



Compensation

Service-Connected Disability or Death Benefits

The Compensation program provides tax-free monthly benefits to Veterans in recognition of the effects of disabilities caused by diseases, events, or injuries incurred or aggravated during active military service. The program also provides monthly payments to surviving spouses, dependent children, and dependent parents in recognition of the economic loss caused by the death of individuals during their military service or as a result of service-connected disability after their discharge.

To be eligible for disability compensation, the Veteran must have served under conditions other than dishonorable, and the disability must not be the result of the Veteran's own misconduct. VA pays disability compensation monthly, and the amount varies according to the degree of disability and the number of dependents. The degree of disability varies from 0 percent to 100 percent, in increments of 10 percent. VA calculates the total service-connected disability by combining evaluations for individual disabilities rather than adding them. VA pays additional special monthly compensation when severe disabilities confine Veterans to their immediate premises, require the aid and assistance of others, or include anatomical loss or loss of use of extremities or creative organs.



Photo credit: U.S. Navy

56 Regional offices
14,558 employees
5.4 million compensation and service-connected death benefit recipients

A note on the data:

The 2019 Annual Benefits Report is based on data from the VBA corporate database.

The availability of gender and age data is limited, as some records are listed as "unknown." Those records are accounted for in the totals for each table, but not in the category columns. Please see footnotes for additional information.

All Veterans counted in this section are receiving compensation benefit payments as of Sept. 30, 2019. The category of 0 percent indicates payment due to special monthly compensation or two or more permanent 0 percent service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability. Veterans with a 0 percent combined degree of disability not receiving payment are not counted in this section.

Please see the section: "The Presentation of FY 2019 Compensation Data" on page 2 for important information on the color coding of the data tables.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation data are found beginning on page 48.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Benefits Administration

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U.S. Department
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The Presentation of FY 2019 Compensation Data

New to the rolls

Individuals who began receiving benefits during fiscal year 2019 (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019) are considered “New to the rolls,” and the tables are outlined in blue.

On the rolls

All individuals receiving benefits on September 30, 2019 are considered “On the rolls” and the tables are outlined in green.

These tables include “New to the rolls” recipients.

Please note the difference between counts of Veterans and counts of disabilities. A Veteran may be receiving benefits based on one or more disabilities, which is why numbers of disabilities are much higher than numbers of Veterans. Counts of disabilities are indicated by the section title and table header and begin on page [25](#).

Data regarding payments do not reflect actual amounts paid by VA. This document only addresses monthly benefit payments and does not include retroactive payments. Also, estimated average annual individual payments for the same combined degree differ slightly due to additional payments for dependents and/or special monthly compensation. Also, all payment information is annual unless stated otherwise. Please refer to the official budget internet site here <https://www.va.gov/budget/> for actual amounts paid by VA.

This document counts all Veterans with 0 percent combined disability as long as they receive payment for special monthly compensation or a 10 percent rate because they have two or more separate permanent 0 percent service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability. This document does not count Veterans with 0 percent combined disabilities who are not receiving payment of any kind.

VA has incorporated Global War on Terror (GWOT) data to the main data tables as a subset of the Gulf War era (GW) period of service. Since September 11, 2001, the Department of Defense has deployed personnel overseas in support of GWOT, including Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OIF/OEF/OND). For more information, see pages [7](#), [20](#) through [24](#), and [42](#) through [47](#).

VBA’s computer systems do not contain data that would allow us to attribute Veterans’ disabilities to specific periods of service or deployment. Therefore, GWOT is a subset that includes Veterans who filed disability compensation claims at some point either prior to or following their GWOT deployment. VBA is not able to identify which of these Veterans filed a claim for disabilities incurred during their actual overseas GWOT deployment.

The Office of Performance Analysis and Integrity is available to answer questions regarding the data contained in this report by email at PAI.VBACO@va.gov.

Release history

Version & changes

Date

Data as of

09/30/2019



VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration



Quick Reference: Recipients, Payments and Disabilities

Totals – new recipients

Veterans who began receiving compensation benefits	309,091
Survivors who began receiving service-connected death benefits	31,908
Total:	340,999

Estimated annual payments – new recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Compensation	309,091	\$3.81 Billion	\$12,331
Service-Connected Death ¹	31,908	\$540.0 Million	\$16,923
Total:	340,999	\$4.35 Billion	\$12,760

Most prevalent service-connected (SC) disabilities of new compensation recipients

Tinnitus	183,145
Limitation of flexion, knee	108,037
Hearing loss	88,055
Lumbosacral or cervical strain	76,050
Limitation of motion of the arm	71,038
Scars, burns (2nd degree)	65,675
Limitation of motion of the ankle	55,028
Post-traumatic stress disorder	49,743
Migraine	43,185
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	42,314
Total number of most prevalent disabilities	782,270
Total number of disabilities²	1,594,475

Average number of SC disabilities per new compensation recipient

New recipients: 309,091	Total number of disabilities: 1,594,475
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.16

¹ Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and Death Compensation.

² See page [91](#) for more information.



Totals – all recipients

Veterans receiving compensation benefits	4,944,275
Survivors receiving service-connected death benefits	433,964
Total:	5,378,239

Estimated annual payments– all recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Compensation	4,944,275	\$84.92 Billion	\$17,174
Service-Connected Death	433,964	\$7.22 Billion	\$16,655
Total:	5,378,239	\$92.14 Billion	\$17,133

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Tinnitus	2,174,738
Hearing loss	1,306,066
Limitation of flexion, knee	1,177,885
Post-traumatic stress disorder	1,118,041
Lumbosacral or cervical strain	1,063,781
Scars, general	1,036,326
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	899,559
Limitation of motion of the ankle	705,073
Migraine	609,574
Limitation of motion of the arm	567,656
Total number of most prevalent disabilities:	10,658,699
Total number of disabilities	27,169,321

Average number of SC disabilities per compensation recipient

All Veterans: 4,944,275	Total number of disabilities ³ : 27,169,321
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.50

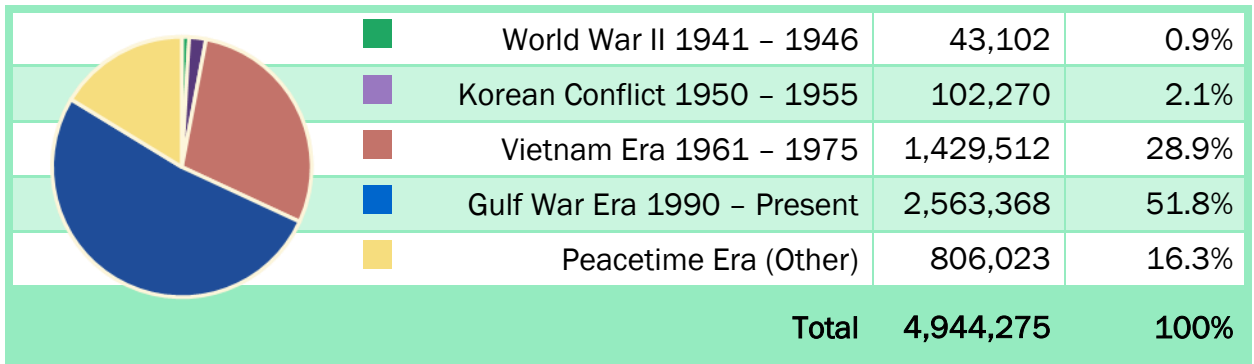
³ Total does not reflect all claimed disabilities as some disabilities are determined not to be related to service.



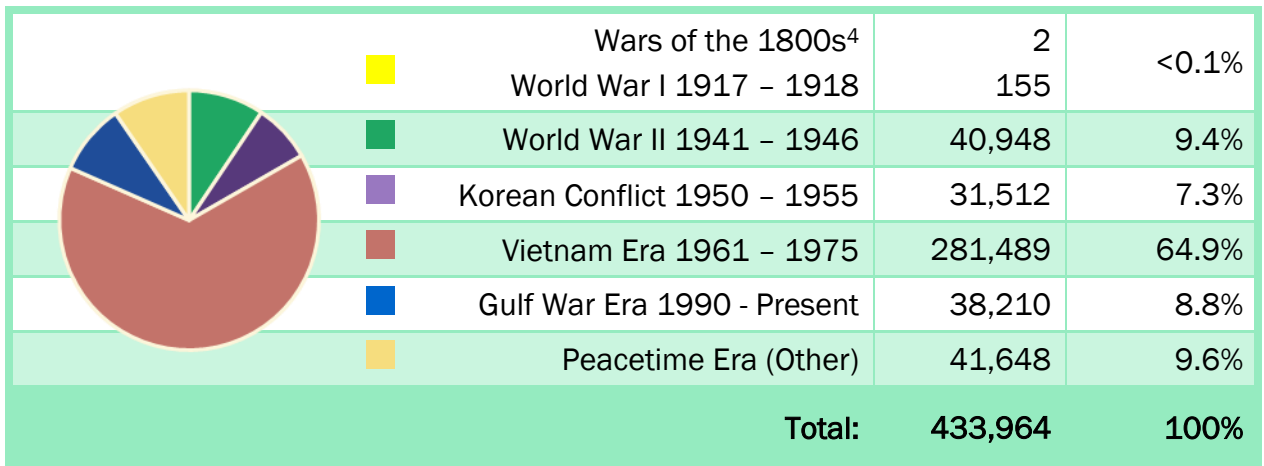


Quick Reference: Recipients and Disabilities by Period of Service

All compensation recipients by period of service



All dependency and indemnity compensation recipients by Veteran's period of service



Average SC disabilities per Veteran by period of service - all compensation recipients

	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era	Peacetime Periods	Total
All Veterans	43,102	102,270	1,429,512	2,563,368	806,023	4,944,275
Disabilities	104,267	252,681	5,625,940	18,418,019	2,768,414	27,169,321
Average # of SC disabilities per Veteran	2.42	2.47	3.94	7.19	3.43	5.50
Total Veteran population ⁵	346,914	1,048,306	5,920,378	7,602,375	4,291,731	19,209,704

⁴ Wars of 1800s include the Civil War (1861-1865), the Spanish-American War (1898-1902), and the Mexican Border Period (1916-1917)

⁵ According to VetPop2016 https://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp



GWOT Quick Reference: Veterans Involved Global War on Terror

VBA has incorporated GWOT data within the “Gulf War Era” in all other tables. For more information see pages [20](#) through [24](#) and [42](#) through [47](#).

All Gulf War Era compensation recipients by GWOT status

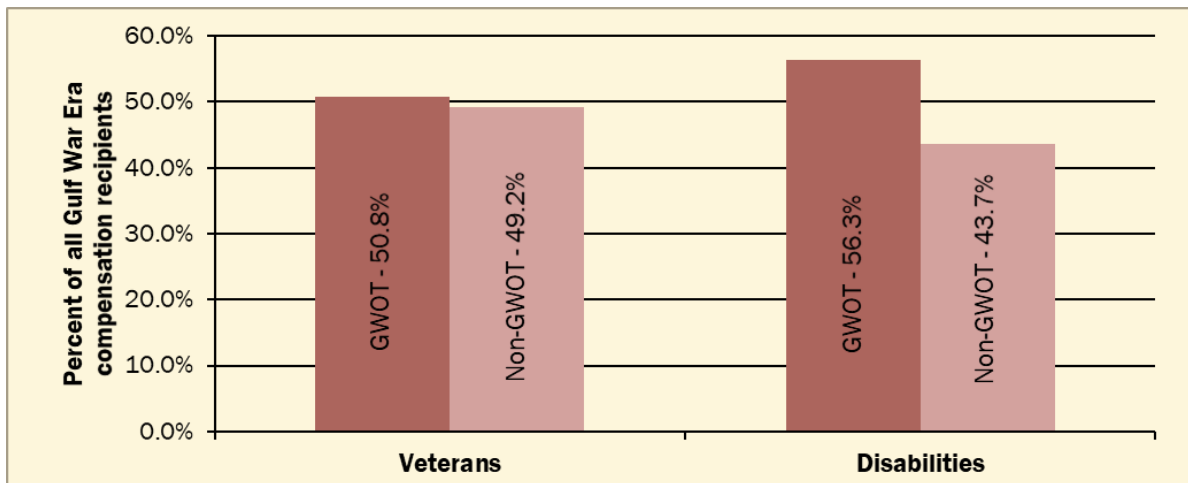
GWOT	1,303,411	50.8%
Non-GWOT	1,259,957	49.2%
Gulf War Era Total:	2,563,368	100%

Number of SC disabilities of all Gulf War Era compensation recipients by GWOT status

GWOT	10,373,956	56.3%
Non-GWOT	8,044,063	43.7%
Gulf War Era Total:	18,418,019	100%

All Gulf War Era compensation recipients - average number of SC disabilities per Veteran by GWOT status

GWOT	Non-GWOT	Gulf War Era Total
7.96	6.38	7.19





Veterans by Fiscal Year and Combined Degree of Disability

Note: These tables count Veterans in receipt of individual unemployability benefits by their combined evaluation, rather than as totally disabled i.e. evaluated as 100%.

New compensation recipients FY 2015 to FY 2019

Combined degree	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Chg. FY 2018 to 2019
0% ⁶	611	490	517	352	341	-3%
10%	77,773	72,639	79,841	76,106	93,819	23%
20%	29,771	26,222	26,904	23,706	26,106	10%
30%	30,604	27,193	26,615	22,697	24,812	9%
40%	26,294	23,871	23,728	20,563	22,169	8%
50%	24,518	21,712	21,561	19,191	20,845	9%
60%	27,697	24,571	24,338	21,130	22,426	6%
70%	27,738	24,974	25,331	23,252	25,801	11%
80%	22,234	20,204	19,875	18,631	19,022	2%
90%	18,439	17,247	18,683	17,982	18,788	4%
100%	27,373	25,427	29,325	30,918	34,962	13%
Total	313,052	284,550	296,718	274,528	309,091	13%

⁶ This document counts all Veterans with 0 percent combined disability as long as they receive payment for special monthly compensation or a 10 percent rate because they have two or more separate permanent 0 percent service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability. This document does not count Veterans with a 0 percent combined disability who are not receiving payment of any kind.



All compensation recipients FY 2015 to FY 2019

Combined degree	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Chg. FY 2018 to 2019
0%	10,462	10,053	9,567	9,019	8,446	-6%
10%	843,984	857,134	870,547	883,629	900,686	2%
20%	454,151	451,752	447,341	441,456	435,374	-1%
30%	404,121	404,936	402,871	398,301	392,592	-1%
40%	374,061	380,751	384,240	384,798	383,752	0%
50%	275,183	284,836	292,608	297,779	300,811	1%
60%	371,842	391,029	407,506	421,137	431,720	3%
70%	371,104	398,160	423,956	447,330	469,606	5%
80%	331,077	363,315	394,925	426,483	455,239	7%
90%	239,825	272,330	309,933	348,325	387,876	11%
100%	492,964	542,147	609,325	684,851	778,173	14%
Total	4,168,774	4,356,443	4,552,819	4,743,108	4,944,275	4%



Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

New compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁷	% Total
0%	296	0.11%	34	0.09%	341	0.11%
10%	86,627	32.16%	5,913	16.24%	93,819	30.35%
20%	23,396	8.69%	2,346	6.44%	26,106	8.45%
30%	21,390	7.94%	3,137	8.61%	24,812	8.03%
40%	19,456	7.22%	2,512	6.90%	22,169	7.17%
50%	17,331	6.43%	3,300	9.06%	20,845	6.74%
60%	19,208	7.13%	3,021	8.30%	22,426	7.26%
70%	21,039	7.81%	4,592	12.61%	25,801	8.35%
80%	15,405	5.72%	3,495	9.60%	19,022	6.15%
90%	15,286	5.68%	3,404	9.35%	18,788	6.08%
100%	29,910	11.10%	4,660	12.80%	34,962	11.31%
Total	269,344		36,414		309,091	

⁷ Total includes 3,333 Veterans with no gender indicated in the award record.



All compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁸	% Total
0%	7,380	0.17%	610	0.12%	8,446	0.17%
10%	818,562	18.81%	61,792	11.91%	900,683	18.22%
20%	389,109	8.94%	37,509	7.23%	435,372	8.81%
30%	342,627	7.87%	42,226	8.14%	384,854	7.78%
40%	336,473	7.73%	41,239	7.95%	383,751	7.76%
50%	258,107	5.93%	38,619	7.44%	300,811	6.08%
60%	378,704	8.70%	47,529	9.16%	426,235	8.62%
70%	406,116	9.33%	58,375	11.25%	469,605	9.50%
80%	393,623	9.05%	57,612	11.10%	451,242	9.13%
90%	332,613	7.64%	52,505	10.12%	387,875	7.84%
100%	687,543	15.80%	81,015	15.61%	778,167	15.74%
Total	4,350,857		519,031		4,944,275	

⁸ Total includes 74,363 Veterans with no gender indicated in the award record.





Estimated Annual Total Payments by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

Figures regarding amounts paid in this document do not reflect actual amounts paid by VA. This document only addresses monthly benefit payments and does not include retroactive payments. Please refer to the official budget internet site here <https://www.va.gov/budget/> for actual amounts paid by VA.

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual total payments		
	Male	Female	Total ⁹
0% ¹⁰	\$380,240	\$44,119	\$438,513
10%	\$145,330,762	\$9,930,416	\$157,396,182
20%	\$78,045,051	\$7,775,468	\$87,028,078
30%	\$115,575,706	\$17,117,051	\$134,192,370
40%	\$152,337,226	\$19,744,300	\$173,621,913
50%	\$192,074,324	\$36,601,993	\$231,013,426
60%	\$271,266,238	\$42,787,498	\$316,748,136
70%	\$375,783,237	\$81,978,784	\$460,723,268
80%	\$325,797,277	\$73,028,533	\$401,353,162
90%	\$372,654,264	\$81,045,203	\$455,986,399
100%	\$1,194,282,831	\$183,252,735	\$1,392,824,757
Total	\$3,223,527,157	\$553,306,098	\$3,811,326,203

⁹ Total includes \$34,492,948 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.

¹⁰ All amounts of payment in the category of 0 percent combined disability are due to receipt of special monthly compensation or a 10 percent rate resulting from two or more permanent 0 percent service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability.



All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual total payments		
	Male	Female	Total ¹¹
0%	\$8,869,753	\$770,289	\$10,195,015
10%	\$1,385,540,606	\$104,833,586	\$1,524,869,117
20%	\$1,313,002,325	\$125,293,341	\$1,468,102,343
30%	\$1,951,660,091	\$242,958,952	\$2,194,624,188
40%	\$2,771,472,159	\$341,559,015	\$3,162,348,375
50%	\$3,005,074,348	\$450,022,602	\$3,501,935,330
60%	\$6,104,121,060	\$728,443,923	\$6,832,642,446
70%	\$9,451,440,223	\$1,274,233,899	\$10,851,269,942
80%	\$10,295,794,002	\$1,408,785,156	\$11,704,847,487
90%	\$9,811,228,523	\$1,452,369,097	\$11,348,935,795
100%	\$28,396,477,780	\$3,272,720,501	\$32,065,523,323
Total	\$74,494,680,869	\$9,401,990,363	\$84,915,326,988

¹¹ Total includes \$1,017,954,898 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.





Estimated Annual Average Individual Payments by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

Note: Estimated annual average individual payments for the same combined degree differ slightly due to additional payments for dependents and/or special monthly compensation.

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payment		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,285	\$1,298	\$1,286
10%	\$1,678	\$1,679	\$1,678
20%	\$3,336	\$3,314	\$3,334
30%	\$5,403	\$5,457	\$5,408
40%	\$7,830	\$7,860	\$7,832
50%	\$11,083	\$11,092	\$11,082
60%	\$14,123	\$14,163	\$14,124
70%	\$17,861	\$17,853	\$17,857
80%	\$21,149	\$20,895	\$21,099
90%	\$24,379	\$23,809	\$24,270
100%	\$39,929	\$39,325	\$39,838
Total	\$11,968	\$15,195	\$12,331



All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payment		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,202	\$1,263	\$1,208
10%	\$1,693	\$1,697	\$1,693
20%	\$3,374	\$3,340	\$3,372
30%	\$5,696	\$5,754	\$5,702
40%	\$8,237	\$8,282	\$8,241
50%	\$11,643	\$11,653	\$11,642
60%	\$16,118	\$15,326	\$16,030
70%	\$23,273	\$21,828	\$23,107
80%	\$26,156	\$24,453	\$25,939
90%	\$29,497	\$27,662	\$29,259
100%	\$41,301	\$40,396	\$41,206
Total	\$17,122	\$18,115	\$17,174





Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Age 34 and under	85,428	\$1,196,457,865	\$14,005
Age 35 through 54	94,642	\$1,478,079,713	\$15,618
Age 55 through 74	95,345	\$817,781,662	\$8,577
Age 75 and over	33,674	\$318,975,862	\$9,472
Total¹²	309,091	\$3,811,326,203	\$12,331

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Age 34 and under	584,124	\$9,600,820,018	\$16,436
Age 35 through 54	1,517,221	\$27,185,124,314	\$17,918
Age 55 through 74	2,179,662	\$38,097,005,997	\$17,478
Age 75 and over	662,917	\$10,029,856,476	\$15,130
Total¹³	4,944,275	\$84,915,326,988	\$17,174

¹² Total includes 2 Veterans and \$31,101 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

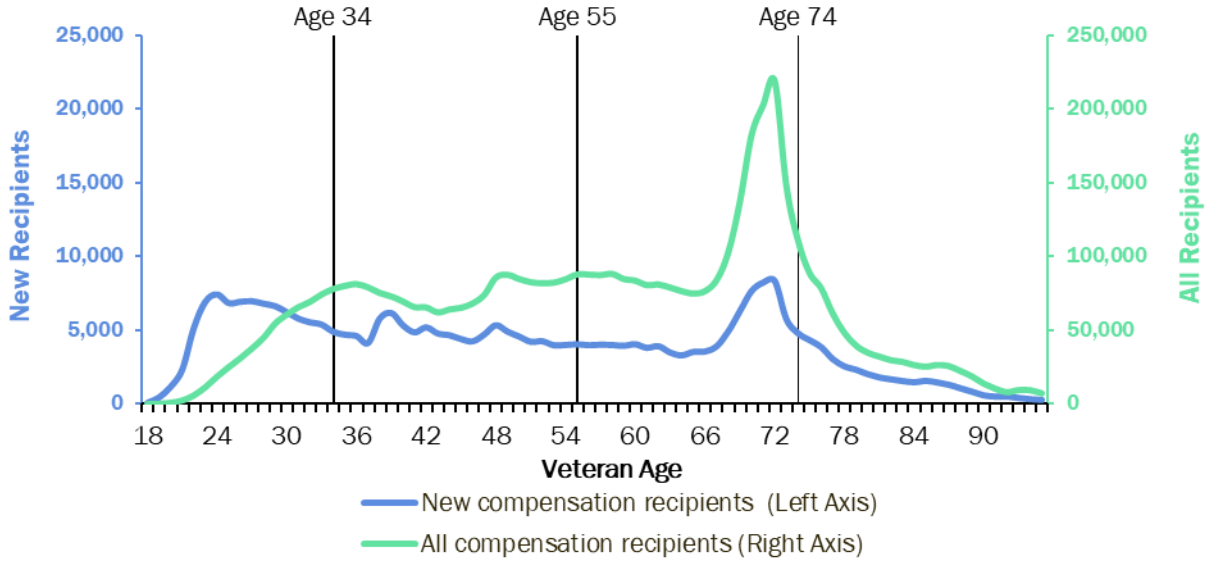
¹³ Total includes 351 Veterans and \$2,520,184 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age



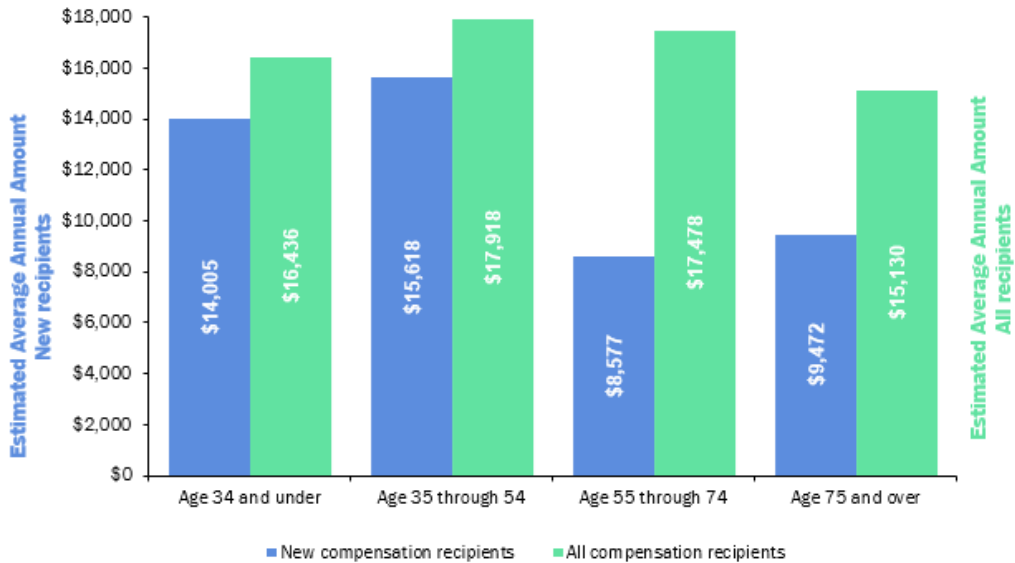
The chart below displays the ages of the Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2019 (blue line, left axis) vs. the total number of Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green line, right axis).

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients by age



The chart below displays the annual estimated average individual payments to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2019 (blue bars on the left) vs. the estimated annual average individual payments for all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green bars on the right) according to age.

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients by estimated annual average individual payment by age





Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
World War II	2,053	\$26,635,560	\$12,974
Korean Conflict	6,443	\$62,987,737	\$9,776
Vietnam Era	65,980	\$640,295,393	\$9,704
Gulf War Era	181,602	\$2,735,697,122	\$15,064
Peacetime Era	53,013	\$345,710,392	\$6,521
Total	309,091	\$3,811,326,203	\$12,331

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

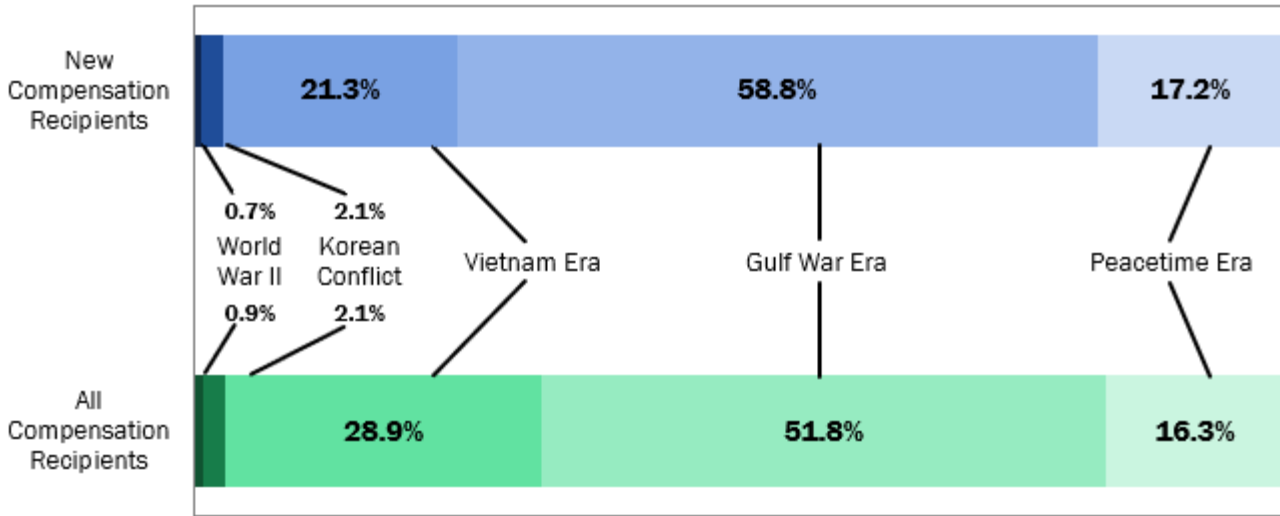
Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
World War II	43,102	\$593,582,664	\$13,772
Korean Conflict	102,270	\$1,292,781,120	\$12,641
Vietnam Era	1,429,512	\$27,501,060,106	\$19,238
Gulf War Era	2,563,368	\$45,447,240,552	\$17,730
Peacetime Era	806,023	\$10,080,662,545	\$12,507
Total	4,944,275	\$84,915,326,988	\$17,174

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service



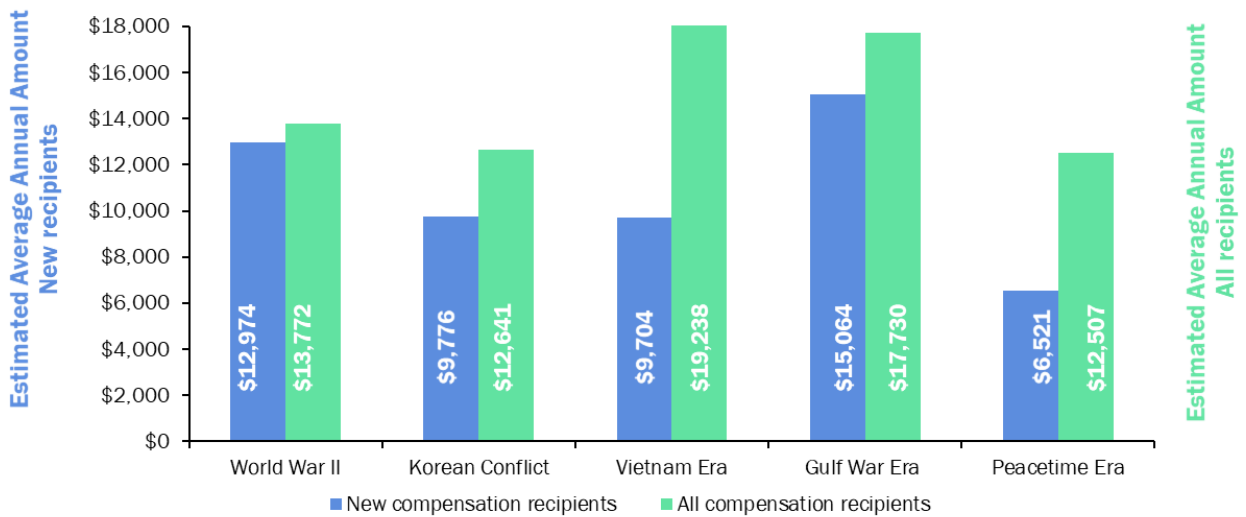
The chart below displays the distribution of the number of Veterans by period of service. The blue bars in the top row are new compensation recipients and the green bars on the bottom row indicate all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year.

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients distribution by period of service



The chart below displays the estimated annual average individual payments to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2019 (blue bars on the left) vs. the estimated annual average individual payments for all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green bars on the right) broken down by period of service.

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients by estimated annual average individual payment and period of service





GWOT Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Gender

The Global War on Terror (GWOT) data are a subset of the Gulf War era period of service and are included with all other discussions of period of service.

New GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Male	58,838	\$919,375,286	\$15,626
Female	10,466	\$179,189,018	\$17,121
Total¹⁴	69,471	\$1,101,992,297	\$15,863

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Male	1,117,381	\$21,597,539,965	\$19,329
Female	180,850	\$3,583,420,701	\$19,814
Total¹⁵	1,303,411	\$25,268,852,809	\$19,387

¹⁴ Total includes 167 Veterans and \$3,427,993 in payments with no gender indicated in the award record.

¹⁵ Total includes 5,180 Veterans and \$87,892,143 in payments with no gender indicated in the award record.

GWOT Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Combined Disability Degree



New GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
0%	30	\$39,014	\$1,300
10%	11,365	\$19,061,655	\$1,677
20%	3,877	\$12,844,925	\$3,313
30%	5,440	\$30,060,603	\$5,526
40%	5,205	\$41,533,047	\$7,979
50%	5,700	\$64,185,503	\$11,261
60%	6,518	\$93,185,189	\$14,297
70%	8,675	\$155,811,404	\$17,961
80%	6,474	\$137,470,013	\$21,234
90%	6,556	\$159,760,226	\$24,369
100%	9,631	\$388,040,716	\$40,291
Total	69,471	\$1,101,992,297	\$15,863



GWOT Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

All GWOT compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ¹⁶	% Total
0%	509	0.05%	86	0.05%	603	0.05%
10%	96,769	8.66%	12,943	7.16%	110,476	8.48%
20%	64,005	5.73%	9,214	5.09%	73,747	5.66%
30%	76,706	6.86%	12,427	6.87%	89,503	6.87%
40%	87,014	7.79%	13,972	7.73%	101,338	7.77%
50%	76,950	6.89%	12,882	7.12%	90,191	6.92%
60%	124,472	11.14%	17,941	9.92%	142,889	10.96%
70%	131,255	11.75%	20,817	11.51%	152,569	11.71%
80%	146,640	13.12%	24,236	13.40%	171,408	13.15%
90%	130,247	11.66%	23,539	13.02%	154,288	11.84%
100%	182,814	16.36%	32,793	18.13%	216,399	16.60%
Total	1,117,381	100%	180,850	100%	1,303,411	100%



¹⁶ Total includes 5,180 Veterans with no gender indicated in the award record.

GWOT Estimated Annual Total Payment by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender



All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual total payments		
	Male	Female	Total ¹⁷
0%	\$660,504	\$112,044	\$782,971
10%	\$163,770,969	\$21,868,478	\$186,937,757
20%	\$214,006,693	\$30,743,102	\$246,510,367
30%	\$449,195,301	\$72,469,564	\$523,853,256
40%	\$732,635,154	\$116,867,860	\$852,482,979
50%	\$914,688,380	\$151,589,829	\$1,070,556,984
60%	\$1,876,938,705	\$266,777,405	\$2,151,018,204
70%	\$2,644,984,849	\$414,062,074	\$3,068,744,427
80%	\$3,471,269,490	\$561,065,292	\$4,044,637,764
90%	\$3,568,476,045	\$626,400,703	\$4,208,463,095
100%	\$7,560,913,875	\$1,321,464,351	\$8,914,865,007
Total	\$21,597,539,965	\$3,583,420,701	\$25,268,852,809

¹⁷ Total includes \$87,892,143 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.





GWOT Estimated Annual Average Individual Payment by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payments		
	Male	Female	Total ¹⁸
0%	\$1,303	\$1,303	\$1,303
10%	\$1,692	\$1,690	\$1,692
20%	\$3,344	\$3,337	\$3,343
30%	\$5,856	\$5,832	\$5,853
40%	\$8,420	\$8,364	\$8,412
50%	\$11,887	\$11,768	\$11,870
60%	\$15,079	\$14,870	\$15,054
70%	\$20,151	\$19,891	\$20,114
80%	\$23,672	\$23,150	\$23,597
90%	\$27,398	\$26,611	\$27,277
100%	\$41,359	\$40,297	\$41,196
Total	\$19,329	\$19,814	\$19,387



¹⁸ Total includes average of \$16,968 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.

Regarding Service-Connected Disability Data



The tables on the following pages present information on the number of service-connected disabilities, as opposed to the number of Veterans with those disability evaluations.

Tables labeled “Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients” display counts of service-connected disabilities which VBA rated for new recipients during FY 2019. Tables labeled “Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients” display counts of all rated service-connected disabilities for all Veterans receiving compensation at the end of FY 2019.

VBA has abbreviated the names of the body systems to allow for a clearer presentation of the information. The three body systems with the greatest changes in terminology are:

- “Organs of special sense” abbreviated to: “The Eye”
- “Infectious Diseases, Immune Disorders, and Nutritional Deficiencies” abbreviated to: “Infection/Immune/Nutrition”
- “Neurological Conditions and Convulsive Disorders” abbreviated to: “Neurological”

Any use of the term “disabilities” in the following section includes service-connected disabilities only.





Number of SC Disabilities by Body System and Fiscal Year

Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients FY 2015 to FY 2019

Body system	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 ¹⁹	% Chg. FY 2018 to 2019
Musculoskeletal	654,669	602,983	611,857	606,604	656,407	8%
Auditory	250,436	233,324	247,944	239,837	278,501	14%
Skin	167,002	148,897	150,311	142,790	154,559	8%
Neurological	160,750	145,346	145,617	143,876	152,415	6%
Mental	110,420	99,840	97,897	91,746	97,120	6%
Respiratory	82,720	75,514	74,633	69,838	72,565	4%
Digestive	60,334	54,874	55,438	52,425	54,521	4%
Genitourinary	45,591	40,496	41,871	38,678	39,969	3%
Cardiovascular	48,302	39,584	37,260	33,131	34,062	3%
The Eye	18,176	16,065	15,388	15,445	16,676	7%
Endocrine	22,443	18,006	17,000	13,308	13,249	0%
Dental/ Oral	8,338	7,950	8,365	8,504	9,771	13%
Gynecological	7,594	6,929	7,316	8,040	9,054	11%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	4,105	3,660	4,311	3,838	3,734	-3%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	2,114	1,905	1,740	1,746	1,870	7%
Total	1,642,994	1,495,373	1,516,948	1,469,806	1,594,475	-3%



Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients FY 2015 to FY 2019

Body system	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 ²⁰	% Chg. FY 2018 to 2019
Musculoskeletal	7,117,586	7,779,603	8,481,844	9,232,650	10,034,349	8%
Auditory	2,613,285	2,846,483	3,101,223	3,363,237	3,651,672	8%
Neurological	2,058,164	2,299,581	2,561,741	2,842,749	3,147,086	10%
Skin	2,111,444	2,292,040	2,503,676	2,719,071	2,952,061	8%
Mental	1,368,427	1,492,483	1,622,814	1,754,644	1,891,552	7%
Respiratory	889,002	971,673	1,058,623	1,147,705	1,241,294	8%
Digestive	884,368	936,490	992,557	1,049,665	1,108,885	5%
Cardiovascular	919,068	946,832	973,411	997,129	1,020,994	2%
Genitourinary	684,965	732,526	785,903	837,693	890,453	6%
Endocrine	488,942	500,362	510,195	515,030	517,852	1%
The Eye	252,069	267,124	282,611	298,751	315,408	5%
Gynecological	101,008	109,198	118,540	129,502	141,707	9%
Dental/ Oral	89,713	98,416	107,895	118,309	129,816	9%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	55,075	58,737	63,783	68,280	72,257	6%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	50,275	50,851	51,679	52,714	53,933	2%
Total	19,683,391	21,382,399	23,216,495	25,127,129	27,169,321	8%

²⁰ Total includes 2 disabilities with no body system indicated in the record





Number of SC Disabilities by Evaluation and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability Evaluation	Male ²¹	Female	Total ²²
0%	7,481,269	1,177,456	8,736,169
10%	9,248,416	1,362,821	10,709,401
20%	2,552,985	276,070	2,859,529
30%	1,449,651	275,025	1,745,387
40%	512,445	62,337	582,098
50%	923,401	152,252	1,083,795
60%	300,023	25,483	330,593
70%	503,133	79,378	587,300
80%	22,687	1,270	24,426
90%	5,148	171	5,447
100%	458,434	38,891	505,171
Total	23,457,597	3,451,154	27,169,321

²¹ Total include 5 male disabilities unidentifiable by evaluation.

²² Total includes 260,570 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

Number of SC Disabilities by Body System and Gender



Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Male	Female	Total ²³
Musculoskeletal	8,496,555	1,464,934	10,034,349
Auditory	3,424,915	174,466	3,651,672
Neurological	2,709,219	410,285	3,147,086
Skin	2,519,698	402,366	2,952,061
Mental	1,609,195	263,654	1,891,552
Respiratory	1,044,623	187,907	1,241,294
Digestive	947,387	152,291	1,108,885
Cardiovascular	927,735	81,154	1,020,994
Genitourinary	831,819	48,027	890,453
Endocrine	472,661	35,279	517,852
The Eye	270,009	41,821	315,408
Gynecological	6,064	134,069	141,707
Dental/ Oral	98,234	30,458	129,816
Hemic/ Lymphatic	53,842	17,312	72,257
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	45,640	7,130	53,933
Total all disabilities	23,457,597	3,451,154	27,169,321

²³ Total includes 260,570 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total includes 1 male and 1 female disability unidentifiable by evaluation



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Gender

The table below shows the most prevalent SC disabilities and the ratio of the total number of SC disabilities each disability represents. The ten disabilities listed below represent almost half of all service-connected disabilities. Almost 900 other disabilities comprise the other half.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of new compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	166,864	12.6%	14,220	5.6%	183,145	11.5%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	89,856	6.8%	17,693	7.0%	108,037	6.8%
Hearing loss	Auditory	84,502	6.4%	1,956	0.8%	88,055	5.5%
Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	Musculoskeletal	61,438	4.6%	14,295	5.6%	76,050	4.8%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	61,788	4.6%	8,960	3.5%	71,038	4.5%
Scars, burns (2nd degree)	Skin	54,449	4.1%	10,911	4.3%	65,675	4.1%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	46,291	3.5%	8,464	3.3%	55,028	3.5%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	40,657	3.1%	8,720	3.4%	49,743	3.1%
Migraine	Neurological	31,931	2.4%	11,075	4.4%	43,185	2.7%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	36,135	2.7%	5,841	2.3%	42,314	2.7%
Total most prevalent disabilities		673,911	51%	102,135	40%	782,270	49%
Total number of disabilities²⁴		1,329,569	100%	253,689	100%	1,594,475	100%



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	2,018,600	8.6%	129,642	3.8%	2,174,738	8.0%
Hearing loss	Auditory	1,256,630	5.4%	26,359	0.8%	1,306,066	4.8%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	1,001,632	4.3%	170,710	4.9%	1,177,885	4.3%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	995,189	4.2%	112,144	3.2%	1,118,041	4.1%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²⁵	Musculoskeletal	881,414	3.8%	175,907	5.1%	1,063,781	3.9%
Scars, general	Skin	893,232	3.8%	130,700	3.8%	1,036,326	3.8%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	808,583	3.4%	83,051	2.4%	899,559	3.3%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	611,559	2.6%	89,933	2.6%	705,073	2.6%
Migraine	Neurological	455,026	1.9%	151,161	4.4%	609,574	2.2%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	503,125	2.1%	62,079	1.8%	567,656	2.1%
Total most prevalent disabilities²⁶		9,424,990	40%	1,131,686	33%	10,658,699	39%
Total number of disabilities²⁷		23,457,597	100%	3,451,154	100%	27,169,321	100%

²⁵ The number of lumbosacral or cervical strain disabilities in this report includes disabilities which, in Annual Benefits Reports prior to FY 13, were counted under 5 discontinued disability names related to lumbosacral or cervical strain.

²⁶ Total includes 102,023 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

²⁷ Total includes 260,570 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.





Number of SC Disabilities and Prevalence by Body System

The detail table number corresponds to the tables on the following pages that show the number of SC disabilities in each body system broken down by evaluation. The percentage on the detail tables is the evaluation prevalence out of all disabilities in that particular body system.

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Detail table	Total number	Percent of all disabilities	Most common degree of disability
Musculoskeletal	1	10,034,349	36.9%	10%
Auditory	1	3,651,672	13.4%	10%
Neurological	1	3,147,086	11.6%	10%
Skin	1	2,952,061	10.9%	0%
Mental	2	1,891,552	7.0%	70%
Respiratory	2	1,241,294	4.6%	0%
Digestive	2	1,108,885	4.1%	0%
Cardiovascular	2	1,020,994	3.8%	10%
Genitourinary	3	890,453	3.3%	0%
Endocrine	3	517,852	1.9%	20%
The Eye	3	315,408	1.2%	0%
Gynecological	3	141,707	0.5%	0%
Dental/ Oral	4	129,816	0.5%	10%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	4	72,257	0.3%	0%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	4	53,933	0.2%	0%
Total all conditions	4	27,169,321	100%	10%

Number of SC Disabilities and Prevalence by Body System and Evaluation



Table 1 Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating %	Musculoskeletal		Auditory		Neurological		Skin	
0%	2,533,803	25.3%	1,076,992	29.5%	496,198	15.8%	2,260,084	76.6%
10%	5,268,840	52.5%	2,344,278	64.2%	1,281,312	40.7%	534,617	18.1%
20%	1,430,205	14.3%	60,781	1.7%	742,791	23.6%	35,295	1.2%
30%	356,011	3.5%	61,218	1.7%	322,378	10.2%	90,545	3.1%
40%	268,334	2.7%	34,613	0.9%	155,677	4.9%	3,167	0.1%
50%	84,160	0.8%	23,918	0.7%	103,118	3.3%	5,011	0.2%
60%	53,600	0.5%	11,818	0.3%	15,857	0.5%	21,686	0.7%
70%	4,821	<0.1%	7,731	0.2%	14,217	0.5%	12	<0.1%
80%	1,231	<0.1%	7,527	0.2%	5,528	0.2%	1,139	<0.1%
90%	1,012	<0.1%	3,023	0.1%	477	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
100%	32,329	0.3%	19,771	0.5%	9,533	0.3%	502	<0.1%
Total²⁸	10,034,349	100%	3,651,672	100.0%	3,147,086	100.0%	2,952,061	100.0%

Table 2

Rating %	Mental		Respiratory		Digestive		Cardiovascular	
0%	38,924	2.1%	505,894	40.8%	596,719	53.8%	307,445	30.1%
10%	121,960	6.4%	211,780	17.1%	330,523	29.8%	326,830	32.0%
20%	593	<0.1%	3,055	0.2%	38,635	3.5%	53,988	5.3%
30%	431,541	22.8%	125,627	10.1%	108,256	9.8%	132,756	13.0%
40%	553	<0.1%	379	<0.1%	6,276	0.6%	22,675	2.2%
50%	490,934	26.0%	349,619	28.2%	1,885	0.2%	458	<0.1%
60%	386	<0.1%	22,116	1.8%	14,208	1.3%	102,374	10.0%
70%	557,214	29.5%	27	<0.1%	311	<0.1%	61	<0.1%
80%	11	<0.1%	22	<0.1%	628	0.1%	17	<0.1%
90%	27	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	1	<0.1%	22	<0.1%
100%	249,409	13.2%	22,772	1.8%	11,443	1.0%	74,368	7.3%
Total	1,891,552	100.0%	1,241,294	100.0%	1,108,885	100.0%	1,020,994	100.0%

²⁸ Totals include 2 auditory, and 3 musculoskeletal disabilities with unknown evaluation.



Number of SC Disabilities, Prevalence by Body System and Evaluation (Continued)

Table 3 Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating %	Genitourinary		Endocrine		The Eye		Gynecological	
0%	543,567	61.0%	21,754	4.2%	171,588	54.4%	71,297	50.3%
10%	51,875	5.8%	79,680	15.4%	74,339	23.6%	14,896	10.5%
20%	71,800	8.1%	380,225	73.4%	20,920	6.6%	235	0.2%
30%	32,459	3.6%	6,206	1.2%	29,206	9.3%	32,315	22.8%
40%	57,461	6.5%	18,966	3.7%	6,432	2.0%	784	0.6%
50%	26	<0.1%	22	<0.1%	3,004	1.0%	21,053	14.9%
60%	72,271	8.1%	7,022	1.4%	2,547	0.8%	303	0.2%
70%	11	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	2,206	0.7%	2	<0.1%
80%	7,339	0.8%	1	<0.1%	763	0.2%	183	0.1%
90%	-	-	2	<0.1%	876	0.3%	-	-
100%	53,644	6.0%	3,971	0.8%	3,527	1.1%	639	0.5%
Total	890,453	100.0%	517,852	100.0%	315,408	100.0%	141,707	100.0%

Table 4

Rating %	Dental/ Oral		Hemic/ Lymphatic		Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition		Total all body systems ²⁹	
0%	45,154	34.8%	33,194	45.9%	33,554	62.2%	8,736,169	32.2%
10%	55,386	42.7%	7,716	10.7%	5,369	10.0%	10,709,401	39.4%
20%	16,258	12.5%	2,927	4.1%	1,821	3.4%	2,859,529	10.5%
30%	8,409	6.5%	6,718	9.3%	1,742	3.2%	1,745,387	6.4%
40%	3,974	3.1%	391	0.5%	2,416	4.5%	582,098	2.1%
50%	561	0.4%	7	<0.1%	19	<0.1%	1,083,795	4.0%
60%	7	<0.1%	400	0.6%	5,998	11.1%	330,593	1.2%
70%	13	<0.1%	664	0.9%	7	<0.1%	587,300	2.2%
80%	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	33	0.1%	24,426	0.1%
90%	-	-	-	-	1	<0.1%	5,447	<0.1%
100%	52	<0.1%	20,238	28.0%	2,973	5.5%	505,171	1.9%
Total	129,816	100.0%	72,257	100.0%	53,933	100.0%	27,169,321	100%

²⁹ Totals include 5 disabilities with unknown evaluations.

The Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System

The following table shows the three most prevalent SC disabilities associated with each of VA's 15 body systems, which contain a total of about 900 disabilities.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of flexion, knee	1,177,885	11.74%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	1,063,781	10.60%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	705,073	7.03%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		2,946,739	29.4%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		10,034,349	
Auditory	Tinnitus	2,174,738	59.55%
	Hearing loss	1,306,066	35.77%
	Labyrinthitis	51,085	1.40%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		3,531,889	96.7%
All auditory disabilities		3,651,672	
Neurological	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	899,559	28.58%
	Migraine	609,574	19.37%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	250,472	7.96%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		1,759,605	55.9%
All neurological disabilities		3,147,086	
Skin	Scars, general	1,036,326	35.11%
	Eczema	451,998	15.31%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	387,860	13.14%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		1,876,184	63.6%
All skin disabilities		2,952,061	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	1,118,041	59.11%
	Major depressive disorder	228,102	12.06%
	Chronic adjustment disorder	104,762	5.54%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		1,450,905	76.7%
All mental disabilities		1,891,552	





The Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System (Continued)

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of body system disabilities
Respiratory	Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	362,166	29.18%
	Allergic rhinitis	307,358	24.76%
	Bronchial asthma	131,765	10.62%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		801,289	64.6%
All respiratory disabilities		1,241,294	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	354,763	31.99%
	Hemorrhoids	267,024	24.08%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	127,276	11.48%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		749,063	67.6%
All digestive disabilities		1,108,885	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	425,596	41.68%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery disease)	229,080	22.44%
	Varicose veins	74,547	7.30%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		729,223	71.4%
All cardiovascular disabilities		1,020,994	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	366,122	41.12%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	137,246	15.41%
	Prostate gland injuries	61,669	6.93%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		565,037	63.5%
All genitourinary disabilities		890,453	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	445,111	85.95%
	Hypothyroidism	47,184	9.11%
	Hyperthyroidism	8,832	1.71%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		501,127	96.8%
All endocrine disabilities		517,852	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of body system disabilities
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	60,912	19.31%
	Impairment to field of vision	32,357	10.26%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	30,617	9.71%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		123,886	39.3%
All eye related disabilities		315,408	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	24,380	17.20%
	Removal of uterus and both ovaries	17,978	12.69%
	Disease or injury of the ovary	15,417	10.88%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		57,775	40.8%
All gynecological disabilities		141,707	
Dental/ Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	103,457	79.70%
	Malunion of lower jaw	8,793	6.77%
	Loss of teeth	8,297	6.39%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		120,547	92.9%
All dental/oral disabilities		129,816	
Hemic/ Lymphatic	Anemia	24,201	33.49%
	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	12,287	17.00%
	Leukemia	9,001	12.46%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		45,489	63.0%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		72,257	
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	Malaria	23,974	44.45%
	Chronic fatigue syndrome	13,023	24.15%
	HIV-related illness	5,318	9.86%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		42,315	78.5%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		53,933	



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities – by Disability Type

The disabilities listed on pages 35 through 37 are grouped by one of over 900 individual disability codes. Disability types in the table below with a ³⁰ footnote are groups of these code based on the general disability type or condition. VBA created these groups to show more clearly the most prevalent types of disabilities which affect Veterans.

For example: on page 35 under Musculoskeletal Disabilities, only the top 29.4% are listed and two of them are related to limited motion. The table below lists the top 72.5% of Musculoskeletal disabilities, grouping all limitation-of-motion disabilities regardless of body part affected.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability type	Total number	% of body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of motion of a joint or appendage ³⁰	3,996,963	39.83%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³⁰	1,063,781	10.60%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	540,761	5.39%
	Impairment of the knee, general	442,207	4.41%
	Flatfoot, acquired	375,348	3.74%
	Intervertebral Disc Syndrome	332,888	3.32%
	Residuals of foot injury	263,144	2.62%
	Degenerative arthritis	262,582	2.62%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		7,277,674	72.5%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		10,034,349	
Neurological	Paralysis of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ³⁰	1,954,613	62.11%
	Migraine	609,574	19.37%
	Inflammation of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ³⁰	208,128	6.61%
	Neuralgia of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ³⁰	137,599	4.37%
	Brain disease due to trauma	132,310	4.20%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		3,042,224	96.7%
All neurological disabilities		3,147,086	
The Eye	Blind in one or both eyes ³⁰	75,032	23.79%
	Impaired vision - one or both eyes ³⁰	55,556	17.61%
	Conjunctivitis ³⁰	31,074	9.85%
	Excessive tearing	23,903	7.58%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		185,565	58.8%
All eye related disabilities		315,408	

³⁰ This disability type is composed of several disability codes.

Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Period of Service



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service (POS)	Disability	Total number	% of all POS disabilities
World War II	Hearing loss	22,807	21.9%
	Tinnitus	16,139	15.5%
	Residuals of cold injury	5,207	5.0%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	4,696	4.5%
	Scars, general	3,531	3.4%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	1,970	1.9%
	Generalized anxiety disorder	1,663	1.6%
	Scars, head, face or neck	1,291	1.2%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	1,288	1.2%
	Traumatic arthritis	1,277	1.2%
Total most prevalent World War II disabilities		59,869	57.4%
All World War II disabilities		104,267	
Korean Conflict	Hearing loss	62,774	24.8%
	Tinnitus	52,234	20.7%
	Residuals of cold injury	12,454	4.9%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	8,842	3.5%
	Scars, general	8,032	3.2%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	3,973	1.6%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	3,831	1.5%
	Scars, head, face or neck	2,945	1.2%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	2,674	1.1%
	Traumatic arthritis	2,016	0.8%
Total most prevalent Korean Conflict disabilities		159,775	63.2%
All Korean Conflict disabilities		252,681	



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Period of Service (Continued)

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of POS disabilities
Vietnam Era	Tinnitus	609,823	10.8%
	Hearing loss	563,327	10.0%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	403,887	7.2%
	Diabetes mellitus	370,805	6.6%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	327,540	5.8%
	Scars, general	233,297	4.1%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (Coronary artery disease)	190,171	3.4%
	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	160,953	2.9%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	121,554	2.2%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	76,307	1.4%
Total most prevalent Vietnam Era disabilities		3,057,664	54.3%
All Vietnam Era disabilities		5,625,940	
Gulf War Era	Tinnitus	1,202,932	6.5%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	1,027,513	5.6%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	894,877	4.9%
	Scars, general	670,710	3.6%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	651,959	3.5%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	602,565	3.3%
	Migraine	543,643	3.0%
	Limitation of motion of the arm	506,193	2.7%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	475,345	2.6%
	Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	435,861	2.4%
Total most prevalent Gulf War Era disabilities		7,011,598	38.1%
All Gulf War Era disabilities		18,418,019	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of POS disabilities
Peacetime	Tinnitus	293,610	10.6%
	Hearing loss	237,626	8.6%
	Scars, general	120,756	4.4%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	93,397	3.4%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	91,946	3.3%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	91,555	3.3%
	Impairment of the knee, general	70,139	2.5%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	62,117	2.2%
	Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	54,825	2.0%
	Hypertensive vascular disease	48,784	1.8%
Total most prevalent Peacetime disabilities		1,164,755	42.1%
All Peacetime disabilities		2,768,414	

Average SC disabilities per Veteran by period of service – New compensation recipients

	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era	Peacetime Periods	Total
New Veterans	2,053	6,443	65,980	181,602	53,013	309,091
Disabilities	3,769	12,252	156,673	1,298,571	123,210	1,594,475
Average # of disabilities per Veteran	1.8	1.9	2.4	7.2	2.3	5.2

GWOT Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Gender

VA's computer systems do not contain data that would allow us to attribute Veterans' disabilities to a specific period of service or deployment. Therefore, GWOT is a subset defined by Veterans who filed a disability compensation claim at some point either prior to or following their GWOT deployment. VA cannot identify which of these Veterans filed claims for disabilities incurred during their actual overseas GWOT deployment.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of new GWOT compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total ³¹	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	35,658	8.7%	4,584	5.4%	40,341	8.1%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	31,122	7.6%	5,712	6.7%	36,981	7.4%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	22,623	5.5%	3,101	3.7%	25,823	5.2%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³²	Musculoskeletal	20,716	5.0%	4,437	5.2%	25,246	5.1%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	18,920	4.6%	3,151	3.7%	22,118	4.4%
Scars, burns (2nd degree)	Skin	17,666	4.3%	3,674	4.3%	21,403	4.3%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	16,349	4.0%	2,794	3.3%	19,228	3.9%
Migraine	Neurological	11,953	2.9%	3,759	4.4%	15,769	3.2%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	10,951	2.7%	1,966	2.3%	12,965	2.6%
Limitation of flexion of the thigh	Musculoskeletal	9,513	2.3%	3,295	3.9%	12,862	2.6%
Total most prevalent disabilities		195,471	47.5%	36,473	43.1%	232,736	46.8%
Total number of disabilities		411,120	100%	84,699	100%	497,525	100%

³¹ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 792 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 1,706 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

³² VA is no longer evaluating Veterans who are New to the rolls under the discontinued disability types.



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total ³³	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	643,464	7.3%	63,968	4.1%	709,804	6.8%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	510,275	5.8%	79,924	5.2%	592,459	5.7%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³⁴	Musculoskeletal	415,818	4.7%	79,027	5.1%	496,952	4.8%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	421,012	4.8%	53,653	3.5%	475,979	4.6%
Scars, general	Skin	314,370	3.6%	59,165	3.8%	375,166	3.6%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	300,536	3.4%	41,946	2.7%	343,838	3.3%
Migraine	Neurological	254,334	2.9%	70,817	4.6%	326,655	3.1%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	248,115	2.8%	29,106	1.9%	278,222	2.7%
Degenerative arthritis of the spine	Musculoskeletal	230,204	2.6%	33,684	2.2%	264,888	2.6%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	216,579	2.5%	34,061	2.2%	251,521	2.4%
Total most prevalent disabilities		3,554,707	40.4%	545,351	33.9%	4,115,484	39.3%
Total number of disabilities		8,790,050	100%	1,541,465	100%	10,373,956	100%

³³ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 15,426 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 42,411 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

³⁴ The number of lumbosacral or cervical strain disabilities in this report includes disabilities which, in Annual Benefits Reports prior to FY 13, were counted under 5 discontinued disability names related to lumbosacral or cervical strain.



GWOT SC Disabilities by Body System and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Male	Female	Total ³⁵
Musculoskeletal	3,861,216	662,089	4,542,421
Skin	980,920	186,185	1,172,259
Neurological	916,929	181,843	1,103,134
Auditory	887,203	81,240	971,600
Mental	636,556	114,285	753,361
Respiratory	493,271	84,847	580,583
Digestive	369,235	67,044	438,142
Cardiovascular	226,227	34,059	261,356
Genitourinary	215,112	20,739	236,774
The Eye	96,238	20,246	117,022
Dental/ Oral	45,980	14,042	60,355
Endocrine	40,364	14,484	55,120
Gynecological	2,381	49,414	52,308
Hemic/ Lymphatic	10,090	8,161	18,354
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	8,328	2,787	11,167
Total	8,790,050	1,541,465	10,373,956



³⁵ Total includes 42,441 disabilities unidentifiable by gender

GWOT Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of flexion, knee	592,459	13.04%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	496,952	10.94%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	343,838	7.57%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		1,433,249	31.6%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		4,542,421	
Skin	Scars, general	375,166	32.00%
	Eczema	207,894	17.73%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	148,200	12.64%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		731,260	62.4%
All skin disabilities		1,172,259	
Neurological	Migraine	326,655	29.61%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	251,521	22.80%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	85,095	7.71%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		663,271	60.1%
All neurological disabilities		1,103,134	
Auditory	Tinnitus	709,804	73.06%
	Hearing loss	213,772	22.00%
	Labyrinthitis	21,688	2.23%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		945,264	97.3%
All auditory disabilities		971,600	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	475,979	63.18%
	Major depressive disorder	73,211	9.72%
	Chronic adjustment disorder	50,781	6.74%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		599,971	79.6%
All mental disabilities		753,361	



GWOT Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System (Continued)

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of body system disabilities
Respiratory	Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	225,494	38.8%
	Allergic rhinitis	167,430	28.8%
	Bronchial asthma	52,477	9.04%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		445,401	76.7%
All respiratory disabilities		580,583	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	188,770	43.08%
	Hemorrhoids	94,252	21.51%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	58,093	13.26%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		341,115	77.9%
All digestive disabilities		438,142	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	169,667	64.92%
	Varicose veins	26,603	10.18%
	Residuals of cold injury	9,874	3.78%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		206,144	78.9%
All cardiovascular disabilities		261,356	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	114,255	48.25%
	Nephrolithiasis (kidney stones)	21,622	9.13%
	Prostate gland injuries	17,822	7.53%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		153,699	64.9%
All genitourinary disabilities		236,774	
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	25,093	21.44%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	15,131	12.93%
	Excessive tearing	11,901	10.17%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		52,125	44.5%
All eye related disabilities		117,022	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of body system disabilities
Dental/ Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	54,551	90.38%
	Loss of teeth	2,508	4.16%
	Malunion of lower jaw	1,294	2.14%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		58,353	96.7%
All dental/oral disabilities		60,355	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	24,509	44.46%
	Hypothyroidism	20,800	37.74%
	Hyperthyroidism	2,948	5.35%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		48,257	87.6%
All endocrine disabilities		55,120	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	8,966	17.14%
	Disease or injury of the ovary	7,229	13.82%
	Benign growths of gynecological system or breast	5,249	10.03%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		21,444	41.0%
All gynecological disabilities		52,308	
Hemic/ Lymphatic	Anemia	11,104	60.50%
	Thrombocytopenia	1,316	7.17%
	Splenectomy (removal of spleen)	975	5.31%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		13,395	73.0%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		18,354	
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	Chronic fatigue syndrome	5,047	45.20%
	HIV-Related Illness	1,401	12.55%
	Systemic lupus erythematosus	1,399	12.53%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		7,847	70.3%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		11,167	



Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)

DIC is a tax-free monetary benefit generally payable to a surviving spouse, child, or parent of Servicemembers who died while on active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty training; or to survivors of Veterans who died from their service-connected disabilities; or to certain survivors of Veterans who were totally disabled due to service-connected causes at the time of their death. Parents' DIC is an income-based benefit for parents who were financially dependent on a Servicemember or Veteran who died from a service-related cause.

New DIC recipients during FY 2015 to FY 2019 by relationship

Relationship	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Chg FY 2018 to FY 2019
Surviving spouses	26,495	27,464	30,280	29,855	30,436	1.9%
Surviving children	1,308	1,238	1,444	1,398	1,294	-7.4%
Surviving parents	226	189	278	205	178	-13.2%
Total	28,029	28,891	32,002	31,458	31,908	1.4%

All DIC recipients by relationship

Relationship	Number of recipients	Percent of total
Surviving spouses	416,438	96.0%
Surviving children	14,121	3.2%
Surviving parents	3,376	0.8%
Total³⁶	433,964	100%

New surviving spouse DIC recipients

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
35 and under	487	\$10,597,753	2.0%
36 - 56	2,463	\$46,752,290	8.8%
57 - 75	19,919	\$341,171,599	64.1%
Over 75	7,519	\$132,699,339	24.9%
Total³⁷	30,436	\$532,115,229	100%

³⁶ Total includes 29 recipients unidentifiable by relationship.

³⁷ Total includes 48 recipients and \$894,248 in estimated annual payments amounts unidentifiable by age.



All surviving spouse DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
35 and under	4,192	\$84,334,583	1.2%
36 - 56	26,630	\$474,212,878	6.7%
57 - 75	218,542	\$3,663,857,313	51.5%
Over 75	166,063	\$2,873,887,638	40.4%
Total³⁸	416,438	\$7,113,662,790	100%

New surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
Under age 18	873	\$4,506,577	61.0%
Age 18 and over – in school	120	\$553,044	7.5%
Age 18 and over – helpless	241	\$2,031,894	27.5%
Total³⁹	1,294	\$7,386,230	100%

All surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
Under age 18	5,370	\$29,759,760	29.0%
Age 18 and over – in school	356	\$1,579,576	1.5%
Age 18 and over – helpless	8,229	\$70,232,414	68.4%
Total⁴⁰	14,121	\$102,624,143	100%

In order for the surviving child of a Veteran to receive DIC benefits after they turn 18, they must be declared to be permanently incapable of self-support (helpless) before the age of 18, or be between the ages of 18 and 23 and attending school.

³⁸ Total includes 1,011 recipients and \$ \$17,370,379 estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age.

³⁹ Total includes 58 recipients and \$22,683 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age and status.

⁴⁰ Total includes 147 recipients and \$927,091 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age and status.



Appendix

VBA Regional Office Addresses

<p>Anchorage VA Regional Office 1201 North Muldoon Road Anchorage, AK 99504</p>	AK	<p>Hartford VA Regional Office 555 Willard Avenue, Building 2E – Room 5137 Newington, CT 06111-2693 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 310909 Newington, CT 06131</p>	CT	<p>Chicago VA Regional Office 2122 W. Taylor Street Chicago, IL 60612</p>	IL
<p>Montgomery VA Regional Office 345 Perry Hill Road Montgomery, AL 36109-3798</p>	AL	<p>Wilmington VA Regional Office 1601 Kirkwood Highway Wilmington, DE 19805</p>	DE	<p>Indianapolis VA Regional Office 575 North Pennsylvania Street Indianapolis, IN 46204-1526</p>	IN
<p>Little Rock VA Regional Office 2200 Fort Roots Drive, Building 65 North Little Rock, AR 72114-1756</p>	AR	<p>St. Petersburg VA Regional Office 9500 Bay Pines Boulevard St. Petersburg, FL 33708 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1437 St. Petersburg, FL 33731</p>	FL	<p>Wichita VA Regional Office Robert J. Dole Regional Office 5500 E. Kellogg Avenue Wichita, KS 67218-1698</p>	KS
<p>Phoenix VA Regional Office 3333 North Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85012-2405</p>	AZ	<p>Atlanta VA Regional Office 1700 Clairmont Road Atlanta, GA 30033-4032 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100026 Decatur, GA 30031-7026</p>	GA	<p>Louisville VA Regional Office 321 West Main Street, Suite 390 Louisville, KY 40202-3835</p>	KY
<p>Oakland VA Regional Office Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building 1301 Clay Street – Suite 1400N Oakland, CA 94612-5209</p>	CA	<p>Honolulu VA Regional Office 459 Patterson Road, East Wing Honolulu, HI 96819</p>	HI	<p>New Orleans VA Regional Office 1250 Polydras Street, Rm 200 New Orleans, LA 70113-2692</p>	LA
<p>San Diego VA Regional Office 8810 Rio San Diego Drive San Diego, CA 92108-1508</p>	CA	<p>Des Moines VA Regional Office 210 Walnut Street – Room 1063 Des Moines, IA 50309-9825</p>	IA	<p>Boston VA Regional Office John F. Kennedy Building Government Center – Room 1265 Boston, MA 02203-0393</p>	MA
<p>Los Angeles VA Regional Office Federal Building 11000 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90024-3602</p>	CA	<p>Boise VA Regional Office 444 West Fort Street Boise, ID 83702</p>	ID	<p>Baltimore VA Regional Office Federal Building 31 Hopkins Plaza – Room 233 Baltimore, MD 21201-0001</p>	MD
<p>Denver VA Regional Office 155 Van Gordon Street Denver, CO 80228</p>	CO			<p>Togus VA Regional Office One VA Center Augusta, ME 04330-6795</p>	ME



U.S. Department
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Veterans Benefits
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Detroit VA Regional Office Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building 477 Michigan Avenue – Room 1400 Detroit, MI 48226-2591	MI	Lincoln VA Regional Office 3800 Village Drive Lincoln, NE 68516-4198 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 85816 Lincoln, NE 68501-5816	NE	Muskogee VA Regional Office Federal Building 125 South Main Street Muskogee, OK 74401-7025	OK
St. Paul VA Regional Office Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building One Federal Drive – Fort Snelling St. Paul, MN 55111-4050	MN	Manchester VA Regional Office Norris Cotton Federal Building 275 Chestnut Street Manchester, NH 03101	NH	Portland VA Regional Office 100 SW Main Street, Floor 2 Portland, OR 97204-2998 Mailing Address: 100 SW Main St FL 2 Portland, OR 97204	OR
St. Louis Records Mgmt. Center 4300 Goodfellow Boulevard Building 104 St. Louis, MO 63120-8950	MO	Newark VA Regional Office 20 Washington Place Newark, NJ 07102-3174	NJ	Philadelphia VA Regional Office 5000 Wissahickon Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19144 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8079 Philadelphia, PA 19101	PA
St. Louis VA Regional Office 9700 Page Avenue St. Louis, MO 63103	MO	Albuquerque VA Regional Office 500 Gold Avenue, South West Albuquerque, NM 87102-3118	NM	Pittsburgh VA Regional Office 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4004	PA
Jackson VA Regional Office 1600 East Woodrow Wilson Avenue Jackson, MS 39216	MS	Reno VA Regional Office 5460 Reno Corporate Drive Reno, NV 89511	NV	San Juan VA Regional Office 50 Carr 165 Guaynabo San Juan, PR 00968-8024	PR
Ft. Harrison VA Regional Office 3633 Veterans Drive Ft. Harrison, MT 59636	MT	Buffalo VA Regional Office 130 South Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14202-2478	NY	Providence VA Regional Office 380 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903-3246	RI
Winston-Salem VA Regional Office Federal Building 251 North Main Street Winston-Salem, NC 27155-1000	NC	New York VA Regional Office 245 W. Houston Street New York, NY 10014-4805	NY	Columbia VA Regional Office 6437 Garners Ferry Road Columbia, SC 29209-2495	SC
Fargo VA Regional Office 2101 Elm Street Fargo, ND 58102	ND	Cleveland VA Regional Office Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building 1240 East 9th Street Cleveland, OH 44199-2001	OH	Sioux Falls VA Regional Office 2501 West 22nd Street Sioux Falls, SD 57105	SD



VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration

Nashville **TN**
VA Regional Office

110 Ninth Avenue, South
Nashville, TN 37203-3817

Houston **TX**
VA Regional Office

6900 Almeda Road
Houston, TX 77030-4200

Waco **TX**
VA Regional Office

One Veterans Plaza
701 Clay Avenue
Waco, TX 76799-0001

Salt Lake City **UT**
VA Regional Office

550 Foothill Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Roanoke **VA**
VA Regional Office

210 Franklin Rd, SW
Roanoke, VA 24011

White River Junction **VT**
VA Regional Office

215 North Main Street
White River Junction, VT 05001

Seattle **WA**
VA Regional Office

Federal Building
915 Second Avenue, Room 1392
Seattle, WA 98174-1060

Milwaukee **WI**
VA Regional Office

5400 W. National Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53214

Huntington **WV**
VA Regional Office

640 Fourth Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701-1340

Cheyenne **WY**
VA Benefits Office

2360 E. Pershing Blvd. Cheyenne, WY
82001-5356

The above address is the Cheyenne
benefits office. The Denver regional
office processes claims for the state
of Wyoming.

Manila
VA Regional Office

U.S. Embassy
1501 Roxas Blvd
Pasay City, Philippines 1302
Mailing Address:
PSC 501
DPOAP 96515

District Offices

Northeast District **MO**

Charles F. Prevedel Federal Bldg.
9700 Page Avenue, Suite 301
St. Louis, MO 63132

Southeast District **TN**

3322 West End, Suite 408
Nashville, TN 37203

Continental District **CO**

155 Van Gordon Street
Lakewood, CO 80228

Pacific District **AZ**

3333 North Central Avenue,
Suite 3026
Phoenix, AZ 85012-2402

Centralized Mail Address

**SMS Janesville Facility –
Centralized Mail**

Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
P.O. Box 4444
Janesville, WI 53547-4444

Contact Information

Compensation Information:

1-800-827-1000

Veterans Crisis Line

1-800-273-8255 and press 1

Department of Veterans Affairs
home page

www.va.gov

Veterans Benefits Administration
home page

benefits.va.gov

eBenefits

(Online forms and applications)

ebenefits.va.gov

Compensation home page

benefits.va.gov/compensation



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration

