**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**  
**COVID-19 Pandemic Response**  
*Weekly Report: August 14–20, 2021*

### VACCINE

**55.7% Veteran users vaccinated**

3,901,535 people vaccinated  
(at least one dose)

- 3,432,406 Veterans
- 324,805 employees
- 83,972 SAVE LIVES Act
- 29,931 other federal partners
- 23,724 other

**Race**

- 54.9% White
- 58.7% Black or African American
- 61.3% Asian
- 48.8% American Indian or Alaskan Native
- 54.6% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- 50.9% Multiple

**Rurality**

- 50.4% rural
- 48.1% highly rural
- 58.2% urban

### VETERAN CARE

- VA has diagnosed 300,790 people with COVID-19
- 1,255 current COVID-19 inpatients
- 49,420 COVID-19 patients admitted to VA facilities
- 274,835 COVID-19 patients now in convalescence
- 4,534,552 tests completed

### VIRTUAL CARE

- 172,216 weekly home or off-site telehealth visits (from Aug. 8–14, 2021)
- 1,439% increase in home or off-site telehealth visits (from Mar. 1, 2020–Aug. 14 2021)

### FOURTH MISSION

- 6 mission assignments
- 157 completed missions

*All figures are as of Aug. 19, 2021, unless otherwise noted.*
GOOD NEWS STORIES

1) SECVA: Vaccines are the only way to “return to normal life”
VA Secretary Denis McDonough reiterated his plea for all Veterans and their families to get vaccinated against COVID-19, saying the protection is “the only way to end this pandemic and return to normal life.”

Read the full story.

2) Spokane VA to give 3rd COVID-19 vaccine shots
The Spokane VA plans to start giving booster doses to its patients whose doctors approve them for it.

Read the full story.

3) Nonprofit partners with Waco VA to provide housing for homeless Vets
Solutions for Veterans Inc. is partnering with the Waco VA to provide housing to homeless and disabled Veterans.

Read the full story.

4) Report cites success of VA’s COVID-19 remote patient monitoring program
VA used remote monitoring to care for over 23,500 Veterans during the height of the pandemic, greatly reducing hospitalizations.

Read the full story.