

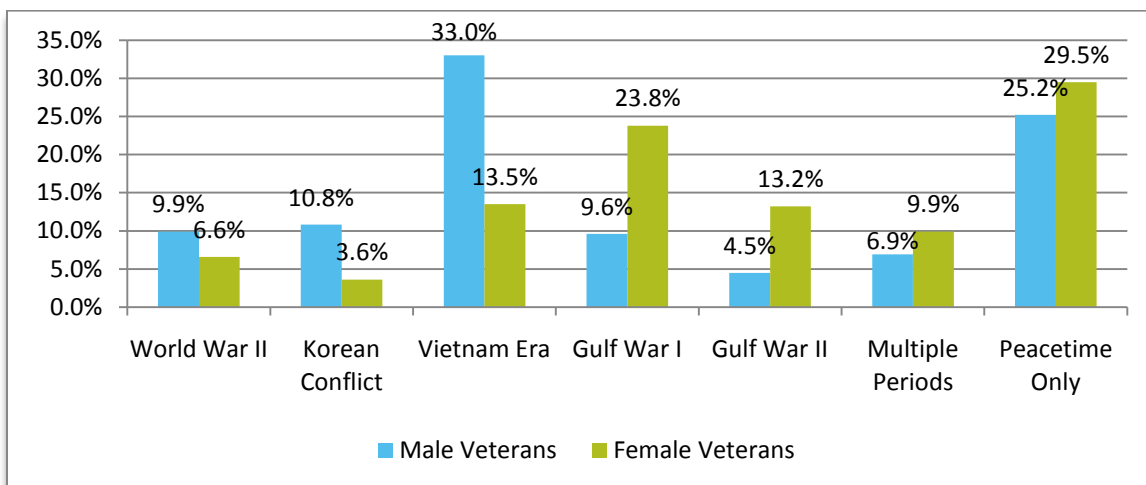
Veteran¹ Profile

Age of veterans

- Male veterans on average are older than non-veteran men; the average male veteran is 64 years old and the average non-veteran man is 49 years old
- The largest age group of male veterans is 55 to 64 years old (25.7 percent); while the largest age group for non-veteran men is 25 to 34 years old (20.7 percent)
- The average age of female veterans *and* non-veteran women is 49 years old
- Male veterans are more likely to be older than age 65 than non-veteran men (43.0 percent compared to 8.5 percent); female veterans older than age 65 are a percentage similar to non-veteran women (17.4 percent compared to 18.8 percent)

Conflict involvement

The largest living group of male veterans served during the Vietnam era (33.0 percent); the largest living group of female veterans served solely during peacetime periods (29.5 percent).



As reported by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics.²

¹ *Veteran* is defined as a man or woman who has separated from U.S. military service.

² Gulf War I includes Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Gulf War II includes Operations Enduring Freedom (OEF), Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and New Dawn (OND)

Education level of veterans

- A higher percentage of female veterans have completed some college, a bachelor's degree or an advanced degree (77.4 percent), compared with male veterans (60.3 percent)
- A higher percentage of female veterans than male veterans across all age groups are currently enrolled in higher education

Marital status of veterans

- Male veterans are more likely to be currently married than non-veteran men (67.7 percent compared to 49.9 percent); male veterans are less likely to have never married when compared to non-veteran men (9.1 percent compared to 37.9 percent)
- Female veterans were just as likely to be currently married compared with non-veteran women (47.4 percent compared to 49.1 percent); a higher percentage of female veterans were divorced compared with non-veteran women (23.4 percent compared to 12.1 percent)

Race/ethnicity among veterans

- Male veterans were more likely to be white and non-Hispanic than non-veteran men (82 percent compared to 64.6 percent)
- Female veterans were more likely to be nonwhite non-Hispanic than non-veteran women (23.9 percent compared to 19.0 percent)
- Both male and female veterans were less likely to be Hispanic than their non-veteran counterparts (5.1 percent compared to 16.7 percent and 6.5 percent compared to 12.9 percent respectively)

Female veterans:

- A higher percentage of female veterans than male veterans had a service-connected disability rating in 2009
- Female veterans were more likely than male veterans to be uninsured, have no earnings or income and live below the poverty threshold

Disability status of veterans

- The percentage of veterans reporting a disability status on the 2010 American Community Survey is 15.6 percent (total population: 14.6 percent) (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010)

Homelessness among veterans

- A recent survey by the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Veterans Affairs, found that veterans represented about 10 percent of the homeless population, but less than 8 percent of the total population
- Their one-year estimates show that one of every 168 veterans has spent at least one night in emergency shelter or transitional housing program (U.S. Department of Veterans National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, 2009)
- Almost half of homeless veterans on a given night were located in four states: California, Florida, Texas and New York (28 percent of all veterans live in these states) (U.S. Department of Veterans National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, 2009)

Poverty among veterans:

- The percentage of veterans reporting poverty status in the past 12 months on the 2010 American Community survey was 6.7 percent (total population: 13.4 percent) (U.S. Census Bureau)
- 10 percent of veterans in poverty become homeless at some point during the year, compared to slightly more than 5 percent of adults in poverty (U.S. Census Bureau)

Note: Some difference between male and female veterans may be attributable to age difference between male veterans and female veterans

Work cited

Unless otherwise noted, all data is from the 2009 American Community Survey as reported by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

- National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics. (2011). *Profile of veterans: 2009* [PowerPoint slides]. Retrieved from http://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Profile_of_Veterans_2009_FINAL.pdf
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