

## Data Definitions for Selected Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Health Affairs (VHA) Data Sets:

- VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic reports
- VA Operating Beds by Administrative Parent reports
- VA Outpatient Visits by Administrative Parent reports

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Term	Definition
Administrative Parent	Also called Administrative Parent site. Defined as a collection of all the points of service that a leadership group manages. The points of service can include any institution where health care is delivered. All of the data that originate from these points of service roll up to a single station number representing the administrative parent for management and programmatic activities. Source: VHA Handbook 1006.02: <a href="http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2970">http://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2970</a>
CBOC	Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC)
Encounters	A professional contact between a patient and a practitioner vested with primary responsibility for diagnosing, evaluating, and/or treating the patient's condition. Encounters occur in both the outpatient and inpatient setting. Contact can include face-to-face interactions or those accomplished via telemedicine technology. A count of clinic stops made by patients where duplicates have not been removed. A duplicate clinic stop occurs when a patient makes more than one of the same type of PRIMARY clinic stop at the same substation on the same day. Therefore, a patient may have multiple encounters in one day. (Source: Outpatient Encounters Cube (internal VA source)).
Outpatient Visit	Outpatient visit to one or more clinics or units within 1 calendar day at the facility level. A patient can have multiple appointments, but is counted as only one "visit" if the appointments were within 24 hours.
Operating Bed	Operating beds are those that are staffed and available for admission of patients. Operating beds are to exclude beds that are closed for any reason (see subpar.3j). Note: Operating Beds are self-reported data by administrative parent site. Source: VHA Handbook 1000.01 Inpatient Bed Change Program and Procedures: <a href="http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2355">http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=2355</a>
Parent Station Number	The official station number (STA6A) as issued to the Administrative Parent Site. Also see definition of Administrative Parent site.
Station Number	Official 3 or more digit station number given to the site of care from VA Financial Service Center (FSC). The source is VA Financial Policy Volume II, Chapter 01a Station Numbers. Station numbers are the official identification

	numbers for funding and budgetary purposes and for describing the sphere of authority of an organizational entity designated by the Secretary. A uniform station number system provides a unique identifier for each station and allows for easier association and integration of data among systems which require unique identification in automated information systems (AIS).
Unique Patient	A <b>unique</b> patient is an individual social security number recorded in any of the workload files captured in the VA and VHA data systems (unique outpatient, unique inpatient, etc). The patient is only counted once as a unique patient, regardless of whether the patient was seen as both an inpatient and an outpatient, per Fiscal Year (FY) period. Note: Veterans may visit more than one VA site of care. Therefore, do not sum Unique Patients across multiple sites of care, as Veterans may be counted more than once.
VISN	Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN)