818	16,485	7,961	3,882	25,851	10,531	22,968	11,612	5,684
	22.6%	22.1%	14.1%	30.1%	27.4%	11.2%	21.0%	17.7%	21.8%
19	10,989	14,904	8,273	5,423	18,535	10,207	22,032	9,868	2,265
	24.8%	28.7%	19.9%	43.4%	30.5%	15.8%	29.1%	22.5%	12.4%
20	24,313	21,548	8,727	9,014	33,500	12,073	31,921	16,643	6,023
	27.0%	26.0%	16.1%	34.1%	31.9%	12.6%	24.7%	23.6%	21.7%
21	14,953	26,030	6,983	9,747	27,854	10,366	26,220	17,897	3,849
	18.9%	33.1%	14.0%	44.0%	30.6%	11.0%	26.1%	23.7%	12.3%
22	23,051	34,139	8,841	14,231	35,312	16,488	40,990	19,253	5,788
	29.0%	34.3%	13.0%	59.2%	29.4%	16.0%	32.3%	23.4%	15.2%
23	16,258	23,230	11,968	6,569	27,834	17,053	31,937	15,765	3,754
	20.0%	27.4%	12.8%	39.4%	27.9%	11.9%	21.6%	20.3%	11.0%
National	420,380	588,849	220,316	192,748	730,107	306,689	770,015	333,576	125,953
	26.3%	29.7%	15.2%	45.7%	32.2%	13.1%	27.4%	22.3%	17.5%

Table 5.5

2007 Enrollees Who Never Smoked Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	31,006	30,549	29,674	18,506	29,136	43,587	43,222	30,551	17,456
	30.6%	29.3%	26.9%	49.0%	25.7%	26.5%	26.8%	30.2%	32.7%
2	18,292	17,255	24,092	11,645	19,976	28,019	28,170	22,013	9,457
	34.0%	23.1%	33.0%	51.4%	25.0%	28.3%	27.2%	33.5%	29.3%
3	22,036	29,589	46,250	15,434	22,589	59,853	37,554	40,567	19,755
	28.5%	27.1%	34.5%	51.8%	21.5%	32.2%	24.9%	35.7%	35.0%
4	34,938	57,844	53,131	21,098	46,034	78,780	77,898	41,906	26,108
	35.5%	34.4%	33.1%	54.6%	29.4%	34.0%	32.7%	35.3%	37.0%
5	25,899	17,457	15,600	11,844	23,540	23,572	23,261	23,486	12,210
	37.9%	30.8%	36.1%	57.5%	32.4%	31.4%	30.8%	39.0%	37.8%
6	49,266	38,641	28,681	29,812	42,424	44,352	63,480	37,500	15,607
	33.9%	28.8%	29.5%	51.8%	26.3%	28.0%	29.8%	33.9%	29.2%
7	57,654	36,936	35,086	27,824	57,247	44,606	55,281	53,516	20,880
	31.4%	26.8%	33.8%	50.3%	26.1%	29.7%	26.8%	35.7%	30.1%
8	66,570	50,975	60,808	21,258	65,970	91,124	83,541	57,944	36,868
	32.4%	25.2%	31.8%	43.7%	27.4%	29.4%	26.4%	30.6%	39.5%
9	28,491	31,132	20,817	19,598	32,113	28,728	44,721	27,156	8,563
	25.8%	21.5%	26.1%	44.7%	21.1%	20.7%	22.3%	29.7%	19.8%
10	19,301	28,755	19,538	7,792	28,382	31,421	36,652	18,950	11,992
	28.5%	22.9%	27.9%	28.8%	24.2%	26.5%	22.5%	28.0%	36.6%
11	23,841	24,592	33,343	12,641	24,371	44,763	43,140	27,149	11,486
	26.8%	20.0%	32.5%	34.2%	19.1%	30.0%	23.3%	31.2%	27.2%
12	22,869	24,805	43,121	9,899	33,445	47,452	38,398	37,616	14,780
	30.2%	21.3%	33.3%	33.2%	23.6%	31.6%	23.9%	33.7%	29.9%
15	25,385	22,926	24,274	9,869	23,189	39,527	36,677	22,423	13,485
	31.4%	17.6%	29.3%	39.0%	18.6%	27.5%	20.8%	30.0%	31.4%
16	63,101	64,346	45,392	33,540	62,481	76,817	86,724	56,243	29,872
	31.6%	24.6%	32.2%	52.6%	22.6%	29.4%	25.1%	33.8%	33.0%
17	51,104	30,274	22,688	20,143	46,948	36,976	37,157	47,234	19,676
	37.1%	23.6%	32.5%	50.1%	28.4%	28.4%	22.3%	39.4%	39.7%
18	39,039	24,061	25,667	12,179	39,283	37,306	36,766	39,076	12,925
	35.8%	24.4%	31.3%	48.5%	29.4%	28.5%	25.2%	37.3%	33.2%
19	30,178	22,012	22,756	15,189	31,624	28,133	34,148	28,721	12,076
	40.6%	29.8%	35.3%	54.9%	34.2%	30.4%	31.1%	39.6%	39.8%

2007 Enrollees Who Never Smoked Displayed by Priority, Age, and Income									
VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
20	52,033	21,607	24,464	24,448	37,836	35,821	39,983	41,968	16,153
	36.6%	20.7%	31.1%	48.0%	26.5%	27.2%	23.7%	37.3%	36.8%
21	36,354	29,367	31,793	18,058	37,283	42,173	42,075	41,042	14,397
	31.5%	27.2%	39.0%	44.9%	29.0%	30.9%	29.5%	35.2%	31.4%
22	57,362	41,173	36,581	25,320	58,614	51,182	50,973	60,409	23,734
	41.9%	29.2%	35.0%	51.3%	32.8%	33.2%	28.7%	42.4%	38.4%
23	38,922	31,272	41,785	25,914	29,549	56,517	54,687	41,603	15,690
	32.4%	27.0%	30.8%	60.8%	22.8%	28.3%	27.0%	34.8%	31.5%
National	793,642	675,567	685,542	392,010	792,035	970,707	994,508	797,074	363,170
	33.2%	25.4%	32.1%	48.2%	25.9%	29.3%	26.1%	34.7%	33.6%

2007 SURVEY OF ENROLLEES

Survey Instrument

INTENDED AUDIENCE: Priority 1 through 8 veterans who have applied or are currently enrolled for VA health care services.

Hello, my name is <interviewer first and last name.> I'm calling on behalf of VA, the Department of Veteran Affairs. May I speak with <INSERT NAME>?

- 01 (SKIP TO INTRO) RESPONDENT AVAILABLE
- 02 (SKIP TO CALLBACK) RESPONDENT NOT AVAILABLE
- 03 (SKIP TO **PROXY**) RESPONDENT UNABLE TO DO INTERVIEW PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH REASON
- 04 DO NOT KNOW RESPONDENT/DO NOT RECOGNIZE NAME – MAKE A WRONG NUMBER
- 05 (SKIP TO BADNUM) RESPONDENT NOT AT NUMBER
- 06 TERMINATION SCREEN

BADNUM Do you have a telephone number where I might be able to reach <INSERT NAME>?

- 01 YES – MAKE NEW NUMBER DISPOSITION, COLLECT TELEPHONE NUMBER
- 02 NO – MAKE NO NUMBER AVAILABLE
- 03 NO – WILL NOT RELEASE TELEPHONE NUMBER

//FLAG for if selected for the KEY DRIVER module so that the time will appear differently//

//FLAG for LETTER 01 if sent 0 if not//

INTRODUCTION: We are conducting a study about veteran's use of health care services and needs. //ASK IF LTR=01//You may have recently received a letter from Dr Kussman, the Acting Under Secretary for Health for the Department of Veteran Affairs// Your name was randomly selected from a list of veterans who enrolled to use VA health care services. This study will take //IF KD=0 INSERT 10-15 minutes, IF KD=01 INSERT 20-30 MINUTES//. Everything we talk about will be confidential, although this call may be monitored for quality assurance. Your participation is voluntary – you can choose not to answer any question. Your benefits will not change as a result of your answering any questions. If you chose not to participate, or answer a question, your benefits will **also** not be affected. However, your participation is important for this study's success – we need to talk to veterans like you. Would now be a good time?

IF NECESSARY MORE INFORMATION: This survey is about how many veterans use VA services and what types of services they do or do not use.

IF NECESSARY CONFIDENTIALITY: Your name and answers will be linked. However, VA will protect your identity and answers to the extent allowed under the law. Your answers will in no way affect your benefits. No information that you provide will be released to the general public in a way that can be traced back to you.

ONLY IF LEGITIMACY IS QUESTIONED READ: This survey has been reviewed and approved by the VHA Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning and the Office of Management and Budget. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of this survey, you may call the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C. at 1-866-922-7173

PROXY We are conducting a study about veteran's use of health care services and needs. <INSERT NAME> was randomly selected from a list of veterans who enrolled to use VA health care services. This is an important study, would you be able to answer questions about <INSERT NAME>'s health care, insurance and health status?

IF NECESSARY MORE INFORMATION: This survey is about how many veterans use VA services and what types of services they do or do not use.

IF NECESSARY CONFIDENTIALITY: Your name and answers will be linked. However, VA will protect your identity and answers to the extent allowed under the law. Your answers will in no way affect your benefits. No information that you provide will be released to the general public in a way that can be traced back to you.

ONLY IF LEGITIMACY IS QUESTIONED READ: This survey has been reviewed and approved by the VHA Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning and the Office of Management and Budget. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of this survey, you may call the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C. at 1-866-922-7173

- 01 YES – CREATE VARIABLE “**PROXY**= 01 IF **PROXY** INTERVIEW AND 00 IF NOT **PROXY**”
- 02 NO – TERMINATE CREATE DISPOSITION NO ELIGIBLE **PROXY**, RESPONDENT UNABLE
- 98 DON'T KNOW – TERMINATE CREATE DISPOSITION NO ELIGIBLE **PROXY**, RESPONDENT UNABLE
- 99 REFUSED – TERMINATE **PROXY** REFUSAL

PROXY_2 This study will take 10-15 minutes. Everything we talk about will be confidential, although this call may be monitored for quality assurance. Your participation on behalf of <INSERT NAME> is voluntary – you can choose not to answer any question. <INSERT NAME> benefits will not change as a result of your answering any questions. If you chose not to participate, or answer a question, <INSERT NAME> benefits will also not be affected. However, your participation on behalf of <INSERT NAME> is important for this study's success – we need to talk to veterans like <INSERT NAME>. Would now be a good time?

IF NECESSARY MORE INFORMATION: This survey is about how many veterans use VA services and what types of services they do or do not use.

IF NECESSARY CONFIDENTIALITY: Your name and answers will be linked. However, VA will protect your identity and answers to the extent allowed under the law. Your answers will in no way affect your benefits. No information that you provide will be released to the general public in a way that can be traced back to you.

ONLY IF LEGITIMACY IS QUESTIONED READ: This survey has been reviewed and approved by the VHA Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning and the Office of Management and Budget. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of this survey, you may call the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C. at 1-866-922-7173.

- 01 (SKIP TO RESIDE) YES
- 02 (SKIP TO CALLBACK) NO

RESIDE Does <INSERT NAME> still live at this telephone number or somewhere else?

- 01 (SKIP TO RELATION) STILL AT LOCATION
- 02 DIFFERENT LOCATION
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

RESIDE_1 In what state does <INSERT NAME> live?

/PROVIDE LIST OF STATE NAMES/

- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

RELATION Before we begin, could you tell me how you would describe your relationship to <INSERT NAME>? I am going to read you a list. Are you <INSERT NAME>'s...

- 01 Spouse
- 02 Significant other
- 03 Parent
- 04 Sibling

- 05 Child
- 06 Some other relative
- 07 Friend
- 08 Caregiver
- 09 Guardian or Attorney
- 10 Social Worker or Case Worker
- 97 Some other relation
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

CALLBACK When would be a convenient time to call back and speak with <INSERT NAME>?
 /IF **PROXY**=01/ When would be a convenient time to call back <INSERT NAME>?

- 01 MAKE APPOINTMENT 104
- 02 CALL BACK ANYTIME 105

A: Health Insurance Module

PREA Many of the following questions may be simply answered as either yes or no. However, if you are unsure about it, just let me know and I will note that.
 /IF PROXY=01 ALSO ASK/ Please remember when answering that we are talking about <INSERT NAME>

I would like to fist ask about healthcare benefits

PREA: Are you enrolled in VA health care?

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> enrolled in VA Health care?

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 03 I DON'T REMEMBER ENROLLING
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

A1. Are you covered by Medicare?

/IF PROXY=01ASK/ Is <INSERT NAME> covered by Medicare?

- 01 YES
- 02 //SKIP TO A7// NO
- 98 //SKIP TO A7// DON'T KNOW
- 99 //SKIP TO A7// REFUSED

A2. Did you choose to receive your Medicare coverage through a Medicare Advantage Plan and not through the Original Medicare Plan? Medicare Advantage Plans include Medicare HMOs (Health Maintenance Organizations), Medicare PPOs (Preferred Provider Organizations), Medicare Special Needs Plans, and Medicare Private Fee-for-Service Plans.

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Did <INSERT NAME> choose to receive Medicare coverage through a Medicare Advantage Plan and not through the Original Medicare Plan? Medicare Advantage Plans include Medicare HMOs (Health Maintenance Organizations), Medicare PPOs (Preferred Provider Organizations), Medicare Special Needs Plans, and Medicare Private Fee-for-Service Plans

01 //SKIP TO A6// YES
 02 NO
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

A3. Does your Medicare coverage pay for care if you are hospitalized?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Does <INSERT NAME>'s Medicare coverage pay for care if hospitalized?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: This type of Medicare is also sometimes called "Part A"; if the person has it, there is generally no premium because the person or a spouse paid for it through payroll taxes while they were working.]

01 YES
 02 NO
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

A4. Does your Medicare coverage pay for doctor's office visits?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Does <INSERT NAME>'s Medicare coverage pay for doctor's office visits?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: This type of Medicare is also sometimes called "Part B"; if the person has it, the person generally pays a monthly fee or premium which may be directly deducted from his or her Social Security check.]

01 YES
 02 NO
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

A5. Do you purchase any private health care coverage to supplement Medicare; that is to pay for services Medicare does not pay for?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Does <INSERT NAME> purchase any private health care coverage to supplement Medicare; that is to pay for services Medicare does not pay for?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE DO NOT READ: "YES" - TYPES OF PRIVATE INSURANCE A PERSON CAN PURCHASE TO SUPPLEMENT MEDICARE INCLUDE MEDIGAP OR MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT. DOES NOT INCLUDE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE OR MEDICARE + CHOICE.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE DO NOT READ: "NO" - A TYPE OF INSURANCE THAT DOES NOT COUNT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S TRICARE FOR LIFE PLAN FOR MEDICARE ELIGIBLE MILITARY RETIREES.]

01 YES
 02 NO
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

A6. Do you have Medicare prescription drug coverage, "Part D"?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Does <INSERT NAME> have Medicare prescription drug coverage, "Part D"?

01 YES

02 NO
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED

A7. Are you currently covered by Medicaid for any of your health care?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Is <INSERT NAME> currently covered by Medicaid for any of his or her health care?

[IF NECESSARY: Medicaid is a program that pays for Medical Assistance for certain individuals with low incomes and resources and is provided by your State governments' social services department.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "Medical Assistance" = "Medicaid" in some States.]

//RECALL LIST FROM 2005 FOR STATE MEDICAID PLAN NAME//

01 YES
02 NO
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED

A8. Are you currently covered by the Department of Defense's TRICARE or TRICARE for Life health care programs?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Is <INSERT NAME> covered by the Department of Defense's TRICARE or TRICARE for Life health care programs?

01 YES
02 NO
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED

A9. Are you currently covered by any other individual or group health plan that either you, or an employer, or someone else, such as a family member obtains for you?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Is <INSERT NAME> currently covered by any other individual or group health plan that either <INSERT NAME>, or an employer, or someone else, such as a family member obtains for <INSERT NAME>?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE DO NOT READ: "YES" - DO COUNT ANY PRIVATE RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE DO NOT READ: "NO" - DO NOT COUNT PRIVATE MEDIGAP, MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT, MEDICARE ADVANTAGE, OR MEDICARE + CHOICE PLANS.]

01 YES
02 //SKIP TO A13// NO
98 //SKIP TO A13// DON'T KNOW
99 //SKIP TO A13// REFUSED

A10. Who provides this coverage? If more than one source applies, please indicate the primary source.

[INTERVIEWER: READ LIST CAN ONLY SELECT ONE]

01 Current employer, including COBRA coverage
02 Former employer
03 Individually purchased coverage
04 Federal, State, County, or local community health services program
05 Family member, such as a spouse, parent, etc.

- 97 Or from somewhere else? (SPECIFY)
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

A10_O //IF A10=97 ASK// Who provides this coverage?

- 01 //TEXT RESPONSE//
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

//CAN WE HAVE THE UNREAD CONFIRMATION QUESTION ABOUT UNIQUE RESPONSE//

A11. Does this coverage include prescription drug coverage?

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

A12. Is this coverage provided through an HMO or other managed care organization?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: An HMO or Health Maintenance Organization or other managed care coverage requires you to use certain doctors, hospitals, and other providers. If you use health care services or providers who are not in the plan, you pay more, or all of the cost for that health care.]

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

A13. Do you currently have prescription drug coverage from VA?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Does <INSERT NAME> currently have prescription drug coverage from VA?

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

A14A. How many different over the counter medications did you use in the last 30 days?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// How many different over the counter medications did <INSERT NAME> use in the last 30 days?

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] _____ [0 – 50]

- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

//IF A14A IN 0, 98, 99 SKIP TO A15A, ALL ELSE CONTINUE//

A14B. Of these over the counter medications, how many did you obtain from VA?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Of these over the counter medications, how many did <INSERT NAME> obtain from VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: THESE MEDICATIONS COME FROM SOME VA FACILITY OR THROUGH THE MAIL FROM VA. DOES NOT REFER TO MEDICATIONS WHERE A RESPONDENT IS REIMBURSED FOR THE OUT OF POCKET COSTS.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] _____ [0 – 50]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

A15A. How many different prescription medications did you use in the last 30 days?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// How many different prescription medications did <INSERT NAME> use in the last 30 days?

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] _____ [0 – 50]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

///IF A15A IN 0, 98, 99 SKIP TO A16, ALL ELSE CONTINUE///

15B. Of these prescription medications, how many did you obtain from VA?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// Of these prescription medications, how many did <INSERT NAME> obtain from VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: THESE MEDICATIONS COME FROM SOME VA FACILITY OR THROUGH THE MAIL FROM VA. DOES NOT REFER TO MEDICATIONS WHERE A RESPONDENT IS REIMBURSED FOR THE OUT OF POCKET COSTS.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] _____ [0 – 50]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

PA16. On average, how much do you spend out-of-pocket for all your over the counter and prescription medications on a monthly basis, not including any health insurance premiums you may pay?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// On average, how much does <INSERT NAME> spend out-of-pocket for all <INSERT NAME>'s over the counter and prescription medications on a monthly basis, not including any health insurance premiums <INSERT NAME> may pay?

01 GAVE RESPONSE

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

A16. On average, how much do you spend out-of-pocket for all your over the counter and prescription medications on a monthly basis, not including any health insurance premiums you may pay?

//IF PROXY=01ASK// On average, how much does <INSERT NAME> spend out-of-pocket for all <INSERT NAME>'s over the counter and prescription medications on a monthly basis, not including any health insurance premiums <INSERT NAME> may pay?

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] _____ ENTER NUMBER [0 – 9999]

Section B: Reliance on VA

PREB1: Next, I will be asking you about use of medical or mental health services in from both Non-VA sources, as well as from VA. First, my questions are about Non-VA provided Health Care Services.

/IF PROXY=01/ Next, I will be asking you about <INSERT NAME>'s use of medical or mental health services in from both Non-VA sources, as well as from VA. First, my questions are about Non-VA provided Health Care Services.

B1. In **2006**, did you use **any** medical or mental health care services that were **not** provided by or paid for by VA? Please include **ANY** service at all, such as a flu shot, a single prescription, a test of some sort, etc.

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, did <INSERT NAME> use **any** medical or mental health care services that were **not** provided by or paid for by VA? Please include **ANY** service at all, such as a flu shot, a single prescription, a test of some sort, etc.

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL" ONLY MARK IF SPONTANEOUSLY VOLUNTEERED BY RESPONDENT.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORTION OF.]

00 (SKIP TO B25) NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL

01 (SKIP TO B2) YES

02 NO

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IF B1=2, 98, 99 AND [A1=01 OR A5=01 OR A7=01 OR A8=01 OR A9=01] THEN ASK, ELSE SKIP TO B14//

B1a. **VALIDATION:** Earlier I thought you said that you **do have** some type of Non-VA medical coverage. Just to make sure I have this right, I want to confirm that in **2006**, you **never** received **any** type of medical service, including flu shot, prescription, physical check-up or test or mental health services or assistance that was **not** provided or paid for by VA.

/IF PROXY =01/ Earlier I thought you said that <INSERT NAME> **does have** some type of Non-VA medical coverage. Just to make sure I have this right, I want to confirm that in **2006**, <INSERT NAME> **never** received **any** type of medical service, including flu shot, prescription, physical check-up or test or mental health services or assistance that was **not** provided or paid for by VA.

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL" ONLY MARK IF SPONTANEOUSLY VOLUNTEERED BY RESPONDENT.]

00 (SKIP TO B25) NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL

01 (SKIP TO B2) DID USE NON-VA SERVICE//LH previously were yes/no, but very difficult to train interviewers to do correctly so clarified

02 (SKIP TO B14) CONFIRMED THAT NO NON-VA CARE RECEIVED

98 (SKIP TO B14) DON'T KNOW/CAN'T REMEMBER

99 (SKIP TO B14) REFUSED

B2. In **2006**, did you stay overnight at any **Non-VA** Medical Hospital or a **Non-VA** Mental Health Facility?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, did <INSERT NAME> stay overnight at any **Non-VA** Medical Hospital or a **Non-VA** Mental Health Facility?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]

01 YES

02 (SKIP TO B11) NO

98 (SKIP TO B11) DON'T KNOW/DON'T REMEMBER

99 (SKIP TO B11) REFUSED

B3. Were any of these stays paid for or provided by VA?

/IF PROXY=01/ Were any of these stays paid for or provided by VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PORTION.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]

- 01 YES
- 02 (SKIP TO B5) NO
- 98 (SKIP TO B5) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO B5) REFUSED

B4. Were any of these stays **not** paid for or provided by VA?
 /IF PROXY=01/ Were any of these stays **not** paid for or provided by VA?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PORTION.]
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]

- 01 YES
- 02 (SKIP TO B11) NO, ALL VA PROVIDED
- 98 (SKIP TO B11) DON'T KNOW/ DON'T REMEMBER
- 99 (SKIP TO B11) REFUSED

PREB5 //IF B4=01, ELSE GOTO B11// For the next group of questions, I would like you to only think about all of the stays you have just mentioned that were **not** paid for by VA.
 /IF PROXY=01 AND IF B4=01, ELSE GOTO B11// For the next group of questions, I would like you to only think about all of <INSERT NAME>'s stays you have just mentioned that were **not** paid for by VA.

B5. In **2006**, how many overnight stays, if any, did you have at any Non-VA Medical Hospital. Please do not count stays for mental health or substance abuse treatment?
 /IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many overnight stays, if any, did <INSERT NAME> have at any Non-VA Medical Hospital. Please do not count stays for mental health or substance abuse treatment?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.]
 ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE= 0 – 366]
 998 DON'T KNOW
 999 REFUSED
 /IF B5=0, 98, OR 99 GOTO B8, ELSE CONTINUE/

B6. /IF B5=1, ASK/ How many nights was that stay?
 /IF B5>1 ASK/ How many nights was your first stay?
 /IF PROXY=01 AND B5=1, ASK/ How many nights was that stay?
 /IF PROXY=01 AND B5>1 ASK/ How many nights was <INSERT NAME>'s first stay?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.]
 ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE= 0 – 366]
 998 DON'T KNOW
 999 REFUSED
 /IF B5=1 GOTO B8/

- B7. /IF B5>1 ASK/ In **2006**, how many nights in total did you stay in a Non-VA Hospital on your 2nd through /B5/ stays?
 /IF PROXY=01 AND B5>1 ASK/ In **2006**, how many nights in total did <INSERT NAME> stay in a Non-VA Hospital on the 2nd through /B5/ stays?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: THIS IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS FOR ALL STAYS. IF NECESSARY WALK THEM THROUGH THE MATH.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0 -366]
 998 DON'T KNOW
 999 REFUSED
- B8. In **2006**, how many stays for mental health or substance abuse treatment, if any, did you have at any Non-VA Mental Health Facility, or other Non-VA medical facility?
 Please do not count any stays paid for by VA.
 /IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many stays for mental health or substance abuse treatment, if any, did <INSERT NAME> have at any Non-VA Mental Health Facility, or other Non-VA medical facility? Please do not count any stays paid for by VA.
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORTION OF.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0- 366]
 998 DON'T KNOW
 999 REFUSED
 /IF B8=0, 98, 99 GOTO B11, ELSE CONTINUE/
- B9. /IF B8=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?
 /IF B8>1 ASK/ How many nights was your first stay?
 /IF PROXY=01 AND B8=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?
 /IF PROXY=01 AND B8>1 ASK/ How many nights was <INSERT NAME>'s first stay?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0- 366]
 998 DON'T KNOW
 999 REFUSED
 /IF B8=1 GOTO B11, ELSE CONTINUE/
- B10. In **2006**, how many nights **in total** did you stay in a Non-VA Facility for mental health or substance abuse treatment on your second through /B8 RESPONSE/ stays?
 /IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many nights **in total** did <INSERT NAME> stay in a Non-VA Facility for mental health or substance abuse treatment on the second through /B8 RESPONSE/ stays?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL.]
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: THIS IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS FOR ALL STAYS. IF NECESSARY WALK THEM THROUGH THE MATH.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0 -366]
 998 DON'T KNOW
 999 REFUSED
- B11. In **2006**, how many outpatient visits or trips, did you make to any Non-VA doctor's office, hospital, or outpatient clinic? Please do not count dental, mental health, substance abuse visits or any visits paid for by VA?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many outpatient visits or trips, did <INSERT NAME> make to any Non-VA doctor's office, hospital, or outpatient clinic? Please do not count dental, mental health, substance abuse visits or any visits paid for by VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0- 366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

B12. In **2006**, how many home health care visits, if any, were made to you by **Non-VA** providers or not paid for by VA?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many home health care visits, if any, were made to <INSERT NAME> by **Non-VA** providers or not paid for by VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: THIS IS THE SUM OF ALL INDIVIDUAL PROVIDER'S VISITS.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER: _____ [RANGE=0-366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

B13. In **2006**, how many outpatient visits or trips for mental health or substance abuse treatment did you make to a **Non-VA** Mental Health or Substance Abuse Facility or Doctor's office? Please do not count visits paid for by VA.

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many outpatient visits or trips for mental health or substance abuse treatment did <INSERT NAME> make to a **Non-VA** Mental Health or Substance Abuse Facility or Doctor's office? Please do not count visits paid for by VA.

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER: _____ [RANGE=0-366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

PREB14 Now, the next few Questions are in regards to any VA provided Healthcare.

B14. In **2006**, did you use **any** VA healthcare services, or did you have **any** of your health care paid for by VA?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, did <INSERT NAME> use **any** VA healthcare services, or did <INSERT NAME> have **any** health care paid for by VA?

IF NECESSARY: Please include **ANY** service at all such as a flu shot, a single prescription, a test, etc...

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL" ONLY MARK IF SPONTANEOUSLY VOLUNTEERED BY RESPONDENT.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

00 (SKIP TO B25) NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL

01 YES - VA PAID FOR SERVICE/RECEIVED SERVICES AT VA

02 NO- - VA DID NOT PAY FOR SERVICES/ DID NOT RECEIVE SERVICES

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

B14_VAL VALIDATION: /IF B14=02 OR 98 OR 99 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Just to make sure I have this correct, in **2006** you did not receive **ANY** health care services at all from VA. You did not get a flu shot, a single prescription, any tests, to any other health care service for which VA paid any portion of?

/IF PROXY=01 AND IF B14=02 OR 98 OR 99 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Just to make sure I have this correct, in **2006** <INSERT NAME> did not receive **ANY** health care services at all from VA. <INSERT NAME> did not get a flu shot, a single prescription, any tests, to any other health care service for which VA paid any portion of?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

- 01 (SKIP TO B25) (YES)DID NOT RECEIVE SERVICES FROM VA
- 02 (NO) RECEIVED SERVICES FROM VA
- 98 (SKIP TO B25) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO B25) REFUSED

B15. In **2006**, did you stay overnight at any VA Medical Hospital or a VA Mental Health Facility, or **have any** stays at Non-VA facilities that were paid for by VA?
/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, did <INSERT NAME> stay overnight at any VA Medical Hospital or a VA Mental Health Facility, or **have any** stays at Non-VA facilities that were paid for by VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

- 01 YES
- 02 (SKIP TO B22) NO
- 98 (SKIP TO B22) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO B22) REFUSED

B16. In **2006**, how many total overnight stays, if any, did you have at a VA Medical Hospital, or a medical hospital paid for by VA? Please do not count stays for mental health and substance abuse treatment?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many total overnight stays, if any, did <INSERT NAME> have at a VA Medical Hospital, or a medical hospital paid for by VA? Please do not count stays for mental health and substance abuse treatment?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-366]

- 998 DON'T KNOW
- 999 REFUSED

/IF B16=0, 98, 99 GOTO B19, ELSE CONTINUE/

B17. /IFB16=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?

/IF B16>1 ASK/ How many nights was that first stay?

/IF **PROXY**=01 AND B16=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?

/ IF **PROXY**=01 AND B16>1 ASK/ How many nights was <INSERT NAME>'s first stay?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-366]

- 998 DON'T KNOW
- 999 REFUSED

/IF B16=1 GOTO B19, ELSE CONTINUE/

- B18. In **2006**, how many nights **in total** did you stay in a VA Medical Hospital or other hospitals paid for by VA on your second through /B16 RESPONSE/ stays?
/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many nights **in total** did <INSERT NAME> stay in a VA Medical Hospital or other hospitals paid for by VA on the second through /B16 RESPONSE/ stays?
[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]
[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]
[INTERVIEWER NOTE: THIS IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS FOR ALL STAYS. IF NECESSARY WALK THEM THROUGH THE MATH.]
[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0 -366]
998 DON'T KNOW
999 REFUSED

- B19. In **2006**, how many overnight stays, if any, did you have for mental health or substance abuse treatment at a VA Facility or at a facility paid for by VA?
/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many overnight stays, if any, did <INSERT NAME> have for mental health or substance abuse treatment at a VA Facility or at a facility paid for by VA?
[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]
[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]
[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-366]
998 DON'T KNOW
999 REFUSED

/IF B19=0, 98, 99 GOTO B22, ELSE CONTINUE/

- B20. / IF B19 =1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?
/IF B19>1 ASK/ How many nights was your first stay?
/IF PROXY=01 AND B19 =1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?
/IF PROXY=01 AND B19>1 ASK/ How many nights was <INSERT NAME>'s first stay?
[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT, OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]
[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-366]
998 DON'T KNOW
999 REFUSED

/IF B19=1 GO TO B22, ELSE CONTINUE/

- B21. In **2006**, how many nights **in total** did you stay in a VA Facility, or stays elsewhere that were paid for by VA for mental health or substance abuse care on your second through /D19 RESPONSE/ stays?
/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many nights **in total** did <INSERT NAME> stay in a VA Facility, or stays elsewhere that were paid for by VA for mental health or substance abuse care on the second through /B19 RESPONSE/ stays

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "STAY" IS A SINGLE TRIP INTO AND OUT OR ADMISSION INTO AND DISCHARGE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL, **NOT** THE NUMBER OF DAYS THE PATIENT STAYED IN THE HOSPITAL.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: THIS IS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NIGHTS FOR ALL STAYS. IF NECESSARY WALK THEM THROUGH THE MATH.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0 -366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

B22. In **2006**, how many outpatient visits for **medical** care did you make that were paid for by VA? That would include the number of times you went to a VA doctor, hospital or clinic for **medical** care or received **medical** care somewhere else that was paid for by VA. Do not count dental or mental health visits or trips to a pharmacy.

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many outpatient visits for **medical** care did <INSERT NAME> make that were paid for by VA? That would include the number of times <INSERT NAME> went to a VA doctor, hospital or clinic for **medical** care or received **medical** care somewhere else that was paid for by VA. Do not count dental or mental health visits or trips to a pharmacy.

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=1-366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

B23. In **2006**, how many home health care visits, if any, were made to you by VA providers or non-VA providers **paid for by VA**?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many home health care visits, if any, were made to <INSERT NAME> by VA providers or non-VA providers **paid for by VA**?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE SUM TOTAL OF ALL INDIVIDUAL PROVIDER VISITS.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

B24. In **2006**, how many outpatient visits for mental health or substance abuse treatment, if any, did you make to VA or visits elsewhere that were paid for by VA?

/IF PROXY=01/ In **2006**, how many outpatient visits for mental health or substance abuse treatment, if any, did <INSERT NAME> make to VA or visits elsewhere that were paid for by VA?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PAID FOR INCLUDES ANY PART/PORION OF.]

[IF NECESSARY: Your best guess is fine.] ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-366]

998 DON'T KNOW

999 REFUSED

B25. I am going to read you a list of possible ways you could use VA for your health care in the future. Please listen to them all, and then tell me the one that best describes the primary way you plan to use VA health care in the future. Do you plan to use VA as....

/IF PROXY=01/ I am going to read you a list of possible ways <INSERT NAME> could use VA for health care in the future. Please listen to them all, and then tell me the one that best describes the primary way <INSERT NAME> plans to use VA health care in the future. Does <INSERT NAME> plan to use VA as

[INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ ENTIRE LIST. CHOOSE ONLY ONE. IF RESPONDENT WILL NOT PICK ONE, ENTER INTO "OTHER" BOTH RESPONSES]

01 Your primary source of healthcare;

- 02 /IF PROXY=01/ a primary source of healthcare
Backup to non-VA care for some minor services
/IF **PROXY**=01/ As backup to non-VA care for some minor services
- 03 A “safety net” to use only if needed
- 04 For prescriptions;
- 05 For specialized care
- 06 Some other way;
- 07 Or do you have No plans to use VA for healthcare
/IF **PROXY**=01/ Or does <INSERT NAME> have no plans to use VA for healthcare?
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

- B25_O /IF B25=06 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Could you please tell me how you primarily plan to use VA for health care in the future?
/IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me how <INSERT NAME> primarily plans to use VA for health care in the future?
- 01 ENTER RESPONSE: _____
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

Section D: Health and Demographics

PRED1 Now, I'd like to ask you about your current health.
/IF PROXY=01/ Now, I'd like to ask you about <INSERT NAME>'s current health.

- D1. Compared to other people your age, would you say your health is:
/IF PROXY=01/ Compared to other people <INSERT NAME>'s age, would you say <INSERT NAME>'s health is:
[INTERVIEWER PLEASE READ LIST]
- 01 Excellent
 - 02 Very good
 - 03 Good
 - 04 Fair, or
 - 05 Poor
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED
- D2. The next few questions are about cigarette smoking.
Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?
/IF PROXY=01/ Has <INSERT NAME> smoked at least 100 cigarettes in <INSERT NAME>'s entire life?
- 01 YES
 - 02 (SKIP TO PRED5) NO
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

- D3. Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?
 /IF PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?
 01 Every day
 02 Some days
 03 Not at all
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED
- D4. During the past 12 months, have you stopped smoking for more than one day because you were trying to quit smoking?
 /IF PROXY=01/ During the past 12 months, has <INSERT NAME> stopped smoking for more than one day because <INSERT NAME> was trying to quit smoking?
 01 YES
 02 NO
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

PRED5 We are almost finished. The last questions are for demographic purposes only.
 //IFKD=01// Now, I would like to ask you some questions for demographic purposes only.

- D5. Which of the following best describes your current marital status?
 /IF PROXY=01/ Which of the following best describes <INSERT NAME>'s current marital status?
 [INTERVIEWER READ LIST.]
 01 Married
 02 Widowed
 03 Divorced
 04 Separated
 05 Single – Never Married
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED
- D6. /IF D5=01 OR 04 ASK/ Not including yourself, how many dependents, such as your spouse or dependent children do you currently have?
 /IF D5 NE 01 OR 04 ASK/ Not including yourself, how many dependents, do you currently have?
 /IF PROXY=01AND D5=01 OR 04 ASK/ Not including <INSERT NAME>, how many dependents, such as a spouse or dependent children does <INSERT NAME> currently have?
 /IF PROXY=01 AND D5 NE 01 OR 04 ASK/ Not including <INSERT NAME>, how many dependents, does <INSERT NAME> currently have?
 [INTERVIEWER NOTE: "DEPENDENT" IS ANYONE WHO RELIES ON THE RESPONDENT FOR AT LEAST HALF OF THAT PERSON'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT.]
 ENTER NUMBER _____ [RANGE=0-97]
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

PERIOD OF SERVICE

PRED6a. In the following, we would like to obtain some information on your active duty military history. Most veterans have served only one continuous tour of duty, with no breaks in service. A one time discharge from the military after continuous service is one term of service. However, some veterans have experienced breaks in service and thus have served multiple terms of service. How many terms of active duty military service have you served? Please do not include Reserve or National Guard training or drill periods unless “activated” at the time.

/IF PROXY=01/ In the following, we would like to obtain some information on <INSERT NAME>’s active duty military history. Most veterans have served only one continuous tour of duty, with no breaks in service. A one time discharge from the military after continuous service is one term of service. However, some veterans have experienced breaks in service and thus have served multiple terms of service.

D6A. How many terms of active duty military service have you served? Please do not include Reserve or National Guard training or drill periods unless “activated” at the time.
/IF PROXY=01/ How many terms of active duty military service has <INSERT NAME> served? Please do not include Reserve or National Guard training or drill periods unless “activated” at the time.

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: WE ARE ONLY RECORDING THE FIRST SIX PERIODS.]

ENTER NUMBER [1-6]

98 (SKIP TO D8) DON’T KNOW

99 (SKIP TO D8) REFUSED

D6AT. /IFD6A >1/I would like to ask you the year you started and ended each of these terms of active duty military service. Starting with your first...

/IF D6A=1/ I would like to ask you the year you started and ended this term of active duty military service.

/IF PROXY=01/I would like to ask you the year <INSERT NAME> started and ended each of these terms of active duty military service. Starting with <INSERT NAME’s> first...

/IF PROXY=01 and D6=1/I would like to ask you the year <INSERT NAME> started and ended this term of active duty military service.

/START LOOP EQUAL TO D6A/

D6b_1. What year did your <first> term of active duty military service start?

/IF D6A=1/ What year did your term of active duty military service start?

/IF PROXY=01/ What year did <INSERT NAME>’s <first> term of active duty military service start?

/IF PROXY=01 and D6A=1/ What year did <INSERT NAME>’s term of active duty military service start?

ENTER YEAR _____ [1918-2007]

9998 DON’T KNOW

9999 REFUSED

D6C_1. What year did your <first> term of active duty military service end?

/IF D6A=1/ What year did your term of active duty military service end?

/IF PROXY=01/ What year did <INSERT NAME>’s <first> term of active duty military service end?

/IF PROXY=01 and D6A=1/ What year did <INSERT NAME>’s term of active duty military service end?

ENTER YEAR _____ [1918-2007]

9998 DON’T KNOW

9999 REFUSED

COMBAT STATUS

D7_1. During this term of military service were you ever in or exposed to combat?

/IF PROXY=01/ During this term of military service was <INSERT NAME> ever in or exposed to combat?

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

/END LOOP/

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

D8. How would you best characterize your employment status? I am going to read you a list. Please listen to all of the choices and then tell me which best describes you. Are you

//IF PROXY=01 ASK// How would you best characterize <INSERT NAMES>'s employment status? I am going to read you a list. Please listen to all of the choices and then tell me which best describes <INSERT NAME>...

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF RESPONDENT IS ON VACATION OR LEAVE, PLEASE ASK HOW THE RESPONDENT WOULD NORMALLY DESCRIBE HIS/HER EMPLOYMENT STATUS.]

- 01 Employed fulltime
- 02 Self-employed fulltime
- 03 Employed part-time
- 04 Self employed part-time
- 05 Unemployed, looking for work, or laid off
- 06 Currently not employed – either retired, a homemaker, student, etc.
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

ETHNICITY AND RACE

D9. Would you describe yourself as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

/IF PROXY=01/ Would you describe <INSERT NAME> as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

D10. I am going to read you a list, please tell me which of the following describes your race? You can choose more than one. Are you ...

/IF PROXY=01/ I am going to read you a list, please tell me which of the following describes <INSERT NAME>'s race? You can choose more than one....

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: PLEASE READ LIST.] /MUL=5/

- 01 American Indian or Alaska Native
- 02 Asian
- 03 Black or African-American
- 04 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

- 05 White
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

PD11. Could you please tell me what your total annual household income was from all sources in 2006.
 /IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me what was <INSERT NAME>'s total annual household income was from all sources in 2006.
 [IF NECESSARY: I would like to remind you that everything we discuss is confidential, and that your answer to this question will not affect your benefits.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess or estimate is fine.]
 01 GAVE RESPONSE (ANNUALLY) ///GO TO D11Y///
 02 GAVE RESPONSE (MONTHLY) ///GO TO D11M///
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

D11Y. Could you please tell me what your total annual household income was from all sources in 2006.
 /IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me what was <INSERT NAME>'s total annual household income was from all sources in 2006.
 [IF NECESSARY: I would like to remind you that everything we discuss is confidential, and that your answer to this question will not affect your benefits.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess or estimate is fine.]
 _____ [RANGE=1-999,999] ///SKIP TO D11c.///

D11M. Could you please tell me what your total annual household income was from all sources in 2006.
 /IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me what was <INSERT NAME>'s total annual household income was from all sources in 2006.
 [IF NECESSARY: I would like to remind you that everything we discuss is confidential, and that your answer to this question will not affect your benefits.]
 [IF NECESSARY: Your best guess or estimate is fine.]
 _____ [RANGE=1-83,333] ///SKIP TO D11c.///

D11a This information is critical for VA for planning purposes. Could you please tell me which of the following best describes your 2006 total annual household income from all sources. Would you say it is.....
 /IF PROXY=01/ This information is critical for VA for planning purposes. Could you please tell me which of the following best describes <INSERT NAME>'s 2006 total annual household income from all sources. Would you say it is.....
 (READ LIST [ROUND UP "999], THEN FOLLOW-UP AS INDICATED)

	a.		b. Is it...	
	Less than \$16,000	1→	Under \$11,000, or \$11,000 - \$15,999?	1
	\$16,000 - \$25,999,	2→	\$16,000 - \$20,999	3
			\$21,000 - \$25,999?	4
	\$26,000 - \$35,999,	3→	\$26,000 - \$30,999	5
			\$31,000 - \$35,999?	6

	\$36,000 - \$45,999,	4→	\$36,000 – \$40,999	7
			\$41,000 - \$45,999?	8
	\$46,000 - \$55,999, OR	5→	\$46,000 – \$50,999	9
			\$51,000 - \$55,999?	10
	\$56,000 or over?	6	AUTO CODE \$56,000+	11
OR	DON'T KNOW	98	DON'T KNOW	98
(Do Not Read)	REFUSED TO ANSWER	99	REFUSED TO ANSWER	99

D11c. Can you please tell me which state you are in?

//National list of two letter abbreviations and PR for Puerto Rico?//

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IS SAMPLE FLAG FOR KEY DRIVER IS YES (KD-01) AND PROXY DOES NOT EQUAL 01 ASK, ELSE GOTO CLOSE//

END TIMER

START TIMER

Section C: Key Drivers (asked of a sample of 1,887 enrollees)

PREC1 The next questions are about how veterans use or *might* use VA health services...

C1. Please tell me how you would complete the following statement....

I **use** VA services to meet....

[INTERVIEWER PLEASE READ LIST]

01 All of my health care needs

02 Most of my health care needs

03 Some of my health care needs

04 None of my health care needs

05 I have no healthcare needs

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

C2. I **rely** on VA for

[INTERVIEWER PLEASE READ LIST]

01 All of my health care needs

02 Most of my health care needs

03 Some of my health care needs

04 None of my health care needs

05 I have no healthcare needs

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

C3 Now I am going to read you a list of different types of health care services. Given your current situation, if you needed to use these services or if you already do use them, please tell me if you would definitely go to VA, maybe go to VA, or would you definitely go somewhere else. Lets begin...

//ROTATE C3a-C3h//

C3a Preventative Care Such as Physicals or Immunizations

Would you.....

- 01 Definitely go to VA
- 02 Maybe go to VA
- 03 Definitely go somewhere else
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

C3b Urgent Care, such as when you are sick and need to see a doctor within a day

Would you.....

- 01 Definitely go to VA
- 02 Maybe go to VA
- 03 Definitely go somewhere else
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

C3c Routine or Necessary Care, such as to see your primary care physician for routine day to day care, for example, for a cold or the flu.

[Would you.....]

- 01 Definitely go to VA
- 02 Maybe go to VA
- 03 Definitely go somewhere else
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

C3d Prescriptions or Other Medical Supplies

[Would you.....]

- 01 Definitely go to VA
- 02 Maybe go to VA
- 03 Definitely go somewhere else
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

C3e Mental Health Care

[Would you.....]

- 01 Definitely go to VA
- 02 Maybe go to VA

03 Definitely go somewhere else
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

C3f X-Rays or Lab Tests
 [Would you.....]
 01 Definitely go to VA
 02 Maybe go to VA
 03 Definitely go somewhere else
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

C3g Inpatient Care
 [Would you.....]
 01 Definitely go to VA
 02 Maybe go to VA
 03 Definitely go somewhere else
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

C3h Vision Care
 [Would you.....]
 01 Definitely go to VA
 02 Maybe go to VA
 03 Definitely go somewhere else
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C4 Now, I am going to read you a list of common health problems, conditions, or services. If you now have or in the future developed the need to use related health care, please tell me if you would definitely go to VA, would maybe go to VA, or would definitely go somewhere else.

//ROTATE C4a-C4k//

C4a Arthritis
 Would you.....
 01 Definitely go to VA
 02 Maybe go to VA
 03 Definitely go somewhere else
 98 DON'T KNOW
 99 R EFUSED

- C4b Heart disease
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4c Digestive problems
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4d Cancer
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4e Stroke
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4f Mental health problems
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED

- C4g Substance Abuse Problems
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4h Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4i Service-connected conditions
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4j Prosthetics [INTERVIEWER NOTE: This includes appliances, equipment and devices such as artificial limbs, orthopedic braces and shoes, wheelchairs, or crutches and canes - but NOT eyeglasses or hearing aids.]
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW
99 REFUSED
- C4k Homemaker or Home health aide services [INTERVIEWER NOTE: ...such as when a nurse or aide comes into your home to assist you with nutrition and meals, medications, medical equipment, rehabilitation, etc.]
[Would you.....]
01 Definitely go to VA
02 Maybe go to VA
03 Definitely go somewhere else
98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

//IF PREA1=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO PREC10//

PREC5 I am now going to read you a series of statements that I would like you to tell me how much you agree with. For each statement tell me if you completely agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, or completely disagree.

//ROTATE C5-C9//

- C5 I enrolled in VA health care to fill gaps in my coverage.
- C6 I enrolled in VA health care to obtain services more cost-effectively to me.
- C7 I enrolled in VA health care in case I was to lose my health care coverage, that is as a safety net or backup.
- C8 I enrolled in VA health care because I am entitled to the benefits/because I deserve them.
- C9 I enrolled in VA health care because I had no other coverage.
 - 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

PREC10 I am now going to read you a list of statements and I would like you to tell me for each statement if you completely agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, or completely disagree.

C10 **Overall Image** //ROTATE C10A-C10D//

- C10a VA serves people like me.
- C10b Veterans like me are comfortable going to VA.
- C10c Veterans like me like going to VA because you can talk to other veterans.
- C10d Veterans like me hear or read good things about VA health care from other people.
 - 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C11 Cost //ROTATE C11a-C11d//

- C11a VA is the most cost-effective healthcare provider for veterans like me.
 C11b VA provides health care at a cost veterans like me can afford.
 C11c VA offers veterans like me the best value for our health care dollar.
 C11d For veterans like me, some VA services are a better value than those you can get from other health care providers.
- 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C12 Quality //ROTATE C12a-C12h//

- C12a Veterans like me who go to VA are well taken care of.
 C12b Veterans like me who use VA are satisfied with the health care they receive.
 C12c Veterans like me are confident in the care they receive from VA.
 C12d VA facilities have the most up to date medical technology.
 C12e VA health care providers are experts in their fields.
 C12f VA health care providers explain treatment/diagnoses in a way that patients can understand.
 C12g VA health care providers treat their patients with respect.
 C12h VA health care providers listen to their patients' concerns.
- 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C13 Convenience //ROTATE C13a-C13e//

- C13a There is a VA health care facility close to where I live.
 C13b Veterans like me can get in and out of an appointment at VA in a reasonable time.
 C13c When veterans like me go to VA for an appointment; they do not wait a long time to see the doctor.
 C13d Transportation to and from the VA facility is manageable for veterans like me.
 C13e There is a VA provider in my area that offers all of the health care services that veterans like me need.
- 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree

- 03 Neither agree nor disagree
- 04 Disagree
- 05 Completely Disagree
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C14 Accessibility //ROTATE C14a-C14d//

- C14a It is easy for veterans like me to get around in the VA health care facility.
- C14b Veterans like me can see many different doctors, specialists, etc., in one visit to VA.
- C14c I feel I know what is available to me through my VA coverage.
- C14d I understand how my VA health insurance coverage works.
 - 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C15 Availability //ROTATE C15A- C15g//

- C15a Patients can get an appointment at VA when they want or need one.
- C15b It takes more than 30 days to get an appointment at VA.
- C15c Patients can see specialists at VA when they need to.
- C15d VA patients can see the doctor/health care provider that they want.
- C15e There is plenty of parking at my local VA facility.
- C15f It is easy to get to my local VA facility.
- C15g My local VA facility has enough staff to meet the needs of veterans in this area.
 - 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

C16 Other Factors //ROTATE C16A-c16F//

- C16a My best friends include veterans met through military service or veterans groups.

- C16b If the cost of health care to me increases, I will use VA more.
- C16c I would only use VA if I did not have access to any other source of health care.
- C16d I have a doctor outside VA who I really like and trust.
- C16e My family has a health insurance plan that covers me and the rest of the family.
- C16f Veterans who can afford to use other sources of health care should leave the VA to those who really need it.
 - 01 Completely Agree
 - 02 Agree
 - 03 Neither agree nor disagree
 - 04 Disagree
 - 05 Completely Disagree
 - 98 DON'T KNOW
 - 99 REFUSED

//END ROTATE//

CLOSE: That's all I have. Thank you for your participation. The information you have provided will help VA to better serve all veterans in the future. A report that summarizes these findings will be posted on the Internet sometime in the Winter of 2007. Would you like me to give you that address?

[IF NECESSARY: The address is <http://www.va.gov/vhareorg>]

Thank you and goodbye.