



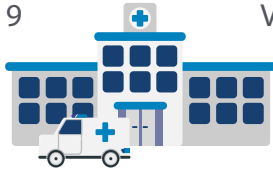
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs COVID-19 Pandemic Response

Weekly Report: February 2–8, 2021



VETERAN CARE

VA has diagnosed
192,062 Veterans
with COVID-19



33,045 COVID-19
patients admitted to
VA facilities (as of Feb. 7)

3,350 current
COVID-19 inpatients

173,839 COVID-19 patients
now in convalescence

VACCINE & TESTING



1,001,000+ people vaccinated
(at least one dose) (from Dec. 14–Feb. 9)

- **751,000+** Veterans
- **250,000+** employees

1,342,053
unique people tested

80,091 tests processed for states (as of Feb. 5)

VIRTUAL CARE

210,966 weekly home or off-site
telehealth visits (Jan. 24–30)



1,785%
increase in home or off-site
telehealth visits (Mar. 1–Jan. 30)



644,259 total secure
messages exchanged*

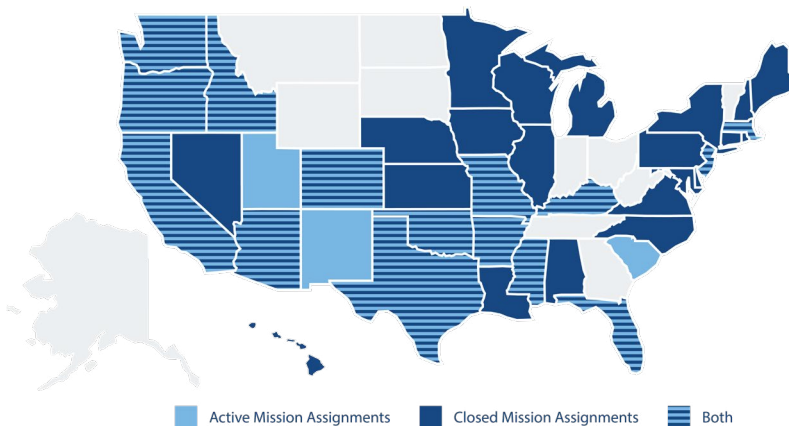
465,749 prescription refill requests placed*

3,580,658 authenticated patients (as of Jan. 2021)

*Virtual Care figures are from Jan. 31–Feb. 6.

FOURTH MISSION

Supporting state & local health care systems



486 COVID-19 non-Veteran patients
in **15** states (as of Feb. 3)

1,500 Veterans admitted to care from
State Veterans Homes (as of Feb. 2)

Provided **920,145** total pieces of personal
protective equipment (PPE)*, including:

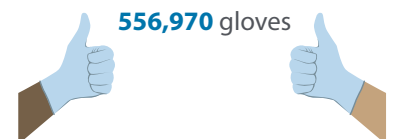
365 non-Veteran
patients discharged
home (as of Feb. 2)

2,419 VA staff
members supporting
non-VA facilities*

221,114 masks



556,970 gloves



*Fourth Mission figures are as of Feb. 5.

All figures are as of Feb. 8, 2021, unless otherwise noted.

VETERAN OUTREACH

VA.gov had **3,759,927** visitors

VA.gov/Coronavirus had **8,819** visitors

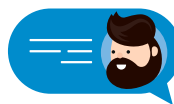
VA.gov/Coronavirus-chatbot had **255,660** visitors



Veteran Outreach figures are from Feb. 1–7.

VETERAN ENGAGEMENT

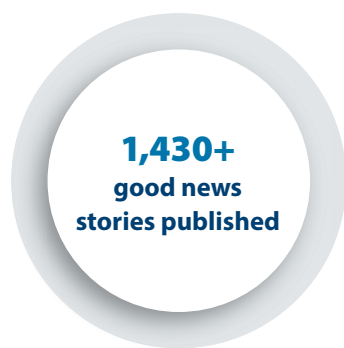
165,565 COVID-19 related calls made to VA 411 & the White House VA Hotline*



12,663 calls made to VA's COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions Hotline

**Veteran Engagement figures are as of Feb. 7.*

MEDIA OUTREACH



The Post and Courier (Feb. 6, 2021)

"North Charleston's new VA clinic opens early to vaccinate SC Veterans against COVID-19"

Military.com (Feb. 2, 2021)

"The VA has now administered more COVID-19 vaccine shots than 42 US States"

WDSU (Feb. 8, 2021)

"America's oldest WWII Veteran receives COVID-19 vaccine in New Orleans"



"VA administers 1 million COVID-19 doses, publishes facility vaccination numbers"

All figures in the Media Outreach section are from Feb. 2020–Feb. 2021

STAFFING

BOARD OF VETERANS' APPEALS (BVA)

79,091 total VHA new hires



Staffing figures are from Mar. 29–Jan. 21.

Held **10,535**
virtual hearings

Issued **87,078**
decisions



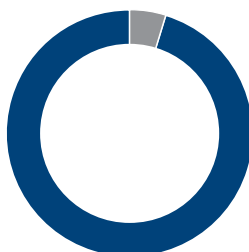
BVA figures are from Mar. 23–Feb. 8.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION (VBA)

123,678 total Veteran interments (from Mar. 9–Feb. 8)

- **6,011** COVID-19 related interments
- **117,667** other interments



9,020 Veteran Legacy Memorial posts (va.gov/remember)

24,142 calls received at VBA National Call Center related to COVID-19*

138,771 VA Video Connect appointments conducted for VA benefits*



5,731,926 Veterans in **50** states & **7** VSOs reached through **108** tele-town halls held to discuss VBA's COVID-19 response, Blue Water Navy, VBBP, & Solid Start Programs (Mar. 16–Feb. 1)

All figures are as of Feb. 8, 2021, unless otherwise noted.

**VBA figures are from Mar. 16–Feb. 5.*



1) Even fire & smoke can't stop #TheVaccinators

Even during a fire alarm, a Tampa VA team known as #TheVaccinators continued to administer vaccinations outdoors.

[Read the full story.](#)

2) Coronavirus vaccinations given to thousands of Veterans at Durham VA

On Superbowl Sunday, Durham VA held a vaccination blitz, with the goal of giving as many as 3,000 Veterans their first shot of COVID-19 vaccine.

[Read the full story.](#)



3) "Operation Big Shot" ramps up at Milwaukee VA

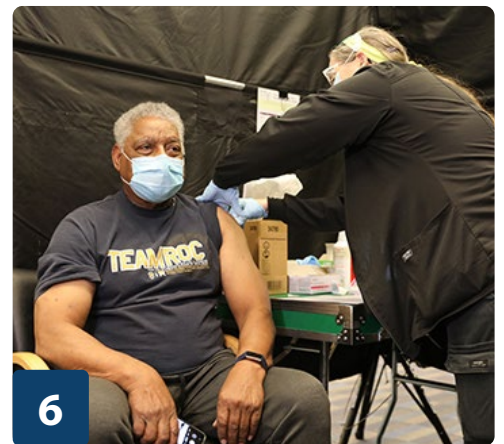
Milwaukee VA launched "Operation Big Shot," an unprecedented campaign to vaccinate as many Veterans & employees as possible.

[Read the full story.](#)

4) Biloxi VA uses smart disinfecting robot

To help keep Veterans & staff safe from COVID-19, Biloxi VA is using the Tru-D Smart UVC Disinfection robot cleaning system.

[Read the full story.](#)



5) WV Medal of Honor winner urges Veterans to get vaccinated

WWII Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams was vaccinated for COVID-19 at the first opportunity. His advice to Veterans: "Definitely, take the vaccine."

[Read the full story.](#)

6) Las Vegas VA gives 10,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses

VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System gave 10,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine & expanded vaccine availability to more Veterans.

[Read the full story.](#)

VA's COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions Hotline: 844-698-2311
 Veterans Crisis Line: 800-273-8255 & Press 1
 VA 411: 844-698-2311
 Call your VA medical center ([VA.gov/find-locations](#)) before visiting.
 This helps us protect you, other Veterans & medical staff.

[VA.gov/Coronavirus](#)

[VA Coronavirus: FAQs page](#)

Download your VA Welcome Kit: [VA.gov/welcome-kit](#)

Sign up for weekly VA email updates at: [VA.gov/VetResources](#)

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs