Profile of Veterans: 2017
Highlights

The Office of Enterprise Integration (OEI), National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics (NCVAS) has released the *Profile of Veterans: 2017,* which shows the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of Veterans by gender, race and ethnicity. It compares Veteran men with Veteran women; Veteran and non-Veteran men and women; and minority Veterans, non-minority Veterans, and minority non-Veterans.

Veteran and Non-Veteran Comparisons

- **Male Veterans** were **older, more likely to be White non-Hispanic, more likely to be married, less likely to be uninsured, less likely to live below poverty,** and had **higher personal incomes than male non-Veterans.**
- **Employed male Veterans** were **more likely to work in production or transportation,** and **more likely to work for local, state, or Federal governments** than their non-Veteran counterparts.
- Regardless of gender, full-time, year-round **Veterans earned about $10,000 more** than similar non-Veteran counterparts.
- The median age of **male Veterans in 2017 was 65 years** while the median age of **male non-Veterans was 42 years.** The median age of **female Veterans was 51** and **female non-Veterans was 47.** These are the ages when most men and women may still be serving in the military and have not yet become Veterans.
- **Female Veterans** were **more likely to be Nonwhite non-Hispanic, more likely to be divorced or separated, less likely to be uninsured, less likely to live below poverty,** and had **higher personal incomes than female non-Veterans.**
- **Employed female Veterans** were **more likely to be in management, business, science and arts occupations,** less likely to be in sales or service occupations, and **more likely to work in local, state, or Federal government** than female non-Veterans.
- Among Veterans who did not use VA healthcare, **less than 5%** have no insurance.

Veteran Men and Women Comparisons

- About **45%** of Veteran men and **31%** of Veteran women **have access to public and private healthcare insurance**.
- **The largest living cohort of male Veterans served during the Vietnam Era** (August 1964 to April 1975) while **the largest living cohort of female Veterans served during the Post-9/11 period** (September 2001 or later).
- Compared with male Veterans, **female Veterans were more likely to have completed some college, a bachelor's degree, or an advanced degree, be enrolled in college, more likely to have a service-connected disability rating, less likely to use VA health care at all but more likely to use VA health care only, have no personal income,** and **live in poverty.**
- **Employed female Veterans** were **more likely to work in management, business, science and arts occupations** than employed male Veterans.

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- **Male Veterans were significantly older than female Veterans.** The median age of male Veterans was 65 years in 2017, compared with 51 years for female Veterans.
- The top three states with the **highest percentage of Veterans** were**: Alaska, Maine** and **Montana, respectively.**
- **The District of Columbia, Virginia** and **Alaska** were the top three states with the highest percentage of Veteran **women.**

Minority Veterans

- Understanding demographics of minority groups can help VA provide benefits and services to minority Veterans, assess their needs and anticipate future needs. **Minority Veterans** -
    - Made up approximately **23 percent** of the **total Veteran** population,
    - Made up approximately **35 percent** of the **female Veteran** population,
    - Were **younger** than White, non-Hispanic Veterans,
    - Had a median age of 53 to 59 versus 66 for White, non-Hispanic Veterans.
- The **Veteran population** is projected to **decrease from 18.6 million in 2017 to 12.9 million in 2040.** Over this time, the **proportion of minorities** among all Veterans will **increase from 23 percent to 34 percent.**

Data Sources

- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS), 2017.
- Department of Veterans Affairs, Veteran Population Projection Model 2016 (VetPop2016), 9/30/2017.
- Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Veterans Eligibility Trends and Statistics (USVETS), 9/30/2017.

Users of the Veteran Profile

- There were, on average, **1557 downloads per month** from January to June 2018. (Total over 9300.)
- **Known users include**: Office of the Secretary (e.g., speech writers), VHA, VBA, NCA, OEI, OCLA, OPIA, CWV, CMV, Congressional Budget Office, professional associations, and researchers.

NCVAS Resources

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