



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

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# 2005 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

*With Selected Comparisons to the 1999 - 2003 Surveys*

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September 2006

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## Prologue

In this our 75<sup>th</sup> year, VHA continues to place importance on honoring America's veterans "by providing exceptional health care that improves veterans health and well-being." VA decision makers have an obligation to all stakeholders to proactively seek ways to improve our health care delivery system. To provide the best possible care in the most appropriate setting and to improve health care delivery to veterans, accurate information is needed, gathered in reliable ways such as through large-scale surveys. The 2005 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA provides decision makers with insight and data to recommend planning, policy, and budget decisions which support VHA's mission.

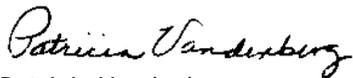
Each year, since enrollment began in 1999, VHA has conducted a major review of past, current actual, and future potential demand for VHA enrollment, health care services, and associated expenditures for veterans. This review of veteran demand for VA health care services involves the continuing refinement of the VHA Enrollee Health Care Projection Model (ECHPM). This model integrates data on veteran population, historical 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.

These enrollee surveys comprise a fundamental source of data and information on enrollees that cannot be obtained in any other way than through surveys. This data can help guide decisions and also provide insight

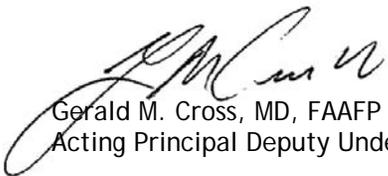
into different populations such as returning Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve service members who have participated in the Gulf War.

This report provides decision makers with descriptive information about enrollees collected from the 2005 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 2003 and 2002 enrollment populations (6.7 and 6.2 million respectively) and the enrollment population from 1999 (3.6 million), the first year of enrollment.

The following report contains enrollee data from the 2005 survey on priority level, socioeconomic characteristics, public and private health care coverage, uninsured enrollees, Medicare, perceived health status, functional limitations, and planned future use. New information in this year's report includes data on ethnicity, race, period of service, Intent to Purchase Medicare Part D, Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage, Number of Over-the-Counter and Prescription Medications and Costs for each, employment, and smoking status. This report has been produced by the Healthcare Analysis and Information Group and the Policy Analysis Service within VHA's Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning.



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# Executive Summary

## Introduction

Strategic planning is increasingly becoming essential for successful business operations. Understanding your stakeholders more fully is an important element in providing safe, effective, efficient, and compassionate service, when and where it is needed. The VHA Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Policy and Planning (ADUSH) routinely conducts an update of the national Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA (VHA Survey of Enrollees, or SoE). The survey 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 into a variety of high level VHA budget and policy related analyses. 2005 SoE telephone interviews were completed in December 2005 and analyses of the data are ongoing. The 2005 SoE was based on a stratified random sample of enrollees and the target number of completed interviews was 42,000. Interview length averaged 17 minutes. Each VISN had approximately 2,000 enrollees surveyed, optimally allocated to give valid estimates by priority and type of enrollee (Pre/Post) at the VISN level.

## Method

Improvements in the survey since it was last conducted in 2003 include: more detailed questions on health insurance and, in particular prescription coverage. In addition, updated questions on activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs). The latter will allow alignment of our enrollee survey both with other national surveys such as the National Long-Term Care Survey (NLTCs) and with VA/Medicare administrative match data. As survey data were collected by telephone interviews with veterans, there may be some recall bias particularly in relation to VA and non-VA utilization and VA reliance. However, other improvements in the survey in 2005 include many new questions. These include questions on Period of Service and Combat Status, Intent to Purchase Medicare Part D, Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage, Number of Over-the-Counter and Prescription Medications and Costs for each, Race and Ethnicity, Cigarette Smoking Status, and Employment Status. These 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 2005 Survey of Enrollees are listed below:

Priority Level	Prescription Drug Coverage
Age	Outpatient Prescription Costs
Marital Status	Prescription medications
Period of Service	Over-the-counter medications
Employment Status	Functional Status: ADL status, IADL status
Insurance Coverage:	Plans to use VHA in future
- Medicaid	Pre/Post Enrollee
- TRICARE/TRICARE For Life	Household income
- Medicare	Race and Ethnicity
- Private insurance	Combat Status
- Other government insurance	VISN/State of Residence
Planned Future Use	Overall Reliance CY 2004
Inpatient Reliance	Outpatient Reliance
Mental Health Reliance	Home Health Reliance
Self-reported health status	Cigarette Smoking
Plans to purchase Medicare Part D	

## Discussion

The 2005 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA provided some interesting insights into the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) enrollee population. The purpose of this report is to provide decision makers with descriptive information about enrollees collected from the VHA 2005 survey, with selected comparisons to the similar VHA surveys in 1999, 2002, and 2003. All five surveys were designed using optimally stratified random sampling techniques to represent non-institutionalized enrollees. The reports comparing the results of the 1999/2002, and 2003 surveys can be found on the intranet at <http://vawww.va.gov/vhaopp> and on the internet at <http://www.va.gov/vhareorg/>. All three 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 Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) level.

## Findings

There were a number of interesting and useful findings in the 2005 survey. Although there was explosive growth in VHA enrollment between 1999 and 2002, more recently there has been a slowdown in this growth. The slowdown is due in part to the suspension of enrollment of Priority 8 veterans. The slowdown is also tempered by the number of deaths in the Priority 8 enrollee population. The data showed a large increase in enrollees in the Priority 7-8 Group between 1999 and 2002, however, there was smaller change between the 2002 and 2003 survey results for Priority 7-8 enrollees. And between 2003 and 2005, there was a decrease in the Priority 7-8 population. For the most part, demographics have changed very little from those reported in the 2003 survey report.

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, and a small decrease in the percent of older enrollees between 2002 and 2003, and again between 2003 and 2005.

The survey data showed very similar patterns to those described above in all 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 and 2005.

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 and 2005 were relatively minor. These trends are evident across most survey questions, with most showing decreases in percent and number of enrollees.

Highlights of the 2005 survey include the finding that over 22.0 percent of enrolled veterans under age 65 are enrolled in Medicare. This high percentage points out the sizeable population of younger disabled veterans

enrolled in VHA. Conversely, almost 6.0 percent of enrollees age 65 or over do not have Medicare. There are 21.1 percent of the enrolled veterans with no public or private health insurance coverage; more than double the estimated rate of uninsurance for the general veteran population.

At the time of the survey, only 11.9 percent of enrollees with Medicare coverage planned to purchase Medicare Part D in 2006. In regards to medications, the average enrollee takes 1.5 over-the-counter (OTC) medications per month, with 0.5 OTC medications provided by VA, and 1.0 purchased independent of VA. Respondents were also asked about physician-prescribed medications. Again, on average enrollees takes 4.7 prescription medications per month, with 3.9 of those medications provided by VA and 0.8 purchased independent of VA.

As mentioned above, demographics of the enrollee population have remained relatively unchanged. When comparing Priority Groups, Priority 1 shows the biggest growth, from 9.6 percent in 2003, to 12.1 percent in 2005. There was a slight decrease in the percent of enrollees age 65 or over, from 47.3 percent in 2003 to 45.0 percent in 2005. There was an increase in the percent of enrollees in the High Income Group, from 23.5 percent in 2003 to 26.8 percent in 2005. And as found in the results of the 2003 survey, the majority (66.8%) of the enrollee population is married.

A new question in the 2005 survey asked about the enrollees' active duty military service. The largest percentages of enrollees (36.0%) served during the Vietnam era, with the next highest percent (28.8%) serving just before that era, and 22.9 percent serving just after that era. World War II veterans make up 18.7 percent of the enrollee population, and 18.3 percent served during the Korean War.

Another addition to this survey was an inquiry about the enrollees' Ethnicity and Race. Only 4.53 percent of the enrollees described themselves as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. Moreover, to the questions about race, 84.1 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.

Further refinements to the survey were the questions regarding enrollee smoking status. A large percentage (71.2%) reported that they have at one time considered themselves a smoker. Of these, 31.1 percent are current

smokers, and 25.1 percent reported that they have recently quit. It should be noted also that 28.1 percent of the enrollees reported that they have never smoked.

Other refinements to the survey added the questions about the enrollees' employment status. The majority of the enrollee population (63.2%) is not in the labor force. Since many of our enrollee population are retired and/or disabled, this is understandable. Many are retired, or have physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from participating in the labor force. The enrollee self-reported unemployment rate is 15.6 percent, which is far higher than the average annual unemployment rate. This is further discussed in Chapter 1.

Other interesting highlights include the finding that the percent of enrollees under age 65 reporting fair or poor health increased, while the percent of enrollees age 65 and over reporting this health status actually decreased. Over 36 percent of all enrolled veterans reported fair or poor health status.

Approximately 5.6 million enrollees or 84.3 percent reported that they were healthy enough to bypass all of the Activities of Daily Living and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living screens.

Finally, 47.0 percent reported they planned to use VA as their primary source of care, 9.8 percent as backup to non-VA care, and 17.3 percent for prescriptions only.

However, the data clearly show that VHA continues to care for a population that remains more impaired than the general veteran or civilian populations. In addition, enrolled veterans continue to be challenged by possessing a smaller amount of resources. 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.

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# VHA Enrollee Survey Overview

## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a synopsis of the information collected by the Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH) for Policy and Planning in the 2005 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA. This document also compares the 2005 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, most veterans must be enrolled to receive care. This was mandated by the Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 (P.L. 101-262). Each year since enrollment began, the Veterans Health Administration conducts a major review of past, 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, historical VHA enrollment, and utilization, actual unit costs, both VA and private sector workload measures and, in particular, enrollee characteristics and health measures from the VHA surveys of enrollees. When this data adjustment is complete, an in-depth report of enrollee reliance will be produced. This may be combined with information on mortality.

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 priorities and VISNs, these surveys use stratified samples. In addition, respondents in strata, e.g., by priority, also are more similar, or homogeneous, than a simple random sample of people

across all priorities. It should be noted that the survey is self-reported, subject to individual interpretations; although data were validated for obvious errors, for the most part, the data were not independently confirmed.

The data in this 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 are available upon request.

## VHA Enrollee Survey Statistics

The Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA is the fifth 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 five 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, and 2005 survey was for all Priority Groups relevant at the time of the survey.

The focus of this document is on results of the latest 2005 survey, with selected comparisons to the 2003, 2002, and 1999 survey data. In 2005, 42,094 enrollees completed the survey for a 72.7 percent cooperation rate. This was an increase from 63.7 percent in 2003 and 59.4 percent cooperation rate in 2002.

In 2005, the method for selecting enrollees for the sample was 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 death date was found in any of these files, the enrollee was excluded from the sample. Previously, data from these files were not available; therefore, deaths were not necessarily excluded from the preceding

enrollee populations (1999, 2002, and 2003). Because this is the first time this method was utilized, there appears to be a difference in the number of enrollees.

Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA				
Year	1999	2002	2003	2005
Weighted to represent the population of veteran enrollees	3,642,537	6,175,694	6,742,676	6,704,149
Weighted population as of:	2/3/99	12/31/01	12/31/02	12/31/04
Stratified sample size: By VISN, enrollment Priority, and new or past user enrollee	~ 27,000	63,126	65,472	57,870
Number of completed interviews	19,686	37,528	41,704	42,094
Overall cooperation rate*	N/A	59.4%	63.7%	72.7%
Interviews conducted during the following timeframe	Mar 1999	Apr-May 2002	Aug-Sept 2003	Oct-Dec 2005
*Based on American Association for Public Opinion Research "cooperation rates" (in previous versions reported as "response rate")				

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

## Chapter 1

### SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE VETERAN ENROLLEE POPULATION

This trended information provides a unique and useful view into the characteristics of the veteran enrollees and how they have changed over time since the first year of enrollment. Between 1999 and 2003, the veteran enrollee population, at the time of the survey weighting, increased from 3,642,537 to 6,742,676 respectively, for an 85 percent increase.

Below are the noted differences between the 1999 and 2005 survey data statistics for Priority Groups, Age Groups, and Income Groups.

- ◆ The largest percentage of enrollees was in Priority Groups 4-6. This group has shown a steady decrease from 49.0 percent in 1999 to 38.1 percent in 2005. Priority Groups 1-3 had shown a decrease from 34.0 percent in 1999 to 28.8 percent in 2003. However, this group showed an increase to 32.0 percent in 2005. Priority Groups 7-8 had shown a steady increase from 18.0 percent in 1999 to 31.7 percent in 2003. This decreased to 30.0 percent in 2005.
- ◆ In 2005 approximately 45.0 percent of enrollees were age 65 or over, while 41.0 percent were 45-64, and only 14.0 percent were under 45 years of age.
- ◆ Most enrollees were low income. Of those who reported household income, 64.3 percent reported low incomes in 2003. This decreased to 60.0 percent in 2005. (In 2003 and 2005, the definition of low income was enrollees who reported earning less than \$36,000.)

The results of VHA's 1999, 2002, 2003, and 2005 Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA presented in this report are weighted to represent the population of veteran enrollees as illustrated in the following table.

Table 1.1

1999 Weighted to Represent the Population of 3.6 Million Veteran Enrollees 2/3/99				2002 Weighted to Represent the Population of 6.2 Million Veteran Enrollees 12/31/01			
Priority Group				Priority Group			
1 - 3	4 - 6	7	National	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	National
1,221,787	1,772,178	648,573	3,642,537	1,807,305	2,601,176	1,767,212	6,175,693
34.0%	49.0%	18.0%		29.0%	42.0%	29.0%	
Age Group				Age Group			
< 45	45 - 64	65 +	National	< 45	45 - 64	65 +	National
563,654	1,435,242	1,643,641	3,642,537	805,869	2,333,650	3,036,174	6,175,693
15.0%	39.0%	45.0%		13.0%	38.0%	49.0%	
Income Group				Income Group			
Low	High	DK/Ref	National	Low	High	DK/Ref	National
2,706,020	609,709	326,808	3,642,537	3,856,004	1,265,689	1,054,001	6,175,694
74.0%	17.0%	9.0%		62.0%	20.0%	17.0%	
2003 Weighted to Represent the Population of 6.7 Million Veteran Enrollees 12/31/02				2005 Weighted to Represent the Population of 6.7 Million Veteran Enrollees 12/31/04			
Priority Group				Priority Group			
1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	National	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	National
1,944,512	2,659,327	2,138,837	6,742,676	2,142,812	2,551,843	2,009,494	6,704,149
28.8%	39.4%	31.7%		32.0%	38.1%	30.0%	
Age Group				Age Group			
< 45	45 - 64	65 +	National	< 45	45 - 64	65 +	National
925,877	2,626,337	3,190,462	6,742,676	935,693	2,748,739	3,019,717	6,704,149
13.7%	39.0%	47.3%		14.0%	41.0%	45.0%	
Income Group				Income Group			
Low	High	DK/Ref	National	Low	High	DK/Ref	National
4,337,904	1,586,741	818,031	6,742,676	4,023,866	1,794,704	885,580	6,704,150
64.3%	23.5%	12.1%		60.0%	26.8%	13.2%	

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

### Priority Group Trends

Here are the trends for the separate Priority Groups between the years.

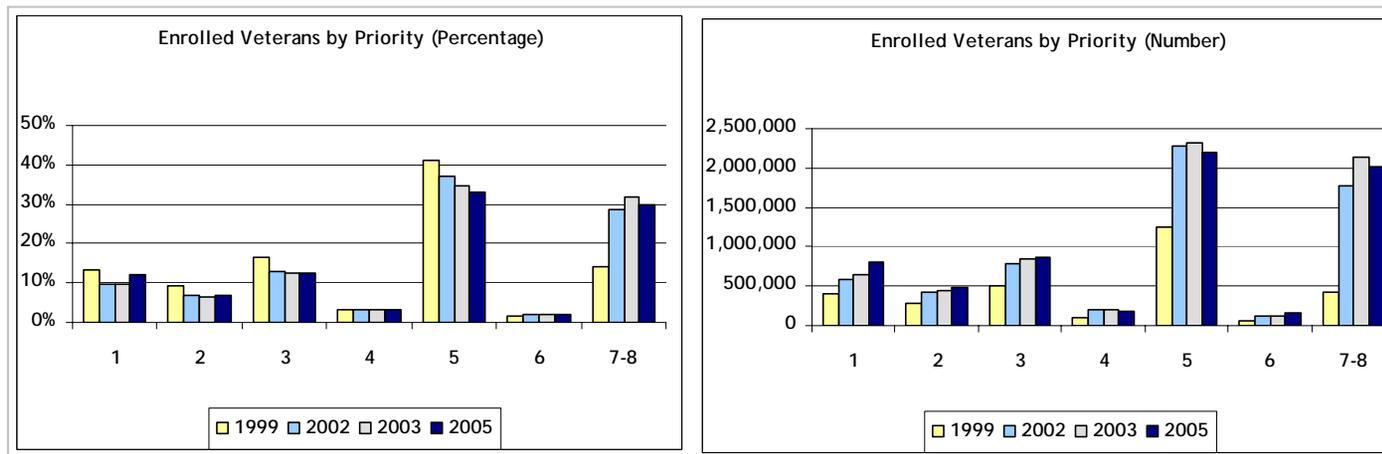
- ◆ The number of enrollees in Priority Groups 1, 2, 3, and 6 increased between 2003 and 2005. The number of enrollees in Priority Groups 4, 5, and 7-8 had shown increases between 1999 and 2003, but showed a slight decrease between 2003 and 2005.
- ◆ In 1999, 13.5 percent of enrollees were in Priority 1. This percentage decreased to 9.6 percent in 2002 and 2003, and then showed an increase to 12.1 percent in 2005.
- ◆ Both Priority 3 percentages and numbers have shown a slight increase in 2005. In 1999, 16.7 percent of enrollees were in Priority 3. This percentage decreased to 12.9 percent in 2002 and decreased again to 12.7 percent in 2003. There was a slight increase to 12.8 percent in 2005.
- ◆ Priority 5 has also shown a steady decrease in percentages, although the number of enrollees had increased between 1999 and 2003. In 1999, 41.3 percent of enrollees were in Priority 5. This percentage decreased to 36.9 percent in 2002 and decreased again to 34.5 percent in 2003, and again to 32.8 percent in 2005. There was also a decrease in the number of enrollees between 2003 and 2005.
- ◆ Priority 7-8 has shown the most change in percentages and number of enrollees. In 1999, 14.2 percent of enrollees were in Priority 7-8. This jumped substantially to 28.6 percent in 2002, and showed a much less pronounced increase to 31.7 percent in 2003. There has been a slight decrease in the percentage of Priority 7-8 enrollees to 30.0 percent in 2005. This may be due to the suspension of enrollment of Priority 8 enrollees.

Table 1.2

Priority	1999	2002	2003	2005
1	406,141	594,366	649,639	810,102
	13.5%	9.6%	9.6%	12.1%
2	278,718	417,500	441,606	475,220
	9.3%	6.8%	6.6%	7.1%
3	502,954	795,439	853,268	857,490
	16.7%	12.9%	12.7%	12.8%
4	95,118	203,654	207,794	191,477
	3.2%	3.3%	3.1%	2.9%
5	1,241,321	2,279,371	2,326,881	2,199,489
	41.3%	36.9%	34.5%	32.8%
6	54,614	118,151	124,653	160,878
	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	2.4%
7-8	425,437	1,767,212	2,138,837	2,009,494
	14.2%	28.6%	31.7%	30.0%

The 1999 data exclude enrollees with a missing priority.

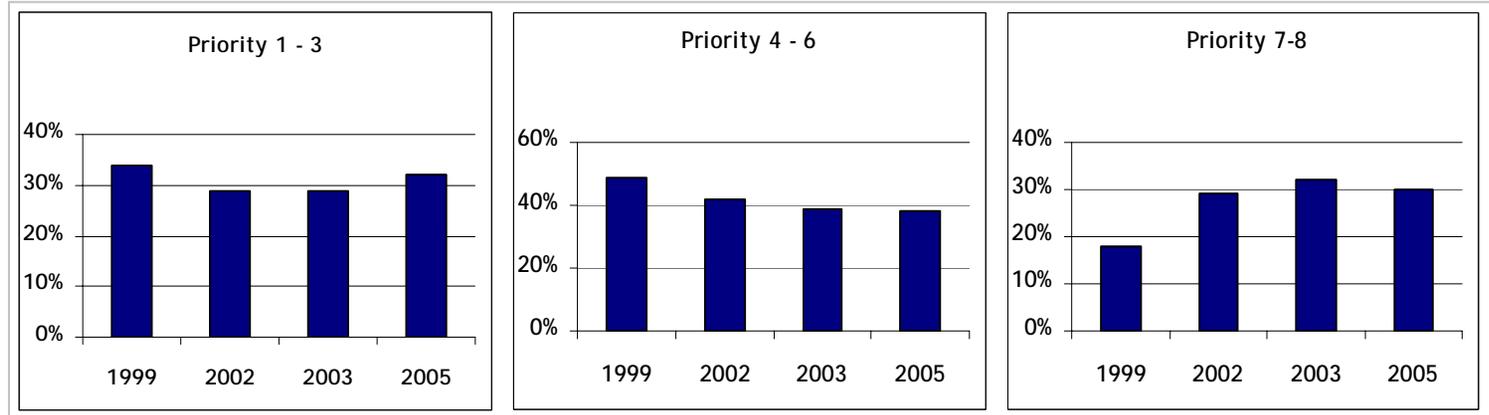
Figure 1.1



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

- ◆ In 2003, 28.8 percent of enrollees were in Priority 1-3; this increased to 32.0 percent in 2005.
- ◆ In the Priority Groups 4-6, there was a decrease in enrollees from 49.0 percent in 1999 to 42.0 percent in 2002. This trend continued in 2003; 39.4 percent of enrollees were in the Priority Groups 4-6, and the percentage decreased to 38.1 percent in 2005. However, the number of enrollees has increased over time, i.e., 1.8 million in 1999, 2.6 million in 2002, and 2.7 million in 2003. There was a decrease in number in 2005 to 2.6 million.
- ◆ Finally, 30.0 percent of veteran enrollees in 2005 were in Priority Group 7-8, this was a decrease from 31.7 percent in 2003.

Figure 1.2

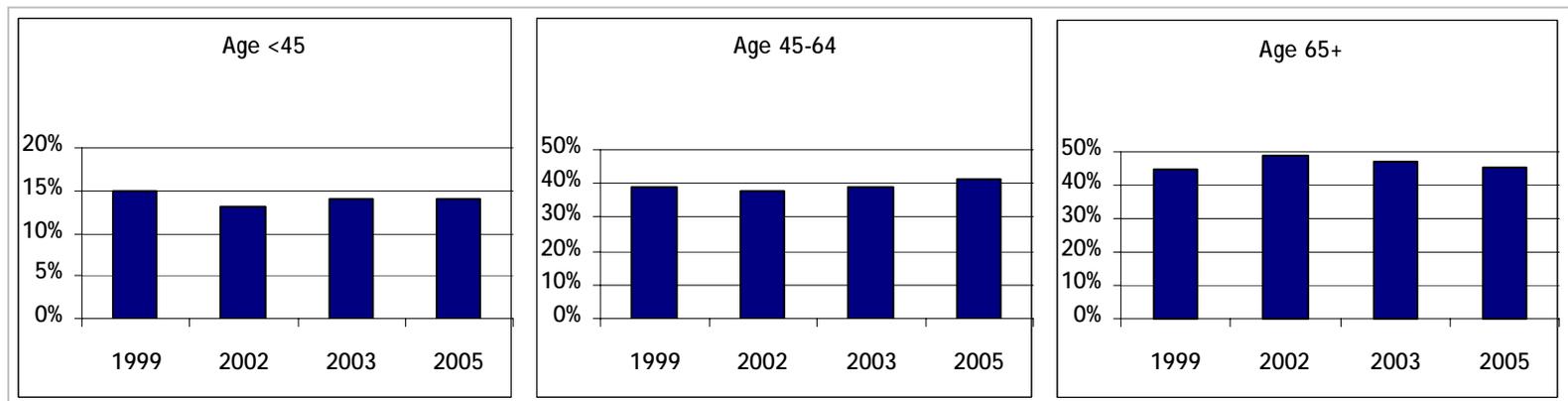


### Age Group Trends

The changes in the distribution of veteran enrollees in each Age Group were much less pronounced.

- ◆ The under 45 Age Group was stable from 2003 to 2005. In both 2003 and 2005, approximately 14 percent of the enrollees were under age 45. However, this was a decrease from the 15.0 percent in 1999, although the number of enrollees increased from 1999 to 2005.
- ◆ There was an increase in the Age Group 45-64. In 2005, 41.0 percent of the veteran enrollees were in the 45-64 Age Group, 39.0 percent in 2003, 38.0 percent in 2002 and 39.0 percent in 1999. The number of enrollees in this Age Group has increased over time.
- ◆ The 65 or over Age Group has seen some fluctuation. In 1999, 45.0 percent of the veteran enrollees were 65 or over. This increased to 49.0 percent in 2002. In 2003, this Age Group saw a decrease to 47.3 percent and in 2005 it decreased to 45.0 percent. Between 1999 and 2005, the number of enrollees 65 or over increased.

Figure 1.3



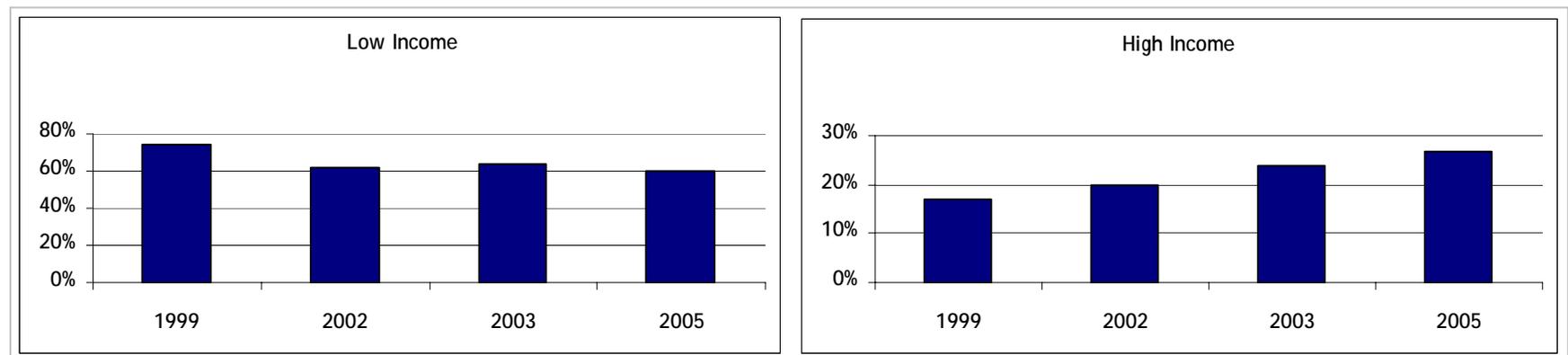
Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

## Income Group Trends

The distribution of veteran enrollees among the Income Groups has shown changes. Please note, for years 1999, 2002, 2003 and 2005, the Income Group definitions of veterans enrollees changed. Because of this change and for the purpose of comparison, Income Group in this report is defined as either Low Income Group or High Income Group. The Low Income Group was defined as earning less than or equal to \$35,000 in 1999, and less than \$36,000 in 2002, 2003, and 2005. The High Income Group was defined as earning greater than \$35,000 in 1999, and equal to or greater than \$36,000 in 2002, 2003, and 2005.

- ◆ The Low Income Group showed fluctuating changes and appears to be decreasing over time. In 2005, the Low Income Group represented 60.0 percent of the veteran enrollees, a decrease from 64.3 percent in 2003. This was an increase from the 62.0 percent in 2002 but a decrease from 74.0 percent in 1999, although the number of enrollees in this group has increased from 1999 to 2005.
- ◆ The High Income Group has shown a steady increase from 17.0 percent in 1999, to 20.0 percent in 2002, 23.5 percent in 2003, and 26.8 percent in 2005.

Figure 1.4



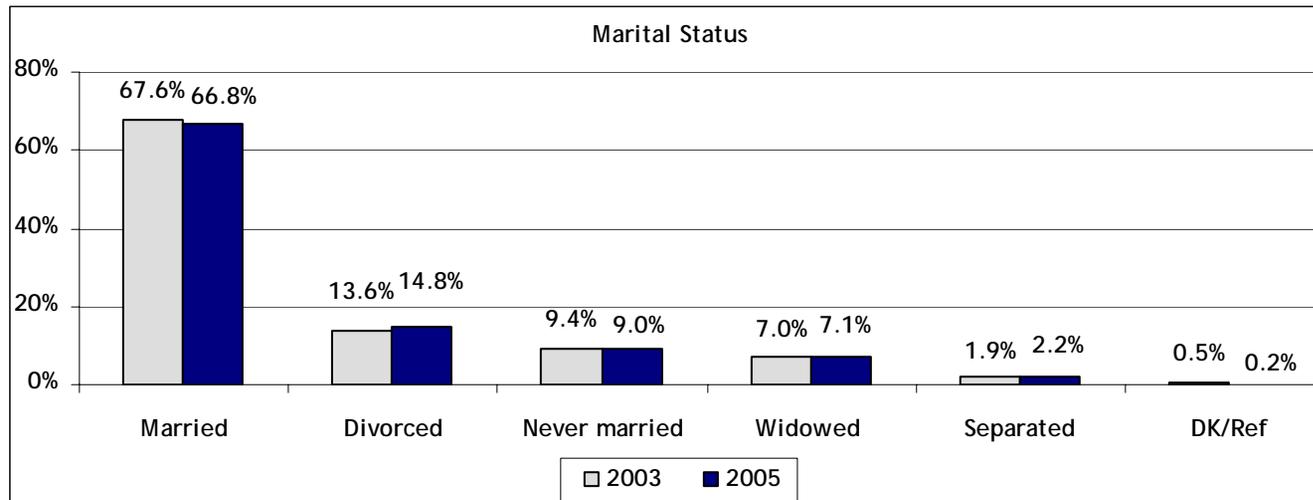
Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

## Marital Status

Research has shown that marital status is an indicator of the amount of a person's social support. A new question in the 2003 survey was an inquiry regarding the best description of enrollee current marital status. This question was continued in 2005. The results can be compared between the years.

- ◆ The married status of enrollees has remained relatively unchanged.
- ◆ There was a slight increase in the number and percentage of divorced enrollees, from 13.6 percent in 2003 to 14.8 percent in 2005.
- ◆ The never married status of enrollees has remained relatively unchanged.
- ◆ The widowed status of enrollees has remained relatively unchanged.
- ◆ There was a slight increase in the number and percent of separated enrollees, from 1.9 percent in 2003 to 2.2 percent in 2005.

Figure 1.5



Source: 2003 & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 1.3

VISN	Marital Status					
	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Never Married	DK/Ref
1	203,580	24,700	43,827	4,374	33,791	354
	65.5%	8.0%	14.1%	1.4%	10.9%	0.1%
2	131,073	16,286	25,162	4,421	21,027	314
	66.1%	8.2%	12.7%	2.2%	10.6%	0.2%
3	195,487	30,566	31,335	8,602	39,225	312
	64.0%	10.0%	10.3%	2.8%	12.8%	0.1%
4	280,994	31,674	49,961	5,189	32,237	112
	70.2%	7.9%	12.5%	1.3%	8.1%	0.0%
5	100,925	13,538	24,209	6,457	16,627	354
	62.3%	8.4%	14.9%	4.0%	10.3%	0.2%
6	235,165	16,300	53,584	10,246	26,641	1,480
	68.5%	68.5%	4.7%	15.6%	3.0%	7.8%
7	267,773	22,146	62,502	13,704	28,850	167
	67.8%	5.6%	15.8%	3.5%	7.3%	0.0%
8	396,722	49,847	77,334	11,582	57,519	1,067
	66.8%	8.4%	13.0%	1.9%	9.7%	0.2%
9	213,478	20,201	44,595	6,935	17,431	32
	70.5%	6.7%	14.7%	2.3%	5.8%	0.0%
10	157,773	17,733	37,738	6,459	26,044	483
	64.1%	7.2%	15.3%	2.6%	10.6%	0.2%
11	189,760	21,654	47,689	7,997	22,974	530
	65.3%	7.5%	16.4%	2.8%	7.9%	0.2%
12	196,762	20,363	35,270	3,583	33,350	39
	68.0%	7.0%	12.2%	1.2%	11.5%	0.0%
15	193,062	17,487	40,941	6,394	15,019	593
	70.6%	6.4%	15.0%	2.3%	5.5%	0.2%
16	384,019	34,284	78,704	15,750	39,308	1,437
	69.4%	6.2%	14.2%	2.8%	7.1%	0.3%
17	198,757	18,350	45,513	5,987	23,162	24
	68.1%	6.3%	15.6%	2.1%	7.9%	0.0%
18	187,707	20,227	44,015	2,355	28,018	134
	66.5%	7.2%	15.6%	0.8%	9.9%	0.0%
19	135,478	11,042	29,185	3,262	12,748	250
	70.6%	5.8%	15.2%	1.7%	6.6%	0.1%
20	192,781	16,568	51,456	4,937	22,335	863
	66.7%	5.7%	17.8%	1.7%	7.7%	0.3%
21	173,152	22,329	55,908	5,192	34,480	431
	59.4%	7.7%	19.2%	1.8%	11.8%	0.1%
22	206,836	23,655	73,660	8,445	47,332	122
	57.4%	6.6%	20.5%	2.3%	13.1%	0.0%
23	235,609	23,813	42,172	6,597	22,890	1,162
	70.9%	7.2%	12.7%	2.0%	6.9%	0.3%
National	4,476,891	472,763	994,759	148,466	601,010	10,261
	66.8%	7.1%	14.8%	2.2%	9.0%	0.2%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

## Active Duty Period of Service

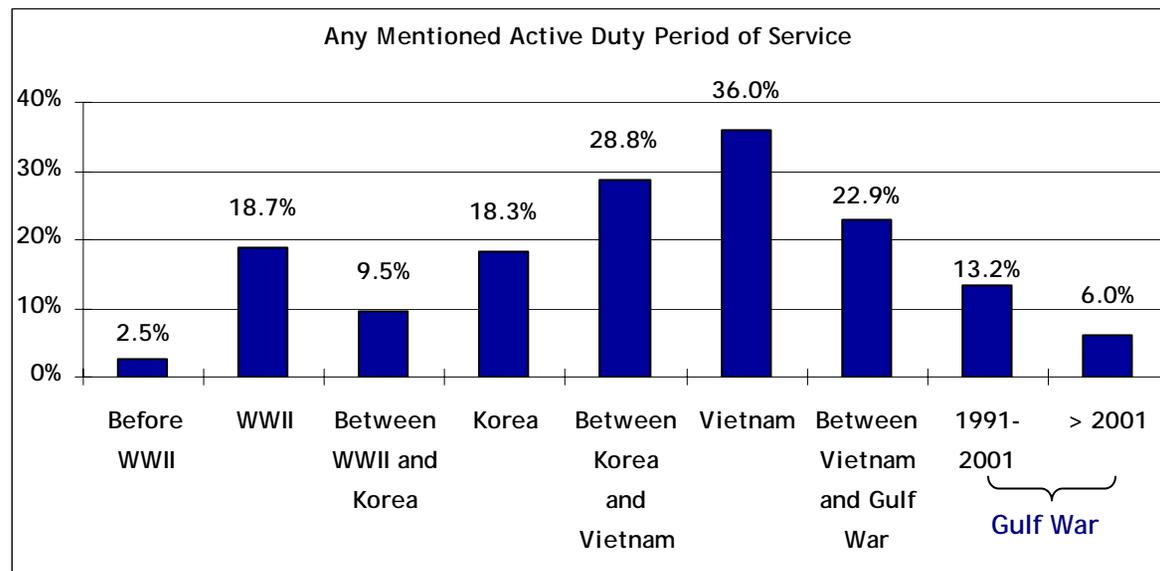
A new question in the 2005 survey was an inquiry regarding the best description of enrollees' terms of active duty military service. Most enrollees (86.1%) served only one continuous tour of duty, with no breaks in service. One term of service would be defined as a one-time discharge from the military 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, 9.6 percent of the enrollees reported two active duty periods of service. During their first active duty period, 38.4 percent of the enrollees reported combat exposure.

In some cases, some veterans have experienced breaks in service, and therefore have served multiple terms of service. Veterans 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 them to provide the "Year" they started and ended each of these terms of active duty military service.

◆ The results revealed that the single largest component of the enrollee population (36.0%) served during Vietnam. Of the remaining significant statistics, 28.8 served between Korea and Vietnam, 22.9 percent served between Vietnam and Desert Shield/Desert Storm, 18.7 percent service during World War II, and 18.3 served during the Korean War.

Figure 1.6



Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 1.4

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

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

-Before World War II (WWII): <1942  
 -WWII: 1942-1946  
 -Between WWI and Korea: 1947-1950  
 -Korea: 1951-1954  
 -Between Korea & Vietnam: 1955-1964  
 -Vietnam: 1965-1974  
 -Between Vietnam and Gulf War: 1975-1990  
 -Gulf War: 1991-2001, >2001

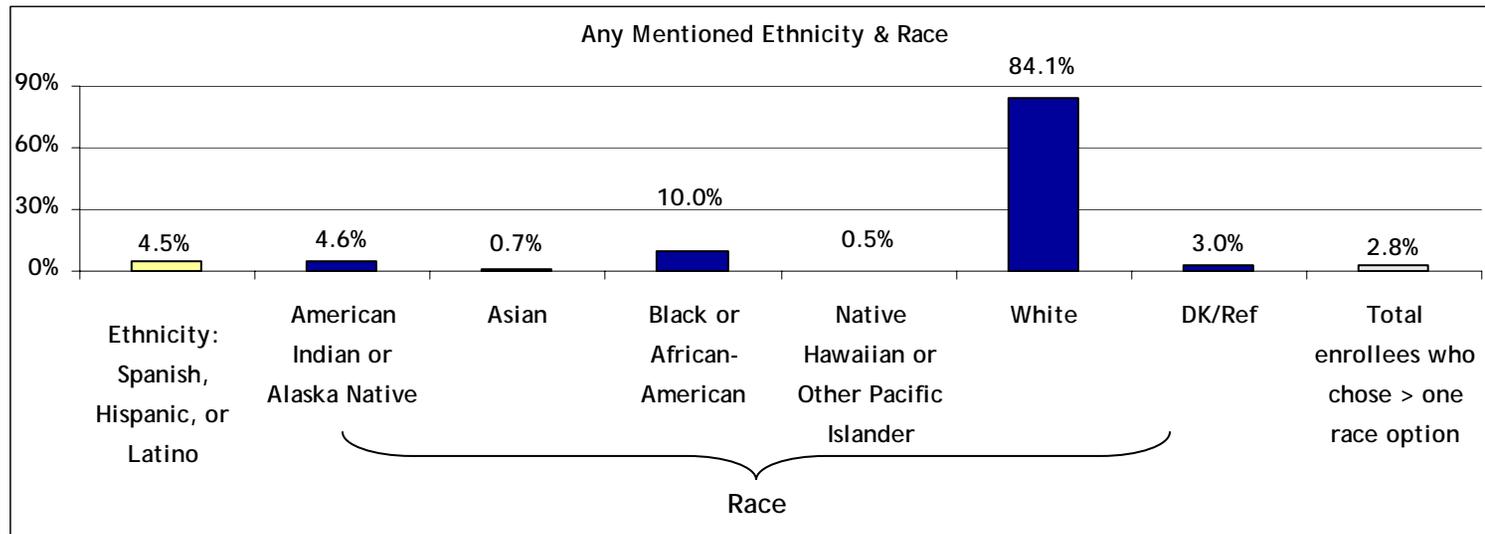
VISN	Any Mentioned Active Duty Period of Service							Gulf War	
	Before WWII	WWII	Between WWII & Korea	Korea	Between Korea and Vietnam	Vietnam	Between Vietnam & Gulf War	1991-2001	> 2001
1	8,302	70,461	32,927	62,783	78,492	99,287	65,968	36,565	17,187
	2.7%	22.7%	10.6%	20.2%	25.3%	32.0%	21.2%	11.8%	5.5%
2	4,257	40,808	15,323	34,364	59,790	66,687	34,277	24,785	11,932
	2.1%	20.6%	7.7%	17.3%	30.2%	33.6%	17.3%	12.5%	6.0%
3	11,278	84,904	29,426	63,019	79,279	74,356	40,836	28,579	16,483
	3.7%	27.8%	9.6%	20.6%	25.9%	24.3%	13.4%	9.4%	5.4%
4	9,379	85,968	47,407	81,729	123,782	128,104	57,509	31,066	18,243
	2.3%	21.5%	11.8%	20.4%	30.9%	32.0%	14.4%	7.8%	4.6%
5	3,445	29,720	15,017	27,127	43,045	56,459	46,738	31,180	13,937
	2.1%	18.3%	9.3%	16.7%	26.6%	34.8%	28.8%	19.2%	8.6%
6	7,258	52,576	27,355	56,961	100,447	140,990	98,836	63,895	21,490
	2.1%	15.3%	8.0%	16.6%	29.2%	41.1%	28.8%	18.6%	6.3%
7	8,162	49,417	37,124	70,104	108,346	162,555	127,545	72,848	27,089
	2.1%	12.5%	9.4%	17.7%	27.4%	41.1%	32.3%	18.4%	6.9%
8	23,229	145,217	74,292	124,555	178,297	190,055	117,017	57,248	34,488
	3.9%	24.4%	12.5%	21.0%	30.0%	32.0%	19.7%	9.6%	5.8%
9	6,514	41,227	23,854	53,089	103,258	125,685	75,194	38,088	13,737
	2.2%	13.6%	7.9%	17.5%	34.1%	41.5%	24.8%	12.6%	4.5%
10	5,737	43,212	20,863	39,089	65,708	85,675	56,447	26,182	14,027
	2.3%	17.5%	8.5%	15.9%	26.7%	34.8%	22.9%	10.6%	5.7%
11	4,942	49,389	21,721	49,079	78,401	98,045	64,984	35,209	17,125
	1.7%	17.0%	7.5%	16.9%	27.0%	33.7%	22.4%	12.1%	5.9%
12	6,557	62,134	23,273	54,995	76,343	93,251	47,914	30,914	13,910
	2.3%	21.5%	8.0%	19.0%	26.4%	32.2%	16.6%	10.7%	4.8%
15	6,537	53,764	25,286	52,715	71,140	90,745	61,505	32,178	14,564
	2.4%	19.7%	9.2%	19.3%	26.0%	33.2%	22.5%	11.8%	5.3%
16	10,466	84,261	52,270	90,825	156,348	221,619	143,568	83,107	45,357
	1.9%	15.2%	9.4%	16.4%	28.2%	40.0%	25.9%	15.0%	8.2%
17	6,377	44,157	27,796	51,341	92,977	116,226	88,775	48,066	18,075
	2.2%	15.1%	9.5%	17.6%	31.9%	39.8%	30.4%	16.5%	6.2%
18	8,610	51,892	26,140	54,497	83,925	111,149	70,108	37,793	16,028
	3.0%	18.4%	9.3%	19.3%	29.7%	39.4%	24.8%	13.4%	5.7%
19	4,716	35,870	16,673	32,402	57,225	70,663	49,570	33,730	9,304
	2.5%	18.7%	8.7%	16.9%	29.8%	36.8%	25.8%	17.6%	4.8%
20	6,830	45,495	23,062	43,913	90,387	114,602	77,281	50,282	19,702
	2.4%	15.7%	8.0%	15.2%	31.3%	39.7%	26.7%	17.4%	6.8%
21	10,407	56,313	28,136	51,948	81,238	114,143	69,526	39,243	21,487
	3.6%	19.3%	9.7%	17.8%	27.9%	39.2%	23.9%	13.5%	7.4%
22	9,031	64,687	36,536	60,982	103,903	138,818	87,054	56,522	29,230
	2.5%	18.0%	10.1%	16.9%	28.9%	38.6%	24.2%	15.7%	8.1%
23	5,271	65,281	30,922	72,973	98,425	112,267	51,574	27,992	11,799
	1.6%	19.6%	9.3%	22.0%	29.6%	33.8%	15.5%	8.4%	3.6%
National	167,303	1,256,753	635,403	1,228,492	1,930,755	2,411,379	1,532,225	885,473	405,195
	2.5%	18.7%	9.5%	18.3%	28.8%	36.0%	22.9%	13.2%	6.0%

## Ethnicity and Race

Other new additions to the 2005 survey were the questions of Ethnicity and Race.

- ◆ Enrollees were first asked if they would describe themselves as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. Only 4.5 percent of the enrollees responded yes to this question. This is consistent with Census 2000 information.
- ◆ The next set of questions asked enrollees to describe their race. They were told that they could choose more than one. Approximately 84.1 percent of the veterans responded that they were white and 10.0 percent responded that they were black. This is also consistent with Census 2000.
- ◆ Other races noted were 4.6 percent American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.7 percent Asian, and 0.5 percent Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander.
- ◆ The percent of enrollees who chose more than one race option was 2.8 percent.

Figure 1.7



Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 1.5

Percentages do not total 100 because enrollees may have responded with multiple races.

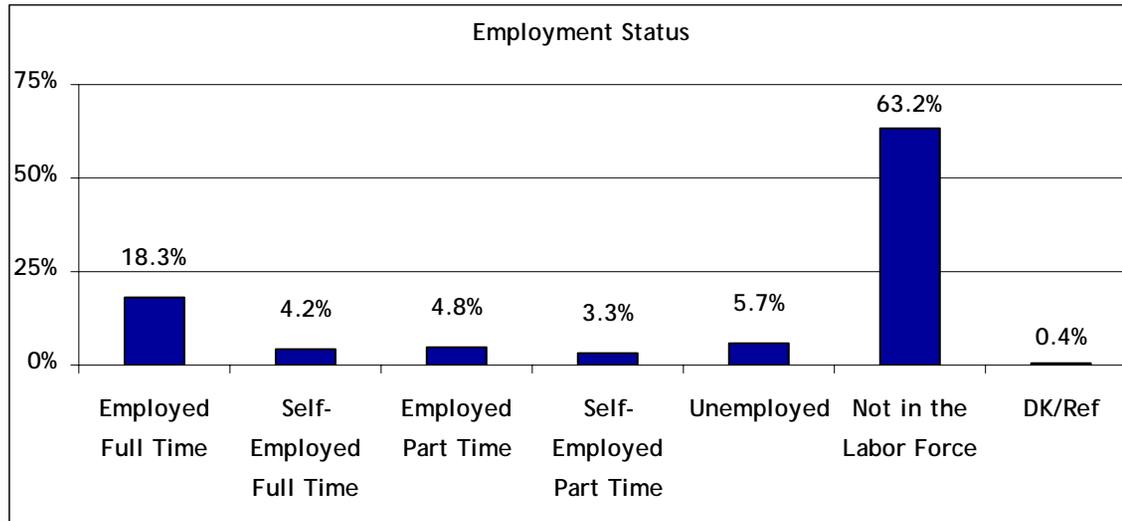
Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Ethnicity: Spanish/Hispanic/ Latino	Any Mentioned Race						
		American Indian/Alaska	Asian	Black/African- American	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	White	DK/Ref	Total enrollees who chose >1 race option
1	4,139	12,223	1,077	8,362	487	288,916	6,900	7,083
	1.3%	3.9%	0.3%	2.7%	0.2%	93.0%	2.2%	2.3%
2	2,879	6,305	574	7,460	57	184,628	2,854	3,594
	1.5%	3.2%	0.3%	3.8%	0.0%	93.1%	1.4%	1.8%
3	21,845	6,520	3,112	49,459	998	235,155	13,870	3,542
	7.1%	2.1%	1.0%	16.2%	0.3%	77.0%	4.5%	1.2%
4	5,686	5,687	691	24,416	321	364,762	6,437	2,146
	1.4%	1.4%	0.2%	6.1%	0.1%	91.2%	1.6%	0.5%
5	3,015	5,123	1,186	43,614	105	110,946	4,168	2,995
	1.9%	3.2%	0.7%	26.9%	0.1%	68.4%	2.6%	1.8%
6	9,074	18,029	1,559	62,543	456	264,311	5,575	8,993
	2.6%	5.2%	0.5%	18.2%	0.1%	77.0%	1.6%	2.6%
7	6,505	20,552	1,102	99,727	594	280,517	5,076	12,370
	1.6%	5.2%	0.3%	25.2%	0.2%	71.0%	1.3%	3.1%
8	20,537	24,107	3,567	53,681	2,164	511,987	17,840	16,253
	3.5%	4.1%	0.6%	9.0%	0.4%	86.2%	3.0%	2.7%
9	5,542	18,997	1,586	21,721	294	266,410	5,089	11,296
	1.8%	6.3%	0.5%	7.2%	0.1%	88.0%	1.7%	3.7%
10	6,208	10,597	1,268	33,826	111	203,187	4,857	7,469
	2.5%	4.3%	0.5%	13.7%	0.0%	82.5%	2.0%	3.0%
11	7,561	11,865	873	28,677	688	250,370	6,747	7,714
	2.6%	4.1%	0.3%	9.9%	0.2%	86.2%	2.3%	2.7%
12	6,628	6,936	1,453	29,102	619	250,094	6,248	4,907
	2.3%	2.4%	0.5%	10.1%	0.2%	86.4%	2.2%	1.7%
15	7,007	13,852	1,088	18,623	677	241,714	4,501	6,825
	2.6%	5.1%	0.4%	6.8%	0.2%	88.4%	1.6%	2.5%
16	12,721	43,553	4,942	72,781	1,482	452,435	11,511	32,747
	2.3%	7.9%	0.9%	13.1%	0.3%	81.7%	2.1%	5.9%
17	41,318	15,609	1,043	36,659	3,034	231,365	15,646	11,136
	14.2%	5.3%	0.4%	12.6%	1.0%	79.3%	5.4%	3.8%
18	41,135	18,115	944	12,619	3,757	235,563	18,846	7,389
	14.6%	6.4%	0.3%	4.5%	1.3%	83.4%	6.7%	2.6%
19	13,801	8,401	1,217	4,884	583	171,814	8,623	3,021
	7.2%	4.4%	0.6%	2.5%	0.3%	89.5%	4.5%	1.6%
20	10,820	11,926	2,054	6,077	1,952	267,459	6,838	7,322
	3.7%	4.1%	0.7%	2.1%	0.7%	92.6%	2.4%	2.5%
21	22,110	14,896	12,867	16,820	8,132	239,980	12,867	13,174
	7.6%	5.1%	4.4%	5.8%	2.8%	82.3%	4.4%	4.5%
22	48,281	20,660	6,950	35,983	4,087	275,180	27,846	10,436
	13.4%	5.7%	1.9%	10.0%	1.1%	76.4%	7.7%	2.9%
23	6,596	13,272	390	5,777	555	311,429	6,867	6,045
	2.0%	4.0%	0.1%	1.7%	0.2%	93.7%	2.1%	1.8%
National	303,407.0	307,225.1	49,539.6	672,809.2	31,154.0	5,638,224.4	199,206.0	186,454.0
	4.5%	4.6%	0.7%	10.0%	0.5%	84.1%	3.0%	2.8%

## Employment Status

In order to better understand the socioeconomic characteristics of the enrollee population, a new question was asked regarding their employment status. Here are the statistics regarding enrollee employment status.

Figure 1.8



Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

- ◆ The majority of enrollees (63.2%) are not in the labor force, as would be expected since most enrollees are 65 or over.
- ◆ The next highest percentage (18.3%) is those enrollees who are employed full time.
- ◆ This is followed by those enrollees who are unemployed, or 5.7 percent.
- ◆ The unemployment rate for enrollees is 15.6 percent. This rate seems high; however, employment status could be one driver of enrollment. It also can help to explain uninsurance rates. Uninsurance rates are covered in Chapter 2.

## VISN Enrollee Population Overview

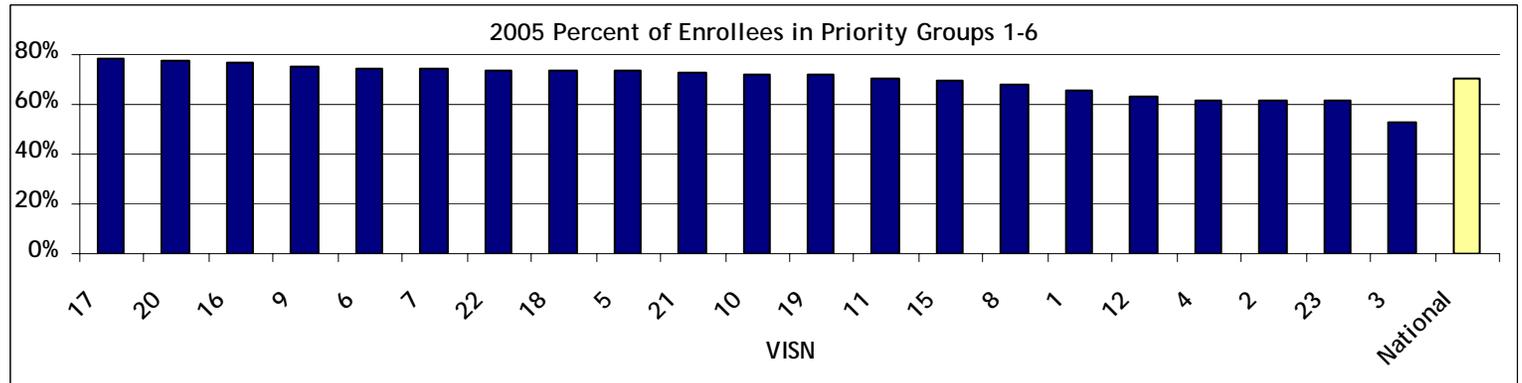
- ◆ Between 2003 and 2005, the number and percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 increased. Priority Groups 1-3 increased to 21 million (32.0%) in 2005 from 1.9 million (28.8%) in 2003. Priority Groups 4-6 decreased to 2.5 million (38.1%) in 2005 from 2.7 million (39.4%) in 2003. Priority Groups 7-8 decreased to 2 million (30.0%) in 2005 from 2.1 million (31.7%) in 2003.
- ◆ Between 2003 and 2005, the number and percent of enrollees in Age Groups under age 45 and 45-64 increased. Enrollees under age 45 increased to 935,693 in 2005 from 925,877 in 2003. Enrollees 45-64 years old increased to 2.7 million in 2005 from 2.6 million in 2003. Finally, the number and percent of enrollees 65 or over decreased from 2005 to 2003, the number decreased to 3 million in 2005 from 3.1 million in 2003.
- ◆ Between 2003 and 2005, the number and percentages of enrollees in the High Income Group increased. Conversely, the number and percentage of enrollees in the Low Income Group decreased. In 2005, 60.0 percent or 4 million enrollees had incomes under \$36,000, compared to 64.3 percent or 4.3 million in 2003. In 2005, 26.8 percent or 1.8 million enrollees had incomes over \$36,000, compared to 23.5 percent or 1.6 million in 2003. The percentage of enrollees who did not know or refused to answer the income question increased from 12.1 percent in 2003 to 13.2 percent in 2005.

### Enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent of veteran enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6 increased in all VISNs.
- ◆ In 2005, data revealed VISN 17 at 78.3 percent ranked first in the number of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6, followed by VISN 20 with 77.2 percent.

Figure 1.9

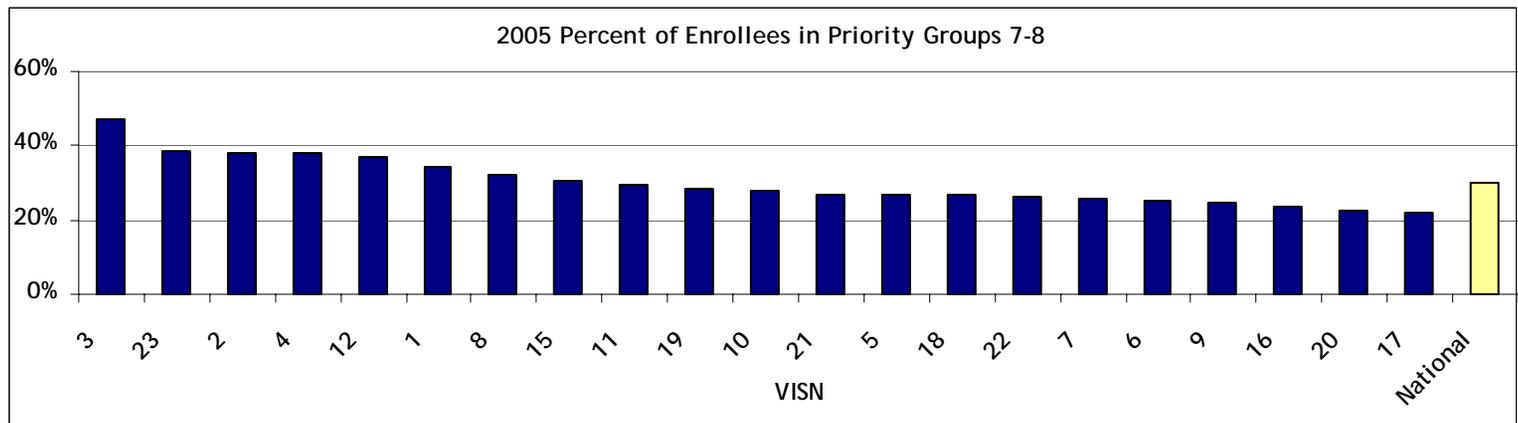
- ◆ The VISN with the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6 was VISN 3 with 52.7 percent.



### Enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8

Figure 1.10

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent of veteran enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8 decreased in all VISNs. This may be due to the suspension of enrollment of Priority 8 veterans.
- ◆ In 2005, data revealed VISN 3 at 47.3 percent ranked first in the percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8.
- ◆ VISN 17 had the lowest percentage (21.7%) of veteran enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8.

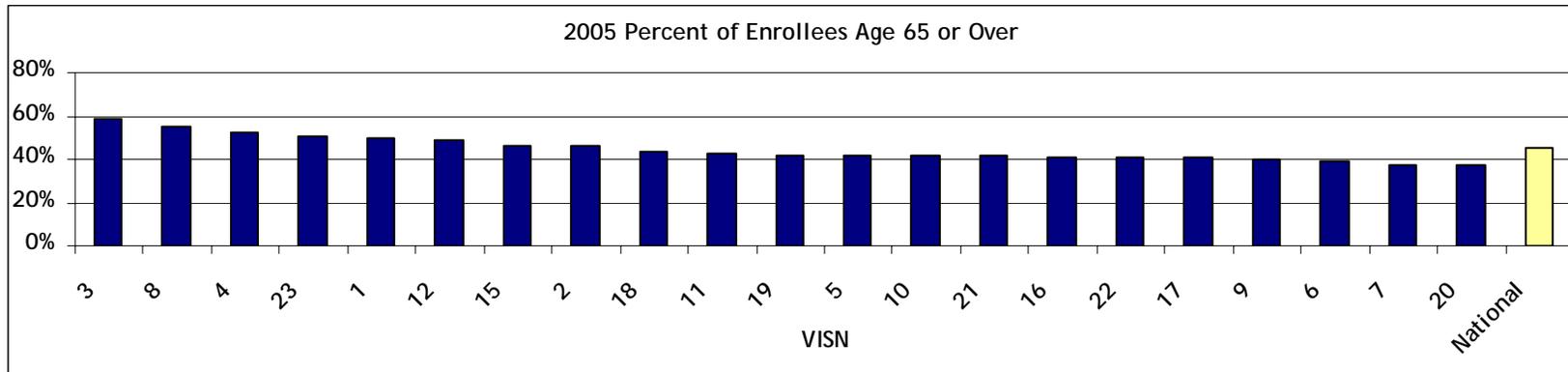


Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

### Enrollees Age 65 or Over

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent of veteran enrollees age 65 or over decreased in the majority of VISNs. An increase in the number of enrollees age 65 or over was noted in VISNs 3, 8, 18, and 22.
- ◆ In 2005, data revealed VISN 3 at 59.0 percent ranked first in the number of enrollees age 65 or over.
- ◆ The VISNs with the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees age 65 or over were VISN 7 and 20 with 37.2 percent.

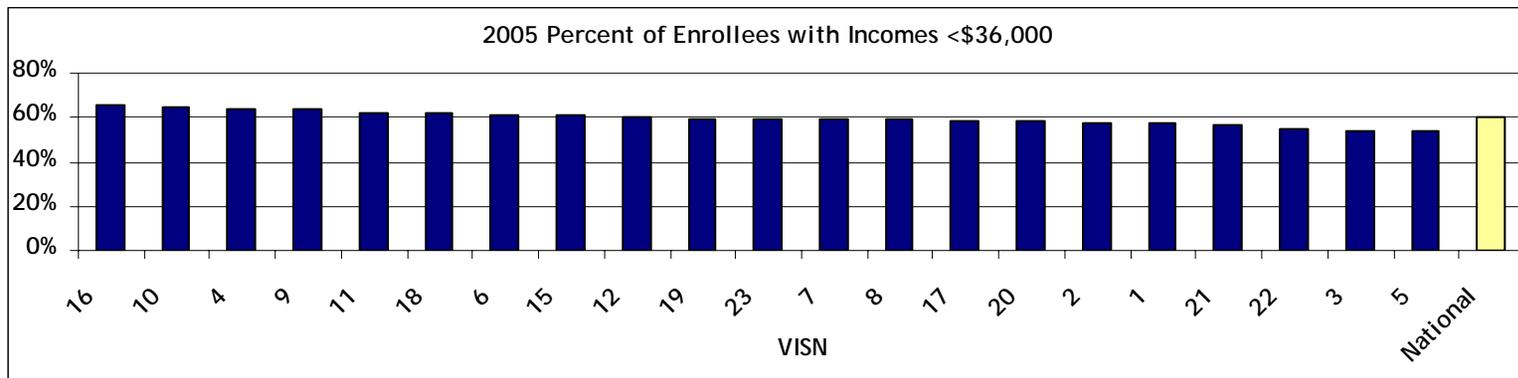
Figure 1.11



### Enrollees with Incomes <\$36,000

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent of veteran enrollees with incomes less than \$36,000 decreased in the majority of VISNs. A slight increase in the number of enrollees with income less than \$36,000 was noted in VISN 5.
- ◆ In 2005, data revealed VISN 16 at 65.5 percent ranked first in the number of enrollees with incomes less than \$36,000.
- ◆ The VISN with the lowest percentage of veteran enrollees with incomes less than \$36,000 were VISNs 3 and 5 with 53.5 percent.

Figure 1.12

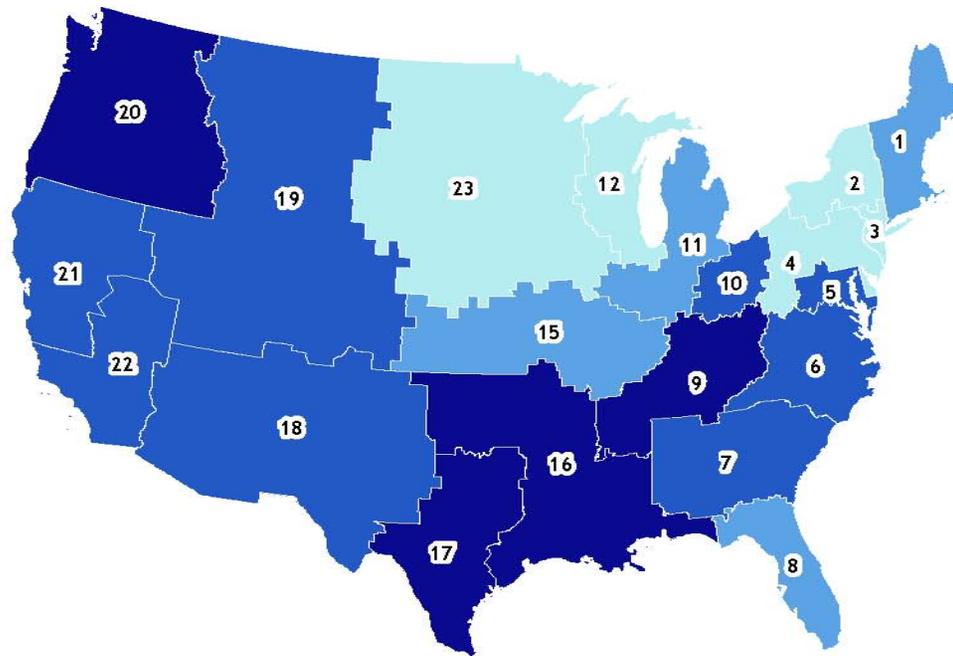


Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### 2005 Percent of Enrollees in Priority Groups 1-6



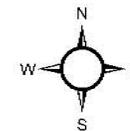
#### Legend

##### Map1.1

- 52.7% - 62.9%
- 63.0% - 70.4%
- 70.5% - 74.6%
- 74.7% - 78.3%

VISN	P1-6	VISN	%
1	204,625	310,626	65.9%
2	122,380	198,283	61.7%
3	161,158	305,526	52.7%
4	248,042	400,167	62.0%
5	118,711	162,110	73.2%
6	256,294	343,415	74.6%
7	294,185	395,142	74.5%
8	403,816	594,071	68.0%
9	227,936	302,672	75.3%
10	177,530	246,229	72.1%
11	204,540	290,604	70.4%
12	182,126	289,366	62.9%
15	190,387	273,495	69.6%
16	423,615	553,502	76.5%
17	228,421	291,793	78.3%
18	207,551	282,455	73.5%
19	137,752	191,965	71.8%
20	223,187	288,939	77.2%
21	212,779	291,493	73.0%
22	264,956	360,050	73.6%
23	204,662	332,244	61.6%
<b>National</b>	<b>4,694,655</b>	<b>6,704,149</b>	<b>70.0%</b>

Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA

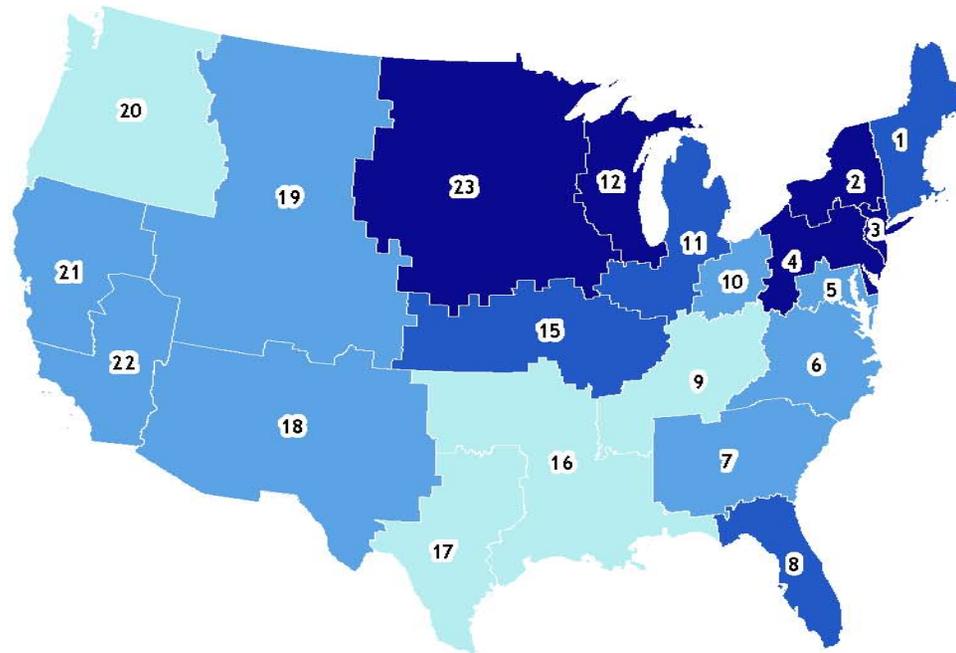


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Veterans Health Administration

### 2005 Percent of Enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8



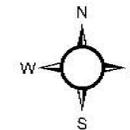
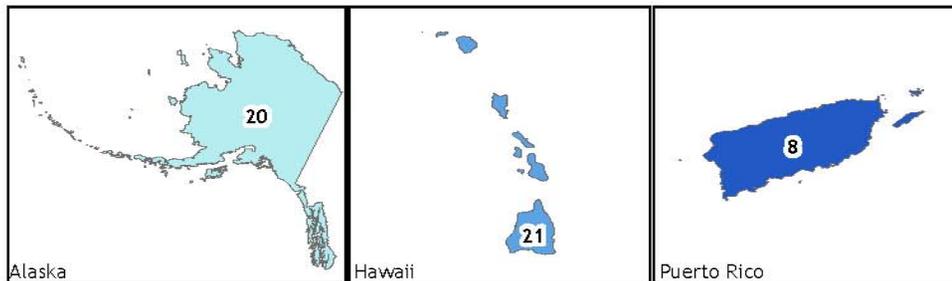
#### Legend

#### Map 1.2

- 21.7% - 24.6%
- 24.7% - 28.2%
- 28.3% - 34.1%
- 34.2% - 47.3%

VISN	P7-8	VISN	%
1	106,001	310,626	34.1%
2	75,903	198,283	38.3%
3	144,368	305,526	47.3%
4	152,126	400,167	38.0%
5	43,399	162,110	26.8%
6	87,120	343,415	25.4%
7	100,957	395,142	25.5%
8	190,255	594,071	32.0%
9	74,736	302,672	24.7%
10	68,698	246,229	27.9%
11	86,064	290,604	29.6%
12	107,241	289,366	37.1%
15	83,108	273,495	30.4%
16	129,888	553,502	23.5%
17	63,372	291,793	21.7%
18	74,905	282,455	26.5%
19	54,212	191,965	28.2%
20	65,753	288,939	22.8%
21	78,713	291,493	27.0%
22	95,093	360,050	26.4%
23	127,582	332,244	38.4%
<b>National</b>	<b>2,009,494</b>	<b>6,704,149</b>	<b>30.0%</b>

Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA

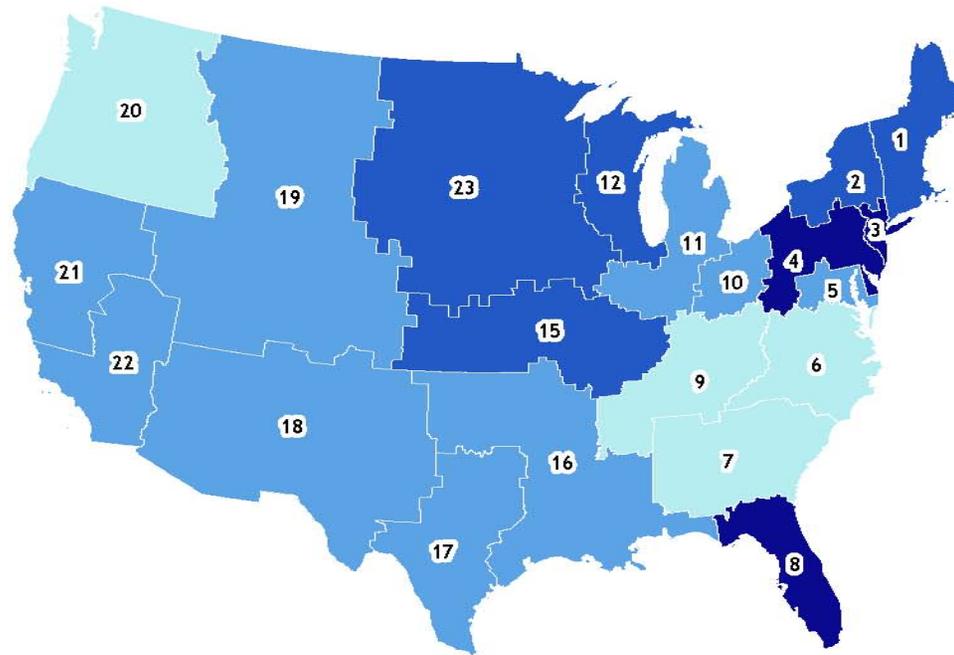


Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group  
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Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### 2005 Percent of Enrollees Age 65 or Over



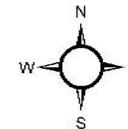
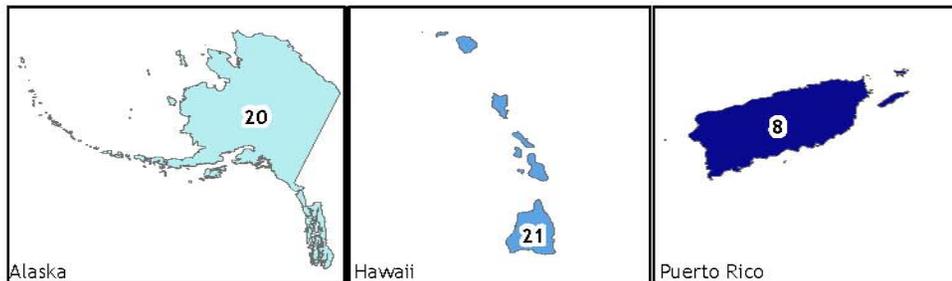
#### Legend

#### Map 1.3

- 37.1% - 39.8%
- 39.9% - 43.3%
- 43.4% - 50.3%
- 50.4% - 59.0%

VISN	65+	VISN	%
1	153,486	310,626	49.4%
2	91,683	198,283	46.2%
3	180,265	305,526	59.0%
4	210,715	400,167	52.7%
5	68,162	162,110	42.0%
6	134,104	343,415	39.1%
7	147,052	395,142	37.2%
8	325,822	594,071	54.8%
9	120,522	302,672	39.8%
10	103,253	246,229	41.9%
11	124,766	290,604	42.9%
12	140,441	289,366	48.5%
15	126,973	273,495	46.4%
16	227,529	553,502	41.1%
17	118,536	291,793	40.6%
18	122,351	282,455	43.3%
19	80,850	191,965	42.1%
20	107,400	288,939	37.2%
21	122,000	291,493	41.9%
22	146,496	360,050	40.7%
23	167,313	332,244	50.4%
<b>National</b>	<b>3,019,717</b>	<b>6,704,149</b>	<b>45.0%</b>

Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA

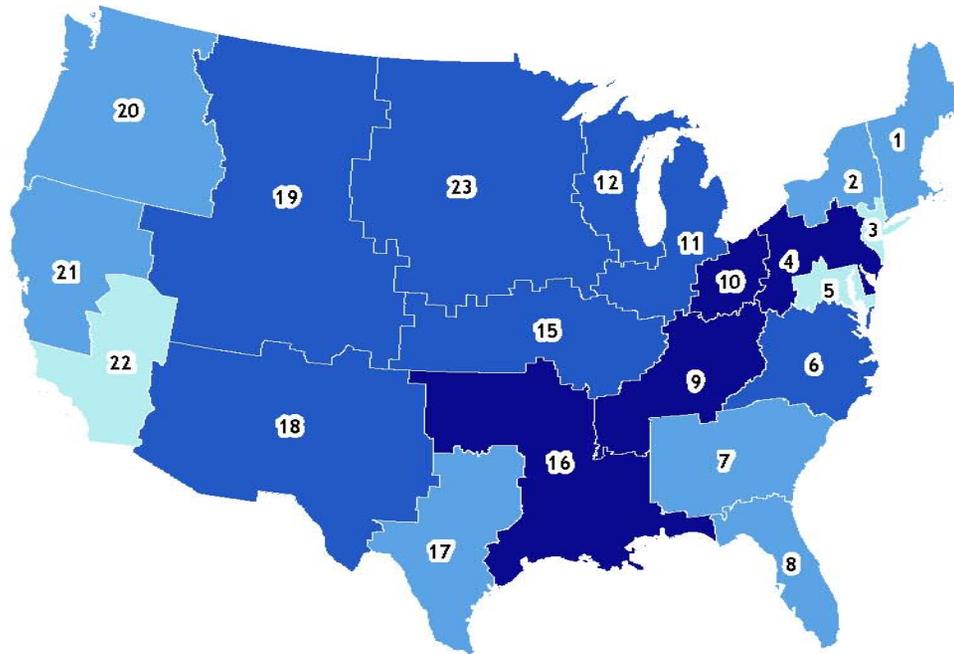


Map generated by Healthcare Analysis & Information Group  
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Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### 2005 Percent of Enrollees with Income <\$36,000



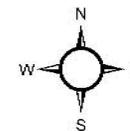
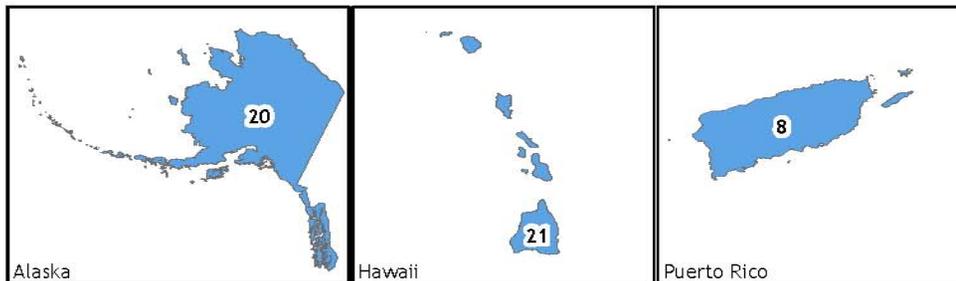
### Legend

#### Map 1.4

- 53.4% - 56.4%
- 56.5% - 59.5%
- 59.6% - 62.4%
- 62.5% - 65.5%

VISN	<\$36,000	VISN	%
1	178,953	310,626	57.6%
2	114,942	198,283	58.0%
3	163,469	305,526	53.5%
4	255,006	400,167	63.7%
5	86,714	162,110	53.5%
6	210,584	343,415	61.3%
7	235,029	395,142	59.5%
8	349,983	594,071	58.9%
9	191,918	302,672	63.4%
10	160,091	246,229	65.0%
11	181,377	290,604	62.4%
12	174,367	289,366	60.3%
15	167,492	273,495	61.2%
16	362,389	553,502	65.5%
17	170,419	291,793	58.4%
18	176,288	282,455	62.4%
19	114,745	191,965	59.8%
20	167,757	288,939	58.1%
21	165,291	291,493	56.7%
22	198,627	360,050	55.2%
23	198,426	332,244	59.7%
<b>National</b>	<b>4,023,866</b>	<b>6,704,149</b>	<b>60.0%</b>

Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA



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

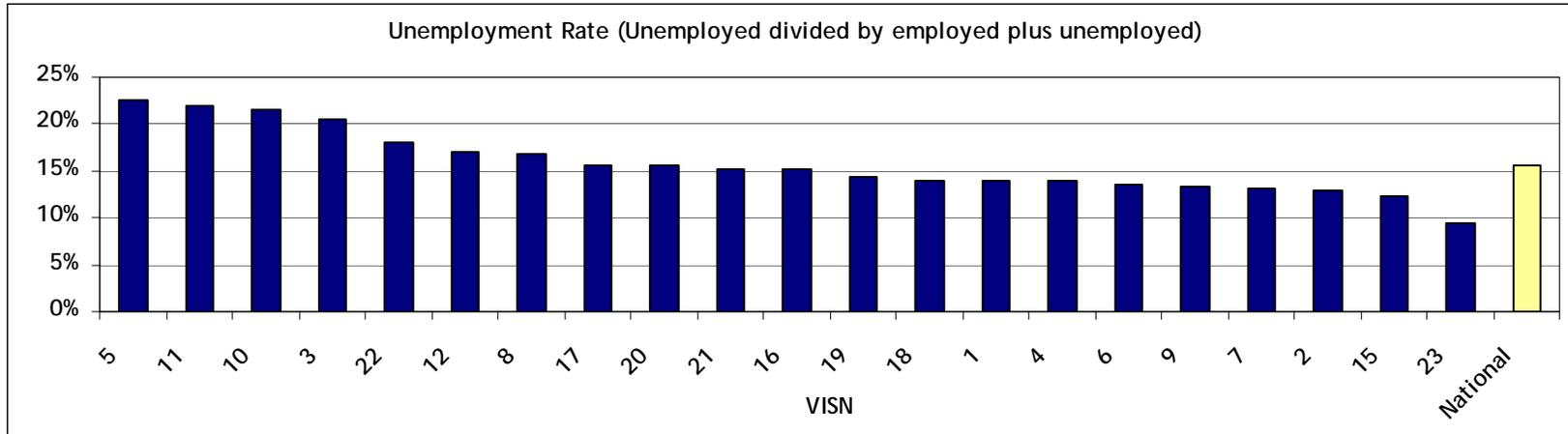
## Unemployment Rate by VISN

With this new data collected from the responses to this question, the unemployment rate for enrollees can be calculated using the following formula:  $\text{Unemployment Rate} = 100 \times [\text{unemployed} / (\text{employed} + \text{unemployed})]$ . It should be noted that this is enrollee self-reported data.

Nationally, the unemployment rate for enrollees is 15.6 percent, which seems high compared to the average annual US civilian unemployment rate of 5.5 percent for the year ending 2004. This could be attributed to our enrollee population having a higher percentage of disability. In addition, many of our patients and enrollees are more socio-economically challenged than the general population.

- ◆ VISN 5 has the highest unemployment rate at 22.6 percent, followed by VISN 11 at 21.9 percent, and VISN 10 at 21.5 percent.
- ◆ VISN 23 has the lowest unemployment rate at 9.5 percent; however, even this rate is higher than national rate for the general US civilian labor force 16 years and over as reported by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Figure 1.13

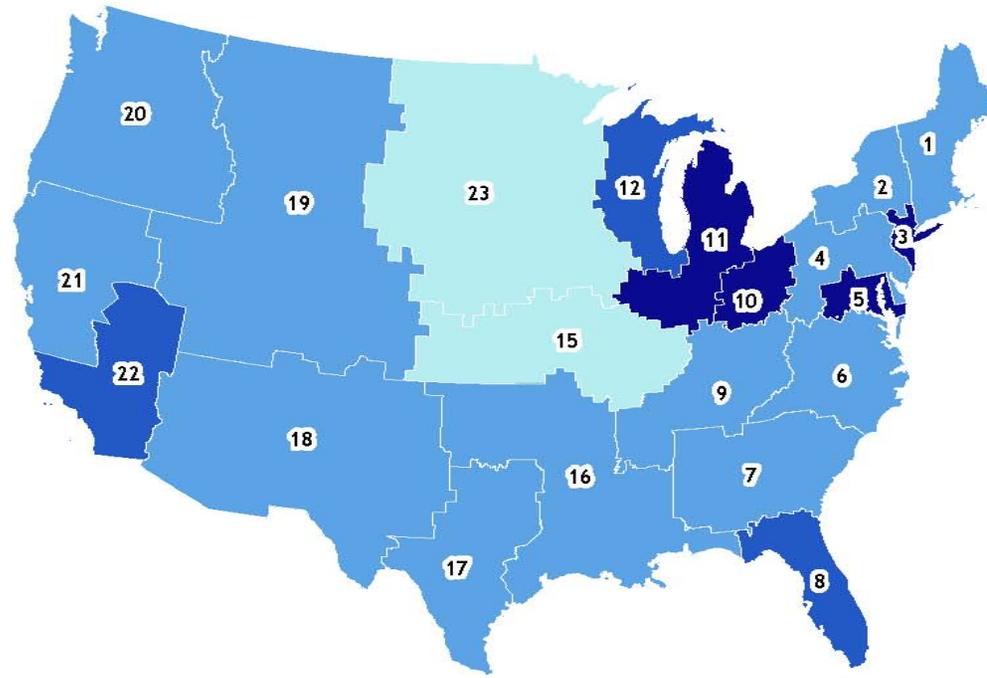


Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### Enrollee Self Reported Unemployment Rate

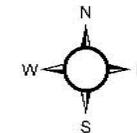
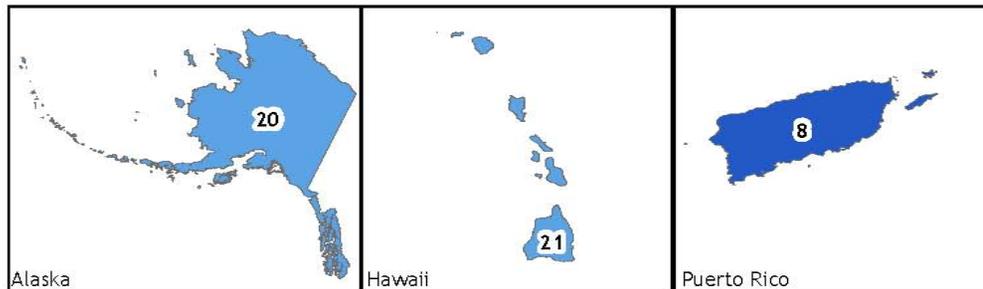


### Legend

#### Map 1.5

- 9.4% - 12.7%
- 12.8% - 16.0%
- 16.1% - 19.3%
- 19.4% - 22.6%

VISN	Unemployment Rate
1	13.9%
2	13.0%
3	20.4%
4	13.9%
5	22.6%
6	13.6%
7	13.1%
8	16.7%
9	13.4%
10	21.5%
11	21.9%
12	17.1%
15	12.2%
16	15.1%
17	15.6%
18	13.9%
19	14.4%
20	15.5%
21	15.2%
22	18.0%
23	9.5%
<b>National</b>	<b>15.6%</b>



Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA

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

Table 1.6

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of  
Veteran Enrollees' Health and  
Reliance Upon VA

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	54,741	15,549	16,889	10,285	15,771	196,988	403
	17.6%	5.0%	5.4%	3.3%	5.1%	63.4%	0.1%
2	39,075	5,984	12,619	3,282	9,112	127,580	632
	19.7%	3.0%	6.4%	1.7%	4.6%	64.3%	0.3%
3	48,758	7,971	10,041	8,635	19,369	209,223	1,530
	16.0%	2.6%	3.3%	2.8%	6.3%	68.5%	0.5%
4	60,232	8,199	21,849	9,839	16,163	282,454	1,432
	15.1%	2.0%	5.5%	2.5%	4.0%	70.6%	0.4%
5	34,152	4,819	5,969	4,613	14,497	97,257	802
	21.1%	3.0%	3.7%	2.8%	8.9%	60.0%	0.5%
6	74,028	14,567	15,656	9,040	17,828	208,780	3,516
	21.6%	4.2%	4.6%	2.6%	5.2%	60.8%	1.0%
7	93,929	21,017	13,736	15,191	21,693	227,831	1,745
	23.8%	5.3%	3.5%	3.8%	5.5%	57.7%	0.4%
8	84,429	16,776	28,342	14,353	28,946	419,102	2,122
	14.2%	2.8%	4.8%	2.4%	4.9%	70.5%	0.4%
9	53,548	6,762	15,881	11,337	13,566	199,884	1,694
	17.7%	2.2%	5.2%	3.7%	4.5%	66.0%	0.6%
10	42,575	9,780	11,556	6,030	19,182	155,069	2,038
	17.3%	4.0%	4.7%	2.4%	7.8%	63.0%	0.8%
11	54,074	7,619	16,025	7,450	23,932	180,890	613
	18.6%	2.6%	5.5%	2.6%	8.2%	62.2%	0.2%
12	50,038	15,887	17,450	10,925	19,412	174,504	1,150
	17.3%	5.5%	6.0%	3.8%	6.7%	60.3%	0.4%
15	52,685	13,098	10,187	7,214	11,588	176,464	2,259
	19.3%	4.8%	3.7%	2.6%	4.2%	64.5%	0.8%
16	96,917	26,997	22,717	24,126	30,391	349,034	3,320
	17.5%	4.9%	4.1%	4.4%	5.5%	63.1%	0.6%
17	58,653	17,979	12,798	8,573	18,157	174,040	1,594
	20.1%	6.2%	4.4%	2.9%	6.2%	59.6%	0.5%
18	51,005	10,993	14,489	10,891	14,144	180,508	426
	18.1%	3.9%	5.1%	3.9%	5.0%	63.9%	0.2%
19	37,900	9,948	8,164	8,889	10,881	115,470	713
	19.7%	5.2%	4.3%	4.6%	5.7%	60.2%	0.4%
20	55,482	11,734	13,838	9,778	16,705	179,916	1,488
	19.2%	4.1%	4.8%	3.4%	5.8%	62.3%	0.5%
21	46,312	13,562	14,396	13,808	15,806	187,389	220
	15.9%	4.7%	4.9%	4.7%	5.4%	64.3%	0.1%
22	76,627	23,598	22,315	14,408	30,137	191,555	1,410
	21.3%	6.6%	6.2%	4.0%	8.4%	53.2%	0.4%
23	62,546	19,602	18,857	15,250	12,145	202,826	1,019
	18.8%	5.9%	5.7%	4.6%	3.7%	61.0%	0.3%
National	1,227,706	282,440	323,771	223,918	379,425	4,236,763	30,126
	18.3%	4.2%	4.8%	3.3%	5.7%	63.2%	0.4%

Table 1.7

## 2005 Socioeconomic Characteristics

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of  
Veteran Enrollees' Health and  
Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36,000	\$36,000+	DK/Ref
1	99,693	104,932	106,001	43,914	113,226	153,486	178,953	88,373	43,300
	32.1%	33.8%	34.1%	14.1%	36.5%	49.4%	57.6%	28.4%	13.9%
2	50,261	72,119	75,903	27,187	79,413	91,683	114,942	58,463	24,878
	25.3%	36.4%	38.3%	13.7%	40.1%	46.2%	58.0%	29.5%	12.5%
3	66,239	94,919	144,368	34,081	91,180	180,265	163,469	95,556	46,502
	21.7%	31.1%	47.3%	11.2%	29.8%	59.0%	53.5%	31.3%	15.2%
4	99,298	148,744	152,126	35,863	153,589	210,715	255,006	87,131	58,030
	24.8%	37.2%	38.0%	9.0%	38.4%	52.7%	63.7%	21.8%	14.5%
5	58,805	59,906	43,399	28,139	65,809	68,162	86,714	51,749	23,648
	36.3%	37.0%	26.8%	17.4%	40.6%	42.0%	53.5%	31.9%	14.6%
6	134,181	122,113	87,120	58,672	150,639	134,104	210,584	93,987	38,844
	39.1%	35.6%	25.4%	17.1%	43.9%	39.1%	61.3%	27.4%	11.3%
7	145,798	148,387	100,957	65,433	182,657	147,052	235,029	108,285	51,828
	36.9%	37.6%	25.5%	16.6%	46.2%	37.2%	59.5%	27.4%	13.1%
8	174,021	229,795	190,255	57,395	210,854	325,822	349,983	156,956	87,131
	29.3%	38.7%	32.0%	9.7%	35.5%	54.8%	58.9%	26.4%	14.7%
9	101,635	126,301	74,736	37,369	144,781	120,522	191,918	71,160	39,594
	33.6%	41.7%	24.7%	12.3%	47.8%	39.8%	63.4%	23.5%	13.1%
10	66,021	111,509	68,698	35,829	107,147	103,253	160,091	56,305	29,833
	26.8%	45.3%	27.9%	14.6%	43.5%	41.9%	65.0%	22.9%	12.1%
11	85,542	118,998	86,064	47,402	118,436	124,766	181,377	74,881	34,346
	29.4%	40.9%	29.6%	16.3%	40.8%	42.9%	62.4%	25.8%	11.8%
12	70,293	111,833	107,241	37,894	111,031	140,441	174,367	77,299	37,701
	24.3%	38.6%	37.1%	13.1%	38.4%	48.5%	60.3%	26.7%	13.0%
15	80,692	109,695	83,108	39,121	107,401	126,973	167,492	67,050	38,953
	29.5%	40.1%	30.4%	14.3%	39.3%	46.4%	61.2%	24.5%	14.2%
16	188,047	235,568	129,888	85,181	240,792	227,529	362,389	122,844	68,270
	34.0%	42.6%	23.5%	15.4%	43.5%	41.1%	65.5%	22.2%	12.3%
17	119,638	108,783	63,372	50,412	122,845	118,536	170,419	78,470	42,905
	41.0%	37.3%	21.7%	17.3%	42.1%	40.6%	58.4%	26.9%	14.7%
18	101,871	105,680	74,905	36,460	123,644	122,351	176,288	74,981	31,187
	36.1%	37.4%	26.5%	12.9%	43.8%	43.3%	62.4%	26.5%	11.0%
19	70,740	67,012	54,212	31,404	79,711	80,850	114,745	53,612	23,607
	36.9%	34.9%	28.2%	16.4%	41.5%	42.1%	59.8%	27.9%	12.3%
20	125,945	97,242	65,753	50,144	131,395	107,400	167,757	82,336	38,847
	43.6%	33.7%	22.8%	17.4%	45.5%	37.2%	58.1%	28.5%	13.4%
21	97,098	115,681	78,713	42,089	127,404	122,000	165,291	92,062	34,139
	33.3%	39.7%	27.0%	14.4%	43.7%	41.9%	56.7%	31.6%	11.7%
22	107,493	157,463	95,093	57,311	156,243	146,496	198,627	113,162	48,261
	29.9%	43.7%	26.4%	15.9%	43.4%	40.7%	55.2%	31.4%	13.4%
23	99,501	105,161	127,582	34,392	130,539	167,313	198,426	90,042	43,776
	29.9%	31.7%	38.4%	10.4%	39.3%	50.4%	59.7%	27.1%	13.2%
National	2,142,812	2,551,843	2,009,494	935,693	2,748,739	3,019,717	4,023,866	1,794,704	885,580
	32.0%	38.1%	30.0%	14.0%	41.0%	45.0%	60.0%	26.8%	13.2%

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## Chapter 2

### PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OF THE VETERAN ENROLLEE POPULATION

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) attempted to address the issues of public or private coverage with only four questions in the 1999 survey (questions probed for Medicare A, Medicare B, Medicaid, and Private or Group Insurance).

However, the ever-expanding need for more detailed information on the VHA enrollee population led VHA to add additional health insurance coverage questions in 2003. This line of questioning was continued in 2005. In addition to the 1999 categories, the 2005 and 2003 surveys split the private group insurance into Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) or Managed Care coverage versus non-HMO or non-Managed Care coverage. The survey also added a question about Medigap Supplemental coverage.

In 2005, the Medigap question included a note to the telephone interviewer that it “does not include TRICARE For Life Plan.”

In 2005, the Medicare questions were further clarified by first asking the respondent if the enrollee was covered by Medicare (Part A). Then, if that Medicare coverage pays for doctor’s office visits (Medicare Part B). Question 3 asked if the enrollee purchased any private health care coverage to supplement Medicare, and included an additional note that this included Medigap, Medicare Supplement, Medicare Advantage, and Medicare + Choice.

In the 2002 and 2003 surveys of enrollees, a Question regarding TRICARE For Life coverage was asked only of Military Retirees. In the 2005 survey, all enrollees were asked about coverage under either the TRICARE or TRICARE For Life health care programs.

#### Overall Results

- ◆ Over 78 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 1999 and 2005 surveys, with a decrease in Medicare B (40.7%) and Medigap (25.9%), a slight increase in HMO coverage (27.8%), and an increase in Medicaid, from 6.1 percent in 2003 to 9.4 percent in 2005.
- ◆ Between 2003 and 2005, there was a decrease in uninsured enrollees, from 22.7 percent in 2003 to 21.1 percent in 2005. This could be due to the influx of new P7/P8s, who 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 demographic continues to shift to Medicare eligibility. In addition, regardless of Priority Group, improvements in the economy may explain why more enrollees have health insurance coverage. See Table 2.1 for details.

Table 2.1

## Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed

Year	Medicare A	Medicare B	Medigap	Medicaid	Private			TRICARE or TRICARE For Life	Federal, State, County, Local Coverage	No Coverage
					HMO	Non-HMO	Total			
1999	1,770,877	1,488,645	NA	211,558	NA	NA	1,661,646	NA	NA	1,013,046
	48.6%	40.9%	NA	5.8%	NA	NA	45.6%	NA	NA	27.8%
2002	3,354,043	3,002,231	1,706,930	416,957	745,889	811,204	1,557,093	464,376	NA	1,371,640
	54.3%	48.6%	27.6%	6.8%	12.1%	13.1%	25.2%	7.5%	NA	22.2%
2003	3,678,765	3,273,967	1,893,111	408,825	816,012	862,083	1,678,095	476,280	NA	1,532,320
	54.6%	48.6%	28.1%	6.1%	12.1%	12.8%	24.9%	7.1%	NA	22.7%
2005	3,689,960	2,727,649	1,734,228	628,608	1,087,916	777,529	1,865,445	778,393	236,910	1,417,879
	55.0%	40.7%	25.9%	9.4%	16.2%	11.6%	27.8%	11.6%	3.5%	21.1%

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

In the 2002 and 2003 surveys of enrollees, a question regarding TRICARE For Life coverage was asked only of Military Retirees. In the 2005 survey, all enrollees were asked about coverage under either the TRICARE or TRICARE For Life health care programs. Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

### 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, for the veteran population, there are few reliable sources. For the veteran population, there is a completed National Survey of Veterans 2001 (NSV 2001); and for VHA enrollees, there are only the VHA enrollee surveys.

### Overall Uninsurance Trends

The health insurance coverage probes in the 2002 through 2005 enrollee surveys 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 in the 2002, 2003, and 2005 surveys 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.

### Overall Results

- ◆ The data revealed a slight decrease between 2003 and 2005 in enrollees without public or private insurance coverage from 22.7 percent in 2003 to 21.1 percent in 2005. Although there was a slight increase between 2002 and 2003, the VHA enrollee survey data revealed a decline between 1999 and 2005 in enrollee public or private uninsurance rates (other than VA) from 27.8 percent of all enrollees in 1999 to 21.1 percent of all enrollees in 2005.
- ◆ It is important to note that the number of uninsured VHA enrollees increased from 1,013,046 in 1999 to 1,417,879 in 2005. These increases are largely due to the fact that enrollment, per se, increased by 84.1 percent from 3,642,537 enrollees to 6,704,149 enrollees between the 1999 and

2005 surveys, and the overall increase includes, in particular, increases in the numbers of Priority 5 veterans, who are lower income and the most often uninsured. In 2005, 2,199,489 million enrollees were in Priority 5, 2,326,881 in 2003, 2,279,371 in 2002, and 1,241,321 in 1999.

- ◆ The March 2003 Current Population Survey reported that 15 percent of all Americans and 7 percent of all veterans were without insurance during all of calendar year 2002. It is estimated that approximately 10 percent of all veterans were without insurance in the 2001 National Survey of Veterans (a point-in-time survey). Thus, VHA has enrolled approximately half of all uninsured veterans.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Uninsured Veterans Policy Brief (October 2005)

### Uninsurance by Priority Group

The uninsurance data by health care priority reflect decreases from 2003 to 2005 in the uninsurance rates for each of the three Priority Groups (1-3, 4-6, and 7-8).

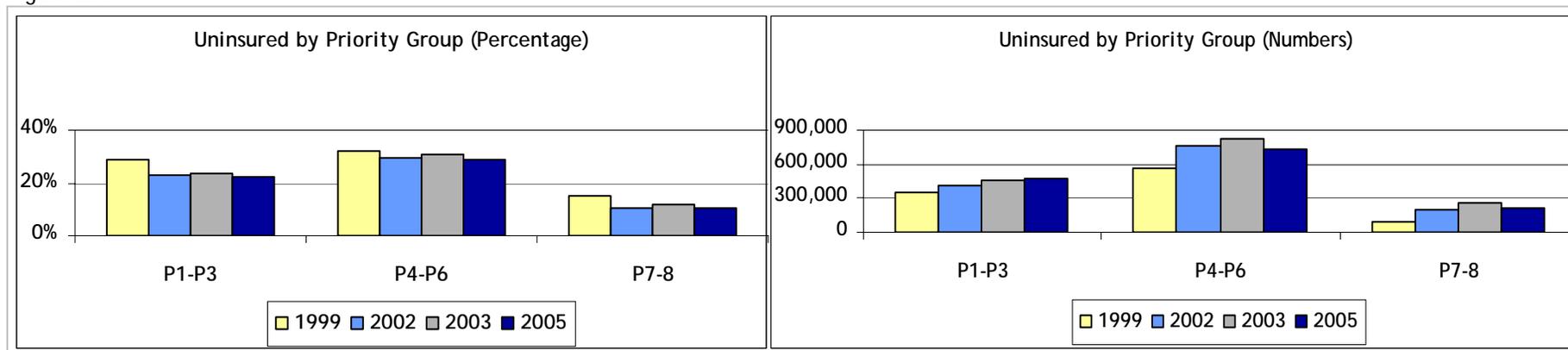
- ◆ It is most noticeable in the Priority Groups 4-6 where 30.7 percent were uninsured in 2003, which decreased to 28.7 percent in 2005. The number of uninsured in Priority Groups 1-3 appears to be the only one that has increased, from 462,248 in 2003 to 470,813 in 2005.
- ◆ In each of the other Priority Groups, the number of uninsured has decreased between 2003 and 2005.

Table 2.2 Uninsured by Priority Group

	1-3	4-6	7-8
1999	352,800	564,098	96,148
	28.9%	31.8%	14.8%
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%

Denominator is the national enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

Figure 2.1



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

### Uninsurance by Age Groups

There were changes in the uninsurance rate among the Age Groups.

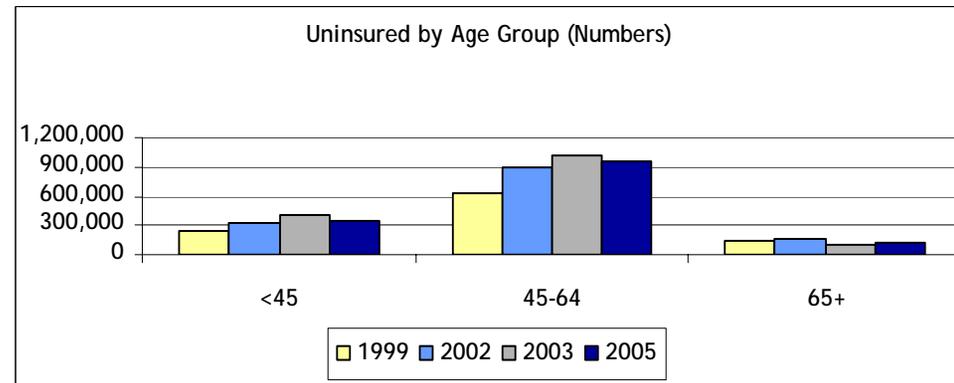
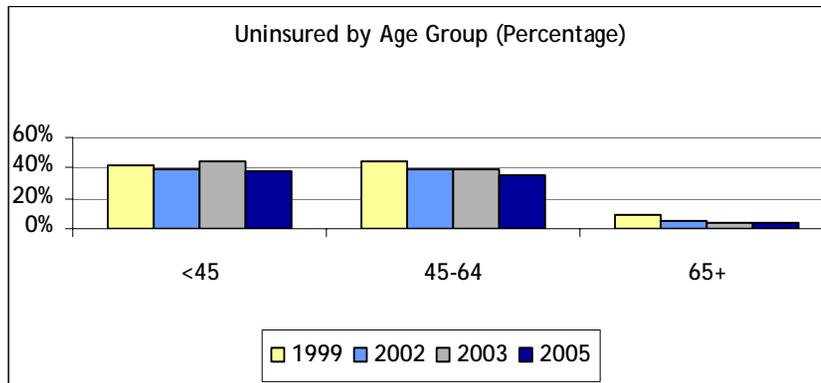
- ◆ The uninsurance data by Age Group reflect a decrease in the uninsurance rates for the under 45 Age Group. In 2003, 44.6 percent of enrollees were uninsured; that rate decreased to 37.8 percent in 2005.
- ◆ There was also a decrease in uninsurance for the 45 - 64 Age Group from 38.6 percent in 2003 to 34.6 percent in 2005.
- ◆ There was a slight increase in uninsurance for enrollees 65 or over from 3.3 percent in 2003 to 3.7 percent in 2005.

Table 2.3

		Uninsured by Age		
		<45	45-64	65+
1999		235,359	633,329	144,358
		41.8%	44.1%	8.8%
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%

Denominator is the national enrollee population by age (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

Figure 2.2



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

## Uninsurance by Income Groups

The notable changes in the uninsurance rate were in the Low Income Group between the 2003 and 2005 surveys.

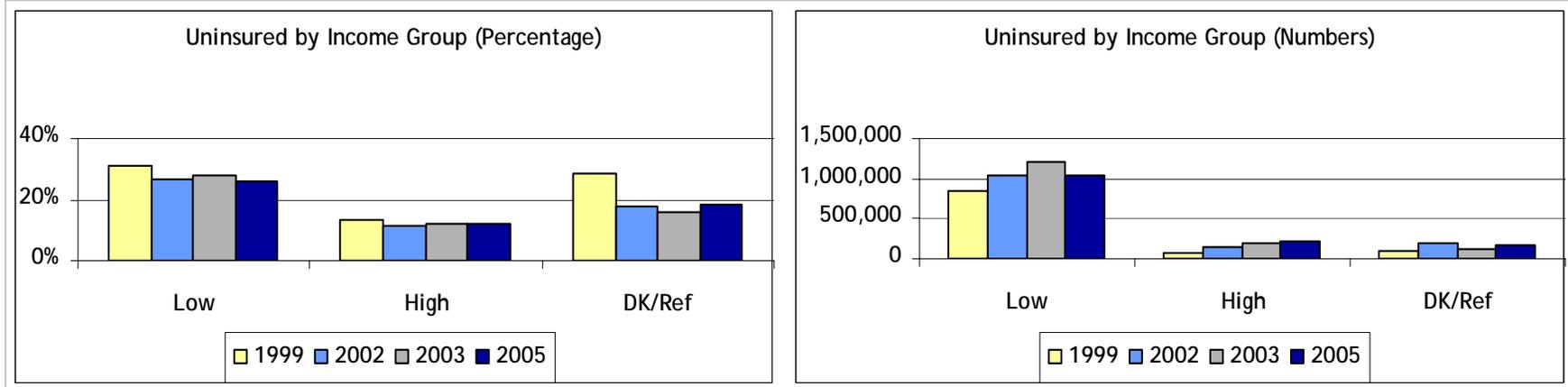
- ◆ For enrollees in the Low Income Group, there was a decrease in the percentage of uninsurance from 27.8 percent in 2003 to 25.8 percent in 2005.
- ◆ For the enrollees who did not provide a figure for their income, the uninsurance rate increased from 16.0 percent in 2003 to 18.2 percent in 2005.

Table 2.4

Uninsured by Income Group			
	Low	High	DK/Ref
1999	836,917	82,961	93,168
	30.9%	13.6%	28.5%
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	<b>1,036,291</b>	<b>220,419</b>	<b>161,169</b>
	<b>25.8%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>

Denominator is the national enrollee population by income (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

Figure 2.3



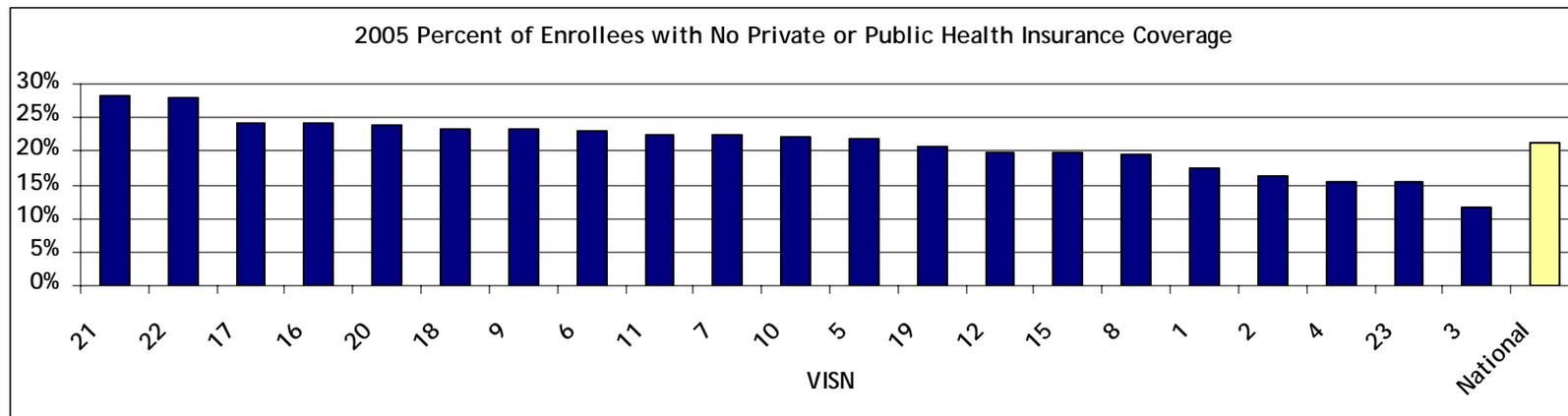
Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Uninsurance

VISN Overview

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent of veteran enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage shows fluctuations, with some VISNs showing an increase in percentage between 2003 and 2005, 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 2005, data revealed VISN 21 and 22 ranked first regarding the highest percent of veteran enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage, with 28.2 percent and 28.0 percent respectively.
- ◆ The VISN with the lowest percent of veteran enrollees reporting no private or public health insurance coverage was VISN 3 at 11.8 percent.

Figure 2.4

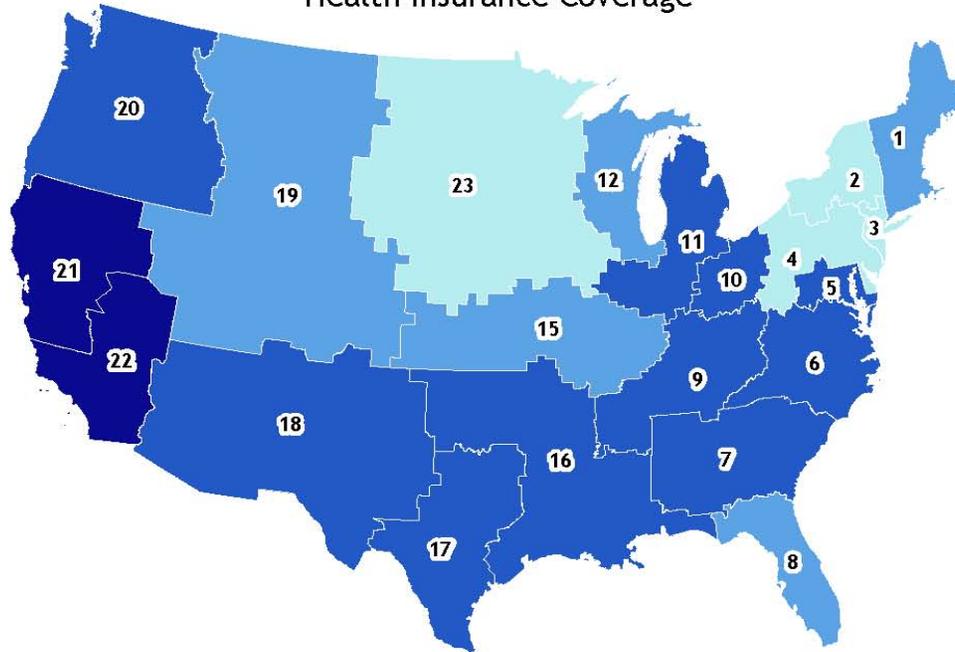


Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### Enrollees with No Private or Public Health Insurance Coverage

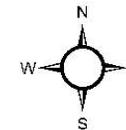
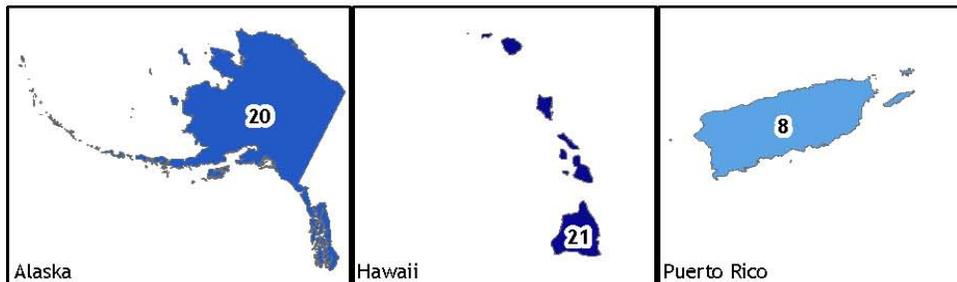


#### Legend

#### Map 2.1

- 11.0% - 16.9%
- 17.0% - 20.7%
- 20.8% - 24.2%
- 24.3% - 28.2%

VISN	No Coverage	VISN Enrollee Population	%
1	54,637	310,626	17.6%
2	32,264	198,283	16.3%
3	36,019	305,527	11.8%
4	62,255	400,167	15.6%
5	35,323	162,111	21.8%
6	79,067	343,415	23.0%
7	88,344	395,142	22.4%
8	115,506	594,070	19.4%
9	70,092	302,672	23.2%
10	54,230	246,229	22.0%
11	65,249	290,604	22.5%
12	57,557	289,367	19.9%
15	54,308	273,495	19.9%
16	133,509	553,503	24.1%
17	70,633	291,794	24.2%
18	66,216	282,456	23.4%
19	39,784	191,964	20.7%
20	68,625	288,940	23.8%
21	82,311	291,492	28.2%
22	100,687	360,050	28.0%
23	51,264	332,244	15.4%
<b>National</b>	<b>1,417,879</b>	<b>6,704,150</b>	<b>21.1%</b>



Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA

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

Table 2.5

## Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Priority

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Medicare A			Medicare B			Medigap			Medicaid		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	49,852	56,574	75,977	31,669	42,523	62,075	20,305	22,180	50,207	10,901	16,387	11,694
	50.0%	53.9%	71.7%	31.8%	40.5%	58.6%	20.4%	21.1%	47.4%	10.9%	15.6%	11.0%
2	20,971	42,795	48,117	14,159	30,612	35,692	8,524	17,406	29,420	4,482	10,530	5,517
	41.7%	59.3%	63.4%	28.2%	42.4%	47.0%	17.0%	24.1%	38.8%	8.9%	14.6%	7.3%
3	33,872	58,924	107,821	26,735	43,110	95,898	17,505	21,960	71,758	5,336	17,006	8,310
	51.1%	62.1%	74.7%	40.4%	45.4%	66.4%	26.4%	23.1%	49.7%	8.1%	17.9%	5.8%
4	45,447	95,910	108,915	30,082	64,560	83,781	20,326	44,329	76,009	9,615	23,787	15,595
	45.8%	64.5%	71.6%	30.3%	43.4%	55.1%	20.5%	29.8%	50.0%	9.7%	16.0%	10.3%
5	20,958	29,626	28,592	15,883	19,733	24,222	8,743	11,873	19,117	4,712	6,709	3,618
	35.6%	49.5%	65.9%	27.0%	32.9%	55.8%	14.9%	19.8%	44.0%	8.0%	11.2%	8.3%
6	54,891	67,993	57,167	40,174	48,664	48,789	17,814	22,924	36,298	8,103	9,050	4,257
	40.9%	55.7%	65.6%	29.9%	39.9%	56.0%	13.3%	18.8%	41.7%	6.0%	7.4%	4.9%
7	57,181	76,505	65,405	42,372	53,548	55,945	17,787	25,361	39,788	9,195	23,526	5,141
	39.2%	51.6%	64.8%	29.1%	36.1%	55.4%	12.2%	17.1%	39.4%	6.3%	15.9%	5.1%
8	90,634	145,169	139,052	59,539	106,405	120,467	29,438	46,799	91,996	9,128	24,660	13,215
	52.1%	63.2%	73.1%	34.2%	46.3%	63.3%	16.9%	20.4%	48.4%	5.2%	10.7%	6.9%
9	43,275	74,040	51,444	30,051	49,244	40,558	12,652	21,049	32,878	7,142	13,978	5,226
	42.6%	58.6%	68.8%	29.6%	39.0%	54.3%	12.4%	16.7%	44.0%	7.0%	11.1%	7.0%
10	24,334	60,746	41,816	16,865	42,873	32,588	9,040	23,550	27,464	3,672	14,096	4,246
	36.9%	54.5%	60.9%	25.5%	38.4%	47.4%	13.7%	21.1%	40.0%	5.6%	12.6%	6.2%
11	32,911	62,714	61,314	22,462	38,979	49,653	14,210	25,028	42,258	6,149	13,832	7,799
	38.5%	52.7%	71.2%	26.3%	32.8%	57.7%	16.6%	21.0%	49.1%	7.2%	11.6%	9.1%
12	27,443	60,007	77,806	18,503	36,410	63,931	12,448	21,843	56,682	5,457	15,465	13,994
	39.0%	53.7%	72.6%	26.3%	32.6%	59.6%	17.7%	19.5%	52.9%	7.8%	13.8%	13.0%
15	32,617	62,855	58,574	23,035	40,950	47,205	13,446	21,846	40,889	4,794	10,303	5,289
	40.4%	57.3%	70.5%	28.5%	37.3%	56.8%	16.7%	19.9%	49.2%	5.9%	9.4%	6.4%
16	74,592	127,967	87,839	53,994	86,243	70,788	21,778	46,424	53,452	11,502	32,905	7,495
	39.7%	54.3%	67.6%	28.7%	36.6%	54.5%	11.6%	19.7%	41.2%	6.1%	14.0%	5.8%
17	47,752	61,163	40,607	36,524	43,749	32,840	14,306	18,698	23,894	7,481	17,603	3,012
	39.9%	56.2%	64.1%	30.5%	40.2%	51.8%	12.0%	17.2%	37.7%	6.3%	16.2%	4.8%
18	40,087	58,804	49,398	26,436	40,795	42,483	14,060	17,626	29,588	6,120	12,122	5,139
	39.4%	55.6%	65.9%	26.0%	38.6%	56.7%	13.8%	16.7%	39.5%	6.0%	11.5%	6.9%
19	27,743	38,221	35,763	18,218	27,043	28,557	9,554	14,406	24,941	2,777	7,506	3,220
	39.2%	57.0%	66.0%	25.8%	40.4%	52.7%	13.5%	21.5%	46.0%	3.9%	11.2%	5.9%
20	46,864	55,308	41,133	29,988	36,501	30,434	14,620	24,155	27,535	8,102	12,072	3,911
	37.2%	56.9%	62.6%	23.8%	37.5%	46.3%	11.6%	24.8%	41.9%	6.4%	12.4%	5.9%
21	41,237	54,704	47,635	27,890	33,956	37,763	14,914	16,755	29,535	6,802	14,768	3,145
	42.5%	47.3%	60.5%	28.7%	29.4%	48.0%	15.4%	14.5%	37.5%	7.0%	12.8%	4.0%
22	44,356	68,174	55,035	31,166	44,921	43,736	12,564	15,764	29,269	6,305	17,913	5,485
	41.3%	43.3%	57.9%	29.0%	28.5%	46.0%	11.7%	10.0%	30.8%	5.9%	11.4%	5.8%
23	44,422	60,980	89,932	30,732	47,124	75,822	22,570	27,203	67,467	9,688	18,797	12,819
	44.6%	58.0%	70.5%	30.9%	44.8%	59.4%	22.7%	25.9%	52.9%	9.7%	17.9%	10.0%
National	901,438	1,419,181	1,369,341	626,479	977,941	1,123,229	326,604	507,178	900,446	147,464	333,015	148,129
	42.1%	55.6%	68.1%	29.2%	38.3%	55.9%	15.2%	19.9%	44.8%	6.9%	13.0%	7.4%

Table 2.5 cont.

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Priority

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Total includes Don't Know/Refused

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	HMO			Non HMO			Total		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	23,590	8,651	19,514	12,582	9,529	17,454	40,543	22,140	39,250
	23.7%	8.2%	18.4%	12.6%	9.1%	16.5%	40.7%	21.1%	37.0%
2	12,915	9,986	21,546	7,181	5,393	12,178	22,129	17,843	37,829
	25.7%	13.8%	28.4%	14.3%	7.5%	16.0%	44.0%	24.7%	49.8%
3	14,568	15,932	33,669	10,124	7,801	25,393	27,237	25,566	64,320
	22.0%	16.8%	23.3%	15.3%	8.2%	17.6%	41.1%	26.9%	44.6%
4	20,959	23,499	34,721	11,449	8,947	20,706	36,359	38,050	60,345
	21.1%	15.8%	22.8%	11.5%	6.0%	13.6%	36.6%	25.6%	39.7%
5	15,891	4,713	8,226	7,898	5,522	9,088	25,378	11,460	18,740
	27.0%	7.9%	19.0%	13.4%	9.2%	20.9%	43.2%	19.1%	43.2%
6	20,226	12,357	13,358	17,816	6,798	14,528	45,744	23,435	30,988
	15.1%	10.1%	15.3%	13.3%	5.6%	16.7%	34.1%	19.2%	35.6%
7	29,005	10,046	17,135	21,480	9,970	20,468	56,507	25,743	40,304
	19.9%	6.8%	17.0%	14.7%	6.7%	20.3%	38.8%	17.3%	39.9%
8	23,321	22,075	27,409	22,452	15,515	31,268	50,797	37,913	62,254
	13.4%	9.6%	14.4%	12.9%	6.8%	16.4%	29.2%	16.5%	32.7%
9	18,715	11,248	12,969	11,957	8,181	11,728	34,793	21,333	28,055
	18.4%	8.9%	17.4%	11.8%	6.5%	15.7%	34.2%	16.9%	37.5%
10	17,917	15,963	15,209	6,838	6,745	10,986	28,326	24,842	28,546
	27.1%	14.3%	22.1%	10.4%	6.0%	16.0%	42.9%	22.3%	41.6%
11	22,274	13,121	15,838	11,611	8,543	15,625	36,552	23,761	33,262
	26.0%	11.0%	18.4%	13.6%	7.2%	18.2%	42.7%	20.0%	38.6%
12	17,676	12,726	15,058	12,050	11,254	19,467	32,828	24,559	37,869
	25.1%	11.4%	14.0%	17.1%	10.1%	18.2%	46.7%	22.0%	35.3%
15	16,825	13,889	12,833	7,978	8,391	12,897	27,707	23,624	27,595
	20.9%	12.7%	15.4%	9.9%	7.6%	15.5%	34.3%	21.5%	33.2%
16	31,170	19,803	19,286	18,298	25,146	18,642	55,388	50,233	41,707
	16.6%	8.4%	14.8%	9.7%	10.7%	14.4%	29.5%	21.3%	32.1%
17	24,012	9,279	12,477	13,533	7,033	8,510	40,058	17,080	21,898
	20.1%	8.5%	19.7%	11.3%	6.5%	13.4%	33.5%	15.7%	34.6%
18	20,878	8,699	17,287	10,429	5,755	9,360	34,378	16,979	27,578
	20.5%	8.2%	23.1%	10.2%	5.4%	12.5%	33.7%	16.1%	36.8%
19	13,151	7,478	8,454	7,477	5,150	11,157	24,446	14,311	21,560
	18.6%	11.2%	15.6%	10.6%	7.7%	20.6%	34.6%	21.4%	39.8%
20	25,617	8,553	11,876	14,894	10,434	9,836	47,736	22,829	24,394
	20.3%	8.8%	18.1%	11.8%	10.7%	15.0%	37.9%	23.5%	37.1%
21	22,502	7,800	18,719	9,348	7,117	9,789	35,951	16,055	30,273
	23.2%	6.7%	23.8%	9.6%	6.2%	12.4%	37.0%	13.9%	38.5%
22	26,359	23,230	24,224	8,547	8,557	10,318	37,307	34,066	36,437
	24.5%	14.8%	25.5%	8.0%	5.4%	10.9%	34.7%	21.6%	38.3%
23	20,462	11,127	19,898	15,725	11,491	25,189	39,513	24,876	49,367
	20.6%	10.6%	15.6%	15.8%	10.9%	19.7%	39.7%	23.7%	38.7%
National	438,034	270,175	379,707	259,669	193,273	324,587	779,675	516,698	762,571
	20.4%	10.6%	18.9%	12.1%	7.6%	16.2%	36.4%	20.2%	37.9%

Table 2.5 cont.

## Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Priority

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

In the 2002 and 2003 surveys of enrollees, a Question regarding TRICARE For Life coverage was asked only of Military Retirees. In the 2005 survey, all enrollees were asked about coverage under either the TRICARE or TRICARE For Life health care programs.

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	TRICARE or TRICARE For Life			Federal, State, County, Local Coverage			No Coverage		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	18,009	5,619	6,873	4,563	3,798	3,001	16,152	26,817	11,669
	18.1%	5.4%	6.5%	4.6%	3.6%	2.8%	16.2%	25.6%	11.0%
2	7,707	4,733	4,131	2,785	4,372	3,679	9,511	15,888	6,864
	15.3%	6.6%	5.4%	5.5%	6.1%	4.8%	18.9%	22.0%	9.0%
3	6,315	2,030	7,744	3,086	2,977	8,451	12,340	16,814	6,865
	9.5%	2.1%	5.4%	4.7%	3.1%	5.9%	18.6%	17.7%	4.8%
4	15,450	3,968	9,981	3,276	3,252	5,576	23,126	29,540	9,590
	15.6%	2.7%	6.6%	3.3%	2.2%	3.7%	23.3%	19.9%	6.3%
5	22,725	3,095	3,257	2,994	1,217	1,894	10,038	21,004	4,281
	38.6%	5.2%	7.5%	5.1%	2.0%	4.4%	17.1%	35.1%	9.9%
6	42,462	5,104	6,674	4,547	1,799	2,532	30,149	37,988	10,929
	31.6%	4.2%	7.7%	3.4%	1.5%	2.9%	22.5%	31.1%	12.5%
7	51,004	7,157	14,295	4,371	5,114	4,854	30,030	47,118	11,196
	35.0%	4.8%	14.2%	3.0%	3.4%	4.8%	20.6%	31.8%	11.1%
8	51,493	8,640	7,983	5,869	7,335	5,699	31,297	62,988	21,220
	29.6%	3.8%	4.2%	3.4%	3.2%	3.0%	18.0%	27.4%	11.2%
9	23,637	5,015	5,404	1,840	4,851	2,431	23,451	40,031	6,610
	23.3%	4.0%	7.2%	1.8%	3.8%	3.3%	23.1%	31.7%	8.8%
10	10,208	2,658	4,770	2,512	5,340	1,816	15,311	30,976	7,943
	15.5%	2.4%	6.9%	3.8%	4.8%	2.6%	23.2%	27.8%	11.6%
11	12,957	3,784	4,083	2,884	1,494	1,867	19,152	38,695	7,402
	15.1%	3.2%	4.7%	3.4%	1.3%	2.2%	22.4%	32.5%	8.6%
12	9,232	3,165	3,783	3,697	3,749	4,332	13,765	32,800	10,993
	13.1%	2.8%	3.5%	5.3%	3.4%	4.0%	19.6%	29.3%	10.3%
15	18,511	1,754	4,363	3,743	2,858	1,761	17,836	28,146	8,327
	22.9%	1.6%	5.3%	4.6%	2.6%	2.1%	22.1%	25.7%	10.0%
16	53,924	15,077	11,077	3,976	8,779	3,551	52,879	63,259	17,371
	28.7%	6.4%	8.5%	2.1%	3.7%	2.7%	28.1%	26.9%	13.4%
17	41,298	4,794	5,520	5,066	3,853	1,475	29,188	32,576	8,870
	34.5%	4.4%	8.7%	4.2%	3.5%	2.3%	24.4%	29.9%	14.0%
18	27,655	5,920	5,681	4,241	7,735	1,591	23,956	33,224	9,036
	27.1%	5.6%	7.6%	4.2%	7.3%	2.1%	23.5%	31.4%	12.1%
19	22,634	2,502	4,207	2,843	2,526	2,638	16,022	17,999	5,763
	32.0%	3.7%	7.8%	4.0%	3.8%	4.9%	22.6%	26.9%	10.6%
20	30,175	3,738	5,268	4,209	2,579	2,304	32,872	26,685	9,067
	24.0%	3.8%	8.0%	3.3%	2.7%	3.5%	26.1%	27.4%	13.8%
21	23,755	3,228	7,750	6,466	3,368	2,505	20,153	47,991	14,167
	24.5%	2.8%	9.8%	6.7%	2.9%	3.2%	20.8%	41.5%	18.0%
22	29,846	8,454	8,617	2,032	6,747	3,402	24,725	57,370	18,591
	27.8%	5.4%	9.1%	1.9%	4.3%	3.6%	23.0%	36.4%	19.6%
23	17,742	5,807	3,950	5,155	3,722	3,936	18,861	23,235	9,167
	17.8%	5.5%	3.1%	5.2%	3.5%	3.1%	19.0%	22.1%	7.2%
National	536,740	106,241	135,412	80,153	87,464	69,293	470,813	731,145	215,921
	25.0%	4.2%	6.7%	3.7%	3.4%	3.4%	22.0%	28.7%	10.7%

Table 2.6

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Age

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Medicare A			Medicare B			Medigap			Medicaid		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	9,508	28,105	144,791	5,071	15,701	115,496	2,459	7,535	82,699	5,101	9,557	24,325
	21.7%	24.8%	94.3%	11.5%	13.9%	75.2%	5.6%	6.7%	53.9%	11.6%	8.4%	15.8%
2	3,007	21,334	87,543	1,238	13,566	65,659	409	6,410	48,532	2,750	5,283	12,496
	11.1%	26.9%	95.5%	4.6%	17.1%	71.6%	1.5%	8.1%	52.9%	10.1%	6.7%	13.6%
3	4,060	25,096	171,461	3,130	17,025	145,588	1,691	8,053	101,479	4,261	7,528	18,863
	11.9%	27.5%	95.1%	9.2%	18.7%	80.8%	5.0%	8.8%	56.3%	12.5%	8.3%	10.5%
4	4,577	46,642	199,052	3,928	24,076	150,419	541	14,947	125,176	583	14,024	34,390
	12.8%	30.4%	94.5%	11.0%	15.7%	71.4%	1.5%	9.7%	59.4%	1.6%	9.1%	16.3%
5	989	14,704	63,483	672	6,931	52,235	0	4,044	35,688	124	4,252	10,664
	3.5%	22.3%	93.1%	2.4%	10.5%	76.6%	0.0%	6.1%	52.4%	0.4%	6.5%	15.6%
6	8,802	42,704	128,546	5,741	26,643	105,243	2,349	8,401	66,286	2,341	5,404	13,665
	15.0%	28.3%	95.9%	9.8%	17.7%	78.5%	4.0%	5.6%	49.4%	4.0%	3.6%	10.2%
7	6,286	51,996	140,809	3,967	33,621	114,276	816	12,632	69,489	2,086	20,240	15,536
	9.6%	28.5%	95.8%	6.1%	18.4%	77.7%	1.2%	6.9%	47.3%	3.2%	11.1%	10.6%
8	10,886	55,742	308,227	216	33,670	252,525	1,307	15,260	151,666	500	14,633	31,869
	19.0%	26.4%	94.6%	0.4%	16.0%	77.5%	2.3%	7.2%	46.5%	0.9%	6.9%	9.8%
9	3,321	53,242	112,195	2,803	30,510	86,540	495	10,187	55,898	961	10,218	15,167
	8.9%	36.8%	93.1%	7.5%	21.1%	71.8%	1.3%	7.0%	46.4%	2.6%	7.1%	12.6%
10	3,015	27,253	96,628	1,991	18,226	72,110	1,418	6,894	51,742	1,595	7,105	13,314
	8.4%	25.4%	93.6%	5.6%	17.0%	69.8%	4.0%	6.4%	50.1%	4.5%	6.6%	12.9%
11	4,890	31,590	120,460	3,296	17,329	90,468	141	8,197	73,158	3,380	8,276	16,124
	10.3%	26.7%	96.5%	7.0%	14.6%	72.5%	0.3%	6.9%	58.6%	7.1%	7.0%	12.9%
12	1,144	31,221	132,890	756	15,303	102,784	158	6,669	84,147	549	8,696	25,671
	3.0%	28.1%	94.6%	2.0%	13.8%	73.2%	0.4%	6.0%	59.9%	1.4%	7.8%	18.3%
15	3,696	30,574	119,777	2,049	18,524	90,618	158	6,920	69,102	1,964	5,548	12,875
	9.4%	28.5%	94.3%	5.2%	17.2%	71.4%	0.4%	6.4%	54.4%	5.0%	5.2%	10.1%
16	9,905	63,883	216,609	7,176	37,134	166,715	670	13,964	107,022	8,506	14,587	28,809
	11.6%	26.5%	95.2%	8.4%	15.4%	73.3%	0.8%	5.8%	47.0%	10.0%	6.1%	12.7%
17	6,430	31,655	111,438	6,209	19,094	87,810	130	9,284	47,484	4,372	6,790	16,935
	12.8%	25.8%	94.0%	12.3%	15.5%	74.1%	0.3%	7.6%	40.1%	8.7%	5.5%	14.3%
18	5,859	28,828	113,602	4,789	15,519	89,407	2,451	6,106	52,716	3,089	5,769	14,523
	16.1%	23.3%	92.8%	13.1%	12.6%	73.1%	6.7%	4.9%	43.1%	8.5%	4.7%	11.9%
19	4,315	20,946	76,465	3,722	12,144	57,952	1,047	4,050	43,803	1,150	3,360	8,993
	13.7%	26.3%	94.6%	11.9%	15.2%	71.7%	3.3%	5.1%	54.2%	3.7%	4.2%	11.1%
20	4,353	38,837	100,115	2,857	21,788	72,278	2,226	9,406	54,679	1,813	6,373	15,899
	8.7%	29.6%	93.2%	5.7%	16.6%	67.3%	4.4%	7.2%	50.9%	3.6%	4.8%	14.8%
21	1,691	29,496	112,389	536	14,926	84,147	113	5,323	55,767	1,540	8,668	14,507
	4.0%	23.2%	92.1%	1.3%	11.7%	69.0%	0.3%	4.2%	45.7%	3.7%	6.8%	11.9%
22	1,922	34,391	131,252	725	18,346	100,753	0	5,844	51,754	762	9,271	19,670
	3.4%	22.0%	89.6%	1.3%	11.7%	68.8%	0.0%	3.7%	35.3%	1.3%	5.9%	13.4%
23	3,564	29,485	162,283	2,125	19,435	132,118	217	12,275	104,748	1,508	10,924	28,872
	10.4%	22.6%	97.0%	6.2%	14.9%	79.0%	0.6%	9.4%	62.6%	4.4%	8.4%	17.3%
National	102,220	737,724	2,850,015	62,996	429,512	2,235,142	18,795	182,397	1,533,035	48,934	186,505	393,169
	10.9%	26.8%	94.4%	6.7%	15.6%	74.0%	2.0%	6.6%	50.8%	5.2%	6.8%	13.0%

## Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Age

Table 2.6 cont.

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Total includes Don't Know/Refused

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	HMO			Non HMO			Total		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	10,576	29,339	11,841	5,059	14,228	20,278	18,257	47,376	36,300
	24.1%	25.9%	7.7%	11.5%	12.6%	13.2%	41.6%	41.8%	23.7%
2	10,007	22,205	12,236	2,311	11,655	10,786	14,037	37,570	26,193
	34.7%	28.0%	13.3%	8.5%	14.7%	11.8%	51.6%	47.3%	28.6%
3	12,175	30,226	21,768	4,295	11,607	27,416	18,244	44,608	54,271
	35.7%	33.1%	12.1%	12.6%	12.7%	15.2%	53.5%	48.9%	30.1%
4	12,436	41,615	25,127	3,011	15,861	22,231	18,740	62,810	53,204
	34.7%	27.1%	11.9%	8.4%	10.3%	10.6%	52.3%	40.9%	25.2%
5	9,202	15,064	4,565	2,473	9,302	10,734	12,370	26,612	16,597
	32.7%	22.9%	6.7%	8.8%	14.1%	15.7%	44.0%	40.4%	24.3%
6	9,670	28,872	7,399	7,654	17,296	14,192	24,886	49,658	25,623
	16.5%	19.2%	5.5%	13.0%	11.5%	10.6%	42.4%	33.0%	19.1%
7	15,976	33,615	6,594	8,443	24,585	18,890	29,165	63,049	30,339
	24.4%	18.4%	4.5%	12.9%	13.5%	12.8%	44.6%	34.5%	20.6%
8	7,989	44,345	20,471	7,988	17,202	44,046	15,977	68,148	66,839
	13.9%	21.0%	6.3%	13.9%	8.2%	13.5%	27.8%	32.3%	20.5%
9	8,480	28,257	6,196	5,247	14,576	12,043	15,364	47,713	21,104
	22.7%	19.5%	5.1%	14.0%	10.1%	10.0%	41.1%	33.0%	17.5%
10	11,317	27,597	10,175	2,717	10,520	11,333	15,786	42,252	23,677
	31.6%	25.8%	9.9%	7.6%	9.8%	11.0%	44.1%	39.4%	22.9%
11	14,860	27,907	8,466	3,364	13,280	19,135	18,991	45,108	29,475
	31.3%	23.6%	6.8%	7.1%	11.2%	15.3%	40.1%	38.1%	23.6%
12	11,112	23,904	10,444	7,435	14,034	21,303	20,265	40,916	34,075
	29.3%	21.5%	7.4%	19.6%	12.6%	15.2%	53.5%	36.9%	24.3%
15	13,449	21,642	8,456	3,131	14,215	11,919	18,041	39,499	21,386
	34.4%	20.2%	6.7%	8.0%	13.2%	9.4%	46.1%	36.8%	16.8%
16	16,935	42,851	10,474	13,232	22,968	25,887	33,674	71,969	41,685
	19.9%	17.8%	4.6%	15.5%	9.5%	11.4%	39.5%	29.9%	18.3%
17	13,518	25,323	6,926	5,797	11,705	11,574	20,144	39,200	19,692
	26.8%	20.6%	5.8%	11.5%	9.5%	9.8%	40.0%	31.9%	16.6%
18	11,987	22,875	12,002	3,233	11,065	11,247	17,755	36,949	24,230
	32.9%	18.5%	9.8%	8.9%	8.9%	9.2%	48.7%	29.9%	19.8%
19	7,977	14,348	6,758	3,713	9,022	11,049	14,226	26,728	19,362
	25.4%	18.0%	8.4%	11.8%	11.3%	13.7%	45.3%	33.5%	23.9%
20	14,690	23,845	7,512	7,386	16,592	11,186	28,191	45,902	20,865
	29.3%	18.1%	7.0%	14.7%	12.6%	10.4%	56.2%	34.9%	19.4%
21	7,907	26,816	14,298	4,195	10,258	11,801	14,609	39,675	27,996
	18.8%	21.0%	11.7%	10.0%	8.1%	9.7%	34.7%	31.1%	22.9%
22	19,512	35,868	18,434	4,460	8,999	13,963	25,266	47,527	35,018
	34.0%	23.0%	12.6%	7.8%	5.8%	9.5%	44.1%	30.4%	23.9%
23	9,423	34,895	7,169	6,921	22,464	23,020	18,825	61,440	33,492
	27.4%	26.7%	4.3%	20.1%	17.2%	13.8%	54.7%	47.1%	20.0%
National	249,198	601,408	237,309	112,065	301,432	364,033	412,815	984,709	661,420
	26.6%	21.9%	7.9%	12.0%	11.0%	12.1%	44.1%	35.8%	21.9%

**Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Age**

Table 2.6 cont.

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

In the 2002 and 2003 surveys of enrollees, a Question regarding TRICARE For Life coverage was asked only of Military Retirees. In the 2005 survey, all enrollees were asked about coverage under either the TRICARE or TRICARE For Life health care programs.

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	TRICARE or TRICARE For Life			Federal, State, County, Local Coverage			No Coverage		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	6,558	12,873	11,071	2,156	4,791	4,416	12,539	37,026	5,073
	14.9%	11.4%	7.2%	4.9%	4.2%	2.9%	28.6%	32.7%	3.3%
2	4,687	6,312	5,571	805	6,189	3,842	8,950	20,841	2,473
	17.2%	7.9%	6.1%	3.0%	7.8%	4.2%	32.9%	26.2%	2.7%
3	5,649	3,875	6,567	1,061	4,960	8,493	9,570	22,252	4,196
	16.6%	4.2%	3.6%	3.1%	5.4%	4.7%	28.1%	24.4%	2.3%
4	5,750	12,240	11,410	680	3,267	8,156	11,079	45,340	5,836
	16.0%	8.0%	5.4%	1.9%	2.1%	3.9%	30.9%	29.5%	2.8%
5	7,609	12,772	8,697	1,098	3,386	1,621	9,736	22,271	3,316
	27.0%	19.4%	12.8%	3.9%	5.1%	2.4%	34.6%	33.8%	4.9%
6	13,540	21,187	19,512	1,239	5,129	2,511	19,689	55,833	3,545
	23.1%	14.1%	14.5%	2.1%	3.4%	1.9%	33.6%	37.1%	2.6%
7	13,078	31,766	27,613	3,505	5,464	5,371	25,574	57,448	5,322
	20.0%	17.4%	18.8%	5.4%	3.0%	3.7%	39.1%	31.5%	3.6%
8	9,551	30,327	28,239	1,212	9,035	8,655	28,868	76,371	10,267
	16.6%	14.4%	8.7%	2.1%	4.3%	2.7%	50.3%	36.2%	3.2%
9	4,620	17,411	12,026	197	5,577	3,348	16,747	46,681	6,663
	12.4%	12.0%	10.0%	0.5%	3.9%	2.8%	44.8%	32.2%	5.5%
10	3,338	7,918	6,379	1,808	5,712	2,148	14,089	35,421	4,720
	9.3%	7.4%	6.2%	5.0%	5.3%	2.1%	39.3%	33.1%	4.6%
11	5,118	8,805	6,900	1,049	3,019	2,177	21,465	41,369	2,415
	10.8%	7.4%	5.5%	2.2%	2.5%	1.7%	45.3%	34.9%	1.9%
12	898	9,670	5,612	1,864	4,939	4,975	15,288	37,880	4,390
	2.4%	8.7%	4.0%	4.9%	4.4%	3.5%	40.3%	34.1%	3.1%
15	6,729	11,053	6,847	2,521	2,845	2,996	13,449	34,987	5,872
	17.2%	10.3%	5.4%	6.4%	2.6%	2.4%	34.4%	32.6%	4.6%
16	17,209	37,478	25,390	3,953	7,247	5,106	32,247	93,555	7,707
	20.2%	15.6%	11.2%	4.6%	3.0%	2.2%	37.9%	38.9%	3.4%
17	5,969	22,767	22,877	3,446	4,112	2,836	19,012	45,707	5,914
	11.8%	18.5%	19.3%	6.8%	3.3%	2.4%	37.7%	37.2%	5.0%
18	6,924	17,454	14,878	2,904	6,415	4,249	9,415	50,722	6,080
	19.0%	14.1%	12.2%	8.0%	5.2%	3.5%	25.8%	41.0%	5.0%
19	6,086	12,878	10,378	1,232	2,999	3,776	9,556	27,634	2,595
	19.4%	16.2%	12.8%	3.9%	3.8%	4.7%	30.4%	34.7%	3.2%
20	6,984	18,228	13,969	1,543	4,197	3,351	18,122	44,626	5,876
	13.9%	13.9%	13.0%	3.1%	3.2%	3.1%	36.1%	34.0%	5.5%
21	4,278	12,835	17,619	1,036	5,953	5,349	23,018	53,250	6,042
	10.2%	10.1%	14.4%	2.5%	4.7%	4.4%	54.7%	41.8%	5.0%
22	7,301	21,532	18,083	2,677	4,700	4,803	24,698	64,884	11,104
	12.7%	13.8%	12.3%	4.7%	3.0%	3.3%	43.1%	41.5%	7.6%
23	6,228	10,842	10,429	1,797	5,992	5,024	10,340	37,688	3,236
	18.1%	8.3%	6.2%	5.2%	4.6%	3.0%	30.1%	28.9%	1.9%
National	148,105	340,223	290,065	37,783	105,926	93,202	353,453	951,785	112,641
	15.8%	12.4%	9.6%	4%	4%	3%	37.8%	34.6%	3.7%

Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Income

Table 2.7

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Medicare A			Medicare B			Medigap			Medicaid		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	115,932	37,322	29,150	86,785	29,301	20,182	56,351	21,099	15,243	28,694	5,648	4,641
	64.8%	42.2%	67.3%	48.5%	33.2%	46.6%	31.5%	23.9%	35.2%	16.0%	6.4%	10.7%
2	73,035	23,631	15,217	52,633	17,159	10,671	35,156	13,189	7,005	14,697	3,590	2,243
	63.5%	40.4%	61.2%	45.8%	29.4%	42.9%	30.6%	22.6%	28.2%	12.8%	6.1%	9.0%
3	112,705	53,941	33,971	87,810	48,232	29,701	55,347	32,706	23,170	22,859	3,908	3,885
	68.9%	56.4%	73.1%	53.7%	50.5%	63.9%	33.9%	34.2%	49.8%	14.0%	4.1%	8.4%
4	171,589	40,756	37,927	121,010	29,167	28,247	93,629	25,837	21,198	37,255	5,974	5,769
	67.3%	46.8%	65.4%	47.5%	33.5%	48.7%	36.7%	29.7%	36.5%	14.6%	6.9%	9.9%
5	47,429	19,462	12,285	33,634	16,440	9,764	22,027	11,493	6,212	9,275	3,018	2,747
	54.7%	37.6%	51.9%	38.8%	31.8%	41.3%	25.4%	22.2%	26.3%	10.7%	5.8%	11.6%
6	117,868	38,551	23,632	89,667	28,552	19,408	49,214	17,147	10,675	13,563	4,626	3,221
	56.0%	41.0%	60.8%	42.6%	30.4%	50.0%	23.4%	18.2%	27.5%	6.4%	4.9%	8.3%
7	125,500	40,683	32,908	91,019	35,028	25,817	49,786	20,109	13,041	27,553	4,841	5,469
	53.4%	37.6%	63.5%	38.7%	32.3%	49.8%	21.2%	18.6%	25.2%	11.7%	4.5%	10.6%
8	237,778	77,861	59,216	183,287	64,318	38,806	96,628	45,691	25,914	35,870	6,368	4,765
	67.9%	49.6%	68.0%	52.4%	41.0%	44.5%	27.6%	29.1%	29.7%	10.2%	4.1%	5.5%
9	116,644	27,922	24,193	80,473	20,966	18,414	42,596	13,327	10,656	21,499	2,921	1,926
	60.8%	39.2%	61.1%	41.9%	29.5%	46.5%	22.2%	18.7%	26.9%	11.2%	4.1%	4.9%
10	89,082	18,233	19,581	65,311	14,277	12,738	41,037	11,054	7,962	17,354	1,340	3,320
	55.6%	32.4%	65.6%	40.8%	25.4%	42.7%	25.6%	19.6%	26.7%	10.8%	2.4%	11.1%
11	106,149	26,497	24,292	74,825	20,676	15,592	51,899	16,408	13,189	19,701	2,151	5,928
	58.5%	35.4%	70.7%	41.3%	27.6%	45.4%	28.6%	21.9%	38.4%	10.9%	2.9%	17.3%
12	109,345	32,403	23,507	73,587	25,676	19,581	56,079	20,811	14,084	24,920	5,249	4,748
	62.7%	41.9%	62.4%	42.2%	33.2%	51.9%	32.2%	26.9%	37.4%	14.3%	6.8%	12.6%
15	102,145	26,021	25,881	72,086	20,288	18,816	48,410	14,705	13,065	15,116	2,379	2,891
	61.0%	38.8%	66.4%	43.0%	30.3%	48.3%	28.9%	21.9%	33.5%	9.0%	3.5%	7.4%
16	202,845	49,011	38,541	146,004	40,227	24,794	81,157	23,005	17,492	41,255	3,926	6,722
	56.0%	39.9%	56.5%	40.3%	32.7%	36.3%	22.4%	18.7%	25.6%	11.4%	3.2%	9.8%
17	95,791	30,518	23,214	70,566	23,781	18,765	34,660	13,987	8,251	19,284	3,799	5,014
	56.2%	38.9%	54.1%	41.4%	30.3%	43.7%	20.3%	17.8%	19.2%	11.3%	4.8%	11.7%
18	96,071	32,855	19,364	67,891	26,276	15,548	33,264	17,611	10,399	14,538	4,672	4,172
	54.5%	43.8%	62.1%	38.5%	35.0%	49.9%	18.9%	23.5%	33.3%	8.2%	6.2%	13.4%
19	67,712	20,242	13,773	49,256	15,329	9,233	31,254	10,637	7,009	9,952	2,045	1,506
	59.0%	37.8%	58.3%	42.9%	28.6%	39.1%	27.2%	19.8%	29.7%	8.7%	3.8%	6.4%
20	92,837	29,791	20,677	63,161	21,035	12,727	40,830	15,628	9,853	16,174	3,436	4,475
	55.3%	36.2%	53.2%	37.7%	25.5%	32.8%	24.3%	19.0%	25.4%	9.6%	4.2%	11.5%
21	86,204	39,313	18,059	58,527	29,079	12,002	32,849	20,419	7,936	18,957	3,951	1,807
	52.2%	42.7%	52.9%	35.4%	31.6%	35.2%	19.9%	22.2%	23.2%	11.5%	4.3%	5.3%
22	98,528	45,047	23,990	65,606	35,213	19,004	29,456	19,435	8,707	19,817	5,907	3,979
	49.6%	39.8%	49.7%	33.0%	31.1%	39.4%	14.8%	17.2%	18.0%	10.0%	5.2%	8.2%
23	129,005	35,285	31,043	102,198	27,687	23,793	76,983	23,394	16,863	27,730	6,884	6,691
	65.0%	39.2%	70.9%	51.5%	30.7%	54.4%	38.8%	26.0%	38.5%	14.0%	7.6%	15.3%
National	2,394,195	745,346	550,419	1,735,336	588,709	403,604	1,058,612	407,692	267,924	456,060	86,631	85,917
	59.5%	41.5%	62.2%	43.1%	32.8%	45.6%	26.3%	22.7%	30.3%	11.3%	4.8%	9.7%

Table 2.7 cont.

Private Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Income

VISN	HMO			Non HMO			Total		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	17,620	27,650	6,485	17,806	16,453	5,306	41,829	47,274	12,830
	9.8%	31.3%	15.0%	10.0%	18.6%	12.3%	23.4%	53.5%	29.6%
2	14,892	23,186	6,369	9,780	11,835	3,138	28,864	37,858	11,079
	13.0%	39.7%	25.6%	8.5%	20.2%	12.6%	25.1%	64.8%	44.5%
3	23,059	32,249	8,861	17,430	17,948	7,940	43,326	55,361	18,435
	14.1%	33.7%	19.1%	10.7%	18.8%	17.1%	26.5%	57.9%	39.6%
4	34,278	34,575	10,326	21,243	13,453	6,406	65,508	51,885	17,361
	13.4%	39.7%	17.8%	8.3%	15.4%	11.0%	25.7%	59.5%	29.9%
5	8,412	16,683	3,736	7,868	9,882	4,759	18,388	28,153	9,037
	9.7%	32.2%	15.8%	9.1%	19.1%	20.1%	21.2%	54.4%	38.2%
6	19,136	22,313	4,492	16,842	18,155	4,145	44,098	45,456	10,612
	9.1%	23.7%	11.6%	8.0%	19.3%	10.7%	20.9%	48.4%	27.3%
7	23,949	25,778	6,459	18,883	24,311	8,724	49,144	55,874	17,535
	10.2%	23.8%	12.5%	8.0%	22.5%	16.8%	20.9%	51.6%	33.8%
8	24,200	33,519	15,086	33,449	28,299	7,487	61,873	64,819	24,272
	6.9%	21.4%	17.3%	9.6%	18.0%	8.6%	17.7%	41.3%	27.9%
9	18,312	20,018	4,603	11,160	13,807	6,900	34,642	37,283	12,256
	9.5%	28.1%	11.6%	5.8%	19.4%	17.4%	18.1%	52.4%	31.0%
10	22,586	21,657	4,846	11,263	10,026	3,280	38,874	34,206	8,634
	14.1%	38.5%	16.2%	7.0%	17.8%	11.0%	24.3%	60.8%	28.9%
11	17,626	27,980	5,627	16,974	14,795	4,010	38,187	44,990	10,397
	9.7%	37.4%	16.4%	9.4%	19.8%	11.7%	21.1%	60.1%	30.3%
12	16,404	23,742	5,315	18,455	18,261	6,056	38,095	44,255	12,907
	9.4%	30.7%	14.1%	10.6%	23.6%	16.1%	21.8%	57.3%	34.2%
15	16,890	20,581	6,076	14,184	11,240	3,840	33,649	34,308	10,970
	10.1%	30.7%	15.6%	8.5%	16.8%	9.9%	20.1%	51.2%	28.2%
16	31,849	30,786	7,624	38,039	20,346	3,702	76,732	56,035	14,561
	8.8%	25.1%	11.2%	10.5%	16.6%	5.4%	21.2%	45.6%	21.3%
17	16,488	25,655	3,624	11,668	12,592	4,816	30,133	39,292	9,611
	9.7%	32.7%	8.4%	6.8%	16.0%	11.2%	17.7%	50.1%	22.4%
18	18,786	21,922	6,157	11,240	11,796	2,508	33,230	36,403	9,301
	10.7%	29.2%	19.7%	6.4%	15.7%	8.0%	18.8%	48.5%	29.8%
19	11,210	14,527	3,346	10,514	10,401	2,869	26,119	27,497	6,701
	9.8%	27.1%	14.2%	9.2%	19.4%	12.2%	22.8%	51.3%	28.4%
20	16,584	23,590	5,872	14,271	15,761	5,132	35,759	44,886	14,313
	9.9%	28.7%	15.1%	8.5%	19.1%	13.2%	21.3%	54.5%	36.8%
21	12,102	31,277	5,642	11,879	10,972	3,403	26,337	45,670	10,272
	7.3%	34.0%	16.5%	7.2%	11.9%	10.0%	15.9%	49.6%	30.1%
22	23,505	42,713	7,596	11,556	12,824	3,042	39,051	57,735	11,024
	11.8%	37.7%	15.7%	5.8%	11.3%	6.3%	19.7%	51.0%	22.8%
23	17,666	29,644	4,177	25,028	21,385	5,993	48,355	53,263	12,138
	8.9%	32.9%	9.5%	12.6%	23.8%	13.7%	24.4%	59.2%	27.7%
National	405,552	550,047	132,316	349,532	324,543	103,455	852,193	942,504	264,247
	10.1%	30.6%	14.9%	8.7%	18.1%	11.7%	21.2%	52.5%	29.8%

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Total includes Don't Know/Refused

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 2.7 cont.

## Health Insurance Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Income

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

In the 2002 and 2003 surveys of enrollees, a Question regarding TRICARE For Life coverage was asked only of Military Retirees. In the 2005 survey, all enrollees were asked about coverage under either the TRICARE or TRICARE For Life health care programs.

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	TRICARE or TRICARE For Life			Federal, State, County, Local Coverage			No Coverage		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	11,141	15,348	4,013	6,919	3,075	1,368	36,365	11,437	6,835
	6.2%	17.4%	9.3%	3.9%	3.5%	3.2%	20.3%	12.9%	15.8%
2	6,783	8,230	1,557	5,854	3,800	1,182	24,515	4,690	3,058
	5.9%	14.1%	6.3%	5.1%	6.5%	4.7%	21.3%	8.0%	12.3%
3	6,433	7,665	1,993	5,913	6,756	1,845	23,896	6,745	5,378
	3.9%	8.0%	4.3%	3.6%	7.1%	4.0%	14.6%	7.1%	11.6%
4	9,635	12,807	6,959	7,092	3,262	1,749	49,715	4,528	8,012
	3.8%	14.7%	12.0%	2.8%	3.7%	3.0%	19.5%	5.2%	13.8%
5	6,161	17,351	5,566	1,597	3,423	1,085	26,467	4,812	4,043
	7.1%	33.5%	23.5%	1.8%	6.6%	4.6%	30.5%	9.3%	17.1%
6	15,959	31,460	6,820	3,372	3,731	1,776	61,652	10,476	6,939
	7.6%	33.5%	17.6%	1.6%	4.0%	4.6%	29.3%	11.1%	17.9%
7	22,020	37,656	12,780	6,054	6,301	1,985	70,315	10,992	7,037
	9.4%	34.8%	24.7%	2.6%	5.8%	3.8%	29.9%	10.2%	13.6%
8	19,558	35,155	13,404	12,003	3,969	2,929	78,599	23,016	13,891
	5.6%	22.4%	15.4%	3.4%	2.5%	3.4%	22.5%	14.7%	15.9%
9	15,673	14,515	3,870	5,989	2,527	607	52,922	9,827	7,342
	8.2%	20.4%	9.8%	3.1%	3.6%	1.5%	27.6%	13.8%	18.5%
10	6,113	8,555	2,968	6,038	1,958	1,672	41,886	7,199	5,145
	3.8%	15.2%	9.9%	3.8%	3.5%	5.6%	26.2%	12.8%	17.2%
11	6,198	11,944	2,682	2,572	2,347	1,326	52,197	9,394	3,658
	3.4%	16.0%	7.8%	1.4%	3.1%	3.9%	28.8%	12.5%	10.6%
12	8,134	5,483	2,563	5,661	4,489	1,627	41,127	9,296	7,134
	4.7%	7.1%	6.8%	3.2%	5.8%	4.3%	23.6%	12.0%	18.9%
15	7,765	12,916	3,948	3,857	3,369	1,136	42,257	7,612	4,439
	4.6%	19.3%	10.1%	2.3%	5.0%	2.9%	25.2%	11.4%	11.4%
16	34,836	34,653	10,588	9,162	5,531	1,613	94,011	20,975	18,523
	9.6%	28.2%	15.5%	2.5%	4.5%	2.4%	25.9%	17.1%	27.1%
17	15,233	28,312	8,068	6,559	3,323	511	49,187	8,805	12,641
	8.9%	36.1%	18.8%	3.8%	4.2%	1.2%	28.9%	11.2%	29.5%
18	14,468	18,556	6,232	7,958	3,782	1,827	50,299	11,516	4,401
	8.2%	24.7%	20.0%	4.5%	5.0%	5.9%	28.5%	15.4%	14.1%
19	9,514	14,842	4,987	3,924	3,517	566	27,518	7,787	4,479
	8.3%	27.7%	21.1%	3.4%	6.6%	2.4%	24.0%	14.5%	19.0%
20	12,817	19,542	6,822	4,553	3,498	1,041	50,960	10,451	7,214
	7.6%	23.7%	17.6%	2.7%	4.2%	2.7%	30.4%	12.7%	18.6%
21	10,030	19,131	5,572	6,384	4,602	1,352	57,577	16,100	8,634
	6.1%	20.8%	16.3%	3.9%	5.0%	4.0%	34.8%	17.5%	25.3%
22	13,557	27,182	6,178	7,482	3,014	1,685	67,652	16,669	16,366
	6.8%	24.0%	12.8%	3.8%	2.7%	3.5%	34.1%	14.7%	33.9%
23	10,019	11,825	5,655	6,763	4,695	1,355	37,172	8,091	6,001
	5.0%	13.1%	12.9%	3.4%	5.2%	3.1%	18.7%	9.0%	13.7%
National	262,045	393,125	123,223	125,707	80,969	30,235	1,036,291	220,419	161,169
	6.5%	21.9%	13.9%	3.1%	4.5%	3.4%	25.8%	12.3%	18.2%

## Medicare Coverage

Beginning in 2005, 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. Therefore, comparison is not available in 2005 for enrollees who have Medicare Part B without Part A.

Most individuals covered by Part A are also covered by Part B, despite the premium for Part B. On Monday, December 8, 2003, the President signed into law the Medicare Prescription, Drug Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-173). This law will change Medicare coverage trends for enrollees, and will be discussed further in the Prescription Section.

Enrollees with Medicare coverage represent 55.0 percent of the total enrollee population. The number of enrollees with Medicare coverage has more than doubled from 1,836,346 in 1999 to 3,689,959 in 2005. With the majority of our enrollee population having coverage, changes to the Medicare System will undoubtedly influence the way our enrollees utilize VA care.

- ◆ The number of enrollees covered by Medicare decreased from 3,802,415 in 2003 to 3,689,959 in 2005. The number of enrollees without Medicare coverage increased from 2,940,262 in 2003 to 3,014,190 in 2005.
- ◆ Medicare coverage under Parts A and B continue to make up the greatest portion of Medicare coverage. Although the number of enrollees with Parts A and B coverage has decreased from 3,150,318 in 2003 to 2,727,649 in 2005.
- ◆ The number of enrollees who have Medicare Part A without Part B has increased from 528,448 in 2003 to 962,310 in 2005.

Table 2.8

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
1999	347,702	65,470	1,423,175	1,836,346	1,806,191
	9.5%	1.8%	39.1%	50.4%	49.6%
2002	488,168	136,356	2,865,877	3,490,401	2,685,295
	7.9%	2.2%	46.4%	56.5%	43.5%
2003	528,448	123,649	3,150,318	3,802,415	2,940,262
	7.8%	1.8%	46.7%	56.4%	43.6%
2005	<b>962,310</b>		<b>2,727,649</b>	<b>3,689,959</b>	<b>3,014,190</b>
	<b>14.4%</b>		<b>40.7%</b>	<b>55.0%</b>	<b>45.0%</b>

Percentages do not total 100 because enrollees may have multiple coverage, Medicare supplemental plan, or individual or group, excluding Medigap or Medicare supplemental plan.

Total includes DK/Ref

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

## Medicare Coverage by Priority Group

Medicare coverage rates were relatively stable for all Priority Groups between 2003 and 2005.

- ◆ The largest changes were in Priority Groups 1-3 where 54.0 percent had No Medicare coverage in 2003; which increased to 57.9 percent in 2005.
- ◆ There was also a decrease in the number and percent of Medicare Part A and B coverage in all Priority Groups. In 2003, 36.1 percent of enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 had Medicare Part A and B coverage and this decreased to 29.2 percent in 2005. Priority Groups 4-6 had 46.1 percent with Medicare Part A and B coverage, compared to 38.3 percent in 2005.
- ◆ Finally, Priority Groups 7-8 had 57.2 percent with Medicare Part A and B coverage in 2003 compared to 55.9 percent in 2005.

Table 2.9

	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part B without A			Medicare Part A and B			No Medicare		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1999	109,948	200,961	36,793	23,310	32,580	9,580	424,665	711,601	286,909	663,863	827,036	315,292
	9.0%	11.3%	5.7%	1.9%	1.8%	1.5%	34.8%	40.2%	44.2%	54.3%	46.7%	48.6%
2002	141,694	238,108	108,366	40,232	62,953	33,171	698,351	1,166,211	1,001,315	927,029	1,133,905	624,361
	7.8%	9.2%	6.1%	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%	38.6%	44.8%	56.7%	51.3%	43.6%	35.3%
2003	154,677	235,887	137,883	37,131	47,511	39,007	702,138	1,225,829	1,222,351	1,050,567	1,150,100	739,596
	8.0%	8.9%	6.4%	4.0%	1.8%	1.2%	36.1%	46.1%	57.2%	54.0%	43.2%	34.6%
2005	<b>274,959</b>	<b>441,239</b>	<b>246,112</b>				<b>626,479</b>	<b>977,941</b>	<b>1,123,229</b>	<b>1,241,374</b>	<b>1,132,663</b>	<b>640,153</b>
	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>				<b>29.2%</b>	<b>38.3%</b>	<b>55.9%</b>	<b>57.9%</b>	<b>44.4%</b>	<b>31.9%</b>

Denominator is the enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

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

## Medicare Coverage by Age Group

In Age Groups, Medicare coverage rates showed some fluctuation between 2003 and 2005.

- ◆ For enrollees under age 45, 86.9 percent had No Medicare Coverage in 2003, and this increased to 89.1 percent in 2005.
- ◆ The percentage of age 45-64 enrollees with Medicare Part A without B coverage increased from 6.0 percent in 2003 to 11.2 percent in 2005.
- ◆ For those enrollees 65 or over, 81.4 percent had Medicare A and B coverage in 2003, and that decreased to 74.0 percent in 2005.

Table 2.10

Enrollees with Various Medicare Coverage by Age

	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+
1999	20,843	93,487	233,372	5,610	17,376	42,483	57,633	212,673	1,152,869	479,568	1,111,705	214,917
	3.7%	6.5%	14.2%	1.0%	1.2%	2.6%	10.2%	14.8%	70.1%	85.1%	77.5%	13.1%
2002	33,468	135,209	319,490	19,782	36,742	79,832	79,398	399,750	2,386,727	673,221	1,761,948	250,125
	4.2%	5.8%	10.5%	2.5%	1.6%	2.6%	9.9%	17.1%	78.6%	83.5%	75.5%	8.2%
2003	42,465	156,416	329,567	12,625	31,716	79,308	66,647	487,332	2,596,339	804,141	1,950,873	185,248
	4.6%	6.0%	10.3%	1.4%	1.2%	2.5%	7.2%	18.6%	81.4%	86.9%	74.3%	5.8%
2005	<b>39,224</b>	<b>308,213</b>	<b>614,873</b>				<b>62,996</b>	<b>429,512</b>	<b>2,235,142</b>	<b>833,473</b>	<b>2,011,015</b>	<b>169,702</b>
	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>				<b>6.7%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>74.0%</b>	<b>89.1%</b>	<b>73.2%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

Denominator is the enrollee population by age (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

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

## Medicare Coverage by Income Group

In Income Groups, Medicare coverage rates showed some fluctuation between 2003 and 2005.

- ◆ For Low Income enrollees, 8.7 percent had Medicare Part A without B in 2003, and this increased to 16.4 percent in 2005. For those enrollees who did not specify an income, 8.4 percent has Medicare Part A without B coverage in 2003, and this increased to 16.6 percent in 2005.
- ◆ The percentage of Low Income enrollees with Medicare Part A and B coverage decreased from 49.1 percent in 2003 to 43.1 percent in 2005. For those enrollees who did not specify an income, 54.8 percent has Medicare Part A and B coverage in 2003, and this decreased to 45.6 percent in 2005.
- ◆ For High Income enrollees, 56.9 percent had No Medicare coverage in 2003, and that increased to 58.5 percent in 2005.

Table 2.11

Enrollees with Various Medicare Coverage by Income

	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part B without A			Medicare Part A and B			No Medicare		
	Low	High	DK / Ref	Low	High	DK / Ref	Low	High	DK / Ref	Low	High	DK / Ref
1999	29,017	292,835	25,850	5,690	51,419	8,361	138,417	1,105,801	178,957	153,684	1,255,965	396,541
	8.9%	10.8%	4.2%	1.7%	1.9%	1.4%	42.4%	40.9%	29.4%	47.0%	46.4%	65.0%
2002	348,032	52,829	87,307	93,347	20,455	22,554	1,864,138	442,456	559,281	1,550,487	749,948	384,859
	9.0%	4.2%	8.3%	2.4%	1.6%	2.1%	48.3%	35.0%	53.1%	40.2%	59.3%	36.5%
2003	376,162	83,555	68,731	81,567	26,221	15,861	2,128,060	574,106	448,152	1,752,116	902,860	285,286
	8.7%	5.3%	8.4%	1.9%	1.7%	1.9%	49.1%	36.2%	54.8%	40.4%	56.9%	34.9%
2005	<b>658,858</b>	<b>156,636</b>	<b>146,816</b>				<b>1,735,336</b>	<b>588,709</b>	<b>403,604</b>	<b>1,629,671</b>	<b>1,049,358</b>	<b>335,160</b>
	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>				<b>43.1%</b>	<b>32.8%</b>	<b>45.6%</b>	<b>40.5%</b>	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>37.8%</b>

Denominator is the enrollee population by income (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

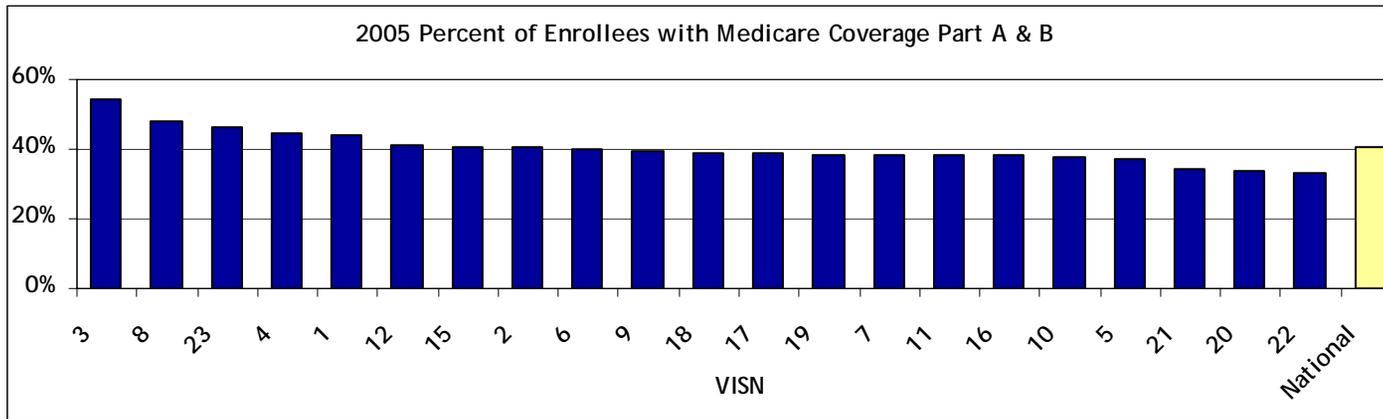
Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

## Medicare

### VISN Overview (Part A and B)

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent and number of enrollees reporting Medicare Part A and B coverage in all VISNs has decreased.
- ◆ In 2005, data revealed VISN 3 at 54.2 percent ranked first regarding the highest percent of veteran enrollees reporting Medicare Part A and B coverage.
- ◆ The VISN with the lowest percent of veteran enrollees reporting Medicare Part A and B coverage was VISN 22 at 33.3 percent.

Figure 2.5

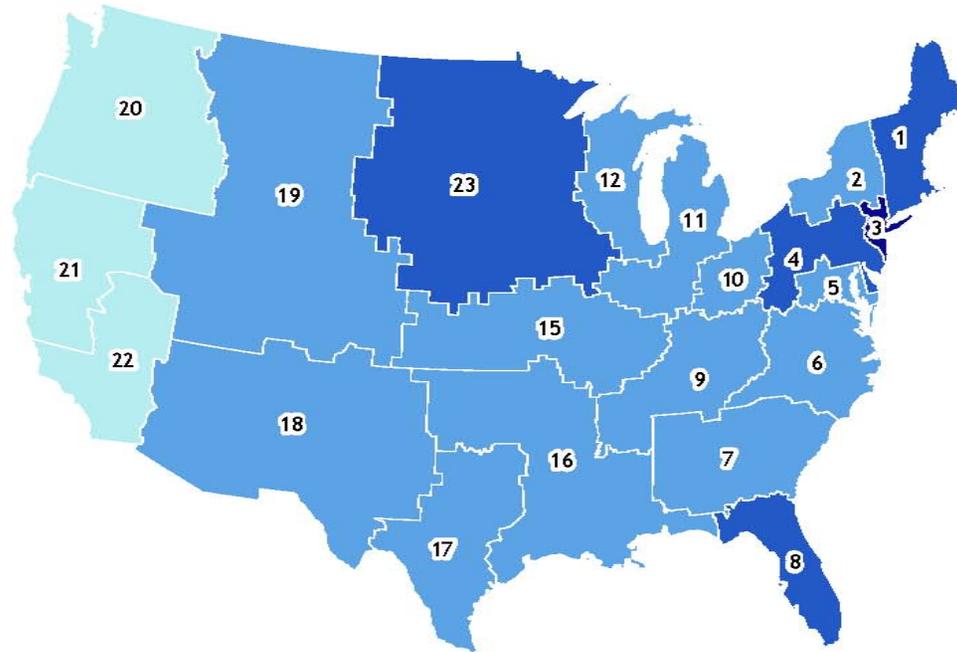


Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### Enrollees with Medicare Coverage Part A & B

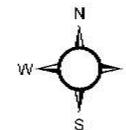
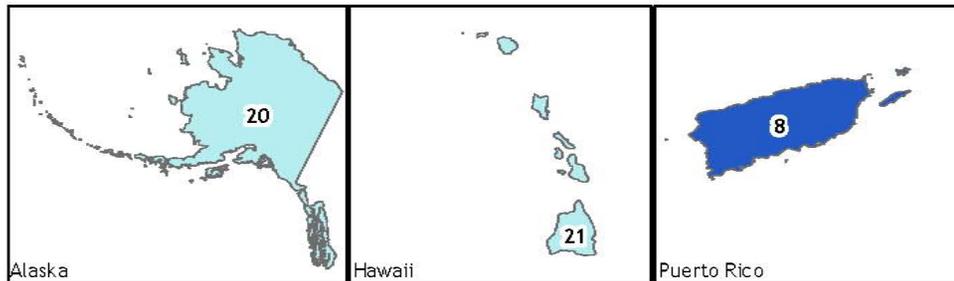


#### Legend

#### Map 2.2

- 33.2% - 34.2%
- 34.3% - 41.0%
- 41.2% - 48.2%
- 48.3% - 54.2%

VSN	Medicare Part A & B	VSN Enrollee Population	%
1	136,267	310,626	43.9%
2	80,463	198,283	40.6%
3	165,743	305,526	54.2%
4	178,423	400,167	44.6%
5	59,838	162,110	36.9%
6	137,627	343,415	40.1%
7	151,865	395,142	38.4%
8	286,411	594,071	48.2%
9	119,853	302,672	39.6%
10	92,326	246,229	37.5%
11	111,094	290,604	38.2%
12	118,844	289,366	41.1%
15	111,190	273,495	40.7%
16	211,025	553,502	38.1%
17	113,113	291,793	38.8%
18	109,714	282,455	38.8%
19	73,818	191,965	38.5%
20	96,923	288,939	33.5%
21	99,609	291,493	34.2%
22	119,823	360,050	33.3%
23	153,678	332,244	46.3%
<b>National</b>	<b>2,727,649</b>	<b>6,704,149</b>	<b>40.7%</b>



Source: 2005 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance Upon VA

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

Table 2.12

Various Medicare Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Priority

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Denominator is the VISN enrollee Population by priority (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

VISN	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part A and B			Total with Medicare Coverage			No Medicare		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	18,183	14,051	13,902	31,669	42,523	62,075	49,852	56,574	75,977	49,841	48,357	30,024
	18.2%	13.4%	13.1%	31.8%	40.5%	58.6%	50.0%	53.9%	71.7%	50.0%	46.1%	28.3%
2	6,812	12,183	12,426	14,159	30,612	35,692	20,971	42,795	48,118	29,290	29,324	27,785
	13.6%	16.9%	16.4%	28.2%	42.4%	47.0%	41.7%	59.3%	63.4%	58.3%	40.7%	36.6%
3	7,137	15,814	11,923	26,735	43,110	95,898	33,872	58,924	107,821	32,366	35,996	46,547
	10.8%	16.7%	8.3%	40.4%	45.4%	66.4%	51.1%	62.1%	74.7%	48.9%	37.9%	32.2%
4	15,365	31,350	25,134	30,082	64,560	83,781	45,447	95,910	108,915	53,851	52,834	43,211
	15.5%	21.1%	16.5%	30.3%	43.4%	55.1%	45.8%	64.5%	71.6%	54.2%	35.5%	28.4%
5	5,075	9,893	4,370	15,883	19,733	24,222	20,958	29,626	28,592	37,848	30,279	14,807
	8.6%	16.5%	10.1%	27.0%	32.9%	55.8%	35.6%	49.5%	65.9%	64.4%	50.5%	34.1%
6	14,717	19,330	8,378	40,174	48,664	48,789	54,891	67,994	57,167	79,290	54,120	29,953
	11.0%	15.8%	9.6%	29.9%	39.9%	56.0%	40.9%	55.7%	65.6%	59.1%	44.3%	34.4%
7	14,810	22,957	9,460	42,372	53,548	55,945	57,182	76,505	65,405	88,617	71,882	35,552
	10.2%	15.5%	9.4%	29.1%	36.1%	55.4%	39.2%	51.6%	64.8%	60.8%	48.4%	35.2%
8	31,095	38,764	18,584	59,539	106,405	120,467	90,634	145,169	139,051	83,387	84,625	51,203
	17.9%	16.9%	9.8%	34.2%	46.3%	63.3%	52.1%	63.2%	73.1%	47.9%	36.8%	26.9%
9	13,223	24,795	10,886	30,051	49,244	40,558	43,274	74,039	51,444	58,360	52,261	23,292
	13.0%	19.6%	14.6%	29.6%	39.0%	54.3%	42.6%	58.6%	68.8%	57.4%	41.4%	31.2%
10	7,469	17,873	9,227	16,865	42,873	32,588	24,334	60,746	41,815	41,687	50,763	26,883
	11.3%	16.0%	13.4%	25.5%	38.4%	47.4%	36.9%	54.5%	60.9%	63.1%	45.5%	39.1%
11	10,450	23,735	11,661	22,462	38,979	49,653	32,912	62,714	61,314	52,631	56,284	24,750
	12.2%	19.9%	13.5%	26.3%	32.8%	57.7%	38.5%	52.7%	71.2%	61.5%	47.3%	28.8%
12	8,940	23,598	13,875	18,503	36,410	63,931	27,443	60,008	77,806	42,850	51,826	29,435
	12.7%	21.1%	12.9%	26.3%	32.6%	59.6%	39.0%	53.7%	72.6%	61.0%	46.3%	27.4%
15	9,582	21,904	11,369	23,035	40,950	47,205	32,617	62,854	58,574	48,075	46,840	24,533
	11.9%	20.0%	13.7%	28.5%	37.3%	56.8%	40.4%	57.3%	70.5%	59.6%	42.7%	29.5%
16	20,597	41,725	17,050	53,994	86,243	70,788	74,591	127,968	87,838	113,455	107,601	42,049
	11.0%	17.7%	13.1%	28.7%	36.6%	54.5%	39.7%	54.3%	67.6%	60.3%	45.7%	32.4%
17	11,228	17,414	7,768	36,524	43,749	32,840	47,752	61,163	40,608	71,886	47,620	22,765
	9.4%	16.0%	12.3%	30.5%	40.2%	51.8%	39.9%	56.2%	64.1%	60.1%	43.8%	35.9%
18	13,651	18,009	6,914	26,436	40,795	42,483	40,087	58,804	49,397	61,784	46,876	25,507
	13.4%	17.0%	9.2%	26.0%	38.6%	56.7%	39.4%	55.6%	65.9%	60.6%	44.4%	34.1%
19	9,524	11,179	7,205	18,218	27,043	28,557	27,742	38,222	35,762	42,998	28,791	18,450
	13.5%	16.7%	13.3%	25.8%	40.4%	52.7%	39.2%	57.0%	66.0%	60.8%	43.0%	34.0%
20	16,876	18,807	10,698	29,988	36,501	30,434	46,864	55,308	41,132	79,081	41,934	24,620
	13.4%	19.3%	16.3%	23.8%	37.5%	46.3%	37.2%	56.9%	62.6%	62.8%	43.1%	37.4%
21	13,347	20,748	9,872	27,890	33,956	37,763	41,237	54,704	47,635	55,861	60,977	31,078
	13.7%	17.9%	12.5%	28.7%	29.4%	48.0%	42.5%	47.3%	60.5%	57.5%	52.7%	39.5%
22	13,189	23,253	11,299	31,166	44,921	43,736	44,355	68,174	55,035	63,138	89,289	40,058
	12.3%	14.8%	11.9%	29.0%	28.5%	46.0%	41.3%	43.3%	57.9%	58.7%	56.7%	42.1%
23	13,689	13,856	14,110	30,732	47,124	75,822	44,421	60,980	89,932	55,079	44,182	37,650
	13.8%	13.2%	11.1%	30.9%	44.8%	59.4%	44.6%	58.0%	70.5%	55.4%	42.0%	29.5%
National	274,959	441,239	246,112	626,479	977,941	1,123,229	901,438	1,419,180	1,369,341	1,241,374	1,132,663	640,153
	12.8%	17.3%	12.2%	29.2%	38.3%	55.9%	42.1%	55.6%	68.1%	57.9%	44.4%	31.9%

Table 2.13

## Various Medicare Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Age

VISN	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part A and B			Total with Medicare Coverage			No Medicare		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	4,438	12,404	29,295	5,071	15,701	115,496	9,508	17,475	144,791	34,406	85,122	8,695
	10.1%	11.0%	19.1%	11.5%	13.9%	75.2%	21.7%	15.4%	94.3%	78.3%	75.2%	5.7%
2	1,769	7,768	21,884	1,238	13,566	65,659	3,007	9,006	87,543	24,180	58,080	4,140
	6.5%	9.8%	23.9%	4.6%	17.1%	71.6%	11.1%	11.3%	95.5%	88.9%	73.1%	4.5%
3	930	8,071	25,873	3,130	17,025	145,588	4,060	11,201	171,461	30,021	66,084	8,804
	2.7%	8.9%	14.4%	9.2%	18.7%	80.8%	11.9%	12.3%	95.1%	88.1%	72.5%	4.9%
4	649	22,567	48,633	3,928	24,076	150,419	4,577	26,495	199,052	31,286	106,947	11,663
	1.8%	14.7%	23.1%	11.0%	15.7%	71.4%	12.8%	17.3%	94.5%	87.2%	69.6%	5.5%
5	317	7,772	11,249	672	6,931	52,235	989	8,444	63,484	27,150	51,106	4,678
	1.1%	11.8%	16.5%	2.4%	10.5%	76.6%	3.5%	12.8%	93.1%	96.5%	77.7%	6.9%
6	3,062	16,061	23,302	5,741	26,643	105,243	8,802	21,802	128,545	49,870	107,936	5,558
	5.2%	10.7%	17.4%	9.8%	17.7%	78.5%	15.0%	14.5%	95.9%	85.0%	71.7%	4.1%
7	2,319	18,374	26,533	3,967	33,621	114,276	6,286	22,341	140,809	59,147	130,661	6,243
	3.5%	10.1%	18.0%	6.1%	18.4%	77.7%	9.6%	12.2%	95.8%	90.4%	71.5%	4.2%
8	10,669	22,072	55,702	216	33,670	252,525	10,885	22,288	308,227	46,510	155,111	17,595
	18.6%	10.5%	17.1%	0.4%	16.0%	77.5%	19.0%	10.6%	94.6%	81.0%	73.6%	5.4%
9	518	22,732	25,655	2,803	30,510	86,540	3,321	25,535	112,195	34,047	91,539	8,327
	1.4%	15.7%	21.3%	7.5%	21.1%	71.8%	8.9%	17.6%	93.1%	91.1%	63.2%	6.9%
10	1,025	9,027	24,518	1,991	18,226	72,110	3,015	11,017	96,628	32,814	79,894	6,625
	2.9%	8.4%	23.7%	5.6%	17.0%	69.8%	8.4%	10.3%	93.6%	91.6%	74.6%	6.4%
11	1,594	14,260	29,991	3,296	17,329	90,468	4,890	17,556	120,459	42,512	86,846	4,306
	3.4%	12.0%	24.0%	7.0%	14.6%	72.5%	10.3%	14.8%	96.5%	89.7%	73.3%	3.5%
12	388	15,918	30,106	756	15,303	102,784	1,144	16,674	132,890	36,750	79,810	7,551
	1.0%	14.3%	21.4%	2.0%	13.8%	73.2%	3.0%	15.0%	94.6%	97.0%	71.9%	5.4%
15	1,647	12,050	29,159	2,049	18,524	90,618	3,696	14,099	119,777	35,425	76,827	7,196
	4.2%	11.2%	23.0%	5.2%	17.2%	71.4%	9.4%	13.1%	94.3%	90.6%	71.5%	5.7%
16	2,729	26,749	49,894	7,176	37,134	166,715	9,905	33,925	216,609	75,276	176,909	10,920
	3.2%	11.1%	21.9%	8.4%	15.4%	73.3%	11.6%	14.1%	95.2%	88.4%	73.5%	4.8%
17	222	12,561	23,628	6,209	19,094	87,810	6,430	18,770	111,438	43,981	91,191	7,098
	0.4%	10.2%	19.9%	12.3%	15.5%	74.1%	12.8%	15.3%	94.0%	87.2%	74.2%	6.0%
18	1,070	13,309	24,195	4,789	15,519	89,407	5,859	18,098	113,602	30,601	94,816	8,749
	2.9%	10.8%	19.8%	13.1%	12.6%	73.1%	16.1%	14.6%	92.8%	83.9%	76.7%	7.2%
19	593	8,802	18,513	3,722	12,144	57,952	4,315	12,524	76,465	27,089	58,765	4,384
	1.9%	11.0%	22.9%	11.9%	15.2%	71.7%	13.7%	15.7%	94.6%	86.3%	73.7%	5.4%
20	1,495	17,050	27,836	2,857	21,788	72,278	4,353	19,907	100,114	45,792	92,558	7,286
	3.0%	13.0%	25.9%	5.7%	16.6%	67.3%	8.7%	15.2%	93.2%	91.3%	70.4%	6.8%
21	1,155	14,570	28,242	536	14,926	84,147	1,691	15,106	112,389	40,398	97,908	9,611
	2.7%	11.4%	23.1%	1.3%	11.7%	69.0%	4.0%	11.9%	92.1%	96.0%	76.8%	7.9%
22	1,197	16,045	30,499	725	18,346	100,753	1,922	16,770	131,252	55,389	121,852	15,244
	2.1%	10.3%	20.8%	1.3%	11.7%	68.8%	3.4%	10.7%	89.6%	96.6%	78.0%	10.4%
23	1,439	10,050	30,165	2,125	19,435	132,118	3,564	12,175	162,283	30,828	101,054	5,030
	4.2%	7.7%	18.0%	6.2%	14.9%	79.0%	10.4%	9.3%	97.0%	89.6%	77.4%	3.0%
National	39,224	308,213	614,873	62,996	429,512	2,235,142	102,220	737,725	2,850,015	833,473	2,011,015	169,702
	4.2%	11.2%	20.4%	6.7%	15.6%	74.0%	10.9%	26.8%	94.4%	89.1%	73.2%	5.6%

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 2.14

Various Medicare Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Income

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Medicare Part A without B			Medicare Part A and B			Total with Medicare Coverage			No Medicare		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	29,147	8,021	8,968	86,785	29,301	20,182	115,932	37,322	29,150	63,021	51,051	14,150
	16.3%	9.1%	20.7%	48.5%	33.2%	46.6%	64.8%	42.2%	67.3%	35.2%	57.8%	32.7%
2	20,402	6,472	4,546	52,633	17,159	10,671	73,035	23,631	15,217	41,906	34,832	9,661
	17.7%	11.1%	18.3%	45.8%	29.4%	42.9%	63.5%	40.4%	61.2%	36.5%	59.6%	38.8%
3	24,896	5,709	4,270	87,810	48,232	29,701	112,706	53,941	33,971	50,763	41,615	12,531
	15.2%	6.0%	9.2%	53.7%	50.5%	63.9%	68.9%	56.4%	73.1%	31.1%	43.6%	26.9%
4	50,579	11,589	9,680	121,010	29,167	28,247	171,589	40,756	37,927	83,417	46,375	20,104
	19.8%	13.3%	16.7%	47.5%	33.5%	48.7%	67.3%	46.8%	65.4%	32.7%	53.2%	34.6%
5	13,795	3,022	2,521	33,634	16,440	9,764	47,429	19,462	12,285	39,285	32,287	11,363
	15.9%	5.8%	10.7%	38.8%	31.8%	41.3%	54.7%	37.6%	51.9%	45.3%	62.4%	48.1%
6	28,200	10,000	4,225	89,667	28,552	19,408	117,867	38,552	23,633	92,716	55,436	15,212
	13.4%	10.6%	10.9%	42.6%	30.4%	50.0%	56.0%	41.0%	60.8%	44.0%	59.0%	39.2%
7	34,481	5,655	7,091	91,019	35,028	25,817	125,500	40,683	32,908	109,529	67,602	18,920
	14.7%	5.2%	13.7%	38.7%	32.3%	49.8%	53.4%	37.6%	63.5%	46.6%	62.4%	36.5%
8	54,491	13,543	20,410	183,287	64,318	38,806	237,778	77,861	59,216	112,205	79,095	27,916
	15.6%	8.6%	23.4%	52.4%	41.0%	44.5%	67.9%	49.6%	68.0%	32.1%	50.4%	32.0%
9	36,171	6,956	5,779	80,473	20,966	18,414	116,644	27,922	24,193	75,274	43,239	15,401
	18.8%	9.8%	14.6%	41.9%	29.5%	46.5%	60.8%	39.2%	61.1%	39.2%	60.8%	38.9%
10	23,771	3,956	6,843	65,311	14,277	12,738	89,082	18,233	19,581	71,010	38,071	10,252
	14.8%	7.0%	22.9%	40.8%	25.4%	42.7%	55.6%	32.4%	65.6%	44.4%	67.6%	34.4%
11	31,324	5,821	8,701	74,825	20,676	15,592	106,149	26,497	24,293	75,228	48,384	10,053
	17.3%	7.8%	25.3%	41.3%	27.6%	45.4%	58.5%	35.4%	70.7%	41.5%	64.6%	29.3%
12	35,759	6,727	3,927	73,587	25,676	19,581	109,346	32,403	23,508	65,021	44,895	14,194
	20.5%	8.7%	10.4%	42.2%	33.2%	51.9%	62.7%	41.9%	62.4%	37.3%	58.1%	37.6%
15	30,059	5,732	7,065	72,086	20,288	18,816	102,145	26,020	25,881	65,347	41,029	13,073
	17.9%	8.5%	18.1%	43.0%	30.3%	48.3%	61.0%	38.8%	66.4%	39.0%	61.2%	33.6%
16	56,841	8,785	13,747	146,004	40,227	24,794	202,845	49,012	38,541	159,544	73,832	29,728
	15.7%	7.2%	20.1%	40.3%	32.7%	36.3%	56.0%	39.9%	56.5%	44.0%	60.1%	43.5%
17	25,225	6,737	4,448	70,566	23,781	18,765	95,791	30,518	23,213	74,628	47,951	19,691
	14.8%	8.6%	10.4%	41.4%	30.3%	43.7%	56.2%	38.9%	54.1%	43.8%	61.1%	45.9%
18	28,180	6,579	3,816	67,891	26,276	15,548	96,071	32,855	19,364	80,218	42,126	11,823
	16.0%	8.8%	12.2%	38.5%	35.0%	49.9%	54.5%	43.8%	62.1%	45.5%	56.2%	37.9%
19	18,456	4,912	4,540	49,256	15,329	9,233	67,712	20,241	13,773	47,033	33,371	9,835
	16.1%	9.2%	19.2%	42.9%	28.6%	39.1%	59.0%	37.8%	58.3%	41.0%	62.2%	41.7%
20	29,676	8,755	7,950	63,161	21,035	12,727	92,837	29,790	20,677	74,920	52,545	18,170
	17.7%	10.6%	20.5%	37.7%	25.5%	32.8%	55.3%	36.2%	53.2%	44.7%	63.8%	46.8%
21	27,677	10,234	6,057	58,527	29,079	12,002	86,204	39,313	18,059	79,087	52,749	16,081
	16.7%	11.1%	17.7%	35.4%	31.6%	35.2%	52.2%	42.7%	52.9%	47.8%	57.3%	47.1%
22	32,922	9,834	4,986	65,606	35,213	19,004	98,528	45,047	23,990	100,098	68,116	24,271
	16.6%	8.7%	10.3%	33.0%	31.1%	39.4%	49.6%	39.8%	49.7%	50.4%	60.2%	50.3%
23	26,808	7,598	7,249	102,198	27,687	23,793	129,006	35,285	31,042	69,421	54,757	12,733
	13.5%	8.4%	16.6%	51.5%	30.7%	54.4%	65.0%	39.2%	70.9%	35.0%	60.8%	29.1%
National	658,858	156,636	146,816	1,735,336	588,709	403,604	2,394,194	745,345	550,420	1,629,671	1,049,358	335,160
	16.4%	8.7%	16.6%	43.1%	32.8%	45.6%	59.5%	41.5%	62.2%	40.5%	58.5%	37.8%

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## Chapter 3

### PRESCRIPTION USE

Previous surveys of enrollees have not asked any questions regarding prescription drug insurance coverage, utilization of prescription drugs and over the counter medication, or out-of-pocket costs for prescriptions. The 2005 survey was the first opportunity to ask these questions on a large scale to get a sense of enrollees' medication utilization and prescription drug coverage. This survey of enrollees was administered in late 2005, before the Medicare Prescription, Drug Improvement, and Modification Act of 2003 legislation became effective. Thus, a series of questions was asked to determine enrollees' understanding of the coverage and their intention to purchase Medicare Part D.

#### Any Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage

The first question asked was whether enrollees believed they had prescription drug coverage of any kind. Theoretically, all enrollees would respond positively since enrollment in VHA provides prescription drugs and even over the counter medications as a basic benefit. However only 52.9 percent answered that question in the affirmative, with 46.0 percent saying they did not have coverage, and 1 percent responding "don't know", or "refused to answer". Apparently, close to half of enrollees do not consider their VA enrollment to provide drug coverage or may not have realized they were enrolled in VA.

Table 3.1  
Any Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage

	Number	Percent
Yes	3,546,158	52.9%
No	3,085,460	46.0%
Don't Know	68,072	1.0%
Refused	4,459	0.1%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Reviewing the data further reveals some interesting variations by priority level and by income level. (See Table 3.2)

- ◆ For example, 56.9 percent of priority groups 1-3 and 58.0 percent of enrollees in priority groups 7-8 reported having prescription benefits.
- ◆ Only 45.5 percent in priority groups 4-6 reported having the coverage.
- ◆ Likewise, 47.2 percent of enrollees with income under \$36,000 reported having prescription coverage while almost 65.7 percent of enrollees with income over \$36,000 endorsed having this coverage.
- ◆ There was very little difference in coverage reported among the three age groups (<45, 45-64, 65+) with an average of 52.9 percent of all three groups reporting coverage.

Awareness of prescription drug coverage can also be analyzed by comparing responses at the network level. Interesting variation was also reported here, with an average of 64.1 percent of enrollees in VISN 2 reporting prescription drug coverage and only 45.5 percent of enrollees in VISN 17 reporting the same. See Table 3.2 for results by network for the three priority groups, three age groups, and two income levels. These results are primarily interesting in revealing which enrollees understand that they have prescription drug coverage. Reviewing further which enrollees were not aware of their VA prescription drug coverage reveals that pre-enrollees are less likely to be aware of the coverage compared to post-enrollees, as are patients compared to non-VA users. In terms of insurance coverage, those enrollees with private insurance, TRICARE or TRICARE for Life, or other federal, state, or county insurance are most likely to report that they have prescription drug coverage, while those reporting no insurance coverage (other than VA) are most likely to report no prescription drug coverage.

Table 3.2

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority, age, income (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	2005 Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed								
	Priority			Age			Income		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	Dk/Ref
1	58,307	51,648	66,123	23,085	66,855	86,137	89,479	63,010	23,589
	58.5%	49.2%	62.4%	52.6%	59.0%	56.1%	50.0%	71.3%	54.5%
2	32,469	40,875	53,800	17,725	52,927	56,491	65,431	44,076	17,637
	64.6%	56.7%	70.9%	65.2%	66.6%	61.6%	56.9%	75.4%	70.9%
3	41,448	50,074	93,407	17,015	59,124	108,790	88,930	65,226	30,773
	62.6%	52.8%	64.7%	49.9%	64.8%	60.4%	54.4%	68.3%	66.2%
4	59,625	83,769	100,253	24,367	89,404	129,875	141,355	66,022	36,269
	60.0%	56.3%	65.9%	67.9%	58.2%	61.6%	55.4%	75.8%	62.5%
5	33,552	22,554	26,873	13,374	34,171	35,433	36,948	34,237	11,793
	57.1%	37.6%	61.9%	47.5%	51.9%	52.0%	42.6%	66.2%	49.9%
6	70,371	45,620	44,995	27,136	64,251	69,598	86,537	57,786	16,661
	52.4%	37.4%	51.6%	46.3%	42.7%	51.9%	41.1%	61.5%	42.9%
7	76,186	55,291	52,049	31,366	78,664	73,497	92,507	66,181	24,838
	52.3%	37.3%	51.6%	47.9%	43.1%	50.0%	39.4%	61.1%	47.9%
8	104,153	92,275	102,216	27,625	102,865	168,154	161,081	96,104	41,458
	59.9%	40.2%	53.7%	48.1%	48.8%	51.6%	46.0%	61.2%	47.6%
9	54,061	55,604	41,815	20,394	72,226	58,860	87,117	44,120	20,243
	53.2%	44.0%	56.0%	54.6%	49.9%	48.8%	45.4%	62.0%	51.1%
10	39,582	56,933	39,499	19,615	59,624	56,775	78,900	40,571	16,544
	60.0%	51.1%	57.5%	54.7%	55.6%	55.0%	49.3%	72.1%	55.5%
11	51,851	62,843	50,670	26,385	68,675	70,304	93,321	53,531	18,512
	60.6%	52.8%	58.9%	55.7%	58.0%	56.3%	51.5%	71.5%	53.9%
12	43,768	46,570	60,332	23,181	55,424	72,065	77,657	53,369	19,644
	62.3%	41.6%	56.3%	61.2%	49.9%	51.3%	44.5%	69.0%	52.1%
15	44,047	50,476	40,895	23,285	57,073	55,060	73,743	42,702	18,973
	54.6%	46.0%	49.2%	59.5%	53.1%	43.4%	44.0%	63.7%	48.7%
16	94,178	99,894	66,975	40,539	115,396	105,113	156,059	72,003	32,987
	50.1%	42.4%	51.6%	47.6%	47.9%	46.2%	43.1%	58.6%	48.3%
17	59,672	40,084	33,104	20,263	56,189	56,407	66,685	48,893	17,282
	49.9%	36.8%	52.2%	40.2%	45.7%	47.6%	39.1%	62.3%	40.3%
18	58,673	47,330	46,361	19,903	64,544	67,917	83,555	49,905	18,904
	57.6%	44.8%	61.9%	54.6%	52.2%	55.5%	47.4%	66.6%	60.6%
19	41,550	29,758	31,947	19,537	40,910	42,808	56,038	33,933	13,284
	58.7%	44.4%	58.9%	62.2%	51.3%	52.9%	48.8%	63.3%	56.3%
20	75,264	47,666	36,645	29,819	71,356	58,401	81,603	58,301	19,672
	59.8%	49.0%	55.7%	59.5%	54.3%	54.4%	48.6%	70.8%	50.6%
21	61,282	50,753	46,285	16,952	71,408	69,960	80,340	59,996	17,985
	63.1%	43.9%	58.8%	40.3%	56.0%	57.3%	48.6%	65.2%	52.7%
22	60,879	89,721	59,910	34,987	81,567	93,956	109,567	72,810	28,133
	56.6%	57.0%	63.0%	61.0%	52.2%	64.1%	55.2%	64.3%	58.3%
23	57,773	42,539	71,037	18,423	75,176	77,751	91,163	56,871	23,315
	58.1%	40.5%	55.7%	53.6%	57.6%	46.5%	45.9%	63.2%	53.3%
National	1,218,693	1,162,277	1,165,188	494,978	1,437,829	1,613,352	1,898,017	1,179,646	468,495
	56.9%	45.5%	58.0%	52.9%	52.3%	53.4%	47.2%	65.7%	52.9%

All enrollees who responded positively to having prescription coverage were asked to identify the source of the coverage. Forty-four percent of those enrollees who responded positively to have coverage identified that VHA was the only source of their coverage and 21.5 percent responded that their coverage stemmed from both VA and some other source. Thus, approximately two-thirds of all enrollees who use prescription medication identified VA as providing at least part of their prescription drug coverage. Thirty-three percent reported prescription coverage from some source other than VA and less than one percent responded they did not know or refused. However, since all enrollees have prescription coverage, these results can be revised to look only at those enrollees who report more than one source of prescription coverage, by including all enrollees who report having no prescription coverage as being covered by VA only. It is then clear that 29% of enrollees have at least one other source of prescription coverage other than VA.

Table 3.3

Source of Prescription Coverage <i>(for those reporting prescription coverage)</i>		
	Number	Percent
From VA	1,574,756	44.4%
From Other Source	1,182,071	33.3%
From Both	763,041	21.5%
Don't Know/Refused	26,291	0.7%
Source of Prescription Coverage <i>(corrected for all enrollees)</i>		
	Number	Percent
From VA	4,732,746	70.6%
From VA/Other Source	1,945,112	29.0%
Don't Know/Refused	26,291	0.4%

In reviewing enrollee's source of reported coverage by networks for all enrollees (and correcting all negative responses to include coverage by VA), less variation is seen:

- ◆ In VISN 16, 76.5% of respondents reported VA as their only source of prescription drug coverage.
- ◆ In VISN 3, however, only 58.1% of enrollees reported VA as their only source of prescription coverage.

### Intent to Purchase Medicare Part D in 2006

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. There had been increasing pressure on Congress over recent years to pass legislation providing this coverage. In 2003 Congress passed the Medicare Prescription, Drug Improvement, and Modification Act of 2003, which became effective January 2006. The bill provides those with Medicare benefits the opportunity to purchase a prescription coverage plan. These plans were expected to cover 75 percent of the first \$2,250 of prescription drug costs, then leave a "doughnut hole" in coverage between \$2,250 and \$3,600 and to cover 95 percent of costs after that.

All survey respondents were asked if they intended to purchase Medicare Part D. Recall that this survey was administered several months before Part D coverage was scheduled to begin. All survey respondents were asked this question, even though the coverage was available only to Medicare recipients. For this question, only 8.5 percent responded affirmatively. In general, it would appear to be unlikely that any purchased prescription benefit would provide drug coverage as reasonably as that offered by VHA (\$8.00 co-pay for each 30-day prescription). Almost two-thirds of respondents related they did not plan to purchase Part D, while 17.8 percent were undecided and 9.3 percent were unaware that Part D was being offered. When only Medicare beneficiaries are asked about their intentions, 11.9 percent planned to purchase Part D, 57.9% did not plan to purchase Part D, 22.8% were undecided, and 7.3% were unaware that Part D was being offered.

Important facts to keep in mind about the Medicare Part D legislation is that the 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.

Reviewing the intent to purchase Medicare Part D by networks shows some variations.

- ◆ VISN 8 respondents showed fairly good awareness that VA offered prescription drug coverage and only 7.8 percent of enrollees there planned to purchase Part D.
- ◆ Almost fifteen percent of enrollees in VISN 3 (14.8%) indicated that they planned to purchase Part D coverage.

Some variation was also noted in the percent undecided about whether to purchase Part D and the percent unaware that Part D prescription drug coverage was being made available.

- ◆ For example about 19 percent of respondents in VISN 5 were undecided, while about 27 percent in VISN 3 had not yet made up their mind.
- ◆ In VISN 6, 8.6 percent of respondents were unaware that Part D coverage was being offered, but only 4.8 percent in VISN 23 were unaware.

See Table 3.5 for a full break down of responses. Intent to purchase Medicare Part D is also displayed graphically in Map 3.1.

Table 3.4

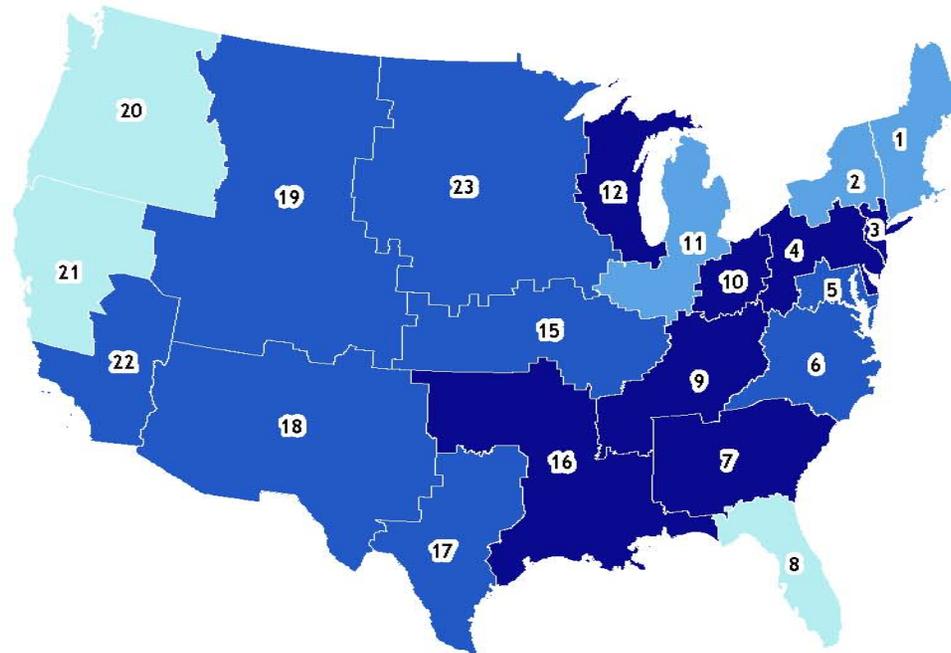
Intent to Purchase Medicare Part D in 2006 of Enrollees Already Covered by Medicare		
	Number	Percent
Yes	439,405	11.9%
No	2,136,637	57.9%
Not Decided	839,822	22.8%
Unaware of Part D	270,946	7.3%
Refused	3,151	0.1%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### Intent to Purchase Medicare Part D Drug Benefit in 2006 of Enrollees Already Covered by Medicare

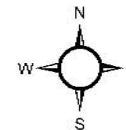
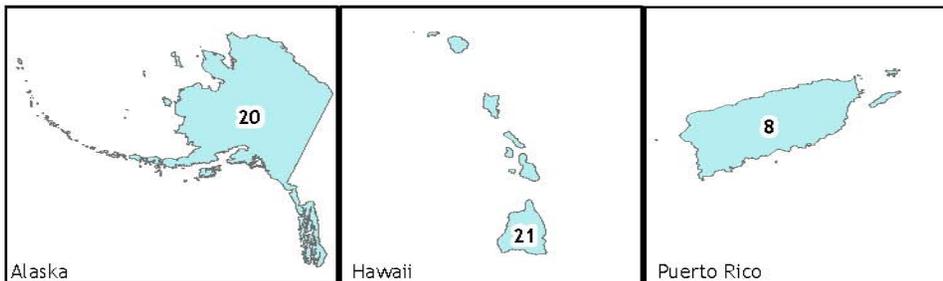


#### Legend

#### Map 3.1

- 7.8% - 9.5%
- 9.6% - 11.3%
- 11.3% - 13.0%
- 13.1% - 14.8%

VISN	number	percent
1	20,628	11.3%
2	11,242	10.0%
3	29,699	14.8%
4	34,619	13.8%
5	9,571	12.1%
6	22,363	12.4%
7	26,620	13.4%
8	29,069	7.8%
9	22,940	13.6%
10	17,303	13.6%
11	16,260	10.4%
12	22,150	13.4%
15	18,103	11.8%
16	40,673	14.0%
17	19,360	12.9%
18	16,870	11.4%
19	12,290	12.1%
20	13,604	9.5%
21	12,113	8.4%
22	20,657	12.3%
23	23,271	11.9%
<b>National</b>	<b>439,407</b>	<b>11.9%</b>



Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA

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

Table 3.5

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Source of Prescription Coverage for all Enrollees			Plan to Purchase Medicare Part D Drug Benefit in 2006 (for Medicare beneficiaries)				
	VA	VA/Other	DK/Ref	Yes	No	Not Decided	Unaware	Ref
1	214,842	94,910	874	20,628	109,859	38,864	12,915	138
	69.2%	30.6%	0.3%	11.3%	60.2%	21.3%	7.1%	0.1%
2	116,968	80,322	993	11,242	67,996	24,654	7,992	-
	59.0%	40.5%	0.5%	10.0%	60.8%	22.0%	7.1%	0.0%
3	177,465	126,150	1,912	29,699	103,937	54,877	12,015	89
	58.1%	41.3%	0.6%	14.8%	51.8%	27.4%	6.0%	0.0%
4	265,282	132,272	2,613	34,619	140,433	56,842	18,378	-
	66.3%	33.1%	0.7%	13.8%	56.1%	22.7%	7.3%	0.0%
5	111,549	50,125	437	9,571	48,431	15,264	5,858	53
	68.8%	30.9%	0.3%	12.1%	61.2%	19.3%	7.4%	0.1%
6	254,084	88,377	954	22,363	99,385	42,809	15,496	-
	74.0%	25.7%	0.3%	12.4%	55.2%	23.8%	8.6%	0.0%
7	286,933	106,290	1,919	26,620	107,157	49,938	15,376	-
	72.6%	26.9%	0.5%	13.4%	53.8%	25.1%	7.7%	0.0%
8	437,253	156,557	260	29,069	238,283	77,567	29,631	305
	73.6%	26.4%	0.0%	7.8%	63.6%	20.7%	7.9%	0.1%
9	223,299	78,412	961	22,940	94,330	38,478	12,890	120
	73.8%	25.9%	0.3%	13.6%	55.9%	22.8%	7.6%	0.1%
10	168,153	76,874	1,202	17,303	72,168	26,930	10,342	153
	68.3%	31.2%	0.5%	13.6%	56.9%	21.2%	8.1%	0.1%
11	205,935	82,717	1,952	16,260	90,966	37,953	11,750	9
	70.9%	28.5%	0.7%	10.4%	58.0%	24.2%	7.5%	0.0%
12	205,082	83,252	1,033	22,150	96,756	37,421	8,928	-
	70.9%	28.8%	0.4%	13.4%	58.5%	22.6%	5.4%	0.0%
15	202,129	69,830	1,536	18,103	90,370	32,895	12,247	433
	73.9%	25.5%	0.6%	11.8%	58.7%	21.4%	8.0%	0.3%
16	423,321	127,827	2,355	40,673	161,429	64,887	23,227	183
	76.5%	23.1%	0.4%	14.0%	55.6%	22.3%	8.0%	0.1%
17	214,409	76,544	841	19,360	87,410	31,910	10,144	699
	73.5%	26.2%	0.3%	12.9%	58.5%	21.3%	6.8%	0.5%
18	201,261	80,832	363	16,870	89,362	30,818	11,238	-
	71.3%	28.6%	0.1%	11.4%	60.3%	20.8%	7.6%	0.0%
19	137,938	53,326	700	12,290	57,837	24,374	7,117	108
	71.9%	27.8%	0.4%	12.1%	56.9%	24.0%	7.0%	0.1%
20	202,786	83,768	2,386	13,604	89,997	28,346	11,357	-
	70.2%	29.0%	0.8%	9.5%	62.8%	19.8%	7.9%	0.0%
21	205,679	85,447	366	12,113	81,453	38,909	10,471	631
	70.6%	29.3%	0.1%	8.4%	56.7%	27.1%	7.3%	0.4%
22	236,896	121,023	2,131	20,657	97,713	34,741	14,284	170
	65.8%	33.6%	0.6%	12.3%	58.3%	20.7%	8.5%	0.1%
23	241,480	90,259	505	23,271	111,365	51,345	9,291	61
	72.7%	27.2%	0.2%	11.9%	57.0%	26.3%	4.8%	0.0%
National	4,732,747	1,945,112	26,291	439,407	2,136,649	839,827	270,948	3,151
	70.6%	29.0%	0.4%	11.9%	57.9%	22.8%	7.3%	0.1%

### Over-the-Counter Medications in the Last 30 Days

The next question in the survey asked enrollees about the number of over-the-counter medication taken over the last 30 days. Results ranged from 0 (38.1%) to 97 (0.02%), with a mean of 1.58 over-the-counter (OTC) medications per enrollee.

Table 3.6

Some small variation was noted in the number of OTC medications by network.

- ◆ For example, 63.4 percent of enrollees in VISN 7 took OTC medications, while 42.2 percent in VISN 21 did not.
- ◆ Similarly, on average only 18 percent of enrollees on average in three VISNs (10, 12, and 21) took three or more OTC meds, while 22.6 percent of enrollees in VISN 3 took three or more OTC medications.

Number of OTC Medications in the Last 30 Days		
Number of OTC Medications (Mean = 1.58)	Number	Percent
0	2,550,550	38.1%
1	1,668,879	24.8%
2	1,013,304	15.1%
3+	1,353,017	20.2%
Don't Know	116,825	1.7%
Refused	6,575	0.1%

Enrollees were then asked how many of their OTC medication in the last 30 days were prescribed by the VA. The responses ranged from 0 (84.5%) to 97 (0.00%) with a mean of 0.49. Thus, the average enrollee takes 1.5 OTC medications per month, with 0.5 OTC medications provided by VA and 1.0 purchased independent of VA. Other health plans are 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 may exceed the cost of the OTC medication, so that enrollees choose to purchase it on their own. See Table 3.8 for expanded details.

Table 3.7

Number OTC Medications in Last 30 Days from VA		
Number of Medications (Mean = 0.49)	Number	Percent
0	3,403,597	84.5%
1	226,086	5.1%
2 or more	384,893	9.6%
Don't Know	14,514	0.4%
Refused	1,111	0.03%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Only slight variation was noted within networks in the percent of enrollees reporting zero percent of OTC medications being provided by VA.

- ◆ Approximately 84.5 percent of all enrollees reported receiving no OTC medications from VHA.
- ◆ Only slight variations were noted within networks, from 79.7 percent in VISN 10 to 83.6 percent in VISN 2.
- ◆ Of all enrollees taking OTC medication, those receiving more than two OTC medications from VHA ranged from 8-11 percent.

Table 3.8

## 2005 Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Responses of "Don't Know" or "Refused" are not included

VISN	Number of Over-the-Counter Medications				From VA		
	0	1	2	3+	0	1	2+
1	117,162	83,144	45,362	60,645	155,532	11,979	20,528
	37.7%	26.8%	14.6%	19.5%	80.4%	6.2%	10.6%
2	73,888	48,550	30,246	41,691	103,976	4,814	11,209
	37.3%	24.5%	15.3%	21.0%	83.6%	3.9%	9.0%
3	113,955	70,898	44,936	69,088	157,336	9,721	16,633
	37.3%	23.2%	14.7%	22.6%	82.1%	5.1%	8.7%
4	152,425	99,601	55,763	84,413	201,948	10,048	27,237
	38.1%	24.9%	13.9%	21.1%	81.5%	4.1%	11.0%
5	62,827	41,212	24,092	32,119	81,926	5,202	9,973
	38.8%	25.4%	14.9%	19.8%	82.5%	5.2%	10.0%
6	125,956	83,133	52,801	75,260	174,846	14,410	21,066
	36.7%	24.2%	15.4%	21.9%	80.4%	6.6%	9.7%
7	136,393	102,441	70,017	78,047	215,446	10,943	23,353
	34.5%	25.9%	17.7%	19.8%	83.3%	4.2%	9.0%
8	222,666	145,195	98,098	117,621	306,157	19,851	33,442
	37.5%	24.4%	16.5%	19.8%	82.4%	5.3%	9.0%
9	124,451	74,063	42,685	56,009	145,068	11,173	16,270
	41.1%	24.5%	14.1%	18.5%	81.4%	6.3%	9.1%
10	97,042	66,068	32,955	45,015	118,918	11,187	13,585
	39.4%	26.8%	13.4%	18.3%	79.7%	7.5%	9.1%
11	110,253	76,021	43,370	55,584	148,192	9,467	16,529
	37.9%	26.2%	14.9%	19.1%	82.2%	5.2%	9.2%
12	112,934	79,619	39,571	53,411	146,480	6,956	18,202
	39.0%	27.5%	13.7%	18.5%	83.0%	3.9%	10.3%
15	110,189	64,181	40,824	51,939	132,093	7,341	16,759
	40.3%	23.5%	14.9%	19.0%	80.9%	4.5%	10.3%
16	198,515	134,889	90,172	119,684	293,117	21,009	29,067
	35.9%	24.4%	16.3%	21.6%	82.6%	5.9%	8.2%
17	106,626	68,501	45,577	65,128	148,888	10,740	18,998
	36.5%	23.5%	15.6%	22.3%	80.4%	5.8%	10.3%
18	107,718	72,662	39,220	55,830	143,991	7,491	15,531
	38.1%	25.7%	13.9%	19.8%	82.4%	4.3%	8.9%
19	68,449	50,467	28,363	41,594	101,019	6,362	12,689
	35.7%	26.3%	14.8%	21.7%	81.8%	5.2%	10.3%
20	116,793	64,222	47,498	55,869	142,513	10,152	14,803
	40.4%	22.2%	16.4%	19.3%	82.8%	5.9%	8.6%
21	122,977	72,979	36,754	53,501	139,254	11,811	11,465
	42.2%	25.0%	12.6%	18.4%	82.6%	7.0%	6.8%
22	147,306	84,474	46,543	75,434	174,994	12,510	17,948
	40.9%	23.5%	12.9%	21.0%	82.3%	5.9%	8.4%
23	122,023	81,558	58,457	65,134	171,904	12,920	19,605
	36.7%	24.5%	17.6%	19.6%	81.8%	6.1%	9.3%
National	2,550,550	1,663,879	1,013,304	1,353,017	3,403,597	226,086	384,893
	38.0%	24.8%	15.1%	20.2%	81.9%	5.4%	9.3%

### Number of Prescriptions in the Last 30 Days

Respondents were asked about the number of prescriptions in the last 30 days. This question was meant to refer to all physician-prescribed medications. Responses ranged from 0 (12.5%) to 97 (0.03%), with a mean of 4.7. See Table 3.11 for a distribution of all enrollee responses.

A fairly wide variation was noted in the number of prescriptions in the last 30 days.

- ◆ Nine percent of enrollees in VISNs 4 and 9 reported no prescriptions in the last 30 days, while 15.9 percent of enrollees in VISN 21 reported no prescriptions in the same time frame.
- ◆ A large percentage of veterans reported taking five or more prescriptions ranging from 38.4 percent in VISN 22 to 49.8 percent in VISN 9.

See Table 3.11 for full details.

Enrollees were then asked the number of prescriptions in the last 30 days which were obtained from VA. The responses ranged from zero (25.1%) to 97 (0.03%) with a mean of 3.92. Thus the average enrollee used 4.7 prescriptions within the last month, of which 3.9 were provided by VA.

Table 3.10

Number of Prescriptions in the Last 30 Days from VA		
Number of Medications (Mean = 3.9)	Number	Percent
0	1437,896	25.1%
1	445,587	7.8%
2	545,816	9.5%
3	627,185	10.9%
4	600,993	10.5%
5+	2,056,110	34.2%
Don't Know	123,652	1.8%
Refused	9,038	0.1%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 3.9

Number Prescriptions in the Last 30 Days		
Number of Medications (Mean = 4.7)	Number	Percent
0	839,448	12.5%
1	568,348	8.5%
2	704,729	10.5%
3	805,972	12.0%
4	791,509	11.8%
5+	2,861,364	42.7%
Don't Know	123,652	1.8%
Refused	9,038	0.1%

Analyzing the results by network shows moderate variability.

- ◆ Of those enrollees taking prescription medication, those taking no medications prescribed by VA ranged from 8.8 percent in VISN 4 to 15.9 percent in VISN 21.
- ◆ Conversely, of all enrollees taking prescribed medications, those taking five or more prescriptions prescribed by VA ranged from 38.4 percent in VISN 22 to 49.8 percent in VISN 9.

Table 3.11

## 2005 Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage 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	45,653	56,248	70,211	133,082	61,426	43,931	58,407	95,268
	14.7%	18.1%	22.6%	42.8%	23.2%	16.6%	22.0%	36.0%
2	27,884	40,220	49,783	77,994	52,488	28,269	34,247	52,040
	14.1%	20.3%	25.1%	39.3%	30.8%	16.6%	20.1%	30.5%
3	45,755	66,588	65,498	121,001	100,090	37,017	45,126	69,959
	15.0%	21.8%	21.4%	39.6%	38.5%	14.2%	17.4%	26.9%
4	35,410	76,297	102,656	178,671	83,247	67,998	79,987	124,219
	8.8%	19.1%	25.7%	44.6%	22.8%	18.6%	21.9%	34.1%
5	23,032	32,131	37,820	65,761	41,909	23,947	28,092	41,317
	14.2%	19.8%	23.3%	40.6%	30.1%	17.2%	20.2%	29.7%
6	41,123	65,808	79,565	151,947	68,571	52,485	62,815	112,298
	12.0%	19.2%	23.2%	44.2%	22.7%	17.4%	20.8%	37.1%
7	54,010	67,166	96,388	164,454	108,770	41,303	65,533	111,388
	13.7%	17.0%	24.4%	41.6%	31.9%	12.1%	19.2%	32.7%
8	60,260	96,796	155,173	267,811	93,745	100,991	129,551	194,199
	10.1%	16.3%	26.1%	45.1%	17.6%	18.9%	24.3%	36.4%
9	27,842	45,095	72,920	150,788	57,387	38,810	55,185	116,684
	9.2%	14.9%	24.1%	49.8%	20.9%	14.1%	20.1%	42.5%
10	35,658	54,271	52,658	99,611	51,888	43,360	39,555	70,556
	14.5%	22.0%	21.4%	40.5%	24.6%	20.6%	18.8%	33.5%
11	32,144	56,058	63,377	133,593	60,860	38,440	50,571	102,726
	11.1%	19.3%	21.8%	46.0%	23.5%	14.9%	19.6%	39.7%
12	35,959	63,021	65,284	120,650	64,828	40,967	54,267	88,369
	12.4%	21.8%	22.6%	41.7%	25.6%	16.2%	21.4%	34.9%
15	35,730	46,086	60,724	123,670	46,138	38,658	48,988	96,002
	13.1%	16.9%	22.2%	45.2%	19.4%	16.3%	20.6%	40.4%
16	64,270	97,704	129,239	248,673	107,504	74,282	94,600	196,659
	11.6%	17.7%	23.3%	44.9%	22.0%	15.2%	19.3%	40.2%
17	40,025	52,797	74,721	119,684	56,352	44,790	58,390	87,412
	13.7%	18.1%	25.6%	41.0%	22.4%	17.8%	23.2%	34.7%
18	36,921	56,856	66,294	117,563	53,092	47,726	53,963	85,128
	13.1%	20.1%	23.5%	41.6%	21.6%	19.4%	22.0%	34.7%
19	23,361	41,266	44,082	79,383	41,609	31,796	33,769	57,540
	12.2%	21.5%	23.0%	41.4%	24.7%	18.9%	20.0%	34.1%
20	44,696	60,329	62,903	115,236	65,938	42,269	44,859	84,675
	15.5%	20.9%	21.8%	39.9%	27.0%	17.3%	18.4%	34.7%
21	46,426	54,812	65,902	118,943	63,480	42,525	55,945	77,098
	15.9%	18.8%	22.6%	40.8%	25.9%	17.4%	22.8%	31.5%
22	51,309	69,747	95,767	138,188	92,916	52,355	64,987	92,800
	14.3%	19.4%	26.6%	38.4%	30.1%	17.0%	21.0%	30.1%
23	31,980	73,868	86,516	134,662	65,656	59,484	69,342	99,772
	9.6%	22.2%	26.0%	40.5%	21.9%	19.8%	23.1%	33.2%
National	839,448	1,273,166	1,597,481	2,861,364	1,437,896	991,403	1,228,179	2,056,110
	12.5%	19.0%	23.8%	42.7%	24.5%	16.9%	20.9%	35.1%

Responses of "Don't Know" or "Refused" are not included

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

### 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 medication each month. Results ranged from \$0 (22.6%) to \$9,999 (0.04%), with an average of \$66.71. Interestingly, about 10.7 percent were unable to estimate the monthly expenses. See Map 3.2 for a geographic depiction of the monthly mean out-of-pocket expenses by network.

Table 3.12

Monthly Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Medications		
	Number	Percent
\$0	1,513,368	22.6%
\$1-20	1,364,629	20.4%
\$21-49	1,250,875	18.7%
\$49-199	1,489,292	22.2%
\$200+	349,139	5.2%
Don't Know	717,232	10.7%
Refused	19,614	0.3%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

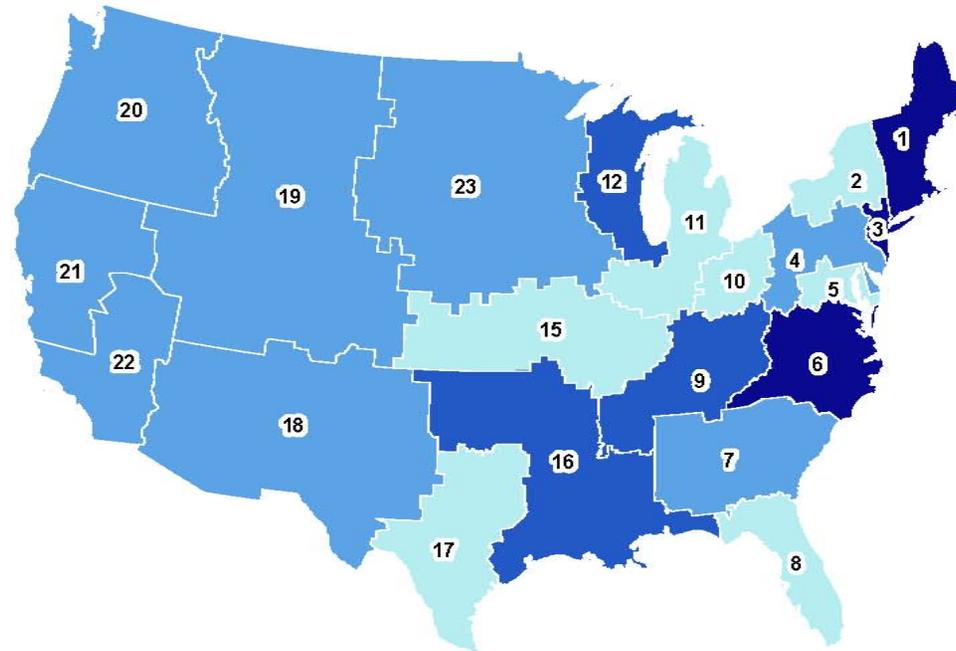
Some interesting variation was displayed when reviewing monthly out-of-pocket medication costs.

- ◆ Twenty-eight percent of enrollees in VISN 20 reported no monthly expenses, while only 17 percent in VISN 4 reported no monthly costs.
- ◆ Alternatively, on average four percent of enrollees in VISNs 1, 2, 17, 18, 21 and 22 reported spending over \$200 monthly in medication out-of-pocket costs, while 7.1 percent of enrollees in VISN 16 reported spending over \$200 monthly.
- ◆ The average amount spent on monthly medication out-of-pocket costs also varied among networks, from \$47 in VISN 17 to almost double that amount (\$93) in VISN 1.



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### Mean Monthly Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Medication



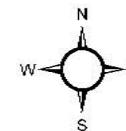
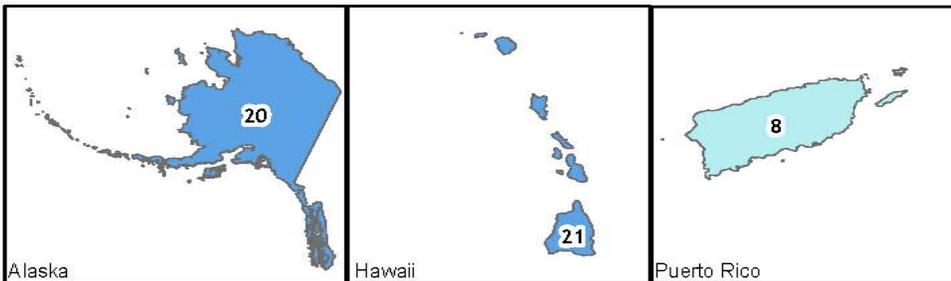
#### Legend

#### Map 3.2

- \$47.43 - \$58.82
- \$58.83 - \$70.21
- \$70.22 - \$81.59
- \$81.60 - \$92.99

VISN	Mean
1	\$92.99
2	\$53.77
3	\$82.23
4	\$60.87
5	\$56.38
6	\$87.18
7	\$60.19
8	\$57.30
9	\$78.41
10	\$57.18
11	\$56.69
12	\$79.13
15	\$55.97
16	\$77.13
17	\$47.44
18	\$66.71
19	\$63.21
20	\$61.75
21	\$66.82
22	\$62.60
23	\$64.76

Source:  
2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA



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

Table 3.13

Responses of “Don’t Know” or “Refused” are not included

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	2005 Prescription Drug Benefit or Coverage Reported by Enrollees Surveyed					Mean
	Out-of-pocket expense for medications					
	\$0	\$1-\$20	\$21-\$49	\$49-\$199	\$200+	
1	72,683	63,829	59,650	68,601	12,681	\$93
	23.4%	20.5%	19.2%	22.1%	4.1%	
2	43,318	44,420	39,423	43,725	7,254	\$54
	21.8%	22.4%	19.9%	22.1%	3.7%	
3	59,722	47,985	58,033	72,636	20,984	\$82
	19.5%	15.7%	19.0%	23.8%	6.9%	
4	68,306	78,218	83,844	102,791	21,287	\$61
	17.1%	19.5%	21.0%	25.7%	5.3%	
5	42,925	32,951	28,758	32,501	7,733	\$56
	26.5%	20.3%	17.7%	20.0%	4.8%	
6	71,799	68,460	68,734	77,752	19,397	\$87
	20.9%	19.9%	20.0%	22.6%	5.6%	
7	89,775	88,755	55,786	91,622	25,423	\$60
	22.7%	22.5%	14.1%	23.2%	6.4%	
8	120,169	113,951	118,583	135,269	29,181	\$57
	20.2%	19.2%	20.0%	22.8%	4.9%	
9	70,258	50,632	52,186	72,029	18,426	\$78
	23.2%	16.7%	17.2%	23.8%	6.1%	
10	56,420	54,940	38,743	53,385	13,875	\$57
	22.9%	22.3%	15.7%	21.7%	5.6%	
11	64,184	63,439	55,004	64,701	13,504	\$57
	22.1%	21.8%	18.9%	22.3%	4.6%	
12	53,793	58,910	67,621	63,232	15,984	\$79
	18.6%	20.4%	23.4%	21.9%	5.5%	
15	61,414	52,249	51,142	61,536	13,987	\$56
	22.5%	19.1%	18.7%	22.5%	5.1%	
16	130,853	96,110	105,331	128,151	39,090	\$77
	23.6%	17.4%	19.0%	23.2%	7.1%	
17	79,622	66,488	46,181	58,986	10,737	\$47
	27.3%	22.8%	15.8%	20.2%	3.7%	
18	71,544	62,760	55,511	61,746	12,001	\$67
	25.3%	22.2%	19.7%	21.9%	4.2%	
19	42,751	42,582	35,421	41,500	10,289	\$63
	22.3%	22.2%	18.5%	21.6%	5.4%	
20	79,858	59,614	49,431	54,971	14,216	\$62
	27.6%	20.6%	17.1%	19.0%	4.9%	
21	74,177	69,031	56,023	55,446	12,227	\$67
	25.4%	23.7%	19.2%	19.0%	4.2%	
22	92,396	79,037	62,566	74,023	14,597	\$63
	25.7%	22.0%	17.4%	20.6%	4.1%	
23	67,402	70,267	62,906	74,687	16,265	\$65
	20.3%	21.1%	18.9%	22.5%	4.9%	
National	1,513,368	1,364,629	1,250,875	1,489,292	349,139	\$67
	22.6%	20.4%	18.7%	22.2%	5.2%	

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## Chapter 4

### PLANNED FUTURE USE OF VA HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR THE VETERAN ENROLLEE POPULATION

Respondents were asked in both the 2003 and 2005 surveys to describe the primary reason they planned to use VA health care services in the future. Across all VISNs, in both years the majority of enrollees planned to use VA as their primary source of health care. In 2005, the second most common reason for planning to use VA services in the future was for prescriptions only, which was the third most common reason in 2003. In 2003, the second most common plan to use VA health care services in the future was for backup to non-VA care, which was the third most common reason in 2005. In the 2003 survey, 21.1 percent of respondents reported plans to use VA as a backup to non-VA care. After some analysis, it was determined that approximately half of this group was using VA for some specific services, while the other half of this group was keeping VA as a safety net but was not currently using VA services. The backup response was divided into two categories for 2005 and the results indeed showed that about roughly equal numbers of enrollees selected “backup to non-VA care” and “safety net” as their reason for planned future use in the 2005 survey.) All other response categories were selected by relatively few enrollees. It is noted that about 9 percent each year reported no plans to use VA services in the future.

Table 4.1

Primary Reasons for Planned Future Use	2003		2005	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Primary Source of Care	3,301,673	49.0%	3,148,146	47.0%
Backup Care	1,422,489	21.1%	654,786	9.8%
Safety Net			549,704	8.2%
Prescriptions Only	1,075,959	16.0%	1,160,628	17.3%
Specialized Care			183,912	2.7%
Other	86,120	1.3%	218,332	3.3%
No Plans to Use VA	622,759	9.2%	610,136	9.1%
DK/Ref	233,676	3.4%	178,506	2.7%

Source: 2003, 2005 VHA Surveys of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

#### Primary Reasons for Planned Future Use by VISN

There was a fair amount of variability nationally in the percent of enrollees within networks planning to use VA in various ways in the future.

- ◆ For example, only 30.8 percent of enrollees in VISN 3 plan to use VA as a source of primary care in the future, while 58.5 percent of enrollees in VISN 9 plan to do so.
- ◆ Conversely, 13.4 percent of enrollees in VISN 3 plan to use VA as a backup, while only 6.8 percent in VISN 9 have similar plans.
- ◆ Almost 12 percent of enrollees in VISN 3 plan to use VA as a safety net in the future, while fewer than 7 percent in VISN 16 plan to use VA services in that fashion.

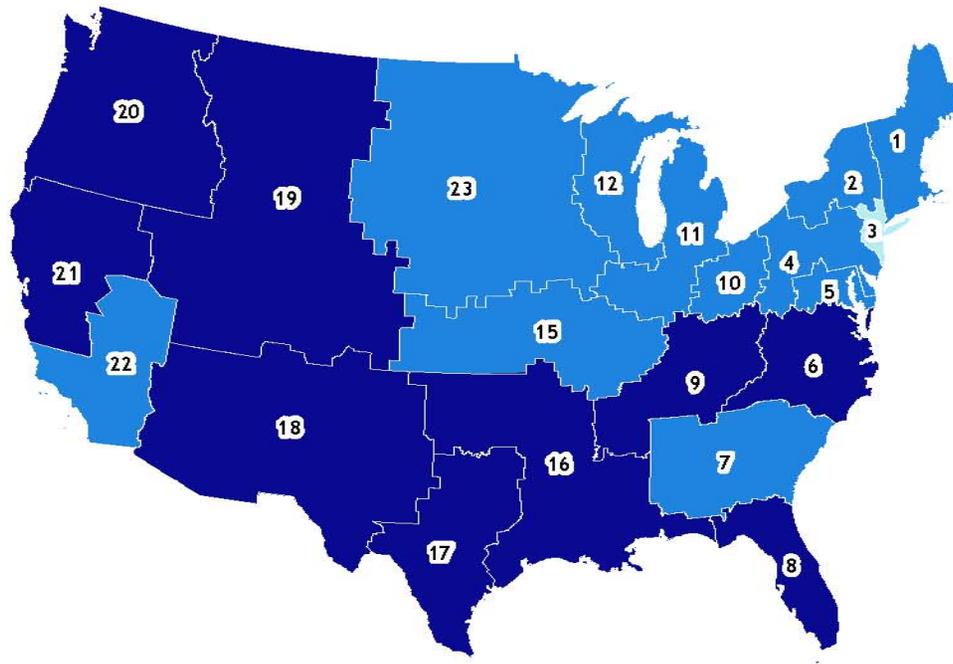
Variability was also noted in the percent planning to use VA for prescriptions only in the future.

- ◆ Almost 26 percent of enrollees in VISN 23 plan to use VA for prescriptions only, while 10.2 percent of enrollees in VISN 22 plan to use VA for prescriptions only.
- ◆ Finally, while approximately 15 percent of enrollees in VISN 3 reported no plans to use VA in the future, only 5.5 percent of enrollees in VISN 9 reported no further plans to use VA. See Table 4.2.



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### Planned Future Use of VA as a Primary Source of Care



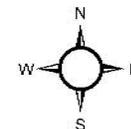
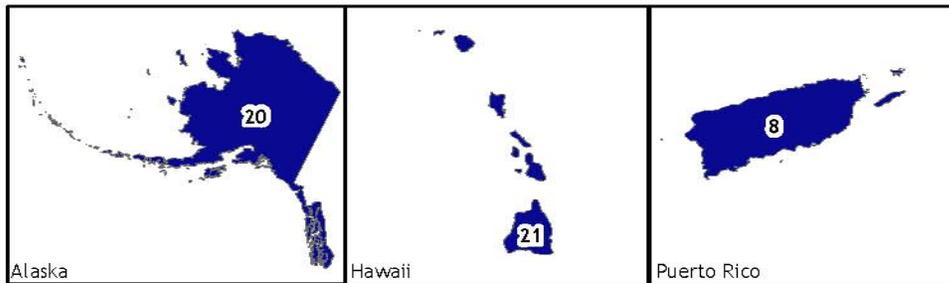
### Legend

#### Map 4.1

- 30.0% - 40.0%
- 40.1% - 49.9%
- 50.0% - 60.0%

VISN	Primary	VISN Enrollee Population	%
1	132,401	310,626	42.6%
2	81,517	198,283	41.1%
3	94,084	305,526	30.8%
4	163,290	400,167	40.8%
5	72,758	162,110	44.9%
6	178,024	343,415	51.8%
7	186,104	395,142	47.1%
8	296,828	594,071	50.0%
9	177,070	302,672	58.5%
10	102,365	246,229	41.6%
11	130,253	290,604	44.8%
12	121,052	289,366	41.8%
15	120,799	273,495	44.2%
16	298,491	553,502	53.9%
17	144,182	291,793	49.4%
18	153,458	282,455	54.3%
19	100,793	191,965	52.5%
20	143,962	288,939	49.8%
21	144,494	291,493	49.6%
22	168,519	360,050	46.8%
23	137,701	332,244	41.4%
<b>National</b>	<b>3,148,146</b>	<b>6,704,149</b>	<b>47.0%</b>

Source: 2005 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance Upon VA



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

Table 4.2

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

2005 Primary 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	132,401	26,235	26,212	71,821	7,774	9,888	26,637	9,658
	42.6%	8.4%	8.4%	23.1%	2.5%	3.2%	8.6%	3.1%
2	81,517	19,054	19,031	35,053	4,705	7,702	23,803	7,419
	41.1%	9.6%	9.6%	17.7%	2.4%	3.9%	12.0%	3.7%
3	94,084	41,059	36,379	61,707	6,463	10,649	44,916	10,270
	30.8%	13.4%	11.9%	20.2%	2.1%	3.5%	14.7%	3.4%
4	163,290	42,349	27,058	100,172	6,384	13,222	38,251	9,442
	40.8%	10.6%	6.8%	25.0%	1.6%	3.3%	9.6%	2.4%
5	72,758	16,411	15,997	23,180	6,866	5,157	16,900	4,840
	44.9%	10.1%	9.9%	14.3%	4.2%	3.2%	10.4%	3.0%
6	178,024	31,987	28,113	46,470	10,477	9,554	29,313	9,477
	51.8%	9.3%	8.2%	13.5%	3.1%	2.8%	8.5%	2.8%
7	186,104	42,843	31,606	50,006	12,924	14,077	44,993	12,589
	47.1%	10.8%	8.0%	12.7%	3.3%	3.6%	11.4%	3.2%
8	296,828	61,028	40,084	106,845	18,457	18,441	39,374	13,015
	50.0%	10.3%	6.7%	18.0%	3.1%	3.1%	6.6%	2.2%
9	177,070	20,704	22,836	39,492	8,159	11,388	16,752	6,271
	58.5%	6.8%	7.5%	13.0%	2.7%	3.8%	5.5%	2.1%
10	102,365	30,587	21,877	45,673	7,761	6,402	24,080	7,486
	41.6%	12.4%	8.9%	18.5%	3.2%	2.6%	9.8%	3.0%
11	130,253	27,235	24,648	66,711	6,520	7,686	22,210	5,340
	44.8%	9.4%	8.5%	23.0%	2.2%	2.6%	7.6%	1.8%
12	121,052	29,071	25,126	61,478	6,193	9,700	26,932	9,815
	41.8%	10.0%	8.7%	21.2%	2.1%	3.4%	9.3%	3.4%
15	120,799	22,591	21,492	62,355	5,067	9,559	23,583	8,049
	44.2%	8.3%	7.9%	22.8%	1.9%	3.5%	8.6%	2.9%
16	298,491	40,363	36,699	86,054	15,579	22,309	36,535	17,471
	53.9%	7.3%	6.6%	15.5%	2.8%	4.0%	6.6%	3.2%
17	144,182	31,132	22,811	43,392	7,890	9,801	27,318	5,267
	49.4%	10.7%	7.8%	14.9%	2.7%	3.4%	9.4%	1.8%
18	153,458	24,309	21,339	37,577	8,112	9,114	21,453	7,093
	54.3%	8.6%	7.6%	13.3%	2.9%	3.2%	7.6%	2.5%
19	100,793	16,162	14,969	26,684	4,406	5,620	19,156	4,176
	52.5%	8.4%	7.8%	13.9%	2.3%	2.9%	10.0%	2.2%
20	143,962	30,477	24,106	32,745	9,169	10,071	31,007	7,402
	49.8%	10.5%	8.3%	11.3%	3.2%	3.5%	10.7%	2.6%
21	144,494	31,779	27,622	40,892	7,975	5,793	26,797	6,142
	49.6%	10.9%	9.5%	14.0%	2.7%	2.0%	9.2%	2.1%
22	168,519	42,457	39,468	36,700	14,153	12,994	34,892	10,867
	46.8%	11.8%	11.0%	10.2%	3.9%	3.6%	9.7%	3.0%
23	137,701	26,953	22,231	85,622	8,880	9,205	35,233	6,419
	41.4%	8.1%	6.7%	25.8%	2.7%	2.8%	10.6%	1.9%
National	3,148,146	654,786	549,704	1,160,628	183,912	218,332	610,136	178,506
	47.0%	9.8%	8.2%	17.3%	2.7%	3.3%	9.1%	2.7%

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## Chapter 5

### HEALTH STATUS MEASURES OF THE VETERAN ENROLLEE POPULATION

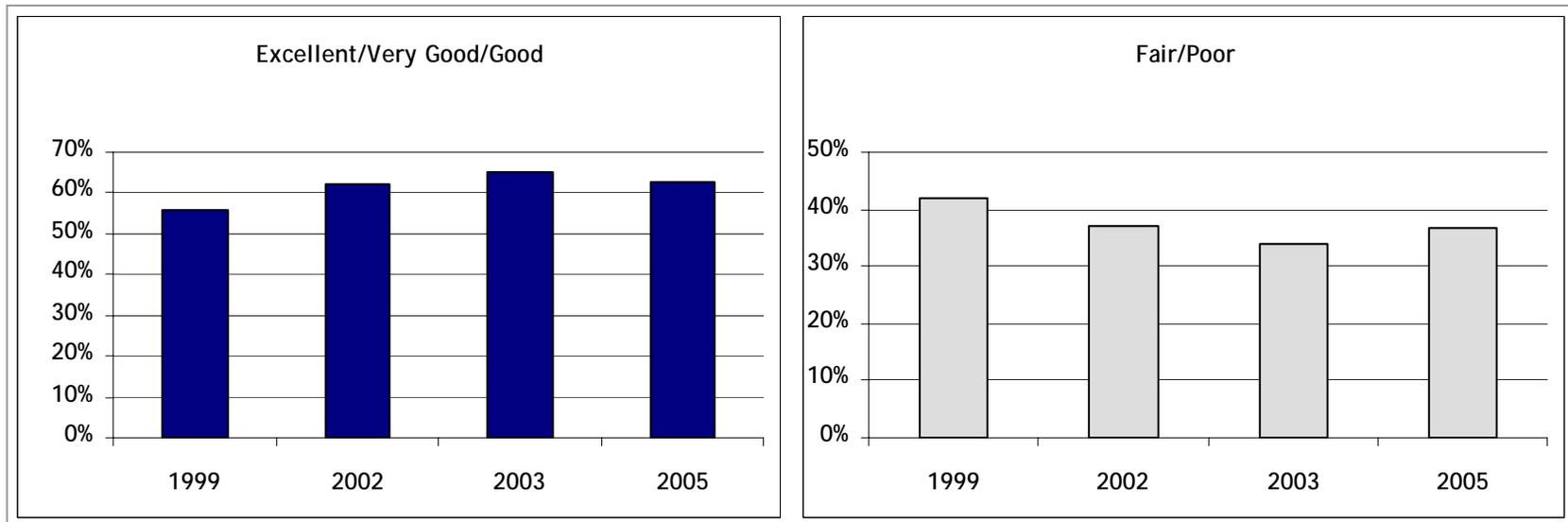
The Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA contains questions to solicit information from non-institutionalized enrollees regarding their perceived health status and functional limitations. This is accomplished by asking enrollees a series of questions related to how enrollees compare their health status to other people their age and their level of difficulty with Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs).

Health status measures collected during the surveys are one of the many factors used in VA's Long Term Care Model, which projects demand for nursing home care and home health care. These variables are standard measures in health-related surveys and are used to predict potential health care need. This information, combined with other factors may be helpful in a variety of strategic analysis areas.

#### Perceived Health Status

Enrollees were asked to rate their current health status compared to other people their own age. The percent of enrollees reporting their health status as "excellent, very good, or good" decreased slightly in 2005 changing the upward trend that was observed since 1999. In 2005, 62.8 percent of veteran enrollees reported "excellent, very good, or good" health status compared to 65 percent in 2003. The percent of enrollees reporting their health status as fair or poor increased to 36.5 percent in 2005 from 34 percent in 2003.

Figure 5.1



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

Table 5.1

Weighted to Represent the Population of Veteran Enrollees	1999		2002		2003		2005	
	3.6 Million Veteran Enrollees		6.2 Million Veteran Enrollees		6.7 Million Veteran Enrollees		6.7 Million Veteran Enrollees	
Excellent	361,019	10%	738,525	12%	869,815	13%	795,209	11.9%
Very Good	666,537	18%	1,305,105	21%	1,568,206	23%	1,484,727	22.1%
Good	1,025,541	28%	1,794,998	29%	1,939,220	29%	1,932,325	28.8%
Fair	925,490	25%	1,341,332	22%	1,420,035	21%	1,464,448	21.8%
Poor	608,656	17%	910,657	15%	897,872	13%	988,666	14.7%
Don't know/Refused	55,293	2%	85,075	1%	47,529	1%	38,774	0.6%

### Perceived Health Status by Priority Group

- ◆ The 2005 survey results of perceived health status by priority group reflects a slight decrease in percentage of enrollees reporting excellent, very good, or good health compared to the 2003 survey results.
- ◆ A slight increase in the percent of veteran enrollees reporting fair or poor health status is seen in all priority groups as demonstrated in the table below.

Table 5.2

Year	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor			Don't Know/Refused		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1999	633,516	937,784	481,798	570,478	806,185	157,483	17,793	28,208	9,292
	51.9%	52.9%	74.3%	46.7%	45.5%	24.3%	1.5%	1.6%	1.4%
2002	1,006,507	1,481,555	1,350,567	776,122	1,075,538	400,329	24,676	44,083	16,316
	55.7%	57.0%	76.4%	42.9%	41.3%	22.7%	1.4%	1.7%	0.9%
2003	1,133,836	1,591,017	1,652,388	795,924	1,048,735	473,248	14,753	19,575	13,201
	58.3%	59.8%	77.3%	40.9%	39.4%	22.1%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%
2005	1,202,326	1,484,153	1,525,782	923,302	1,055,653	474,159	17,184	12,037	9,553
	56.1%	58.2%	75.9%	43.1%	41.4%	23.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.5%

Denominator is the national enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

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

### Perceived Health Status by Age Group

- ◆ Enrollees in all Age Groups showed a slight decline in health status between 2003 and 2005, with a decrease in percentages reporting good to excellent health and an increase in percentages reporting fair to poor health in 2005. The percent of enrollees rating their health status as good to excellent ranged from 57.8 percent in the 45 - 64 Age Group to 66.4 percent in the less than 45 Age Group.
- ◆ However, in 1999, 2002, 2003, and again in 2005, enrollees age 45 - 64 rated their health lower than either the younger Age Group of less than 45 years old or the 65 or older Age Group. More enrollees age 45 - 64 rated their health as fair or poor relative to the other two Age Groups. This may be attributed to

the large proportion of Medicare and Medicaid disabled younger enrollees. It should also be noted that many of the enrollees in the 45 - 64 Age Group are Vietnam era veterans.

Table 5.3

Year	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor			Don't Know/Refused		
	< 45	45 - 64	65+	< 45	45 - 64	65+	< 45	45 - 64	65+
1999	387,496	747,536	918,066	170,468	668,648	695,030	5,691	19,057	30,545
	68.7%	52.1%	55.9%	30.2%	46.6%	42.3%	1.0%	1.3%	1.9%
2002	568,819	1,325,805	1,944,005	230,660	980,843	1,040,487	6,390	27,002	51,683
	70.6%	56.8%	64.0%	28.6%	42.0%	34.3%	0.8%	1.2%	1.7%
2003	646,182	1,573,523	2,157,535	276,234	1,035,397	1,006,277	3,461	17,417	26,650
	69.8%	59.9%	67.6%	29.8%	39.4%	31.5%	0.4%	0.7%	0.8%
2005	<b>621,310</b>	<b>1,588,274</b>	<b>2,002,677</b>	<b>312,689</b>	<b>1,146,859</b>	<b>993,567</b>	<b>1,694</b>	<b>13,607</b>	<b>23,473</b>
	<b>66.4%</b>	<b>57.8%</b>	<b>66.3%</b>	<b>33.4%</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>32.9%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>

Denominator is the national enrollee population by age (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

#### Perceived Health Status by Income Group

- ◆ Perceived health status by both high and low income groups reveal a decrease in the percent of enrollees reporting excellent, very good or good health and an increase in the percent of enrollees reporting fair or poor health in 2005.

Table 5.4

Year	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor			Don't Know/Refused		
	Low	High	DK/Ref	Low	High	DK/Ref	Low	High	DK/Ref
1999	1,426,200	463,751	163,146	1,255,455	141,624	137,068	24,365	4,334	26,594
	52.7%	76.1%	49.9%	46.4%	23.2%	41.9%	0.9%	0.7%	8.1%
2002	2,193,041	994,251	651,337	1,616,688	265,297	370,004	46,275	6,141	32,659
	56.9%	78.6%	61.8%	41.9%	21.0%	35.1%	9.6%	3.7%	0.6%
2003	2,595,494	1,250,508	531,238	1,719,738	332,614	265,555	22,672	3,619	21,238
	59.8%	78.8%	64.9%	39.6%	21.0%	32.5%	0.5%	0.2%	2.6%
2005	<b>2,353,304</b>	<b>1,314,231</b>	<b>544,726</b>	<b>1,653,728</b>	<b>476,384</b>	<b>323,003</b>	<b>16,833</b>	<b>4,090</b>	<b>17,851</b>
	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>73.2%</b>	<b>61.5%</b>	<b>41.1%</b>	<b>26.5%</b>	<b>36.5%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

Denominator is the national enrollee population by income (see Table 1.1 on page 11)

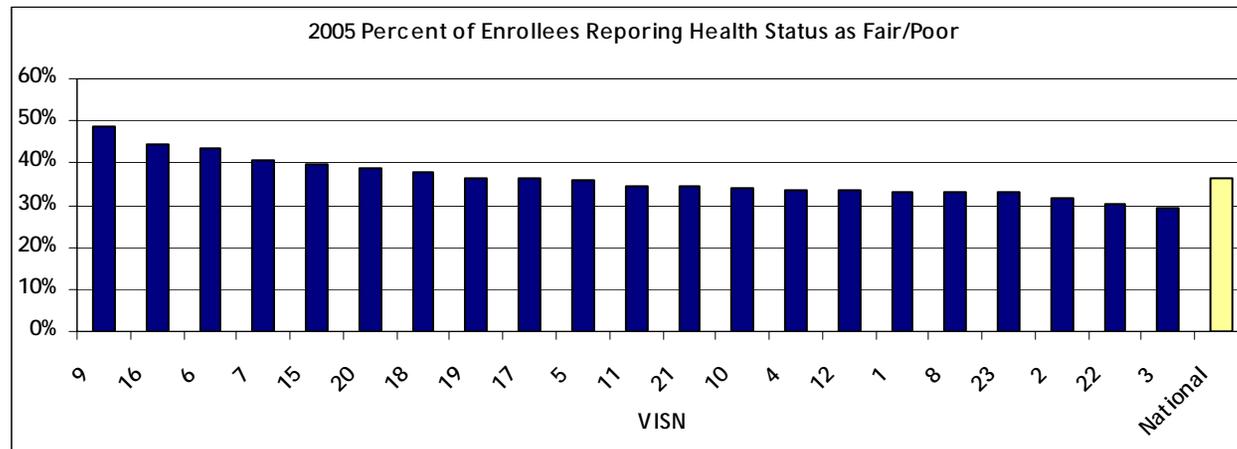
Source: 1999, 2002, 2003, & 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

## Perceived Health Status

### VISN Overview

- ◆ From 2003 to 2005, the percent of veteran enrollees reporting their perceived health status as fair or poor decreased in four VISNs. Increases in percent of enrollees reporting fair or poor health status was noted in all other VISNs.
- ◆ VISN 8 had the greatest decrease in the percent of veteran enrollees reporting their perceived health status as fair or poor from 34.6 percent in 2003 to 33.1 percent in 2005.
- ◆ VISN 9 had the greatest increase in the percent of veteran enrollees reporting their perceived health status as fair or poor from 42.7 percent in 2003 to 31.6 percent in 2005.
- ◆ In 2005, data revealed VISN 9 at 48.7 percent ranked first regarding the highest percent of veteran enrollees reporting perceived health status as fair or poor followed by VISN 16 at 44.4 percent.
- ◆ VISN 3 had the lowest percent of veteran enrollees reporting perceived health status as fair or poor at 29.5 percent.

Figure 5.2

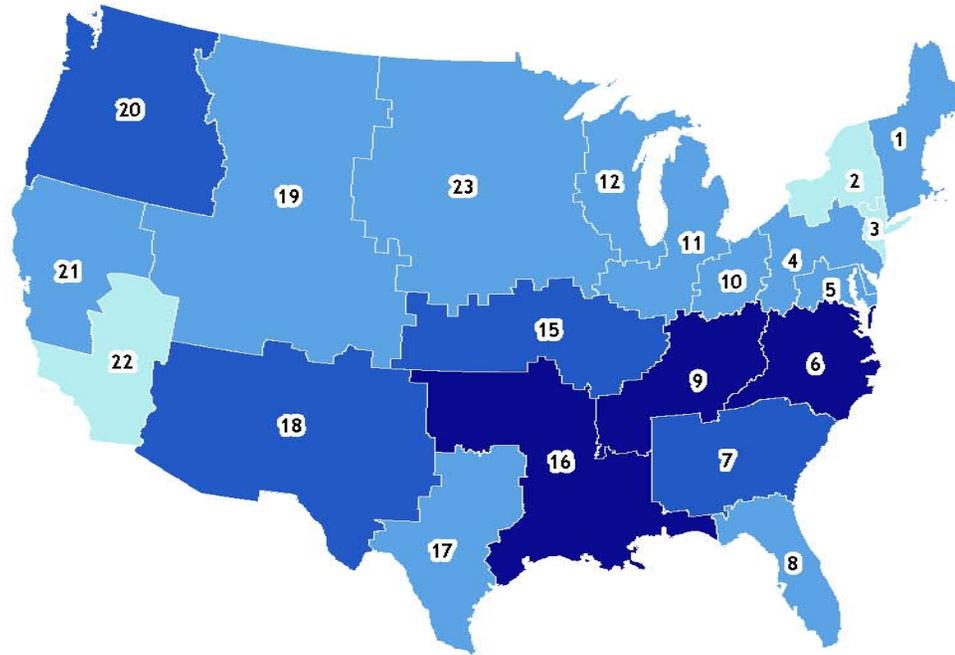


Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### Percent of Enrollees Reporting Health Status as Fair/Poor



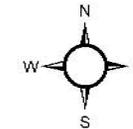
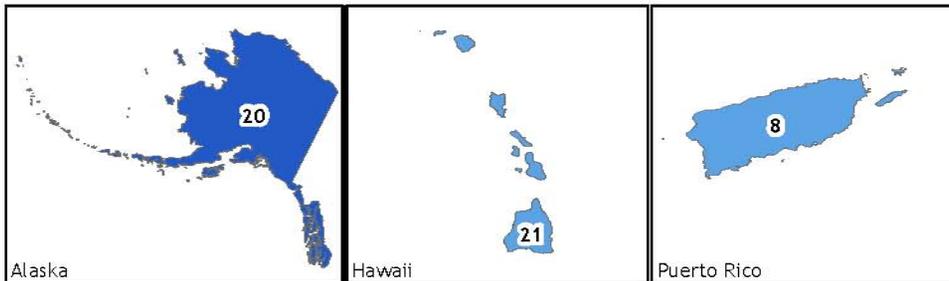
### Legend

#### Map 5.1

- 29.4% - 31.6%
- 31.7% - 36.2%
- 36.3% - 40.7%
- 40.8% - 48.7%

VISN	Fair/Poor	VISN Enrollee Population	%
1	103,308	310,626	33.3%
2	62,695	198,283	31.6%
3	90,118	305,527	29.5%
4	134,830	400,167	33.7%
5	57,966	162,111	35.8%
6	150,008	343,415	43.7%
7	160,816	395,142	40.7%
8	196,703	594,070	33.1%
9	147,387	302,672	48.7%
10	83,975	246,229	34.1%
11	100,511	290,604	34.6%
12	97,009	289,367	33.5%
15	107,940	273,495	39.5%
16	246,026	553,503	44.4%
17	105,496	291,794	36.2%
18	106,861	282,456	37.8%
19	69,681	191,964	36.3%
20	111,741	288,940	38.7%
21	100,751	291,492	34.6%
22	109,403	360,050	30.4%
23	109,893	332,244	33.1%
<b>National</b>	<b>2,453,115</b>	<b>6,704,150</b>	<b>36.6%</b>

Source: 2005 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance Upon VA



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

Table 5.5

## 2005 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By Priority

VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor			DK/Ref		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	58,910	65,291	82,118	40,199	39,641	23,467	584	0	416
	59.1%	62.2%	77.5%	40.3%	37.8%	22.1%	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%
2	33,351	43,358	58,369	16,669	28,554	17,473	241	207	61
	66.4%	60.1%	76.9%	33.2%	39.6%	23.0%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%
3	36,927	62,102	112,980	28,113	31,908	30,097	1,199	910	1,291
	55.7%	65.4%	78.3%	42.4%	33.6%	20.8%	1.8%	1.0%	0.9%
4	56,784	89,852	116,588	41,847	58,340	34,642	666	552	896
	57.2%	60.4%	76.6%	42.1%	39.2%	22.8%	0.7%	0.4%	0.6%
5	36,016	34,679	32,401	22,130	24,999	10,837	659	228	161
	61.2%	57.9%	74.7%	37.6%	41.7%	25.0%	1.1%	0.4%	0.4%
6	66,707	63,137	61,034	66,000	58,835	25,173	1,474	142	913
	49.7%	51.7%	70.1%	49.2%	48.2%	28.9%	1.1%	0.1%	1.0%
7	81,029	75,499	75,714	63,843	72,167	24,807	926	721	436
	55.6%	50.9%	75.0%	43.8%	48.6%	24.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%
8	102,175	149,080	143,598	71,736	79,108	45,858	110	1,606	799
	58.7%	64.9%	75.5%	41.2%	34.4%	24.1%	0.1%	0.7%	0.4%
9	45,090	56,925	51,523	56,176	68,266	22,943	368	1,109	269
	44.4%	45.1%	68.9%	55.3%	54.1%	30.7%	0.4%	0.9%	0.4%
10	38,063	70,473	52,499	27,850	40,231	15,895	108	806	304
	57.7%	63.2%	76.4%	42.2%	36.1%	23.1%	0.2%	0.7%	0.4%
11	50,629	74,588	63,957	34,638	44,031	21,843	275	379	264
	59.2%	62.7%	74.3%	40.5%	37.0%	25.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
12	42,058	63,538	85,072	27,591	47,746	21,672	644	548	496
	59.8%	56.8%	79.3%	39.3%	42.7%	20.2%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%
15	44,174	57,526	62,528	35,670	52,046	20,224	848	123	356
	54.7%	52.4%	75.2%	44.2%	47.4%	24.3%	1.1%	0.1%	0.4%
16	92,572	121,091	89,686	92,914	113,990	39,122	2,560	487	1,080
	49.2%	51.4%	69.0%	49.4%	48.4%	30.1%	1.4%	0.2%	0.8%
17	65,202	69,420	50,032	53,310	39,017	13,169	1,126	346	171
	54.5%	63.8%	78.9%	44.6%	35.9%	20.8%	0.9%	0.3%	0.3%
18	56,376	59,621	58,802	44,989	45,952	15,919	507	107	183
	55.3%	56.4%	78.5%	44.2%	43.5%	21.3%	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%
19	41,025	37,509	42,628	29,116	29,247	11,318	599	256	267
	58.0%	56.0%	78.6%	41.2%	43.6%	20.9%	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%
20	69,590	54,228	51,036	54,920	42,489	14,332	1,435	524	386
	55.3%	55.8%	77.6%	43.6%	43.7%	21.8%	1.1%	0.5%	0.6%
21	55,833	67,577	64,612	40,331	46,370	14,050	934	1,734	51
	57.5%	58.4%	82.1%	41.5%	40.1%	17.8%	1.0%	1.5%	0.1%
22	67,924	109,510	71,481	38,618	47,362	23,422	951	592	190
	63.2%	69.5%	75.2%	35.9%	30.1%	24.6%	0.9%	0.4%	0.2%
23	61,891	59,148	99,124	36,643	45,353	27,897	967	660	562
	62.2%	56.2%	77.7%	36.8%	43.1%	21.9%	1.0%	0.6%	0.4%
National	1,202,326	1,484,153	1,525,782	923,302	1,055,653	474,159	17,184	12,037	9,553
	56.1%	58.2%	75.9%	43.1%	41.4%	23.6%	0.8%	0.5%	0.5%

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

Table 5.6

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

2005 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By Age									
VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor			DK/Ref		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	29,591	70,478	106,249	14,323	42,158	46,826	0	590	410
	67.4%	62.2%	69.2%	32.6%	37.2%	30.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.3%
2	20,638	51,415	63,025	6,548	27,927	28,220	0	72	438
	75.9%	64.7%	68.7%	24.1%	35.2%	30.8%	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%
3	27,356	57,121	127,532	6,367	33,235	50,516	359	825	2,216
	80.3%	62.6%	70.7%	18.7%	36.4%	28.0%	1.1%	0.9%	1.2%
4	23,979	93,878	145,367	11,884	58,821	64,124	0	890	1,224
	66.9%	61.1%	69.0%	33.1%	38.3%	30.4%	0.0%	0.6%	0.6%
5	19,223	39,077	44,795	8,916	26,114	22,936	0	618	430
	68.3%	59.4%	65.7%	31.7%	39.7%	33.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.6%
6	31,687	75,369	83,821	26,985	73,504	49,518	0	1,766	764
	54.0%	50.0%	62.5%	46.0%	48.8%	36.9%	0.0%	1.2%	0.6%
7	46,536	93,661	92,046	18,546	88,789	53,482	352	207	1,524
	71.1%	51.3%	62.6%	28.3%	48.6%	36.4%	0.5%	0.1%	1.0%
8	38,116	135,933	220,805	19,195	74,605	102,903	85	316	2,114
	66.4%	64.5%	67.8%	33.4%	35.4%	31.6%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%
9	21,192	64,212	68,135	16,176	79,890	51,320	0	680	1,067
	56.7%	44.4%	56.5%	43.3%	55.2%	42.6%	0.0%	0.5%	0.9%
10	24,587	63,099	73,349	11,242	43,922	28,811	0	126	1,093
	68.6%	58.9%	71.0%	31.4%	41.0%	27.9%	0.0%	0.1%	1.1%
11	37,368	68,711	83,095	10,035	49,424	41,054	0	301	616
	78.8%	58.0%	66.6%	21.2%	41.7%	32.9%	0.0%	0.3%	0.5%
12	26,618	66,026	98,025	11,276	44,618	41,115	0	387	1,301
	70.2%	59.5%	69.8%	29.8%	40.2%	29.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%
15	27,377	56,118	80,733	11,665	50,995	45,279	79	288	960
	70.0%	52.3%	63.6%	29.8%	47.5%	35.7%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%
16	44,059	133,842	125,449	41,123	105,152	99,751	0	1,798	2,329
	51.7%	55.6%	55.1%	48.3%	43.7%	43.8%	0.0%	0.7%	1.0%
17	35,983	70,389	78,281	14,428	52,263	38,805	0	194	1,450
	71.4%	57.3%	66.0%	28.6%	42.5%	32.7%	0.0%	0.2%	1.2%
18	21,460	71,778	81,561	15,000	51,698	40,163	0	169	627
	58.9%	58.1%	66.7%	41.1%	41.8%	32.8%	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%
19	17,730	48,090	55,341	13,292	31,359	25,030	382	261	479
	56.5%	60.3%	68.4%	42.3%	39.3%	31.0%	1.2%	0.3%	0.6%
20	32,369	74,251	68,234	17,446	56,025	38,270	330	1,119	896
	64.6%	56.5%	63.5%	34.8%	42.6%	35.6%	0.7%	0.9%	0.8%
21	26,273	75,350	86,399	15,708	50,605	34,438	108	1,448	1,163
	62.4%	59.1%	70.8%	37.3%	39.7%	28.2%	0.3%	1.1%	1.0%
22	45,752	101,096	102,067	11,559	54,739	43,104	0	408	1,324
	79.8%	64.7%	69.7%	20.2%	35.0%	29.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.9%
23	23,416	78,381	118,365	10,975	51,017	47,901	0	1,142	1,047
	68.1%	60.0%	70.7%	31.9%	39.1%	28.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.6%
National	621,310	1,588,274	2,002,677	312,689	1,146,859	993,567	1,694	13,607	23,473
	66.4%	57.8%	66.3%	33.4%	41.7%	32.9%	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%

2005 Perceived Health Status Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed By Income

Table 5.7

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Excellent/Very Good/Good			Fair/Poor			DK/Ref		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	111,228	66,647	28,444	67,134	21,687	14,487	591	40	370
	62.2%	75.4%	65.7%	37.5%	24.5%	33.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.9%
2	72,463	45,506	17,109	42,432	12,957	7,306	46	0	464
	63.0%	77.8%	68.8%	36.9%	22.2%	29.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%
3	103,966	76,752	31,290	57,747	18,654	13,717	1,756	149	1,494
	63.6%	80.3%	67.3%	35.3%	19.5%	29.5%	1.1%	0.2%	3.2%
4	160,239	67,708	35,278	93,645	19,396	21,789	1,123	28	963
	62.8%	77.7%	60.8%	36.7%	22.3%	37.5%	0.4%	0.0%	1.7%
5	49,452	38,347	15,297	36,851	13,122	7,993	411	280	358
	57.0%	74.1%	64.7%	42.5%	25.4%	33.8%	0.5%	0.5%	1.5%
6	108,467	60,945	21,466	100,591	32,896	16,521	1,527	146	857
	51.5%	64.8%	55.3%	47.8%	35.0%	42.5%	0.7%	0.2%	2.2%
7	124,093	79,378	28,772	109,361	28,864	22,591	1,575	44	464
	52.8%	73.3%	55.5%	46.5%	26.7%	43.6%	0.7%	0.0%	0.9%
8	222,044	114,296	58,514	127,425	42,118	27,160	514	542	1,458
	63.4%	72.8%	67.2%	36.4%	26.8%	31.2%	0.1%	0.3%	1.7%
9	86,177	47,638	19,724	104,928	23,522	18,937	814	0	933
	44.9%	66.9%	49.8%	54.7%	33.1%	47.8%	0.4%	0.0%	2.4%
10	100,937	43,696	16,402	59,049	12,609	12,317	106	0	1,114
	63.0%	77.6%	55.0%	36.9%	22.4%	41.3%	0.1%	0.0%	3.7%
11	111,436	56,919	20,820	69,589	17,876	13,046	352	86	480
	61.4%	76.0%	60.6%	38.4%	23.9%	38.0%	0.2%	0.1%	1.4%
12	105,321	58,989	26,359	68,405	18,182	10,422	640	128	920
	60.4%	76.3%	69.9%	39.2%	23.5%	27.6%	0.4%	0.2%	2.4%
15	93,707	47,704	22,817	73,179	19,174	15,587	607	172	549
	55.9%	71.1%	58.6%	43.7%	28.6%	40.0%	0.4%	0.3%	1.4%
16	186,937	80,369	36,044	173,471	42,144	30,411	1,981	331	1,815
	51.6%	65.4%	52.8%	47.9%	34.3%	44.5%	0.5%	0.3%	2.7%
17	102,119	54,760	27,775	67,927	23,422	14,147	373	288	983
	59.9%	69.8%	64.7%	39.9%	29.8%	33.0%	0.2%	0.4%	2.3%
18	99,454	55,129	20,216	76,519	19,707	10,635	316	145	336
	56.4%	73.5%	64.8%	43.4%	26.3%	34.1%	0.2%	0.2%	1.1%
19	66,978	40,078	14,105	47,690	13,416	8,575	77	118	927
	58.4%	74.8%	59.7%	41.6%	25.0%	36.3%	0.1%	0.2%	3.9%
20	95,471	56,426	22,957	71,006	25,549	15,186	1,280	361	704
	56.9%	68.5%	59.1%	42.3%	31.0%	39.1%	0.8%	0.4%	1.8%
21	100,858	65,331	21,833	62,999	26,349	11,403	1,434	382	903
	61.0%	71.0%	64.0%	38.1%	28.6%	33.4%	0.9%	0.4%	2.6%
22	129,431	89,717	29,767	68,913	23,239	17,251	283	207	1,243
	65.2%	79.3%	61.7%	34.7%	20.5%	35.7%	0.1%	0.2%	2.6%
23	122,529	67,896	29,737	74,867	21,503	13,523	1,030	643	515
	61.8%	75.4%	67.9%	37.7%	23.9%	30.9%	0.5%	0.7%	1.2%
National	2,353,304	1,314,231	544,726	1,653,728	476,384	323,003	16,833	4,090	17,851
	58.5%	73.2%	61.5%	41.1%	26.5%	36.5%	0.4%	0.2%	2.0%

## Perceived Ability to Concentrate, Remember, or Make Decisions

A new question was added to the 2005 survey to evaluate if enrollees experienced difficulty with concentration, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition. At the national level, 26.3 percent of enrollees reported they experienced difficulty with concentration, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition. When results were grouped into categories, a larger proportion of the younger enrollees, lower income enrollees, and enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 reported difficulty with concentration, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition. This could be related to the newly emerging pattern of military injuries. According to VHA Directive 2005-024, military service members that served in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom sustained multiple severe injuries as a result of explosions and blasts. Improvised explosive devices, blasts, landmines, and fragments account for 65 percent of the combat injuries. Of these injured military personnel, 60-62 percent have some degree of traumatic brain injury (TBI) that may result in impaired cognitive ability. However, the question did not ask about the level of severity of the physical, mental, or emotional condition that contributed to the enrollees' inability to concentrate, remember or make decisions, therefore, enrollees' answers could vary tremendously, making it very difficult to analyze this information or draw any conclusions regarding the cognitive ability of the enrollee population.

- ◆ At the national level, 26.3 percent of enrollees reported they experienced difficulty with concentration, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition.
- ◆ Responses grouped by priority group revealed enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 had the largest percent of enrollees (36%) reporting difficulty with concentration, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition. Enrollees in Priority Groups 7-8 reported the lowest percent of difficulty with concentration, remembering or making decisions.
- ◆ Responses based on age groups showed a greater proportion of younger enrollees with age less than 65 years old experiencing difficulty with concentration, remembering or making decisions compared to the enrollees in the group with age greater than 65 years.
- ◆ Thirty percent of enrollees in the Income Group of less than \$36,000 reported difficulty with concentration, remembering or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition.

Table 5.8

Reported Difficulty Concentrating, Remembering, or Making Decisions							
Weighted to Represent the Population of Veteran Enrollees							
Priority Group			Age Group			Income Group	
1-3	4-6	7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+
36%	28.2%	13.6%	31.8%	31.6%	19.7%	29.7%	19.2%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

## VISN Overview

- ◆ The same pattern of a larger proportion of the younger enrollees, lower income enrollees, and enrollees in Priority Groups 1-3 experiencing difficulty with concentration, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or an emotional condition was seen in all VISNs.

Table 5.9

By Priority: Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you usually have difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Yes			No			DK/Ref		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	37,024	28,193	14,869	61,270	74,871	90,787	1,399	1,869	344
	37.1%	26.9%	14.0%	61.5%	71.4%	85.6%	1.4%	1.8%	0.3%
2	13,677	16,535	9,145	35,557	55,100	65,776	1,028	484	981
	27.2%	22.9%	12.0%	70.7%	76.4%	86.7%	2.0%	0.7%	1.3%
3	23,026	25,895	19,557	42,530	67,220	123,533	683	1,804	1,278
	34.8%	27.3%	13.5%	64.2%	70.8%	85.6%	1.0%	1.9%	0.9%
4	35,960	38,837	17,206	61,757	109,336	134,024	1,582	571	896
	36.2%	26.1%	11.3%	62.2%	73.5%	88.1%	1.6%	0.4%	0.6%
5	16,762	15,545	5,643	41,495	43,759	37,559	548	602	198
	28.5%	25.9%	13.0%	70.6%	73.0%	86.5%	0.9%	1.0%	0.5%
6	54,306	30,112	13,582	78,670	91,684	73,013	1,206	317	525
	40.5%	24.7%	15.6%	58.6%	75.1%	83.8%	0.9%	0.3%	0.6%
7	52,633	49,955	12,297	91,263	97,984	88,033	1,901	447	627
	36.1%	33.7%	12.2%	62.6%	66.0%	87.2%	1.3%	0.3%	0.6%
8	59,361	46,407	27,421	111,951	179,374	162,116	2,709	4,014	717
	34.1%	20.2%	14.4%	64.3%	78.1%	85.2%	1.6%	1.7%	0.4%
9	42,217	43,397	13,392	58,406	81,343	60,808	1,012	1,561	536
	41.5%	34.4%	17.9%	57.5%	64.4%	81.4%	1.0%	1.2%	0.7%
10	23,207	29,134	8,106	41,997	81,522	60,348	817	854	245
	35.2%	26.1%	11.8%	63.6%	73.1%	87.8%	1.2%	0.8%	0.4%
11	27,189	33,629	11,494	57,596	83,691	74,214	757	1,678	355
	31.8%	28.3%	13.4%	67.3%	70.3%	86.2%	0.9%	1.4%	0.4%
12	23,127	30,293	13,338	46,434	81,063	92,917	732	477	986
	32.9%	27.1%	12.4%	66.1%	72.5%	86.6%	1.0%	0.4%	0.9%
15	26,910	29,157	11,673	52,766	79,767	71,148	1,016	772	287
	33.3%	26.6%	14.0%	65.4%	72.7%	85.6%	1.3%	0.7%	0.3%
16	79,819	87,577	24,029	104,522	145,331	104,980	3,706	2,660	879
	42.4%	37.2%	18.5%	55.6%	61.7%	80.8%	2.0%	1.1%	0.7%
17	41,540	30,590	8,410	76,834	78,074	54,814	1,264	119	148
	34.7%	28.1%	13.3%	64.2%	71.8%	86.5%	1.1%	0.1%	0.2%
18	40,606	34,783	9,750	59,313	68,889	65,038	1,952	2,007	117
	39.9%	32.9%	13.0%	58.2%	65.2%	86.8%	1.9%	1.9%	0.2%
19	25,723	18,397	6,926	44,279	48,009	46,731	738	606	555
	36.4%	27.5%	12.8%	62.6%	71.6%	86.2%	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%
20	50,170	29,679	10,555	74,897	66,522	54,907	878	1,041	292
	39.8%	30.5%	16.1%	59.5%	68.4%	83.5%	0.7%	1.1%	0.4%
21	33,217	29,309	10,750	62,782	85,227	67,795	1,099	1,146	169
	34.2%	25.3%	13.7%	64.7%	73.7%	86.1%	1.1%	1.0%	0.2%
22	33,463	39,685	12,072	73,178	117,047	82,563	852	731	459
	31.1%	25.2%	12.7%	68.1%	74.3%	86.8%	0.8%	0.5%	0.5%
23	31,162	31,309	12,815	66,290	73,014	113,441	2,049	838	1,326
	31.3%	29.8%	10.0%	66.6%	69.4%	88.9%	2.1%	0.8%	1.0%
National	771,098	718,417	273,031	1,343,788	1,808,828	1,724,545	27,927	24,598	11,918
	36.0%	28.2%	13.6%	62.7%	70.9%	85.8%	1.3%	1.0%	0.6%

Table 5.10

By Age: Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you usually have difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Yes			No			DK/Ref		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	17,441	36,098	26,547	26,216	75,035	125,677	256	2,093	1,262
	39.7%	31.9%	17.3%	59.7%	66.3%	81.9%	0.6%	1.8%	0.8%
2	4,827	20,393	14,136	21,758	58,203	76,472	601	817	1,075
	17.8%	25.7%	15.4%	80.0%	73.3%	83.4%	2.2%	1.0%	1.2%
3	6,377	31,737	30,365	27,676	56,964	148,643	29	2,479	1,256
	18.7%	34.8%	16.8%	81.2%	62.5%	82.5%	0.1%	2.7%	0.7%
4	10,858	45,437	35,708	24,892	106,498	173,725	112	1,654	1,282
	30.3%	29.6%	16.9%	69.4%	69.3%	82.4%	0.3%	1.1%	0.6%
5	6,131	18,833	12,985	21,791	46,372	54,649	216	604	528
	21.8%	28.6%	19.1%	77.4%	70.5%	80.2%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%
6	20,981	52,357	24,663	37,691	96,873	108,803	0	1,410	638
	35.8%	34.8%	18.4%	64.2%	64.3%	81.1%	0.0%	0.9%	0.5%
7	20,189	59,870	34,826	44,458	121,319	111,504	786	1,467	722
	30.9%	32.8%	23.7%	67.9%	66.4%	75.8%	1.2%	0.8%	0.5%
8	16,541	56,063	60,586	40,855	151,438	261,148	0	3,352	4,088
	28.8%	26.6%	18.6%	71.2%	71.8%	80.2%	0.0%	1.6%	1.3%
9	15,668	55,139	28,198	21,700	87,702	91,155	0	1,940	1,169
	41.9%	38.1%	23.4%	58.1%	60.6%	75.6%	0.0%	1.3%	1.0%
10	9,621	32,628	18,197	25,725	74,455	83,687	483	64	1,368
	26.9%	30.5%	17.6%	71.8%	69.5%	81.1%	1.3%	0.1%	1.3%
11	10,209	37,110	24,994	37,193	80,203	98,105	0	1,123	1,667
	21.5%	31.3%	20.0%	78.5%	67.7%	78.6%	0.0%	0.9%	1.3%
12	10,368	33,428	22,962	27,438	76,912	116,064	89	691	1,415
	27.4%	30.1%	16.3%	72.4%	69.3%	82.6%	0.2%	0.6%	1.0%
15	11,257	31,701	24,780	27,209	75,393	101,079	655	307	1,113
	28.8%	29.5%	19.5%	69.6%	70.2%	79.6%	1.7%	0.3%	0.9%
16	37,833	91,668	61,924	46,698	145,146	162,988	651	3,978	2,616
	44.4%	38.1%	27.2%	54.8%	60.3%	71.6%	0.8%	1.7%	1.1%
17	14,548	39,822	26,171	35,477	82,479	91,765	387	544	600
	28.9%	32.4%	22.1%	70.4%	67.1%	77.4%	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%
18	17,311	41,747	26,081	18,546	79,726	94,969	603	2,172	1,301
	47.5%	33.8%	21.3%	50.9%	64.5%	77.6%	1.7%	1.8%	1.1%
19	9,956	25,057	16,034	21,448	53,705	63,866	0	949	950
	31.7%	31.4%	19.8%	68.3%	67.4%	79.0%	0.0%	1.2%	1.2%
20	19,202	45,841	25,361	30,639	84,537	81,150	303	1,018	889
	38.3%	34.9%	23.6%	61.1%	64.3%	75.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.8%
21	11,209	36,246	25,821	30,617	90,178	95,009	264	980	1,169
	26.6%	28.4%	21.2%	72.7%	70.8%	77.9%	0.6%	0.8%	1.0%
22	15,847	41,024	28,349	41,464	114,624	116,700	0	595	1,447
	27.7%	26.3%	19.4%	72.3%	73.4%	79.7%	0.0%	0.4%	1.0%
23	10,824	37,559	26,903	22,439	91,361	138,946	1,129	1,620	1,464
	31.5%	28.8%	16.1%	65.2%	70.0%	83.0%	3.3%	1.2%	0.9%
National	297,197	869,757	595,592	631,932	1,849,124	2,396,105	6,564	29,858	28,020
	31.8%	31.6%	19.7%	67.5%	67.3%	79.3%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%

Table 5.11

By Income: Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you usually have difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Yes			No			DK/Ref		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	51,230	19,406	9,450	125,991	68,927	32,010	1,731	40	1,840
	28.6%	22.0%	21.8%	70.4%	78.0%	73.9%	1.0%	0.0%	4.3%
2	27,723	7,373	4,261	85,834	50,388	20,211	1,385	703	406
	24.1%	12.6%	17.1%	74.7%	86.2%	81.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.6%
3	44,254	12,926	11,299	116,941	81,509	34,834	2,274	1,122	369
	27.1%	13.5%	24.3%	71.5%	85.3%	74.9%	1.4%	1.2%	0.8%
4	63,908	15,680	12,416	188,756	71,339	45,022	2,343	112	593
	25.1%	18.0%	21.4%	74.0%	81.9%	77.6%	0.9%	0.1%	1.0%
5	22,830	8,949	6,170	63,621	42,365	16,827	262	434	652
	26.3%	17.3%	26.1%	73.4%	81.9%	71.2%	0.3%	0.8%	2.8%
6	63,467	22,580	11,953	146,010	70,970	26,387	1,107	437	504
	30.1%	24.0%	30.8%	69.3%	75.5%	67.9%	0.5%	0.5%	1.3%
7	79,679	22,526	12,680	154,130	85,242	37,909	1,220	517	1,238
	33.9%	20.8%	24.5%	65.6%	78.7%	73.1%	0.5%	0.5%	2.4%
8	88,056	29,241	15,892	256,468	127,060	69,912	5,459	655	1,327
	25.2%	18.6%	18.2%	73.3%	81.0%	80.2%	1.6%	0.4%	1.5%
9	70,122	15,865	13,018	121,263	55,013	24,281	533	282	2,294
	36.5%	22.3%	32.9%	63.2%	77.3%	61.3%	0.3%	0.4%	5.8%
10	44,238	8,105	8,103	114,984	47,597	21,286	869	602	444
	27.6%	14.4%	27.2%	71.8%	84.5%	71.4%	0.5%	1.1%	1.5%
11	53,126	9,768	9,418	126,455	64,620	24,425	1,795	493	502
	29.3%	13.0%	27.4%	69.7%	86.3%	71.1%	1.0%	0.7%	1.5%
12	47,062	10,547	9,149	125,899	66,325	28,190	1,406	426	362
	27.0%	13.6%	24.3%	72.2%	85.8%	74.8%	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%
15	44,714	14,222	8,802	121,557	52,483	29,641	1,221	344	510
	26.7%	21.2%	22.6%	72.6%	78.3%	76.1%	0.7%	0.5%	1.3%
16	136,574	32,430	22,422	222,103	89,412	43,317	3,712	1,002	2,531
	37.7%	26.4%	32.8%	61.3%	72.8%	63.4%	1.0%	0.8%	3.7%
17	49,905	18,642	11,993	120,080	59,222	30,420	433	606	492
	29.3%	23.8%	28.0%	70.5%	75.5%	70.9%	0.3%	0.8%	1.1%
18	60,370	17,384	7,385	113,050	57,541	22,649	2,868	56	1,152
	34.2%	23.2%	23.7%	64.1%	76.7%	72.6%	1.6%	0.1%	3.7%
19	34,593	10,367	6,087	79,091	43,120	16,808	1,061	125	713
	30.1%	19.3%	25.8%	68.9%	80.4%	71.2%	0.9%	0.2%	3.0%
20	56,173	22,910	11,321	110,023	59,065	27,238	1,560	362	288
	33.5%	27.8%	29.1%	65.6%	71.7%	70.1%	0.9%	0.4%	0.7%
21	47,109	18,022	8,145	117,426	73,693	24,685	756	347	1,310
	28.5%	19.6%	23.9%	71.0%	80.0%	72.3%	0.5%	0.4%	3.8%
22	57,066	16,273	11,881	140,638	96,305	35,844	922	584	535
	28.7%	14.4%	24.6%	70.8%	85.1%	74.3%	0.5%	0.5%	1.1%
23	53,076	11,057	11,153	144,835	77,010	30,900	516	1,974	1,722
	26.7%	12.3%	25.5%	73.0%	85.5%	70.6%	0.3%	2.2%	3.9%
National	1,195,277	344,273	222,997	2,795,156	1,439,207	642,798	33,433	11,224	19,785
	29.7%	19.2%	25.2%	69.5%	80.2%	72.6%	0.8%	0.6%	2.2%

## Functional Limitations

Enrollees were asked a series of questions related to the level of difficulty with Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) as described below.

### Difficulties with Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) included:

#### Eating

- ◆ Reported a problem with eating that required the help of another person or special equipment and expected the problem would last for three months or longer.

#### Transferring

- ◆ Reported difficulty getting in or out of bed or a chair without the help of another person or the help of special equipment and expected the problem would last for three months or longer.

#### Dressing

- ◆ Reported difficulty getting dressed without the help of another person or the help of special equipment and expected the problem would last for three months or longer.

#### Bathing

- ◆ Reported difficulty bathing without the help of another person or the help of special equipment and expected the problem would last for three months or longer.

#### Toileting

- ◆ Reported a problem with getting to the bathroom or using the toilet without the help of another person or the help of special equipment and expected the problem would last for three months or longer.

### Difficulties with Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) included:

#### Preparing Meals

- ◆ Reported a problem with preparing meals without the help of another person or special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

#### Laundry

- ◆ Reported difficulty doing laundry without the help of another person or the help of special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

#### Light Housework

- ◆ Reported difficulty doing light housework without the help of another person or the help of special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

#### Grocery Shopping

- ◆ Reported difficulty shopping for groceries without the help of another person or the help of special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

#### Managing Money

- ◆ Reported a problem with managing money without the help of another person or the help of special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

#### Taking Medication

- ◆ Reported a problem with taking medicine without the help of another person or the help of special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

#### Making Telephone Calls

- ◆ Reported a problem with making telephone calls without the help of another person or the help of special equipment due to a disability or a health problem.

## ADL and IADL Scores

Enrollees were assigned a score based on their answers to the above a series of questions regarding their ability to perform everyday activities (ADLs and IADLs) with or without help. The criterion that was used to assign an enrollee to a specific score is described in the table below.

Table 5.12

Score	Description	Number	Percent
-1	healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens	5,648,575	84.3%
0	not healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens, but does not meet the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screen for at least one ADL	439,313	6.6%
1	meets the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screen for exactly one ADL	273,599	4.1%
2	meets the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for exactly two ADLs	131,756	2.0%
	Total 1+2	405,355	6.0%
3	meets the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for exactly three ADLs	90,757	1.4%
4	meets the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for exactly four ADLs	84,810	1.3%
5	meets the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for exactly five ADLs	35,341	0.5%
	Total 3+4+5	210,908	3.1%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

- ◆ At the national level, 5,648,575 enrollees (84.3%) were identified as healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens.
- ◆ Nine percent of enrollees (616,264) were identified as meeting the ADL timing screen and personal assistance screens for one, two, three, four or five ADLs.
- ◆ Due to revisions of the ADL and IADL definitions and the new method of assigning scores, comparison of 2005 ADLs and IADLs information with information from previous years is not possible.

## Functional Limitations by Priority Group, Age Group, and Income Group

- ◆ A total of 5,648,575 enrollees (84.3%) were identified as healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens. A score of (-1) was assigned to this group of enrollees.
- ◆ Priority Group 7-8 had the largest percent of enrollees with a score of (-1) at 92.1 percent.
- ◆ The percent of enrollees with a score of (-1) ranged from 83.1 percent in the 45 to 65 year age group to 86.6 percent in the younger age group of less 45 years old.
- ◆ In the Income Group of \$36+, 90.2 percent of enrollees were healthy enough to bypass all the ADL and IADL screens.

Table 5.13

Healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens							
Score = -1							
Priority Group			Age Group			Income Group	
1-3	4-6	7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+
79.1%	82.4%	92.1%	86.6%	83.1%	84.6%	82.1%	90.2%

- ◆ In Age Group 45-64, 7.3 percent of enrollees were assigned a score of (0).
- ◆ The percent of enrollees with a score of (0) ranged from 3.7 percent in the \$36,000+ Income Group to 7.7 percent in the <\$36,000 Income Group.
- ◆ A total of 405,356 enrollees (6%) were identified as meeting the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for one or two ADLs. A score of (1 or 2) was assigned to this group of enrollees.
- ◆ Priority Group 1-3 had the largest percent of enrollees with a score of (1 or 2) at 8.5 percent.
- ◆ In Age Group <45, 6.7 percent of enrollees were assigned a score of (1 or 2).
- ◆ The percent of enrollees with a score of (1 or 2) ranged from 4.2 percent in the higher Income Group to 6.7 percent in the lower Income Group.

- ◆ A total of 439,313 enrollees (6.6%) were identified as not healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens, but did not meet the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screen for at least one ADL. A score of (0) was assigned to this group of enrollees.
- ◆ Priority Group 1-3 had the largest percent of enrollees with a score of (0) at 8 percent.

Table 5.15

ADL score of 1 or 2 plus meets timing and personal assistance screens							
Score = 1 or 2							
Priority Group			Age Group			Income Group	
1-3	4-6	7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+
8.5%	6.6%	2.6%	6.7%	6.5%	5.4%	6.7%	4.2%

- ◆ In Age Group <45, 6.7 percent of enrollees were assigned a score of (3, 4, or 5).
- ◆ The percent of enrollees with a score of (3, 4, or 5) ranged from 2 percent in the higher Income Group to 3.5 percent in the lower Income Group.

Table 5.14

Not healthy enough to bypass all of the ADL and IADL screens, but does not meet the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screen for at least one ADL							
Score = 0							
Priority Group			Age Group			Income Group	
1-3	4-6	7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+
8.0%	7.5%	3.8%	3.8%	7.3%	6.8%	7.7%	3.7%

- ◆ A total of 210,908 enrollees (3.1%) were identified as meeting the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for three, four, or five ADLs. A score of (3, 4, or 5) was assigned to this group of enrollees
- ◆ Priority Group 1-3 had the largest percent of enrollees with a score of (3, 4, or 5) at 4.4 percent.

Table 5.16

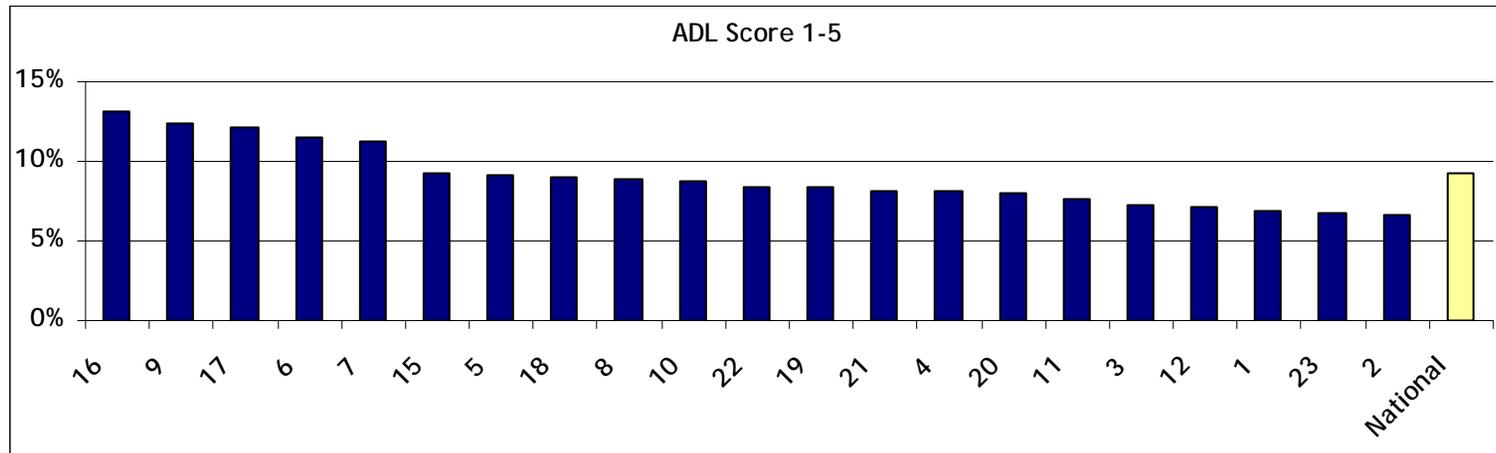
ADL score of 3, 4 or 5 plus meets timing and personal assistance screens							
Score = 3, 4, or 5							
Priority Group			Age Group			Income Group	
1-3	4-6	7-8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+
4.4%	3.5%	1.4%	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%	3.5%	2.0%

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN Overview

- ◆ VISN 16 had the largest percent (13.2%) of their enrollees identified as meeting the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for one, two, three, four, or five ADLs. This value is about four percentage points higher than the national average of 9.2 percent. VISN 9 followed with 12.3 percent of their enrollees meeting the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for any ADLs.
- ◆ At 6.7 percent, VISN 2 had the lowest percent of enrollees meeting the ADL timing screen and the personal assistance screens for any ADLs.

Figure 5.3

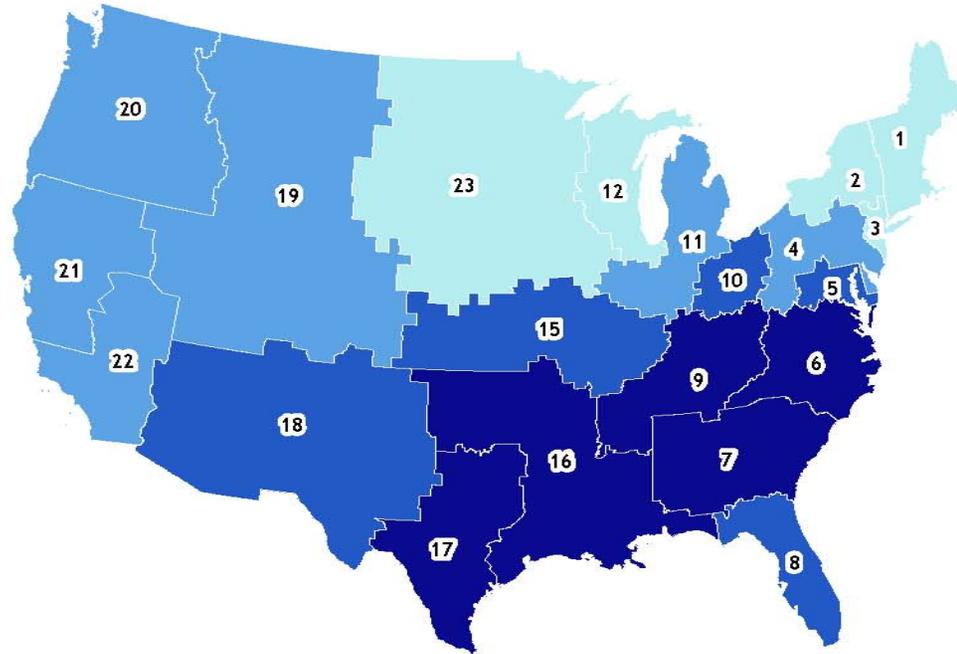


Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### ADL Scores 1-5

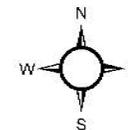
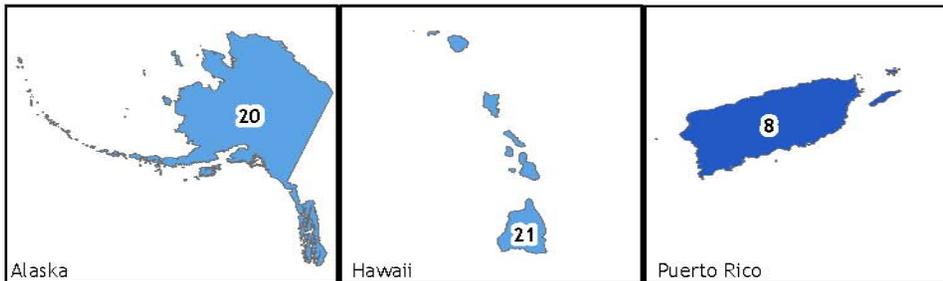


### Legend

#### Map 6.2

- 6.6% - 7.2%
- 7.3% - 8.3%
- 8.4% - 9.3%
- 9.4% - 13.1%

VISN	ADLs 1-5	VISN Enrollee Population	%
1	21,226	310,626	6.8%
2	13,234	198,283	6.7%
3	22,178	305,527	7.3%
4	32,419	400,167	8.1%
5	14,793	162,111	9.1%
6	39,547	343,415	11.5%
7	44,505	395,142	11.3%
8	52,602	594,070	8.9%
9	37,294	302,672	12.3%
10	21,520	246,229	8.7%
11	22,025	290,604	7.6%
12	20,613	289,367	7.1%
15	25,453	273,495	9.3%
16	72,957	553,503	13.2%
17	35,372	291,794	12.1%
18	25,315	282,456	9.0%
19	15,996	191,964	8.3%
20	22,957	288,940	7.9%
21	23,780	291,492	8.2%
22	30,050	360,050	8.3%
23	22,427	332,244	6.8%
<b>National</b>	<b>616,263</b>	<b>6,704,150</b>	<b>9.2%</b>



Source: 2005 Survey of Enrollees Health and Reliance Upon VA

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

2005 Functional Limitations Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Priority

Table 5.17

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority, (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Score=-1			Score=0			Score=1 & 2			Score=3, 4 & 5		
	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8	1-3	4-6	7-8
1	84,493	89,826	100,541	6,720	5,837	1,982	6,787	5,241	1,701	1,693	4,027	1,777
	84.8%	85.6%	94.8%	6.7%	5.6%	1.9%	6.8%	5.0%	1.6%	1.7%	3.8%	1.7%
2	42,399	63,481	70,011	2,783	3,181	3,194	3,328	3,704	1,859	1,751	1,753	839
	84.4%	88.0%	92.2%	5.5%	4.4%	4.2%	6.6%	5.1%	2.4%	3.5%	2.4%	1.1%
3	54,483	82,009	133,813	5,045	4,315	3,684	4,125	6,732	4,060	2,586	1,863	2,812
	82.3%	86.4%	92.7%	7.6%	4.5%	2.6%	6.2%	7.1%	2.8%	3.9%	2.0%	1.9%
4	79,578	124,431	143,178	7,021	9,114	4,427	7,420	11,095	2,661	5,279	4,104	1,860
	80.1%	83.7%	94.1%	7.1%	6.1%	2.9%	7.5%	7.5%	1.7%	5.3%	2.8%	1.2%
5	48,192	51,183	39,978	3,785	2,953	1,226	4,610	4,112	1,459	2,218	1,657	737
	82.0%	85.4%	92.1%	6.4%	4.9%	2.8%	7.8%	6.9%	3.4%	3.8%	2.8%	1.7%
6	101,027	97,519	77,435	11,718	10,616	5,554	13,911	8,343	2,398	7,526	5,635	1,735
	75.3%	79.9%	88.9%	8.7%	8.7%	6.4%	10.4%	6.8%	2.8%	5.6%	4.6%	2.0%
7	113,494	109,646	94,068	13,884	16,456	3,088	11,293	12,264	2,366	7,127	10,021	1,435
	77.8%	73.9%	93.2%	9.5%	11.1%	3.1%	7.7%	8.3%	2.3%	4.9%	6.8%	1.4%
8	133,263	186,437	175,717	17,230	21,970	6,850	19,316	14,683	5,779	4,212	6,704	1,908
	76.6%	81.1%	92.4%	9.9%	9.6%	3.6%	11.1%	6.4%	3.0%	2.4%	2.9%	1.0%
9	75,075	99,444	67,257	10,147	10,026	3,428	11,503	9,157	3,047	4,910	7,674	1,004
	73.9%	78.7%	90.0%	10.0%	7.9%	4.6%	11.3%	7.2%	4.1%	4.8%	6.1%	1.3%
10	53,044	95,551	64,075	5,532	4,113	2,395	5,293	8,831	1,549	2,153	3,015	680
	80.3%	85.7%	93.3%	8.4%	3.7%	3.5%	8.0%	7.9%	2.3%	3.3%	2.7%	1.0%
11	70,548	102,800	78,714	6,040	7,580	2,897	5,848	6,258	3,416	3,106	2,361	1,036
	82.5%	86.4%	91.5%	7.1%	6.4%	3.4%	6.8%	5.3%	4.0%	3.6%	2.0%	1.2%
12	57,005	94,618	98,945	4,896	9,087	4,203	5,393	4,832	2,238	3,000	3,296	1,855
	81.1%	84.6%	92.3%	7.0%	8.1%	3.9%	7.7%	4.3%	2.1%	4.3%	2.9%	1.7%
15	64,216	85,021	74,785	6,324	13,093	4,604	7,702	8,074	2,691	2,451	3,507	1,028
	79.6%	77.5%	90.0%	7.8%	11.9%	5.5%	9.5%	7.4%	3.2%	3.0%	3.2%	1.2%
16	141,654	178,329	113,170	12,709	25,031	9,653	19,049	20,249	4,496	14,635	11,959	2,569
	75.3%	75.7%	87.1%	6.8%	10.6%	7.4%	10.1%	8.6%	3.5%	7.8%	5.1%	2.0%
17	91,603	85,076	58,212	9,918	9,242	2,371	10,199	10,562	1,878	7,919	3,903	912
	76.6%	78.2%	91.9%	8.3%	8.5%	3.7%	8.5%	9.7%	3.0%	6.6%	3.6%	1.4%
18	79,429	88,600	69,599	8,272	8,548	2,694	9,468	5,387	1,759	4,702	3,146	853
	78.0%	83.8%	92.9%	8.1%	8.1%	3.6%	9.3%	5.1%	2.3%	4.6%	3.0%	1.1%
19	56,847	57,837	50,403	4,550	4,110	2,222	6,428	2,697	1,042	2,915	2,369	545
	80.4%	86.3%	93.0%	6.4%	6.1%	4.1%	9.1%	4.0%	1.9%	4.1%	3.5%	1.0%
20	102,359	80,012	60,488	12,653	7,756	2,715	7,254	7,117	1,418	3,678	2,357	1,132
	81.3%	82.3%	92.0%	10.0%	8.0%	4.1%	5.8%	7.3%	2.2%	2.9%	2.4%	1.7%
21	77,233	97,660	73,706	7,944	8,557	2,614	8,884	5,460	1,513	3,038	4,005	880
	79.5%	84.4%	93.6%	8.2%	7.4%	3.3%	9.1%	4.7%	1.9%	3.1%	3.5%	1.1%
22	86,350	141,666	87,383	8,059	4,202	2,339	7,988	7,993	2,956	5,096	3,603	2,415
	80.3%	90.0%	91.9%	7.5%	2.7%	2.5%	7.4%	5.1%	3.1%	4.7%	2.3%	2.5%
23	83,173	90,921	119,565	5,623	6,364	4,171	7,271	6,280	2,935	3,435	1,596	911
	83.6%	86.5%	93.7%	5.7%	6.1%	3.3%	7.3%	6.0%	2.3%	3.5%	1.5%	0.7%
National	1,695,465	2,102,068	1,851,042	170,852	192,152	76,309	183,067	169,069	53,220	93,429	88,555	28,924
	79.1%	82.4%	92.1%	8.0%	7.5%	3.8%	8.5%	6.6%	2.6%	4.4%	3.5%	1.4%

Table 5.18

2005 Functional Limitations Reported By Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Age

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by age (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Score=-1			Score=0			Score=1 & 2			Score=3, 4 & 5		
	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+	<45	45-64	65+
1	39,104	99,478	136,279	1,312	5,925	7,303	2,241	5,260	6,227	1,257	2,563	3,677
	89.0%	87.9%	88.8%	3.0%	5.2%	4.8%	5.1%	4.6%	4.1%	2.9%	2.3%	2.4%
2	25,177	70,094	80,620	859	3,214	5,085	1,151	3,882	3,858	0	2,223	2,121
	92.6%	88.3%	87.9%	3.2%	4.0%	5.5%	4.2%	4.9%	4.2%	0.0%	2.8%	2.3%
3	32,825	79,567	157,913	435	3,801	8,808	721	6,064	8,132	101	1,748	5,412
	96.3%	87.3%	87.6%	1.3%	4.2%	4.9%	2.1%	6.7%	4.5%	0.3%	1.9%	3.0%
4	32,550	129,677	184,960	1,304	8,247	11,010	1,092	11,831	8,253	918	3,834	6,492
	90.8%	84.4%	87.8%	3.6%	5.4%	5.2%	3.0%	7.7%	3.9%	2.6%	2.5%	3.1%
5	24,957	57,087	57,309	746	3,027	4,191	2,216	3,904	4,062	220	1,792	2,600
	88.7%	86.7%	84.1%	2.7%	4.6%	6.1%	7.9%	5.9%	6.0%	0.8%	2.7%	3.8%
6	47,574	114,856	113,551	3,728	14,373	9,787	4,977	13,796	5,878	2,394	7,614	4,888
	81.1%	76.2%	84.7%	6.4%	9.5%	7.3%	8.5%	9.2%	4.4%	4.1%	5.1%	3.6%
7	58,265	143,869	115,073	1,069	18,030	14,330	4,019	11,863	10,041	2,080	8,894	7,608
	89.0%	78.8%	78.3%	1.6%	9.9%	9.7%	6.1%	6.5%	6.8%	3.2%	4.9%	5.2%
8	47,405	175,293	272,720	1,591	17,427	27,032	6,764	13,067	19,947	1,635	5,066	6,123
	82.6%	83.1%	83.7%	2.8%	8.3%	8.3%	11.8%	6.2%	6.1%	2.8%	2.4%	1.9%
9	28,940	116,983	95,855	2,444	12,212	8,945	2,933	10,794	9,979	3,052	4,792	5,744
	77.4%	80.8%	79.5%	6.5%	8.4%	7.4%	7.8%	7.5%	8.3%	8.2%	3.3%	4.8%
10	33,148	88,427	91,095	541	6,007	5,493	1,817	9,246	4,609	323	3,468	2,057
	92.5%	82.5%	88.2%	1.5%	5.6%	5.3%	5.1%	8.6%	4.5%	0.9%	3.2%	2.0%
11	44,729	97,928	109,405	1,053	9,593	5,871	1,229	8,091	6,202	391	2,825	3,288
	94.4%	82.7%	87.7%	2.2%	8.1%	4.7%	2.6%	6.8%	5.0%	0.8%	2.4%	2.6%
12	35,356	92,050	123,161	521	9,953	7,711	1,446	5,339	5,677	571	3,688	3,892
	93.3%	82.9%	87.7%	1.4%	9.0%	5.5%	3.8%	4.8%	4.0%	1.5%	3.3%	2.8%
15	34,070	86,380	103,572	1,678	9,051	13,292	2,637	8,608	7,222	736	3,362	2,888
	87.1%	80.4%	81.6%	4.3%	8.4%	10.5%	6.7%	8.0%	5.7%	1.9%	3.1%	2.3%
16	66,357	187,964	178,832	2,435	26,796	18,162	12,212	14,691	16,891	4,177	11,342	13,644
	77.9%	78.1%	78.6%	2.9%	11.1%	8.0%	14.3%	6.1%	7.4%	4.9%	4.7%	6.0%
17	42,661	96,652	95,577	2,612	8,067	10,852	1,827	12,284	8,528	3,312	5,842	3,579
	84.6%	78.7%	80.6%	5.2%	6.6%	9.2%	3.6%	10.0%	7.2%	6.6%	4.8%	3.0%
18	29,528	105,420	102,680	3,378	7,479	8,656	2,242	8,238	6,134	1,312	2,508	4,881
	81.0%	85.3%	83.9%	9.3%	6.0%	7.1%	6.2%	6.7%	5.0%	3.6%	2.0%	4.0%
19	28,327	68,608	68,152	703	4,246	5,933	1,579	5,191	3,398	796	1,666	3,367
	90.2%	86.1%	84.3%	2.2%	5.3%	7.3%	5.0%	6.5%	4.2%	2.5%	2.1%	4.2%
20	41,458	113,080	88,320	3,953	11,289	7,882	3,140	5,035	7,614	1,593	1,992	3,583
	82.7%	86.1%	82.2%	7.9%	8.6%	7.3%	6.3%	3.8%	7.1%	3.2%	1.5%	3.3%
21	35,956	109,322	103,320	2,971	6,948	9,195	2,519	7,304	6,035	643	3,830	3,450
	85.4%	85.8%	84.7%	7.1%	5.5%	7.5%	6.0%	5.7%	4.9%	1.5%	3.0%	2.8%
22	50,374	137,674	127,350	1,213	5,492	7,896	4,270	8,236	6,430	1,453	4,841	4,820
	87.9%	88.1%	86.9%	2.1%	3.5%	5.4%	7.5%	5.3%	4.4%	2.5%	3.1%	3.3%
23	31,138	114,777	147,745	569	8,159	7,429	1,245	6,397	8,843	1,439	1,206	3,297
	90.5%	87.9%	88.3%	1.7%	6.3%	4.4%	3.6%	4.9%	5.3%	4.2%	0.9%	2.0%
National	809,898	2,285,187	2,553,490	35,115	199,337	204,860	62,277	179,119	163,959	28,402	85,097	97,408
	86.6%	83.1%	84.6%	3.8%	7.3%	6.8%	6.7%	6.5%	5.4%	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%

2005 Functional Limitations Reported by Enrollees Surveyed Displayed by Income

Table 5.19

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Score=-1			Score=0			Score=1 & 2			Score=3, 4 & 5		
	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	154,236	83,255	37,370	10,606	2,614	1,319	9,264	1,683	2,783	4,847	822	1,829
	86.2%	94.2%	86.3%	5.9%	3.0%	3.0%	5.2%	1.9%	6.4%	2.7%	0.9%	4.2%
2	99,458	54,503	21,930	6,425	1,347	1,387	5,976	2,063	852	3,083	550	710
	86.5%	93.2%	88.2%	5.6%	2.3%	5.6%	5.2%	3.5%	3.4%	2.7%	0.9%	2.9%
3	141,879	88,846	39,580	8,027	2,719	2,298	9,632	2,963	2,322	3,930	1,028	2,303
	86.8%	93.0%	85.1%	4.9%	2.8%	4.9%	5.9%	3.1%	5.0%	2.4%	1.1%	5.0%
4	214,943	79,867	52,378	16,345	1,836	2,380	17,076	3,012	1,088	6,642	2,417	2,184
	84.3%	91.7%	90.3%	6.4%	2.1%	4.1%	6.7%	3.5%	1.9%	2.6%	2.8%	3.8%
5	74,471	45,637	19,245	4,467	2,320	1,177	4,775	3,091	2,314	3,000	700	912
	85.9%	88.2%	81.4%	5.2%	4.5%	5.0%	5.5%	6.0%	9.8%	3.5%	1.4%	3.9%
6	165,101	82,360	28,520	20,483	4,681	2,723	15,500	3,798	5,353	9,500	3,147	2,249
	78.4%	87.6%	73.4%	9.7%	5.0%	7.0%	7.4%	4.0%	13.8%	4.5%	3.3%	5.8%
7	179,437	96,734	41,038	23,912	5,531	3,986	19,109	2,902	3,912	12,571	3,119	2,892
	76.3%	89.3%	79.2%	10.2%	5.1%	7.7%	8.1%	2.7%	7.5%	5.3%	2.9%	5.6%
8	283,230	140,589	71,599	30,653	5,728	9,669	27,718	7,845	4,215	8,382	2,793	1,649
	80.9%	89.6%	82.2%	8.8%	3.6%	11.1%	7.9%	5.0%	4.8%	2.4%	1.8%	1.9%
9	149,409	63,311	29,057	16,755	3,985	2,860	16,482	3,373	3,851	9,271	491	3,826
	77.9%	89.0%	73.4%	8.7%	5.6%	7.2%	8.6%	4.7%	9.7%	4.8%	0.7%	9.7%
10	135,796	51,885	24,988	7,944	2,152	1,945	12,078	1,688	1,906	4,274	580	993
	84.8%	92.1%	83.8%	5.0%	3.8%	6.5%	7.5%	3.0%	6.4%	2.7%	1.0%	3.3%
11	154,892	68,060	29,111	11,285	3,266	1,966	10,619	2,450	2,453	4,581	1,105	816
	85.4%	90.9%	84.8%	6.2%	4.4%	5.7%	5.9%	3.3%	7.1%	2.5%	1.5%	2.4%
12	146,416	71,513	32,639	14,010	2,384	1,792	8,569	1,816	2,078	5,372	1,587	1,193
	84.0%	92.5%	86.6%	8.0%	3.1%	4.8%	4.9%	2.3%	5.5%	3.1%	2.1%	3.2%
15	132,791	59,733	31,498	19,063	1,932	3,026	10,506	4,447	3,514	5,133	938	916
	79.3%	89.1%	80.9%	11.4%	2.9%	7.8%	6.3%	6.6%	9.0%	3.1%	1.4%	2.4%
16	277,158	105,325	50,669	36,477	5,439	5,477	29,189	7,484	7,121	19,565	4,595	5,002
	76.5%	85.7%	74.2%	10.1%	4.4%	8.0%	8.1%	6.1%	10.4%	5.4%	3.7%	7.3%
17	132,708	68,689	33,493	13,267	3,076	5,189	15,194	4,938	2,506	9,250	1,768	1,716
	77.9%	87.5%	78.1%	7.8%	3.9%	12.1%	8.9%	6.3%	5.8%	5.4%	2.3%	4.0%
18	142,939	68,254	26,435	15,725	2,093	1,694	11,468	3,270	1,876	6,157	1,364	1,180
	81.1%	91.0%	84.8%	8.9%	2.8%	5.4%	6.5%	4.4%	6.0%	3.5%	1.8%	3.8%
19	97,680	48,300	19,106	7,116	1,613	2,153	6,123	2,611	1,433	3,826	1,088	916
	85.1%	90.1%	80.9%	6.2%	3.0%	9.1%	5.3%	4.9%	6.1%	3.3%	2.0%	3.9%
20	137,902	73,513	31,444	15,998	3,615	3,511	9,309	3,378	3,102	4,548	1,830	789
	82.2%	89.3%	80.9%	9.5%	4.4%	9.0%	5.5%	4.1%	8.0%	2.7%	2.2%	2.0%
21	138,272	81,754	28,572	13,108	3,115	2,892	8,925	5,222	1,709	4,986	1,971	966
	83.7%	88.8%	83.7%	7.9%	3.4%	8.5%	5.4%	5.7%	5.0%	3.0%	2.1%	2.8%
22	174,623	101,551	39,225	6,771	4,722	3,107	9,638	4,552	4,746	7,594	2,337	1,183
	87.9%	89.7%	81.3%	3.4%	4.2%	6.4%	4.9%	4.0%	9.8%	3.8%	2.1%	2.5%
23	171,374	84,727	37,558	11,542	1,366	3,249	12,080	2,613	1,792	3,430	1,335	1,177
	86.4%	94.1%	85.8%	5.8%	1.5%	7.4%	6.1%	2.9%	4.1%	1.7%	1.5%	2.7%
National	3,304,714	1,618,406	725,455	309,978	65,534	63,801	269,231	75,200	60,924	139,944	35,564	35,400
	82.1%	90.2%	81.9%	7.7%	3.7%	7.2%	6.7%	4.2%	6.9%	3.5%	2.0%	4.0%

## Chapter 6

### 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 survey include new questions on Cigarette Smoking Status.

Enrollees were asked if they had smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their entire life. If the response was “yes”, this indicated an enrollee who has 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. For the purpose of this report, if they responded that they now smoke cigarettes every day or some days they were determined to be “current smokers.” However, if they responded “not at all” to this question, they were determined to be “former smokers.” Finally, if the enrollee responded “no,” they have not smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their entire life; they were determined to have “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. Again, for the purpose of this report, if they responded “yes” to this question, they were determined to be “recent quitters.”

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. 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, 4.8 million or 71.2 percent admitted they have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their life. These are enrollees who have ever smoked. Of these, 3.3 million, or 69.6 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, 28.1 percent of the enrollee population has never smoked.

When you compare this by Priority, 82.8 percent of Priority 7-8 enrollees who have ever smoked are former smokers. When compared by Age, 88.9 percent of the 65 or over Age Group are former smokers. When compared by Income, 73.5 percent of the High Income Group are former smokers.

Current smokers can be described as the portion of enrollees who responded that they ever smoked, and then responded that they now smoke every day or some days. Of the entire enrollee population, 22.2 percent are current smokers. This is somewhat higher than the 20.9 percent of all adults (44.5 million people) in the general population, as noted in the Center for Disease Control December 2005 Fact sheet, Adult Cigarette Smoking in the United States: Current Estimates.

When current smoker is used as the denominator, the largest percents are Priority Group 4-6 with 48.7 percent, Age Group 45-64 with 60.4 percent, and the <\$36,000 Income Group has 68.0 percent of the current smokers.

When the smoker population is used as the denominator, 31.1 percent are current smokers. When you compare this by Priority, 38.0 percent of Priority Groups 4-6 who have ever smoked are current smokers. When compared by Age, 61.2 percent of the less than 45 Age Group who have ever smoked are current smokers. When compared by Income, 33.9 percent of the <\$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 ever smoked and have tried to quit smoking during the past 12 months. Of the entire enrollee population, 17.8 percent are recent quitters. When the smoker population is used at the denominator, 25.1 percent are recent quitters. When compared by Priority, 29.4 percent of Priority Groups 4-6 who have ever smoked are recent quitters. When compared by Age, 47.2 percent of the less than 45 Age Group who have ever smoked are recent quitters. When compared by Income, 27.1 percent of the <\$36,000 Income Group who have ever smoked are recent quitters. Below is a table that shows numbers and percentages described above.

Here are the statistics for the separate Smoking Statuses.

- ◆ When looking at the enrollee population, 71.2 percent responded that they have ever smoked.
- ◆ Of those, 31.1 percent are current smokers and 69.6 percent are former smokers.
- ◆ Of the enrollee population who has ever smoked, 25.1 percent are recent quitters.
- ◆ There were 28.1 percent of the enrollees who responded that they have never smoked.

Table 6.1

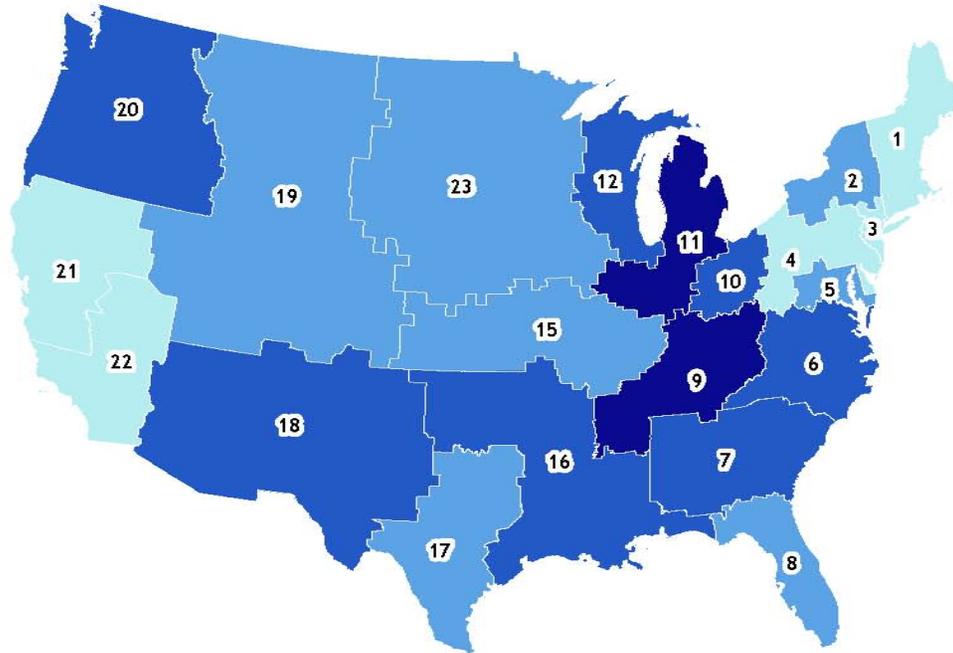
Enrollee Smoking Status	Priority Group			Total Enrollee Smoking Status	Age Group			Total Enrollee Smoking Status	Income			Total Enrollee Smoking Status
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8		<45	45-64	65+		<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref	
<b>Q61-Yes: Enrollees Who Have Ever Smoked</b>	1,457,433	1,903,581	1,409,901	4,770,915	525,847	2,080,968	2,164,100	4,770,915	2,976,821	1,198,596	595,498	4,770,915
% Smoker Population*	30.5%	39.9%	29.6%	100%	11.0%	43.6%	45.4%	100%	62.4%	25.1%	12.5%	100%
% Enrollee Population	68.0%	74.6%	70.2%	71.2%	56.2%	75.7%	71.7%	71.2%	74.0%	66.8%	67.2%	71.2%
<b>Q61-No: Never Smoked</b>	672,699	624,882	588,832	1,886,413	405,268	656,880	824,265	1,886,413	1,024,713	591,111	270,589	1,886,413
% Never Smoked	35.7%	33.1%	31.2%	100%	21.5%	34.8%	43.7%	100%	54.3%	31.3%	14.3%	100%
% Enrollee Population	31.4%	24.5%	29.3%	28.1%	43.3%	23.9%	27.3%	28.1%	25.5%	32.9%	30.6%	28.1%
<b>Q62-Every Day/Some Days: Current Smokers</b>	511,506	723,384	250,605	1,485,495	321,931	896,872	266,692	1,485,494	1,009,464	322,436	153,596	1,485,496
% Current Smokers	34.4%	48.7%	16.9%	100%	21.7%	60.4%	18.0%	100%	68.0%	21.7%	10.3%	100%
% Smoker Population*	35.1%	38.0%	17.8%	31.1%	61.2%	43.1%	12.3%	31.1%	33.9%	26.9%	25.8%	31.1%
% Enrollee Population	23.9%	28.3%	12.5%	22.2%	34.4%	32.6%	8.8%	22.2%	25.1%	18.0%	17.3%	22.2%
<b>Q62-Not at all: Former Smokers</b>	956,046	1,195,663	1,167,340	3,319,049	204,653	1,189,618	1,924,778	3,319,049	1,986,829	880,577	451,643	3,319,049
% Former Smokers	28.8%	36.0%	35.2%	100%	6.2%	35.8%	58.0%	100%	59.9%	26.5%	13.6%	100%
% Smoker Population*	65.6%	62.8%	82.8%	69.6%	38.9%	57.2%	88.9%	69.6%	66.7%	73.5%	75.8%	69.6%
% Enrollee Population	44.6%	46.9%	58.1%	49.5%	21.9%	43.3%	63.7%	49.5%	49.4%	49.1%	51.0%	49.5%
<b>Q63-Yes: Recent Quitters</b>	410,073	558,944	227,224	1,196,241	247,960	653,145	295,136	1,196,241	806,868	275,798	113,576	1,196,242
% Recent Quitters	34.3%	46.7%	19.0%	100%	20.7%	54.6%	24.7%	100%	67.5%	23.1%	9.5%	100%
% Smoker Population*	28.1%	29.4%	16.1%	25.1%	47.2%	31.4%	13.6%	25.1%	27.1%	23.0%	19.1%	25.1%
% Enrollee Population	19.1%	21.9%	11.3%	17.8%	26.5%	23.8%	9.8%	17.8%	20.1%	15.4%	12.8%	17.8%
"Yes" Response to Question 61*	1,457,433	1,903,581	1,409,901	4,770,915	525,847	2,080,968	2,164,100	4,770,915	2,976,821	1,198,596	595,498	4,770,915
Enrollee Population	2,142,812	2,551,843	2,009,494	6,704,149	935,693	2,748,739	3,019,717	6,704,149	4,023,866	1,794,704	885,580	6,704,150

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA



Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration

### Current Smokers

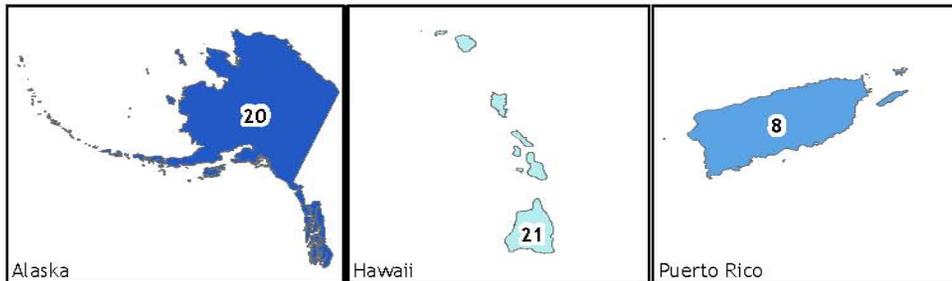


### Legend

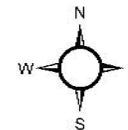
#### Map 6.1

- 16.0% - 19.4%
- 19.5% - 22.2%
- 22.3% - 25.3%
- 25.4% - 29.7%

VSN	Current Smokers	Enrollees	Percent Smokers
1	58,797	310,626	18.9%
2	44,048	198,283	22.2%
3	50,061	305,527	16.4%
4	77,542	400,167	19.4%
5	34,503	162,111	21.3%
6	86,897	343,415	25.3%
7	95,074	395,142	24.1%
8	119,629	594,070	20.1%
9	89,824	302,672	29.7%
10	60,645	246,229	24.6%
11	82,044	290,604	28.2%
12	70,150	289,367	24.2%
15	55,705	273,495	20.4%
16	139,745	553,503	25.2%
17	59,562	291,794	20.4%
18	65,023	282,456	23.0%
19	41,069	191,964	21.4%
20	66,445	288,940	23.0%
21	56,648	291,492	19.4%
22	65,301	360,050	18.1%
23	66,781	332,244	20.1%
<b>National</b>	<b>1485495</b>	<b>6,704,150</b>	<b>22.2%</b>



Source:  
VHA 2005 Survey of Enrollees  
Health and Reliance Upon VA



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

2005 Current Cigarette Smokers Displayed by Priority, Age, &amp; Income

Table 6.2

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority, age, income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	22,940	25,623	10,234	16,200	32,830	9,768	39,841	12,941	6,016
	23.0%	24.4%	9.7%	36.9%	29.0%	6.4%	22.3%	14.6%	13.9%
2	12,980	21,588	9,480	11,444	24,094	8,510	28,545	12,590	2,913
	25.8%	29.9%	12.5%	42.1%	30.3%	9.3%	24.8%	21.5%	11.7%
3	11,572	23,827	14,662	8,632	31,293	10,135	35,185	9,748	5,128
	17.5%	25.1%	10.2%	25.3%	34.3%	5.6%	21.5%	10.2%	11.0%
4	24,834	34,829	17,880	14,941	47,068	15,535	51,816	16,482	9,245
	25.0%	23.4%	11.8%	41.7%	30.6%	7.4%	20.3%	18.9%	15.9%
5	10,240	18,845	5,419	7,319	21,415	5,769	22,810	8,421	3,273
	17.4%	31.5%	12.5%	26.0%	32.5%	8.5%	26.3%	16.3%	13.8%
6	34,990	39,280	12,627	22,766	50,108	14,023	60,987	19,518	6,393
	26.1%	32.2%	14.5%	38.8%	33.3%	10.5%	29.0%	20.8%	16.5%
7	31,126	47,194	16,754	18,707	61,609	14,757	66,794	18,635	9,646
	21.3%	31.8%	16.6%	28.6%	33.7%	10.0%	28.4%	17.2%	18.6%
8	34,102	66,069	19,458	20,832	72,630	26,168	78,032	23,869	17,729
	19.6%	28.8%	10.2%	36.3%	34.4%	8.0%	22.3%	15.2%	20.3%
9	30,757	47,042	12,024	15,686	58,090	16,047	59,583	18,215	12,025
	30.3%	37.2%	16.1%	42.0%	40.1%	13.3%	31.0%	25.6%	30.4%
10	17,910	31,789	10,946	12,305	37,397	10,944	42,376	11,902	6,368
	27.1%	28.5%	15.9%	34.3%	34.9%	10.6%	26.5%	21.1%	21.3%
11	25,114	44,380	12,550	25,929	43,690	12,424	59,079	15,672	7,292
	29.4%	37.3%	14.6%	54.7%	36.9%	10.0%	32.6%	20.9%	21.2%
12	18,483	37,415	14,252	15,133	41,872	13,146	43,342	18,593	8,215
	26.3%	33.5%	13.3%	39.9%	37.7%	9.4%	24.9%	24.1%	21.8%
15	21,004	23,729	10,972	13,020	33,956	8,729	38,568	13,204	3,933
	26.0%	21.6%	13.2%	33.3%	31.6%	6.9%	23.0%	19.7%	10.1%
16	53,945	67,614	18,186	29,622	88,074	22,050	103,385	24,912	11,448
	28.7%	28.7%	14.0%	34.8%	36.6%	9.7%	28.5%	20.3%	16.8%
17	26,913	25,356	7,293	9,750	36,309	13,504	40,510	12,544	6,508
	22.5%	23.3%	11.5%	19.3%	29.6%	11.4%	23.8%	16.0%	15.2%
18	22,381	33,106	9,536	12,143	40,506	12,375	49,206	12,244	3,573
	22.0%	31.3%	12.7%	33.3%	32.8%	10.1%	27.9%	16.3%	11.5%
19	18,138	16,021	6,909	11,216	23,472	6,382	28,896	9,435	2,737
	25.6%	23.9%	12.7%	35.7%	29.4%	7.9%	25.2%	17.6%	11.6%
20	34,810	22,600	9,035	18,276	37,448	10,720	38,616	17,791	10,037
	27.6%	23.2%	13.7%	36.4%	28.5%	10.0%	23.0%	21.6%	25.8%
21	17,281	32,004	7,363	9,845	38,060	8,743	39,483	12,401	4,763
	17.8%	27.7%	9.4%	23.4%	29.9%	7.2%	23.9%	13.5%	14.0%
22	19,906	33,935	11,460	12,901	38,910	13,491	39,205	18,194	7,903
	18.5%	21.6%	12.1%	22.5%	24.9%	9.2%	19.7%	16.1%	16.4%
23	22,079	31,137	13,565	15,263	38,041	13,475	43,204	15,126	8,451
	22.2%	29.6%	10.6%	44.4%	29.1%	8.1%	21.8%	16.8%	19.3%
National	511,506	723,384	250,605	321,931	896,872	266,692	1,009,464	322,436	153,596
	23.9%	28.3%	12.5%	34.4%	32.6%	8.8%	25.1%	18.0%	17.3%

2005 Former Cigarette Smokers Displayed by Priority, Age, & Income

Table 6.3

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority, age, income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	49,737	55,466	67,333	11,603	55,735	105,199	96,805	48,727	27,005
	49.9%	52.9%	63.5%	26.4%	49.2%	68.5%	54.1%	55.1%	62.4%
2	23,999	34,487	43,748	4,445	36,894	60,895	62,205	26,249	13,780
	47.7%	47.8%	57.6%	16.3%	46.5%	66.4%	54.1%	44.9%	55.4%
3	34,218	46,645	79,070	8,686	37,695	113,553	82,684	49,466	27,784
	51.7%	49.1%	54.8%	25.5%	41.3%	63.0%	50.6%	51.8%	59.7%
4	47,540	76,081	88,962	7,676	69,859	135,048	141,393	42,358	28,832
	47.9%	51.1%	58.5%	21.4%	45.5%	64.1%	55.4%	48.6%	49.7%
5	24,901	24,746	22,157	3,141	26,121	42,542	39,353	21,249	11,203
	42.3%	41.3%	51.1%	11.2%	39.7%	62.4%	45.4%	41.1%	47.4%
6	57,530	53,092	54,561	12,817	67,716	84,651	97,947	46,294	20,942
	42.9%	43.5%	62.6%	21.8%	45.0%	63.1%	46.5%	49.3%	53.9%
7	64,193	71,260	52,251	15,266	77,385	95,054	110,970	51,562	25,173
	44.0%	48.0%	51.8%	23.3%	42.4%	64.6%	47.2%	47.6%	48.6%
8	77,758	107,466	118,933	10,536	86,586	207,036	172,272	88,791	43,096
	44.7%	46.8%	62.5%	18.4%	41.1%	63.5%	49.2%	56.6%	49.5%
9	42,908	50,591	44,809	6,322	54,796	77,190	87,303	33,282	17,723
	42.2%	40.1%	60.0%	16.9%	37.8%	64.0%	45.5%	46.8%	44.8%
10	26,967	47,826	35,989	6,477	43,482	60,823	71,926	24,950	13,906
	40.8%	42.9%	52.4%	18.1%	40.6%	58.9%	44.9%	44.3%	46.6%
11	34,237	48,897	50,025	4,404	48,824	79,931	82,366	35,261	15,531
	40.0%	41.1%	58.1%	9.3%	41.2%	64.1%	45.4%	47.1%	45.2%
12	30,947	49,097	60,458	5,388	48,777	86,338	86,261	35,019	19,222
	44.0%	43.9%	56.4%	14.2%	43.9%	61.5%	49.5%	45.3%	51.0%
15	31,824	62,672	47,639	11,187	45,387	85,561	85,730	35,226	21,179
	39.4%	57.1%	57.3%	28.6%	42.3%	67.4%	51.2%	52.5%	54.4%
16	84,399	100,372	76,087	13,967	96,740	150,152	170,012	55,918	34,929
	44.9%	42.6%	58.6%	16.4%	40.2%	66.0%	46.9%	45.5%	51.2%
17	56,313	54,229	36,433	16,098	55,022	75,854	86,529	36,881	23,565
	47.1%	49.9%	57.5%	31.9%	44.8%	64.0%	50.8%	47.0%	54.9%
18	44,809	50,494	43,481	11,347	53,452	73,986	84,614	38,142	16,028
	44.0%	47.8%	58.0%	31.1%	43.2%	60.5%	48.0%	50.9%	51.4%
19	31,295	32,067	29,911	8,791	37,380	47,103	55,141	25,778	12,355
	44.2%	47.9%	55.2%	28.0%	46.9%	58.3%	48.1%	48.1%	52.3%
20	50,018	49,799	37,714	12,115	56,861	68,555	86,490	34,423	16,618
	39.7%	51.2%	57.4%	24.2%	43.3%	63.8%	51.6%	41.8%	42.8%
21	47,215	48,435	48,658	9,286	56,320	78,703	82,068	47,521	14,719
	48.6%	41.9%	61.8%	22.1%	44.2%	64.5%	49.7%	51.6%	43.1%
22	48,977	80,491	54,576	16,527	75,257	92,261	100,962	59,312	23,771
	45.6%	51.1%	57.4%	28.8%	48.2%	63.0%	50.8%	52.4%	49.3%
23	46,258	51,449	74,545	8,577	59,332	104,343	103,800	44,168	24,284
	46.5%	48.9%	58.4%	24.9%	45.5%	62.4%	52.3%	49.1%	55.5%
National	956,046	1,195,663	1,167,340	204,653	1,189,618	1,924,778	1,986,829	880,577	451,643
	44.6%	46.9%	58.1%	21.9%	43.3%	63.7%	49.4%	49.1%	51.0%

Table 6.4

## 2005 Recent Cigarette Smoking Quitters Displayed by Priority, Age, &amp; Income

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority, age, income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	19,326	19,113	11,969	13,641	24,698	12,069	31,460	14,475	4,473
	19.4%	18.2%	11.3%	31.1%	21.8%	7.9%	17.6%	16.4%	10.3%
2	9,110	16,070	8,827	8,292	16,693	9,021	21,516	9,733	2,758
	18.1%	22.3%	11.6%	30.5%	21.0%	9.8%	18.7%	16.6%	11.1%
3	10,896	21,444	13,453	9,608	22,847	13,338	31,215	10,811	3,767
	16.4%	22.6%	9.3%	28.2%	25.1%	7.4%	19.1%	11.3%	8.1%
4	21,989	33,419	15,467	12,023	38,591	20,260	48,657	12,885	9,333
	22.1%	22.5%	10.2%	33.5%	25.1%	9.6%	19.1%	14.8%	16.1%
5	9,024	10,814	4,739	5,292	13,573	5,713	15,845	6,461	2,272
	15.3%	18.1%	10.9%	18.8%	20.6%	8.4%	18.3%	12.5%	9.6%
6	26,839	29,292	10,533	13,920	38,108	14,636	45,250	16,995	4,420
	20.0%	24.0%	12.1%	23.7%	25.3%	10.9%	21.5%	18.1%	11.4%
7	25,720	48,416	13,886	14,532	57,319	16,171	64,119	17,053	6,850
	17.6%	32.6%	13.8%	22.2%	31.4%	11.0%	27.3%	15.7%	13.2%
8	31,442	44,930	17,813	15,657	47,453	31,075	61,459	20,710	12,016
	18.1%	19.6%	9.4%	27.3%	22.5%	9.5%	17.6%	13.2%	13.8%
9	22,937	32,186	9,408	12,199	39,861	12,471	43,159	14,091	7,282
	22.6%	25.5%	12.6%	32.6%	27.5%	10.3%	22.5%	19.8%	18.4%
10	12,491	21,871	7,594	8,765	22,341	10,850	31,202	5,932	4,822
	18.9%	19.6%	11.1%	24.5%	20.9%	10.5%	19.5%	10.5%	16.2%
11	18,996	34,125	8,264	17,903	30,513	12,969	42,011	14,375	4,999
	22.2%	28.7%	9.6%	37.8%	25.8%	10.4%	23.2%	19.2%	14.6%
12	14,010	26,051	14,702	7,427	33,436	13,900	37,880	11,152	5,732
	19.9%	23.3%	13.7%	19.6%	30.1%	9.9%	21.7%	14.4%	15.2%
15	15,049	19,507	9,618	10,889	22,581	10,703	29,230	10,655	4,288
	18.6%	17.8%	11.6%	27.8%	21.0%	8.4%	17.5%	15.9%	11.0%
16	41,591	39,005	18,242	20,273	52,578	25,987	72,660	19,408	6,770
	22.1%	16.6%	14.0%	23.8%	21.8%	11.4%	20.1%	15.8%	9.9%
17	23,303	24,430	6,124	10,330	29,568	13,959	36,635	11,854	5,369
	19.5%	22.5%	9.7%	20.5%	24.1%	11.8%	21.5%	15.1%	12.5%
18	17,485	24,032	6,299	8,204	29,362	10,251	34,707	10,022	3,087
	17.2%	22.7%	8.4%	22.5%	23.7%	8.4%	19.7%	13.4%	9.9%
19	16,265	13,785	6,769	9,571	19,305	7,943	25,858	8,141	2,819
	23.0%	20.6%	12.5%	30.5%	24.2%	9.8%	22.5%	15.2%	11.9%
20	23,533	17,796	7,623	12,371	26,333	10,248	30,126	14,101	4,726
	18.7%	18.3%	11.6%	24.7%	20.0%	9.5%	18.0%	17.1%	12.2%
21	13,923	30,518	6,818	9,566	30,818	10,876	37,307	10,682	3,270
	14.3%	26.4%	8.7%	22.7%	24.2%	8.9%	22.6%	11.6%	9.6%
22	19,521	25,973	10,695	16,502	24,336	15,351	29,018	20,625	6,546
	18.2%	16.5%	11.2%	28.8%	15.6%	10.5%	14.6%	18.2%	13.6%
23	16,624	26,165	18,382	10,994	32,833	17,343	37,555	15,639	7,977
	16.7%	24.9%	14.4%	32.0%	25.2%	10.4%	18.9%	17.4%	18.2%
National	410,073	558,944	227,224	247,960	653,145	295,136	806,868	275,798	113,576
	19.1%	21.9%	11.3%	26.5%	23.8%	9.8%	20.1%	15.4%	12.8%

2005 Enrollees Who Never Smoked Displayed by Priority, Age, & Income

Table 6.5

Denominator is the VISN enrollee population by priority, age, income (see Table 1.7 on page 31)

Source: 2005 VHA Survey of Veteran Enrollees' Health and Reliance Upon VA

VISN	Priority			Age			Income		
	1 - 3	4 - 6	7 - 8	<45	45-64	65+	<\$36K	\$36K+	DK/Ref
1	26,335	23,842	28,434	15,855	24,238	38,519	41,739	26,593	10,279
	26.4%	22.7%	26.8%	36.1%	21.4%	25.1%	23.3%	30.1%	23.7%
2	13,114	15,950	22,470	11,224	18,086	22,224	24,057	19,551	7,925
	26.1%	22.1%	29.6%	41.3%	22.8%	24.2%	20.9%	33.4%	31.9%
3	20,365	24,447	50,561	16,763	22,108	56,501	45,600	36,342	13,430
	30.7%	25.8%	35.0%	49.2%	24.2%	31.3%	27.9%	38.0%	28.9%
4	26,924	37,834	45,171	13,246	36,551	60,133	61,798	28,291	19,841
	27.1%	25.4%	29.7%	36.9%	23.8%	28.5%	24.2%	32.5%	34.2%
5	23,551	16,315	15,675	17,679	18,145	19,717	24,530	22,079	8,931
	40.0%	27.2%	36.1%	62.8%	27.6%	28.9%	28.3%	42.7%	37.8%
6	41,661	29,624	19,789	23,089	32,699	35,286	51,591	28,176	11,307
	31.0%	24.3%	22.7%	39.4%	21.7%	26.3%	24.5%	30.0%	29.1%
7	50,351	29,430	31,383	31,460	42,925	36,779	56,633	38,089	16,441
	34.5%	19.8%	31.1%	48.1%	23.5%	25.0%	24.1%	35.2%	31.7%
8	62,160	55,582	51,864	26,027	51,638	91,941	99,680	44,296	25,630
	35.7%	24.2%	27.3%	45.3%	24.5%	28.2%	28.5%	28.2%	29.4%
9	27,668	28,668	17,903	15,361	31,769	27,110	45,032	19,663	9,544
	27.2%	22.7%	24.0%	41.1%	21.9%	22.5%	23.5%	27.6%	24.1%
10	21,144	31,595	21,763	17,048	26,268	31,187	45,790	19,453	9,260
	32.0%	28.3%	31.7%	47.6%	24.5%	30.2%	28.6%	34.5%	31.0%
11	26,192	25,638	23,489	17,069	25,883	32,366	39,857	23,948	11,513
	30.6%	21.5%	27.3%	36.0%	21.9%	25.9%	22.0%	32.0%	33.5%
12	20,863	25,281	32,302	17,374	20,365	40,706	44,741	23,686	10,019
	29.7%	22.6%	30.1%	45.8%	18.3%	29.0%	25.7%	30.6%	26.6%
15	27,864	21,972	24,304	14,914	26,776	32,450	43,130	18,620	12,390
	34.5%	20.0%	29.2%	38.1%	24.9%	25.6%	25.8%	27.8%	31.8%
16	48,795	64,037	35,564	38,313	55,117	54,967	88,727	42,013	17,656
	25.9%	27.2%	27.4%	45.0%	22.9%	24.2%	24.5%	34.2%	25.9%
17	36,413	29,198	19,546	24,563	31,515	29,078	43,280	29,045	12,831
	30.4%	26.8%	30.8%	48.7%	25.7%	24.5%	25.4%	37.0%	29.9%
18	34,680	22,057	21,832	12,970	29,608	35,990	42,468	24,572	11,530
	34.0%	20.9%	29.1%	35.6%	23.9%	29.4%	24.1%	32.8%	37.0%
19	21,199	18,923	17,392	11,398	18,751	27,365	30,708	18,399	8,408
	30.0%	28.2%	32.1%	36.3%	23.5%	33.8%	26.8%	34.3%	35.6%
20	41,046	24,842	18,911	19,660	37,086	28,054	42,651	30,121	12,028
	32.6%	25.5%	28.8%	39.2%	28.2%	26.1%	25.4%	36.6%	31.0%
21	32,602	34,774	22,514	22,959	32,924	34,007	43,692	32,139	14,058
	33.6%	30.1%	28.6%	54.5%	25.8%	27.9%	26.4%	34.9%	41.2%
22	38,610	43,037	28,983	27,882	42,003	40,745	58,386	35,657	16,587
	35.9%	27.3%	30.5%	48.7%	26.9%	27.8%	29.4%	31.5%	34.4%
23	31,163	21,835	38,980	10,413	32,426	49,140	50,622	30,377	10,980
	31.3%	20.8%	30.6%	30.3%	24.8%	29.4%	25.5%	33.7%	25.1%
National	672,699	624,882	588,832	405,268	656,880	824,265	1,024,713	591,111	270,589
	31.4%	24.5%	29.3%	43.3%	23.9%	27.3%	25.5%	32.9%	30.6%

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## 2005 SURVEY OF VETERAN ENROLLEES' HEALTH AND RELIANCE UPON VA

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

TIME BEGUN\_\_\_\_\_

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

INTRO We are conducting a study about veteran's use of health care services and needs. Your name was randomly selected from a list of veterans who enrolled to use VA health care services. 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 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 INFO: 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 (ADUSH) for Policy and Planning. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of this survey, you may call the ADUSH at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C.

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 INFO: 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(ADUSH) for Policy and Planning. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of this survey, you may call the ADUSH at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C.

- 01 YES - CREATE VARIABLE "PROXY= 01 IF PROXY INTERVIEW AND 00 IF NOT PROXY"
- 02 NO - TERMINATE CREATE DISPOSITIN NO ELIGIBLE PROXY, RESPONDENT UNABLE
- 98 DON'T KNOW - TERMINATE CREATE DISPOSITIN 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 INFO: 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(ADUSH) for Policy and Planning. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of this survey, you may call the ADUSH at the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, D.C.

- 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

*PREQ1 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'd like to first ask about healthcare benefits that are not provided by VA.

Q1. Are you covered by Medicare?

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

01 YES

02 (SKIP TO Q4) NO

98 (SKIP TO Q4) DON'T KNOW

99 (SKIP TO Q4) REFUSED

**Q2. Does your Medicare coverage pay for doctor's office visits?**

/IF PROXY=01/ 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 people have it, they pay a monthly fee or a premium, which may be directly deducted from their social security check.]

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

**Q3. Do you purchase any private health care coverage to supplement Medicare, that is to pay for services or medicines Medicare does not pay for?**

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

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "YES" - Types of private insurance a person can purchase to supplement medicare include Medigap, Medicare Supplement, Medicare Advantage, Medicare + Choice.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "NO" - Types of insurance that do not count are Department of Defense's TRICARE For Life, the TFLplan, for Medicare-eligible military retirees]

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

**Q4. Are you currently covered by Medicaid for any of your health care? In <INSERT RESPONDENT'S STATE> you may also know it as <INSERT LIST OF STATE NAMES FOR MEDICAID PLANS/PROGRAMS>?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> currently covered by Medicaid for any health care? In <INSERT RESPONDENT'S STATE> you may also know it as <INSERT LIST OF STATE NAMES FOR MEDICAID PLANS/PROGRAMS>?

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

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE=MEDICAID IN SOME STATES.]

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

**Q5. 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=01/ 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: "YES" - Do count any private retiree health insurance plan.]

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: "NO" - Do not count private Medigap, Medicare Supplement or Medicare Advantage or Medicare + Choice plan.]

- 01 YES

02 (SKIP TO Q7) NO  
98 (SKIP TO Q7) DON'T KNOW  
99 (SKIP TO Q7) REFUSED

/IF Q3=01 AND Q5=01 THEN ASK, ELSE GOTO Q6/

**Q5VER Is this a private retiree health insurance plan?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is this a private retiree health insurance plan?

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

//PROGRAM NOTE: TAKE CARE OF THE RECODING OF Q3 VALUES IN POST PROCESSING NO NEED FOR CATI PROGRAM TO DO FOR LATER QUESTIONS. NEED TO DECIDE HOW TO HANDLE THE 98 AND 99 VALUES//

**Q6. Is this health plan an HMO or other managed care?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is this health plan an HMO or other managed care?

[IF NECESSARY: 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 healthcare.]

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q7. Are you currently covered by the Department of Defense's TRICARE or TRICARE for Life health care programs?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> currently 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

**Q8. Are you currently covered by any Federal, State, County, or local community health services program that pays for health care that you didn't already tell me about?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> currently covered by any Federal, State, County, or local community health services program that pays for health care that you didn't already tell me about?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: This means "provided an answer to a previous question" not casual comments made by the respondent.]

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

**Q9. Do you currently have a prescription drug benefit or coverage of any kind?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> currently have a prescription drug benefit or coverage of any kind?

- 01 YES
- 02 (SKIP TO Q10) NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q10) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q10) REFUSED

**Q9a. Do you receive your prescription drug benefit from VA, from some other source, or do you get if from both?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> receive this prescription drug benefit from VA, from some other source, or do <INSERT NAME> get if from both?  
[PLEASE READ LIST IF NECESSARY]

- 01 From VA
- 02 From some other source
- 03 From both
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q10. Do you intend to purchase the new Medicare drug benefit next year?**

/IFPROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> intend to purchase the new Medicare drug benefit next year?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF RESPONDENT SAYS "DON'T KNOW" PROBE TO DETERMINE IF "NOT YET DECIDED" OR "DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE BENEFIT."]

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 03 HAVE NOT YET DECIDED/ DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT
- 98 DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE BENEFIT/ NOT AWARE / NOT HEARD OF
- 99 REFUSED

**Q11a. How many different over the counter medications did you use in the last 30 days?**

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

- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE = 0-97]
- 98 (SKIP TO Q12a) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q12a) REFUSED

//IF Q11a=0, 98, OR 99 GOTO Q12a, ELSE CONTINUE//

**Q11b. //IF Q11a>=1 then ASK/ Of these medications, how many did you obtain from VA?**

//IF PROXY=01 and Q11a>=1 then ASK/ Of these 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.]

- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE = 0-97]

98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q12a. How many different prescription medications did you use in the last 30 days?**

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

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE = 0-97]  
98 (SKIP TO Q13) DON'T KNOW  
99 (SKIP TO Q13) REFUSED

//IF Q12a=0, 98, OR 99 GOTO Q13, ELSE CONTINUE//

**Q12b. //IF Q12a>=1 then ASK/ Of these prescriptions, how many did you obtain from VA?**

//IF PROXY=01 and Q12a>=1 then ASK/ Of these prescriptions, 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE = 0-97]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q13. On average, how much do you spend out-of-pocket for all your medications on a monthly basis?**

/IF PROXY=01/ On average, how much does <INSERT NAME> spend out-of-pocket for all medications on a monthly basis?

01 ENTER NUMBER=[RANGE = 0-9999]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

*Next , I will be asking you about use of medical or mental health services in 2004 from both Non-VA sources, as well as from VA. First, my questions are about Non-VA provided Health Care Services.*

*/PROXY=01/ Next, I will be asking you about <INSERT NAME>'s use of medical or mental health services in 2004 from both Non-VA sources, as well as from VA. First, my questions are about Non-VA provided Health Care Services.*

**Q14. In 2004, 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 2004, 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/PORION OF.]

00 (SKIP TO Q38) NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL  
01 (SKIP TO Q15) YES  
02 NO

- 98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

//IF Q14=2, 98, 99 AND Q1 OR Q2 OR Q3 OR Q4 OR Q5 OR Q6 OR Q7 OR Q8 OR Q9 EQ 01 THEN ASK, ELSE SKIP TO Q27//

**Q14a. VALIDATION:** I 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 2004, 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/ I 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 2004, <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 Q38) NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL  
01 (SKIP TO Q15) DID USE NON-VA SERVICE  
02 (SKIP TO Q27) CONFIRMED THAT NO NON-VA CARE RECEIVED  
98 (SKIP TO Q27) DON'T KNOW/CAN'T REMEMBER  
99 (SKIP TO Q27) REFUSED

**Q15. In 2004, did you stay overnight at any Non-VA Medical Hospital or a Non-VA Mental Health Facility?**

/IF PROXY=01/ In 2004, 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 Q24) NO  
98 (SKIP TO Q24) DON'T KNOW/DON'T REMEMBER  
99 (SKIP TO Q24) REFUSED

**Q16. 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 Q18) NO  
98 (SKIP TO Q18) DON'T KNOW  
99 (SKIP TO Q18) REFUSED

**Q17. 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 Q24) NO, ALL VA PROVIDED  
98 (SKIP TO Q24) DON'T KNOW/ DON'T REMEMBER  
99 (SKIP TO Q24) REFUSED

**PREQ18/IF Q17=01, ELSE GOTO Q24/** 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 Q17=01, ELSE GOTO Q24/** 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.

**Q18. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE= 0 - 366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**/IF Q18=0,98, OR 99 GOTO Q21, ELSE CONTINUE/**

**Q19. /IF Q18=1, ASK/ How many nights was that stay?**

**/IF Q18>1 ASK/** How many nights was your first stay?

**/IF PROXY=01 AND Q18=1, ASK/** How many nights was that stay?

**/IF PROXY=01 AND Q18>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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE= 0 - 366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**/IF Q18=1 GOTO Q21/**

**Q20. /IF Q18>1 ASK/In 2004, how many nights in total did you stay in a Non-VA Hospital on your 2nd through /Q18/ stays?**

**/IF PROXY=01 AND Q18>1 ASK/** In 2004, how many nights in total did <INSERT NAME> stay in a Non-VA Hospital on the 2nd through /Q18/ 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0 -366]

98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q21. In 2004, 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 2004, 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/PORION OF.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0- 366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

/IF Q21=0,98,99 GOTO Q24, ELSE CONTINUE/

**Q22. /IF Q21=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?**

/IF Q21>1 ASK/ How many nights was your first stay?

/IF PROXY=01AND Q21=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?

/IF PROXY=01 AND Q21>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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0- 366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

/IF Q21=1 GOTO Q24, ELSE CONTINUE/

**Q23. In 2004, how many nights in total did you stay in a Non-VA Facility for mental health or substance abuse treatment on your second through /Q21 RESPONSE/ stays?**

/IF PROXY=01/ In 2004, 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 /Q21 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0 -366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q24. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0- 366]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

**Q25. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER: [RANGE=0-366]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

**Q26. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER: [RANGE=0-366]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

*PREQ27 Now, the next few questions are in regards to any VA provided Healthcare.*

**Q27. In 2004, did you use any VA healthcare services, or did you have any of your health care paid for by VA?**

/IF PROXY=01/ In 2004, 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 Q38) NO NEED FOR SERVICES AT ALL

01 YES

02 NO

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

**Q27. VALIDATION: /IF Q27=02 OR 98 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Just to make sure I have this correct, in 2004 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 Q27=02 OR 98 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Just to make sure I have this correct, in 2004 <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/PORTION OF.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q38) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q38) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q38) REFUSED

**Q28. In 2004, 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 2004, 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/PORTION OF.]

- 01 YES
- 02 (SKIP TO Q35) NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q35) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q35) REFUSED

**Q29. In 2004, 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 2004, 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/PORTION OF.]

- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

/IF Q29=0,98,99 GOTO Q32, ELSE CONTINUE/

**Q30. /IFQ29=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?**

/IF Q29>1 ASK/ How many nights was that first stay?

/IF PROXY=01 AND Q29=1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?

/ IF PROXY=01 AND Q29>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.]

- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

/IF Q29=1 GOTO Q32, ELSE CONTINUE/

Q31. In 2004, how many nights in total did you stay in a VA Medical Hospital or other hospitals paid for by VA on your second through /Q29 RESPONSE/ stays?

/IF PROXY=01/ In 2004, 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 /Q29 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0 -366]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

Q32. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

/IF Q32=0,98,99 GOTO Q35, ELSE CONTINUE/

Q33. / IF Q32 =1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?

/IF Q32>1 ASK/ How many nights was your first stay?

/IF PROXY=01 AND Q32 =1 ASK/ How many nights was that stay?

/IF PROXY=01 AND Q32>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.]

01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

/IF Q32=1 GOT Q35, ELSE CONTINUE/

- Q34. In 2004, 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 /Q32 RESPONSE/ stays?**  
/IF PROXY=01/ In 2004, 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 /Q32 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.]
- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0 -366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED
- Q35. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]
- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=1-366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED
- Q36. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]
- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED
- Q37. In 2004, 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 2004, 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.]
- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q38.** 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.]

- 01 your primary source of healthcare; /IF PROXY=01/ a primary source of healthcare
- 02 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

**Q38\_O** /IF Q38=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

/IF ENROLLEE IS FLAGGED AS "P" (POST ENROLLEE) PROCEED BELOW. IF NOT, SKIP TO Q40/

**Q39a.** I am going to read you a list of possible reasons you may have enrolled for VA Health care services. Please listen to the entire list, and then tell me the one main reason you enrolled. Did you enroll ....

/IF PROXY=01/ I am going to read you a list of possible reasons <INSERT NAME> may have enrolled for VA Health care services. Please listen to the entire list, and then tell me the one main reason <INSERT NAME> enrolled. Did <INSERT NAME> enroll

[INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ ENTIRE LIST. SELECT ONE.]

- 01 To obtain regular or routine health care;
- 02 To obtain specialist healthcare
- 03 To obtain prescription medications;
- 04 To obtain mental health care;
- 05 To obtain special emphasis care such as for a spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, blind rehab., prosthetics, etc.;
- 06 To receive nursing home care;
- 07 To obtain home health care and living assistance services, or
- 95 Some other reason I have not mentioned?
- 97 (SKIP TO Q40) NEVER ENROLLED
- 98 (SKIP TO Q40) DON'T KNOW

99 (SKIP TO Q40) REFUSED

**Q39a\_0/IF Q39a=95 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Could you please tell me the reason you enrolled?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me the reason <INSERT NAME> enrolled?

01 ENTER RESPONSE:

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

**Q39b. I am going to read you a list of reasons why you might have decided to use VA care. Please listen to the entire list, and then tell me the most important reason why you chose to use VA Care. Was it because....**

/IF PROXY=01/ I am going to read you a list of reasons why <INSERT NAME> might have decided to use VA care. Please listen to the entire list, and then tell me the most important reason why <INSERT NAME> chose to use VA Care. Was it because....

[INTERVIEWER PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE LIST, THEN PICK ONE.]

01 It was nearby or easy to get to;

02 The low cost

03 The high quality of care;

04 Your friends go there, or you can relate to other veteran users; /IF PROXY=01/ <INSERT NAME>'s friends go there, or <INSERT NAME> can relate to other veteran users;

05 VA offers specialized care; /IF PROXY=01/ VA offers specialized care;

06 You have no other health care coverage; /IF PROXY=01/ <INSERT NAME> has no other health care coverage;

95 Some other reason?

97 NEVER ENROLLED

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

**Q39b\_0/ IF Q39b=95 ASK, ELSE CONTINUE/ Could you please tell me the most important reason why you chose to use VA care?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me the most important reason why <INSERT NAME> chose to use VA care?

01 ENTER RESPONSE:

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

*PREQ40 Now, I'd like to ask you some questions about your current health.*

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

**Q40. 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

Q41. Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you usually have difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?  
/IF PROXY=01/. Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does <INSERT NAME> usually have difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

*PRE Q42 I would now like to ask about your ability to do everyday activities without help. By help, I mean either the help of another person, including people who live with you, or the help of special equipment.*

*/IF PROXY=01/ I would now like to ask about <INSERT NAME>'s ability to do everyday activities without help. By help, I mean either the help of another person, including people who live with <INSERT NAME>, or the help of special equipment.*

Q42a. Do you have any problem eating without the help of another person or special equipment?  
/IF PROXY=01/Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem eating without the help of another person or special equipment?

01 YES  
02 NO  
03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

Q42b. Do you have any problem getting in or out of bed without help?  
/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem getting in or out of bed without help?  
[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

01 YES  
02 NO  
03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

Q42c. Do you have any problem getting in or out of chairs without help?  
/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem getting in or out of chairs without help?  
[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

01 YES

- 02 NO
- 03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q42d. Do you have any problem walking around inside without help?**

/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem walking around inside without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q42e. Do you have any problem going outside without help of another person or special equipment?**

/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem going outside without help of another person or special equipment?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q42f. Do you have any problem dressing without help?**

/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem dressing without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q42g. Do you have any problem bathing without help?**

/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem bathing without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 YES
- 02 NO
- 03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q42h. Do you have any problem getting to the bathroom or using the toilet?**  
/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem getting to the bathroom or using the toilet?

01 YES  
02 NO  
03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q42i. Do you have any problem controlling bowel movements or urination or ever have any accidents?**  
/PROXY=01/ Does <INSERT NAME> have any problem controlling bowel movements or urination or ever have any accidents?

01 YES  
02 NO  
03 CAN'T DO/ DON'T DO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

//CREATE VARIABLE ADL. FOR EACH "YES" IN Q42a-Q42i ADD 1, ALL OTHER RESPONSES (02,03,98, 99) MAKE 0, SUM FOR A VARIABLE 0-9//  
//IF ADL=0 GOTO PREQ45, ELSE CONTINUE//

**Q43a. /IF ADL=1 AND PROXY=00 ASK/ You said that you have a problem with one activity. Have you had this problem for three months or longer?**  
/IF ADL>1 AND PROXY=00 ASK/ You said that you have a problem with some activities. Have you had any of these problems for three months or longer?  
/IF ADL=1 AND PROXY=01 ASK/ You said that <INSERT NAME> has a problem with one activity. Has <INSERT NAME> had this problem for three months or longer?  
/IF ADL>1 AND PROXY=01 ASK/ You said that <INSERT NAME> has a problem with some activities. Has <INSERT NAME> had any of these problems for three months or longer?

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

//IF Q43a=01 GO TO PREQ44, ELSE CONTINUE//

**Q43b. /IF ADL=1 AND PROXY=00 ASK/ Do you EXPECT this problem will last for the next three months or longer?**  
/IF ADL>1 AND PROXY=00 ASK/ Do you EXPECT any of these problems will last for the next three months or longer?  
/IF ADL=1 AND PROXY=01 ASK/ Do you EXPECT that <INSERT NAME>'s problem will last for the next three months or longer?  
/IF ADL>1 AND PROXY=01 ASK/ Do you EXPECT that any of <INSERT NAME>'s problems will last for the next three months or longer?

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IF Q43b=01 GO TO PREQ44, ELSE CONTINUE//

Q43c. /IF ADL=1 AND PROXY=00 ASK/ Altogether, from beginning to end, will this problem have lasted three months or longer?  
/IF ADL>1 AND PROXY=00 ASK/ Altogether, from beginning to end, will any of these problems have lasted three months or longer  
/IF ADL=1 AND PROXY=01 ASK/ Altogether, from beginning to end, will <INSERT NAME>'s problem have lasted three months or longer?  
/IF ADL>1 AND PROXY=01 ASK/ Altogether, from beginning to end, will any of <INSERT NAME>'s problems have lasted three months or longer

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

*PREQ44 /IF ADL=1 ASK/ We are interested in knowing about the severity of this problem.*

*/IF ADL>1 ASK/ We are interested in knowing about the severity of these problems.*

//IF Q42a=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44b//

Q44a. Earlier you said that you had a problem eating without help. Is it true that you are unable to eat without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem eating without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to eat without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

//IF Q42b=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44c//

Q44b. Earlier you said that you had a problem getting in or out of bed without help. Is it true that you are unable to get in or out of bed without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem getting in or out of bed without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to get in or out of bed without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IF Q42c=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44d//

**Q44c.** Earlier you said that you had a problem getting in or out of chairs without help. Is it true that you are unable to get in or out of chairs without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem getting in or out of chairs without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to get in or out of chairs without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

01 YES

02 NO

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IF Q42d=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44e//

**Q44d.** Earlier you said that you had a problem walking around inside without help. Is it true that you are unable to walk around inside without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem walking around inside without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to walk around inside without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

01 YES

02 NO

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IF Q42e=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44f//

**Q44e.** Earlier you said that you had a problem going outside without help. Is it true that you are unable to go outside without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem going outside without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to go outside without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

01 YES

02 NO

98 DON'T KNOW

99 REFUSED

//IF Q42f=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44g//

**Q44f.** Earlier you said that you had a problem dressing without help. Is it true that you are unable to dress without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem dressing without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to dress without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

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

//IF Q42g=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44h//

**Q44g.** Earlier you said that you had a problem bathing without help. Is it true that you are unable to bathe without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem bathing without help. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to bathe without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

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

//IF Q42h=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO Q44i//

**Q44h.** Earlier you said that you had a problem getting to the bathroom or using the toilet. Is it true that you are unable to get to the bathroom or use the toilet without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem getting to the bathroom or using the toilet. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to get to the bathroom or use the toilet without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

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

//IF Q42i=01 ASK, ELSE GOTO PREQ45//

**Q44i.** Earlier you said that you had a problem controlling bowel movements or urination. Is it true that you are unable to control bowel movements or urinate, or to perform associated personal hygiene, without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

/IF PROXY=01/ Earlier you said that <INSERT NAME> had a problem controlling bowel movements or urination. Is it true that <INSERT NAME> is unable to control bowel movements or urinate, or to perform associated personal hygiene, without either stand-by assistance or hands-on assistance from another person?

[IF NECESSARY: "Stand-by assistance" means "within arms reach."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Hands on assistance" means "physical assistance."]

[IF NECESSARY: "Associated personal hygiene" means "washing oneself, disposing of soiled items, changing clothing, and caring for a catheter or colostomy bag."]

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

*PREQ45 I would like to ask you about your ability to do some other every day activities without help. Please remember by help, I mean either help of another person, including people who live with you, or the help of special equipment.*

/IF PROXY=01/ *I would like to ask you about <INSERT NAME>'s ability to do some other every day activities without help. Please remember by help, I mean either help of another person, including people who live with <INSERT NAME> or the help of special equipment.*

**Q45a.** Are you able to prepare meals without help?

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to prepare meals without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES".]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

01 (SKIP TO Q45b) YES  
02 NO  
98 (SKIP TO Q45b) DON'T KNOW  
99 (SKIP TO Q45b) REFUSED

**Q45a\_1.** Does a disability or a health problem keep you from preparing meals without help?

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from preparing meals without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

01 YES  
02 NO  
98 DON'T KNOW  
99 REFUSED

**Q45b.** Are you able to do laundry without help?

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to do laundry without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES" .]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q45c) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q45c) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q45c) REFUSED

**Q45b\_1. Does a disability or a health problem keep you from doing laundry without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from doing laundry without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

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

**Q45c. Are you able to do light housework, such as washing dishes without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to do light housework, such as washing dishes without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES" .]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q45d) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q45d) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q45d) REFUSED

**Q45c\_1. Does a disability or a health problem keep you from doing light housework without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from doing light housework without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

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

**Q45d. Are you able to shop for groceries without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to shop for groceries without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES" .]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q45e) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q45e) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q45e) REFUSED

**Q45d\_1. Does a disability or a health problem keep you from shopping for groceries without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from shopping for groceries without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

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

**Q45e. Are you able to manage money such as keeping track of bills and handling cash without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to manage money such as keeping track of bills and handling cash without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES" .]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q45f) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q45f) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q45f) REFUSED

**Q45e\_1. Does a disability or a health problem keep you from managing money without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from managing money without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

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

**Q45f. Are you able to take medicine without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to take medicine without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES" .]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q45g) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q45g) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q45g) REFUSED

**Q45f\_1. Does a disability or a health problem keep you from taking medicine without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from taking medicine without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 YES

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

**Q45g. Are you able to make telephone calls without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Is <INSERT NAME> able to make telephone calls without help?

[INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF A PERSON DOES NOT DO, BUT IS ABLE TO DO, MARK AS "YES" .]

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

- 01 (SKIP TO Q61) YES
- 02 NO
- 98 (SKIP TO Q61) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q61) REFUSED

**Q45g\_1. Does a disability or a health problem keep you from making telephone calls without help?**

/IF PROXY=01/ Does a disability or a health problem keep <INSERT NAME> from making telephone calls without help?

[INTERVIEWER IF NECESSARY: By without help, I mean you need neither the help of another person nor the help of special equipment.]

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

The next few questions are about cigarette smoking.

**Q61. 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 Q64) NO
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

**Q62. 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

**Q63. 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

*We are almost finished. The last questions are for demographic purposes only.*

**Q64. 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   | 05 | Single - Never Married |
| 02 | Widowed   | 98 | DON'T KNOW             |
| 03 | Divorced  | 99 | REFUSED                |
| 04 | Separated |    |                        |

**Q65. /IF Q64=01 OR 04 ASK/ Not including yourself, how many dependents, such as your spouse or dependent children do you currently have?**

/IF Q64 NE 01 OR 04 ASK/ Not including yourself, how many dependents, do you currently have?

/IF PROXY=01 AND Q64=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 Q64 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.]

- 01 ENTER NUMBER [RANGE=0-366]
- 98 DON'T KNOW
- 99 REFUSED

#### PERIOD OF SERVICE

**Q66. 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. 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.]

- 01 ENTER NUMBER
- 98 (SKIP TO Q67) DON'T KNOW
- 99 (SKIP TO Q67) REFUSED

Q66a. /IFQ66 >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 Q66=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 Q66=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 Q66/

Q66b\_X. What year did your <first> term of active duty military service start?  
 /IF Q66=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 Q66=1/ What year did <INSERT NAME>'s term of active duty military service start?  
 01 ENTER YEAR [RANGE: >=1918]  
 98 DON'T KNOW  
 99 REFUSED

Q66c\_X. What year did your <first> term of active duty military service end?  
 /IF Q66=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 Q66=1/ What year did <INSERT NAME>'s term of active duty military service end?  
 01 ENTER YEAR  
 98 DON'T KNOW  
 99 REFUSED

#### COMBAT STATUS

Q67\_X. 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

Q68. 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/ How would you best characterize <INSERT NAME>'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       | 05 | Unemployed, looking for work, or laid off                           |
| 02 | Self-employed fulltime  | 06 | Currently not employed - either retired, a homemaker, student, etc. |
| 03 | Employed part-time      | 98 | DON'T KNOW  |
| 04 | Self employed part-time | 99 | REFUSED   |

#### ETHNICITY AND RACE

**Q69. 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    |

**Q70. 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          | 05 | White      |
| 02 | Asian                                     | 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| 03 | Black or African-American                 | 99 | REFUSED    |
| 04 | Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander |    |            |

#### HOUSEHOLD INCOME

**Q71. Could you please tell me what your total annual household income was from all sources in 2004.**

/IF PROXY=01/ Could you please tell me what was <INSERT NAME>'s total annual household income was from all sources in 2004.

[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 | ENTER AMOUNT IN DOLLARS: [RANGE=1-999,999] | SKIP TO 71c |
| 98 | DON'T KNOW                                 |             |
| 99 | REFUSED                                    |             |

**Q71a. This information is critical for VA for planning purposes. Could you please tell me which of the following best describes your 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 total annual household income from all sources. Would you say it is....  
(READ LIST [ROUND UP "999], THEN FOLLOW-UP AS INDICATED)

a.	_____	b.	
Less than \$16,000	1→	Is it.... Under \$11,000, or	1
		\$11,000 - \$15,999?	2
\$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	12
(DO NOT READ)		DON'T KNOW	12
		REFUSED TO ANSWER	13
		REFUSED TO ANSWER	13

71c And finally, 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

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.

TIME ENDED \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF INTERVIEW: MM/DD/YY