VIReC Research User Guide:

1999-2006

VHA Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH) Monthly Enrollment File



VA Information Resource Center

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VIReC Research User Guide: VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File

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I. Introduction

The VIReC Research User Guide: VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File was produced by the Veterans Affairs Information Resource Center (VIReC), a national resource center of the Health Services Research and Development Service (HSR&D), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This guide describes the VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). VIReC issues this guide to help health services researchers and other users of these data understand the availability and definitions of the variables stored within this file.

This is the first edition of the VIReC Research User Guide: VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File.

Using This Guide

This guide is divided into four chapters, including this introduction. The other three chapters are listed below. Additional documents are included as appendices. Throughout the document references to Internet addresses are hyperlinked.

- Overview of VHA ADUSH for Policy and Planning and the ADUSH Monthly
 Enrollment File. Chapter II provides a brief description of the primary sources for enrollment data, methods for its access, and the enrollment process.
- <u>Variables Included in the ADUSH Enrollment File, 1999-2006 (March)</u> Chapter III provides a list of all variables that were included on the year-end ADUSH Enrollment Files between 1999 and 2006 (March).
- <u>VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File Variables and Frequencies</u>. Chapter IV presents a detailed description for each variable in the ADUSH Enrollment File. The descriptions include the following information, where applicable:

Variable Name:	The variable name used in the ADUSH Enrollment File.
Name:	A descriptive name of the variable.
Definition:	An explanation of what the variable denotes.
Source:	The source of the variable, which may be: - the National Enrollment Database extract file (NED), - the Allocation Resource Center extract file (ARC), - the VHA VISN Support Service Center extract file (VSSC), derived from variables on one of the other three sources listed above (Derived), - BIRLS Death File, or - SSA Death Master File.
Remarks:	Background information on the variable, which may include whether it is patient-provided information, whether it is based on another variable in the ADUSH Enrollment File, and whether it is obsolete or has been superseded by another variable.

This document provides a table that lists the values and frequencies for most of the variable in the FY2005 Year-End ADUSH Enrollment File (September 2005). The frequencies represent the values in the 47,254,397 records on the September 2005 file. An enrollee may have multiple records in the file depending on the file production month, the month of care, and the station where the enrollee or patient received care.

Acknowledgements

VIReC used a collaborative process to produce this guide. Contributing authors at VIReC include Tracy Mohr, Noreen Arnold, and Bianca Easterly; Patricia A. Murphy, Cynthia Padera, and Tim Weddle assisted in editing and putting final touches to the guide. Other contributors included Wei Yu, Cornelia Dellebaugh, John Fortney, and Susan Ettner who provided insightful feedback.

The authors are indebted to the following individuals for their assistance in developing the descriptions of the variables contained in this guide: Randy Remmel and Ralph Eskenazi, ADUSH; Cecelia Wray and Paul Ehrler, HEC; and Steve Kendall and Michele Young, ARC.

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II. Overview of VHA ADUSH for Policy and Planning and the ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File

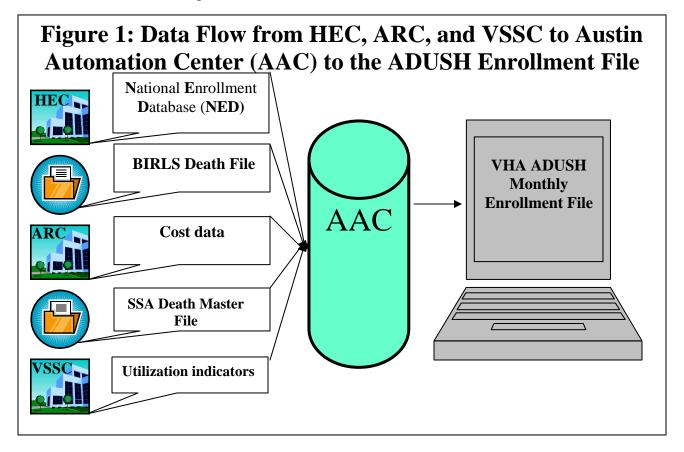
Overview

The Veteran's Health Administration (VHA) Office of the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH) for Policy and Planning supports the offices of the Under Secretary for Health and Deputy Under Secretary for Health as an advisor on the development, implementation, and impact of Veterans Health Administration (VHA) policies. Their focuses are policy analysis and forecasting, strategic planning and informatics, and clinical affairs and information management. Additionally, ADUSH for Policy and Planning maintains the VA Site Tracking (VAST) System, the Bed Control Database and co-monitors several databases with the VISN Support Service Center (VSSC).

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Health (ADUSH) Monthly Enrollment File (the Enrollment File) is created to:

- produce national statistics on VHA expenditures, enrollment, and patients;
- develop statistical models to forecast enrollment and expenditures; and
- perform policy analyses.

The national statistics are published on the ADUSH Web site.



Providing Services for Enrollment Data

The ADUSH Enrollment File is generated from monthly extracts provided by the VHA Health Eligibility Center (HEC), the VHA Allocation Resource Center (ARC), and the <u>VHA Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Support Services Center (VSSC)</u> (see Figure 1). Enrollment data are obtained from HEC via an extract from the National Enrollment Database (NED), cost data are obtained from ARC, and utilization indicators are obtained from VSSC. Death dates are obtained from the <u>BIRLS Death File</u> and the <u>SSA Death Master File</u>. This file has evolved over the years; variables have been added and removed, and the quality of the data has improved. Thus, it is important to note which variables are available each year. (See <u>Chapter III</u>.)

Overview of Enrollment Files

The ADUSH Enrollment File is a fiscal year cumulative file. At the beginning of a fiscal year (October 1st) deceased veterans are removed from the file based on the **DTDEATH** variable (date of death), and ineligible veterans are removed from the file based on the **INELDTE** variable (ineligible date). Each file produced contains at least one record for each enrollee. There are two types of files produced; one file for fiscal quarter-end months and another file for non-fiscal quarter-end months. The file type affects the number of records per enrollee.

- 1. **Fiscal Quarter End Month Files** Files produced for the fiscal quarter-end months (December, March, and June) and the fiscal year-end month (September) contain a record for each patient for each month the patient received care at a station. The cost variables contain the costs of care for that month. These files contain only one record and a missing value in the month of care variable (MOC) for enrollees who have received no care. The sort order of the quarter-end and year-end files is scrambled Social Security number (SSN) (SCRSSN), month of care (MOC), and station (STA6C).
- 2. **Non-Quarter End Month Files** Files produced for non-quarter-end months contain a record for each enrollee or patient for each station where the enrollee or patient received care in the fiscal year to date. The cost variables contain year-to-date costs by station for the enrollee or patient. The sort order of the monthly file is scrambled SSN (**SCRSSN**) and station (**STA6C**).

All files are normally available within two months after the target month ends (e.g., the ADUSH Enrollment File for October is normally available by the end of December).

Method of Access

The ADUSH Enrollment Files are SAS^{®1} files housed at the Austin Automation Center with file names that indicate which year's and month's statistics are contained in each file (see Table 1).

¹ SAS and all other SAS Institute Inc. product or service names are registered trademarks or trademarks of SAS Institute Inc. in the USA and other countries. [®] indicates USA registration.

The fiscal year-end file (September's file) is updated after its original production to add some additional enrollees or patients submitted by facilities whose care may not have been recorded in the ARC extract used to generate the original file. Beginning in 2003, the original fiscal year end file is no longer updated after generation. Instead a new file is created and contains an 'F' in its name.

Researchers should contact their local Information Security Officer to assist in completing and filing an Automated Customer Registration System (ACRS) request form (VA Form 9957) to obtain access to the ADUSH Enrollment File.

Table 1: VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File Naming Conventions

VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File Name	Month and Year
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1229.OPP.PSSG	December 1998
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0203.OPP.PSSG	January 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0226.OPP.PSSG	February 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0326.OPP.PSSG	March 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0426.OPP.PSSG	April 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0528.OPP.PSSG	May 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0628.OPP.PSSG	June 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0724.OPP.PSSG	July 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0824.OPP.PSSG	August 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0927.OPP.PSSG	September 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1101.OPP.PSSG	October 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1126.OPP9.PSSG	November 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1226.OPP9.PSSG	December 1999
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0126.OPP0.PSSG	January 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0306.OPP0.PSSG	February 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0326.OPP0.PSSG	March 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0426.OPP0.PSSG	April 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0526.OPP0.PSSG	May 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0626.OPP0.PSSG	June 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0726.OPP0.PSSG	July 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0826.OPP0.PSSG	August 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0926.OPP0.PSSG	September 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1026.OPP0.PSSG	October 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1126.OPP0.PSSG	November 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL1226.OPP0.PSSG	December 2000
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0126.OPP1.PSSG	January 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0226.OPP1.PSSG	February 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0409.OPP1.PSSG	March 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0430.OPP1.PSSG	April 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0525.OPP1.PSSG	May 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0625.OPP1.PSSG	June 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0725.OPP1.PSSG	July 2001

MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0825.OPP1.PSSG	August 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.ENRL0925.WS.OPP1.PSSG	September 2001
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.NED.MAIN.mmmyyf.PSSG	October 2001 –
where	current month
mmm = 3-character month abbreviation	
yy = year	
f = F only if this is the fiscal year file	

The Enrollment Process

Congress instituted VHA enrollment by law on October 1, 1998, as part of the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996. Veterans who had received VA health-care services between January 1, 1996, and September 30, 1998, were automatically enrolled.

Generally, a veteran must be enrolled in the VA health care system to receive benefits offered in the Medical Benefits Package. Veterans do not have to be enrolled if:²

- They "have been determined by the VA to be 50% or more disabled from serviceconnected conditions".
- They "are seeking care for a VA rated service-connected disability only".
- "It is less than one year since they were discharged for a disability that the military has determined was incurred or aggravated by their service, but that the VA has not yet rated".³

The enrollment process requires all first-time applicants for VHA benefits to complete the VHA Form 10-10EZ, Application for Health Benefits. The VHA uses the 10-10EZ form to gather preliminary data in order to determine whether the applicant has qualifying service as a veteran, and which priority group they should be placed in based on their veteran status. Once enrolled, most veterans will automatically remain enrolled from year to year without further action on their part. However, the enrollment process requires certain veterans to provide income information each year to determine their priority group and they must complete the VHA Form 10-10EZR, Health Benefits Renewal Form. The Health Eligibility Center provides further information on the application process Internet Web site (http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/HECHome.htm).

² There are 1,045,217 records for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Statement of Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D., Acting Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans Affairs On VA's Experience in Implementing Patient Enrollment under Public Law. Representatives, July 15, 1999. Available at http://www.va.gov/OCA/testimony/15JY99TG.doc. Accessed July 21, 2006.

³ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Eligibility and Enrollment: Determining Your Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/determining_eligibility.asp. Access July 21, 2006.

III. Variables Included in the Enrollment File 1999-2006

This table lists all variables that were included on the year-end ADUSH Enrollment Files between 1999 and 2006. The DATA TYPE column indicates if the variable is a numeric field (Num), a character field (Char) or a SAS date (Date). The LENGTH column specifies the field length. The SOURCE column indicates whether the source of the data is the National Enrollment Database (NED), the Allocation Resource Center (ARC), the VISN Support Services Center (VSSC), the BIRLS Death File (BIRLS), the Social Security Administration Death Master File (SSA) or derived from another variable (Derived). An 'X' in a FISCAL YEAR column indicates that the variable was in a particular fiscal year-end file.

		TYPE		더									
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE
AABENE	Aid and Attendance Benefits	Num	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	21
ACTHLINS	Active Health Insurance	Num	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	22
AG8R	Age Category	Num	8	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
AGE	Age	Num	8	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	24
ALLFYUT	New or Past User of VHA Services	Char	4	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	25
CLASS	Diagnostic Class	Char	2	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	26
CNHCOST	Contract Nursing Home Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
CNHDAYS	Contract Nursing Home Days	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
CNTYCURR	Current County Code	Char	5	NED							X	X	32

		TYPE			(F)								
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE
COCNTY	Cost Only County	Num	8	Derived								X	33
CODOB	Cost Only Date of Birth	Num	8	Derived								X	34
COSCPER	Cost Only Service Connected Percentage	Num	8	Derived								X	35
COSEX	Cost Only Sex	Char	1	Derived								X	36
DDSSAFLG	SSA Day of Death Flag	Num	8	Derived							X	X	39
DOB	Date of Birth	Date	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	40
DODBIRLS	BIRLS Date of Death	Date	8	BIRLS							X	X	41
DODSSA	SSA Date of Death	Date	8	SSA							X	X	43
DSSCNHCOST	DSS Contract Nursing Home Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSFEECOST	DSS Non-VA Ambulatory Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSLTCCOST	DSS Long Term Care Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSMEDCOST	DSS VA Inpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSNVACOST	DSS Non-VA Inpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSOPCCOST	DSS VA Outpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSPSYCOST	DSS VA Psychological Inpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37
DSSSURCOST	DSS VA Inpatient Surgical Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC					X	X	X	X	37

		TYPE	LH	CE		E)							
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE
DTDEATH	Date of Death	Date	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	45
EFY00	Enrolled FY2000	Num	2	Derived		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	46
EFY01	Enrolled FY2001	Num	2	Derived			X	X	X	X	X	X	46
EFY02	Enrolled FY2002	Num	2	Derived				X	X	X	X	X	46
EFY03	Enrolled FY2003	Num	2	Derived				X	X	X	X	X	46
EFY04	Enrolled FY2004	Num	2	Derived						X	X	X	46
<u>EFY05</u>	Enrolled FY2005	Num	2	Derived							X	X	46
EFY98	Enrolled FY1998	Num	2	Derived		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	46
EFY99	Enrolled FY1999	Num	2	Derived		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	46
ELIG	Eligibility Code	Char	2	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	47
ELIGSTAT	Eligibility Status	Char	1	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	51
ENAPPDTE	Enrollment Application Date	Date	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X				52
ENRLPRIO	Enrollment Priority	Char	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	53
ENROLDTE	Enrollment Date	Date	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X				55
ENRSTAT	Enrollment Status	Char	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	56
ENRSTATR	Enrollment Status Recoded	Char	2	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	59

		TYPE GTH RCE							Fiscal Year					
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE	
ERDTHFLG	Death Flag	Num	2	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	60	
ERINEFLG	Ineligibility Flag	Num	2	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	61	
EXTRDATE	Extract Date	Date	8	NED	X	X	X						62	
EXTRDTE	Extract Date	Date	8	NED				X	X	X	X	X	63	
FEECOST	Non-VA Ambulatory Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37	
<u>FEEVIS</u>	Non-VA Ambulatory Visits	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37	
FIPS GEO ¹	Geocoded State and County FIPS Code	Char	5	NED								X	64	
FY_EN_AP	Fiscal Year of Enrollment Application	Num	8	Derived	X								69	
<u>FY00</u>	User in Fiscal Year 2000	Num	2	VSSC		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	67	
<u>FY01</u>	User in Fiscal Year 2001	Num	2	VSSC			X	X	X	X	X	X	67	
<u>FY02</u>	User in Fiscal Year 2002	Num	2	VSSC				X	X	X	X	X	67	
<u>FY03</u>	User in Fiscal Year 2003	Num	2	VSSC				X	X	X	X	X	67	
<u>FY04</u>	User in Fiscal Year 2004	Num	2	VSSC						X	X	X	67	
<u>FY05</u>	User in Fiscal Year 2005	Num	2	VSSC							X	X	67	
FY1998UT	Temporary work variable	Char	4	Derived	X								65	

 $^{^{1}\,}$ The variable FIPS_GEO replaced $\underline{\textbf{GDTFIPSA}}$ FY2006.

		TYPE GTH RCE					Fiscal Year								
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE		
FY1999UT	Temporary work variable	Char	4	Derived	X								66		
<u>FY95</u>	User in Fiscal Year 1995	Num	2	VSSC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	67		
<u>FY96</u>	User in Fiscal Year 1996	Num	2	VSSC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	67		
<u>FY97</u>	User in Fiscal Year 1997	Num	2	VSSC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	67		
<u>FY98</u>	User in Fiscal Year 1998	Num	2	VSSC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	67		
<u>FY99</u>	User in Fiscal Year 1999	Num	2	VSSC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	67		
GDTFIPSA	Geocoded State and County FIPS Code	Char	5	NED							X		70		
GDTZIPT	Geocoded Zip Code	Char	5	NED							X		72		
HBBENE	House-Bound Benefits	Num	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	73		
INAPDTE	Initial Application Date	Date	8	NED						X	X	X	74		
INELDTE	Ineligible Date	Date	8	NED				X	X	X	X	X	75		
INELIGDT	Ineligible Date	Date	8	NED	X	X	X						76		
INENDTE	Initial Enrollment Date	Date	8	NED						X	X	X	77		
LTCCOST	Long Term Care Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37		
LTCDAYS	Long Term Care Days	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37		

		TYPE	LH	Œ			F	iscal	Yea	r			더
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE
MATCH ¹	Match	Char	8	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	78
MEDCOST	VA Inpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
MEDDAYS	VA Inpatient Days	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
MEDICAID	Medicaid Eligibility	Num	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	79
MOC	Month of Care	Num	8	Derived				X	X	X	X	X	80
MTSTATUS	Means Test Status	Char	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	81
NVACOST	Non-VA Inpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
NVADAYS	Non-VA Inpatient Days	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
OPCCOST	VA Outpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
<u>OPCVIS</u>	VA Outpatient Visits	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
PELCODE	Primary Eligibility Code	Char	10	NED	X	X	X						83
PENS	Pension Indicator	Num	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	85
PR7SUB2	Priority Codes 7A and 7C	Char	8	Derived	X	X							86
PR7SUB3	Priority Codes 7A and 7C	Char	8	Derived		X							87
PREFAC D	Preferred Facility	Char	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	88

¹ The source of the patient's or enrollee's data.

		TYPE	H	Œ			(4)						
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE
PRIO1_8	Enrollment Priority Code	Char	2	Derived					X	X	X	X	89
PRIO7SUB	Priority Codes 7A and 7C	Char	8	Derived	X	X							93
PRIOADJ ¹	Enrollment Priority Code	Char	2	Derived			X	X	X	X	X	X	94
PRIOADJ1*	Enrollment Priority Code	Char	2	Derived	X	X							97
PRIOADJ2*	Enrollment Priority Code	Char	2	Derived	X	X							100
PRIOADJ3*	Enrollment Priority Code	Char	2	Derived		X							103
PRIOPC	Temporary work variable	Num	8	Derived	X								106
PRISWAR	Prisoner of War	Num	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	107
<u>PSYCOST</u>	VA Psychological Inpatient Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
<u>PSYDAYS</u>	VA Psychological Inpatient Days	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
REASCD	Canceled/Declined Enrollment Reason Code	Char	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	108
SCPER	Service Connected Percentage	Num	3	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	109
SCRSSN	Scrambled Social Security Number	Num	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	111
SERVCON	Service Connected Indicator	Num	2	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	112

¹ The variable PRIOADJ replaced PRIOADJ3 in October 2000, and was in turn replaced in January 2003 by PRIO1 8.

^{*} The asterisk (*) on this page denotes replacement in FY2001 by PRIOADJ

		TYPE	LH	E		더							
VARIABLE	DESCRIPTION	DATA T	LENGTH	SOURCE	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	PAGE
SEX	Gender	Char	1	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	113
STA5C	Substation Identifier	Char	5	ARC	X								114
STA6C	Substation Identifier	Char	6	ARC		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	115
SURCOST	VA Inpatient Surgical Cost of Care	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
SURDAYS	VA Inpatient Surgical Days	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	37
TOTINC	Total Family Income	Num	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	116
VISN_D	Preferred VISN	Num	8	Derived	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	117
ZIP ¹	Patient Zip Code	Num	8	ARC	X	X	X						119
ZIP_ENRL	Enrollee Zip Code	Num	8	NED	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	120
ZIP_GEO ²	Geocoded Zip Code	Num	8	NED								X	121
ZIPARC	Patient Zip Code	Num	8	ARC				X	X	X	X	X	122

¹ The variable ZIP was replaced by **ZIPARC** in FY2002. ² The variable ZIP_GEO replaced **GDTZIPT** in FY2006.

IV: VHA ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File Variables and Frequencies

Variable Name: **AABENE**

Name: Aid and Attendance Benefits Indicator

Definition: This flag indicates if an enrollee is receiving Aid and Attendance Benefits,

as determined by the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA).

Source: NED

Remarks: Aid and Attendance Benefits are "a VA compensation or pension benefit

awarded to a veteran who is determined to be in need of the regular aid and attendance of another person to perform basic functions of everyday life. A veteran may qualify for aid and attendance benefits if he or she:

• Is blind or so nearly blind as to have corrected visual acuity of 5/200 or less, in both eyes, or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less;

• Is a patient in a nursing home because of mental or physical incapacity;

• Proves a need for aid and attendance under established criteria."¹

AABENE has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ²	2.21
0	No	45,380,179	96.03
1	Yes	829,001	1.75

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¹ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Glossary of Health Benefits Eligibility terms page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/glossary/glossary.asp#h, Accessed July 21, 2006.

² These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **ACTHLINS**

Name: Active Health Insurance Indicator

Definition: This flag indicates if an enrollee currently has active health insurance,

either private insurance or Medicare.

Source: NED

Remarks: Enrollees are asked on the 10-10EZ enrollment form and 10-10EZR

enrollment renewal form if they currently have private health insurance. Patients at VHA facilities are asked if they have private health insurance at

inpatient admission and outpatient registration.

ACTHLINS has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,218,654 ¹	2.58
0	No	32,321,884	68.40
1	Yes	13,713,859	29.02

¹ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: AG8R

Name: Age Category

Definition: Categorical recoding of <u>AGE</u> into 8 groups

Source: Derived

Remarks: <u>DOB</u> is more useful to calculate age.

AG8R has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,046,3251	2.21
1	< 25	152,420	0.32
2	25-34	997,216	2.11
3	35-44	2,244,946	4.75
4	45-54	5,978,261	12.65
5	55-64	12,502,365	26.46
6	65-74	10,591,381	22.41
7	75-84	11,223,858	23.75
8	85+	2,517,625	5.33

¹ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals that have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

AGE Variable Name:

Name: Age

The age in years of the enrollee as of the NED extract date (EXTRDTE), based on his or her DOB. Definition:

Source: Derived

DOB is more useful to calculate age. Remarks:

Variable Name: **ALLFYUT**

Name: New or Past User of VHA Services

Definition: A new user is one whose first use was in the current year. For example,

the value of this field in the FY 2005 Enrollment File would be set to 'NEW' if the FY05 flag is set to 'YES', and the flags for FY02, FY 03,

and FY04 are set to 'NO'.

A past user is a person who first used VHA services in one of the three previous fiscal years. For the FY2005 Enrollment File, this would indicate any one of the FY02, FY 03, and FY04 variables is set to 'YES'.

Source: Derived

Remarks: VIReC recommends that the **FY95-FY06** variables be used in place of this

variable.

ALLFYUT has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Definition	N	%
	Missing	2,158,769	4.57
NEW	New user	2,354,582	4.98
PAST	Past user	42,741,046	90.45

Variable Name: **CLASS**

Name: Diagnostic Class

Definition: Patient Diagnostic Class

Source: ARC

Remarks: The VERA model is used to distribute medical care funds to each

Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN). Details of the classification system for each year are published on the ARC Intranet Web site in a VERA Patient Classification Handbook. This is the patient's highest rated diagnostic class based on a classification hierarchy. The patient's primary diagnosis is reclassified into one of the classes in the table below. Diagnostic classes are assigned by the ARC and used in the Veterans Equitable Resource (VERA) allocation model, which is a capitated-funding model. In general, diagnostic classes are assigned based on diagnoses found in inpatient and outpatient care of the 25 major diagnostic categories (MDC) which are converted to diagnostic classes. These diagnostic classes are identified by a single letter, with a capital letter indicating the diagnoses originated from an inpatient stay and a lower-case letter indicating the diagnoses originated from an outpatient visit. See Appendix C for fiscal year 2005 Major Diagnostic Categories (MDC) and

VERA patient classes.

CLASS has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Class	Class Description ²	N	%
	Missing	3,112,475 ³	6.59
88	CNH No PTF Record	20,217	0.04
90	Employee/Collaterals	338,550	0.72
a	Diseases and Disorders of the Nervous System OPC	1,296,583	2.74
A	Diseases and Disorders of the Nervous System	146,763	0.31
a1	AIDS Cat IV	51,931	0.11
a2	AIDS Cat III	314	0.00

¹ VERA 2005 Patient Classification Handbook. Available on the ARC Web site. Accessed January 5, 2006.

² Email correspondence with Michelle Young from the ARC 9/13/05 and 9/14/05.

³ These records are for enrollees who received no VHA care during the fiscal year.

Class	Class Description ²	N	%
A2	AIDS Cat III with Drugs	3	0.00
a3	HIV+	1,112	0.00
A3	HIV+ With Drugs	0	0.00
a4	HIV+ Rx	26,816	0.06
A4	HIV+ Low Cd4 With Drugs	136,754	0.29
Aa	Substance Abuse	37,485	0.08
b	Diseases and Disorders of the Eye OPC	1,784,017	3.78
В	Diseases and Disorders of the Eye	25,331	0.05
B1	Blind Rehab Service	28,442	0.06
b3	Legally Blind - OPC	220,048	0.47
В3	Legally Blind	2,964	0.01
С	Diseases and Disorders Ear, Nose, Mouth and Throat OPC	2,371,768	5.02
С	Diseases and Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat	46,861	0.1
ср	Comp And Pen Exam	81,528	0.17
d	Diseases and Disorders Respiratory System OPC	1,037,306	2.2
D	Diseases and Disorders of the Respiratory System	286,842	0.61
d1	End Stage Renal Disease	93,788	0.2
d2	Home Care ESRD	3,129	0.01
Da	Dementia	8,221	0.02
dd	Psych+Substance	180,303	0.38
dD	Psych+Substance OPC	63,473	0.13
e	Diseases and Disorders Circulatory System OPC	6,749,347	14.28
Е	Diseases and Disorders of the Circulatory System	871,220	1.84
f	Diseases and Disorders Digestive System OPC	1,182,760	2.5
F	Diseases and Disorders of the Digestive System	287,474	0.61
g	Diseases and Disorders Hepatobiliary System and Pancreas OPC	91,078	0.19

Diseases and Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue OPC				
& Pancreas 90,102 0.19 h Diseases and Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue OPC 2,467,445 5.22 H Diseases and Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System & Connective Tissue 264,894 0.56 Hb Hepatitis C Basic 3,037 0.01 hB Hepatitis C Basic - Inpatient 548,342 1.16 Hc Hepatitis C Complex 45,191 0.1 i Diseases and Disorders Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue and Breast OPC 1,104,867 2.34 I Diseases and Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast 88,147 0.19 j Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Disorders OPC 4,186,368 8.86 J Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders 107,715 0.23 k Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney and Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 K Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 L Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System	Class	Class Description ²	N	%
System and Connective Tissue OPC	G	<u> </u>	90,102	0.19
System & Connective Tissue 264,894 0.56	h		2,467,445	5.22
hB Hepatitis C Basic - Inpatient 548,342 1.16 Hc Hepatitis C Complex 45,191 0.1 i Diseases and Disorders Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue and Breast OPC 1,104,867 2.34 I Diseases and Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast 88,147 0.19 j Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Disorders OPC 4,186,368 8.86 J Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders 107,715 0.23 k Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney and Urinary Tract OPC 410,891 0.87 K Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 L Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behav	Н		264,894	0.56
Hc Hepatitis C Complex 45,191 0.1 i Diseases and Disorders Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue and Breast OPC 1,104,867 2.34 I Diseases and Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast 88,147 0.19 j Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Disorders OPC 4,186,368 8.86 J Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders 107,715 0.23 k Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney and Urinary Tract 410,891 0.87 K Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 I Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical	Hb	Hepatitis C Basic	3,037	0.01
i Diseases and Disorders Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue and Breast OPC 1,104,867 2.34 I Diseases and Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast 88,147 0.19 j Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Disorders OPC 4,186,368 8.86 J Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders 107,715 0.23 k Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney and Urinary Tract OPC 410,891 0.87 K Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 l Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System System 271,602 0.57 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of D	hB	Hepatitis C Basic - Inpatient	548,342	1.16
And Breast OPC	Нс	Hepatitis C Complex	45,191	0.1
Tissue & Breast 88,147 0.19 j Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Disorders OPC 4,186,368 8.86 J Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders 107,715 0.23 k Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney and Urinary Tract OPC 410,891 0.87 K Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 l Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	i	·	1,104,867	2.34
Disorders OPC	I	·	88,147	0.19
Disorders 107,715 0.23	j		4,186,368	8.86
Tract OPC 410,891 0.87 K Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract 125,484 0.27 1 Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	J		107,715	0.23
1 Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	k	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	410,891	0.87
OPC 271,602 0.57 L Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	K	Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract	125,484	0.27
System 38,653 0.08 L1 Ventilator 11,529 0.02 L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	1	<u> </u>	271,602	0.57
L2 Rehabilitation 84,128 0.18 L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	L	1	38,653	0.08
L3 Specialized Care 60,424 0.13 L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	L1	Ventilator	11,529	0.02
L4 Clinical Complex 77,675 0.16 L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	L2	Rehabilitation	84,128	0.18
L5 Behavioral 3,883 0.01 L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	L3	Specialized Care	60,424	0.13
L6 Physical 5,608 0.01 L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	L4	Clinical Complex	77,675	0.16
L7 Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL) 22,263 0.05	L5	Behavioral	3,883	0.01
	L6	Physical	5,608	0.01
Lc Community Nh 56,110 0.12	L7	Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL)	22,263	0.05
	Lc	Community Nh	56,110	0.12

Class	Class Description ²	N	%
Ld	Domiciliary	82,051	0.17
Lh	НВРС	347,668	0.74
m	Diseases and Disorders Female Reproductive System OPC	52,252	0.11
M	Diseases and Disorders of the Female Reproductive System	16,441	0.03
Mh	Mental Health Intensive Case Management	601	0
mm	Multiple Medical	471,243	1
mM	Multiple Medical OPC	2,176,267	4.61
mp	Medical/Psych+Substance	96,361	0.2
mP	Medical/Psych+Substance OPC	1,219,334	2.58
n	Pregnancy, Childbirth and The Puerperium OPC	810	0
N	Pregnancy, Childbirth & The Puerperium	9,281	0.02
О	Newborns and Other Neonates, Condtn Orig in Perinatal Period OPC	333	0
О	Newborns & Other Neonates With Condtn Orig In Perinatal Period	0	0.00
Oa	Other Psychosis	130,095	0.28
p	Diseases and Disorders Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Immunolog Disord OPC	191,274	0.4
P	Diseases and Disorders Of Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Immunolog Disord	34,539	0.07
Pa	PTSD	119,472	0.25
pb	PTSD Acute OPC	584,122	1.24
Pb	PTSD Acute	133,114	0.28
Ph	Pharmacy	293,165	0.62
q	Myeloproliferative Diseases and Disorders, Poorly Differentiated Neoplasm OPC	756,228	1.6
Q	Myeloproliferative Diseases & Disorders, Poorly Differentiated Neoplasm	184,933	0.39
Q1	SCI Quad-New Injury	2,281	0

Class	Class Description ²	N	%
Q2	SCI Quad-Old Injury	101,050	0.21
Q3	SCI Para-New Injury	1,205	0
Q4	SCI Para-Old Injury	118,372	0.25
Q5	SCI Quad-Institutionalized	10,960	0.02
Q6	SCI Para-Institutionalized	11,248	0.02
r	Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Systemic Or Unspecified Sites OPC	13,577	0.03
R	Infectious & Parasitic Diseases, Systemic Or Unspecified Sites	13,548	0.03
S	Mental Diseases and Disorders OPC	2,610,772	5.52
S	Mental Diseases & Disorders	134,698	0.29
s1	Heart Failure	499	0
S1	Heart Failure	132,747	0.28
s2	Respiratory Failure	65	0
S2	Respiratory Failure	11,414	0.02
s3	Metastatic Cancer	2,152	0
S 3	Metastatic Cancer	38,017	0.08
s4	High Cost Pneumonia	343	0
S4	High Cost Pneumonia	49,539	0.1
s5	Complications of Care	8,688	0.02
S5	Complications of Care	172,369	0.36
Sa	Schizophrenia	205,104	0.43
St	Stroke	194,607	0.41
t	Alcohol/Drug Use and Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mental Disorders OPC	174,952	0.37
Т	Alcohol/Drug Use & Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mental Disorders	86,828	0.18
Tb	Traumatic Brain Injury	26,114	0.06
u	Injuries, Poisonings and Toxic Effects Of Drugs OPC	34,563	0.07
U	Injuries, Poisonings & Toxic Effects Of Drugs	22,925	0.05

Class	Class Description ²	N	%
uv	Non-Vested Cat A	0	0.00
UV	Non-Vested Non-Vet	0	0.00
uV	Non-Vested Cat C	0	0.00
V	Burns OPC	2,814	0.01
V	Burns	1,975	0.01
W	Factors Influencing Health Stat and Other Contacts With Health Services OPC	5,278,583	11.17
W	Factors Influencing Health Stat & Other Contacts With Health Services	61,007	0.13
X	Multiple Significant Trauma	76,511	0.16
X1	Heart/Lung Transplants	1,757	0.00
X2	Liver Transplants	3,933	0.01
Х3	Kidney Transplants	3,516	0.01
X4	Bone Marrow Transplants	5,285	0.01
у	HIV+ OPC	238	0.00
Y	HIV+ not ICR Registry	52	0.00
Z	No Dx - Outpatient	81,244	0.17

Variable Name: **CNTYCURR**

Name: Current County Code

Definition: Three-digit code of the county associated with the patient's permanent

residence.

Source: NED

Remarks: County codes can be found at the National Institute of Standards and

<u>Technology</u> Web site.

Variable Name: **COCNTY**

Name: Cost Only County

Definition: County associated with a home address of patients found only in the ARC

extract files (based on the variable 'MATCH').

Source: Derived

Remarks: Only patients found in the ARC extract file where the value is set to

'COSTONLY' in the **MATCH** variable appears in the **COCNTY** variable. The 'CO' prefix, which stands for "Cost Only", is used to

identify those patients. Unlike the NED extract files, the ARC extract files do not contain demographic variables (<u>CNTYCURR</u>, <u>DOB</u>, <u>SCPER</u>, or <u>SEX</u>). Consequently, in an attempt to have a more complete ADUSH file, other data sources were utilized to find complete demographic information

Variable Name: **CODOB**

Name: Cost Only Date of Birth

Definition: Date of birth of patients found only in the ARC extract files (based on the

variable 'MATCH').

Source: Derived

Remarks: Only patients found in the ARC extract file where the value is set to

'COSTONLY' in the MATCH variable appears in the COCNTY variable. The 'CO' prefix, which stands for "Cost Only", is used to

identify those patients. Unlike the NED extract files, the ARC extract files do not contain demographic variables (<u>CNTYCURR</u>, <u>DOB</u>, <u>SCPER</u>, or <u>SEX</u>). Consequently, in an attempt to have a more complete ADUSH file, other data sources were utilized to find complete demographic information

Variable Name: **COSCPER**

Name: Cost Only Service Connected Percentage

Definition: Percentage (from 0 to 100) of service-connected disability of patients

found only in the ARC extract files (based on the variable 'MATCH').

Source: Derived

Remarks: Only patients found in the ARC extract file where the value is set to

'COSTONLY' in the **MATCH** variable appears in the **COCNTY** variable. The 'CO' prefix, which stands for "Cost Only", is used to

identify those patients. Unlike the NED extract files, the ARC extract files do not contain demographic variables (<u>CNTYCURR</u>, <u>DOB</u>, <u>SCPER</u>, or <u>SEX</u>). Consequently, in an attempt to have a more complete ADUSH file, other data sources were utilized to find complete demographic information

Variable Name: **COSEX**

Name: Cost Only Sex

Definition: Gender of patients found only in the ARC extract files (based on the

variable 'MATCH').

Source: Derived

Remarks: Only patients found in the ARC extract file where the value is set to

'COSTONLY' in the <u>MATCH</u> variable appears in the **COCNTY** variable. The 'CO' prefix, which stands for "Cost Only", is used to identify those patients. Unlike the NED extract files, the ARC extract files do not contain demographic variables (<u>CNTYCURR</u>, <u>DOB</u>, <u>SCPER</u>, or <u>SEX</u>). Consequently, in an attempt to have a more complete ADUSH file,

other data sources were utilized to find complete demographic information

Variable Name: Cost and Utilization Variables

Name: See Tables below.

Definition: Patients costs and utilization counts provided by the Allocation Resource

Center

Source: ARC

Remarks: There are a number of cost variables and utilization variables on the

ADUSH Enrollment File that are provided by the Allocation Resource Center. These fields contain costs based on the Decision Support System (DSS) methodology, the Monthly Program Cost Report (MPCR) methodology, or the Cost Distribution Report (CDR) methodologies. Those variables based on the DSS costing methodology will have 'DSS"

as the first three characters of the name.

The DSS costs are available on the ADUSH Enrollment Files for fiscal years 2002 and later. These costs are adjusted DSS costs. An explanation of how the adjustments are made is available on the ARC Intranet Web site in a document titled "ARC Adjusted Decision Support Cost". A copy of this document is also in Appendix A. The DSS costs are accumulated by outpatient stop codes and inpatient treating specialties into different categories of costs from the DSS National Data Extracts (NDEs). See Appendix B for a mapping of treating specialties and stop codes into cost categories. Documentation of the NDEs is provided by HERC in their 'Research Guide to Decision Support System National Cost Extracts 1998 – 2004' available on the HERC Internet Web site. During the year if the DSS costs are not available for a station at the time the ARC extract is generated for the ADUSH Enrollment File, the MPCR costs will be used. As high as 30% of the DSS costs may be sourced from the MPCR on the month end ADUSH Enrollment File. The fiscal year end ADUSH Enrollment File will have less than 1% of the DSS costs sourced from the MPCR.

The MPCR/CDR cost variables contain costs based on the CDR methodology for the fiscal years 1999 through 2003. All other fiscal years contain costs based on the MPCR methodology. Documentation of the CDR is available on the HERC Internet Web site. Documentation of the MPCR can be found on the ARC Intranet Web site. Like the DSS costs, the MPCR and CDR costs are accumulated by stop codes or treating specialties. See Appendix B for a mapping of treating specialties and stop codes into cost categories. The following tables (see next page) contain descriptions of the ARC cost variables (see Table 2) and the ARC-provided utilization variables (see Table 3).

Table 2. ARC-Provided Cost Variables

DSS Cost	MPCR/CDR	Description
Variables	Cost Variables	
DSSCNHCOST	CNHCOST	Cost of non-VA care at contract nursing homes paid for by the VA
DSSFEECOST	FEECOST	Cost of non-VA ambulatory care paid for by the VA
DSSLTCCOST	LTCCOST	Cost of care at VA long term care facilities, including nursing homes, domiciliary, intermediate LTC, and hospice
DSSMEDCOST	MEDCOST	Cost of VA inpatient care categorized as medical
DSSNVACPST	NVACOST	Cost of non-VA inpatient care
DSSOPCCOST	OPCCOST	Cost of VA outpatient care
DSSPSYCOST	PSYCOST	Cost of VA inpatient care categorized as psychological
DSSSURCOST	SURCOST	Cost of VA inpatient care categorized as surgical

Table 3. ARC-Provided Utilization Variables

Utilization Variables	Description
CNHDAYS	Number of days resident in non-VA contract nursing home
	paid for by the VA
FEEVIS	Number of outpatient visits to a non-VA provider paid for
	by the VA
LTCDAYS	Number of days resident in a VA long term care facility
MEDDAYS	Number of medical inpatient days
NVADAYS	Number of inpatient days at a non-VA hospital paid for by
	the VA
OPCVIS	Number of outpatient visits to a VA provider
PSYDAYS	Number of psychological inpatient days
SURDAYS	Number of surgical inpatient days

Variable Name: **DDSSAFLG**

Name: Social Security Administration (SSA) Day of Death Flag

Definition: This flag indicates if a patient's or enrollee's day of death was not

reported to the SSA.

Source: Derived

Remarks: If the **DDSSAFLG** variable is set to '1', the day of death is set to '15' in

the SSA date of death variable (**DODSSA**). Please note if this flag is set to space and the day of death in the **DODSSA** variable is '15', a death day

of '15' was actually reported to the SSA.

DDSSAFLG has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing value	47,232,916	99.95
1	Day of death set to 15 th of the month	21,481	0.05

Variable Name: **DOB**

Name: Date of Birth

Definition: Enrollee's date of birth

Source: NED

Remarks: Enrollees are asked for their date of birth on the 10-10EZ enrollment form

and 10-10EZR enrollment renewal form. Patients at VHA facilities are

asked for their date of birth at inpatient admission and outpatient

registration.

The values of **DOB**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal year-end file as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,046,294 ¹⁷	2.21
Prior to 1900	Birth dates prior to 1900	1,595	0.01
1900-1909	Birth dates in the years 1900-1909	28,904	0.05
1910-1919	Birth dates in the years 1910-1919	1,788,440	3.77
1920-1929	Birth dates in the years 1920-1929	10,675,025	22.59
1930-1939	Birth dates in the years 1930-1939	10,977,595	23.23
1940-1949	Birth dates in the years 1940-1949	12,276,684	25.97
1950-1959	Birth dates in the years 1950-1959	6,674,731	14.13
1960-1969	Birth dates in the years 1960-1969	2,459,778	5.21
1970-1979	Birth dates in the years 1970-1979	1,098,405	2.34
1980 or later	Birth dates in 1980 or later	226,946	0.48

¹⁷ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **DODBIRLS**

Name: BIRLS Date of Death

Definition: Enrollee's or patient's date of death

Source: BIRLS Death File

Remarks: The values for **DODBIRLS**, **DODSSA**, and **DTDEATH** may not agree.

This may be due to incorrect recording of a Social Security Number (SSN) in one of the sources. Only the SSN is used to link the data sources for the

ADUSH Enrollment File.

A technical report by VIReC¹⁸ identified cases where <u>DOB</u> and/or <u>SEX</u> for a patient's SSN were not consistent across all data sources, indicating that an incorrect SSN may have been recorded in one of the sources. Additionally, a lack of agreement between **DODBIRLS**, <u>DODSSA</u>, and <u>DTDEATH</u> occurred where deaths were not recorded in all of the three sources (NED, BIRLS and SSA). Thus, differences are evident in frequencies of deaths among the three death date variables (DODBIRLS, DODSSA, and DTDEATH).

The VIReC technical report was used as a basis for creating the VA Vital Status File, housed at the Austin Automation Center. The Vital Status file Best Date of Death algorithm combines death dates from SSA, BIRLS, CMS/MVS and a cohort (obtained from unique SSN/DOB/Gender combinations identified in the Utilization, CP Mini and Enrollment files) to determine the best date of death. The National Data Systems provides further information about the VA Vital Status File on its Intranet Web site.

The values of **DODBIRLS**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal year-end file as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	46,978,375	99.42
Prior to 1998	Death dates prior to 1998	16,388	0.03
1998	Death dates in 1998	3,331	0.01
1999	Death dates in 1999	17,872	0.04

Arnold N. Sohn M, Maynard C, Hynes DM. VIReC Technical Report 2: VA-NDI Mortality Data Merge Project. Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, Hines, IL: VA Information Resource Center, April 9, 2006. Available at http://www.virec.research.va.gov/References/TechnicalReports/TECH_REPORT2_NDI.pdf. Accessed August 29, 2006.

Category	Description	N	%
2000	Death dates in 2000	29,901	0.06
2001	Death dates in 2001	13,891	0.03
2002	Death dates in 2002	10,826	0.02
2003	Death dates in 2003	13,664	0.03
2004	Death dates in 2004	79,042	0.17
2005	Death dates in 2005	91,107	0.19

Variable Name: **DODSSA**

Name: SSA Date of Death

Definition: Enrollee's or patient's date of death

Source: SSA Death Master File

Remarks: The values for **DODSSA**, **DODBIRLS**, and **DTDEATH** may not agree.

This may be due to incorrect recording of a Social Security Number (SSN) in one of the sources. Only the SSN is used to link the data sources for the

ADUSH Enrollment File.

A technical report by VIReC¹⁹ identified cases where <u>DOB</u> and/or <u>SEX</u> for a patient's SSN were not consistent across all data sources, indicating that an incorrect SSN may have been recorded in one of the sources. Additionally, a lack of agreement between **DODSSA**, <u>DODBIRLS</u>, and <u>DTDEATH</u> occurred where deaths were not recorded in all of the three sources (NED, BIRLS and SSA). Thus, differences are evident in frequencies of deaths among the three death date variables (DODBIRLS, DODSSA, and DTDEATH).

The VIReC technical report was used as a basis for creating the VA Vital Status File, housed at the Austin Automation Center. The Vital Status file Best Date of Death algorithm combines death dates from SSA, BIRLS, CMS/MVS and a cohort (obtained from unique SSN/DOB/Gender combinations identified in the Utilization, CP Mini and Enrollment files) to determine the best date of death. The National Data Systems provides further information about the VA Vital Status File on its Intranet Web site.

The values of **DODSSA**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal year-end file as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	46,187,020	97.74
Prior to 1998	Death dates prior to 1998	46,190	0.10
1998	Death dates in 1998	9,216	0.02

¹⁹ Arnold N. Sohn M, Maynard C, Hynes DM. VIReC Technical Report 2: VA-NDI Mortality Data Merge Project. Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, Hines, IL: VA Information Resource Center, April 9, 2006. Available at http://www.virec.research.va.gov/References/TechnicalReports/TECH_REPORT2_NDI.pdf. Accessed August 29, 2006.

Category	Description	N	%
1999	Death dates in 1999	27,157	0.06
2000	Death dates in 2000	40,371	0.09
2001	Death dates in 2001	29,951	0.06
2002	Death dates in 2002	28,628	0.06
2003	Death dates in 2003	38,418	0.08
2004	Death dates in 2004	146,481	0.31
2005	Death dates in 2005	700,965	1.48

Variable Name: **DTDEATH**

Name: Date of Death

Definition: Enrollee's date of death

Source: NED – VistA Patient File (#2), 'DATE OF DEATH' Field (#.351)

Remarks: The values for **DTDEATH**, **DODBIRLS**, and **DODSSA** may not agree.

This may be due to incorrect recording of a Social Security Number (SSN) in one of the sources. Only the SSN is used to link the data sources for the

ADUSH Enrollment File.

A technical report by VIReC²⁰ identified cases where <u>DOB</u> and/or <u>SEX</u> for a patient's SSN were not consistent across all data sources, indicating that an incorrect SSN may have been recorded in one of the sources. Additionally, a lack of agreement between **DTDEATH**, <u>DODBIRLS</u>, <u>DODSSA</u>, and occurred where deaths were not recorded in all of the three sources (NED, BIRLS and SSA). Thus, differences are evident in frequencies of deaths among the three death date variables (DODBIRLS, DODSSA, and DTDEATH).

The VIReC technical report was used as a basis for creating the VA Vital Status File, housed at the Austin Automation Center. The Vital Status file Best Date of Death algorithm combines death dates from SSA, BIRLS, CMS/MVS and a cohort (obtained from unique SSN/DOB/Gender combinations identified in the Utilization, CP Mini and Enrollment files) to determine the best date of death. The National Data Systems provides further information about the VA Vital Status File on its Intranet Web site.

Values of **DTDEATH**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal yearend file as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	46,473,175 ²¹	98.35
2004	Death dates in 2004	95,093	0.20
2005	Death dates in 2005	686,129	1.45

²⁰ Arnold N. Sohn M, Maynard C, Hynes DM. VIReC Technical Report 2: VA-NDI Mortality Data Merge Project. Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, Hines, IL: VA Information Resource Center, April 9, 2006. Available at http://www.virec.research.va.gov/References/TechnicalReports/TECH_REPORT2_NDI.pdf. Accessed August 29, 2006.

Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **EFY98** – **EFY05**

Name: Enrollment FY1998 – Enrollment FY2005

Definition: This series of flags indicates if an enrollee was in the corresponding fiscal

year-end ADUSH Enrollment File. For the current fiscal year, the corresponding flag indicates year-to-date presence in the file.

Source: Derived

Remarks: Enrollment began on 10/1/1998. Enrollment in FY98 is based on the

automatic enrollment of any user of VHA services from 1/1/1996 to 9/30/1998. For the current fiscal year, the flag indicates year-to-date

activity.

EFY98 – EFY05 has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Variable Name		N			%	
Value	(blank)	0	1	(blank)	0	1
Description	Missing	No	Yes	Missing	No	Yes
EFY98	1,045,217	25,435,574	20,773,606	2.21	53.83	43.96
	22					
EFY99	$1,045,217^1$	22,493,549	23,715,631	2.21	47.60	50.19
EFY00	$1,045,217^1$	18,459,128	27,750,052	2.21	39.06	58.72
EFY01	$1,045,217^1$	12,141,989	34,067,191	2.21	25.69	72.09
EFY02	$1,045,217^1$	7,562,931	38,646,249	2.21	16.00	81.78
EFY03	$1,045,217^1$	4,076,258	42,132,922	2.21	8.63	89.16
EFY04	$1,045,217^1$	1,573,874	44,635,306	2.21	3.33	94.46
EFY05	$1,045,217^1$	0	46,209,180	2.21	0.00	97.79

²² These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **ELIG**

Name: Eligibility Code

Definition: A code indicating a patient's eligibility for VHA services

Source: ARC

Remarks: ARC generates the codes to identify the highest rating reported in a

patient's utilization data for the fiscal year. The first character of the code

is based on a patient's means test status:

A - Category A. A veteran is below the VA Means Test Threshold and

co-payments are not required.

C – Category C. Veteran is above the VA Means Test Threshold and the Geographic Means Test Threshold (GMT) and co-payments are required.

G – Category G. Veteran is above the VA Means Test Threshold but below the GMT which is the U.S. and Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) low-income limits for their area. These veterans qualify for a reduced inpatient co-pay rate.

N – Non-veteran.

U – No means test to date.

X – Exempt from means testing.

The second position in this code indicates the veteran's service connected percent, domiciliary patient status, etc.

ELIG has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	3,112,475 ¹	6.59
A	Co-pay Exempt - Fee Only	7,684	0.02
A0	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected ² 0%	1,163,556	2.46

¹ These records are for enrollees who received no VHA care during the fiscal year.

² Service Connected Percentage is based on the patient's degree of disability as determined by the rating board decision following the submission of a claim that a veteran's illness or injury was incurred in or aggravated by military service. Patient's are rated in increments of 10 percent, reflecting their degree of disability. Available at http://www.va.gov/oaa/orientation/va_vet_eligibility.asp Accessed June 1, 2006.

Value	Description	N	%
A1	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected 50%	8,306,522	17.58
A2	Co-pay Exempt - Aid/Attendance or Housebound	637,703	1.35
A3	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected 40%	1,280,186	2.71
A4	Co-pay Exempt - Nonservice Connected Pensioner	1,833,978	3.88
A5	Co-pay Exempt - Other Nonservice Connected	13,841,94 0	29.29
A6	Co-pay Exempt - Nonservice Connected Domiciliary patient	1,213	0.00
A7	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected 30%	1,503,940	3.18
A8	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected 20%	1,585,691	3.36
A9	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected 10%	2,495,358	5.28
AN	Co-pay Exempt - Other Nonservice Connected	11,827	0.03
AS	Co-pay Exempt - Service Connected	18,669	0.04
С	Means Test Co-pay Required	13,066	0.03
C0	Means Test Co-pay Required - Service Connected 0%	189,045	0.40
C1	Means Test Co-pay Required – Service Connected 50%	2,384	0.01
C2	Means Test Co-pay Required - Aid/Attendance or Housebound	518	0.00
C3	Means Test Co-pay Required – Service Connected 40%	676	0.00
C4	Means Test Co-pay Required - Pensioner	1,601	0.00
C5	Means Test Co-pay Required - Nonservice Connected	8,400,216	17.78
C6	Means Test Co-pay Required - Domiciliary patient ¹	26	0.00
C7	Means Test Co-pay Required – Service Connected 30%	540	0.00
C8	Means Test Co-pay Required – Service Connected 20%	911	0.00
C9	Means Test Co-pay Required – Service Connected 10%	940	0.00
G	GMT Co-pay Required	580	0.00
G0	GMT Co-pay Required – Service Connected 0%	26,373	0.06
G1	GMT Co-pay Required- Service Connected 50%	682	0.00

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¹ Domiciliary patient class is based exclusively on utilization criteria, which equates to a cumulative total of 91 Bed Days of Care (BDOC) in specified Treating Specialties. VERA 2005 Patient Classification Handbook. Available on the ARC Intranet Web site. Accessed July 21, 2006.

Value	Description	N	%
G2	GMT Co-pay Required- Aid/Attendance or Housebound	160	0.00
G3	GMT Co-pay Required- Service Connected 40%	225	0.00
G4	GMT Co-pay Required- Pensioner	435	0.00
G5	GMT Co-pay Required- Nonservice Connected	1,244,698	2.63
G6	GMT Co-pay Required- Domiciliary patient	7	0.00
G7	GMT Co-pay Required- Service Connected 30%	183	0.00
G8	GMT Co-pay Required- Service Connected 20%	300	0.00
G9	GMT Co-pay Required- Service Connected 10%	257	0.00
N	Non Veteran	3,529	0.01
N0	Non Veteran - Catastrophically Disabled	371	0.00
N1	Non Veteran - CHAMPVA benefits	203,429	0.43
N2	Non Veteran - Collaterals	14,876	0.03
N3	Non Veteran - VA Employee	325,624	0.69
N4	Non Veteran - Other Federal	26,580	0.06
N5	Non Veteran - Allied Veteran	12,613	0.03
N6	Non Veteran - Humanitarian	24,987	0.05
N7	Non Veteran - Sharing Agreement	103,873	0.22
N8	Non Veteran - Reimbursable	143	0.00
N9	Non Veteran - TRICARE/CHAMPUS	45,937	0.10
U	Unknown Means Test	1,419	0.00
U0	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected 0%	7,902	0.02
U1	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected 50%	2,512	0.01
U2	Unknown Means Test, Aid/Attendance or Housebound	1,282	0.00
U3	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected 40%	286	0.00
U4	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected re	1,411	0.00
U5	Unknown Means Test, Nonservice Connected	162,894	0.34
U6	Unknown Means Test, Domiciliary patient	17	0.00
U7	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected 30%	230	0.00
U8	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected 20%	285	0.00
U9	Unknown Means Test, Service Connected 10%	336	0.00

Value	Description	N	%
X	Exempt from Means Testing	501	0.00
X0	Exempt – Service Connected 0%	32,429	0.07
X1	Exempt – Service Connect 50%	83,740	0.18
X2	Exempt - Aid/Attendance	3,225	0.01
X3	Exempt – Service Connected 40%	15,996	0.03
X4	Exempt - Nonservice Connected Pensioner	37,903	0.08
X5	Exempt - Other Nonservice Connected	384,561	0.81
X6	Exempt - Domiciliary patient	16	0.00
X7	Exempt – Service Connected 30%	19,952	0.04
X8	Exempt – Service Connected 20%	20,439	0.04
X9	Exempt – Service Connected 10%	30,534	0.06

Variable Name: **ELIGSTAT**

Name: Eligibility Status

Definition: Status of the process that determines eligibility

Source: NED

Remarks: This variable indicates if an enrollee's eligibility status has been verified.

It does not indicate whether an applicant is eligible for health care

benefits.

ELIGSTAT has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,075,241	2.28
P	PENDING VERIFICATION	698,053	1.48
R	PENDING REVERIFICATION	1	0.00
V	VERIFIED	45,481,102	96.25

¹ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **ENAPPDTE**

Name: Enrollment Application Date

Definition: The date of the veteran's most recently submitted application for

enrollment

Source: NED

Remarks: This variable was replaced by **INAPDTE** in FY2004. Prior to FY2004,

application dates could be changed if applicants enrolled at more than one

facility.

The values of **ENAPPDTE**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2003 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable, as shown below:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,281,553	2.97
Prior to 1998	Application dates prior to 1998	2,191,451	5.07
1998	Application dates in 1998	18,933,204	43.83
1999	Application dates in 1999	5,071,094	11.74
2000	Application dates in 2000	4,968,847	11.50
2001	Application dates in 2001	5,534,770	12.81
2002	Application dates in 2002	4,333,341	10.03
2003	Application dates in 2003	883,207	2.04
2004	Application dates in 2004	2	0.00

Variable Name: **ENRLPRIO**

Name: Enrollment Priority

Definition: An enrollee's priority for enrollment in the VHA, which also indicates co-

pay requirements.

Source: NED

Remarks: "The number of veterans who can be enrolled in the health care program is

determined by the amount of money Congress gives the VA each year. Since funds are limited, the VA set up priority groups to make sure that

certain groups of veterans are able to be enrolled before others.

Once [a veteran] appl[ies] for enrollment, [his or her] eligibility will be verified. Based on [his or her] specific eligibility status, [he or she is] assigned a priority group. The priority groups range from 1 to 8, with 1 being the highest priority for enrollment...[A veteran] may be eligible for more than one Enrollment Priority Group. In that case, the VA will always place [him or her] in the highest priority group that [he or she] is eligible for."

It is recommended that the variable **PRIO1_8** be used rather than the ENRLPRIO variable.

ENRLPRIO has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description ²	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ³	2.21
1	Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling.	8,529,052	18.05
2	Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.	2,984,670	6.32
3	Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling; veterans who are former POWs, Purple Heart recipients, or were discharged for disability incurred in the line of	4 925 702	10.21
	duty.	4,825,703	10.21

¹ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility: Enrollment Priority Groups page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/enrollment_priority_groups.asp. Accessed July 21, 2006.

² U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/epg_all.asp). Accessed July 21, 2006.

³ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Value	Description ²	N	%
4	Veterans who receive aid and attendance or housebound benefits, or are determined by the VA to be catastrophically disabled.	876,384	1.85
5	Nonservice connected and noncompensable service connected veterans rated 0% disabled whose annual income and net worth are below established means test thresholds; veterans receiving VA pension benefits or eligible for Medicaid.	15,472,035	32.74
6	WW1 or Mexican border war veterans; veterans with herbicide or radiation exposure disorders, or veterans with Gulf War-related disorders and illnesses; compensable 0% service-connected veterans.	694,154	1.47
7	Veterans who agree to pay specified copayments, whose income is above the VA means test threshold and below the HUD geographic index.	448	0.00
7A	Noncompensable 0% service connected veterans who have been continuously enrolled since before 1/17/2003.	46,548	0.10
7C	Nonservice connected veterans who have been continuously enrolled since before 1/17/2003.	1,386,277	2.93
8A	Noncompensable 0% service connected veterans who have been continuously enrolled since 1/17/2003.	332,335	0.70
8C	Nonservice connected veterans who have been continuously enrolled since 1/17/2003.	9,290,628	19.66
8E	Noncompensable 0% service connected veterans who applied for enrollment after 1/17/2003.	8,756	0.02
8G	Nonservice connected veterans who applied for enrollment after 1/17/2003.	271,634	0.57
99	Not prioritized.	1,490,556	3.15

Variable Name: **ENROLDTE**

Name: Enrollment Date

Definition: Date of a veteran's most recent enrollment

Source: NED

Remarks: This variable was replaced by **INENDTE** in FY2004. Prior to FY2004,

patients' enrollment dates could be changed if they enrolled at a different

facility.

The values of **ENROLDTE**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2003 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable, as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	9,463,917	21.91
Prior to 1998	Enrollment dates prior to 1998	409,272	0.95
1998	Enrollment dates in 1998	18,710,759	43.31
1999	Enrollment dates in 1999	3,856,615	8.93
2000	Enrollment dates in 2000	3,451,913	7.99
2001	Enrollment dates in 2001	3,804,129	8.81
2002	Enrollment dates in 2002	2,600,946	6.02
2003	Enrollment dates in 2003	899,937	2.08

Variable Name: **ENRSTAT**

Name: **Enrollment Status**

Definition: Patient's Enrollment Status on the NED extract date (**EXTRDTE**)

Source: NED

Remarks: None

ENRSTAT has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description ^{1,2}	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ³	2.21
1	UNVERIFIED – Assigned by the local system (VistA) to enrollment applications when a preliminary priority is calculated and is above the current EGT setting or the system is unable to calculate a preliminary priority.	468,931	0.99
2	VERIFIED – The Health Eligibility Center (HEC) assigns this status to enrollment records that are within the groups that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (henceforth referred to as the Secretary) has determined may be enrolled.	43,058,976	91.12
3	INACTIVE	0	0
4	REJECTED	0	0
5	SUSPENDED	0	0
6	DECEASED – The local system assigns this status when a date of death is entered into Veterans Information Systems Technology Architecture (VISTA). The HEC assigns this status when a date of death is received from a VA medical facility or Beneficiary Information Records Locator System (BIRLS).	820,014	1.74
7	CANCELED/DECLINED – This status may be assigned by the HEC when a veteran requests enrollment to be canceled or declines to be enrolled and the appropriate documentation has been transmitted to the HEC.	12,122	0.03

¹ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. VHA Directive 2000-010. Available at:

http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub ID=17. Accessed July 21, 2006.
Email correspondence with Cecelia Wray, Health Eligibility Center, on September 19, 2005.

³ Of these records, 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Value	Description ^{1,2}	N	%
8	EXPIRED	0	0
9	PENDING	0	0
10	NOT ELIGIBLE; unknown	705	0.00
11	REJECTED; FISCAL YEAR - The HEC assigns this status to enrollment records that are within the groups the Secretary has determined may not be enrolled during a particular fiscal year.	0	0.00
12	REJECTED; MID-CYCLE - The HEC assigns this status to enrollment records that are within the groups the Secretary has determined may not be enrolled for the remainder of an existing fiscal year.	0	0.00
13	REJECTED; STOP ENROLLING NEW PATIENTS - The HEC assigns this status to new enrollment applications when the Secretary determines that new enrollment applications within that group may not be enrolled.	0	0.00
14	REJECTED; INITIAL APPLICATION BY VAMC – This status is assigned by the local system when a preliminary enrollment priority is calculated to be within the groups that the Secretary has determined may not be enrolled.	79,580	0.17
15	PENDING, NO ELIGIBILITY CODE IN VIVA – This status is assigned by the HEC when the patient's VISTA records does not contain verified eligibility data and HEC's query for Compensation & Pension (C&P) and BIRLS files returns "No Data on File."	1,354	0.00
16	PENDING, MEANS TEST REQUIRED – This status is assigned by the HEC when an enrollment application is missing required means test data or when a currently enrolled veteran's means test is more than 366 days old.	1,329,936	2.81
17	PENDING, ELIGIBILITY STATUS UNVERIFIED – This status is assigned by the local facility when a preliminary priority is calculated and the veteran is within the groups the Secretary has determined may be enrolled or when the system is unable to calculate a preliminary priority.	200,552	0.42
18	PENDING, OTHER – This status is assigned by the HEC when the HEC system does not have all the data necessary to verify an enrollment record and the criteria for the above Pending reasons has not been met.	4	0.00

Value	Description ^{1,2}	N	%
19	NOT ELIGIBLE; REFUSED TO PAY CO-PAY – This status is created when the veteran's means test status is Category C or Pending Adjudication and the field 'AGREED TO PAY DEDUCTIBLE' is blank or answered with a 'NO'. It is created both at the VA Medical Centers and the HEC.	10,763	0.02
20	NOT ELIGIBLE; INELIGIBLE DATE – This status is created when an ineligible date has been entered. It is created both at the HEC and the VA Medical Centers.	33,806	0.07
21	PENDING; PURPLE HEART UNCONFIRMED – This is set for new applicants or existing enrollees who would otherwise fall into a priority level 4, 5, 6, or 7 and the Purple Heart Indicator is 'YES' and the Purple Heart Status is 'In Process'.	1,959	0.00
22	REJECTED; BELOW ENROLLMENT GROUP THRESHOLD – This status is created when a veteran applies for care and eligibility factors do not provide for enrollment above the currently set threshold.	190,478	0.40

Variable Name: **ENRSTATR**

Name: Enrollment Status – Recoded

Definition: Status of the enrollment process on the NED extract date (**EXTRDTE**)

recoded into a reduced number of categories.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This recoding aggregates the subcategories of 'pending', 'rejected', and

'not eligible' from **ENRSTAT** into their respective main categories. Additionally, enrollee's in any **ENRSTAT** categories with a death date in the **DTDEATH** are moved to the 'DECEASED' category, and enrollee's in any **ENRSTAT** categories with a ineligible date in the **INELDTE**

variable are moved to the 'NOT ELIGIBLE' category.

ENRSTATR has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,2171	2.21
1	UNVERIFIED	467,019	0.99
2	VERIFIED	43,050,710	91.10
4	REJECTED	269,863	0.57
6	DECEASED	830,156	1.76
7	CANCELED/DECLINED	11,836	0.03
9	PENDING	1,532,257	3.24
10	NOT ELIGIBLE	47,339	0.10

¹ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **ERDTHFLG**

Name: Death Flag

Definition: If the patient died prior to the beginning of the current fiscal year, the flag

is set to 1.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This flag is rarely set to '1' because deceased enrollees are removed from

the ADUSH Enrollment File at the beginning of the fiscal year. Removal

is based on the **DTDEATH** variable. Use of this flag is not

recommended.

ERDTHFLG has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	46,473,175 ¹	98.35
0	No	781,222	1.65
1	Yes	0	0.00

¹ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **ERINEFLG**

Name: Ineligibility Flag

Definition: This flag indicates if a patient was ineligible for benefits prior to the

beginning of the current fiscal year. It is based on the Ineligible Date

(INELDTE).

Source: Derived

Remarks: This flag is rarely set to '1' because ineligibles are removed from the

Enrollment File at the beginning of the fiscal year. Removal is based on

the **INELDTE** variable. Use of this flag is not recommended.

ERINEFLG has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	47,241,215 ¹	99.97
0	No	13,182	0.03
1	Yes	0	0.00

¹ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **EXTRDATE**

Name: Extract Date

Definition: The processing date for the NED extract used in building the ADUSH

Enrollment File

Source: NED

Remarks: This variable was replaced by **EXTRDTE** in FY2002.

The processing date for the NED extract used in building the 2001 fiscal

year-end file was September 25, 2001.¹

¹ There were 33,545,301 observations with the EXTRDATE variable set to September 25, 2002, and 901,307 observations with EXTRDATE variable set to missing.

Variable Name: **EXTRDTE**

Name: **Extract Date**

The processing date for the NED extract used in building the ADUSH Definition:

Enrollment File

Source: **NED**

The processing date for the NED extract used in building the 2005 fiscal year-end file was October 8,2005. Remarks:

¹ There were 33,545,301 observations with the EXTRDATE variable set to September 25, 2002, and 901,307 observations with EXTRDATE variable set to missing.

Variable Name: **FIPS_GEO**

Name: State and County FIPS Code

Definition: The five-digit code associated with the patient's home residence. It is

created by combining the two-digit state code and the three-digit county

code.

Source: NED

Remarks: At the end of a fiscal year PSSG uses each patient's home address (street

address, city, state, and zip+4 when available) to create the **FIPS_GEO**

variable with coordinates (latitude and longitude). The variable

FIPS_GEO replaced GDTFIPSA FY2006. FIPS are used as values to

categorize data.

The Enrollment File is updated with these new codes several months after the fiscal year end. Thus, the **FIPS_GEO** variable on a fiscal year-end file will contain the geocoded state and county FIPS code for the previous fiscal year-end address. For example, the September 2005 Enrollment File will have the geocoded state and county FIPS codes for enrollee's addresses at the end of September 2004. FIPS codes can be found at Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Codes Internet Web site.

Variable Name: **FY1998UT**

Name:

Definition: Temporary work variable

Source: Derived

Remarks: VIReC recommends that this variable should not be used.

Variable Name: **FY1999UT**

Name:

Definition: Temporary work variable

Source: Derived

Remarks: VIReC recommends that this variable should not be used.

Variable Name: **FY95 - FY05**

User in Fiscal Year Name:

Definition: This series of flags indicates if the patient or enrollee was a user of VHA

services in the fiscal year specified.

Source: **VSSC**

Remarks: A patient or enrollee is considered to be a user if their SSN was on the

VSSC extract during the fiscal year. The VSSC extract indicates an SSN

was in one of the following utilization files during the fiscal year:

VSSC Extract	Description
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.PMOyy	Medical SAS inpatient treatment at a VA hospital, by
	episode (observation patients)
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.PMyy	Medical SAS inpatient treatment at a VA hospital by
	episode
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.XMyy	Medical SAS impatient treatment at an extended care
	facility, by episode
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.NMyy	Medical SAS inpatient treatment at a Non-VA hospital
	where VA paid for care, by each treating specialty
RMTPRD.MED.SAS.CENSUS.PMyy ³⁸	Medical SAS quarterly census
RMTPRD.MED.SAS.CENSUS.XMyy	Medical SAS quarterly census
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.SFyy	Medical SAS outpatient demographic (diagnostic codes)
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.FEN.FYyy.INPT	Medical SAS Central Fee inpatient payments
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.FEN.FYyy.INPT.ANCIL	Medical SAS Central Fee ancillary payments
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.FEN.FYyy.PHR	Medical SAS Central Fee pharmacy payments
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.FEN.FYyy.MED	Medical SAS Central Fee outpatient payments
MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.FEN.FYyy.VET	Medical SAS Central Fee veteran file
RMTPRD.MED.KLFDATA.PHARMYyy ³⁹	Medical SAS pharmacy only patients

where yy indicates the appropriate fiscal year.

³⁸ CENSUS files are modified versions of the quarterly census files (MDPPRD.MDP.SAS.CENSUS.PMyy) maintained by the AAC. The original files are used to compare and remove any discharged patients since the last census. Discharged patients are removed in AAC files. Email correspondence with Kevin Martin from AAC June 6, 2006 and June 7, 2006.

³⁹ The Original pharmacy only file is supplied by the ARC and is compared to workload files maintained by AAC to ensure a patient doesn't appear in both. If so, the patient is removed from the AAC PHARMYyy library. Email correspondence with Kevin Martin from the AAC June 6, 2006 and June 7, 2006.

FY95 – FY05 has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Variable Name	N		%)
Value	0	1	0	1
Description	No	Yes	No	Yes
FY95	33,589,990	13,664,407	71.08	28.92
FY96	32,448,975	14,805,422	68.67	31.33
FY97	30,866,491	16,387,906	65.32	34.68
FY98	28,603,033	18,651,364	60.53	39.47
FY99	26,207,021	21,047,376	55.46	44.54
FY00	23,051,035	24,203,362	48.78	51.22
FY01	18,473,799	28,780,598	39.09	60.91
FY02	13,712,295	33,542,102	29.02	70.98
FY03	9,491,983	37,762,414	20.09	79.91
FY04	5,830,007	41,424,390	12.34	87.66
FY05	3,112,475 ⁴⁰	44,141,922	6.59	93.41

 $^{^{40}}$ These records are for enrollees who received no VHA care during the fiscal year.

Variable Name: **FY_EN_AP**

Name: Fiscal Year of Enrollment Application

Definition:

Source: Derived

Remarks: VIReC recommends that this variable should not be used.

Variable Name: **GDTFIPSA**

Name: State and County FIPS Code

Definition: The five-digit code associated with the patient's home residence. It is

created by combining the two-digit state code and the three-digit county

code.

Source: NED

Remarks: At the end of a fiscal year PSSG supplies a private vendor (GDT) with

each patient's home address (street address, city, state, and zip+4 when

available) and the vendor creates the GDTFIPSA variable with

coordinates (latitude and longitude). FIPS are used as values to categorize data. Starting in FY06, PSSG will geocode in-house and therefore the "GDT" will be dropped from the variable name. The new variable name

is FIPS GEO.⁴¹

The Enrollment File is updated with these new codes several months after the fiscal year end. Thus, the **GDTFIPSA** variable on a fiscal year-end file contains the geocoded state and county FIPS code for the previous fiscal year-end address. For example, the September 2005 Enrollment File will have the geocoded state and county FIPS codes for enrollee's addresses at the end of September 2004. FIPS codes can be found at Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Codes Web site.

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring **GDTFIPSA** values in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File.

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	2,658,486	5.63
06037	Los Angeles County, CA	615,128	1.30
17031	Cook County, IL	549,288	1.16
04013	Maricopa County, AZ	399,424	0.85
06073	San Diego County, CA	368,563	0.78
12099	Palm Beach County, FL	353,885	0.75
12103	Pinellas County, FL	296,506	0.63
48201	Harris County, TX	276,678	0.59

⁴¹ Email correspondence from Ralph Eskenazi from ADUSH on July 12, 2006.

Value	Description	N	%
12011	Broward County, FL	261,738	0.55
48029	Bexar County, TX	258,325	0.55
32003	Clark County, NV	242,790	0.51

Variable Name: **GDTZIPT**

Name: Geocoded ZIP Code

Definition: The ZIP code associated with the patient's home residence

Source: NED

Remarks: At the end of a fiscal year PSSG supplies a private vendor (GDT) with

each patient's home address (street address, city, state, and zip+4 when available) and the vendor creates the **GDTFIPSA** variable with coordinates (latitude and longitude). Zip codes are used as values to

categorize data. Starting in FY06, PSSG will geocode in-house and therefore the "GDT" will be dropped from the variable name. ⁴² The new

variable name is ZIP_GEO.

The Enrollment File is updated with these new codes several months after the fiscal year end. Thus, the **GDTZIPT** variable on a fiscal year-end file contains the geocoded ZIP code for the previous fiscal year-end address. For example, the September 2005 Enrollment File will have the geocoded ZIP codes for enrollee's addresses at the end of September 2004.

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring **GDTZIPT** values in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	2,660,852	5.63
33437	Boynton Beach, FL	43,377	0.09
79924	El Paso, TX	28,324	0.06
30906	Augusta, GA	24,506	0.05
32159	Lady Lake, FL	23,758	0.05
33484	Delray Beach, FL	23,434	0.05
34668	Port Richey, FL	22,797	0.05
97470	Roseburg, OR	22,702	0.05
78028	Kerrville, TX	20,979	0.04
86401	Kingman, AZ	20,260	0.04
28314	Fayetteville, NC	20,235	0.04

⁴² Email correspondence from Ralph Eskenazi from ADUSH on July 12, 2006.

Variable Name: **HBBENE**

Name: House-Bound Benefits Indicator

Definition: This flag indicates if an enrollee is receiving House-Bound Benefits, as

determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration.

Source: NED

Remarks: "The VA's House Bound Benefit is an additional amount available to

eligible veterans and dependents that are entitled to VA pension or VA compensation. The housebound allowance may be paid to veterans, dependent spouses, or surviving spouses who, because of their physical limitations, are unable to walk or travel beyond their home and are

reasonably certain the disabilities or confinement will continue throughout

his or her lifetime."43

HBBENE has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ⁴⁴	2.21
0	No	46,072,876	97.50
1	Yes	136,304	0.29

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⁴³ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Glossary of Health Benefits Eligibility terms page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/glossary/glossary.asp#h. Accessed July 21, 2006.

⁴⁴ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **INAPDTE**

Name: Initial Application Date

Definition: The initial date the veteran submitted an application for health care

benefits.

Source: NED

Remarks: When the Health Eligibility Center established an application date, the

application date was set to the local sites enrollment date if the veteran had such a date. For veterans who were auto-enrolled in 1998, this field is not

populated.

The values of **INAPDTE**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal year-end file as shown below:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	18,979,803 ⁴⁵	40.17
Prior to 1998	Application dates prior to 1998	2,048,368	4.33
1998	Application dates in 1998	5,567,563	11.78
1999	Application dates in 1999	3,333,277	7.05
2000	Application dates in 2000	3,636,442	7.70
2001	Application dates in 2001	4,364,745	9.24
2002	Application dates in 2002	4,143,982	8.77
2003	Application dates in 2003	2,340,839	4.95
2004	Application dates in 2004	2,081,378	4.40
2005	Application dates in 2005	757,870	1.60
2006 or later	Application dates in 2006 through 2025	30	0.00

⁴⁵ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **INELDTE**

Name: Ineligible Date

Definition: The date the veteran was determined to be ineligible for benefits

Source: NED

Remarks: None

The values of **INELDTE**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal year-end file as shown below:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	47,241,215 ⁴⁶	99.97
2004	Ineligible dates in 2004	2,418	0.01
2005	Ineligible dates in 2005	10,763	0.02
2011	Ineligible dates in 2011	1	0.00

 $^{^{46}}$ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **INELIGDT**

Name: Ineligible Date

Definition: The date the veteran was determined to be ineligible for benefits

Source: NED

Remarks: This variable was replaced by **INELDTE** in FY2002.

The values of **INELIGDT**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2001 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable, as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	34,421,935	99.93
2000	Ineligible dates in 2000	8,266	0.02
2001	Ineligible dates in 2001	16,407	0.05

Variable Name: **INENDTE**

Name: Initial Enrollment Date

Definition: The date the veteran was initially enrolled for health care benefits

Source: NED

Remarks: VHA patient enrollment was established by law as of October 1, 1998, as

part of the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act. Enrollment dates

prior to 1998 are based on an extract from all local sites to obtain

enrollment data, which was used to populate HEC during 1998, thereby creating pre-1998 enrollment dates. All other veterans were automatically enrolled if they used VHA health care services between 10/1/1996 and

10/1/1998.

The values of **INENDTE**, categorized using only the year, are distributed in the 2005 fiscal yearend file as shown below:

Category	Description	N	%
	Missing	2,280,430 ⁴⁷	4.83
Prior to 1998	Initial enrollment dates prior to 1998	2,175,646	4.65
1998	Initial enrollment dates in 1998	17,973,684	38.04
1999	Initial enrollment dates in 1999	4,750,202	10.05
2000	Initial enrollment dates in 2000	4,450,227	9.42
2001	Initial enrollment dates in 2001	5,105,326	10.80
2002	Initial enrollment dates in 2002	4,439,718	9.40
2003	Initial enrollment dates in 2003	2,920,016	6.18
2004	Initial enrollment dates in 2004	2,394,462	5.07
2005	Initial enrollment dates in 2005	891,552	1.89
2020	Initial enrollment dates in 2020	1	0.00

⁴⁷ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: MATCH

Name: Match

Definition: The source of the patient's or enrollee's data

Source: Derived

Remarks: If patients or enrollees are found only on the NED extract file, the value is

set to 'ENRLONLY'; if they are found only on the ARC extract file, the value is set to 'COSTONLY'; and if they are found on both files, the value

is set to 'IN BOTH'.

MATCH has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
IN BOTH ⁴⁸	In both the ARC and NED extract files.	43,096,705	91.20
COSTONLY	In the ARC extract file only.	1,045,217	2.21
ENRLONLY	In the NED extract file only.	3,112,475	6.59

 $^{^{\}rm 48}$ Please note the ' IN BOTH' value has a space before the 'IN.'

Variable Name: **MEDICAID**

Name: Medicaid Eligibility.

Definition: This flag indicates if the enrollee is eligible for Medicaid.

Source: NED

Remarks: Enrollees are asked on the 10-10EZ enrollment form and 10-10EZR

enrollment renewal form if they are currently eligible for Medicaid. Patients at VHA facilities are asked if they are currently eligible for

Medicaid at inpatient admission and outpatient registration.

MEDICAID has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	5,028,768 ⁴⁹	10.64
0	No	41,750,877	88.35
1	Yes	474,752	1.00

⁴⁹ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: MOC

Name: Month of Care

Definition: This is the month in which the patient's cost of care was incurred.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This variable only appears in the quarter-end and year-end ADUSH

Enrollment Files. For each month a patient received care from the VA, there will be a record in the quarter- and year-end files; the cost and utilization variables will contain that month's costs and utilization. For enrollees who have received no care, the MOC variable will contain the

missing value.

MOC has the following values and frequencies in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	3,112,475 ⁵⁰	6.59
200409	September 2004	377,758	0.80
200410	October 2004	3,765,308	7.97
200411	November 2004	3,794,313	8.03
200412	December 2004	3,717,521	7.87
200501	January 2005	3,716,449	7.86
200502	February 2005	3,646,138	7.72
200503	March 2005	3,899,896	8.25
200504	April 2005	3,770,380	7.98
200505	May 2005	3,783,732	8.01
200506	June 2005	3,848,466	8.14
200507	July 2005	3,601,274	7.62
200508	August 2005	3,828,749	8.10
200509	September 2005	2,391,927	5.06
200510	October 2005	11	0.00

⁵⁰ These enrollees were only on the NED extract and received no VA health care.

Variable Name: MTSTATUS

Name: Means Test Status

Definition: This indicates the patient's current Means Test status.

Source: NED

Remarks: "While many veterans qualify for cost-free health care services based on a

compensable service-connected condition or other qualifying factor, most veterans are required to complete an annual financial assessment or Means test to determine if they qualify for cost-free services. Veterans whose household income and net worth exceed the established threshold as well as those who choose not to complete the financial assessment must agree to pay the required co-pays to become eligible for VA health care services. Note that new veterans who apply for enrollment after January 16, 2003 and who decline to provide income information are not eligible for enrollment. Along with their enrollment confirmation and priority group assignment, enrollees will receive information regarding their co-pay

requirements, if applicable."51

MTSTATUS has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Definition ^{52,53}	N	%
	Missing	20,687,052	43.78
A	"Below the means test threshold" is defined as those veterans whose attributable income and net worth are such that they are unable to defray the expenses of care; therefore, they are not subject to co-payment charges for hospital and outpatient medical services. Within the Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture (VistA) system, such veterans are designated as "Means Test Co-pay Exempt."	14,198,667	30.05

⁵¹ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility, Co-pays and Charges page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/costs/costs.asp. Accessed July 21, 2006.

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⁵² U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. MEANS TEST AND GEOGRAPHIC-BASED MEANS TEST THRESHOLDS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2006. Available at:

http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub ID=1363. Accessed July 21, 2006.

⁵³ Email correspondence with Cecelia Wray from the Health Eligibility Center on September 3, 2003.

⁵⁴ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Value	Definition ^{52,53}	N	%
C	"Above the means test and GMT threshold" is defined as those veterans whose attributable income and net worth are such that they are able to defray the expenses of care; therefore they must agree to pay a co-payment for hospital care and outpatient medical services. Within the VistA system, these veterans are designated as "Means Test Co-pay Required."	10,903,935	23.07
G	"Above the means test and below the GMT threshold," is defined as those veterans whose attributable income and net worth are such that they are able to defray the expense of care, but whose inpatient medical care copayments are reduced 80 percent. Within the VistA system, these veterans are identified as "GMT Co-pay Required."	1,464,743	3.10
N	This value for outpatients indicates that the means test is not required and for inpatients		
	indicates that the person receiving care is a non-veteran.	0	0
P	Results of means test are pending adjudication.	0	0
R	A means test is required, but the veteran has not submitted a financial worksheet.	0	0
X	This Means Test category includes treatment of patients who are not required to complete the Means Test for the care being provided. If the veteran was admitted prior to July 1, 1986, with no change in the level of care being received, (i.e., if the patient was in the Nursing Home Care Unit (NHCU) on June 30, 1986, and has remained in the NHCU since that date with no transfer to the hospital for treatment), the "X" Means Test indicator will be accepted. This category also includes patients admitted to the domiciliary, patients seen for completion of a compensation and		
	pension examination and Class II	0	0

Variable Name: **PELCODE**

Name: Enrollment Status

Definition: Veteran's enrollment status.

Source: NED

Remarks: It is recommended that the **ENRSTAT** variable be used rather than the

PELCODE.

PELCODE had the following values and frequencies in the 2001 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	904,438	2.63
1	UNVERIFIED	5,482,749	15.92
2	VERIFIED	481,591	1.40
3	INACTIVE	7,837,141	22.75
4	REJECTED	1,694,027	4.92
5	SUSPENDED	17,738,037	51.49
6	DECEASED	411	0.00
7	CANCELED/DECLINED	863	0.00
8	EXPIRED	14,243	0.04
9	PENDING	1,981	0.01
10	NOT ELIGIBLE	26	0.00
11	REJECTED; FISCAL YEAR	3	0.00
12	REJECTED; MID CYCLE	5,245	0.02
13	REJECTED; STOP NEW ENROLLMENTS	383	0.00
14	REJECTED; INITIAL APPLICATION BY VAMC	2,446	0.01
15	PENDING, NO ELIG. CODE IN VIVA	127,599	0.37
16	PENDING, MEANS TEST REQUIRED	6	0.00
17	PENDING, ELIG STATUS UNVERIFIED	1,646	0.00
18	PENDING, OTHER	41,111	0.12

Value	Description	N	%
19	NOT ELIGIBLE; REFUSED TO PAY CO-PAY	2,600	0.01
21	NOT ELIGIBLE; INELIGIBLE DATE	0	0.00
22	PENDING; PURPLE HEART UNCONFIRMED	0	0.00
22	REJECTED; BELOW ENROLLMENT GROUP THRESHOLD	110,062	0.32

Variable Name: **PENS**

Name: Pension Indicator

Definition: This flag indicates if the patient is receiving a VA pension, as determined

by the Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA).

Source: NED

Remarks: None

PENS has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ⁵⁵	2.21
0	No	43,471,321	91.99
1	Yes	2,737,859	5.79

⁵⁵ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **PR7SUB2**

Name: Priority Codes 7A and 7C

Definition: This variable subcategorizes the enrollees with a Priority code of 7 in the

PRIOADJ2 variable.

Source: Derived

Remarks: None

PR7SUB2 had the following values and frequencies in the FY2000 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Definition	N	%
Missing	Not Priority Code 7.	23,578,612	87.31
Other	Priority Code 7C – nonservice-connected veterans.	3,159,795	11.70
0SCNCOMP	Priority Code 7A – Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans.	267,715	0.99

Variable Name: **PR7SUB3**

Name: Priority Code 7A and 7C

Definition: This variable subcategorizes the enrollees with a Priority code of 7 in the

PRIOADJ3 variable.

Source: Derived

Remarks: None

PR7SUB3 had the following values and frequencies in the FY2000 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Definition	N	%
Missing	Not Priority Code 7.	23,437,240	86.78
Other	Priority Code 7C – nonservice-connected veterans.	3,296,703	12.21
0SCNCOMP	Priority Code 7A – Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans.	272,179	1.01

Variable Name: **PREFAC_D**

Name: Preferred Facility

Definition: The preferred facility is the health care facility identified on an

enrollee's application for health benefits as the site where he or she prefers to receive health services. It has a value of three to six

alphanumeric characters.

Source: NED – VistA Patient File (#2), "PREFERRED FACILITY" Field

(#27.02).

Remarks: Enrollees are asked on the 10-10EZ enrollment form for their preferred

facility. The preferred facility is determined based on the enrollee's

address if a preferred facility is not provided by an enrollee.

A complete listing of facilities can be found on the National Patient Care Database Intranet Web site. The most recent updates and more detailed information are available on the Planning Systems Support Group's Intranet Web site and its Veterans Affairs Site Tracking (VAST) system.

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring preferred facilities in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ⁵⁶	2.21
549	Dallas VAMC TX	688,298	1.46
573	North Florida/South Georgia HCS-Gainesville	539,181	1.14
548	W Palm Beach FL	521,198	1.10
580	Houston TX	517,539	1.10
541	Cleveland-Wade Park OH	504,466	1.07
516	Bay Pines FL	496,810	1.05
673	Tampa FL	468,630	0.99
598	Central AR Veterans HCS Little Rock	456,072	0.97
618	Minneapolis MN	455,968	0.96
508	Decatur GA	442,336	0.94

⁵⁶ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: PRIO1_8

Name: Enrollment Priority Code

Definition: Enrollment priority adjusted by the ADUSH:

- to assign catastrophically disabled veterans to the appropriate priority based on ICD9 codes and procedure codes found in utilization data or other medical evaluations,
- to obtain the previous priority codes for veterans whose priority code was set to missing due to a lapsed means test, and
- to assign priority codes to veterans who are not formally enrolled using means test and service connected status found in other data sources than the enrollment data such as workload data and compensation and pension data.

This field also contains an assigned priority code for patients with a value of 'COSTONLY' in the **MATCH** variable.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This variable is derived from **ENRLPRIO**.

PRIO1_8 has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Definition ⁵⁷	N	%
	Missing	719,443	1.52
1	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling, or 		
	 Veterans determined by the VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions. 	8,566,934	18.13
2	This priority level includes:		
	• Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.	3,006,746	6.36

⁵⁷ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/epg_all.asp). Accessed July 21, 2006.

Value	Definition ⁵⁷	N	%
3	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling, 		
	 Veterans who are former POWs, veterans awarded the Purple Heart, 		
	 Veterans whose discharge was for a disability that began in the line of duty, or 		
	 Veterans who are disabled because of VA treatment or participation in VA vocational rehabilitation program. 	4,869,196	10.30
4	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who receive aid and attendance or housebound benefits, or 		
	• Veterans who are determined by the VA to be catastrophically disabled.	1,992,134	4.22
5	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans receiving VA pension benefits, 		
	 Veterans who are eligible for Medicaid programs, or 		
	 Veterans with income and assets below VA Means Test Thresholds. 	15,546,633	32.90

This priority level includes: • Veterans with 0% service-connected conditions, but receiving VA compensation,		
,		
 Veterans seeking care only for disorders relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, 		
 Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, 		
 Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, 		
 Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or 		
 Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military. 	688,457	1.46
This priority level includes:		
Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold		
Subpriority a: Noncompensable 0% service- connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who have remained enrolled since that date.	46,548	0.10
This priority level includes:		
 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold 		
Subpriority c: Nonservice-connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who have remained enrolled since that date	1 386 725	2.93
	relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, • Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, • Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, • Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or • Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military. This priority level includes: • Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold Subpriority a: Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who have remained enrolled since that date. This priority level includes: • Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold Subpriority c: Nonservice-connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System	relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, • Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, • Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, • Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or • Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military. This priority level includes: • Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold Subpriority a: Noncompensable 0% service- connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who have remained enrolled since that date. This priority level includes: • Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold Subpriority c: Nonservice-connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who have remained

Value	Definition	N	%
8A	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Means Test threshold and the Geographic Means Test Threshold. 		
	Subpriority a: Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans enrolled as of January 16, 2003 and who have remained enrolled since that date.	344,357	0.73
8C	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Means Test threshold and the Geographic Means Test Threshold. 		
	Subpriority c: Nonservice-connected veterans enrolled as of January 16, 2003 and who have remained enrolled since that date.	9,799,972	20.74
8E	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Means Test threshold and the Geographic Means Test Threshold. 		
	Subpriority e: Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans applying for enrollment after January 16, 2003.	9,631	0.02
8G	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Means Test threshold and the Geographic Means Test Threshold. 		
	Subpriority g: Nonservice-connected veterans applying for enrollment after January 16, 2003.	277,621	0.59

Variable Name: **PRIO7SUB**

Name: Priority Code 7A and 7C

Definition: This variable subcategorizes the enrollees with a Priority code of 7 in the

PRIOADJ1 variable.

Source: Derived

Remarks: None

PRIO7SUB had the following values and frequencies in the FY2000 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Definition	N	%
Missing	Not Priority Code 7.	24,765,102	91.70
Other	Priority Code 7C – Nonservice-Connected veterans.	2,068,085	7.66
0SCNCOMP	Priority Code 7A – Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans.	172,935	0.64

Name: Priority Code

Definition: Enrollment priority adjusted:

- to assign catastrophically disabled veterans to the appropriate priority based on ICD9 codes and procedure codes found in utilization data, and
- to obtain the previous priority codes for veterans whose priority code was set to missing due to a lapsed means test, and
- to assign priority codes to veterans who are not formally enrolled using means test and service connected status found in other data sources than the enrollment data such as workload data and compensation and pension data.

Priority code values higher than '7C' are not used in the adjustment process. Patients with a value of 'COSTONLY' in the <u>MATCH</u> variable are not assigned a priority value.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This variable replaced **PRIOADJ3** in October 2000, and was in turn

replaced in January 2003 by PRIO1_8.

PRIOADJ has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Definition ⁵⁸	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217	2.21
1	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling, or 		
	 Veterans determined by the VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions. 	8,531,923	18.06
2	This priority level includes:	3,000,000	
	• Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.	2,987,835	6.32

⁵⁸ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/epg_all.asp). Accessed July 21, 2006.

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These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Value	Definition ⁵⁸	N	%
3	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling, 		
	 Veterans who are former POWs, veterans awarded the Purple Heart, 		
	 Veterans whose discharge was for a disability that began in the line of duty, or 		
	 Veterans who are disabled because of VA treatment or participation in VA vocational rehabilitation program. 	4,835,877	10.23
4	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who receive aid and attendance or housebound benefits, or 		
	 Veterans who are determined by the VA to be catastrophically disabled. 	1,987,040	4.20
5	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans receiving VA pension benefits, 		
	 Veterans who are eligible for Medicaid programs, or 		
	Veterans with income and assets below VA Means Test Thresholds.	15,418,044	32.63

Value	Definition	N	%
6	This priority level includes:		
	• Veterans with 0% service-connected conditions, but receiving VA compensation,		
	 Veterans seeking care only for disorders relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, 		
	 Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or 		
	 Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military. 	688,196	1.46
7A	This priority level includes:		
	Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold Subpriority a: Noncompensable 0% service-connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who have remained enrolled since that date.	394,536	0.83
7C	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold 		
	Subpriority c: Nonservice-connected veterans who were enrolled in VA Health Care System on a specified date and who	11 265 700	24.05
	have remained enrolled since that date.	11,365,729	24.05

Name: Enrollment Priority Code

Definition: Enrollment priority adjusted by the ADUSH:

• to assign catastrophically disabled veterans to the appropriate priority based on ICD9 codes and procedure codes found in utilization data.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This variable was replaced in FY2001 by **PRIOADJ**. VIReC

recommends that this variable should only be used with enrollment files

produced prior to August 1999.

PRIOADJ1 had the following values and frequencies in the FY2000 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Definition ⁶⁰	N	%
	Missing	5,519,003	20.44
1	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling, or 		
	 Veterans determined by the VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions. 	4,567,507	16.91
2	This priority level includes:		
	• Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.	2,092,715	7.75

⁶⁰ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/epg_all.asp). Accessed July 21, 2006.

Value	Definition ⁶⁰	N	%
3	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling, 		
	 Veterans who are former POWs, veterans awarded the Purple Heart, 		
	 Veterans whose discharge was for a disability that began in the line of duty, or 		
	 Veterans who are disabled because of VA treatment or participation in VA vocational rehabilitation program. 	3,141,208	11.63
4	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who receive aid and attendance or housebound benefits, or 		
	 Veterans who are determined by the VA to be catastrophically disabled. 	1,216,379	4.50
5	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans receiving VA pension benefits, 		
	 Veterans who are eligible for Medicaid programs, or 		
	 Veterans with income and assets below VA Means Test Thresholds. 	7,911,750	29.30

Value	Definition	N	%
6	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with 0% service-connected conditions, but receiving VA compensation, 		
	 Veterans seeking care only for disorders relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, 		
	 Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or 		
	 Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military. 	316,540	1.17
7	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA 		
	Income Threshold.	2,241,020	8.30

Name: Enrollment Priority Code

Definition: Enrollment priority adjusted by the ADUSH:

 to assign catastrophically disabled veterans to the appropriate priority based on ICD9 codes and procedure codes found in utilization data, and

• to obtain the previous priority code for veterans whose priority code was set to missing due to a lapsed means test.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This variable was replaced in FY2001 by **PRIOADJ**. VIReC

recommends that this variable should only be used with the August 1999

and September 1999 enrollment files.

PRIOADJ2 had the following values and frequencies in the FY2000 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Definition ⁶¹	N	%
	Missing	1,271,178	4.71
1	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling, or 		
	 Veterans determined by the VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions. 	4,574,410	16.94
2	This priority level includes:		
	• Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.	2,097,295	7.77

⁶¹ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/epg_all.asp. Accessed July 21, 2006.

Value	Definition ⁶¹	N	%
3	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling, 		
	 Veterans who are former POWs, veterans awarded the Purple Heart, 		
	 Veterans whose discharge was for a disability that began in the line of duty, or 		
	 Veterans who are disabled because of VA treatment or participation in VA vocational rehabilitation program. 	3,152,674	11.67
4	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who receive aid and attendance or housebound benefits, or 		
	 Veterans who are determined by the VA to be catastrophically disabled. 	1,375,319	5.09
5	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans receiving VA pension benefits, 		
	 Veterans who are eligible for Medicaid programs, or 		
	Veterans with income and assets below VA Means Test Thresholds.	10,788,910	39.95

6	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with 0% service-connected conditions, but receiving VA compensation, 		
	 Veterans seeking care only for disorders relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, 		
	 Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or 		
	• Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military.	318,826	1.18
7	This priority level includes:		
	Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threehold	2 427 510	12.60
	Income Threshold.	3,427,510	12.69

Name: Enrollment Priority Code

Definition: Enrollment priority adjusted by the ADUSH:

- to assign catastrophically disabled veterans to the appropriate priority based on ICD9 codes and procedure codes found in utilization data, and
- to obtain the previous priority codes for veterans whose priority code was set to missing due to a lapsed means test, and
- to assign priority codes to veterans who are not formally enrolled using means test and service connected status found in other data sources than the enrollment data such as workload data and compensation and pension data.

Source: Derived

Remarks: This variable was replaced in FY2001 by **PRIOADJ**. VIReC

recommends that this variable should only be used with enrollment files

from FY2000 (October 1999 through September 2000).

PRIOADJ3 had the following values and frequencies in the FY2000 fiscal year-end file, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Definition ⁶²	N	%
	Missing	1,009,043	3.74
1	This priority level includes:		
	• Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling, or		
	 Veterans determined by the VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions. 	4,568,667	16.95
2	This priority level includes:		
	• Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.	2,100,536	7.78

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⁶² U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Health Benefits Eligibility page. Available at: http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/epg_all.asp. Accessed July 21, 2006.

Value	Definition ⁶²	N	%
3	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling, 		
	 Veterans who are former POWs, veterans awarded the Purple Heart, 		
	 Veterans whose discharge was for a disability that began in the line of duty, or 		
	 Veterans who are disabled because of VA treatment or participation in VA vocational rehabilitation program. 	3,158,160	11.69
4	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans who receive aid and attendance or housebound benefits, or 		
	 Veterans who are determined by the VA to be catastrophically disabled. 	1,375,755	5.09
5	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans receiving VA pension benefits, 		
	 Veterans who are eligible for Medicaid programs, or 		
	 Veterans with income and assets below VA Means Test Thresholds. 	10,896,200	40.35

6	This priority level includes:		
	 Veterans with 0% service-connected conditions, but receiving VA compensation, 		
	 Veterans seeking care only for disorders relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam, 		
	 Veterans seeking care for Gulf War Illness or for conditions related to exposure to Environmental Contaminants during service in the Persian Gulf, 		
	 Veterans of World War I or the Mexican Border War, or 		
	 Veterans who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military. 	318,879	1.18
7	This priority level includes:	,	
	 Veterans who agree to pay specified co-pay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold. 	3,568,882	13.22

Variable Name: **PRIOPC**

Name:

Definition: Temporary work variable

Source: Derived

Remarks: VIReC recommends that this variable should not be used.

Variable Name: **PRISWAR**

Name: Prisoner of War Status.

Definition: This flag indicates if the patient was a prisoner of war.

Source: NED

Remarks: Enrollees are asked on the 10-10EZ enrollment form if they were a

prisoner of war. Patients at VHA facilities are asked if they were a prisoner of war at inpatient admission and outpatient registration. This

may also be confirmed by their military record.

PRISWAR has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ⁶³	2.21
0	No	45,953,536	97.25
1	Yes	255,644	0.54

⁶³ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **REASCD**

Name: Canceled/Declined Enrollment Reason Code

Definition: The reason the enrollee canceled or declined enrollment

Source: NED

Remarks: See VHA Directive 2005-006 "Cancel or Decline Enrollment Request" for

further information regarding cancel or declined enrollments.⁶⁴

REASCD has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	47,242,180 65	99.97
1	Dissatisfied With Care	767	0.00
2	Geographic Access	2,210	0.00
3	Other Insurance	2,151	0.00
4	Other	7,089	0.02

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⁶⁴ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. VHA Directive 2005-006. Available at: http://www1.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=1222. Accessed July 21, 2006.

⁶⁵ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **SCPER**

Name: Service Connected Percentage

Definition: Enrollee's percentage (from 0 to 100) of service-connected disability

Source: NED

Remarks: None

SCPER has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	29,941,462 ⁶⁶	63.36
0	0% disability	1,557,385	3.30
1-9	1-9% disability	411	0.00
10	10% disability	2,768,513	5.86
11-19	11-19% disability	184	0.00
20	20% disability	1,707,616	3.61
21-29	21-29% disability	57	0.00
30	30% disability	1,626,062	3.44
31-39	31-39% disability	21	0.00
40	40% disability	1,351,278	2.86
41-49	41-49% disability	6	0.00
50	50% disability	1,172,873	2.48
51-59	51-59% disability	48	0.00
60	60% disability	1,445,256	3.06
61-69	61-69% disability	3	0.00
70	70% disability	1,493,910	3.16
71-79	71-79% disability	13	0.00
80	80% disability	1,037,037	2.19
81-89	81-89% disability	2	0.00

⁶⁶ Of these records, 1,045,217 are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Value	Description	N	%
90	90% disability	455,169	0.96
91-99	91-99% disability	9	0.00
100	100% disability	2,697,082	5.71

Variable Name: SCRSSN

Name: Scrambled Social Security Number

Definition: The enrollee's or patient's Social Security number

Source: On all sources

Remarks: Scrambled Social Security number was created in FY1986 as a

replacement for the patient's real Social Security number (SSN). It is a formula manipulation of the real SSN and not a randomly generated number. Therefore, **SCRSSN** may be used to identify a patient across fiscal years and datasets. This field is used to merge all source files.

Variable Name: **SERVCON**

Name: Service Connected Indicator

Definition: If an enrollee's service-connected percentage is greater than 0 this

indicator is set to '1'.

Source: NED

Remarks: None

SERVCON has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ⁶⁷	2.21
0	No	30,453,630	64.45
1	Yes	15,755,550	33.34

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⁶⁷ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **SEX**

Name: Gender

Definition: Enrollee's gender

Source: NED

Remarks: Enrollees are asked for their gender when completing the 10-10EZ

enrollment form and the 10-10EZR enrollment renewal form. Patients at

VHA facilities are asked for their gender at inpatient admission and

outpatient registration.

SEX has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,045,217 ⁶⁸	2.21
F	Female	2,136,121	4.52
M	Male	44,071,716	93.26
О	Other	0	0.00
U	Unknown	1,343	0.00

⁶⁸ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Variable Name: **STA5C**

Name: Substation Identifier

Definition: This is the five-digit code of the VHA substation where the patient

received care.

Source: ARC

Remarks: This variable was replaced by **STA6C** in FY2000. A complete listing of

facilities can be found on the National Patient Care Database Intranet Web site. The most recent updates and more detailed information are available on the Planning Systems Support Group's Intranet Web site and its

Veterans Affairs Site Tracking (VAST) system.

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring **STA5C** values in the FY1999 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File, the last year-end file that contained this variable:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,137,372	2.41
549	Dallas VAMC TX	62,693	0.13
691	Greater Los Angeles HCS	61,630	0.13
673	Tampa FL	57,540	0.12
573	North Florida/South Georgia HCS-Gainesville	57,130	0.12
672	San Juan PR	53,387	0.11
580	Houston TX	53,059	0.11
618	Minneapolis MN	51,737	0.11
501	New Mexico HCS	50,255	0.11
671	San Antonio VAMC	48,399	0.10
541	Cleveland-Wade Park OH	46,398	0.10

Variable Name: **STA6C**

Name: Substation Identifier.

Definition: This is the six-digit code of the VHA substation where the patient received

care.

Source: ARC

Remarks: A complete listing of facilities can be found on the National Patient Care

Database Intranet Web site. The most recent updates and more detailed information are available on the Planning Systems Support Group's Intranet Web site and its Veterans Affairs Site Tracking (VAST) system.

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring **STA6C** values in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	3,112,475 ⁶⁹	6.59
549	Dallas VAMC TX	586,266	1.24
673	Tampa FL	532,111	1.13
516	Bay Pines FL	501,361	1.06
548	W Palm Beach FL	459,531	0.97
580	Houston TX	448,305	0.95
573	North Florida/South Georgia HCS-Gainesville	437,556	0.93
618	Minneapolis MN	427,232	0.90
541	Cleveland-Wade Park OH	400,856	0.85
508	Decatur GA	395,325	0.84
672	San Juan PR	379,753	0.80

⁶⁹ These enrollees were only on the NED extract and received no VA health care.

Variable Name: **TOTINC**

Name: Total Family Income

Definition: A calculation of the total reported income from all sources

Source: NED

Remarks: The enrollee is asked for his/her family income from all sources for the

enrollee, his/her spouse, and any dependents (if applicable) when

completing the 10-10EZ enrollment form and the 10-10EZR enrollment renewal form. "All sources" includes income from employment, a farm or business, and all other sources (Social Security, pensions, dividends, e.g.), excluding welfare. The Financial Income Thresholds for VA Health Care Benefits provides a chart for FTY2004 – FTY 2006 based on enrollee's

number of dependants and applied for benefit.

TOTINC has the following statistics in FY2005:

Statistic	Value
Mean	22,028.38
Median	17,000.00
Mode	12,000.00
Standard Deviation	42,035.47
0 th percentile	1.00
10 th percentile	7,068.00
20 th percentile	9,876.00
30 th percentile	12,000.00
40 th percentile	14,300.00
50 th percentile	17,000.00
60 th percentile	20,120.00
70 th percentile	24,433.00
80 th percentile	30,000.00
90 th percentile	40,422.00
100 th percentile	19,999,998.00
# of non-missing values	25,661,011
# of missing values	18,480,911

Variable Name: VISN_D

Name: Preferred VISN (Veterans Integrated Service Network)

Definition: The VISN in which the patient's preferred facility (**PREFAC_D**) is

located

Source: Derived

Remarks: VISNs 13 and 14 were integrated in January 2002 and are now VISN 23.

VISN_D has the following values and frequencies in the 2005 fiscal year-end file:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,047,634 ⁷⁰	2.22
1	VISN 1	2,195,051	4.65
2	VISN 2	1,257,881	2.66
3	VISN 3	1,835,515	3.88
4	VISN 4	2,583,862	5.47
5	VISN 5	1,015,104	2.15
6	VISN 6	2,135,888	4.52
7	VISN 7	2,642,729	5.59
8	VISN 8	4,833,704	10.23
9	VISN 9	2,155,248	4.56
10	VISN 10	1,915,651	4.05
11	VISN 11	1,911,836	4.05
12	VISN 12	2,078,654	4.40
13	VISN 13	1,275,394	2.70
14	VISN 14	960,551	2.03
15	VISN 15	1,997,809	4.23
16	VISN 16	3,995,261	8.45
17	VISN 17	2,173,943	4.60

 $^{^{70}}$ These 1,045,217 records are for individuals who have received VA care but were not enrolled and, thus, have no data in the NED source file.

Value	Description	N	%
18	VISN 18	1,935,255	4.10
19	VISN 19	1,313,156	2.78
20	VISN 20	1,818,821	3.85
21	VISN 21	2,007,992	4.25
22	VISN 22	2,162,746	4.58
23	VISN 23	4,546	0.01
99	99	166	0.00

Variable Name: **ZIP**

Name: ZIP Code

Definition: The ZIP Code in which a patient resides

Source: NED

Remarks: This variable was replaced by **ZIPARC** in FY2002.

Variable Name: **ZIP_ENRL**

Name: Enrollee ZIP Code

Definition: The ZIP Code in which an enrolled veteran resides

Source: NED

Remarks: None

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring **ZIP_ENRL** values in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	1,083,300	2.29
33437	Boynton Beach, FL	43,624	0.09
79924	El Paso, TX	28,675	0.06
30906	Augusta, GA	25,786	0.05
32159	Lady Lake, FL	24,544	0.05
33484	Delray Beach, FL	23,774	0.05
97470	Roseburg, OR	23,714	0.05
34668	Port Richey, FL	23,098	0.05
78028	Kerrville, TX	22,276	0.05
28314	Fayetteville, NC	20,831	0.04
37042	Clarksville, TN	20,804	0.04

Variable Name: **ZIP_GEO**

Name: Geocoded ZIP Code

Definition: The ZIP code associated with the patient's home residence

Source: NED

Remarks: At the end of a fiscal year PSSG uses patient's home address (street

address, city, state, and zip+4 when available) and creates the **ZIP_GEO** variable with coordinates (latitude and longitude). The **ZIP_GEO**

variable replaced the **GDTZIPT** variable in FY2006. Zip codes are used

as values to categorize data.

The Enrollment File is updated with these new codes several months after the fiscal year end. Thus, the **ZIP_GEO** variable on a fiscal year-end file

will contain the geocoded zip code for the previous fiscal year-end address. For example, the September 2005 Enrollment File will have the geocoded ZIP codes for enrollee's addresses at the end of September

2004.

Variable Name: **ZIPARC**

Name: Patient ZIP Code

Definition: The ZIP Code in which a patient resides

Source: ARC

Remarks: This includes all patients, whether enrolled or not.

The following table contains the ten most frequently occurring **ZIPARC** values in the FY2005 year-end ADUSH Enrollment File:

Value	Description	N	%
	Missing	3,112,475	6.59
33437	Boynton Beach, FL	43,888	0.09
79924	El Paso, TX	27,418	0.06
30906	Augusta, GA	24,398	0.05
32159	Lady Lake, FL	24,217	0.05
97470	Roseburg, OR	24,079	0.05
33484	Delray Beach, FL	23,479	0.05
78028	Kerrville, TX	22,964	0.05
34668	Port Richey, FL	22,833	0.05
25401	Martinsburg, WV	21,401	0.05
57701	Rapid City, SD	20,179	0.04

Appendix A - ARC Adjusted Decision Support Cost⁷¹

DSS patient-specific cost is made available in the DSS National Data Extract (NDE). The ARC adjusts this cost to remove the following overhead cost items that cannot be directly associated with specific patients (represents 8% of total DSS cost):

COST AREA	DESCRIPTION
Network	VISN operating cost
National Program	Operating cost of national program offices
Central Office	Operating cost incurred by VACO in Medical Care and MAMOE appropriations
Building and Equipment Depreciation	Capital Cost

State Home costs (1.3% of total DSS cost) are deducted from DSS cost, since this is not funded through VERA; missing Non-VA costs (3% of total DSS cost), such as Community Nursing Home, are added.

Patient Specific cost is then tied to Patient Treatment File (PTF) and National Patient Care Database (NPCD). Adjustments are made for workload mismatches, such as DSS cost with no official workload, and official workload with no DSS cost.

Patient specific cost is then rolled up to the facility level and DSS adjusted cost for each facility is compared to that facility's FMS (Financial Management System) cost.

FY 2001 for FY 2003 Allocation – Facilities whose adjusted DSS cost exceeded 102% of FMS cost were further adjusted back to 98% of FMS cost. Facilities whose adjusted DSS cost was less than 99% of FMS cost were further adjusted up to 99% of FMS cost. The range of cost adjustment varied from a low of 0.81% to a high of 51.52%, with an average adjustment of 5%.

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⁷¹ This document was downloaded from the ARC Intranet Web site on July 21, 2006.

Appendix ${\bf B}^{72}$ - Fiscal Year 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
MED	1	Allergy
MED	10	Neurology
MED	11	Epilepsy Ctr
MED	12	MICU/CCU
MED	14	Metabolic
MED	15	Gen Medicine
MED	16	Cardio-Thor SDU
MED	17	Telemetry
MED	18	Neurology Observation
MED	2	Cardiology
MED	20	Rehab Medicine
MED	21	Blind Rehab
MED	22	Spinal Cord Injury
MED	23	Spinal Cord Injury Observation
MED	24	Medical Observation
MED	3	Pulmonary-TB
MED	31	Acute Medicine GEM
MED	34	Neurology GEM
MED	35	Rehab GEM
MED	4	Pulmonary-nonTB
MED	41	Rehab Medicine Observation
MED	5	Gerontology
MED	6	Dermatology
MED	7	Endocrinology

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⁷² Michelle R. Young, Computer Programmer/Analyst, Allocation Resource Center, email correspondence, September 14, 2005

<sup>14, 2005.

73</sup> The Cost Type relates to the 3 characters in the cost variable names that identify the type of cost. For example, the mappings into the cost type of 'MED' are the mappings used in accumulating the costs in the DSSMEDCOST and MEDCOST variables.

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
MED	8	Gastroenterology
MED	83	Respite Care
MED	9	Hematology/Oncology
SUR	50	Gen Surgery
SUR	51	Gynecology
SUR	52	Neurosurgery
SUR	53	Opthalmology
SUR	54	Orthopedics
SUR	55	Otorhinolaryngology
SUR	56	Plastic Surgery,inc. head/neck
SUR	57	Proctology
SUR	58	Thoracic Surgery, inc Cardiac
SUR	59	Urology
SUR	60	Oral Surgery
SUR	61	Podiatry
SUR	62	Peripheral Vascular
SUR	63	Surgical ICU
SUR	65	Surgical Observation
SUR	99	OR Procs
PSY	25	PRRTP
PSY	26	PTSD PRRP
PSY	27	SubAbuse SARRTP
PSY	28	HCMI CWT/TR
PSY	29	SA CWT/TR
PSY	33	Psychiatry GEM
PSY	37	Homeless DOM SA
PSY	38	PTSD CWT/TR
PSY	39	CWT/TR
PSY	70	Acute Psych

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
PSY	72	Alcohol Treatment
PSY	73	Drug Treatment
PSY	74	Substance Abuse
PSY	76	Psych mentally infirm
PSY	79	PTSD Unit SIPU
PSY	84	SubAb Intermediate Care
PSY	86	Domiciliary Substance Abuse
PSY	88	Dom-PTSD
PSY	89	Sustained STAR I,II,III
PSY	91	EBTPU
PSY	92	Psychiatry-General Interm.
PSY	93	High Intensity GenPsy Inp Ut
PSY	94	Psychiatric Observation
NVA	,	Nonva Med
NVA	a	Nonva Sur
NVA	b	Nonva Psy
OTC	32	Intermediate Medicine GEM
OTC	40	Intermediate Medicine
OTC	80	Nursing Home Care
OTC	81	Nursing Home GEM
OTC	85	Domiciliary
OTC	87	Domiciliary GEM
OTC	95	Inter Med LTC
OTC	96	Hospice
CNH	119	COMM NURSING HOME FOLLOW-UP
CNH	651	State Nursing Home Days
CNH		NonVA Nursing Home
OPC	101	EMERGENCY UNIT
OPC	102	ADMITTING/SCREENING

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	103	TELEPHONE/TRIAGE
OPC	104	PULMONARY FUNCTION
OPC	105	X-RAY
OPC	106	EEG
OPC	107	EKG
OPC	108	LABORATORY
OPC	109	NUCLEAR MEDICINE
OPC	115	ULTRASOUND
OPC	116	RESPIRATORY THERAPY
OPC	117	NURSING
OPC	118	HOME TREATMENT SERVICES
OPC	120	HEALTH SCREENING
OPC	121	RESID CARE PROGRAM FOLLOW-UP
OPC	122	PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING
OPC	123	NUTRITION/DIETETICS-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	124	NUTRITION/DIETETICS-GROUP
OPC	125	SOCIAL WORK SERVICE
OPC	126	EVOKED POTENTIAL
OPC	127	TOPOGRAPHICAL BRAIN MAPPING
OPC	128	PROLONGED VIDEO/EEG MONITORING
OPC	144	RADIONUCLIDE THERAPY
OPC	145	PHARMACOL./PHYSLO.NUCL PER STDS
OPC	146	PET
OPC	147	TELEPHONE/ANCILLARY
OPC	148	TELEPHONE/DIAGNOSTIC
OPC	149	RADIATION THERAPY TREATMENT
OPC	150	COMPUTERIZED TOMOGRAPHY(CT)
OPC	151	MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING(MRI)
OPC	152	ANGIOGRAM CATHETERIZATION

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	153	INTERVENTIONAL RADIOGRAPHY
OPC	154	MAGNETOENCEPHALOGRAPHY (MEG)
OPC	157	Contract Pharmacy
OPC	160	CLINICAL PHARMACY
OPC	161	Pharmacy Transitional Benefit Clinic
OPC	162	OPC Pharmacy
OPC	165	BEREAVEMENT COUNSELING
OPC	166	CHAPLIAN SERVICE-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	167	CHAPLIAN SERVICE-GROUP
OPC	168	CHAPLIAN SERVICE-COLLATERAL
OPC	169	TELEPHONE/CHAPLAIN
OPC	170	HBHC-PHYSICIAN
OPC	171	HBHC-NURSE
OPC	172	HBHC-NURSE EXTENDER
OPC	173	HBHC-SOCIAL WORKER
OPC	174	HBHC-THERAPIST
OPC	175	HBHC-DIETITIAN
OPC	176	HBHC-CLINICAL PHARMACIST
OPC	177	HBHC-OTHER
OPC	178	HBHC-TELEPHONE
OPC	179	HBHC-TELEPHONE
OPC	180	DENTAL
OPC	181	TELEPHONE/DENTAL
OPC	185	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	186	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	187	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	188	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	190	ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE
OPC	201	PM AND RS

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	202	RECREATION THERAPY SVC
OPC	203	AUDIOLOGY
OPC	204	SPEECH PATHOLOGY
OPC	205	PHYSICAL THERAPY
OPC	206	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
OPC	207	PMRS INCENTIVE THERAPY
OPC	208	PMRS-COMPENSATED WORK THERAPY
OPC	209	VIST COORDINATOR
OPC	210	SPINAL CORD INJURY
OPC	211	AMPUTATION FOLLOW-UP CLINIC
OPC	212	EMG
OPC	213	PMRS-VOCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
OPC	214	KINESIOTHERAPY
OPC	215	SCI HOME CARE PROGRAM
OPC	216	TELEPHONE/REHAB/SUPPORT
OPC	217	Blind Rehab Outpatient Specialist
OPC	219	Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
OPC	220	VISOR (Visual Impairment Outpatient Prog
OPC	221	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	290	Observation Medicine
OPC	291	Observation Surgery
OPC	292	Observation Psychiatry
OPC	293	Observation Neurology
OPC	294	Observation - Blind Rehab
OPC	301	GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE
OPC	302	ALLERGY IMMUNOLOGY
OPC	303	CARDIOLOGY
OPC	304	DERMATOLOGY
OPC	305	ENDO./METAB (EXCEPT DIABETES)

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	306	DIABETES
OPC	307	GASTROENTEROLOGY
OPC	308	HEMATOLOGY
OPC	309	HYPERTENSION
OPC	310	INFECTIOUS DISEASE
OPC	311	PACEMAKER
OPC	312	PUL./CHEST
OPC	313	RENAL/NEPHROL (EXCEPT DIALYSIS)
OPC	314	RHEUMATOLOGY/ARTHRITIS
OPC	315	NEUROLOGY
OPC	316	ONCOLOGY/TUMOR
OPC	317	COUMADIN CLINIC
OPC	318	GERIATRIC CLINIC
OPC	319	GEM CLINIC
OPC	320	ALZHEIMER/DEMENTIA CLINIC
OPC	321	GI ENDOSCOPY
OPC	322	WOMEN S CLINIC
OPC	323	PRIMARY CARE/MEDICINE
OPC	324	TELEPHONE/MEDICINE
OPC	325	TELEPHONE/NEUROLOGY
OPC	326	TELEPHONE/GERIATRICS
OPC	327	MED. PHYS. PERF. INVASIVE OR PROC.
OPC	328	MEDICAL DAY UNIT MSDU
OPC	329	AMBULATORY CARE PROCEDURES UNIT
OPC	330	CHEMO PROCEDURES UNIT-MED
OPC	331	PRE-BED CARE M.D.(MEDICAL SERVICE)
OPC	332	PRE-BED CARE RN (MEDICAL SERVICE)
OPC	333	CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION
OPC	334	CARDIAC STRESS TEST/ETT

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	335	PADRECC (Parkinsons Disease RECC)
OPC	348	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	350	Geriatric Primary Care
OPC	351	Geriatric Primary Care
OPC	371	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	373	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	394	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	401	GENERAL SURGERY
OPC	402	CARDIAC SURGERY
OPC	403	ENT
OPC	404	GYNECOLOGY
OPC	405	HAND SURGERY
OPC	406	NEUROSURGERY
OPC	407	OPHTHALMOLOGY
OPC	408	OPTOMETRY
OPC	409	ORTHOPEDICS
OPC	410	PLASTIC SURGERY
OPC	411	PODIATRY
OPC	412	PROCTOLOGY
OPC	413	THORACIC SURGERY
OPC	414	UROLOGY
OPC	415	VASCULAR SURGERY
OPC	416	AMBULATORY SURGERY OFFICE
OPC	417	PROSTHETICS/ORTHOTICS
OPC	418	AMPUTATION CLINIC
OPC	419	ANESTHESIA PRE-OP CONSULT
OPC	420	PAIN CLINIC
OPC	421	VASCULAR LABORATORY
OPC	422	CAST CLINIC

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	423	PROSTHETIC SERVICES
OPC	424	TELEPHONE/SURGERY
OPC	425	TELEPHONE/PROSTHETICS/OR
OPC	426	WOMEN SURGERY
OPC	428	TELEPONE/OPTOMETRY
OPC	429	AMBCARE OR OR SURG OUTP SUR RM
OPC	430	CYSTO ROOM UNIT FOR OUTPATIENT
OPC	431	CHEMOTHERAPY PROC. UNIT-SURG
OPC	432	PRE-BEDCARE M.D.(SURG. SERVICES)
OPC	433	PRE-BED CARE RN (SURGERY)
OPC	435	Minor Surgery in Non-OR
OPC	436	Preventive Health
OPC	449	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	450	LOCAL USE
OPC	451	LOCAL USE
OPC	452	LOCAL USE
OPC	453	LOCAL USE
OPC	454	LOCAL USE
OPC	455	LOCAL USE
OPC	456	LOCAL USE
OPC	457	LOCAL USE
OPC	459	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	460	LOCAL USE
OPC	461	LOCAL USE
OPC	462	LOCAL USE
OPC	463	A.O. (Agent Orange)
OPC	465	Preventive Health
OPC	466	DOM
OPC	467	LOCAL USE

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	470	LOCAL USE
OPC	471	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	473	LOCAL USE
OPC	474	LOCAL USE
OPC	475	LOCAL USE
OPC	477	Fee Basic
OPC	478	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	479	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	502	MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	503	RESIDENTIAL CARE-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	505	DAY TREATMENT-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	506	DAY HOSPITAL-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	509	PSYCHIATRY-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	510	PSYCHOLOGY-INDIVIDUAL
OPC	512	PSYCHIATRY CONSULTATION
OPC	513	SUBSTANCE ABUSE - INDIVIDUAL
OPC	514	SUBSTANCE ABUSE - HOME VISIT
OPC	516	PTSD GROUP
OPC	519	SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (PTSD TEAMS)
OPC	520	LONG TERM ENHANCEMENT, INDIV
OPC	521	LONG TERM ENHANCEMENT, GROUP
OPC	522	HUD-VASH
OPC	523	METHADONE MAINTENANCE
OPC	524	SEXUAL TRAUMA COUNSELING
OPC	525	WOMEN STRESS DISORDER TRE TEAMS
OPC	527	TELEPHONE/GEN-PSY
OPC	528	TELE./HOMELESS MENTAL ILL
OPC	529	HCHV/HMI
OPC	530	TELEPHONE/HUD-VASH

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	531	PRIMARY CARE/GENERAL PSY
OPC	532	PSYCHOSOCIAL REHAB - INDVDL
OPC	533	MH Intervention Biomed Care - Individual
OPC	535	MH VOCATIONAL ASSISTANCE INDVDL
OPC	536	TELEPHONE/MH VOCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
OPC	537	TELEPHONE PSYCHOSOCIAL REHAB
OPC	538	PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING
OPC	540	PCT POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS
OPC	542	TELEPHONE/PTSD
OPC	545	TELEPHONE/SUBSTANCE ABUSE
OPC	546	TELEPHONE/IPCC
OPC	547	INTENSIVE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT
OPC	550	MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC-GROUP
OPC	552	IPCC COMM VISIT
OPC	553	DAY TREATMENT-GROUP
OPC	554	DAY HOSPITAL-GROUP
OPC	557	PSYCHIATRY-GROUP
OPC	558	PSYCHOLOGY-GROUP
OPC	559	PSYCHOSOCIAL REHAB-GROUP
OPC	560	SUBSTANCE ABUSE - GROUP
OPC	561	PCT-POST TRAUMATIC STRESS - GROUP
OPC	562	PTSD - INDIVIDUAL
OPC	563	PRIMARY CARE/SPEC. PSY
OPC	564	MH TEAM CASE MANAGEMENT
OPC	565	MH MEDICAL CARE ONLY - GROUP
OPC	566	MH RISK-FACTOR-REDUCTION ED GR
OPC	567	MHICM Group
OPC	573	INCENTIVE THERAPY
OPC	574	COMPENSATED WORK THERAPY

	Fiscal Y	ear 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description
OPC	575	VOCATIONAL ASSISTANCE
OPC	576	PSYCHOGERIATRIC CLINIC, INDIVIDUAL
OPC	577	PSYCHOGERIATRIC CLINIC, GROUP
OPC	578	PSYCHOGERIATRIC DAY PROGRAM
OPC	579	TELEPHONE/GERIATRIC PSYCHIATRY
OPC	580	PTSD DAY HOSPITAL
OPC	581	PTSD DAY TREATMENT
OPC	589	NON-ACTIVE DUTY SEX TRAUMA
OPC	590	COMM OUTRCH HMLESS NOT HCHV/DCHV
OPC	602	CHRON ASSISTED HEMODIAL TREAT
OPC	603	LIM SELF CARE HEMODIAL TREAT
OPC	604	HOME HEMODIAL TRAINING TREAT
OPC	606	CHRON ASSISTED PERIT DIALYSIS
OPC	607	LIM SELF CARE PERIT DIALYSIS
OPC	608	HOME PERITONEAL DIAL TRAINING
OPC	610	CONTRACT DIALYSIS
OPC	611	TELEPHONE/DIALYSIS
OPC	640	Send-Out Procedures Not Fee
OPC	642	Send-Out Procedures FEE
OPC	650	CONTRACT NURSING HOME DAYS
OPC	656	DOD NON-VA CARE
OPC	670	Assist Living, VHA-Paid Staff
OPC	674	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	680	HCHC ASSESSMENT
OPC	681	VA-PAID HCHC
OPC	682	VA-REFERRALS TO HCHC PROVIDERS
OPC	683	Home Telehealth Monitory Only/Non Video
OPC	684	Improper Clinic Stop
OPC	685	Improper Clinic Stop

Fiscal Year 2004 Treating Specialty/Clinic Groupings					
Cost Type ⁷³	Clinic	Description			
OPC	686	Improper Clinic Stop			
OPC	690	TELEMEDICINE			
OPC	691	Pre-Emp Phys Military Personnel			
OPC	701	HYPERTENSION SCREENING			
OPC	703	MAMMOGRAM			
OPC	707	SMOKING CESSATION			
OPC	710	VET INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION			
OPC	712	HEP C REGISTRY PATIENT			
OPC	714	Improper Clinic Stop			
OPC	715	Improper Clinic Stop			
OPC	716	Improper Clinic Stop			
OPC	725	DOM OUTREACH-SERV.			
OPC	726	DOM AFTERCARE -COMM			
OPC	727	DOM AFTER CARE - VA			
OPC	728	DOM ADMIN SCREEN SRV			
OPC	729	TELEPHONE/DOM			
OPC	730	TELEPHONE/DOM			
OPC	731	PRRTP-GENERAL CARE			
OPC	999	EMPLOYEE HEALTH			
OPC		Denver Prosthetics (provided by the Denver Distribution Center)			
OPC		Home Dialysis (provided by the Facilities)			
FEE	W	NonVA Inpatient CPT Care			
FEE	w1	OPC FEE Medicine			
FEE	w2	OPC FEE Surgery			
FEE	w3	OPC FEE Psychiatry			
FEE	w6	OPC FEE Ancillary			

Appendix C - Fiscal Year 2005 Major Diagnostic Categories (MDC) and VERA Patient Classes 74

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
	Missing			
88	CNH No PTF Record		38	Community NH
90	Employee/Collaterals		1	Employee/Collaterals
a	Diseases and Disorders of the Nervous System OPC	1	9	Central Nervous System
A	Diseases and Disorders of the Nervous System	1	9	Central Nervous System
a1	AIDS Cat IV		29	AIDS or HIV+ w/Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
a2	AIDS Cat III		16	HIV+ w/out Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
A2	AIDS Cat III with Drugs		29	AIDS or HIV+ w/Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
a3	HIV+		16	HIV+ w/out Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
A3	HIV+ With Drugs		29	AIDS or HIV+ w/Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
a4	HIV+ Rx		16	HIV+ w/out Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
A4	HIV+ Low Cd4 With Drugs		29	AIDS or HIV+ w/Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
Aa	Substance Abuse		40	Substance Abuse
b	Diseases and Disorders of the Eye OPC	2	9	Central Nervous System
В	Diseases and Disorders of the Eye	2	9	Central Nervous System
B1	Blind Rehab Service		37	Blind Rehab Service
b3	Legally Blind - OPC		18	Legally Blind
В3	Legally Blind		18	Legally Blind

⁷⁴ Documentation of mapping a diagnosis to an MDC may be found on the ARC Web site. The other diagnostic classes are either a sub-category of an MDC or have other special classification criteria. Each diagnostic class maps into a VERA patient class.

75 Email correspondence with Michelle Young from the ARC 9/13/05 and 9/14/05.

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
С	Diseases and Disorders Ear, Nose, Mouth and Throat OPC	3	6	Ear Nose and Throat
С	Diseases and Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat	3	6	Ear Nose and Throat
cp	Comp And Pen Exam		3	Comp and Pen Exam
d	Diseases and Disorders Respiratory System OPC	4	12	Pulmonary Disease
D	Diseases and Disorders of the Respiratory System	4	12	Pulmonary Disease
d1	End Stage Renal Disease		44	ESRD
d2	Home Care ESRD		44	ESRD
Da	Dementia		42	Schizophrenia & Dementia
dd	Psych+Substance		20	Psych+Substance
dD	Psych+Substance OPC		20	Psych+Substance
e	Diseases and Disorders Circulatory System OPC	5	10	Cardiovascular Disease
Е	Diseases and Disorders of the Circulatory System	5	10	Cardiovascular Disease
f	Diseases and Disorders Digestive System OPC	6	11	Gastroenterology Disorder
F	Diseases and Disorders of the Digestive System	6	11	Gastroenterology Disorder
g	Diseases and Disorders Hepatobiliary System and Pancreas OPC	7	11	Gastroenterology Disorder
G	Diseases and Disorders of the Hepatobiliary System & Pancreas	7	11	Gastroenterology Disorder

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
h	Diseases and Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue OPC	8	8	Musculoskeletal Disorders
Н	Diseases and Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System & Connective Tissue	8	8	Musculoskeletal Disorders
Hb	Hepatitis C Basic		15	Hepatitis C w/out Anti-Viral Therapy
hB	Hepatitis C Basic - Inpatient		15	Hepatitis C w/out Anti-Viral Therapy
Нс	Hepatitis C Complex		28	Hepatitis C with Anti-Viral Therapy
i	Diseases and Disorders Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue and Breast OPC	9	5	Other Acute Diseases
I	Diseases and Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast	9	5	Other Acute Diseases
j	Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Disorders OPC	10	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
J	Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders	10	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
k	Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney and Urinary Tract OPC	11	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
K	Diseases and Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract	11	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
1	Diseases and Disorders Male Reproductive System OPC	12	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
L	Diseases and Disorders of the Male Reproductive System	12	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
L1	Ventilator		53	Ventilator
L2	Rehabilitation		48	LTC Rehabilitation
L3	Specialized Care		49	LTC Specialized Care
L4	Clinical Complex		45	LTC Clinical Complex
L5	Behavioral		46	LTC Behavioral
L6	Physical		47	LTC Physical
L7	Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL)		39	LTC Low Activities of Daily Living (ADL)
Lc	Community Nh		38	Community NH
Ld	Domiciliary		34	Residential Rehabilitation
Lh	НВРС		33	НВРС
m	Diseases and Disorders Female Reproductive System OPC	13	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
M	Diseases and Disorders of the Female Reproductive System	13	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
Mh	Mental Health Intensive Case Management		43	Mental Health Intensive Case Management
mm	Multiple Medical		21	Multiple Medical
mM	Multiple Medical OPC		21	Multiple Medical
mp	Medical/Psych+Substan ce		19	Medical/Psych+Substance
mP	Medical/Psych+Substan ce OPC		19	Medical/Psych+Substance
n	Pregnancy, Childbirth and The Puerperium OPC	14	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
N	Pregnancy, Childbirth & The Puerperium	14	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
О	Newborns and Other Neonates, Condtn Orig in Perinatal Period OPC	15	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
O	Newborns & Other Neonates With Condtn Orig In Perinatal Period	15	7	Endo Nutr Metab Disorders
Oa	Other Psychosis		41	Other Psychosis
p	Diseases and Disorders Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Immunolog Disord OPC	16	5	Other Acute Diseases
P	Diseases and Disorders Of Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Immunolog Disord	16	5	Other Acute Diseases
Pa	PTSD		31	PTSD - Chronic
pb	PTSD Acute OPC		13	Acute Mental Disease
Pb	PTSD Acute		22	PTSD Acute
Ph	Pharmacy		2	Pharmacy
q	Myeloproliferative Diseases and Disorders, Poorly Differentiated Neoplasm OPC	17	17	Oncology
Q	Myeloproliferative Diseases & Disorders, Poorly Differentiated Neoplasm	17	17	Oncology
Q1	SCI Quad-New Injury		51	SCI Quad-New Injury/SCI Inst
Q2	SCI Quad-Old Injury		36	SCI Quad-Old Injury
Q3	SCI Para-New Injury		50	SCI Para-New Injury/SCI Inst
Q4	SCI Para-Old Injury		35	SCI Para-Old Injury
Q5	SCI Quad- Institutionalized		51	SCI Quad-New Injury/SCI Inst

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
Q6	SCI Para- Institutionalized		50	SCI Para-New Injury/SCI Inst
r	Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Systemic Or Unspecified Sites OPC	18	5	Other Acute Diseases
R	Infectious & Parasitic Diseases, Systemic Or Unspecified Sites	18	5	Other Acute Diseases
S	Mental Diseases and Disorders OPC	19	13	Acute Mental Disease
S	Mental Diseases & Disorders	19	13	Acute Mental Disease
s1	Heart Failure		23	Heart Failure
S 1	Heart Failure		23	Heart Failure
s2	Respiratory Failure		25	Respiratory Failure
S2	Respiratory Failure		25	Respiratory Failure
s3	Metastatic Cancer		24	Metastatic Cancer
S3	Metastatic Cancer		24	Metastatic Cancer
s4	High Cost Pneumonia		26	High Cost Pneumonia
S4	High Cost Pneumonia		26	High Cost Pneumonia
s5	Complications of Care		27	High Cost Conditions
S5	Complications of Care		27	High Cost Conditions
Sa	Schizophrenia		42	Schizophrenia & Dementia
St	Stroke		30	Stroke
t	Alcohol/Drug Use and Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mental Disorders OPC	20	14	Addictive Disorders
Т	Alcohol/Drug Use & Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mental Disorders	20	14	Addictive Disorders
Tb	Traumatic Brain Injury		32	Traumatic Brain Injury

Class	Class Description ⁷⁵	MDC	VERA Patient Class	VERA Patient Class Name
u	Injuries, Poisonings and Toxic Effects Of Drugs OPC	21	5	Other Acute Diseases
U	Injuries, Poisonings & Toxic Effects Of Drugs	21	5	Other Acute Diseases
uv	Non-Vested Cat A		4	Non-Vested
UV	Non-Vested Non-Vet		4	Non-Vested
uV	Non-Vested Cat C		4	Non-Vested
v	Burns OPC	22	5	Other Acute Diseases
V	Burns	22	5	Other Acute Diseases
w	Factors Influencing Health Stat and Other Contacts With Health Services OPC	23	5	Other Acute Diseases
W	Factors Influencing Health Stat & Other Contacts With Health Services	23	5	Other Acute Diseases
X	Multiple Significant Trauma	24	5	Other Acute Diseases
X1	Heart/Lung Transplants		52	Transplant
X2	Liver Transplants		52	Transplant
X3	Kidney Transplants		52	Transplant
X4	Bone Marrow Transplants		52	Transplant
у	HIV+ OPC	25	16	HIV+ w/out Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
Y	HIV+ not ICR Registry	25	16	HIV+ w/out Anti Retro-Viral Therapy
Z	No Dx - Outpatient		5	Other Acute Diseases

Appendix D – ADUSH Enrollment File RUG Intranet Reference

Please see Intranet version of the ADUSH Monthly Enrollment File RUG for links to the Intranet Web sites.