

A Snapshot of Our Nation's Veterans

Federal, state and community leaders; private businesses; non-profits; and community organizations use information about the military veteran population from the American Community Survey and Economic Census to determine the programs, services and infrastructure that serve the needs of our veterans. What follows is the most recent snapshot of veterans statistics.









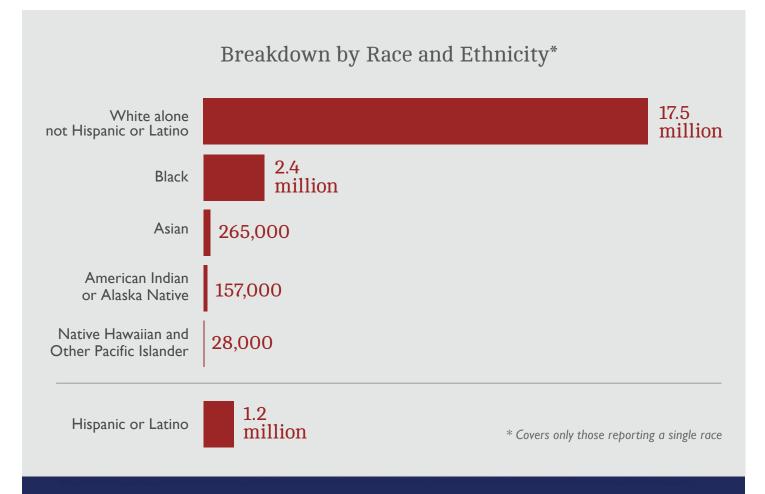




Who Are U.S. Veterans?

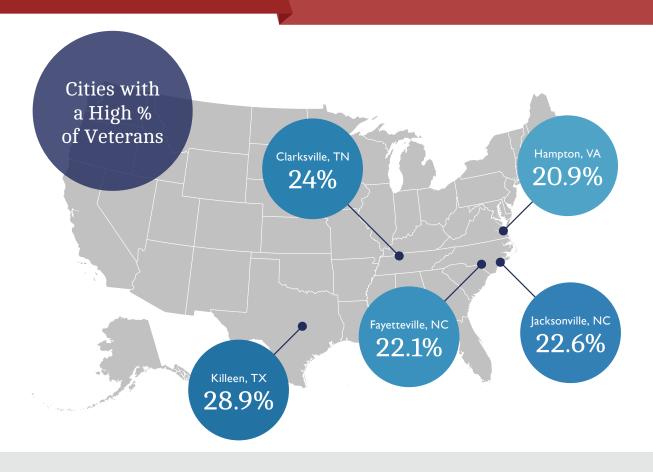
There are 21.8 million veterans in the United States.







Where Do They Live?



States with More Than 1 Million Veterans

















What Are Their Education Levels?

A veteran is more likely than the average American to have earned a high school diploma, but less likely to have completed a college degree.



92% of veterans 25 and older have at least a high school diploma

compared with 86% of the total population



26% of veterans 25 and older have at least a bachelor's degree

compared with 28% of the total population



When Did They Serve?

Of the 21.8 million veterans in the United States, more than 1.3 million served during multiple wars.





837,000
Served during both
Gulf War eras



211,000
Served during both the
Korean War and the
Vietnam era



147,000
Served during both
World War II and
the Korean War



Vietnam, Gulf I & Gulf 2

Veterans of 3 Wars



49,500
Served during the Vietnam era and both Gulf War eras

54,000
Served during World War II,
the Korean War and the
Vietnam era







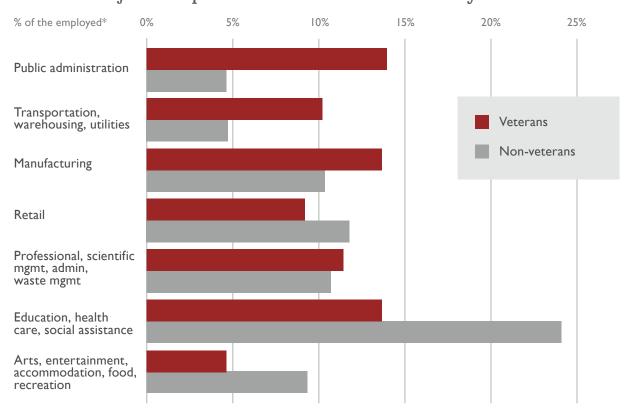




HOW DO WE KNOW?

Where Do They Work?

A veteran is more than twice as likely as a non-veteran to hold a job in a public administration industry.

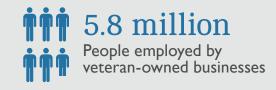


Veterans own 9% of all U.S. businesses.⁺



\$1.2 trillion

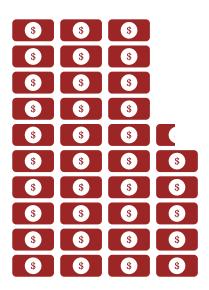
The amount of money in receipts generated by these businesses



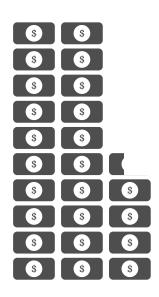


What Are Their Incomes?

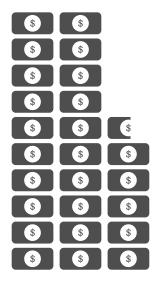
Veterans' annual income is about \$10,000 higher than that of the average American.*



\$35,367
Median income of veterans



\$24,521
Median income of non-veterans



\$25,605

Median income of total U.S. population







^{*} Median income refers to those who are 18 years and over with income in the past 12 months. Income includes not only wages and self-employment, but also Social Security, retirement pensions, VA payments, and other forms of income.