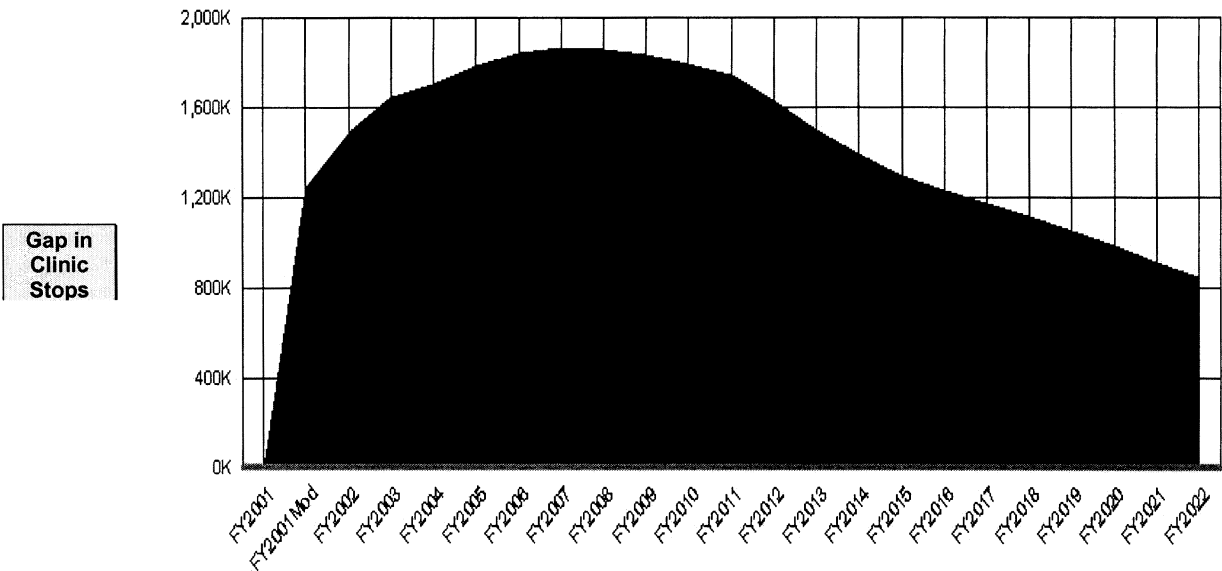


Mental Health

Projected national workload gaps, measured in outpatient mental health clinic stops, are shown in Figure 5.5. Declining enrollment levels and utilization rates of veterans age 65 and older become significant factors in FY 2008.²⁴

Figure 5.5 Projected Gaps in Mental Health Care Clinic Stops by Fiscal Year



Summary of Outpatient Capacity Solutions

VISN CARES Market Plans identified a variety of options to resolve all projected outpatient workload gaps, including those associated with Outpatient Capacity Planning Initiatives, and manage space requirements at each facility.

Tables 5.2 and 5.3 show how VHA will handle outpatient workload for two

snapshots in time, FY 2012 and FY 2022. Outpatient workload units in these tables represent the total number of clinic stops projected for each facility in each VISN, rolled up to the national level. The total number of projected clinic stops in each CARES category was used to estimate the amount of space needed at each facility for each of the planning years. VISNs were required to solve each of their facilities' total space needs in each of the CARES categories.

Tables 5.2 and 5.3 focus on outpatient Primary Care, Specialty Care and Mental Health Care solutions for two of the planning years—FY 2012 and FY 2022.

By FY 2022, VHA will handle approximately 85 percent of all outpatient workload in-house. Contracting for outpatient workload is used as a short-term solution to a greater extent in earlier years when workload is at its peak.

TABLE 5.2.—WORKLOAD SOLUTIONS FOR OUTPATIENT CATEGORIES—FY 2012

Workload alternative	Primary care		Specialty care		Mental health	
	Number of clinic stops	Percent of total	Number of clinic stops	Percent of total	Number of clinic stops	Percent of total
Contract	2,959,588	14.3	3,835,207	17.2	1,214,262	12.0
Joint Venture	44,450	0.2	203,608	0.9	22,200	0.2
In-Sharing	88,860	0.4	66,518	0.3	442	0.0
Sell	0	0.0	640	0.0	530	0.0
In-house	17,547,286	85.1	18,135,140	81.6	8,851,592	87.8
Total Demand	20,640,184	22,241,113	10,089,026

²⁴ **Note:** The Mental Health outpatient projection methodology is being reviewed and is under

revision. The projections shown in Figure 5.5 are probably underestimates of the demand for services.

The forecasts will be updated for the next Fiscal Year strategic planning cycle.