



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. Air Force

56 Regional offices
15,338 employees
5.0 million compensation and service-connected death benefit recipients

A note on the data:

The 2017 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, 2017. 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 2017 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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The Presentation of FY 2017 Compensation Data

New to the rolls

Individuals who began receiving benefits during fiscal year 2017 (October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017) are considered “New to the rolls,” and the tables are outlined in blue.

On the rolls

All individuals receiving benefits on September 30, 2017 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 at <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	09/30/2017





Quick Reference: Recipients, Payments and Disabilities

Totals – new recipients

Veterans who began receiving compensation benefits	296,718
Survivors who began receiving service-connected death benefits	32,002
Total:	328,720

Estimated annual payments – new recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Compensation	296,718	\$3.51 Billion	\$11,822
Service-Connected Death ¹	32,002	\$512.5 Million	\$16,015
Total:	328,720	\$4.02 Billion	\$12,230

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

Tinnitus	159,800
Limitation of flexion, knee	83,329
Hearing loss	81,529
Lumbosacral or cervical strain	73,073
Limitation of motion of the arm	67,563
Scars, general	61,580
Post-traumatic stress disorder	51,273
Limitation of motion of the ankle	50,384
Migraine	41,912
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	36,584
Total number of most prevalent disabilities	707,027
Total number of disabilities²	1,516,948

Average number of SC disabilities per new compensation recipient

New recipients: 296,718	Total number of disabilities: 1,516,948
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.11

¹ Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and Death Compensation.

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



Totals – all recipients

Veterans receiving compensation benefits	4,552,819
Survivors receiving service-connected death benefits	411,390
Total:	4,964,209

Estimated annual payments– all recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Compensation	4,552,819	\$69.99 Billion	\$15,373
Service-Connected Death	411,390	\$6.53 Billion	\$15,874
Total:	4,964,209	\$76.52 Billion	\$15,415

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Tinnitus	1,786,980
Hearing loss	1,157,585
Post-traumatic stress disorder	964,038
Scars, general	934,967
Lumbosacral or cervical strain	916,515
Limitation of flexion, knee	872,536
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	675,155
Limitation of motion of the ankle	571,552
Migraine	491,267
Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	470,390
Total number of most prevalent disabilities:	8,840,985
Total number of disabilities	23,216,495

Average number of SC disabilities per compensation recipient

All Veterans: 4,552,819	Total number of disabilities ³ : 23,216,495
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.10

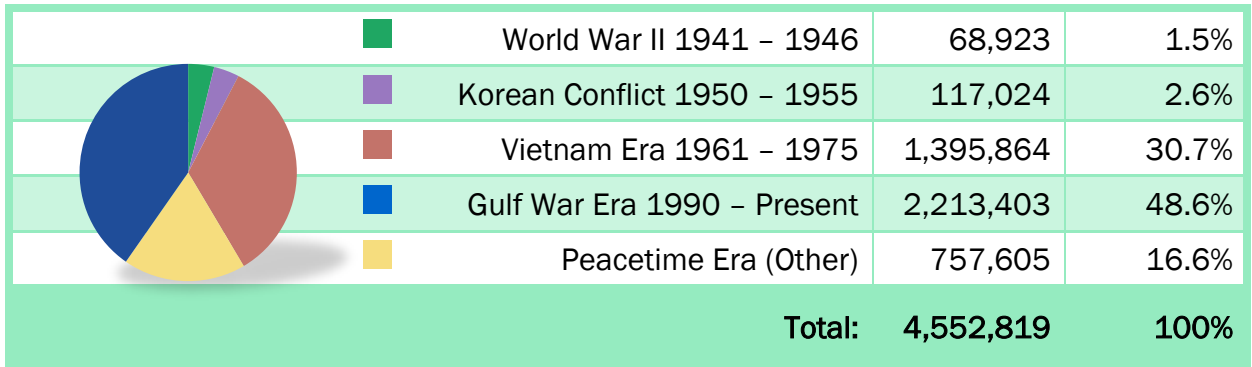
³ Total does not reflect all claimed disabilities as some disabilities are determined not to be related to service.



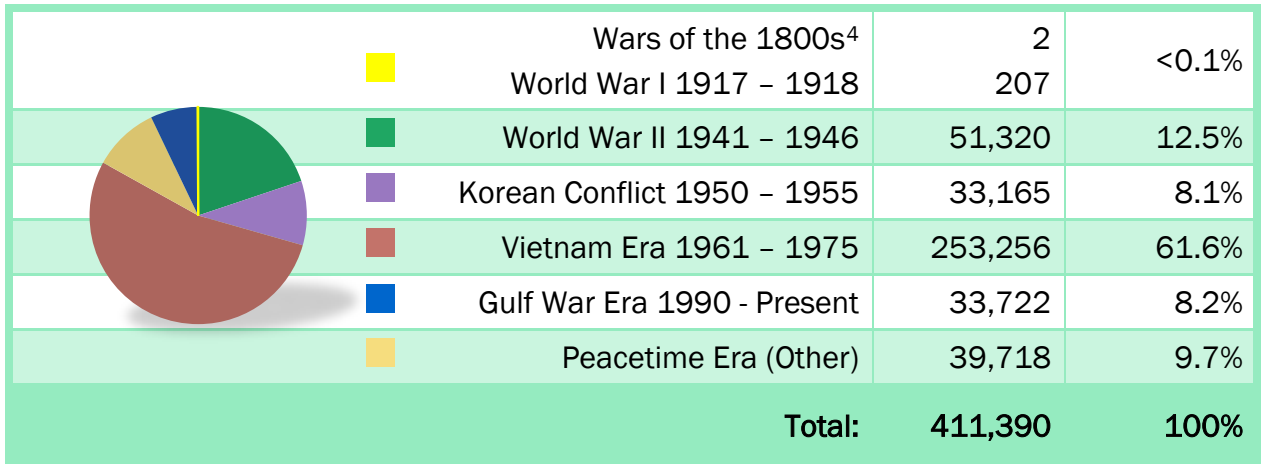


Quick Reference: Recipients and Disabilities by Period of Service

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	68,923	117,024	1,395,864	2,213,403	757,605	4,552,819
Disabilities	166,391	286,679	5,345,987	14,889,302	2,528,136	23,216,495
Average # of SC disabilities per Veteran	2.41	2.45	3.83	6.73	3.34	5.10
Total Veteran population ⁵	557,754	1,327,496	6,293,102	7,271,465	4,548,982	19,998,799

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 http://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

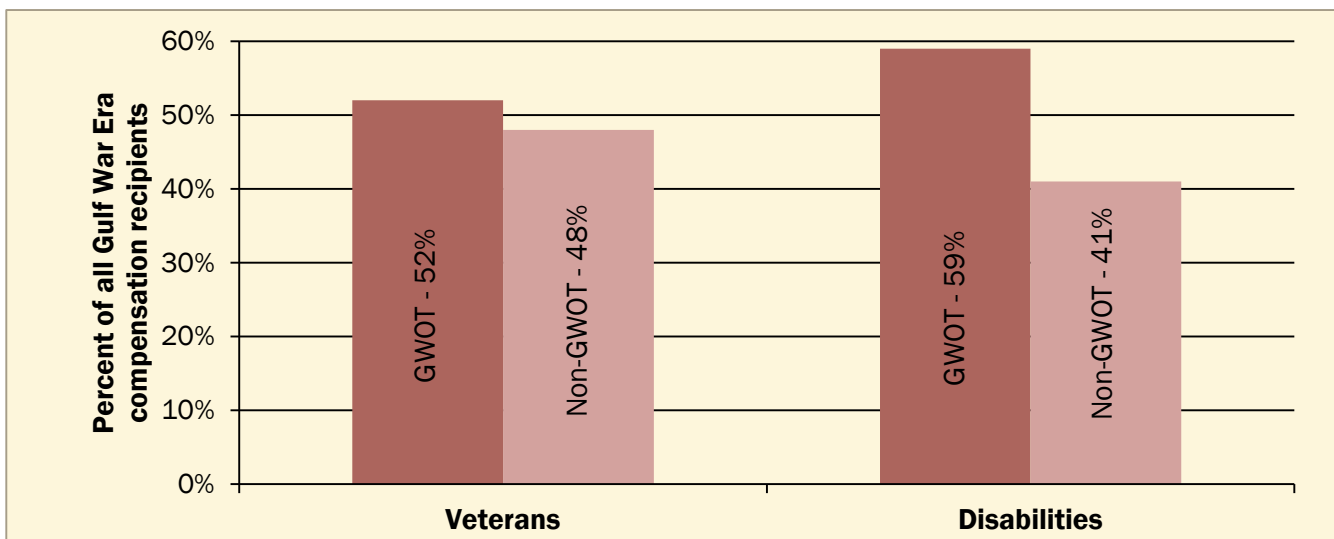
GWOT	1,148,660	52%
Non-GWOT	1,064,743	48%
Gulf War Era Total:	2,213,403	100%

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

GWOT	8,732,529	58.6%
Non-GWOT	6,156,773	41.4%
Gulf War Era Total:	14,889,302	100%

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

GWOT	Non-GWOT	Gulf War Era Total
7.60	5.78	6.73





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 2013 to FY 2017

Combined degree	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Chg. FY 2016 to 2017
0% ⁶	781	753	611	490	517	6%
10%	72,608	72,759	77,773	72,639	79,841	10%
20%	32,248	30,286	29,771	26,222	26,904	3%
30%	31,549	29,985	30,604	27,193	26,615	-2%
40%	26,554	25,436	26,294	23,871	23,728	-1%
50%	23,083	22,727	24,518	21,712	21,561	-1%
60%	26,880	26,341	27,697	24,571	24,338	-1%
70%	25,410	25,318	27,738	24,974	25,331	1%
80%	19,664	20,799	22,234	20,204	19,875	-2%
90%	13,611	16,208	18,439	17,247	18,683	8%
100%	20,287	23,264	27,373	25,427	29,325	15%
Total	292,675	293,876	313,052	284,550	296,718	4%

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 2013 to FY 2017

Combined degree	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Chg. FY 2016 to 2017
0%	11,096	10,844	10,462	10,053	9,567	-5%
10%	815,921	828,770	843,984	857,134	870,547	2%
20%	454,475	455,183	454,151	451,752	447,341	-1%
30%	394,669	400,270	404,121	404,936	402,871	-1%
40%	354,862	365,317	374,061	380,751	384,240	1%
50%	247,875	261,224	275,183	284,836	292,608	3%
60%	324,546	348,226	371,842	391,029	407,506	4%
70%	311,242	340,122	371,104	398,160	423,956	6%
80%	261,925	295,482	331,077	363,315	394,925	9%
90%	171,425	204,167	239,825	272,330	309,933	14%
100%	395,223	439,461	492,964	542,147	609,325	12%
Total	3,743,259	3,949,066	4,168,774	4,356,443	4,552,819	5%





Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

New compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁷	% Total
0%	419	0.2%	35	0.1%	517	0.2%
10%	70,749	28.2%	4,478	14.2%	79,841	26.9%
20%	23,270	9.3%	2,012	6.4%	26,904	9.1%
30%	22,287	8.9%	2,991	9.5%	26,615	9.0%
40%	20,121	8.0%	2,569	8.1%	23,728	8.0%
50%	17,635	7.0%	3,060	9.7%	21,561	7.3%
60%	20,345	8.1%	2,942	9.3%	24,338	8.2%
70%	20,485	8.2%	3,985	12.6%	25,331	8.5%
80%	16,149	6.4%	3,113	9.8%	19,875	6.7%
90%	15,111	6.0%	3,074	9.7%	18,683	6.3%
100%	24,343	9.7%	3,354	10.6%	29,325	9.9%
Total	250,914		31,613		296,718	

⁷ Total includes 14,191 Veterans with no gender indicated in the award record.



All compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁸	% Total
0%	8,374	0.2%	650	0.1%	9,567	0.2%
10%	785,158	19.6%	60,414	13.5%	870,547	19.1%
20%	398,569	10.0%	37,731	8.5%	447,341	9.8%
30%	350,497	8.8%	41,889	9.4%	402,871	8.8%
40%	334,929	8.4%	40,473	9.1%	384,240	8.4%
50%	250,513	6.3%	35,975	8.1%	292,608	6.4%
60%	356,546	8.9%	42,836	9.6%	407,506	9.0%
70%	368,145	9.2%	48,461	10.9%	423,956	9.3%
80%	343,206	8.6%	45,751	10.3%	394,925	8.7%
90%	267,413	6.7%	38,370	8.6%	309,933	6.8%
100%	541,016	13.5%	53,770	12.0%	609,325	13.4%
Total	4,004,366		446,320		4,552,819	

⁸ Total includes 102,133 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	\$517,884	\$43,476	\$639,591
10%	\$113,812,338	\$7,194,392	\$128,450,137
20%	\$74,658,066	\$6,384,080	\$86,323,865
30%	\$116,677,789	\$15,702,255	\$139,325,729
40%	\$152,762,050	\$19,534,433	\$180,108,377
50%	\$188,882,758	\$32,687,579	\$230,700,657
60%	\$279,102,022	\$40,229,712	\$333,561,044
70%	\$354,658,668	\$68,707,695	\$438,045,070
80%	\$332,385,178	\$62,773,342	\$407,620,794
90%	\$357,885,551	\$70,806,503	\$440,257,628
100%	\$934,010,070	\$126,834,218	\$1,122,643,539
Total	\$2,905,352,373	\$450,897,685	\$3,507,676,431

⁹ Total includes \$151,426,374 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%	\$9,623,268	\$778,197	\$11,042,817
10%	\$1,267,990,427	\$97,849,446	\$1,406,269,846
20%	\$1,283,327,772	\$120,165,460	\$1,439,474,918
30%	\$1,907,986,140	\$230,381,763	\$2,194,573,399
40%	\$2,638,010,761	\$320,575,417	\$3,027,310,222
50%	\$2,785,182,013	\$400,239,375	\$3,252,188,575
60%	\$5,568,393,205	\$629,310,316	\$6,326,494,517
70%	\$8,336,515,543	\$1,015,787,853	\$9,516,924,157
80%	\$8,715,318,776	\$1,077,772,286	\$9,946,971,925
90%	\$7,667,352,781	\$1,023,709,509	\$8,810,379,443
100%	\$21,402,453,864	\$2,082,505,517	\$24,059,813,860
Total	\$61,582,154,550	\$6,999,075,139	\$69,991,443,679

¹¹ Total includes \$1,410,213,990 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%	\$1,236	\$1,242	\$1,237
10%	\$1,609	\$1,607	\$1,609
20%	\$3,208	\$3,173	\$3,209
30%	\$5,235	\$5,250	\$5,235
40%	\$7,592	\$7,604	\$7,591
50%	\$10,711	\$10,682	\$10,700
60%	\$13,718	\$13,674	\$13,705
70%	\$17,313	\$17,242	\$17,293
80%	\$20,582	\$20,165	\$20,509
90%	\$23,684	\$23,034	\$23,565
100%	\$38,369	\$37,816	\$38,283
Total	\$11,579	\$14,263	\$11,822



All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payment		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,149	\$1,197	\$1,154
10%	\$1,615	\$1,620	\$1,615
20%	\$3,220	\$3,185	\$3,218
30%	\$5,444	\$5,500	\$5,447
40%	\$7,876	\$7,921	\$7,879
50%	\$11,118	\$11,125	\$11,114
60%	\$15,618	\$14,691	\$15,525
70%	\$22,645	\$20,961	\$22,448
80%	\$25,394	\$23,557	\$25,187
90%	\$28,672	\$26,680	\$28,427
100%	\$39,560	\$38,730	\$39,486
Total	\$15,379	\$15,682	\$15,373





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	89,013	\$1,114,067,864	\$12,516
Age 35 through 54	90,040	\$1,338,223,665	\$14,863
Age 55 through 74	93,204	\$826,991,800	\$8,873
Age 75 and over	24,456	\$228,358,368	\$9,338
Total¹²	296,718	\$3,507,676,431	\$11,822

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Age 34 and under	567,624	\$8,134,097,300	\$14,330
Age 35 through 54	1,356,243	\$20,683,030,885	\$15,250
Age 55 through 74	2,077,324	\$33,738,993,563	\$16,242
Age 75 and over	551,033	\$7,430,978,322	\$13,486
Total¹³	4,552,819	\$69,991,443,679	\$15,373

¹² Total includes 5 Veterans and \$34,733 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

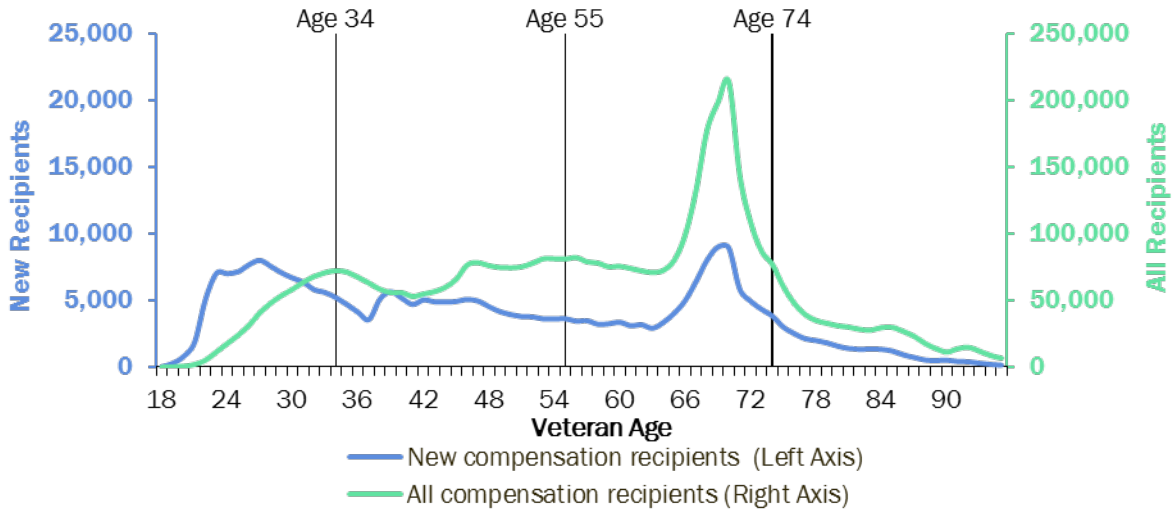
¹³ Total includes 595 Veterans and \$4,343,609 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age



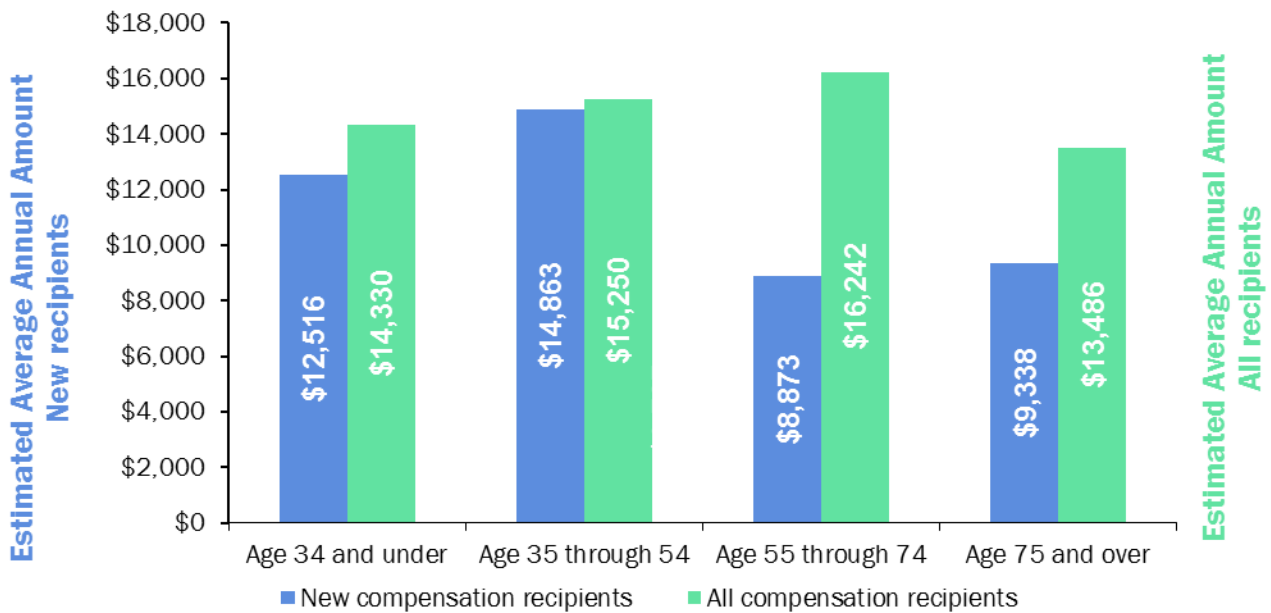
The chart below displays the ages of the Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2017 (blue line, left axis) vs. the total number of Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green line, right axis).

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 2017 (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	2,327	\$26,571,871	\$11,419
Korean Conflict	5,813	\$52,945,487	\$9,108
Vietnam Era	68,833	\$673,693,547	\$9,787
Gulf War Era	176,223	\$2,475,224,519	\$14,046
Peacetime Era	43,522	\$279,241,006	\$6,416
Total	296,718	\$3,507,676,431	\$11,822

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

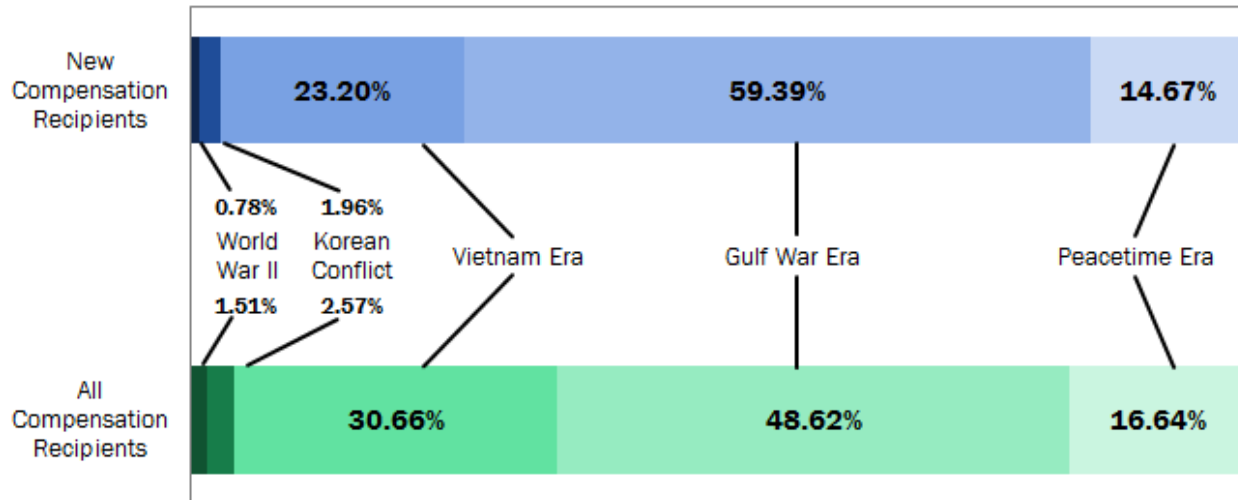
Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
World War II	68,923	\$878,478,239	\$12,746
Korean Conflict	117,024	\$1,384,992,890	\$11,835
Vietnam Era	1,395,864	\$25,122,828,521	\$17,998
Gulf War Era	2,213,403	\$33,883,874,050	\$15,308
Peacetime Era	757,605	\$8,721,269,978	\$11,512
Total	4,552,819	\$69,991,443,679	\$15,373

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service



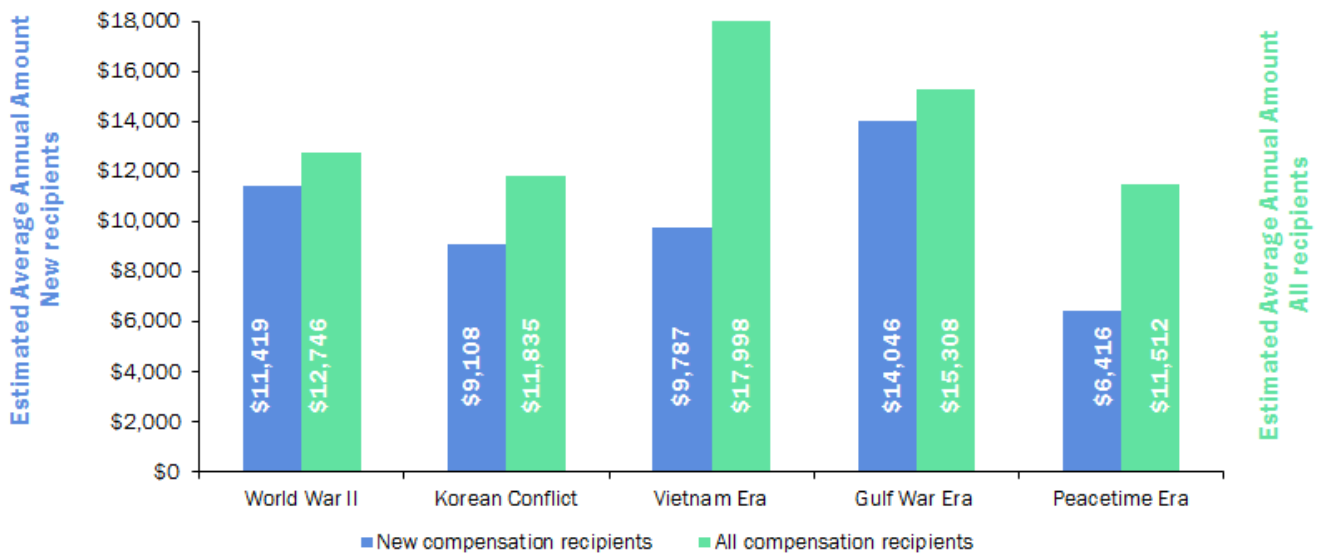
The chart below displays the distribution of the number of Veterans by period of service. The blue bars in the top row are new compensation recipients and the green bars on the bottom row indicate all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year.

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 2017 (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	69,830	\$1,012,376,996	\$14,498
Female	11,660	\$183,525,108	\$15,740
Total¹⁴	82,774	\$1,217,842,107	\$14,713

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Male	987,935	\$16,556,148,483	\$16,758
Female	154,775	\$2,614,552,064	\$16,893
Total¹⁵	1,148,660	\$19,270,856,834	\$16,777

¹⁴ Total includes 1,284 Veterans and \$21,940,003 in payments with no gender indicated in the award record.

¹⁵ Total includes 5,950 Veterans and \$100,156,287 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%	57	\$70,795	\$1,242
10%	11,208	\$18,032,657	\$1,609
20%	4,999	\$15,927,836	\$3,186
30%	7,103	\$37,928,356	\$5,340
40%	7,437	\$57,389,731	\$7,717
50%	7,387	\$80,151,774	\$10,850
60%	8,974	\$124,354,218	\$13,857
70%	10,077	\$175,443,479	\$17,410
80%	8,514	\$175,615,264	\$20,627
90%	8,374	\$198,300,459	\$23,680
100%	8,644	\$334,627,537	\$38,712
Total	82,774	\$1,217,842,107	\$14,713



GWOT Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

All GWOT compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ¹⁶	% Total
0%	538	0.05%	85	0.05%	627	0.05%
10%	96,083	9.73%	13,192	8.52%	109,905	9.57%
20%	66,356	6.72%	9,595	6.20%	76,400	6.65%
30%	79,177	8.01%	12,705	8.21%	92,313	8.04%
40%	87,785	8.89%	14,153	9.14%	102,396	8.91%
50%	75,210	7.61%	12,501	8.08%	88,152	7.67%
60%	117,842	11.93%	16,753	10.82%	135,234	11.77%
70%	115,906	11.73%	17,814	11.51%	134,379	11.70%
80%	126,361	12.79%	19,799	12.79%	146,926	12.79%
90%	102,960	10.42%	17,868	11.54%	121,509	10.58%
100%	119,717	12.12%	20,310	13.12%	140,819	12.26%
Total	987,935	100%	154,775	100%	1,148,660	100%



¹⁶ Total includes 5,950 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%	\$739,634	\$105,600	\$850,204
10%	\$155,160,533	\$21,269,734	\$177,451,229
20%	\$211,616,951	\$30,526,158	\$243,573,104
30%	\$442,192,291	\$70,524,082	\$515,156,255
40%	\$705,066,138	\$112,776,441	\$821,589,416
50%	\$853,076,218	\$139,904,970	\$998,006,879
60%	\$1,695,269,310	\$237,141,122	\$1,941,677,041
70%	\$2,215,152,068	\$334,670,453	\$2,562,044,992
80%	\$2,844,212,814	\$434,016,496	\$3,294,868,227
90%	\$2,688,318,629	\$451,380,202	\$3,156,957,720
100%	\$4,745,343,897	\$782,236,806	\$5,558,681,768
Total	\$16,556,148,483	\$2,614,552,064	\$19,270,856,834

¹⁷ Total includes \$100,156,287 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%	\$1,375	\$1,242	\$1,356
10%	\$1,615	\$1,612	\$1,615
20%	\$3,189	\$3,181	\$3,188
30%	\$5,585	\$5,551	\$5,581
40%	\$8,032	\$7,968	\$8,024
50%	\$11,343	\$11,192	\$11,321
60%	\$14,386	\$14,155	\$14,358
70%	\$19,112	\$18,787	\$19,066
80%	\$22,509	\$21,921	\$22,425
90%	\$26,110	\$25,262	\$25,981
100%	\$39,638	\$38,515	\$39,474
Total	\$16,758	\$16,893	\$16,777



¹⁸ Total includes average of \$16,833 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 2017. 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 2017.

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 2013 to FY 2017

Body system	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Chg. FY 2016 to 2017
Musculoskeletal	541,280	570,608	654,669	602,983	611,857	1%
Auditory	222,139	226,994	250,436	233,324	247,944	6%
Skin	150,423	152,655	167,002	148,897	150,311	1%
Neurological	133,195	140,221	160,750	145,346	145,617	0%
Mental	100,515	98,209	110,420	99,840	97,897	-2%
Respiratory	70,058	72,980	82,720	75,514	74,633	-1%
Digestive	53,258	54,846	60,334	54,874	55,438	1%
Genitourinary	50,291	43,187	45,591	40,496	41,871	3%
Cardiovascular	41,494	48,749	48,302	39,584	37,260	-6%
Endocrine	26,056	24,030	22,443	18,006	17,000	-6%
The Eye	15,385	16,044	18,176	16,065	15,388	-4%
Dental/ Oral	7,139	7,357	8,338	7,950	8,365	5%
Gynecological	6,340	6,324	7,594	6,929	7,316	6%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	3,626	3,799	4,105	3,660	4,311	18%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	2,129	2,111	2,114	1,905	1,740	-9%
Total	1,423,328	1,468,114	1,642,994	1,495,373	1,516,948	1%



Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients FY 2013 to FY 2017

Body system	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Chg. FY 2016 to 2017
Musculoskeletal	5,780,195	6,397,255	7,117,586	7,779,603	8,481,844	9%
Auditory	2,116,528	2,352,609	2,613,285	2,846,483	3,101,223	9%
Neurological	1,557,654	1,788,151	2,058,164	2,299,581	2,561,741	11%
Skin	1,726,884	1,910,027	2,111,444	2,292,040	2,503,676	9%
Mental	1,110,050	1,230,063	1,368,427	1,492,483	1,622,814	9%
Respiratory	719,770	798,353	889,002	971,673	1,058,623	9%
Digestive	772,021	825,345	884,368	936,490	992,557	6%
Cardiovascular	834,775	878,381	919,068	946,832	973,411	3%
Genitourinary	570,093	627,252	684,965	732,526	785,903	7%
Endocrine	447,399	469,910	488,942	500,362	510,195	2%
The Eye	216,955	233,430	252,069	267,124	282,611	6%
Gynecological	85,043	92,164	101,008	109,198	118,540	9%
Dental/ Oral	72,588	80,526	89,713	98,416	107,895	10%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	46,517	50,677	55,075	58,737	63,783	9%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	48,928	49,495	50,275	50,851	51,679	2%
Total	16,105,400	17,783,638	19,683,391	21,382,399	23,216,495	9%



Number of SC Disabilities by Evaluation and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability Evaluation	Male ¹⁹	Female	Total ²⁰
0%	6,661,583	981,868	7,749,786
10%	7,902,968	1,076,340	9,113,048
20%	2,027,654	192,205	2,264,429
30%	1,259,143	221,883	1,510,627
40%	429,579	47,068	486,956
50%	733,353	111,766	856,899
60%	275,442	20,222	303,190
70%	397,639	54,053	458,650
80%	20,096	1,034	21,850
90%	4,615	155	4,946
100%	403,250	30,222	446,109
Total	20,115,327	2,736,816	23,216,495

¹⁹ Total include 5 male disabilities unidentifiable by evaluation.

²⁰ Total includes 364,352 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 ²¹
Musculoskeletal	7,229,124	1,159,785	8,481,844
Auditory	2,894,330	128,848	3,101,223
Neurological	2,206,814	313,600	2,561,741
Skin	2,145,364	319,201	2,503,676
Mental	1,389,853	205,766	1,622,814
Respiratory	891,469	155,389	1,058,623
Digestive	854,045	126,686	992,557
Cardiovascular	884,841	70,066	973,411
Genitourinary	730,043	38,775	785,903
Endocrine	463,466	31,175	510,195
The Eye	244,752	33,152	282,611
Gynecological	6,746	110,210	118,540
Dental/ Oral	82,130	24,373	107,895
Hemic/ Lymphatic	47,960	13,986	63,783
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	44,250	5,804	51,679
Total all disabilities	20,115,327	2,736,816	23,216,495

²¹ Total includes 364,352 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.



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	141,680	11.3%	10,317	4.8%	159,800	10.5%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	69,499	5.6%	12,074	5.6%	83,329	5.5%
Hearing loss	Auditory	73,837	5.9%	1,495	0.7%	81,529	5.4%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²²	Musculoskeletal	59,042	4.7%	12,445	5.7%	73,073	4.8%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	58,616	4.7%	7,481	3.4%	67,563	4.5%
Scars, general	Skin	50,625	4.1%	9,017	4.2%	61,580	4.1%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	42,164	3.4%	7,370	3.4%	51,273	3.4%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	42,417	3.4%	6,906	3.2%	50,384	3.3%
Migraine	Neurological	30,797	2.5%	10,149	4.7%	41,912	2.8%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	30,668	2.5%	4,318	2.0%	36,584	2.4%
Total most prevalent disabilities		599,345	48%	81,572	38%	707,027	47%
Total number of disabilities		1,249,286	100%	217,050	100%	1,516,948	100%



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	1,654,756	8.2%	92,860	3.4%	1,786,980	7.7%
Hearing loss	Auditory	1,101,363	5.5%	21,048	0.8%	1,157,585	5.0%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	866,005	4.3%	81,549	3.0%	964,038	4.2%
Scars, general	Skin	805,971	4.0%	111,568	4.1%	934,967	4.0%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²³	Musculoskeletal	763,632	3.8%	144,594	5.3%	916,515	3.9%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	745,186	3.7%	119,921	4.4%	872,536	3.8%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	609,375	3.0%	53,226	1.9%	675,155	2.9%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	498,027	2.5%	68,622	2.5%	571,552	2.5%
Migraine	Neurological	365,472	1.8%	121,465	4.4%	491,267	2.1%
Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	Musculoskeletal	409,666	2.0%	57,000	2.1%	470,390	2.0%
Total most prevalent disabilities²⁴		7,819,453	39%	871,853	32%	8,840,985	38%
Total number of disabilities²⁵		20,115,327	100%	2,736,816	100%	23,216,495	100%

²³ 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.

²⁴ Total includes 160,210 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

²⁵ Total includes 364,352 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	8,481,844	36.53%	10%
Auditory	1	3,101,223	13.36%	10%
Neurological	1	2,561,741	11.03%	10%
Skin	1	2,503,676	10.78%	0%
Mental	2	1,622,814	6.99%	70%
Respiratory	2	1,058,623	4.56%	0%
Digestive	2	992,557	4.28%	0%
Cardiovascular	2	973,411	4.19%	10%
Genitourinary	3	785,903	3.39%	0%
Endocrine	3	510,195	2.20%	20%
The Eye	3	282,611	1.22%	0%
Gynecological	3	118,540	0.51%	0%
Dental/ Oral	4	107,895	0.46%	10%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	4	63,783	0.27%	0%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	4	51,679	0.22%	0%
Total all conditions	4	23,216,495	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%	2,350,845	27.72%	964,001	31.08%	420,702	16.42%	1,897,640	75.79%
10%	4,410,942	52.00%	1,936,233	62.43%	1,098,931	42.90%	477,525	19.07%
20%	1,065,758	12.57%	54,516	1.76%	545,791	21.31%	27,612	1.10%
30%	286,655	3.38%	51,862	1.67%	264,277	10.32%	75,832	3.03%
40%	219,837	2.59%	30,664	0.99%	124,015	4.84%	2,959	0.12%
50%	56,654	0.67%	20,958	0.68%	66,453	2.59%	4,379	0.17%
60%	52,474	0.62%	10,430	0.34%	14,577	0.57%	16,339	0.65%
70%	4,517	0.05%	6,663	0.21%	12,535	0.49%	13	<0.01%
80%	1,241	0.01%	6,555	0.21%	5,056	0.20%	989	0.04%
90%	965	0.01%	2,605	0.08%	457	0.02%	2	<0.01%
100%	31,952	0.38%	16,735	0.54%	8,947	0.35%	386	0.02%
Total²⁶	8,481,844	100%	3,101,223	100%	2,561,741	100%	2,503,676	100%

Table 2

Rating %	Mental		Respiratory		Digestive		Cardiovascular	
0%	36,153	2.23%	450,061	42.51%	553,309	55.75%	276,379	28.39%
10%	126,577	7.80%	184,196	17.40%	290,890	29.31%	322,077	33.09%
20%	608	0.04%	3,458	0.33%	34,422	3.47%	54,755	5.63%
30%	398,097	24.53%	109,723	10.36%	82,586	8.32%	131,568	13.52%
40%	525	0.03%	464	0.04%	6,345	0.64%	22,297	2.29%
50%	414,000	25.51%	269,586	25.47%	1,690	0.17%	543	0.06%
60%	329	0.02%	20,460	1.93%	11,595	1.17%	98,521	10.12%
70%	431,818	26.61%	34	<0.01%	295	0.03%	69	0.01%
80%	12	<0.01%	33	<0.01%	559	0.06%	27	<0.01%
90%	10	<0.01%	3	<0.01%	1	<0.01%	20	<0.01%
100%	214,685	13.23%	20,605	1.95%	10,865	1.09%	67,155	6.90%
Total	1,622,814	100%	1,058,623	100%	992,557	100%	973,411	100%

²⁶ Totals include 1 auditory, and 4 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%	474,495	60.38%	16,543	3.24%	148,655	52.60%	55,635	46.93%
10%	49,644	6.32%	79,995	15.68%	68,343	24.18%	12,988	10.96%
20%	63,443	8.07%	378,703	74.23%	17,505	6.19%	220	0.19%
30%	31,879	4.06%	5,455	1.07%	29,611	10.48%	28,470	24.02%
40%	48,549	6.18%	19,419	3.81%	6,353	2.25%	747	0.63%
50%	26	<0.01%	22	0.00%	2,801	0.99%	19,525	16.47%
60%	64,199	8.17%	6,512	1.28%	2,203	0.78%	266	0.22%
70%	9	<0.01%	3	<0.01%	2,083	0.74%	2	<0.01%
80%	6,545	0.83%	1	<0.01%	649	0.23%	143	0.12%
90%	-	0.00%	1	<0.01%	881	0.31%	-	0.00%
100%	47,114	5.99%	3,541	0.69%	3,527	1.25%	544	0.46%
Total	785,903	100%	510,195	100%	282,611	100%	118,540	100%

Table 4

Rating %	Dental/ Oral		Hemic/ Lymphatic		Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition		Total all body systems ²⁷	
0%	42,302	39.21%	29,156	45.71%	33,910	65.62%	7,749,786	33.38%
10%	43,677	40.48%	6,064	9.51%	4,966	9.61%	9,113,048	39.25%
20%	13,227	12.26%	2,850	4.47%	1,561	3.02%	2,264,429	9.75%
30%	6,009	5.57%	6,934	10.87%	1,669	3.23%	1,510,627	6.51%
40%	2,406	2.23%	371	0.58%	2,005	3.88%	486,956	2.10%
50%	229	0.21%	11	0.02%	22	0.04%	856,899	3.69%
60%	7	0.01%	339	0.53%	4,939	9.56%	303,190	1.31%
70%	1	<0.01%	602	0.94%	6	0.01%	458,650	1.98%
80%	2	<0.01%	2	<0.01%	36	0.07%	21,850	0.09%
90%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	1	<0.01%	4,946	0.02%
100%	35	0.03%	17,454	27.36%	2,564	4.96%	446,109	1.92%
Total	107,895	100%	63,783	100%	51,679	100%	23,216,495	100%

²⁷ 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	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	916,515	10.81%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	872,536	10.29%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	571,552	6.74%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		2,360,603	27.83%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		8,481,844	
Auditory	Tinnitus	1,786,980	57.62%
	Hearing loss	1,157,585	37.33%
	Labyrinthitis	39,862	1.29%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		2,984,427	96.23%
All auditory disabilities		3,101,223	
Neurological	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	675,155	26.36%
	Migraine	491,267	19.18%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	234,677	9.16%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		1,401,099	54.69%
All neurological disabilities		2,561,741	
Skin	Scars, general	934,967	37.34%
	Eczema	398,875	15.93%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	348,648	13.93%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		1,682,490	67.20%
All skin disabilities		2,503,676	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	964,038	59.41%
	Major depressive disorder	195,231	12.03%
	Chronic adjustment disorder	81,394	5.02%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		1,240,663	76.45%
All mental disabilities		1,622,814	





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)	282,323	26.67%
	Allergic rhinitis	248,020	23.43%
	Bronchial asthma	121,023	11.43%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		651,366	61.53%
All respiratory disabilities		1,058,623	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	304,872	30.72%
	Hemorrhoids	245,291	24.71%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	98,674	9.94%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		648,837	65.37%
All digestive disabilities		992,557	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	398,917	40.98%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery disease)	222,424	22.85%
	Varicose veins	68,896	7.08%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		690,237	70.91%
All cardiovascular disabilities		973,411	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	310,176	39.47%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	123,181	15.67%
	Prostate gland injuries	59,459	7.57%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		492,816	62.71%
All genitourinary disabilities		785,903	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	444,309	87.09%
	Hypothyroidism	42,646	8.36%
	Hyperthyroidism	8,609	1.69%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		495,564	97.13%
All endocrine disabilities		510,195	



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	49,997	17.69%
	Impairment to field of vision	28,183	9.97%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	26,735	9.46%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		104,915	37.12%
All eye related disabilities		282,611	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	21,941	18.51%
	Removal of uterus and both ovaries	17,019	14.36%
	Benign growths of gynecological system or breast	12,509	10.55%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		51,469	43.42%
All gynecological disabilities		118,540	
Dental/ Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	82,883	76.82%
	Malunion of lower jaw	8,957	8.30%
	Loss of teeth	7,144	6.62%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		98,984	91.74%
All dental/oral disabilities		107,895	
Hemic/ Lymphatic	Anemia	22,083	34.62%
	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	10,908	17.10%
	Splenectomy (removal of spleen)	7,916	12.41%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		40,907	64.28%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		63,783	
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	Malaria	25,842	50.00%
	Chronic fatigue syndrome	10,842	20.98%
	HIV-related illness	4,979	9.63%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		41,663	80.62%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		51,679	



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 ²⁸ 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 27.83% are listed and two of them are related to limited motion. The table below lists the top 69.20% 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 ²⁸	2,938,579	34.65%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²⁸	916,515	10.81%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	470,390	5.55%
	Impairment of the knee, general	435,178	5.13%
	Flatfoot, acquired	291,851	3.44%
	Intervertebral Disc Syndrome	274,929	3.24%
	Degenerative arthritis	272,951	3.22%
	Traumatic arthritis	269,457	3.18%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		5,869,580	69.20%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		8,481,844	
Neurological	Paralysis of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ²⁸	1,520,606	59.36%
	Migraine	491,267	19.18%
	Inflammation of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ²⁸	203,579	7.95%
	Neuralgia of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ²⁸	128,842	5.03%
	Brain disease due to trauma	119,669	4.67%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		2,463,659	96.17%
All neurological disabilities		2,561,741	
The Eye	Blind in one or both eyes ²⁸	63,766	22.56%
	Impaired vision - one or both eyes ²⁸	53,685	19.00%
	Conjunctivitis ²⁸	27,172	9.61%
	Unhealed eye injury	18,158	6.43%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		162,781	57.60%
All eye related disabilities		282,611	

²⁸ 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	32,212	19.36%
	Tinnitus	22,617	13.59%
	Residuals of cold injury	9,028	5.43%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	7,613	4.58%
	Scars, general	6,067	3.65%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	3,299	1.98%
	Generalized anxiety disorder	3,165	1.90%
	Traumatic arthritis	2,410	1.45%
	Scars, head, face or neck	2,266	1.36%
	Flatfoot, acquired	2,136	1.28%
Total most prevalent World War II disabilities		90,813	54.58%
All World War II disabilities		166,391	
Korean Conflict	Hearing loss	65,278	22.77%
	Tinnitus	54,381	18.97%
	Residuals of cold injury	15,517	5.41%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	10,296	3.59%
	Scars, general	9,499	3.31%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	4,938	1.72%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	3,891	1.36%
	Scars, head, face or neck	3,548	1.24%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	3,301	1.15%
	Traumatic arthritis	2,748	0.96%
Total most prevalent Korean Conflict disabilities		173,397	60.48%
All Korean Conflict disabilities		286,679	



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	531,692	9.95%
	Hearing loss	504,056	9.43%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	395,201	7.39%
	Diabetes mellitus	373,595	6.99%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	289,605	5.42%
	Scars, general	225,090	4.21%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery disease)	184,972	3.46%
	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	151,588	2.84%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	109,261	2.04%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	80,854	1.51%
Total most prevalent Vietnam Era disabilities		2,845,914	53.23%
All Vietnam Era disabilities		5,345,987	
Gulf War Era	Tinnitus	944,930	6.35%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	744,308	5.00%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	744,191	5.00%
	Scars, general	582,998	3.92%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	512,732	3.44%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	474,662	3.19%
	Migraine	430,810	2.89%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	371,989	2.50%
	Hearing loss	355,424	2.39%
	Eczema	312,024	2.10%
Total most prevalent Gulf War Era disabilities		5,474,068	36.77%
All Gulf War Era disabilities		14,889,302	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of POS disabilities
Peacetime	Tinnitus	233,360	9.23%
	Hearing loss	200,615	7.94%
	Scars, general	111,313	4.40%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	91,821	3.63%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	77,610	3.07%
	Impairment of the knee, general	72,804	2.88%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	70,829	2.80%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	56,923	2.25%
	Hypertensive vascular disease	50,278	1.99%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	50,064	1.98%
Total most prevalent Peacetime disabilities		1,015,617	40.17%
All Peacetime disabilities		2,528,136	

Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients by period of service

	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era	Peacetime Periods	Total
Disabilities	4,299	11,179	164,614	1,234,864	101,992	1,516,948

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients by period of service

	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era	Peacetime Periods	Total
Disabilities	166,391	286,679	5,345,987	14,889,302	2,528,136	23,216,495
Average # of disabilities per Veteran	2.41	2.45	3.83	6.73	3.34	5.10

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 ²⁹	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	39,273	8.1%	4,228	4.6%	44,185	7.6%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	30,297	6.3%	4,985	5.5%	35,971	6.1%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³⁰	Musculoskeletal	26,024	5.4%	5,139	5.7%	31,764	5.4%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	27,324	5.7%	3,242	3.6%	31,223	5.3%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	21,041	4.4%	3,135	3.4%	24,471	4.2%
Scars, general	Skin	18,753	3.9%	3,599	4.0%	22,807	3.9%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	18,869	3.9%	2,854	3.1%	22,182	3.8%
Migraine	Neurological	14,092	2.9%	4,331	4.8%	18,818	3.2%
Eczema	Skin	11,127	2.3%	2,097	2.3%	13,479	2.3%
Flatfoot, acquired	Musculoskeletal	10,226	2.1%	2,275	2.5%	12,778	2.2%
Total most prevalent disabilities		217,026	44.96%	35,885	39.46%	257,678	44.04%
Total number of disabilities		482,656	100%	90,949	100%	585,063	100%

²⁹ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 4,767 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 11,458 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

³⁰ 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 ³¹	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	539,101	7.3%	49,464	4.0%	591,464	6.8%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	402,379	5.4%	59,738	4.8%	464,938	5.3%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³²	Musculoskeletal	364,927	4.9%	66,653	5.3%	434,164	5.0%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	346,569	4.7%	40,536	3.3%	388,700	4.5%
Scars, general	Skin	280,402	3.8%	50,999	4.1%	333,460	3.8%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	252,136	3.4%	33,423	2.7%	287,376	3.3%
Migraine	Neurological	211,992	2.9%	58,285	4.7%	272,082	3.1%
Degenerative arthritis of the spine	Musculoskeletal	204,798	2.8%	28,723	2.3%	234,688	2.7%
Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	Respiratory	178,654	2.4%	9,506	0.8%	189,125	2.2%
Hearing loss	Auditory	175,747	2.4%	7,606	0.6%	184,027	2.1%
Total most prevalent disabilities		2,956,705	39.77%	404,933	32.50%	3,380,024	38.71%
Total number of disabilities		7,434,676	100%	1,246,078	100%	8,732,529	100%

³¹ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 18,386 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 51,775 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

³² 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 ³³
Musculoskeletal	3,292,949	537,369	3,853,906
Skin	835,990	152,179	994,260
Neurological	725,997	140,981	872,165
Auditory	748,619	63,458	815,889
Mental	531,618	91,577	626,271
Respiratory	422,645	70,693	496,447
Digestive	319,182	55,658	377,128
Cardiovascular	201,732	28,988	232,006
Genitourinary	179,704	16,788	197,671
The Eye	83,306	16,579	100,575
Dental/ Oral	38,601	11,450	50,434
Endocrine	36,149	12,485	48,948
Gynecological	2,661	39,011	42,241
Hemic/ Lymphatic	8,821	6,716	15,671
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	6,702	2,146	8,917
Total	7,434,676	1,246,078	8,732,529

³³ Total includes 51,775 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	464,938	12.06%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	434,164	11.27%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	287,376	7.46%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		1,186,478	30.79%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		3,853,906	
Skin	Scars, general	333,460	33.54%
	Eczema	183,272	18.43%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	129,740	13.05%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		646,472	65.02%
All skin disabilities		994,260	
Neurological	Migraine	272,082	31.20%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	166,333	19.07%
	Brain disease due to trauma	77,534	8.89%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		515,949	59.16%
All neurological disabilities		872,165	
Auditory	Tinnitus	591,464	72.49%
	Hearing loss	184,027	22.56%
	Labyrinthitis	18,032	2.21%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		793,523	97.26%
All auditory disabilities		815,889	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	388,700	62.07%
	Major depressive disorder	63,548	10.15%
	Anxiety disorder, unspecified	44,441	7.10%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		496,689	79.31%
All mental disabilities		626,271	



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)	189,125	38.10%
	Allergic rhinitis	142,195	28.64%
	Bronchial asthma	47,030	9.47%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		378,350	76.21%
All respiratory disabilities		496,447	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	165,727	43.94%
	Hemorrhoids	81,885	21.71%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	44,328	11.75%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		291,940	77.41%
All digestive disabilities		377,128	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	153,143	66.01%
	Varicose veins	23,230	10.01%
	Residuals of cold injury	8,554	3.69%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		184,927	79.71%
All cardiovascular disabilities		232,006	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	92,158	46.62%
	Nephrolithiasis (kidney stones)	19,206	9.72%
	Prostate gland injuries	15,865	8.03%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		127,229	64.36%
All genitourinary disabilities		197,671	
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	20,817	20.70%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	13,364	13.29%
	Impairment to field of vision	8,456	8.41%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		42,637	42.39%
All eye related disabilities		100,575	



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	45,398	90.01%
	Loss of teeth	2,130	4.22%
	Malunion of lower jaw	1,179	2.34%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		48,707	96.58%
All dental/oral disabilities		50,434	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	21,848	44.64%
	Hypothyroidism	18,546	37.89%
	Hyperthyroidism	2,712	5.54%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		43,106	88.06%
All endocrine disabilities		48,948	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	7,708	18.25%
	Disease or injury of the ovary	5,786	13.70%
	Benign growths of gynecological system or breast	4,606	10.90%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		18,100	42.85%
All gynecological disabilities		42,241	
Hemic/ Lymphatic	Anemia	10,050	64.13%
	Thrombocytopenia	1,114	7.11%
	Splenectomy (removal of spleen)	914	5.83%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		12,078	77.07%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		15,671	
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	Chronic fatigue syndrome	3,839	43.05%
	HIV-related illness	1,259	14.12%
	Systemic lupus erythematosus	1,176	13.19%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		6,274	70.36%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		8,917	



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 2013 to FY 2017 by relationship³⁴

Relationship	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Chg FY 2016 to FY 2017
Surviving spouses	27,059	27,287	26,495	27,464	30,280	10.25%
Surviving children	1,274	1,597	1,308	1,238	1,444	16.64%
Surviving parents	1,387	343	226	189	278	47.09%
Total	29,720	29,227	28,029	28,891	32,002	10.77%

All DIC recipients by relationship

Relationship	Number of recipients	Percent of total
Surviving spouses	394,028	95.79%
Surviving children	13,758	3.34%
Surviving parents	3,570	0.87%
Total³⁵	411,390	100%

New surviving spouse DIC recipients

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
35 and under	599	\$12,812,715	1.98%
36 - 56	2,724	\$48,732,404	9.00%
57 - 75	19,486	\$316,035,609	64.35%
Over 75	7,386	\$124,732,330	24.39%
Total³⁶	30,280	\$503,829,041	100%

³⁴ VBA revised the FY 2011 - FY 2014 numbers to include additional survivors of Veterans.

³⁵ Total includes 34 recipients unidentifiable by relationship.

³⁶ Total includes 85 recipients and \$1,515,983 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	4,449	\$86,818,045	1.13%
36 - 56	28,188	\$475,686,357	7.15%
57 - 75	200,688	\$3,201,800,617	50.93%
Over 75	158,773	\$2,627,201,322	40.29%
Total³⁷	394,028	\$6,422,560,345	100%

New surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
Under age 18	836	\$4,323,927	57.89%
Age 18 and over – in school	143	\$597,769	9.90%
Age 18 and over – helpless	309	\$2,402,511	21.40%
Total³⁸	1,444	\$ 7,933,680	100%

All surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
Under age 18	4,928	\$26,391,046	35.82%
Age 18 and over – in school	379	\$1,565,269	2.75%
Age 18 and over – helpless	8,203	\$67,142,610	59.62%
Total³⁹	13,758	\$96,245,424	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.

³⁷ Total includes 1,930 recipients and \$31,054,005 estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age.

³⁸ Total includes 156 recipients and \$609,473 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age and status.

³⁹ Total includes 248 recipients and \$1,146,500 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

Detroit **MI**
VA Regional Office
Patrick V. McNamara
Federal Building
477 Michigan Avenue –
Room 1400
Detroit, MI 48226-2591

St. Paul **MN**
VA Regional Office
Bishop Henry Whipple
Federal Building
One Federal Drive – Fort Snelling
St. Paul, MN 55111-4050

St. Louis **MO**
Records Mgmt. Center
4300 Goodfellow Boulevard
Building 104
St. Louis, MO 63120-8950

St. Louis **MO**
VA Regional Office
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63103

Jackson **MS**
VA Regional Office
1600 East Woodrow Wilson Avenue
Jackson, MS 39216

Ft. Harrison **MT**
VA Regional Office
3633 Veterans Drive
Ft. Harrison, MT 59636

Winston-Salem **NC**
VA Regional Office
Federal Building
251 North Main Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27155-1000

Fargo **ND**
VA Regional Office
2101 Elm Street
Fargo, ND 58102

Lincoln **NE**
VA Regional Office
3800 Village Drive
Lincoln, NE 68516-4198
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 85816
Lincoln, NE 68501-5816

Manchester **NH**
VA Regional Office
Norris Cotton Federal Building
275 Chestnut Street
Manchester, NH 03101

Newark **NJ**
VA Regional Office
20 Washington Place
Newark, NJ 07102-3174

Albuquerque **NM**
VA Regional Office
500 Gold Avenue, South West
Albuquerque, NM 87102-3118

Reno **NV**
VA Regional Office
5460 Reno Corporate Drive
Reno, NV 89511

Buffalo **NY**
VA Regional Office
130 South Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202-2478

New York **NY**
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245 W. Houston Street
New York, NY 10014-4805

Cleveland **OH**
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Anthony J. Celebrezze
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1240 East 9th Street
Cleveland, OH 44199-2001

Muskogee **OK**
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125 South Main Street
Muskogee, OK 74401-7025

Portland **OR**
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100 SW Main Street, Floor 2
Portland, OR 97204-2998
Mailing Address:
100 SW Main St FL 2
Portland, OR 97204

Philadelphia **PA**
VA Regional Office
5000 Wissahickon Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 8079
Philadelphia, PA 19101

Pittsburgh **PA**
VA Regional Office
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4004

San Juan **PR**
VA Regional Office
50 Carr 165
Guaynabo
San Juan, PR 00968-8024

Providence **RI**
VA Regional Office
380 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-3246

Columbia **SC**
VA Regional Office
6437 Garners Ferry Road
Columbia, SC 29209-2495

Sioux Falls **SD**
VA Regional Office
2501 West 22nd Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105



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

North Atlantic PA
District

5000 Wissahickon Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Southeast District TN

3322 West End, Suite 408
Nashville, TN 37203

Midwest District MO

9700 Page Avenue, Suite 301
St. Louis, MO 63132

Pacific District AZ

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

Continental District CO

155 Van Gordon Street
Lakewood, CO 80228

Centralized Mail Address

**SMS Janesville Facility –
Centralized Mail**

Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
P.O. Box 5235
Janesville, WI 53547-5235

Contact Information

Compensation Information:
1-800-827-1000

Vets.gov
www.vets.gov

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

