

Agency Priority Goal | Action Plan | FY 22 – Q4

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility: Improving Trust of Underserved Veteran Populations

Goal Leader(s):

John W. Boerstler, Chief Veterans Experience Officer, Veterans Experience Office Barbara C. Morton, Deputy Chief Veterans Experience Officer, Veterans Experience Office



Goal Overview

Goal statement

 VA will measure, report and improve the trust of underserved Veterans, such as women, Veterans of color, and LGBTQ+ Veterans. Through this data and human-centered design insights, VA will drive improvements to the experiences of underserved populations served by VA. By September 30, 2023, Veterans Experience scores* related to underserved populations will increase by 3% over a FY 2022 baseline, with an aspirational goal of 90%.

Problem to Be Solved

Veteran trust needs to be reviewed and considered in a broader context that includes a breakdown by
demographic categories and the ability to identify drivers of trust and emerging trends that can influence or
predict trust scores. VA must incorporate this Veteran experience data in all business processes to drive
performance improvements in health care and benefits to increase Veterans' trust in VA.

What Success Looks Like

 Increased trust in underserved populations will increase usage in VA care, benefits and services for underserved populations.

*VA defines customer experience (CX) in 38 C.F.R. § 0.603 as the product of interactions between an organization and a customer over the duration of their relationship. VA measures these interactions through:

- <u>Ease</u>. VA will make access to VA care, benefits and memorial services smooth and easy.
- Effectiveness. VA will deliver care, benefits and memorial services to the customer's satisfaction.
- <u>Emotion / Empathy</u>. VA will deliver care, benefits and memorial services in a manner that makes customers feel honored and valued in their interactions with VA.
- The combination of these factors impact the overall trust the customer has in VA.



Goal Targets

| Achievement statement | | Key indicator(s) | C | Frequency | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Ву | We will | Name of indicator | Target value | Starting value* | Current value* | Update cycle |
| 09/30/23 | Veterans Experience scores related to underserved populations will increase by 3% over a FY 2022 baseline, with an aspirational goal of 90%. | Underserved populations' overall Trust % | 90% | Establishing baseline | Establishing baseline | Quarterly |
| 09/30/23 | Veterans Experience scores related to underserved populations will increase by 3% over a FY 2022 baseline, with an aspirational goal of 90%. | Underserved populations' overall Ease % | 90% | Establishing baseline | Establishing baseline | Quarterly |
| 09/30/23 | Veterans Experience scores related to underserved populations will increase by 3% over a FY 2022 baseline, with an aspirational goal of 90%. | Underserved populations' overall Effectiveness % | 90% | Establishing baseline | Establishing baseline | Quarterly |
| 09/30/23 | Veterans Experience scores related to underserved populations will increase by 3% over a FY 2022 baseline, with an aspirational goal of 90%. | Underserved populations' overall Emotion % | 90% | Establishing baseline | Establishing baseline | Quarterly |

^{*}For initial Q1 scores across the CX domains of trust, ease, effectiveness and emotion relating to underserved Veteran populations by race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation, see slides 7-10. Note that FY22 Q1 and Q2 scores will inform baseline measures across these new demographic domains.



Goal Team

As VA's customer experience (CX) lead, the Veterans Experience Office (VEO) supports VA through four core capabilities: real-time CX surveys and human-centered design, tangible CX tools, modern, integrated, and easy-to-use CX technology, and targeted CX engagement. These capabilities empower VA to deliver outstanding experiences to Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. VEO supports VA in this Department-wide effort through close partnership with VA Administrations and Staff Offices.

Veterans Experience Office

Senior Leads:

- Denise Kitts, Executive Director, Enterprise Measurement and Design Team Lead:
- Evan Albert, Measurement Division Chief

Agency Partners

Veterans Health Administration

Veterans Benefits Administration

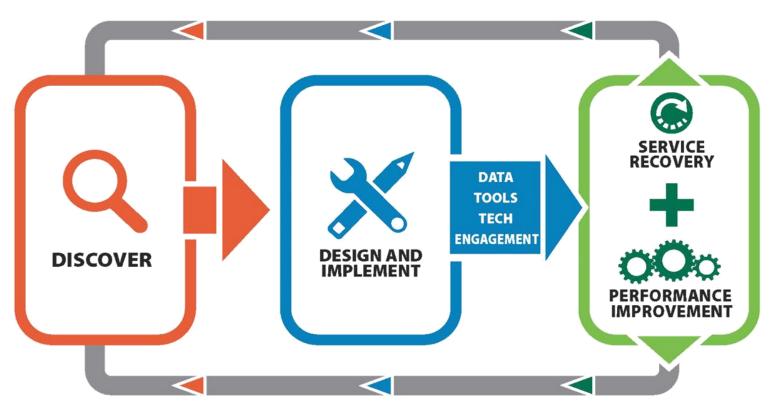
- National Cemetery Administration
- Board of Veterans' Appeals

- Center for Women Veterans
- · Center for Minority Veterans



Goal Strategies

- In FY 2022, VA will leverage CX data analytics capabilities used by the private sector to detect trending feedback and predict emerging topics before they intensify in order to enhance the Veteran experience in underserved populations and increase trust in VA.
- VA leverages private sector best practices by applying its CX framework and human centered design as a core competency to understand, address and improve the Veteran Experience. VA's initial goal in FY 2022 is to monitor, track, and analyze overall Veteran Trust in VA within underserved populations.

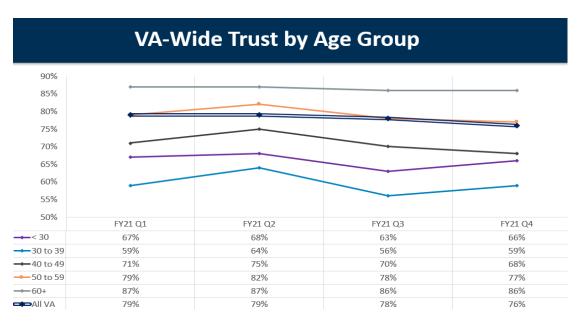




Goal Strategies

- VA will include detailed demographic breakdown to Veteran Trust data trend summaries
- VA will include dashboard modules to its Veterans Signals (VSignals) survey platform to allow business line owners to
 examine trust data and emerging trends that may predict or impact trust scores for underserved Veteran populations
- VA will include this data as a key measure of VA performance in the newly-established VA Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and
 Access (I*DEA) Sub-council. The I*DEA Sub-council is a matrixed body comprised of representatives from across VA
 Administrations and Staff Offices that hardwires I*DEA into VA strategy and decision-making. The APG data will be
 shared to assess the impact on the Veteran Experience as a result of I*DEA implementations across the Department.

Exemplar graphic:





Underserved Populations' Overall Trust

- Factors that contribute to and impact a Veteran's overall trust in VA include ease, effectiveness, and emotion, all of which align with OMB A-11, § 280 and VA's CX framework, as codified in 38 C.F.R. §§ 0.600-0.603.
- VA analyzes what Veterans are saying about their VA experiences in receiving care, benefits and other services, and levels of ease, effectiveness, and emotion are anticipated to drive increases in trust.

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | 2023 |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------|------|------|------|---------------|
| Overall VA Trust | 2022 79% | 2022 78% | 2022 76% | 2022 77% | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | Target 90% |
| Overall VA Trust | | rust by Ra | | 1170 | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 72% | 71% | 70% | 72% | _ | _ | | _ | 90% |
| Asian | 82% | 81% | 82% | 81% | _ | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Black or African American | 79% | 79% | 77% | 77% | _ | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Middle Eastern or North African | 77%* | 61% | 63%* | 55%* | _ | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 88% | 77% | 80% | 77% | _ | _ | - | - | 90% |
| White | 83% | 81% | 80% | 81% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | | ust by Ethr | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 81% | 78% | 79% | 79% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 82% | 81% | 80% | 81% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Trust b | y Ethnicity | / – Hispani | c Country | of Origin | | | | | |
| Cuban | 74%* | 75%* | 68%* | 77%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Mexican/Mexican-American/Chicano | 81% | 77% | 76% | 78% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Puerto Rican | 83% | 81% | 82% | 81% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other | 80% | 77% | 78% | 76% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | Tr | ust by Ger | | | | | | | |
| Female | 76% | 75% | 73% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Male | 83% | 82% | 81% | 81% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Transgender Man | 78%* | 61%* | 50%* | 57%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Transgender Woman | 70%* | 63%* | 77%* | 73%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Non-Binary or Third Gender | 53%* | 49%* | 51%* | 48%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other Gender | 50%* | 31%* | 47%* | 42%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Prefer not to say Gender | 41%* | 43%* | 47%* | 51%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | | y Sexual O | | | | | | | |
| Bisexual | 74% | 60% | 72% | 72% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Gay | 81% | 83% | 76% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Heterosexual or Straight | 82% | 81% | 80% | 81% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Lesbian | 71% | 73% | 63% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Queer | 49%* | 47%* | 57%* | 42%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other Sexual Orientation | 72% | 54% | 68% | 61% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Prefer not to say Orientation | 69% | 68% | 71% | 66% | - | - | - | - | 90% |



Underserved Populations' Overall Ease

- Factors that contribute to and impact a Veteran's overall trust in VA include ease, effectiveness, and emotion, all of which align with OMB A-11, § 280 and VA's CX framework, as codified in 38 C.F.R. §§ 0.600-0.603.
- VA analyzes what Veterans are saying about their VA experiences in receiving care, benefits and other services, and levels of ease, effectiveness, and emotion are anticipated to drive increases in trust.

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | 2023 |
|---|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------|------|------|------|------------|
| | 2022 | 2022 | 2022 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | Target |
| Overall VA Ease | 73% | 72% | 71% | 71% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| American Indian or Alceka Native | | Ease by Ra | | CEO/ | | | | | 000/ |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 67% | 65% | 64% | 65% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Asian | 75% | 73% | 74% | 74% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Black or African American Middle Eastern or North African | 73% 66%* | 73% 53% | 71% 64%* | 70% 47%* | - | - | - | - | 90% 90% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 78% | 69% | 72% | 65% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| White | | 76% | 74% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| VVIIILE | 76% Fa | se by Ethr | | 73% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Hispanic or Latino | 74% | 72% | 71% | 72% | | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 74% | 75% | 74% | 74% | _ | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Ease b | | – Hispani | | | | | _ | _ | 3070 |
| Cuban | 66%* | 75%* | 64%* | 70%* | _ | _ | | _ | 90% |
| Mexican/Mexican-American/Chicano | 74% | 72% | 67% | 72% | - | - | - | _ | 90% |
| Puerto Rican | 74% | 75% | 77% | 74% | _ | _ | - | _ | 90% |
| Other | 70% | 66% | 71% | 66% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | | ase by Ger | | | | | | | |
| Female | 70% | 68% | 67% | 68% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Male | 76% | 76% | 75% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Transgender Man | 52%* | 58%* | 52%* | 39%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Transgender Woman | 74%* | 59%* | 62%* | 56%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Non-Binary or Third Gender | 66%* | 55%* | 46%* | 42%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other Gender | 26%* | 35%* | 46%* | 40%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Prefer not to say Gender | 30%* | 37%* | 50%* | 55%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | Ease by | / Sexual O | rientation | | | | | | |
| Bisexual | 65% | 57% | 60% | 61% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Gay | 77% | 77% | 72% | 71% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Heterosexual or Straight | 76% | 76% | 74% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Lesbian | 70% | 65% | 58% | 63% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Queer | 60%* | 48%* | 47%* | 36%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other Sexual Orientation | 69% | 58% | 67% | 52% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Prefer not to say Orientation | 63% | 62% | 62% | 57% | - | - | - | - | 90% |



Underserved Populations' Overall Emotion

- Factors that contribute to and impact a Veteran's overall trust in VA include ease, effectiveness, and emotion, all of which align with OMB A-11, § 280 and VA's CX framework, as codified in 38 C.F.R. §§ 0.600-0.603.
- VA analyzes what Veterans are saying about their VA experiences in receiving care, benefits and other services, and levels of ease, effectiveness, and emotion are anticipated to drive increases in trust.

| | Q1 2022 | Q2 2022 | Q3 2022 | Q4 2022 | Q1 2023 | Q2 2023 | Q3 2023 | Q4 2023 | 2023 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Overall VA Emotion | 76% | 75% | 73% | 74% | 2 023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | Target 90% |
| Overall VA Efficient | | notion by F | | 7 4 70 | _ | _ | - | _ | 30 /6 |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 69% | 70% | 64% | 70% | _ | - | _ | - | 90% |
| Asian | 77% | 76% | 78% | 76% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Black or African American | 75% | 76% | 73% | 73% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Middle Eastern or North African | 76%* | 59% | 66%* | 52%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 83% | 73% | 73% | 74% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| White | 79% | 78% | 76% | 78% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | Emo | tion by Et | hnicity | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 76% | 75% | 74% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 79% | 78% | 76% | 77% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | | ity – Hispa | | | n | | | | |
| Cuban | 67%* | 77%* | 68%* | 68%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Mexican/Mexican-American/Chicano | 75% | 73% | 71% | 74% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Puerto Rican | 79% | 80% | 79% | 80% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other | 75% | 72% | 73% | 70% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| | | otion by G | | | | | | | |
| Female | 72% | 72% | 69% | 71% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Male | 80% | 79% | 77% | 78% | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Transgender Man | 78%* | 65%* | 38%* | 47%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Transgender Woman | 73%* | 50%* | 71%* | 59%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Non-Binary or Third Gender | 69%* | 56%* | 42%* | 46%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Other Gender | 44%* | 41%* | 37%* | 40%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Prefer not to say Gender | 30%* | 43%* | 52%* Orientatio | 55%* | - | - | - | - | 90% |
| Bisexual | Emotion 71% | 59% | 67% | 68% | _ | _ | | _ | 90% |
| Gav | 71% | 80% | 71% | 74% | _ | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Heterosexual or Straight | 79% 79% | 78% | 76% | 77% | - | | | - | 90% |
| Lesbian | 70% | 70% | 61% | 66% | - | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Queer | 61%* | 52%* | 44%* | 40%* | - | _ | _ | _ | 90% |
| Other Sexual Orientation | 70% | 56% | 65% | 61% | - | - | | - | 90% |
| Prefer not to say Orientation | 65% | 66% | 66% | 63% | - | _ | - | - | 90% |
| Trefer not to say Offentation | 0370 | 00 /0 | 0070 | 0070 | _ | | | - | 30 /0 |



Underserved Populations' Overall Effectiveness

- Factors that contribute to and impact a Veteran's overall trust in VA include ease, effectiveness, and emotion, all of which align with OMB A-11, § 280 and VA's CX framework, as codified in 38 C.F.R. §§ 0.600-0.603.
- VA analyzes what Veterans are saying about their VA experiences in receiving care, benefits and other services, and levels of ease, effectiveness, and emotion are anticipated to drive increases in trust.

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | 2023 | |
|---|------------|--------------|------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|--|
| | 2022 | 2022 | 2022 | 2022 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | 2023 | Target | |
| Overall VA Effectiveness | 78% | 77% | 75% | 76% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Effectiveness by Race | | | | | | | | | | |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 74% | 69% | 67% | 72% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Asian | 78% | 78% | 79% | 77% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Black or African American | 76% | 76% | 75% | 75% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Middle Eastern or North African | 74%* | 57% | 66%* | 56%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 81% | 76% | 74% | 70% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| White | 80% | 80% | 78% | 79% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| | Effecti | veness by | Ethnicity | | | | | | | |
| Hispanic or Latino | 78% | 76% | 74% | 76% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Not Hispanic or Latino | 80% | 80% | 78% | 78% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Effectivene | ss by Ethr | nicity – His | | | igin | | | | | |
| Cuban | 78%* | 78%* | 70%* | 71%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Mexican/Mexican-American/Chicano | 77% | 75% | 72% | 74% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Puerto Rican | 79% | 79% | 78% | 79% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Other | 78% | 77% | 71% | 74% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| | Effect | iveness by | Gender | | | | | | | |
| Female | 75% | 75% | 72% | 73% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Male | 81% | 80% | 79% | 79% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Transgender Man | 88%* | 68%* | 57%* | 32%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Transgender Woman | 74%* | 62%* | 60%* | 47%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Non-Binary or Third Gender | 70%* | 56%* | 54%* | 44%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Other Gender | 47%* | 41%* | 49%* | 42%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Prefer not to say Gender | 31%* | 33%* | 53%* | 61%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| E | | ss by Sexu | al Orienta | tion | | | | • | | |
| Bisexual | 76% | 66% | 71% | 70% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Gay | 79% | 82% | 76% | 73% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Heterosexual or Straight | 80% | 80% | 78% | 79% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Lesbian | 72% | 75% | 65% | 66% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Queer | 74%* | 55%* | 68%* | 36%* | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Other Sexual Orientation | 71% | 60% | 72% | 59% | - | - | - | - | 90% | |
| Prefer not to say Orientation | 67% | 68% | 67% | 65% | _ | _ | | _ | 90% | |
| Trefer not to say offentation | 01/0 | 00 /0 | 01 /0 | 0070 | | | | | 3070 | |



Key Milestones

• In order to achieve VA's goal of increasing underserved Veteran trust in VA by 3% over baseline (and aspirational goal of 90%) by 2023, VA established strategic milestones to improve service delivery efforts and performance

| Milestone Summary | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Key Milestone | Milestone Due Date | Milestone Status | Change from last quarter | Owner | Comments | | | |
| Add demographic information to VA-Wide Trust survey | Q1 FY2022 | Complete | | VEO | Completed October 2021 | | | |
| Collect and report comprehensive Veteran demographic data from the VA-Wide Trust survey to inform baseline CX scores for underserved Veteran populations | Q3 FY2022 | Complete | | VEO | Completed May 2022. Included demographic data in FY2022 VA Trust Report available on <u>www.VA.gov/trust</u> . | | | |
| Identify and report on drivers of underserved Veteran Trust in VSignals Outpatient/Inpatient Dashboards | Q4 FY2022 | Prototype Developed and Successfully Deployed in VSignals | Completed | | VEO developed a prototype module* in the VSignals platform that will allow VHA staff to review VSignals CX survey responses from Outpatient/Inpatient surveys and associated free-text comments, and also determine what data trends or themes from comments are serving as "drivers" (determining factors) for VA trust/satisfaction. | | | |
| Identify and report on emerging trends within underserved populations in VSignals Outpatient/Inpatient Dashboards | Q4 FY2022 | Prototype Developed and Successfully Deployed in VSignals | Completed | | VEO developed prototype module* for the VSignals platform that will allow VHA staff to review Outpatient/Inpatient free-text responses (compliments, concerns, recommendations) and determine what thematic concerns or trends are emerging/developing nationally and in specific geographic regions within specific timeframes. | | | |

^{*}Found in VHA Consolidated Dashboard



Key Milestones

• In order to achieve VA's goal of increasing underserved Veteran trust in VA by 3% over baseline (and aspirational goal of 90%) by 2023, VA established strategic milestones to improve service delivery efforts and performance

| Milestone Summary | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Key Milestone | Milestone Due Date | Milestone Status | Change from last quarter | Owner | Comments | | | | |
| Report I*DEA APG data to VA's I*DEA Sub-Council as a measure of Department-wide performance on I*DEA implementations as a result of the I*DEA Action Plan | Q1 FY2023 | | | VEO | VEO will share the enhanced demographic data from the VA-Wide Trust survey through VA's IDEA Sub-Council. With the increased data collection over time, VEO will be able to ascertain sentiment of trust, ease, effectiveness and emotion across underserved Veteran populations to inform strategy and decision-making. | | | | |
| Create an action plan, based on preliminary analyses of gender identity and sexual orientation identity data already in VHA systems | Q3 FY2023 | | | | The action plan will identify system-wide performance improvement opportunities in the health care space to improve the CX. | | | | |
| Conduct four national Symposiums for minority Veterans, women Veterans, rural Veterans, LGBTQ+ Veterans, Tribal and Native American Veterans | Q4 FY2023 | | | VBA | VBA's Office of Outreach, Transition and Economic Development will conduct national symposiums to provide information regarding VA benefits and services, as well as economic development programs for Veterans. | | | | |
| Conduct I*DEA Stand-down across VA | Q1 FY2024 | | | ORMDI | The I*DEA Stand-down will be conducted by individual Administrations and Staff Offices. | | | | |
| Add sexual orientation identity option in the Veteran profile on VA.gov | Q4 FY2023 | | | | Coordinating with OMB to ensure this additional digital only data collection is in compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act. | | | | |



Narrative – FY 22Q4

VA-Wide Trust Survey

- VEO continued deployment of voluntary expanded demographic options (expanded options for race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation) for the quarterly VA Trust Survey, to identify trust for underserved populations. VEO is coordinating with enterprise-partners to identify strategies for action to improve trust utilizing Veteran insights from human-centered design (HCD) research, including around Women Veterans, Native American Veterans, Veterans in the Pacific Region, and younger Veterans.
- FY2022 demographic data reported is from the 58.6% of overall respondents (20,165 out of 34,405) that answered YES, they were willing to answer demographic questions.

Operations & Governance

- In August, VA swore-in its first Chief Diversity Officer. As one of the strategic recommendations from VA's I*DEA Action Plan, the Chief Diversity Officer is responsible for the development of VA's I*DEA strategy and governance, while leading the development, adoption and implementation of VA-wide I*DEA programs and policies in support of VA's strategic priorities.
- VEO continues to work across the enterprise identifying potential opportunities for integrating expanded demographic data collection across its systems through VA's Data Governance Council. By completing HCD research and design phases, VEO attained additional insights on data collection efforts and composition of underserved populations. These phases included analysis on VA's current collection and use of Veteran demographic data. This analysis helped identify opportunities for improving VA's demographic data collection in the most respectful and effective way for Veterans, given the sensitivity and privacy concerns in collecting this type of data. This research culminated in the first iteration of an implementation playbook, which includes design considerations and recommendations to improve the Veteran CX and processes for demographic data collection. The draft playbook was designed around Veteran insights, SME insights, as well as findings from surveys and results from a landscape analysis. The research found that the Veterans interviewed were generally comfortable with providing their demographic data when they understood what it was being used for and how it would improve their VA experience. The playbook can be used to improve the methods and CX for demographics data collection, ultimately leading to increased trust in VA. Additionally, VEO is engaged in facilitating workgroups focused on delivering a joint DoD/VA plan to harmonize Service member and Veteran identity, contact information and demographic data. 13



Narrative – FY 22Q4

Operations & Governance Continued

- In FY 2022 Q4, the I*DEA Sub-Council created a cross-department working group to create the framework for VA Administrations and Staff Offices to conduct an I*DEA Stand-down. The goal of the Stand-down, established from the VA I*DEA Action Plan published September 2021, is for VA to become more inclusive, diverse, equitable and accessible for employees while providing support to underserved communities through equitable services for Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors. The Task Force focused on creating a comprehensive, holistic playbook for Administrations and Staff Offices to plan their Stand-down, which provides a general overview of I*DEA, its importance to our customers, as well as definitions and topics to address and tools and resources to support both the person leading the event and the employee attending. The Task Force also identified ways to measure the success and progress of the event. A final product for leadership concurrence and approval is still in process. Each Administration and Staff Office will conduct an I*DEA Stand-Down by the end of FY 2024 Q1.
- The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) recertified <u>VHA Directive 1340: Provision of Health Care for Veterans Who Identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Queer.</u> The updated directive includes language to be more inclusive with the addition of queer and other identities reflected by "Q+" and expanded allocated time and responsibilities for local LGBTQ+ Veteran Care Coordinators.
- Implemented a voluntary national sexual health note template in CPRS which will assist clinicians in conducting sexual health assessments per Directive 1340.
- The Sexual Orientation identity field is live in many VA health care facilities using CPRS, which allows providers at these
 facilities to assess and document sexual orientation identity and use this information in their health assessment. To date,
 approximately 410,000 Veterans have this data entered in their health record. VA is continuing efforts to ensure this field
 is available in all VA health care facilities using CPRS. Cerner Millennium already has a live Sexual Orientation Identity
 field.



Data Accuracy & Reliability

Data Sources

- Internal VA database Dependencies: VA Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) and Corporate Data Warehouse (CDW)
- VA-Wide Trust Measure Survey Methodology:
 - Survey Pool: Veterans, eligible dependents, survivors, caregivers, and other advocates, with a valid email address on record and who received one or more health, benefit, or memorial service within a quarter
 - Mode of Administration: Web survey through email invitation; open for two-weeks with a reminder email after one week
 - Sampling Approach: Stratified sampling approach to determine survey population based on most recent service received, gender, and age
 - Frequency of Response: Quarterly
- Sampling Approach:
 - Ensures responses represent target population
 - Provides analytical rigor and mitigates survey fatigue
 - o Ensures VA complies with OMB guidelines on Paper Reduction Act



Additional Information

Contributing Programs

- Organizations:
 - Office of Information & Technology (OIT): VEO partners with OIT, which operates the Veterans Signals survey software platform, to develop and deliver the Veteran experience data analytics capabilities
 - Office of Public & Intergovernmental Affairs (OPIA): Continuing coordination to integrate social media listening capability
 - Veterans Health Administration (VHA): Partnering to seamlessly refer Veterans in crisis (suicide and homelessness) to appropriate action groups
- Program Activities:
 - Program Activity contribution
- · President's Management Agenda
 - Directly supports PMA Priority Pillar II: Delivering excellent, equitable, and secure Federal services and customer experience
- Legislation/Regulations:
 - Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) in accordance with the PRA, VEO gains OMB approval for every survey it develops, which includes non-bias response phone surveys

<u>Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations</u>

Describe how the agency incorporated any views or suggestions through consultations held w/Congress or other stakeholders