

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**Fact Sheet**Office of Public Affairs
Media RelationsWashington, DC 20420
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www.va.gov**Patient Access Progress Update
Release 28 – August 27, 2015****Summary**

In keeping with the commitment to improve transparency in Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) processes and in accordance with Section 206 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (VACAA), VA today released the [latest update of facility-level patient access data](#) and is highlighting notable access improvements. In this release, VA is providing two reports:

- 1. Completed Appointments (As of July 2015)***
- 2. Pending Appointments (Snapshot of data on August 15, 2015)***

Notable Improvements:

1. Nationally, VA completed more than 61.5 million appointments between July 1, 2014 and July 31, 2015. This represents an increase of 2.36 million more appointments than were completed during the same time period in 2013/2014.
2. VA created over 2.7 million authorizations for Veterans to receive care in the private sector between August 16, 2014 and August 15, 2015. This represents a 21 percent increase in authorizations, when compared to the period ranging from August 2013 to August 2014.
3. VA completed 97 percent of appointments in July 2015 within 30 days of the clinically indicated or Veteran's preferred date; 92 percent within 14 days; 87 percent within 7 days; and 22 percent are actually completed on the same day.
4. Between June 1, 2014, and August 15, 2015, the Electronic Wait List went from 56,000 appointments to 40,067, a 28 percent reduction.

*Both reports are created using "Wait Times Calculated Using Preferred Date," which utilizes the date a Veteran prefers to be seen or the date determined to be medically necessary by their clinical provider.