As VA’s National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics celebrates the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I, we examined changes in Veterans’ employment following military service, finding increased specialization that may reflect skills acquired during military service and shifts to a volunteer force. Across 78 years, the top jobs changed from laborers, manufacturing and production, to transportation, law enforcement, healthcare and managerial positions.

### Top Five Occupations by Period of Service

#### World War I Veterans in 1930
- **Total: 3,671,226**
- Laborers: 65%
- Manufacturing Proprietors: 11%
- Other Mechanical Operators: 9%
- Salesmen/Saleswomen: 6%
- Other Clerks (except store clerks): 5%
- All Other Occupations: 4%

#### Gulf War I Era Veterans in 2008
- **Total: 2,512,152**
- Truck Drivers/Sales Workers: 87%
- Miscellaneous Managers: 4%
- Police Officers: 3%
- Retail Supervisors/Managers: 2%
- Registered Nurses: 2%
- All Other Occupations: 1%

Notes: The World War I period is April 1917 to November 1918, while the Gulf War I Era covers August 1990 to August 2001. Veterans’ occupation outcomes are approximately 12 years after World War I and 12 +/- 5 years after Gulf War I Era service; both 1930 and 2008 were years of economic downturn. The universe for Gulf War I Era Veterans is the civilian population 17 years and older living in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Sources: 1930 Census (one percent sample) (www.ipums.org), 2008 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (www.census.gov/acs/www/)

Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics at: www.va.gov/vetdata/

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