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MANAGEMENT DECISION
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**National Survey of VA Researchers
2002**

**Volume 2
Facility-Level Results:
VISN 22**

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

**OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**National Survey of VA Researchers
2002**

**Volume 2
Facility-Level Results:
VISN 22**

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3. Facility-Level Results: VISN 22

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2002 Survey of VA Researchers Facility-Level Results: VISN 22

Introduction

This third and final section of the 2002 Survey of VA Researchers report presents results at the facility level for VISN 22. For reasons of score reliability and respondent confidentiality, results are reported only for those facilities with 10 or more respondents. In the case of integrated facilities, results are reported separately for each campus that met this sample size criterion. In the case of integrated facilities where no single campus had 10 or more respondents, a score for the integrated facility overall is reported if the cumulative total of respondents at all campuses combined was 10 or more.

For those facilities that met these criteria, the survey results are presented in 13 exhibits. Characteristics of the respondents are presented in Exhibit 1. Note that the individual facility sample sizes reported in Exhibit 1 will typically not sum to the overall VISN sample size. This is because the VISN sample size includes all respondents from that VISN, whereas only those individual facilities that met the sample size criteria are reported separately.

In Exhibit 2, a performance overview is provided in the form of a table of summary scale scores for each facility. Facilities with scores that are significantly different from the VHA national average are noted. This is followed by a series of bar graphs (Exhibit 3 through Exhibit 8) depicting facility scores on each summary scale along with the VISN and VHA national averages. Each graph also includes as a benchmark the score at the best facility nation-wide on the scale in question.

Beginning with Exhibit 9, the focus shifts from the summary scales to the individual survey questions. For each facility that met the sample size criterion, the percentages of dissatisfied, neutral and satisfied respondents are reported for each survey question that contributed to one of the summary scales.

The section concludes with an appendix that lists the individual survey items that compose each of the summary scales.

Exhibit 1. Characteristics of 2002 Respondents in VISN 22 Facilities

Characteristic	Categories	Loma Linda (n=18)	Long Beach (n=30)	San Diego (n=76)	GLAHCS: Sepulveda (n=18)	GLAHCS: West LA (n=72)	VISN 22 (n=216*)
		Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Principal Research Affiliation	Medical	89	63	84	59	72	75
	Rehabilitation	0	13	3	6	7	6
	Health Services	0	7	8	35	15	12
	Cooperative Studies	6	7	0	0	0	1
	Other	6	10	5	0	6	6
Years in VHA	0 to 5	6	3	16	6	18	14
	6 to 10	11	17	29	12	25	23
	Over 10	83	79	55	82	57	63
Clinical Affiliation	Surgery	6	10	11	0	8	9
	Rehabilitation	0	3	1	6	6	3
	General Internal Medicine	17	10	10	35	10	13
	Medical Subspecialty	50	41	36	29	26	34
	Psychiatry / Psychology	0	21	24	6	17	17
	Dentistry	6	0	0	0	1	1
	Other	17	10	17	18	21	17
None	6	3	1	6	11	6	
Gender	Female	28	20	20	35	35	27
Ethnicity	African-American	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Asian or Pacific Islander	17	24	10	13	20	16
	Hispanic	6	0	3	6	1	2
	White	78	69	84	81	70	76
	Other	0	7	4	0	9	5
Research Project Funding	Any	83	87	95	89	93	91
	VA	17	43	55	78	58	53
	Other Federal	22	20	67	78	54	53
	Foundation	11	17	49	33	26	32
	Pharmaceutical / Business	44	37	36	17	40	37
Principal Investigator Funding	Any	72	77	91	89	90	87
	VA	11	40	53	83	54	50
	Other Federal	22	20	58	72	46	46
	Foundation	11	13	39	28	29	29
	Pharmaceutical / Business	33	30	32	11	31	30
Degree	PhD only	29	30	29	44	42	35
	MD (MD only or MD/PhD)	71	70	71	56	58	65

*Facility sample sizes may not sum to VISN sample size because only those facilities with 10 or more respondents are reported.

Exhibit 2. VISN 22 Overview: Facility Scores on 2002 Summary Scales

	Research Work	Local Support	VISN Leadership Support	Overall VISN Support	National Research Program	Protected Time for Research
Loma Linda, CA	3.06*	3.09	2.33	2.30	2.95	2.31*
Long Beach, CA	3.26*	2.95*	2.26*	2.19	2.85	2.72
San Diego, CA	3.86**	3.38	2.70	2.53	2.92*	3.27
GLAHCS: Sepulveda, CA	3.71	3.35	2.47	2.37	3.45	3.21
GLAHCS: West LA, CA	3.60	3.05*	2.55	2.33	3.05	3.34
VISN Average	3.60	3.18	2.53	2.37	3.01	3.12
VHA Average	3.59	3.30	2.69	2.48	3.14	3.08

For reasons of data reliability and respondent confidentiality, only sites with 10 or more respondents are reported. In the case of integrated facilities and health care systems, separate results are reported for each campus/division that had 10 or more respondents.

All measures reported in this table utilized a 1-5 response scale with a higher score indicative of higher levels of satisfaction. Scale definitions are provided in the appendix to this chapter; scale development is described in the national summary chapter.

VISN Leadership Support is a single-item measure of the supportiveness of VISN leadership (Q3a).

Overall VISN Support is a more comprehensive scale that includes the VISN leadership item (Q3a) and seven others (Q3b through Q3h) representing a variety of VISN-based research support activities.

VISN Average = VISN average in 2002.

VHA Average = VA national average in 2002.

* A single asterisk indicates a difference between the facility and national average that was significant ($p < .05$) without a Bonferroni adjustment for multiple comparisons, but was not significant when the Bonferroni adjustment was applied.

** Double asterisks indicate a difference between the facility and national average that was significant ($p < .05$) even after the Bonferroni adjustment for multiple comparisons was applied (i.e., a difference that was significant both with and without the Bonferroni adjustment).

Exhibit 3
Satisfaction with Research Work at Local VA
2002 Survey of Researchers, VISN 22

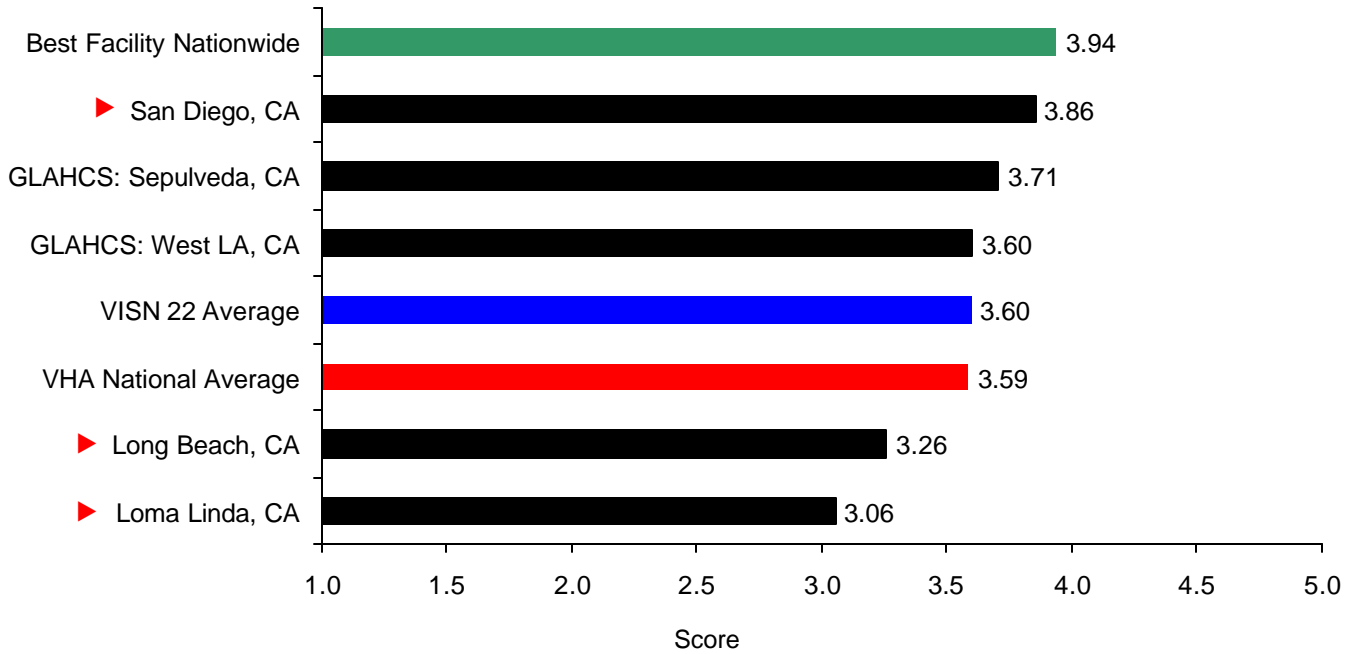
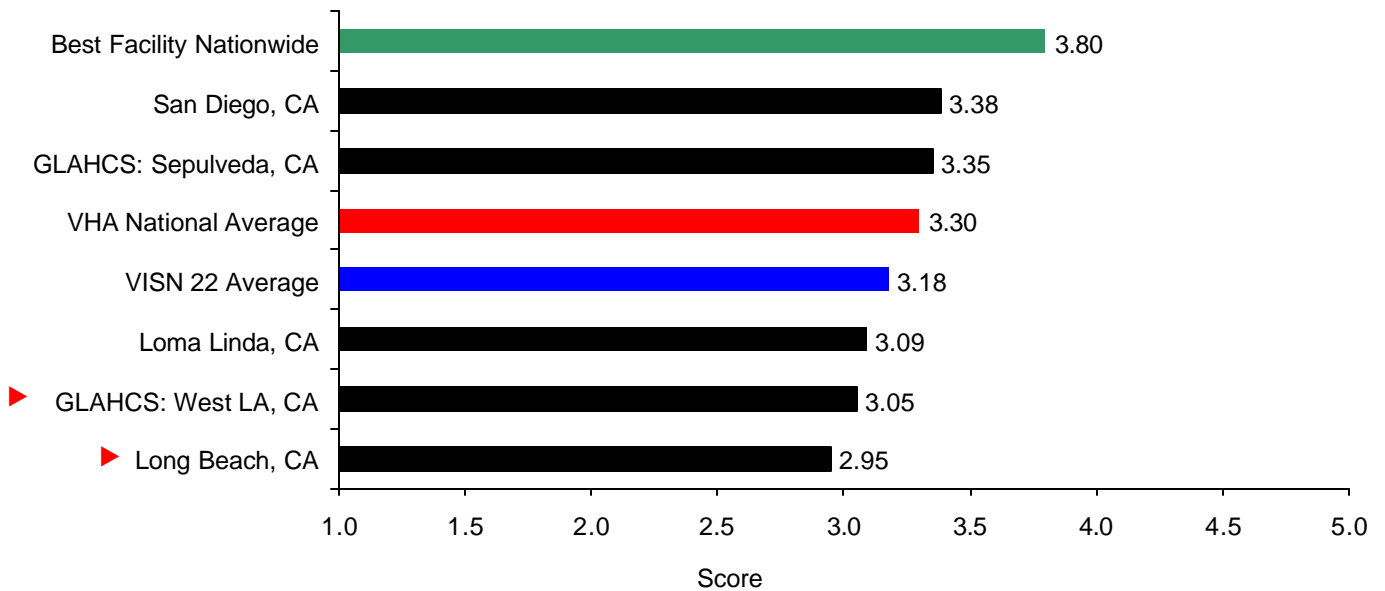


Exhibit 4
Satisfaction with Research Support at the Local Facility
2002 Survey of Researchers, VISN 22



▶ Denotes score is significantly different from national average.

Score. The response scale ranged from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

Exhibit 5
Satisfaction with VISN Leadership Support
2002 Survey of Researchers, VISN 22

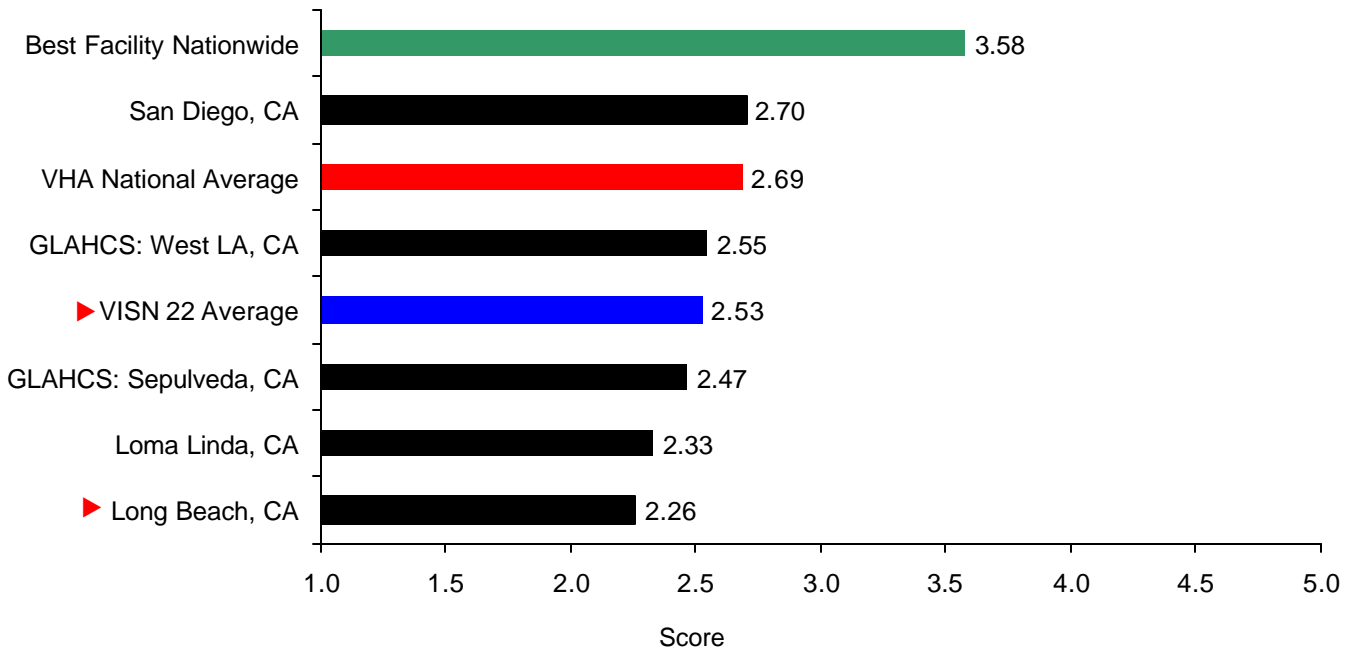
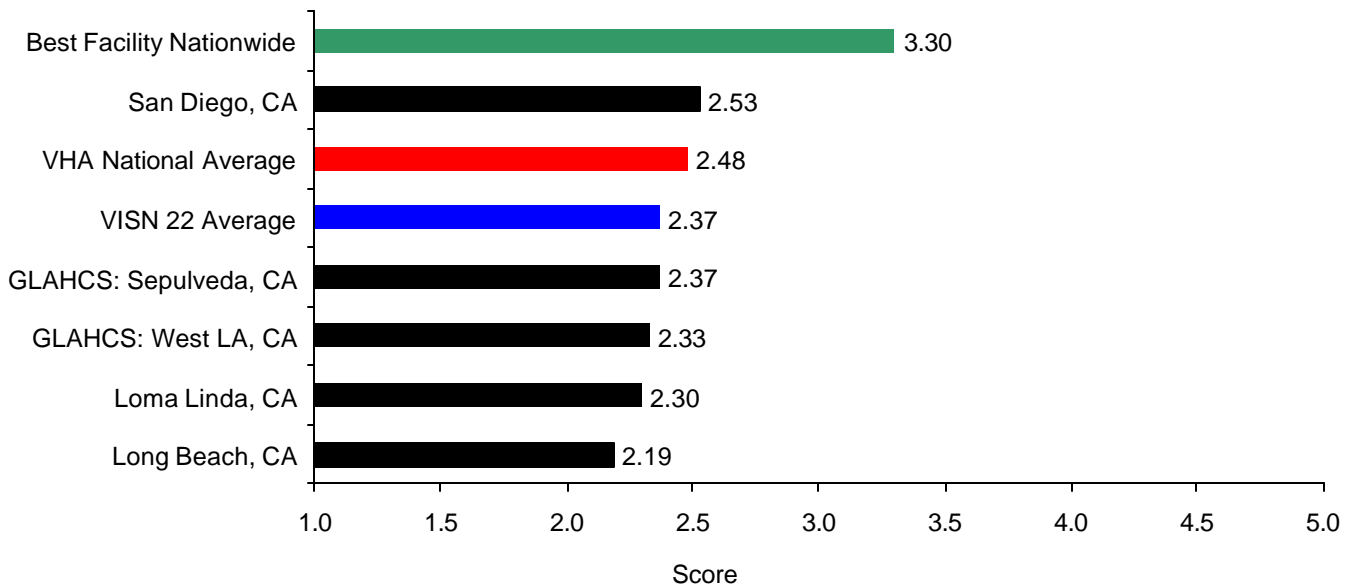


Exhibit 6
Satisfaction with Overall VISN Support
2002 Survey of Researchers, VISN 22



▶ Denotes score is significantly different from national average.
Score. The response scale ranged from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

Exhibit 7
Satisfaction with Support from the National Research Office
2002 Survey of Researchers, VISN 22

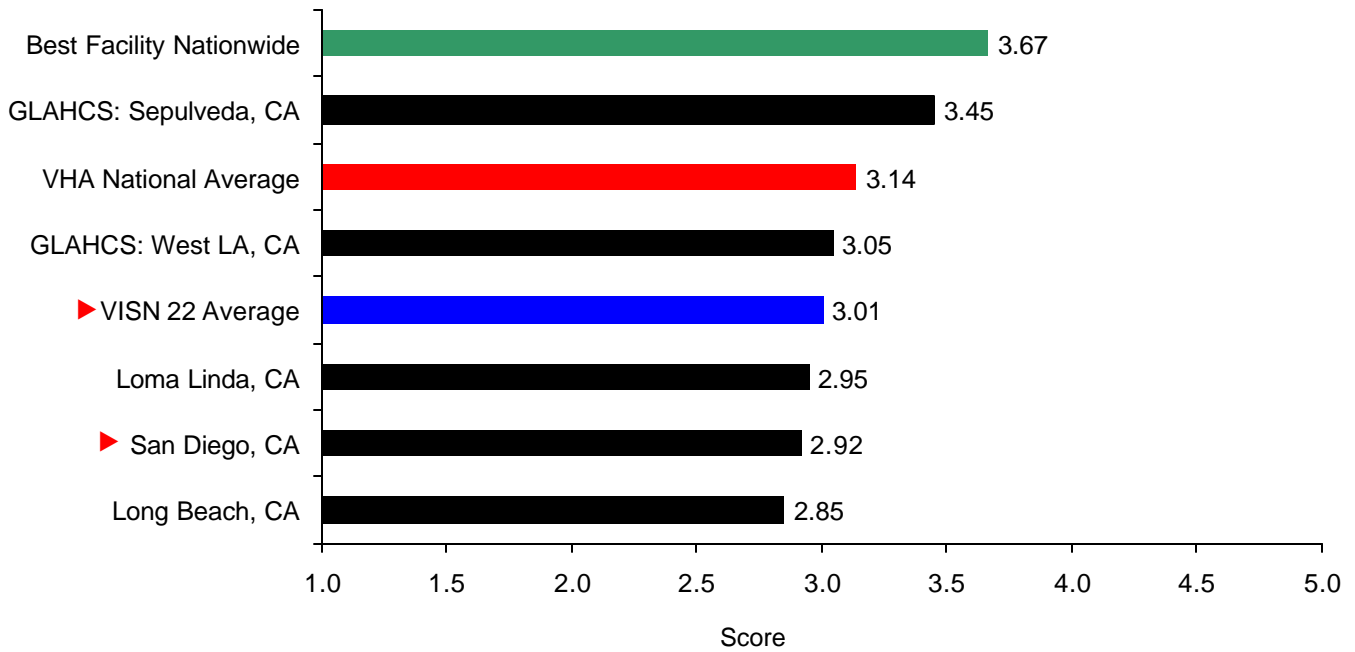
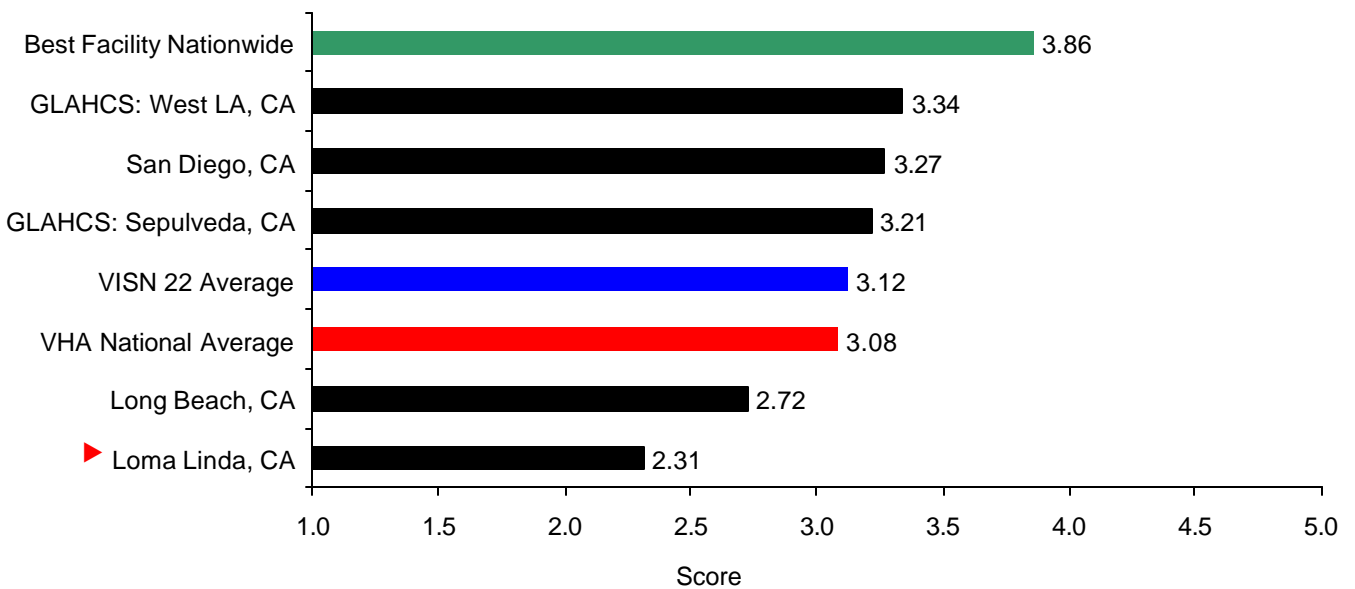


Exhibit 8
Adequacy of Protected Time for Research
2002 Survey of Researchers, VISN 22



▶ Denotes score is significantly different from national average.

Score. The response scale ranged from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

Exhibit 9. Satisfaction with Research Support at the Local Facility

Question 1	Loma Linda (n=18)			Long Beach (n=30)			San Diego (n=76)			GLAHCS: Sepulveda (n=18)			GLAHCS: West LA (n=72)		
	Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent		
	D*	N*	S*	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S
a Availability of RAs / technologists	18	41	41	43	25	32	24	23	54	19	19	63	43	27	30
b Availability of clerical support	78	6	17	64	21	14	56	19	26	47	20	33	73	17	11
c Competence of support staff	24	29	47	46	25	29	16	29	55	7	20	73	24	39	37
d Assistance with research project management	6	50	44	56	26	19	22	25	53	33	33	33	33	25	42
e Availability of collaborators	28	28	44	24	28	48	4	4	92	7	0	93	17	19	64
f Mentoring / collegial support	35	41	24	33	19	48	7	11	82	7	7	87	19	18	63
g Office space / facilities	29	35	35	30	13	57	40	23	37	33	20	47	35	22	43
h Laboratory space / facilities	36	36	29	17	29	54	50	18	32	27	27	45	40	23	37
i Animal care facilities	0	11	89	24	18	59	13	13	74	14	14	71	22	24	54
j Supportiveness of local VA leadership	56	28	17	50	23	27	16	12	72	40	33	27	29	23	49
k Supportiveness of affiliated university	50	44	6	34	45	21	14	18	69	0	53	47	22	35	43
l Adequacy of protected research time	56	13	31	45	21	34	24	27	49	36	7	57	29	19	52
m Computer systems / support	17	17	67	30	13	57	17	20	63	20	20	60	33	12	55
n Libraries	17	33	50	10	20	70	15	25	60	33	0	67	49	20	31

*D=Dissatisfied / N=Neutral / S=Satisfied

Exhibit 10. Satisfaction with Research Work at Local VA

Question 2	Loma Linda (n=18)			Long Beach (n=30)			San Diego (n=76)			GLAHCS: Sepulveda (n=18)			GLAHCS: West LA (n=72)		
	Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent		
	D*	N*	S*	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S
a Salary / fringe benefits	21	29	50	38	29	33	22	30	48	13	38	50	24	27	49
b Future security of research opportunities	56	28	17	55	17	28	42	31	28	24	29	47	52	23	25
n Job security	11	33	56	26	11	63	20	24	56	24	12	65	34	29	37
c Workload	28	50	22	43	18	39	9	36	54	24	29	47	25	23	52
d Level of stress	39	39	22	38	34	28	21	34	45	35	12	53	36	24	40
e Opportunities for creativity	39	22	39	24	28	48	7	19	75	12	12	76	24	14	62
f Opportunities to use my skills	39	17	44	28	17	55	5	16	79	18	18	65	19	14	67
g Opportunities to expand my skills	33	44	22	21	38	41	5	20	75	19	19	63	19	33	49
h Enjoyment of the research	17	11	72	14	21	66	1	8	91	6	0	94	1	8	90
i Autonomy to choose research direction	17	17	67	7	14	79	1	9	89	6	0	94	0	7	93
j Amount of paperwork	61	22	17	61	21	18	71	15	15	65	6	29	79	11	10
k Communication within local research services	17	28	56	57	21	21	22	36	42	6	35	59	31	36	33
l Overall satisfaction with local research environment	28	28	44	55	34	10	12	27	61	24	18	59	29	31	40
m Attractiveness of my position compared to other job opportunities	17	61	22	29	54	18	8	36	56	24	29	47	24	30	46

*D=Dissatisfied / N=Neutral / S=Satisfied

Exhibit 11. Satisfaction with Research Support from the VISN

Question 3	Loma Linda (n=18)			Long Beach (n=30)			San Diego (n=76)			GLAHCS: Sepulveda (n=18)			GLAHCS: West LA (n=72)		
	Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent		
	D*	N*	S*	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S
a Supportiveness of VISN leadership	56	28	17	52	33	15	39	41	20	41	53	6	52	32	16
b VISN support for protected time	71	18	12	71	14	14	44	40	16	40	47	13	49	38	13
c VISN educational programs	39	50	11	48	33	19	37	52	11	53	27	20	44	44	12
d VISN support for specific projects	44	50	6	62	23	15	44	47	8	63	31	6	61	29	11
e Opportunities to contribute to decisions	50	44	6	72	24	4	51	44	5	75	25	0	69	23	8
f VISN rewards and recognition for research	72	22	6	63	33	4	57	38	5	65	35	0	66	28	6
g Synergy among researchers in VISN	67	17	17	52	22	26	41	41	17	35	41	24	48	34	17
h VISN recognition of work at university	61	33	6	62	31	8	52	37	11	47	40	13	68	27	5

*D=Dissatisfied / N=Neutral / S=Satisfied

Exhibit 12. Satisfaction with Support from the National Research Office

Question 4	Loma Linda (n=18)			Long Beach (n=30)			San Diego (n=76)			GLAHCS: Sepulveda (n=18)			GLAHCS: West LA (n=72)		
	Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent			Percent		
	D*	N*	S*	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S	D	N	S
a Supportiveness of VA research headquarters	33	56	11	30	44	26	21	44	36	18	35	47	29	42	29
b Communications w/VA research headquarters	44	44	11	35	38	27	28	51	21	24	41	35	31	39	30
c VA letter of intent process	7	60	33	14	55	32	16	52	32	0	38	63	12	41	47
d VA grant review process	13	33	53	33	38	29	35	28	37	17	28	56	17	39	44
e Funding level, VA investigator initiated grants	33	47	20	57	17	26	46	26	28	28	33	39	44	31	26

*D=Dissatisfied / N=Neutral / S=Satisfied

Exhibit 13. Attractiveness of VA Position

Questions 6-11, 13 ⁴	Loma Linda (n=18) Percent			Long Beach (n=30) Percent			San Diego (n=76) Percent			GLAHCS Sepulveda (n=18) Percent			GLAHCS West LA (n=72) Percent		
	No ¹	Neutral	Yes ²	No ¹	Neutral	Yes ²	No ¹	Neutral	Yes ²	No ¹	Neutral	Yes ²	No ¹	Neutral	Yes ²
6 If you had to decide all over again, do you think you would choose a career in the VA?	6	39	56	31	28	41	11	22	68	18	29	53	26	23	51
7 Would you recommend a research career in the VA to a colleague?	28	28	44	47	27	27	16	16	67	12	41	47	30	24	46
8 Do you think you will look for a job outside of the VA in the next year?	83	11	6	55	34	10	76	13	11	53	29	18	54	23	23
9 Is it likely that you will retire from the VA in the next five years?	61	17	22	55	24	21	76	11	13	47	29	24	67	10	23
10 Do you personally know of any individual whose recruitment to VA was made possible by the availability of research opportunities and support in the VA?	76	NA	24	41	NA	59	36	NA	64	29	NA	71	35	NA	65
11 Do you personally know of an individual who could not be recruited to the VA because opportunities and support for research in the VA were insufficient?	39	NA	61	43	NA	57	47	NA	53	18	NA	82	52	NA	48
13 If research opportunities were <u>not</u> available in the VA, how likely do you think it is that you would currently be working in the VA system? ³	22	NA	78	57	NA	43	71	NA	29	78	NA	22	75	NA	25

NA = Not applicable; no neutral response category for this question.

¹Includes “probably not” and “no.”

²Includes “probably yes” and “yes.”

³Respondents indicating that there was less than or equal to a 5% chance that they would work in VA if research opportunities were not available were defined as “No.”

⁴Question 12 not included in this table because of differences in response scale.

Appendix. Scale Definitions

Scale	Definition	Survey Items
Research Work	Satisfaction with own research work (e.g., levels of stress, opportunities for creativity, attractiveness of my position compared with other available job opportunities).	Q2c - Q2i and Q2m
Local Support	Satisfaction with local VA facilities and support (e.g., availability of support staff, computer systems/support, laboratory space).	Q1b - Q1d, Q1f - Q1j, Q1m, Q1n, Q2k and Q2L
VISN Leadership Support	Satisfaction with supportiveness of VISN leadership	Q3a
Overall VISN Support	Satisfaction with VISN support and opportunities (e.g., VISN rewards and recognition supporting research, VISN support for specific research projects, supportiveness of VISN leadership)	Q3a - Q3h
National Research Program	Satisfaction with support and opportunities in VA national research system (e.g., supportiveness of research headquarters, satisfaction with grant review process)	Q4a - Q4e
Protected Time for Research	Adequacy of own protected time for research	Q1L