



Spotlight on Women's Health Cyberseminar Series

Sponsored by the VA Women's Health Research Network

Practice and Policy:
**Office of Women's Health Priorities &
Implications for Women's Health Research**

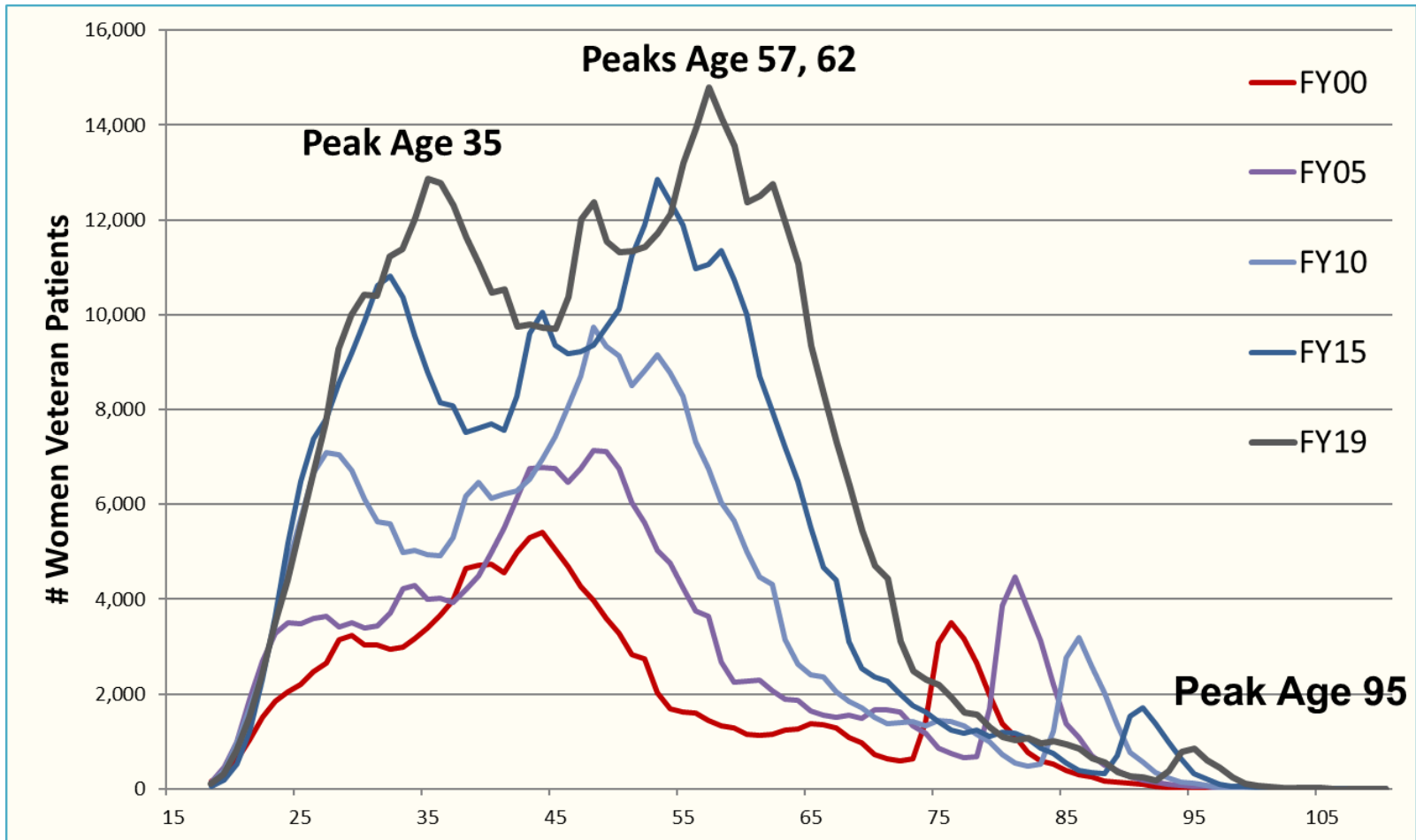


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Office of Women's Health
March 10, 2022

Women in the Military: A Growing Trend



Age Distribution of Women VHA Patients



A Large System Aids in Research

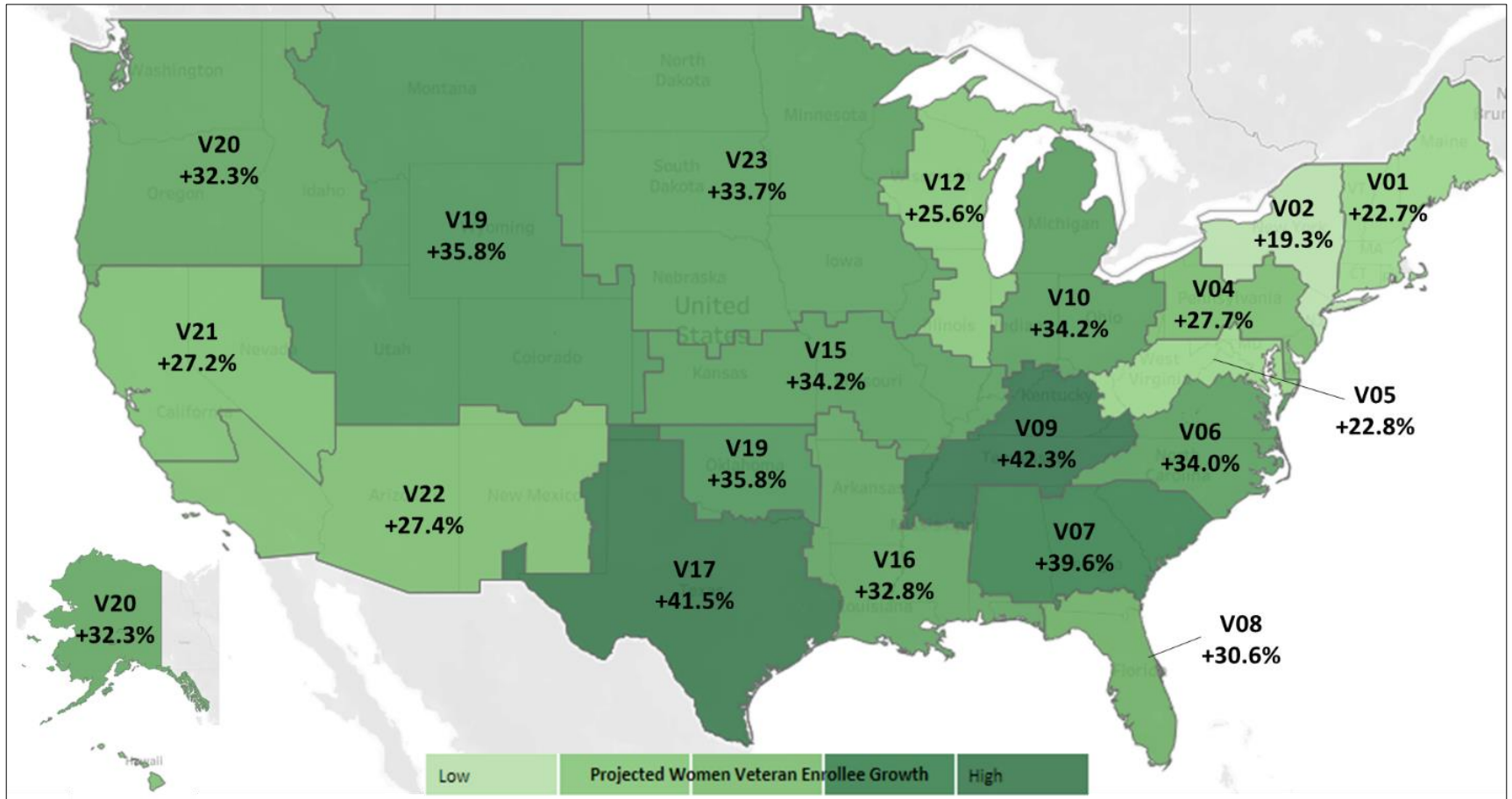
FY19 - FY29 Women Veteran Enrollee Change by VISN

VISN	FY 2019 Women Veteran Enrollees	FY 2029 Women Veteran Enrollees	% Change
V01	23,127	28,366	22.7%
V02	28,697	34,249	19.3%
V04	28,160	35,969	27.7%
V05	39,473	48,455	22.8%
V06	67,254	90,122	34.0%
V07	77,780	108,544	39.6%
V08	66,042	86,226	30.6%
V09	31,083	44,235	42.3%
V10	47,343	63,523	34.2%
V12	27,496	34,528	25.6%
V15	25,484	34,200	34.2%
V16	56,599	75,751	33.8%
V17	69,630	99,310	42.6%
V19	41,602	56,504	35.8%
V20	42,454	56,162	32.3%
V21	39,635	50,425	27.2%
V22	65,837	83,858	27.4%
V23	27,954	37,371	33.7%
Total	805,650	1,067,799	32.5%

Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. FY 2020 VA Enrollee Health Care Projection Model

FY 2019-FY 2029

Women Veteran Enrollee Change by VISN



Darker green areas are those VISNs with the highest % projected growth

Office of Women's Health

Vision:

VHA strives to be a national leader in the provision of health care for women Veterans, thereby raising the standard of care for all women

Mission:

VHA Women's Health serves as a trusted resource for the field and works to ensure that women Veterans experience timely, high quality comprehensive care in a sensitive and safe environment at all points of care

Role of Research In Meeting Health Needs of Veterans

- **Women Veterans have unique characteristics compared to general population**
- **It is critical to understand women Veterans in order to best serve them**
 - Demographics
 - Social Determinants of Health- VA screenings
 - Medical and Mental Health Conditions
 - Reproductive Mental Health focus
 - Healthcare utilization
- **Research has been critical to informing OWH Policy in every area**
 - Maternity care, Infertility care, Contraceptive Access, Pelvic Pain and Pelvic Floor Disorders

Research Policy Intersection

- **Research has been critical to informing OWH Policy in every area**
 - **Maternity care**, including examining Veteran specific factors in maternal morbidity
 - We will be doing maternity Care coordination for full 12 months postpartum
 - What are best teams in VA for managing Maternity care?
 - **Infertility care**, and relationship of service to fertility issues
 - **Contraceptive Access** and the effects of co-pays
 - **Pelvic Pain** and **Pelvic Floor Disorders**
 - And **culture change** and ending harassment

Priorities and Upcoming Focus Areas

- **Building Women's Health visible "Program":**
 - Implementing Women's health and filling gaps in capacity
 - Implementation and innovations:
 - MSK training programs, including virtual
 - Lactation programs
 - Physical Therapy programs including pelvic disorders
 - Evaluation of "virtual care modalities"

Priorities and Upcoming Focus Areas

- **Meeting Veteran Family needs:**
 - Expanding newborn care
 - Implementing Veteran childcare assistance at every site
 - Care giver and family coordination
 - Expanding fertility and infertility services

Priorities and Upcoming Focus Areas

- **The effects of military service on women's lives**
 - Questions of occupational and toxic exposures-beyond “burn pits”
 - What may be different for women?
 - Suicide risks and interventions, and lethal means interventions
 - What is really happening in transition? And what can we learn from women that will help ?

Changing the Culture: Harassment

The image displays four posters arranged in a 2x2 grid, each with a dark teal background and yellow text. Each poster features a small icon at the top: a speech bubble, a shirt, a name tag, and a calendar icon. The posters address various forms of harassment and provide a contact number for reporting: 1-855-829-6636. The VA logo and the text 'U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' are located at the bottom of each poster.

IT'S NOT GIVING HER A COMPLIMENT, IT'S GIVING HER THE CREEPS.

If you wouldn't say it to your sister, don't say it to your sister-in-arms.

To get help or report harassment, call/text 1-855-829-6636

IF SHE WANTED AN OPINION ON HER OUTFIT, SHE'D ASK FOR IT.

It only takes one unwelcome comment to make someone feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

To get help or report harassment, call/text 1-855-829-6636

IT'S CHIEF, CAPT, SGT. NOT BABY, HONEY, SWEETHEART.

Respect them in uniform. Respect them at VA.

To get help or report harassment, call/text 1-855-829-6636

SHE'S HERE FOR AN APPOINTMENT, NOT ATTENTION.

At VA, we treat people with respect.

To get help or report harassment, call/text 1-855-829-6636

Draft New Campaign “I belong”



I am a warrior.

I am a wingman.

I am a shipmate.

I am a battle buddy.

I am a sister-in-arms.

I am a Veteran.

I belong at VA.

Women Veterans Call Center: 1-855-829-6636

www.womenshealth.va.gov | #WomenVets

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Thank You for Your Dedication to Women Veterans



POC:

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Get Involved!

- ✓ **Subscribe to the VA WHRN Listserv** at https://www.research.va.gov/programs/womens_health/listserv.cfm
- ✓ **Contact** Adriana Rodriguez, Ph.D., WHRN Consortium Program Manager (Adriana.Rodriguez3@va.gov) with ideas for future women Veterans' health-focused cyberseminars.