

## OVERVIEW OF VA'S HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR WOMEN VETERANS

VA offers women Veterans:

- A full spectrum of comprehensive health care services with primary and preventive care, such as mammography, cervical screenings (PAP tests), contraceptives, and menopause support
- Gender-specific, reproductive health care services including maternity care and fertility services like in vitro fertilization (IVF)
- Mental health evaluation, counseling, and treatment for many different mental health concerns
- Treatment for mental and physical health conditions related to military sexual trauma (MST) even if a woman Veteran is not eligible for other VA care
- Complementary and integrated health practices like acupuncture and yoga

To coordinate these services, women Veterans can work with:

- Women's Health Primary Care Providers are providers trained in general primary care as well as gender-specific care such as breast health and reproductive care. Women Veterans can ask to be assigned to one at VA.
- Patient Aligned Care Team, a team of medical professionals who can coordinate VA's services to align with women Veterans' personal health plans and goals
- Women's Health Care Coordinators are specially trained women's health professionals who can coordinate care specific to women Veterans
- Women Veterans Call Center, a woman Veteran's guide to VA. All calls are answered by women, many of whom are Veterans themselves, who help women Veterans navigate VA, answer their questions about VA services and benefits, and connect them with the Women Veterans Program Manager at their local VA medical center.

## Women Veterans Call Center

The Women Veterans Call Center (WVCC) is your guide to VA. All calls are answered by women, many of whom are Veterans themselves, who will help you navigate VA, answer your questions about VA services and benefits available to you, and connect you with the Women Veterans Program Manager at your local VA medical center. This service is free, and you can call as many times as you need.

Call or text us at 855-VA-WOMEN (855-829-6636). WVCC representatives are available Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET, and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET. You can also chat with us online and learn more by visiting <https://www.womenshealth.va.gov>



### Am I Eligible for VA Health Care?

Everyone's situation is unique and so is their eligibility. To find out if you are eligible to enroll, visit <https://www.va.gov/health-care/eligibility>

### Apply Online or By Mail

Go to <https://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply>

### Apply in Person

Visit the nearest VA medical center or clinic. You can locate your nearest VA health facility at <https://www.va.gov/find-locations>

### Apply by Phone

To apply for VA benefits you may have earned—such as preventative care, inpatient and urgent care services—call 1-877-222-8387

Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–8 p.m. ET.  
Veterans Benefits Administration 1-800-827-1000  
[www.vba.va.gov](http://www.vba.va.gov)

## WOMEN VETERANS HEALTH CARE

# PROFILE OF WOMEN VETERANS



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# PROFILE OF WOMEN VETERANS



There are nearly 2 million women Veterans living in the United States today. With the increasing numbers of women serving in the US military, Women Veterans are the fastest growing subgroup in the Veteran population.

With this many women Veterans living in America, chances are you work with, care for, or interact with a woman Veteran, and you may not even know it. Women are less likely to identify themselves as Veterans or wear clothing or accessories that identify themselves as Veterans. It is important to ask and learn about this growing population's unique needs.



Women Veterans face specific challenges, have unique health care needs, and may struggle to feel respected. To get the highest quality care, women Veterans need clinicians and advocates who are trained in women Veterans' health. VA has been providing gender-specific care to eligible women Veterans for over 75 years and expands its services every year. In the next decade, women Veterans' enrollment in VA is anticipated to increase by 32%.

## WHY SHOULD WOMEN CHOOSE VA?

Women Veterans made up nearly 30% of new VA health care enrollment over the last 5 years, and more than 600,000 women receive care at VA each year. VA health care providers work with women Veterans to create an individual care plan based on their values, needs, and goals. VA offers a personalized, proactive, and patient-driven system of care. This care plan can include whole health approaches like mindfulness and nutrition as well as traditional health care.

## COMMUNITY CARE CLINICIANS AND ADVOCATES RESOURCES

It is beneficial for non-VA providers in the community to understand the unique needs of women Veterans because a majority of women Veterans receive care in the community outside of VA. To learn more about women Veterans, visit:

- **womenshealth.va.gov**, to learn more about the services VA offers to women Veterans and access a database of printable patient-targeted brochures, posters, publications, and reports
- **Caring for Women Veterans in the Community**, a free, accredited, hour-long virtual course for health care providers to learn the specific and unique needs of women Veteran patients
- **She Wears the Boots Podcast**, podcast episodes with health care providers discussing how health care concerns impact women Veterans
- **mobile.va.gov**, a library of mobile applications for Veteran patients as well as health care providers
- **Military Health History Pocket Card**, a list of important questions to ask all Veterans when providing them health care
- **VA's Center for Women Veterans**, to learn more about women Veterans and receive more information regarding programs and resources for women Veterans
- **VA's Office of Research and Development**, a centralized hub of research on Veteran health with papers, publications, and studies

## WOMEN VETERANS AT A GLANCE

1.9 million living in the United States, currently 11% of the Veteran population and will continue to grow as women Veterans are the fastest growing subgroup in the Veteran population.



**43% belong to a racial or ethnic minority**



**Nearly half have a college degree**



**Nearly half occupy managerial positions**

**Median annual wage of \$45,509**



**AVERAGE AGE**



**One out of every three women Veterans use VA benefits**