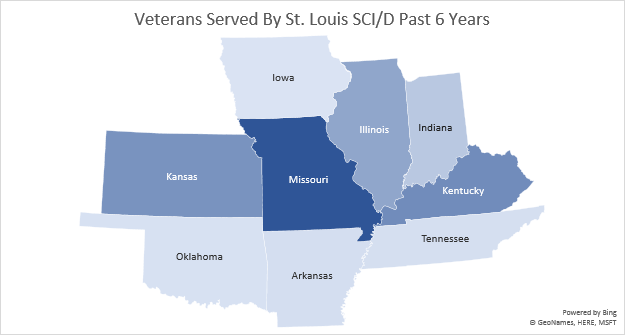
**St. Louis VAMC SCI/D Website Outcomes**

-The St. Louis VA Spinal Cord Injury center provided rehabilitation services for 30 new injury patients this fiscal year. The program continues to grow and serve an expanded area of the Midwest, including 9 states represented in the rehabilitation program over the past 6 years.



The average length of stay with St. Louis SCI/D (FY17-19 mean: **51 days)** is close to that of the National VA SCI system of care. Length of stay varies highly based on the level and severity of injury.

Discharge to community is a strength of the St. Louis SCI/D rehabilitation program. St. Louis SCI/D takes careful consideration of the veteran’s capabilities and resources to maximize independence at discharge. This includes caregiver and family education, trial periods of our on-site apartment, and SCI/D specialty providers performing home visits prior to discharge.

Injury etiology is separated into ‘traumatic’ and ‘non-traumatic’. The proportion of non-traumatic injuries has been steadily increasing over the past 3 years. Most of the St. Louis SCI/D non-traumatic patients have been due to columnar degeneration, including stenosis and spondylitis. Nationally, approximately half of spinal cord injuries are classified into each category.

