UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Profile of Veterans: 2014
Data from the American Community Survey

Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

March 2016

NCVAS National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

Data Source and Methods

- Data for this analysis come from the 2014 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample
    - The ACS is an ongoing survey that provides annual data on the social and economic characteristics of the U.S. population.
    - The ACS uses a series of monthly samples to produce annually updated data for the same small areas (census tracts and block groups)formerly surveyed via the decennial census long-form sample.

- The universe for this analysis is the civilian population 17 years and older living in the United States and Puerto Rico
    - This universe includes a weighted estimate of 19.4 million Veterans, of which 1.6 million were women.
    - The universe includes a weighted estimate of 251.4 million civilian population, of which 232 million were non-Veterans.

- All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level.
    - A "statistically significant difference" simply means there is statistical evidence that there is a difference; it does not mean the difference is necessarily large, important or significant in the usual sense of the word.'
    - A "no statistically significant difference" means that there is statistical evidence that there is no difference in the comparative percentages/rates.

- For more information about the ACS, see: http://www.census.gov/acs/www/
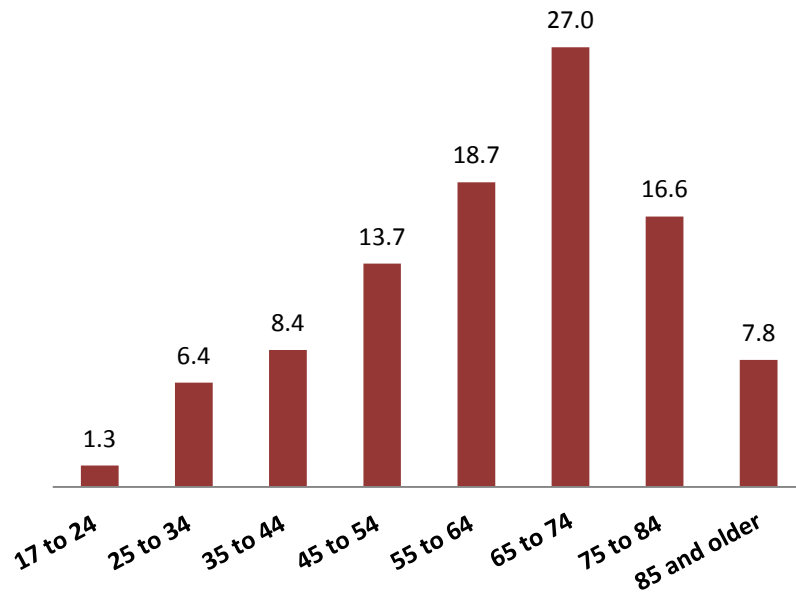
Veteran and Non-Veteran Comparisons

Veterans = 19,386,589
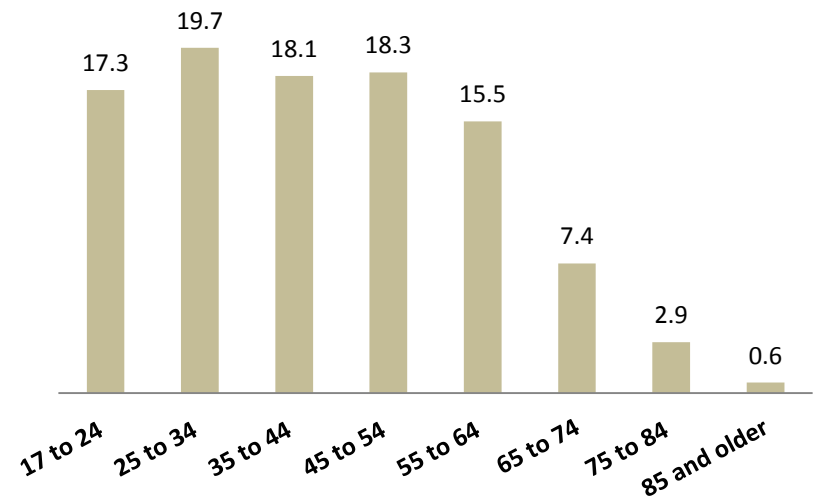
Non-Veterans = 231,986,987

Male Veterans on average are older than non-Veteran men. In 2014, the median age of male Veterans was 64 and the median age of male non-Veterans was 41.

Age Distribution of Men
(in percent)

Male Veterans

Age Group	Percent
17 to 24	1.3
25 to 34	6.4
35 to 44	8.4
45 to 54	13.7
55 to 64	18.7
65 to 74	27.0
75 to 84	16.6
85 and older	7.8

Male Non-Veterans

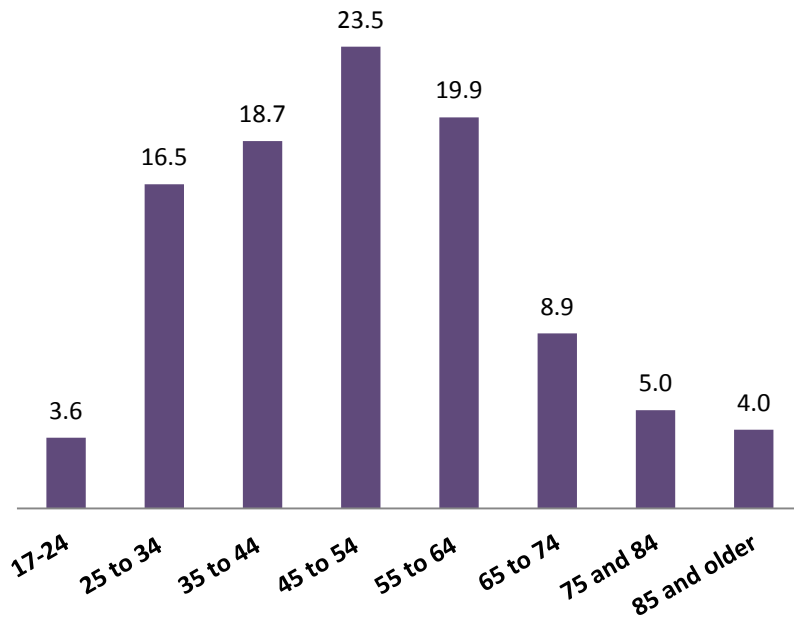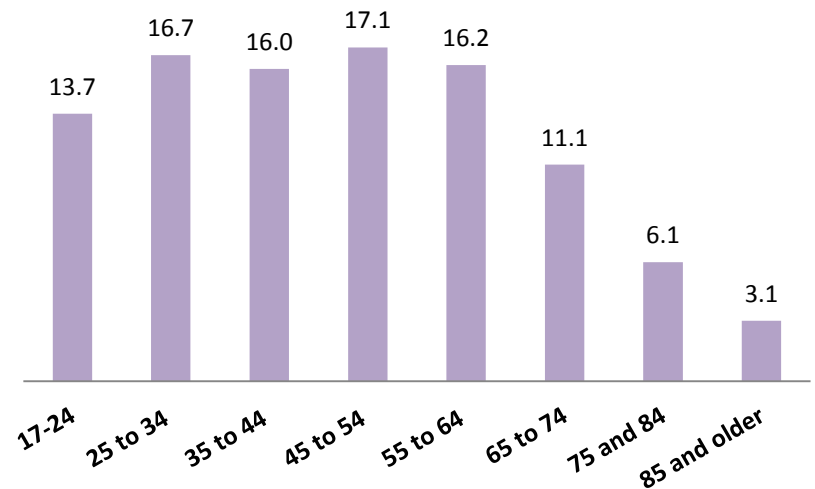| Age Group	Percent
17 to 24	17.3
25 to 34	19.7
35 to 44	18.1
45 to 54	18.3
55 to 64	15.5
65 to 74	7.4
75 to 84	2.9
85 and older	0.6

As with male Veterans, a lower percentage of female Veterans were in the youngest age group—17 to 24 years old than their non-Veteran counterparts. These are the ages when most men and women would still be serving in the military and would not yet have become Veterans. The median age of female Veterans was 49 and female non-Veterans was 46 in 2014.
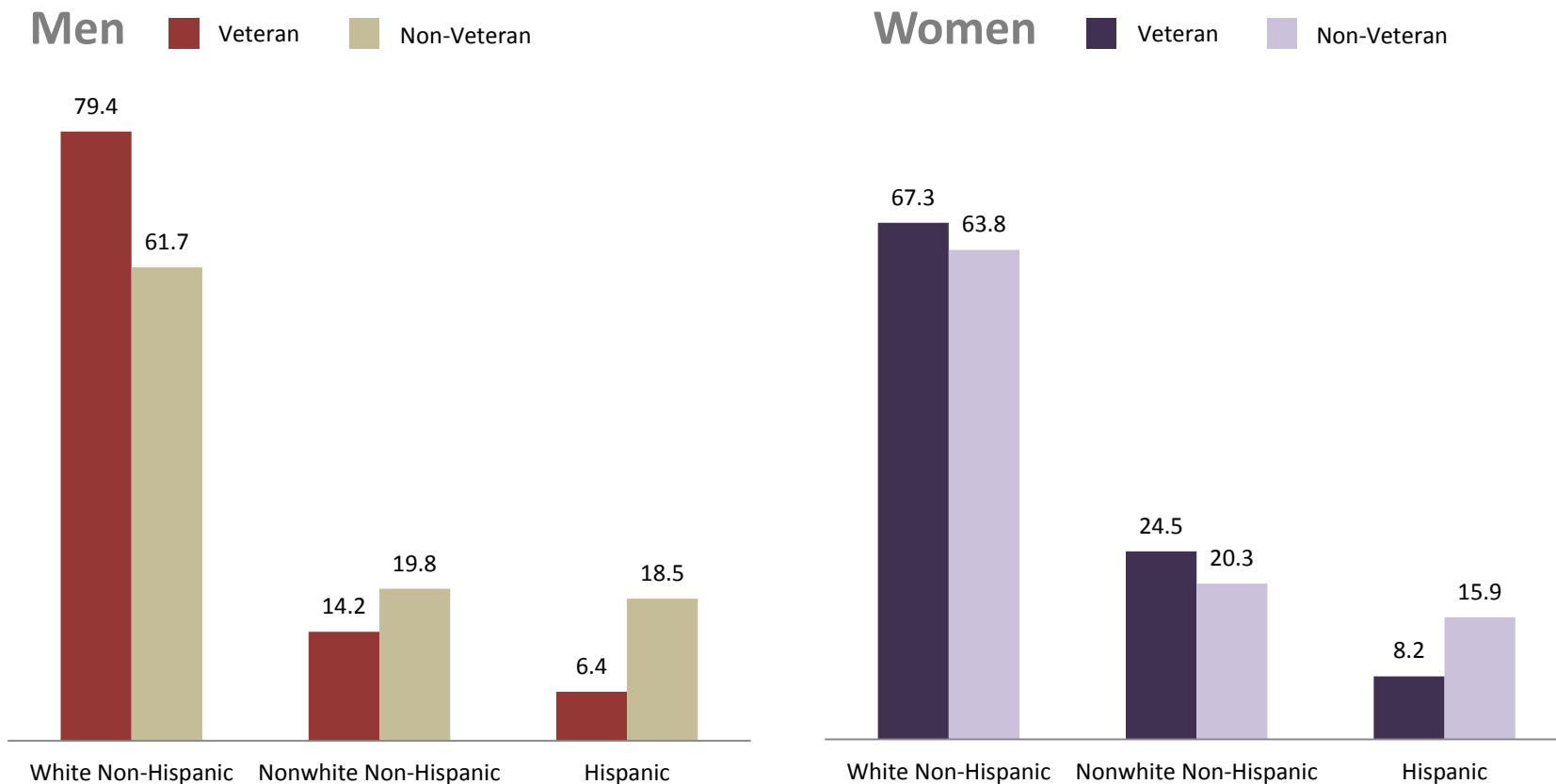
Age Distribution of Women
(in percent)

Female Veterans

Age Group	Percent
17-24	3.6
25 to 34	16.5
35 to 44	18.7
45 to 54	23.5
55 to 64	19.9
65 to 74	8.9
75 and 84	5.0
85 and older	4.0

Female Non-Veterans

Age Group	Percent
17-24	13.7
25 to 34	16.7
35 to 44	16.0
45 to 54	17.1
55 to 64	16.2
65 to 74	11.1
75 and 84	6.1
85 and older	3.1

Male Veterans are more likely to be White not Hispanic than male non-Veterans. Female Veterans are more likely to be Nonwhite not Hispanic than non-Veteran women. Both male and female Veterans are less likely to be Hispanic than their non-Veteran counterparts.

Race Distribution
(in percent)

Men ■ Veteran ■ Non-Veteran

White Non-Hispanic	Nonwhite Non-Hispanic	Hispanic
79.4 / 61.7	14.2 / 19.8	6.4 / 18.5

Women ■ Veteran ■ Non-Veteran

White Non-Hispanic	Nonwhite Non-Hispanic	Hispanic
67.3 / 63.8	24.5 / 20.3	8.2 / 15.9

Note: "Nonwhite" includes Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, some other race, and two or more races.
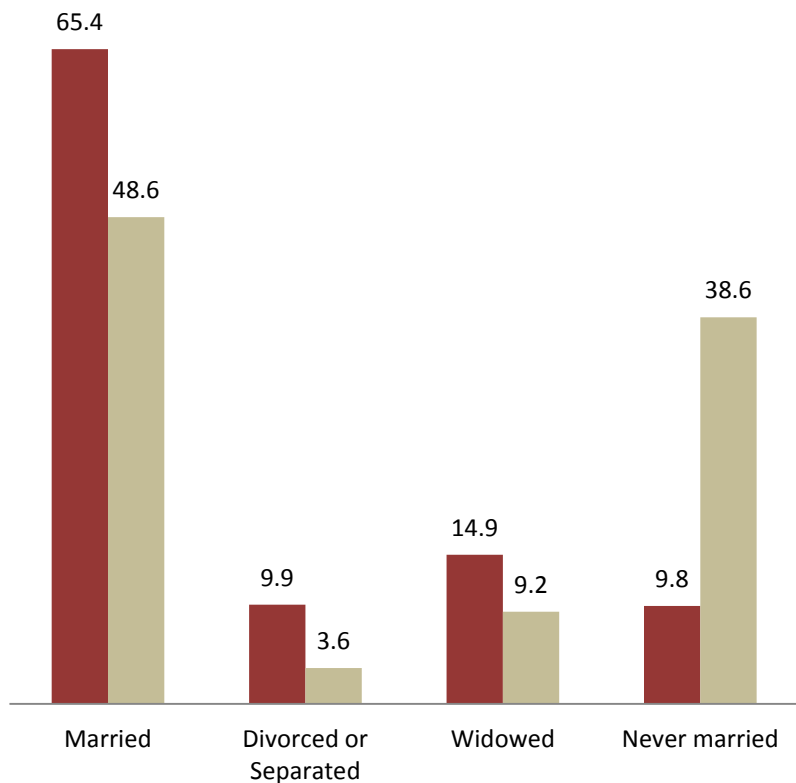
Male Veterans were more likely to be married and less likely to have never married compared with non-Veteran men. Female Veterans were more likely to be widowed than non-Veteran women.
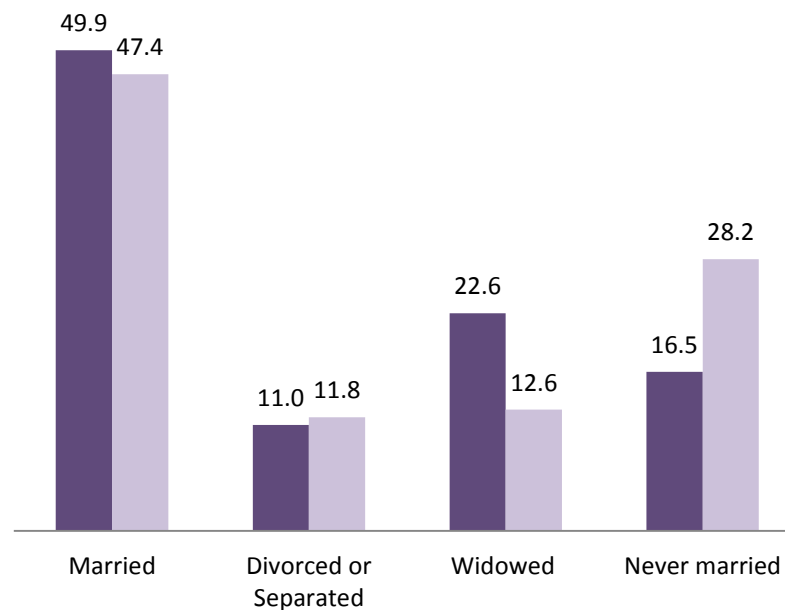
Marital Status Distribution
(in percent)
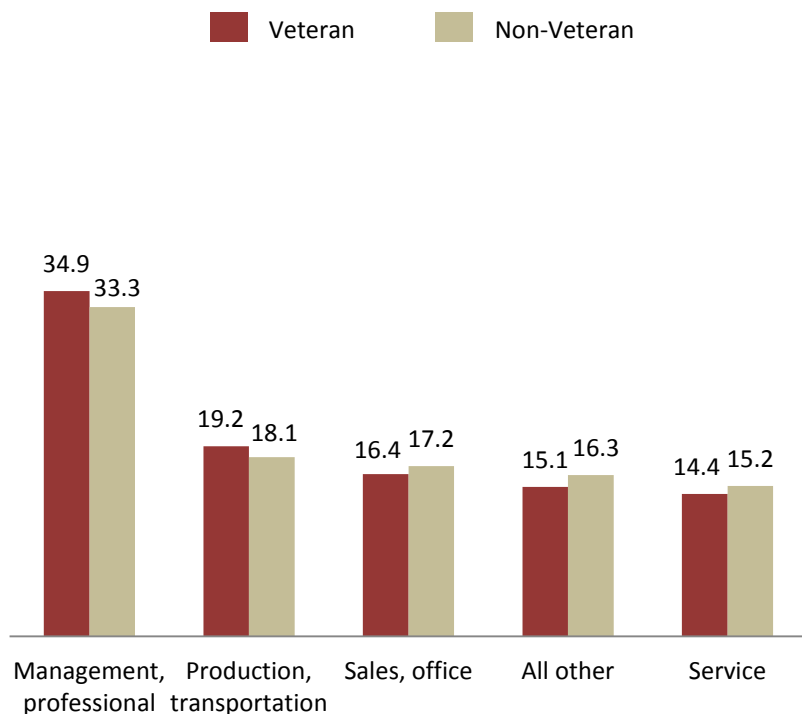

Men ■ Veteran ■ Non-Veteran

Status	Veteran	Non-Veteran
Married	65.4	48.6
Divorced or Separated	9.9	3.6
Widowed	14.9	9.2
Never married	9.8	38.6

Women ■ Veteran ■ Non-Veteran

Status	Veteran	Non-Veteran
Married	49.9	47.4
Divorced or Separated	11.0	11.8
Widowed	22.6	12.6
Never married	16.5	28.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey PUMS, 2014
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A higher percentage of male Veterans were in management and professional occupations compared with male non-Veterans in 2014. These include occupations such as engineers, educators, doctors, and various types of managers. The percentage of male Veterans working for local, state, or Federal government was about twice that of male non-Veterans.
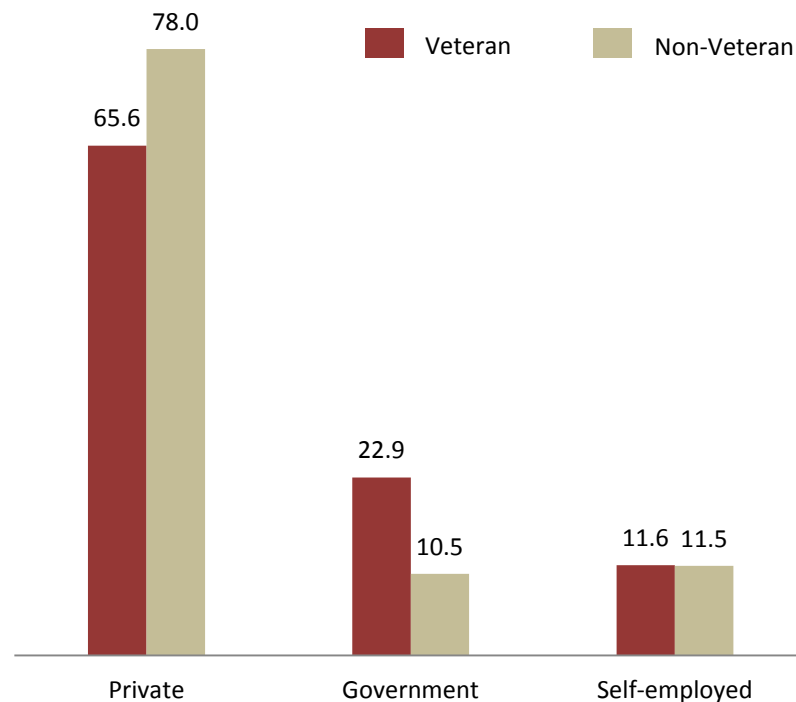
Occupation of Employed Men
(in percent)

■ Veteran   ■ Non-Veteran

	Veteran	Non-Veteran
Management, professional	34.9	33.3
Production, transportation	19.2	18.1
Sales, office	16.4	17.2
All other	15.1	16.3
Service	14.4	15.2

Class of Worker of Employed Men
(in percent)

■ Veteran   ■ Non-Veteran

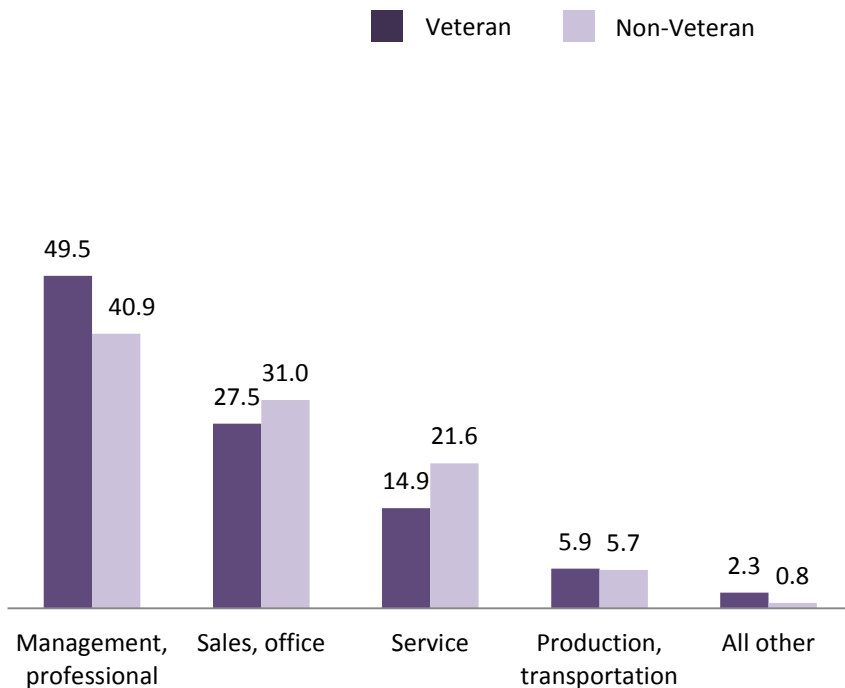|	Veteran	Non-Veteran
Private	65.6	78.0
Government	22.9	10.5
Self-employed	11.6	11.5

Note: (1) "All Other" includes Farming, fishing, and forestry; construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair.
(2) No significant difference between Veteran and male non-Veteran by self-employed.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey PUMS, 2014
Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

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The percentage of female Veterans working in management and professional occupations was about 7 percentage points higher than that of non-Veteran women in 2014. A lower percentage of female Veterans worked in service occupations, such as food service, janitorial, and child care, than female non-Veterans. About 36 percent of female Veterans worked for local, state, or Federal government, compared to 16 percent of female non-Veterans.
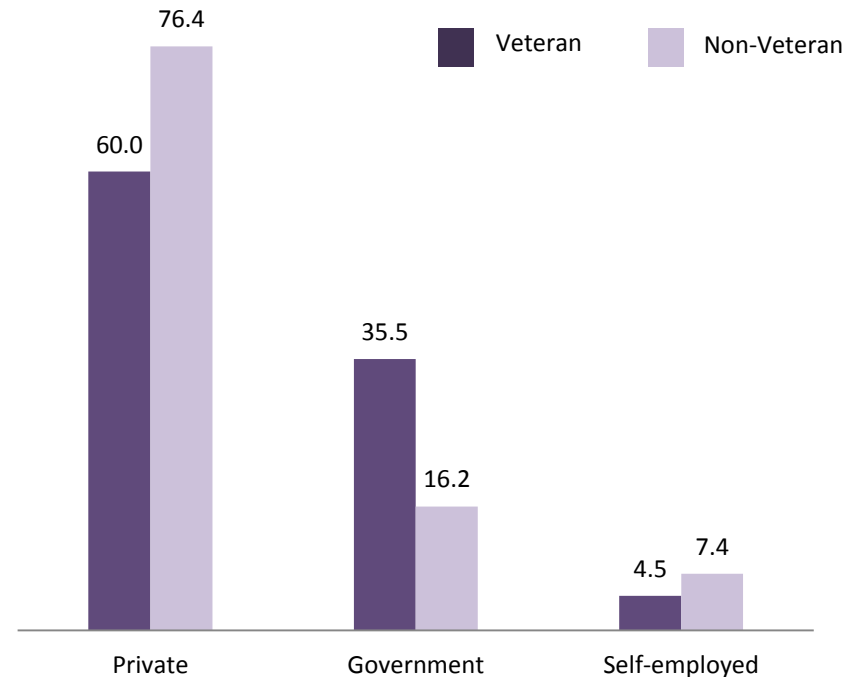
Occupation of Employed Women

(in percent)

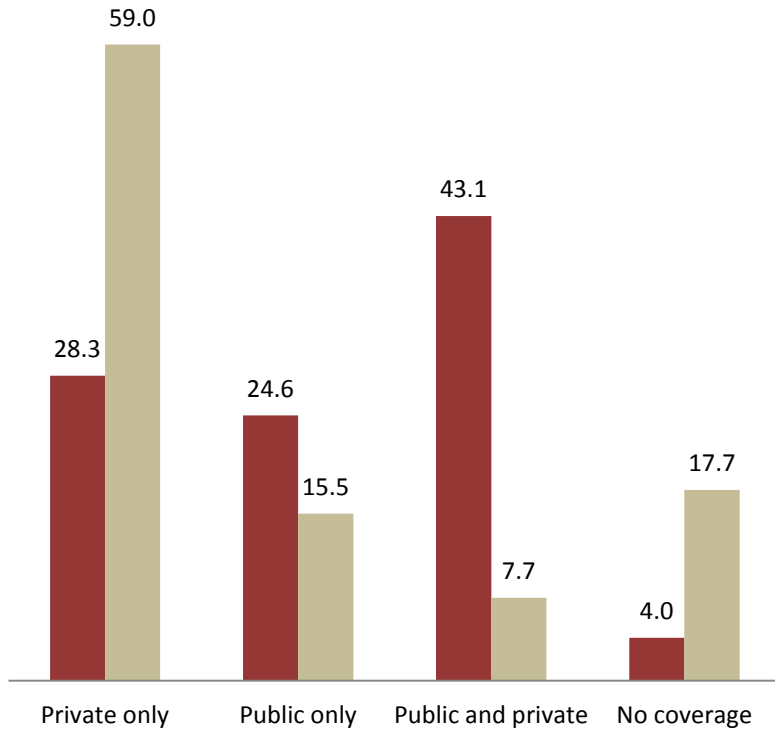**Class of Worker of Employed Women**

(in percent)

Notes:(1) "All Other" includes Farming, fishing, and forestry; Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair. (2) There was no statistical significant difference between female Veterans and non-Veterans by production and transportation.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey PUMS, 2014
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Both male and female Veterans were more likely to have a combination of public and private health insurance coverage compared with their non-Veteran counterparts. The high percentage of male Veterans in this category was likely due to Medicare, use of VA health care and second career after retirement than non-Veterans. Male and female Veterans had lower uninsured rates than non-Veterans in 2014.

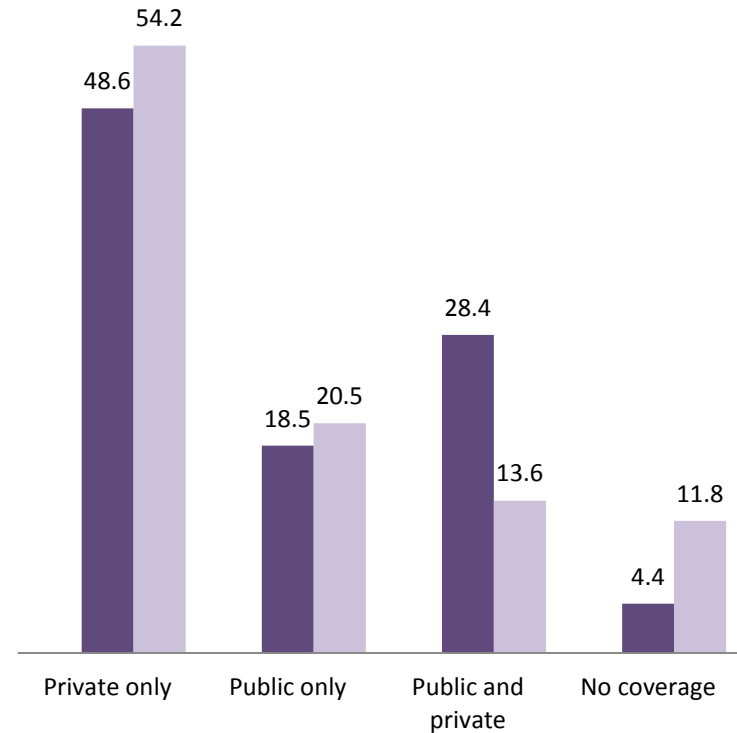## Health Insurance Coverage Distribution
(in percent)

Men

Veteran | Non-Veteran

Private only	Public only	Public and private	No coverage
28.3 / 59.0	24.6 / 15.5	43.1 / 7.7	4.0 / 17.7

Women

Veteran | Non-Veteran

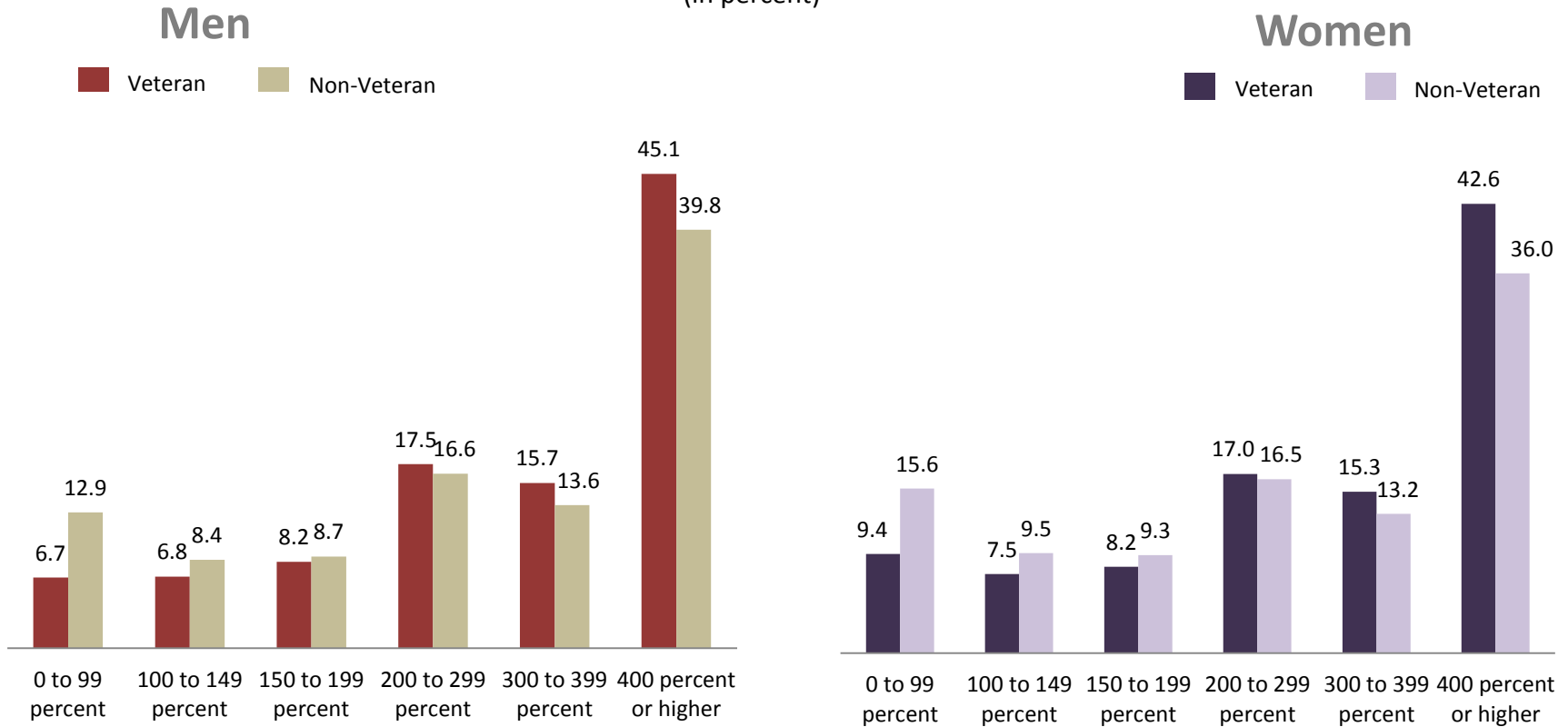| Private only	Public only	Public and private	No coverage
48.6 / 54.2	18.5 / 20.5	28.4 / 13.6	4.4 / 11.8

In 2014, a lower percentage of both male and female Veterans lived below 100 percent of poverty compared with their non-Veteran counterparts.
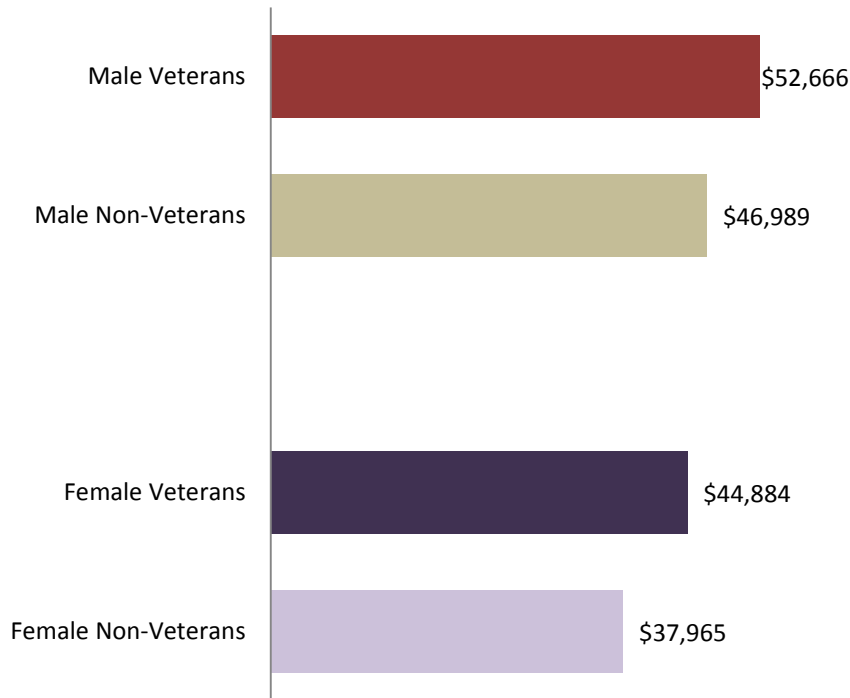
Poverty Level Distributions
(in percent)

Men

- Veteran
- Non-Veteran

Poverty Level	Veteran	Non-Veteran
0 to 99 percent	6.7	12.9
100 to 149 percent	6.8	8.4
150 to 199 percent	8.2	8.7
200 to 299 percent	17.5	16.6
300 to 399 percent	15.7	13.6
400 percent or higher	45.1	39.8

Women

- Veteran
- Non-Veteran

Poverty Level	Veteran	Non-Veteran
0 to 99 percent	9.4	15.6
100 to 149 percent	7.5	9.5
150 to 199 percent	8.2	9.3
200 to 299 percent	17.0	16.5
300 to 399 percent	15.3	13.2
400 percent or higher	42.6	36.0

> There is no statistical difference in percentages between women Veterans and women non-Veterans in the 200 to 299 percent poverty level.
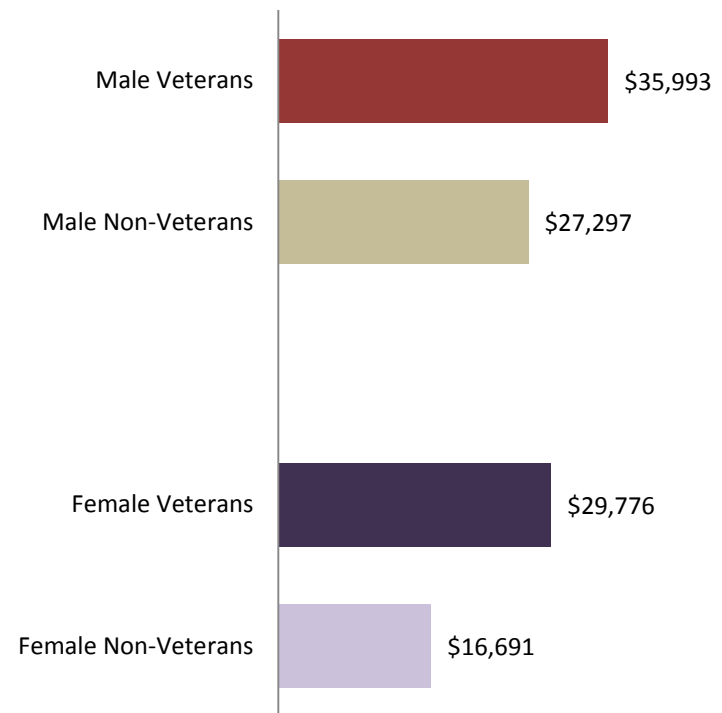
In 2014, both male and female Veterans who worked year-round and full time had higher median earnings than their non-Veteran counterparts. Veterans of both sexes also had higher personal incomes than non-Veterans.

Median Earnings of Year-Round Full-Time Workers by Sex and Veteran Status

Category	Amount
Male Veterans	$52,666
Male Non-Veterans	$46,989
Female Veterans	$44,884
Female Non-Veterans	$37,965

Median Personal Income by Sex and Veteran Status

Category	Amount
Male Veterans	$35,993
Male Non-Veterans	$27,297
Female Veterans	$29,776
Female Non-Veterans	$16,691

"Earnings" refer to salary, wages, and self employment income. "Year-round full-time(YRFT) refers to employment of 50 or more weeks per year and 35 or more hours per week. Median earnings are calculated for the YRFT employed population with earnings greater than zero.

"Income" refers to the total of earnings and other sources of income such as pension, Supplement Security Income, public assistance, etc. Median Income is calculated for the total population with personal income greater than zero.
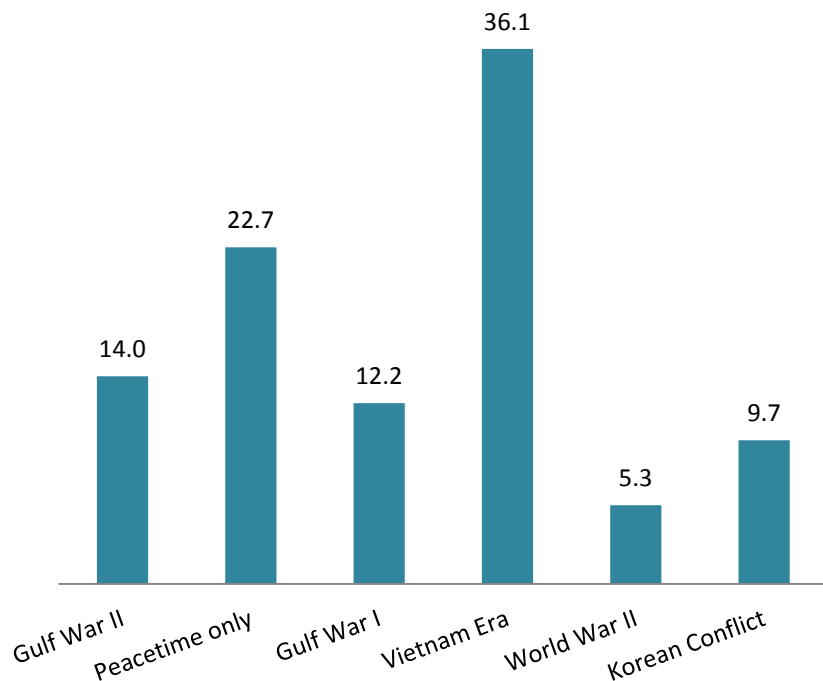
Veteran Comparisons

Male Veterans = 17,790,975

Female Veterans= 1,595,614

The largest cohort of male Veterans served during the Vietnam Era while the largest cohort of female Veterans served during Gulf War II.
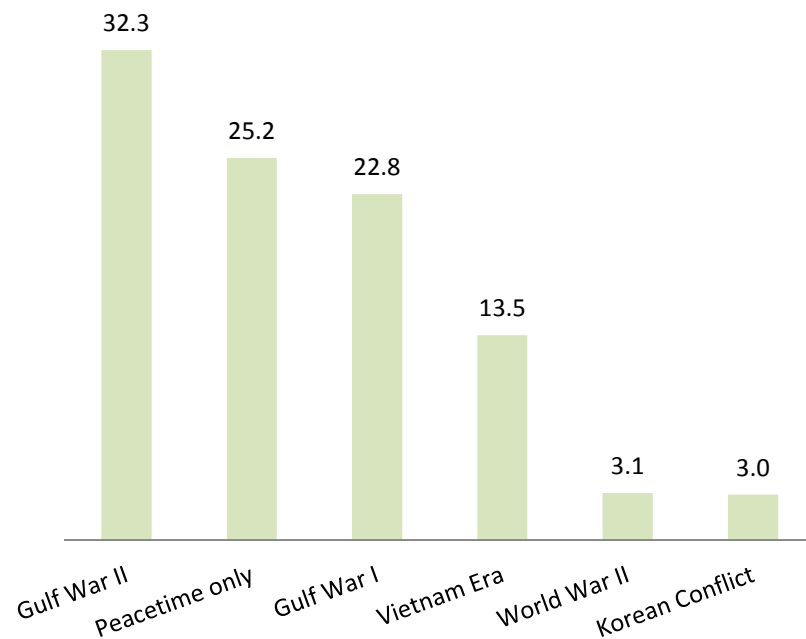
Period of Military Service of Veterans
(in percent)

Male Veterans

Period	Percent
Gulf War II	14.0
Peacetime only	22.7
Gulf War I	12.2
Vietnam Era	36.1
World War II	5.3
Korean Conflict	9.7

Female Veterans

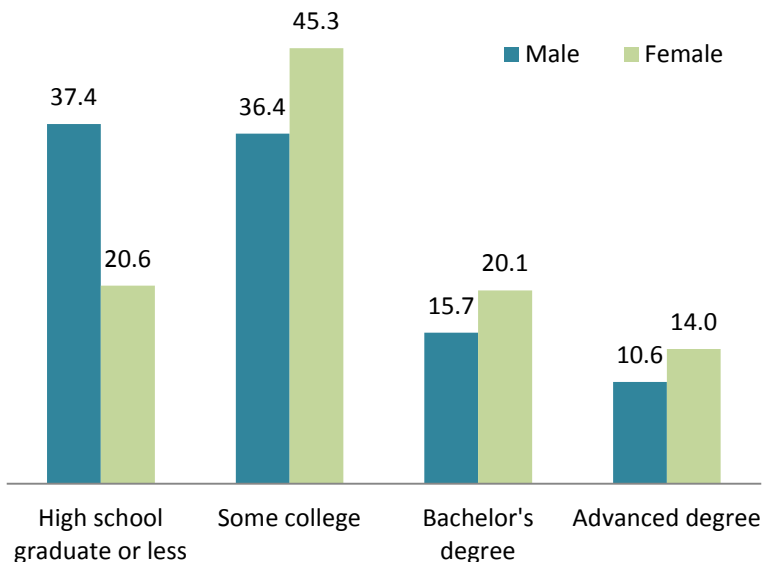| Period	Percent
Gulf War II	32.3
Peacetime only	25.2
Gulf War I	22.8
Vietnam Era	13.5
World War II	3.1
Korean Conflict	3.0

Period of Service Dates: Post 9/11: Sept. 2001 to present; Pre 9/11: Aug. 1990 to Aug. 2001; Vietnam Era: Aug.1964 to April 1975; Korean War: July 1950 to Jan. 1955; World War II: Dec. 1941 to Dec, 1946; Peacetimes: Jan. 1947 to June 1950; Feb. 1955 to July 1964 and May 1975 to July 1990.
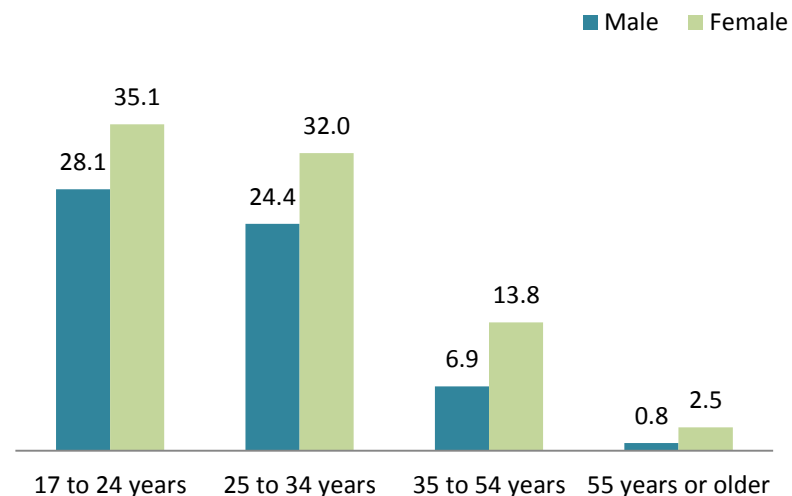
Note: Periods of service shown here are coded with multiple dispersed into categories with most recent period of service.

In 2014, a higher percentage of female Veterans had completed some college, a Bachelor's degree or an advanced degree, compared with male Veterans. A higher percentage of female Veterans than male Veterans in all age groups were enrolled in college.

Distribution of Education Attainment

Legend: ■ Male ■ Female

	Male	Female
High school graduate or less	37.4	20.6
Some college	36.4	45.3
Bachelor's degree	15.7	20.1
Advanced degree	10.6	14.0

Enrolled in College by Age

Legend: ■ Male ■ Female

	Male	Female
17 to 24 years	28.1	35.1
25 to 34 years	24.4	32.0
35 to 54 years	6.9	13.8
55 years or older	0.8	2.5

"Educational Attainment" refers to the highest level of education an individual has completed.

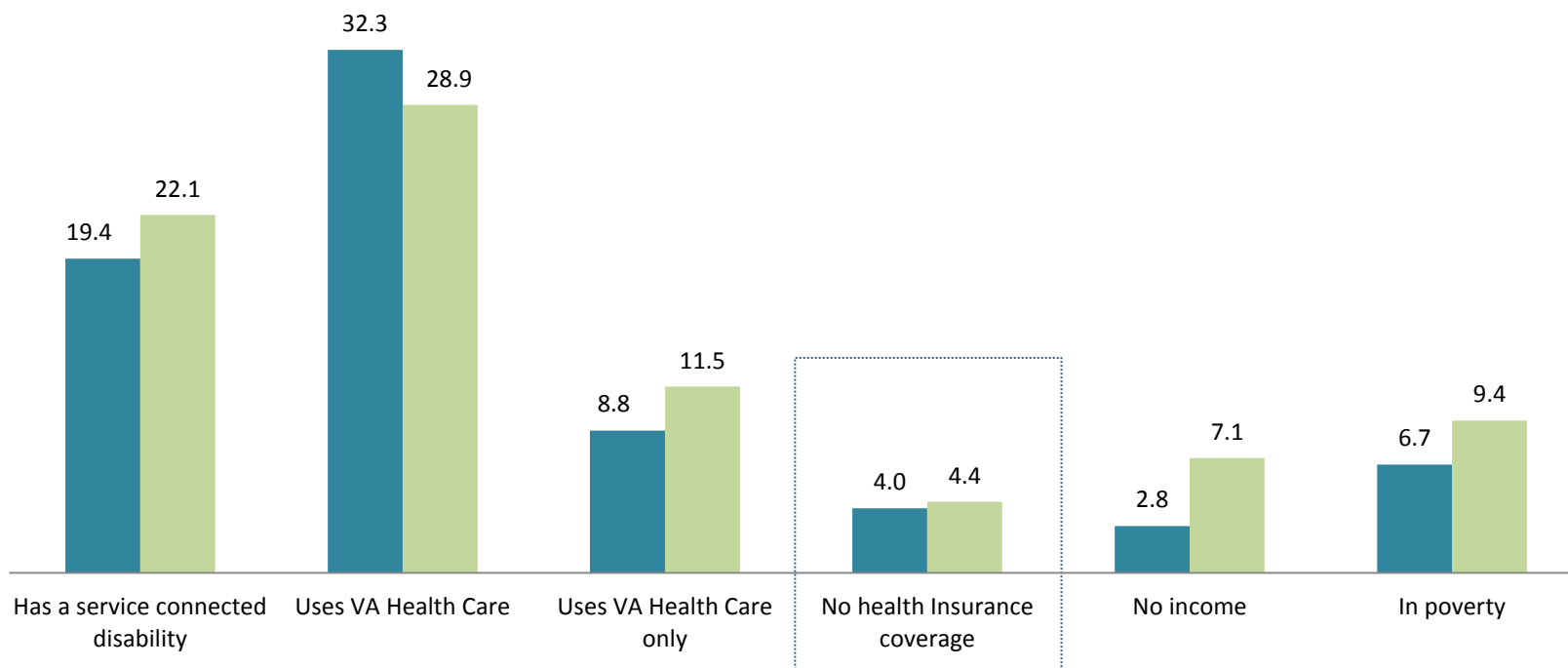**"Advanced Degree"** refers to Master's, PhD, JD, MD, or other professional degree.

"Enrolled in College" includes enrollment in graduate years (freshman to senior) or enrollment in graduate or professional school (beyond a Bachelor's degree).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey PUMS, 2014
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A higher percentage of female Veterans than male Veterans had a service-connected disability rating in 2014. A higher percentage of male Veterans used VA health care but a higher percentage of female Veterans used VA health care only.

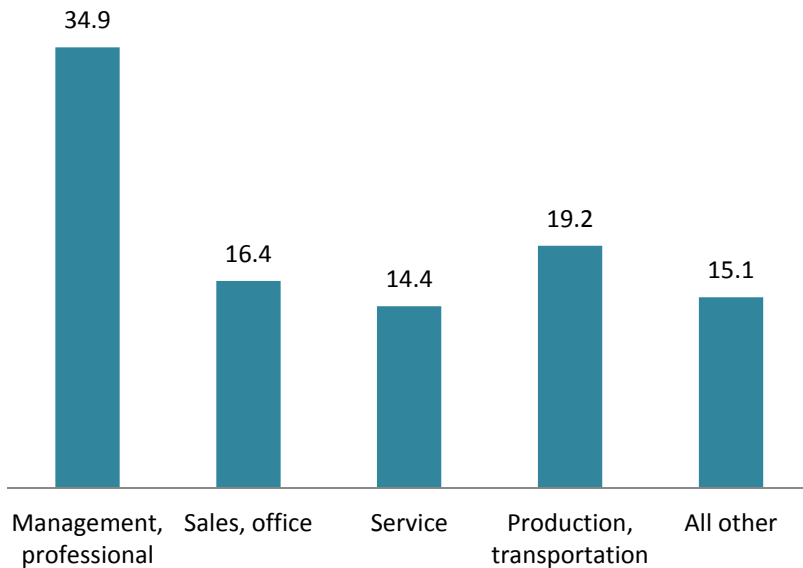## Selected Characteristics of Veterans
(in percent)

■ Male ■ Female

Characteristic	Male	Female
Has a service connected disability	19.4	22.1
Uses VA Health Care	32.3	28.9
Uses VA Health Care only	8.8	11.5
No health Insurance coverage	4.0	4.4
No income	2.8	7.1
In poverty	6.7	9.4

There is no statistical difference in percentage of "No health insurance coverage" between men and women Veterans.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey PUMS, 2014
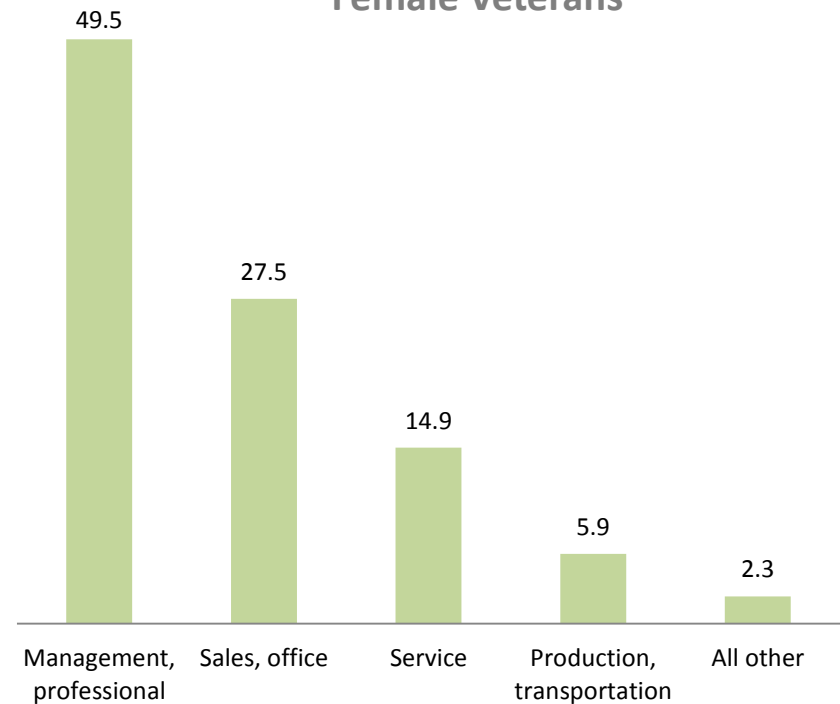Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

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A higher percentage of female Veterans than male Veterans worked in management and professional and sales and office occupations in 2014. Nineteen percent of male Veterans worked in production and transportation occupations. These occupations include machinists, drivers, and aircraft pilots, jobs similar to what male Veterans may have done while in the military.

Occupations of Employed Veterans
(in percent)

Male Veterans

Management, professional	Sales, office	Service	Production, transportation	All other
34.9	16.4	14.4	19.2	15.1

Female Veterans

Management, professional	Sales, office	Service	Production, transportation	All other
49.5	27.5	14.9	5.9	2.3

Notes: (1) "All other" includes farming, fishing, and forestry; construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair. (2) There was no statistical significant difference between male and female Veterans by service.

Summary of Veteran and Non-Veteran Comparisons

According to data from the 2014 American Community Survey, 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 management and professional occupations, and more likely to work for local, state, or Federal governments than their non-Veteran counterparts. Male Veterans who worked year-round and full-time earned about $6,000 more than similar non-Veterans. Some differences between male Veterans and non-Veterans may be attributable to age. The median age of male Veterans in 2014 was 64 years while the median age of male non-Veterans was 41 years.

A lower percentage of female Veterans were in the youngest age group—17 to 24 years old than female non-Veterans. These are the ages when most men and women would still be serving in the military and would not yet have become Veterans. The median age of female Veterans was 49 and female non-Veterans was 46 in 2014. Female Veterans were more likely to be Nonwhite non-Hispanic, more likely to be widowed, 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 and professional 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. Female Veterans who worked year-round and full-time earned about $7,000 more than similar non-Veterans.

Summary of Veteran Comparisons

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 Post 9/11 (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 **only** VA health care, have no earnings or income, and live in poverty.

Employed female Veterans were more likely to work in management and professional occupations than employed male Veterans.

Some differences between male and female Veterans may be attributable to age as male Veterans are significantly older than female Veterans. The median age of male Veterans was 64 years in 2014, compared with 49 years for female Veterans.

Contact Information

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