



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 is graduated from 0% to 100%, in increments of 10%. 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
12,918 employees
4.6 million compensation & service-connected death benefit recipients

A note on the data:

The 2015 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, 2015. The category of 0% indicates payment due to special monthly compensation or two or more permanent 0% service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability. Veterans with a 0% combined degree of disability not receiving payment are not counted in this section.

Please see the section: "A Note on How the FY 2015 Compensation Data is Presented" 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](#).



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A Note on How the FY 2015 Compensation Data is Presented

New to the rolls

Individuals who began receiving benefits during fiscal year 2015 (October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015) are considered “New to the rolls,” and the tables are outlined in blue.

On the rolls

All individuals receiving benefits on September 30, 2015 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](#).

Global War on Terror (GWOT) Information Integrated Into Period of Service Sections

The Global War on Terror (GWOT) data have been added to the main data tables and are a subset of the Gulf War era (GW) period of service. Since September 11, 2001, the Department of Defense has been deployed overseas in support of GWOT, including Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OIF/OEF/OND).

VBA’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 that includes Veterans who filed a disability compensation claim 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.

GWOT data have not been removed from any other discussion of period of service and are contained within the “Gulf War Era” in all tables. For more information see pages [7](#), [20](#) through [24](#), and [42](#) through [47](#).

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
Version 1.0	05/09/2016





Quick Reference: Recipients, Payments and Disabilities

Totals – new recipients

Veterans who began receiving compensation benefits	313,052
Survivors who began receiving service-connected death benefits	28,029
Total:	341,081

Estimated annual amounts paid – new recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Compensation	313,052	\$11,558	\$3.62 Billion
Service-Connected Death ¹	28,029	\$15,961	\$447 Million
Total:	341,081	\$11,920	\$4.07 Billion

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

Tinnitus	157,848
Hearing loss	85,327
Lumbosacral or cervical strain	80,748
Limitation of flexion, knee	80,353
Scars, general	64,788
Post-traumatic stress disorder	63,049
Limitation of motion of the ankle	51,622
Migraine	45,840
Impairment of the knee, general	37,395
Bursitis	36,194
Total number of most prevalent disabilities	703,164
Total number of disabilities²	1,642,994

Average number of SC disabilities per new compensation recipient

New Recipients: 313,052	Total number of disabilities: 1,642,994
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.25



¹ Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and Death Compensation.
² See page [25](#) for more information.



Totals – all recipients

Veterans receiving compensation benefits	4,168,774
Survivors receiving service-connected death benefits	390,309
Total:	4,559,083

Estimated annual amounts paid – all recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Compensation	4,168,774	\$14,444	\$60.21 Billion
Service-Connected Death	390,309	\$15,810	\$6.17 Billion
Total:	4,559,083	\$14,561	\$66.38 Billion

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Tinnitus	1,450,462
Hearing loss	1,015,305
Post-traumatic stress disorder	813,277
Lumbosacral or cervical strain	773,741
Scars, general	745,779
Limitation of flexion, knee	657,998
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	499,402
Limitation of motion of the ankle	455,396
Diabetes mellitus	431,166
Degenerative arthritis of the spine	395,327
Total number of most prevalent disabilities:	7,237,853
Total number of disabilities	19,683,391

Average number of SC disabilities per compensation recipient

All Veterans: 4,168,774	Total number of disabilities ³ : 19,683,391
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	4.72

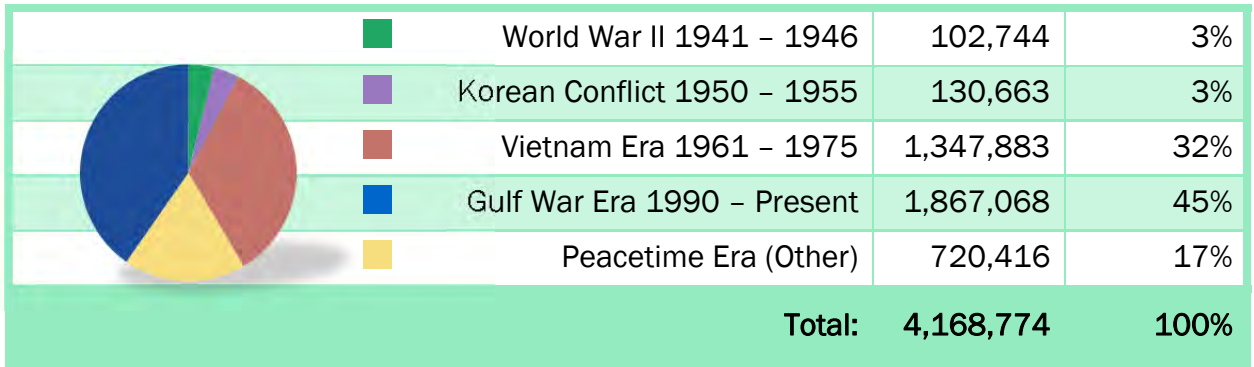
³ Total does not reflect all claimed disabilities as some disabilities are determined not to be related to service



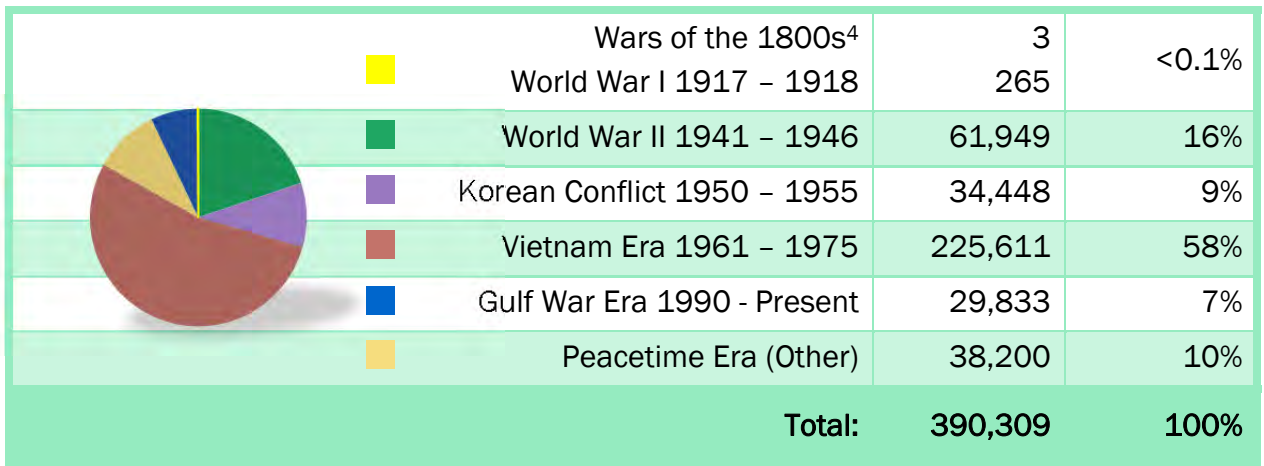


Quick Reference: Recipients and Disabilities by Period of Service

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
Veterans	102,744	130,663	1,347,883	1,867,068	720,416	4,168,774
Disabilities	247,396	318,471	5,043,015	11,724,463	2,350,046	19,683,391
Average # of SC disabilities per Veteran	2.41	2.44	3.74	6.28	3.26	4.72
Total Veteran population ⁵	756,529	1,550,879	6,739,740	7,251,583	5,381,803	21,680,534



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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 VetPop2014 http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp



GWOT Quick Reference: Veterans With Global War on Terror Status

GWOT data have not been removed from any other discussion of period of service and are contained 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

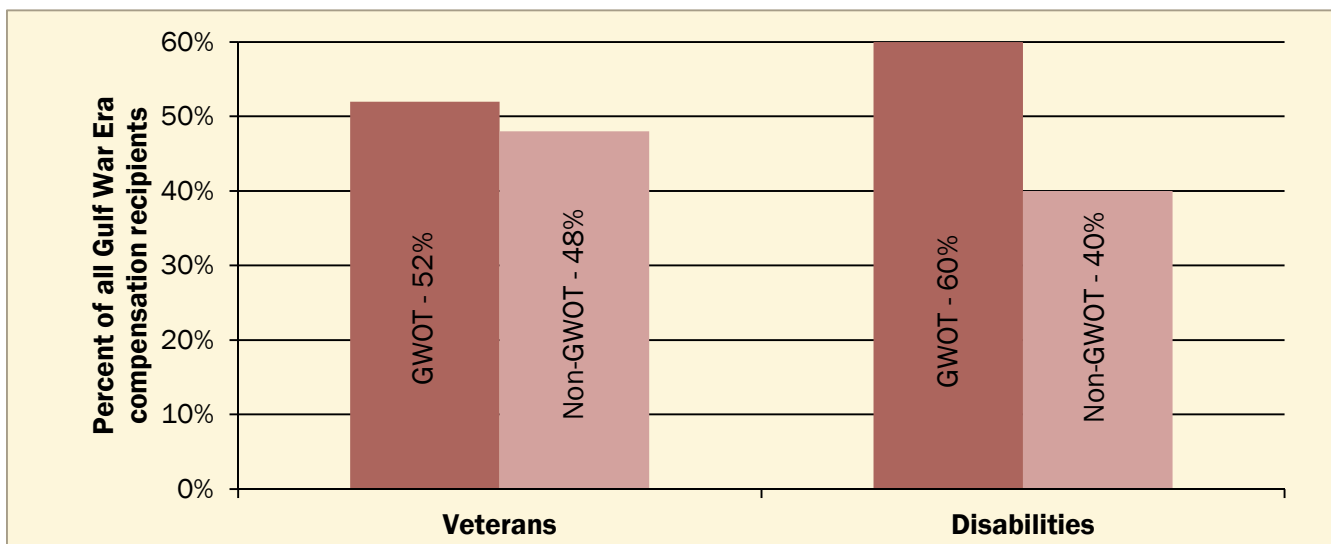
GWOT	971,117	52%
Non-GWOT	895,951	48%
Gulf War Era Total:	1,867,068	100%

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

GWOT	7,091,080	60%
Non-GWOT	4,633,383	40%
Gulf War Era Total:	11,724,463	100%

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

GWOT	Non-GWOT	Gulf War Era Total
7.30	5.17	6.28



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Veterans by Fiscal Year and Combined Degree of Disability

Note: Veterans in receipt of individual unemployability benefits are counted by their combined evaluation, not as 100% disabled.

New compensation recipients FY 2011 to FY 2015

Combined degree	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Chg. FY 2014 to 2015
0% ⁶	522	710	781	753	611	-19%
10%	68,834	67,541	72,608	72,759	77,773	7%
20%	28,980	31,163	32,248	30,286	29,771	-2%
30%	32,089	30,602	31,549	29,985	30,604	2%
40%	18,576	24,051	26,554	25,436	26,294	3%
50%	15,989	20,979	23,083	22,727	24,518	8%
60%	18,314	24,477	26,880	26,341	27,697	5%
70%	12,297	21,280	25,410	25,318	27,738	10%
80%	7,808	15,054	19,664	20,799	22,234	7%
90%	4,131	9,070	13,611	16,208	18,439	14%
100%	15,467	16,912	20,287	23,264	27,373	18%
Total	223,007	261,839	292,675	293,876	313,052	7%

⁶ All counts of Veterans in this document in the category of 0% combined disability degree indicate payment due to eligibility for special monthly compensation or two or more separate permanent 0% service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability and warrant payment at the 10% rate. Veterans with a 0% combined disability degree who are not receiving payment are not counted in this document.





All compensation recipients FY 2011 to FY 2015

Combined degree	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Chg. FY 2014 to 2015
0%	11,664	11,374	11,096	10,844	10,462	-4%
10%	797,739	803,443	815,921	828,770	843,984	2%
20%	449,584	451,684	454,475	455,183	454,151	0%
30%	381,760	387,608	394,669	400,270	404,121	1%
40%	329,545	342,205	354,862	365,317	374,061	2%
50%	219,123	233,088	247,875	261,224	275,183	5%
60%	273,569	299,104	324,546	348,226	371,842	7%
70%	252,937	281,254	311,242	340,122	371,104	9%
80%	196,662	227,074	261,925	295,482	331,077	12%
90%	115,236	140,091	171,425	204,167	239,825	17%
100%	326,922	359,877	395,223	439,461	492,964	12%
Total	3,354,741	3,536,802	3,743,259	3,949,066	4,168,774	6%



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Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

New compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁷	% Total
0%	542	0.2%	32	0.1%	611	0.2%
10%	69,980	25.9%	4,556	13.5%	77,773	24.8%
20%	26,249	9.7%	2,281	6.8%	29,771	9.5%
30%	26,128	9.7%	3,507	10.4%	30,604	9.8%
40%	22,673	8.4%	2,882	8.5%	26,294	8.5%
50%	20,466	7.6%	3,471	10.3%	24,518	7.8%
60%	23,748	8.8%	3,290	9.8%	27,697	8.8%
70%	23,137	8.6%	4,060	12.1%	27,738	8.9%
80%	18,597	6.9%	3,355	10.0%	22,234	7.1%
90%	15,173	5.6%	3,077	9.1%	18,439	5.9%
100%	23,162	8.6%	3,180	9.4%	27,373	8.7%
Total	269,855		33,691		313,052	



⁷ Total includes 9,506 Veterans with no gender indicated in award record.



All compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁸	% Total
0%	9,227	0.3%	662	0.2%	10,462	0.3%
10%	760,619	20.7%	59,061	15.2%	843,984	20.2%
20%	404,600	11.0%	37,474	9.6%	454,151	10.9%
30%	352,066	9.5%	41,061	10.6%	404,121	9.7%
40%	326,171	8.9%	38,985	10.0%	374,061	9.0%
50%	236,267	6.4%	33,093	8.5%	275,183	6.6%
60%	326,000	8.8%	38,151	9.8%	371,842	8.9%
70%	324,929	8.8%	39,285	10.1%	371,104	8.9%
80%	289,662	7.9%	36,138	9.3%	331,077	7.9%
90%	209,036	5.7%	27,474	7.1%	239,825	5.8%
100%	442,035	12.0%	37,563	9.6%	492,964	11.8%
Total	3,680,612		388,947		4,168,774	

⁸ Total includes 99,215 Veterans with no gender indicated in award record.



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Estimated Total Amounts Paid Annually 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 payment amounts and does not include retroactive payments or partial year enrollment. Please refer to the official budget internet site here <http://www.va.gov/budget/> for actual amounts paid by VA.

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated total amount paid annually		
	Male	Female	Total ⁹
0% ¹⁰	\$666,155	\$39,557	\$751,422
10%	\$112,104,674	\$7,286,135	\$124,612,605
20%	\$83,991,904	\$7,206,447	\$95,264,597
30%	\$136,741,392	\$18,381,893	\$160,119,596
40%	\$172,302,040	\$21,848,185	\$199,704,306
50%	\$218,453,195	\$37,028,934	\$261,555,317
60%	\$324,837,671	\$44,719,214	\$378,343,340
70%	\$399,714,738	\$69,753,769	\$478,642,133
80%	\$380,269,022	\$67,164,629	\$453,024,889
90%	\$353,879,479	\$70,063,486	\$428,177,580
100%	\$880,405,512	\$119,005,740	\$1,038,147,581
Total	\$3,063,365,782	\$462,497,989	\$3,618,343,366

⁹ Total includes \$92,479,595 in benefits with no gender indicated in award record.

¹⁰ All amounts of payment in this document in the category of 0% combined disability degree are due to special monthly compensation or two or more permanent 0% service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability and warrant payment at the 10% rate.





All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated total amount paid annually		
	Male	Female	Total ¹¹
0%	\$10,553,451	\$781,971	\$12,021,375
10%	\$1,224,898,912	\$95,378,166	\$1,359,554,640
20%	\$1,299,291,823	\$118,986,623	\$1,457,474,356
30%	\$1,909,710,507	\$225,102,720	\$2,193,675,969
40%	\$2,557,371,756	\$307,012,287	\$2,933,415,253
50%	\$2,613,603,510	\$366,636,871	\$3,043,665,215
60%	\$5,158,128,045	\$561,789,216	\$5,846,660,655
70%	\$7,489,267,314	\$829,705,967	\$8,482,368,159
80%	\$7,478,000,126	\$857,900,579	\$8,479,716,300
90%	\$6,091,541,429	\$739,485,627	\$6,931,483,212
100%	\$17,486,183,479	\$1,456,816,850	\$19,472,629,576
Total	\$53,318,550,352	\$5,559,596,877	\$60,212,664,710

¹¹ Total includes \$1,334,517,481 in benefits with no gender indicated in award record.



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Estimated Average Individual Amounts Paid Annually by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

Note: Estimated average individual amounts paid annually for the same combined degree differ slightly due to additional amounts paid for dependents and special monthly compensation.

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated average individual amount paid annually		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,229	\$1,236	\$1,230
10%	\$1,602	\$1,599	\$1,602
20%	\$3,200	\$3,159	\$3,200
30%	\$5,234	\$5,241	\$5,232
40%	\$7,599	\$7,581	\$7,595
50%	\$10,674	\$10,668	\$10,668
60%	\$13,679	\$13,592	\$13,660
70%	\$17,276	\$17,181	\$17,256
80%	\$20,448	\$20,019	\$20,375
90%	\$23,323	\$22,770	\$23,221
100%	\$38,011	\$37,423	\$37,926
Total	\$11,352	\$13,728	\$11,558





All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated average individual amount paid annually		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,144	\$1,181	\$1,149
10%	\$1,610	\$1,615	\$1,611
20%	\$3,211	\$3,175	\$3,209
30%	\$5,424	\$5,482	\$5,428
40%	\$7,841	\$7,875	\$7,842
50%	\$11,062	\$11,079	\$11,061
60%	\$15,822	\$14,725	\$15,724
70%	\$23,049	\$21,120	\$22,857
80%	\$25,816	\$23,740	\$25,613
90%	\$29,141	\$26,916	\$28,902
100%	\$39,558	\$38,783	\$39,501
Total	\$14,486	\$14,294	\$14,444



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Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
Age 34 and under	97,223	\$1,187,774,765	\$12,217
Age 35 through 54	96,903	\$1,340,331,747	\$13,832
Age 55 through 74	97,785	\$891,923,874	\$9,121
Age 75 and over	21,135	\$198,270,525	\$9,381
Total¹²	313,052	\$3,618,343,366	\$11,558

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
Age 34 and under	520,503	\$6,718,364,069	\$12,907
Age 35 through 54	1,211,550	\$16,405,984,426	\$13,541
Age 55 through 74	1,929,234	\$30,528,694,130	\$15,824
Age 75 and over	506,713	\$6,554,296,485	\$12,935
Total¹³	4,168,774	\$60,212,664,710	\$14,444

¹² Total includes 6 Veterans and \$42,455 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

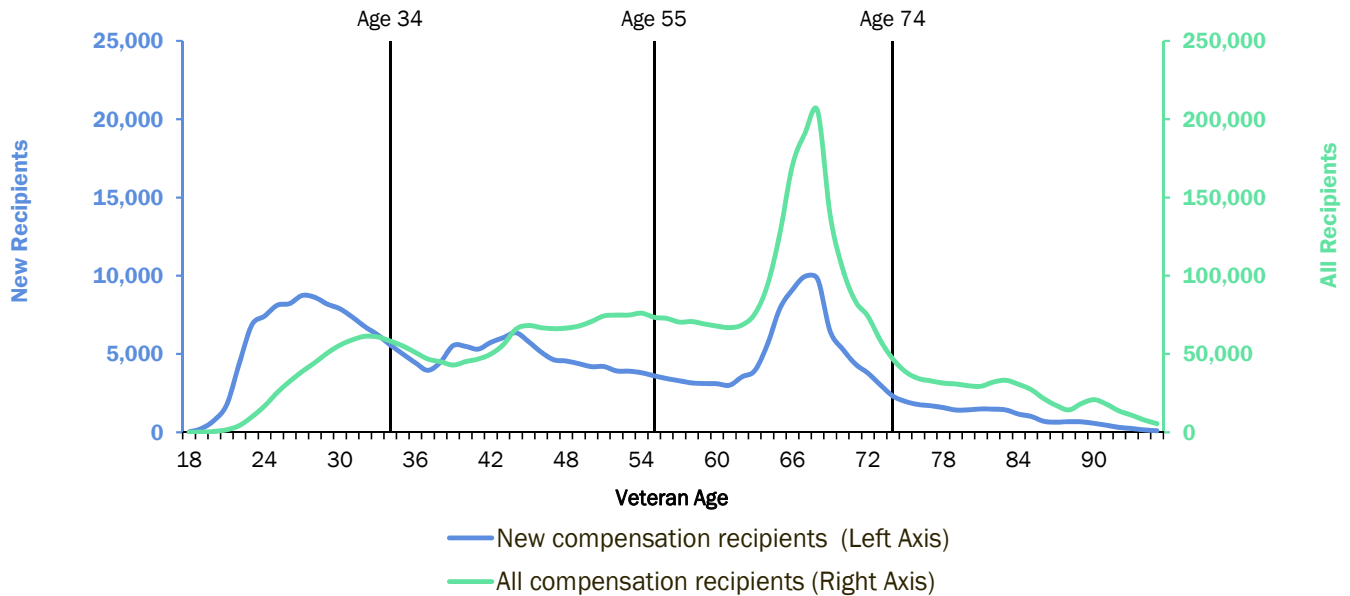
¹³ Total includes 774 Veterans and \$5,325,600 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age



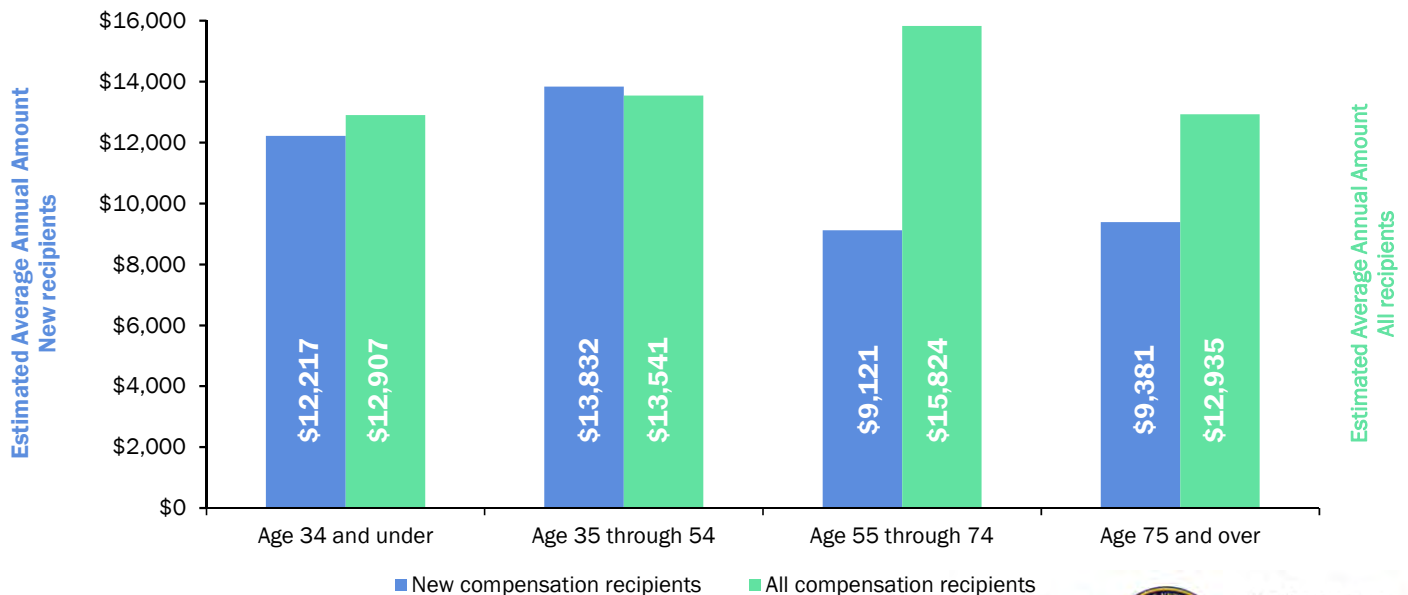
The chart below displays the ages of the Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2015 (blue line, left axis) vs. the total number of Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green line, right axis).

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients by age



The chart below displays the estimated average individual amount paid annually to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2015 (blue bars on the left) vs. the estimated average individual amount paid annually for all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green bars on the right) broken down by age.

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients by estimated average individual amounts paid annually and age





Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
World War II	3,414	\$37,544,438	\$10,997
Korean Conflict	6,868	\$56,836,002	\$8,275
Vietnam Era	75,272	\$741,780,498	\$9,855
Gulf War Era	188,321	\$2,530,181,513	\$13,435
Peacetime Era	39,177	\$252,000,915	\$6,432
Total	313,052	\$3,618,343,366	\$11,558

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
World War II	102,744	\$1,276,201,117	\$12,421
Korean Conflict	130,663	\$1,525,929,525	\$11,678
Vietnam Era	1,347,883	\$23,720,336,430	\$17,598
Gulf War Era	1,867,068	\$25,699,001,914	\$13,764
Peacetime Era	720,416	\$7,991,195,724	\$11,092
Total	4,168,774	\$60,212,664,710	\$14,444

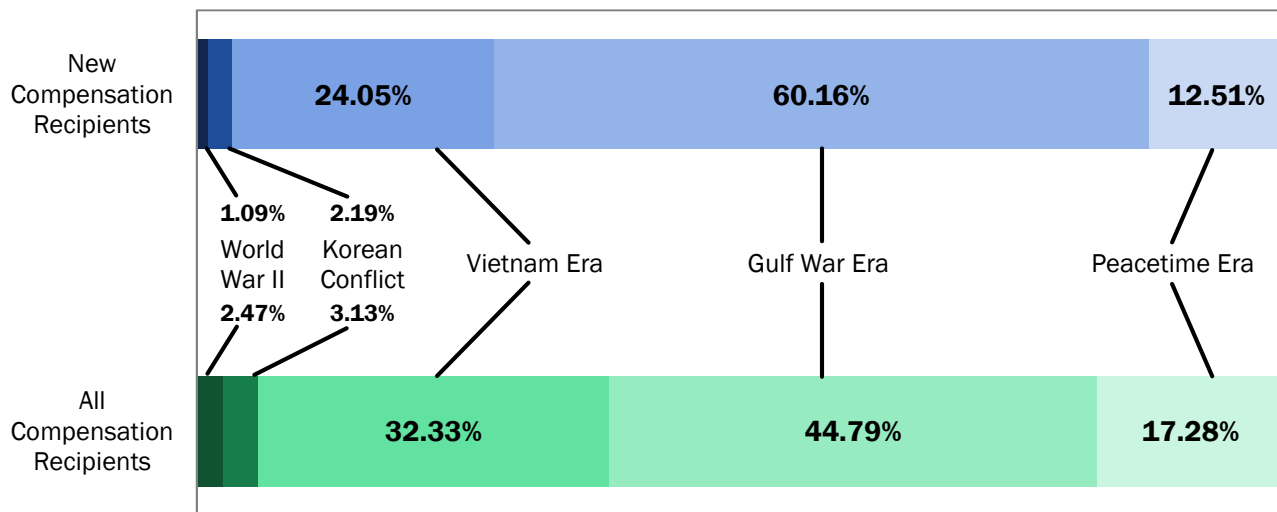


Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service



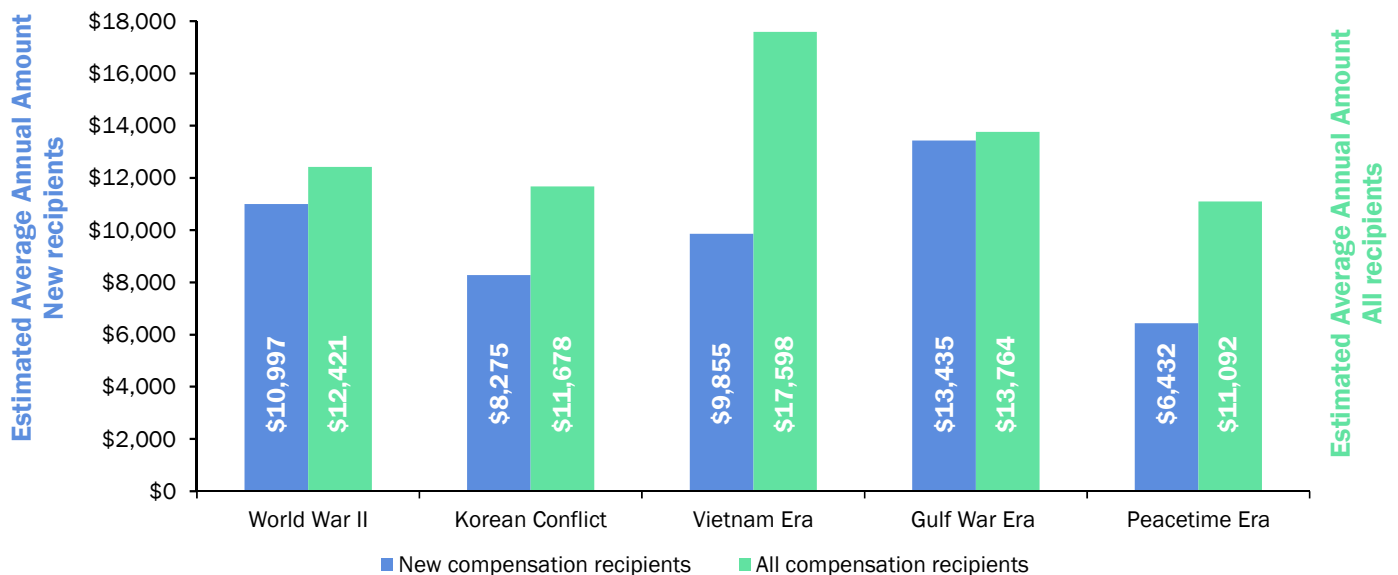
The chart below displays the distribution of the number of Veterans by period of service. The blue bars in the top row are new compensation recipients and the green bars on the bottom row indicate all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year.

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



The chart below displays the estimated average individual amount paid annually to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2015 (blue bars on the left) vs. the estimated average individual amount paid annually 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 average individual amount paid annually and period of service



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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 have not been removed from any other discussion of period of service.

New GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
Male	112,175	\$1,629,465,327	\$14,526
Female	17,800	\$274,965,241	\$15,447
Total¹⁴	130,374	\$1,910,084,754	\$14,651

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
Male	835,297	\$12,677,312,842	\$15,177
Female	130,921	\$1,971,649,182	\$15,060
Total¹⁵	971,117	\$14,712,237,661	\$15,150

¹⁴ Total includes 399 Veterans and \$5,654,186 in payments with no gender indicated in the award record.

¹⁵ Total includes 4,899 Veterans and \$63,275,637 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 total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
0%	91	\$111,135	\$1,221
10%	15,100	\$24,222,637	\$1,604
20%	8,195	\$26,010,501	\$3,174
30%	11,618	\$62,085,736	\$5,344
40%	11,915	\$91,866,575	\$7,710
50%	11,661	\$126,387,078	\$10,838
60%	15,202	\$210,385,541	\$13,839
70%	15,337	\$266,908,220	\$17,403
80%	15,391	\$315,807,941	\$20,519
90%	13,650	\$318,668,709	\$23,346
100%	12,214	\$467,630,681	\$38,286
Total	130,374	\$1,910,084,754	\$14,651



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GWOT Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

All GWOT compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ¹⁶	% Total
0%	516	0.1%	81	0.1%	602	0.1%
10%	91,920	11.0%	13,136	10.0%	105,897	10.9%
20%	65,385	7.8%	9,680	7.4%	75,693	7.8%
30%	77,136	9.2%	12,541	9.6%	90,134	9.3%
40%	82,230	9.9%	13,762	10.5%	96,440	9.9%
50%	68,294	8.2%	11,515	8.8%	80,182	8.3%
60%	103,125	12.3%	14,877	11.3%	118,486	12.2%
70%	94,498	11.3%	14,263	10.9%	109,203	11.2%
80%	100,684	12.1%	15,679	12.0%	116,873	12.0%
90%	75,343	9.0%	12,804	9.8%	88,493	9.1%
100%	76,166	9.1%	12,583	9.6%	89,114	9.2%
Total	835,297	100%	130,921	100%	971,117	100%



¹⁶ Total includes 4,899 Veterans with no gender indicated in award record.

GWOT Estimated Total Amounts Paid Annually by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender



All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated total amount paid annually		
	Male	Female	Total ¹⁷
0%	\$686,112	\$100,259	\$792,565
10%	\$147,987,925	\$21,111,637	\$170,457,059
20%	\$207,882,320	\$30,700,065	\$240,578,474
30%	\$427,859,284	\$68,964,122	\$499,394,543
40%	\$655,036,954	\$108,570,166	\$767,194,216
50%	\$769,468,398	\$127,874,595	\$901,586,938
60%	\$1,474,275,200	\$208,928,467	\$1,690,246,252
70%	\$1,785,618,478	\$263,912,230	\$2,057,689,346
80%	\$2,242,049,073	\$339,589,519	\$2,592,732,000
90%	\$1,948,235,248	\$319,438,807	\$2,276,525,318
100%	\$3,018,213,850	\$482,459,315	\$3,515,040,950
Total	\$12,677,312,842	\$1,971,649,182	\$14,712,237,661

¹⁷ Total includes \$63,275,637 in benefits with no gender indicated in award record.





GWOT Estimated Average Individual Amounts Paid Annually by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated average individual amount paid annually		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,330	\$1,238	\$1,317
10%	\$1,610	\$1,607	\$1,610
20%	\$3,179	\$3,171	\$3,178
30%	\$5,547	\$5,499	\$5,541
40%	\$7,966	\$7,889	\$7,955
50%	\$11,267	\$11,105	\$11,244
60%	\$14,296	\$14,044	\$14,265
70%	\$18,896	\$18,503	\$18,843
80%	\$22,268	\$21,659	\$22,184
90%	\$25,858	\$24,948	\$25,725
100%	\$39,627	\$38,342	\$39,444
Total	\$15,177	\$15,060	\$15,150



Regarding Service-Connected Disability Data



The tables on the following pages present information according to the number of service-connected disabilities – not the number of Veterans with that evaluation or disability.

Tables labeled “Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients” display counts of service-connected disabilities which were rated for new recipients during FY 2015. 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 2015.

The names of the body systems have been abbreviated to allow for a clearer presentation of the information. The three body systems with the greatest change 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.



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Number of SC Disabilities by Body System and Fiscal Year

Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients FY 2011 to FY 2015

Body system	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Chg. FY 2014 to 2015
Musculoskeletal	258,972	445,766	541,280	570,608	654,669	15%
Auditory	151,820	190,646	222,139	226,994	250,436	10%
Skin	75,344	119,267	150,423	152,655	167,002	9%
Neurological	69,315	102,422	133,195	140,221	160,750	15%
Mental	64,495	84,069	100,515	98,209	110,420	12%
Respiratory	49,235	61,035	70,058	72,980	82,720	13%
Digestive	37,221	46,884	53,258	54,846	60,334	10%
Cardiovascular	27,003	48,185	41,494	48,749	48,302	-1%
Genitourinary	29,249	35,865	50,291	43,187	45,591	6%
Endocrine	23,789	25,027	26,056	24,030	22,443	-7%
The Eye	7,918	12,672	15,385	16,044	18,176	13%
Dental/ Oral	3,438	5,804	7,139	7,357	8,338	13%
Gynecological	2,776	5,028	6,340	6,324	7,594	20%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	2,488	3,389	3,626	3,799	4,105	8%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	1,838	2,095	2,129	2,111	2,114	0%
Total	804,901	1,188,154	1,423,328	1,468,114	1,642,994	12%





Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients FY 2011 to FY 2015

Body system	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Chg. FY 2014 to 2015
Musculoskeletal	4,721,091	5,189,302	5,780,195	6,397,255	7,117,586	11%
Auditory	1,679,146	1,883,919	2,116,528	2,352,609	2,613,285	11%
Skin	1,407,126	1,542,739	1,726,884	1,910,027	2,111,444	11%
Neurological	1,183,512	1,345,832	1,557,654	1,788,151	2,058,164	15%
Mental	878,417	986,904	1,110,050	1,230,063	1,368,427	11%
Cardiovascular	675,434	786,826	834,775	878,381	919,068	5%
Respiratory	582,933	644,675	719,770	798,353	889,002	11%
Digestive	732,523	719,598	772,021	825,345	884,368	7%
Genitourinary	464,634	515,282	570,093	627,252	684,965	9%
Endocrine	396,121	422,786	447,399	469,910	488,942	4%
The Eye	187,440	200,546	216,955	233,430	252,069	8%
Gynecological	72,512	77,882	85,043	92,164	101,008	10%
Dental/ Oral	58,705	64,724	72,588	80,526	89,713	11%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	39,147	42,770	46,517	50,677	55,075	9%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	47,756	48,318	48,928	49,495	50,275	2%
Total	13,126,497	14,472,103	16,105,400	17,783,638	19,683,391	11%



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Number of SC Disabilities by Rating Evaluation Percent and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating evaluation percent	Male	Female	Total ¹⁸
0%	5,724,887	806,716	6,626,116
10%	6,803,136	887,109	7,808,752
20%	1,645,928	139,178	1,824,016
30%	1,082,877	178,507	1,289,291
40%	370,660	37,358	417,792
50%	570,350	82,345	662,115
60%	254,580	16,314	278,104
70%	313,061	36,677	355,515
80%	18,170	844	19,720
90%	4,325	152	4,657
100%	360,849	24,311	397,307
Total¹⁹	17,148,829	2,209,511	19,683,391



¹⁸ Total includes 325,051 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

¹⁹ Totals include 6 male disabilities unidentifiable by rating evaluation percent.

Number of SC Disabilities by Body System and Gender



Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Male	Female	Total ²⁰
Musculoskeletal	6,095,986	936,511	7,117,586
Auditory	2,453,496	98,062	2,613,285
Skin	1,816,954	257,051	2,111,444
Neurological	1,781,790	242,401	2,058,164
Mental	1,182,286	160,722	1,368,427
Cardiovascular	839,090	61,565	919,068
Respiratory	749,368	128,924	889,002
Digestive	765,177	107,156	884,368
Genitourinary	638,479	31,916	684,965
Endocrine	446,677	27,408	488,942
The Eye	220,625	26,595	252,069
Gynecological	4,493	95,057	101,008
Dental/ Oral	68,578	19,902	89,713
Hemic/ Lymphatic	42,349	11,320	55,075
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	43,481	4,921	50,275
Total all disabilities	17,148,829	2,209,511	19,683,391

²⁰ Total includes 325,051 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Gender

The table below shows the most prevalent SC disabilities and the relative percent of the total number of SC disabilities each represents. The ten disabilities listed below represent over one third of all disabilities rated to be service-connected. The other two thirds are made up of over 900 other disabilities, which each make up 2% or less of the total.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of new compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	142,915	10.4%	10,233	4.3%	157,848	9.6%
Hearing loss	Auditory	79,245	5.7%	1,670	0.7%	85,327	5.2%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²¹	Musculoskeletal	66,544	4.8%	13,810	5.8%	80,748	4.9%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	68,149	4.9%	11,743	5.0%	80,353	4.9%
Scars, general	Skin	53,653	3.9%	10,287	4.3%	64,788	3.9%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	53,623	3.9%	8,090	3.4%	63,049	3.8%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	44,373	3.2%	6,984	2.9%	51,622	3.1%
Migraine	Neurological	34,549	2.5%	11,072	4.7%	45,840	2.8%
Impairment of the knee, general	Musculoskeletal	31,586	2.3%	5,626	2.4%	37,395	2.3%
Bursitis	Musculoskeletal	31,772	2.3%	4,282	1.8%	36,194	2.2%
Total most prevalent disabilities		606,409	44%	83,797	35%	703,164	43%
Total number of disabilities		1,380,544	100%	236,767	100%	1,642,994	100%



²¹ New to the rolls Veterans are no longer being rated under the discontinued disability types. See note 22 on page 31.



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	1,352,544	7.9%	68,475	3.1%	1,450,462	7.4%
Hearing loss	Auditory	969,754	5.7%	17,172	0.8%	1,015,305	5.2%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	739,808	4.3%	58,659	2.7%	813,277	4.1%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²²	Musculoskeletal	647,366	3.8%	119,299	5.4%	773,741	3.9%
Scars, general	Skin	645,001	3.8%	85,283	3.9%	745,779	3.8%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	563,576	3.3%	89,549	4.1%	657,998	3.3%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	456,209	2.7%	33,834	1.5%	499,402	2.5%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	398,662	2.3%	53,083	2.4%	455,396	2.3%
Diabetes mellitus	Endocrine	411,698	2.4%	5,339	0.2%	431,166	2.2%
Degenerative arthritis of the spine	Musculoskeletal	344,524	2.0%	47,533	2.2%	395,327	2.0%
Total most prevalent disabilities		6,529,142	38%	578,226	26%	7,237,853	37%
Total number of disabilities		17,148,829	100%	2,209,511	100%	19,683,391	100%

²² 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.





Number of SC Disabilities and Prevalence by Body System

The detail table number corresponds to the tables on the following pages which show the number of SC disabilities in each body system broken down by rating evaluation percent. The percentage on the detail tables is the rating evaluation percent's prevalence out of all disabilities in that 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	7,117,586	36.16%	10%
Auditory	1	2,613,285	13.28%	10%
Skin	1	2,111,444	10.73%	0%
Neurological	1	2,058,164	10.46%	10%
Mental	2	1,368,427	6.95%	30%
Cardiovascular	2	919,068	4.67%	10%
Respiratory	2	889,002	4.52%	0%
Digestive	2	884,368	4.49%	0%
Genitourinary	3	684,965	3.48%	0%
Endocrine	3	488,942	2.48%	20%
The Eye	3	252,069	1.28%	0%
Gynecological	3	101,008	0.51%	0%
Dental/ Oral	4	89,713	0.46%	0%
Hemic/ Lymphatic	4	55,075	0.28%	0%
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	4	50,275	0.25%	0%
Total all conditions	4	19,683,391	100%	10%



Number of SC Disabilities and Prevalence by Body System and Rating Evaluation Percent



Table 1 Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating %	Musculoskeletal		Auditory		Skin		Neurological	
0%	1,988,894	27.9%	849,455	32.5%	1,577,178	74.7%	345,222	16.8%
10%	3,768,316	52.9%	1,584,299	60.6%	429,868	20.4%	926,743	45.0%
20%	812,912	11.4%	49,563	1.9%	20,826	1.0%	399,118	19.4%
30%	234,353	3.3%	45,092	1.7%	63,496	3.0%	207,982	10.1%
40%	189,414	2.7%	27,596	1.1%	2,639	0.1%	97,606	4.7%
50%	34,543	0.5%	18,712	0.7%	4,017	0.2%	44,560	2.2%
60%	52,150	0.7%	9,369	0.4%	12,195	0.6%	12,929	0.63%
70%	4,323	0.06%	5,917	0.2%	13	<0.01%	10,502	0.51%
80%	1,277	0.02%	5,982	0.2%	877	0.04%	4,629	0.22%
90%	967	0.01%	2,330	0.1%	2	<0.01%	464	0.02%
100%	30,433	0.43%	14,969	0.6%	333	0.02%	8,409	0.41%
Total²³	7,117,586	100%	2,613,285	100%	2,111,444	100%	2,058,164	100%

Table 2

Rating %	Mental		Cardiovascular		Respiratory		Digestive	
0%	31,995	2.3%	242,578	26.4%	392,279	44.13%	505,106	57.11%
10%	126,713	9.3%	314,629	34.2%	160,077	18.01%	256,777	29.04%
20%	601	0.04%	55,573	6.0%	3,873	0.44%	30,719	3.47%
30%	350,241	25.6%	126,837	13.8%	95,100	10.70%	62,979	7.12%
40%	520	0.04%	21,956	2.4%	568	0.06%	6,490	0.73%
50%	337,572	24.7%	661	0.07%	199,693	22.46%	1,464	0.17%
60%	280	0.02%	94,277	10.3%	18,796	2.11%	9,553	1.08%
70%	331,783	24.2%	89	0.01%	47	0.01%	286	0.03%
80%	15	<0.01%	30	<0.01%	59	0.01%	527	0.06%
90%	9	<0.01%	15	<0.01%	1	<0.01%	1	<0.01%
100%	188,697	13.8%	62,423	6.79%	18,509	2.08%	10,466	1.18%
Total	1,368,427	100%	919,068	100%	889,002	100%	884,368	100%

²³ Totals include 1 mental, 1 auditory, and 4 musculoskeletal disabilities with unknown rating evaluation percent.





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

Table 3 Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating %	Genitourinary		Endocrine		The Eye		Gynecological	
0%	408,696	59.67%	13,997	2.86%	127,079	50.41%	45,066	44.62%
10%	47,270	6.90%	76,162	15.58%	61,977	24.59%	11,571	11.46%
20%	55,602	8.12%	365,964	74.85%	14,976	5.94%	203	0.20%
30%	30,821	4.50%	4,547	0.93%	29,937	11.88%	24,781	24.53%
40%	41,002	5.99%	19,630	4.01%	6,349	2.52%	694	0.69%
50%	28	<0.01%	24	<0.01%	2,679	1.06%	17,903	17.72%
60%	56,313	8.22%	5,619	1.15%	2,062	0.82%	235	0.23%
70%	6	<0.01%	4	<0.01%	2,009	0.80%	2	<0.01%
80%	5,636	0.82%	1	<0.01%	542	0.22%	102	0.10%
90%	-	0.00%	1	<0.01%	866	0.34%	-	0.00%
100%	39,591	5.78%	2,993	0.61%	3,593	1.43%	451	0.45%
Total	684,965	100%	488,942	100%	252,069	100%	101,008	100%

Table 4

Rating %	Dental/ Oral		Hemic/ Lymphatic		Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition		Total all body systems	
0%	38,956	43.42%	24,726	44.90%	34,889	69.40%	6,626,116	33.66%
10%	34,712	38.69%	4,997	9.07%	4,641	9.23%	7,808,752	39.67%
20%	10,038	11.19%	2,697	4.90%	1,351	2.69%	1,824,016	9.27%
30%	4,275	4.77%	7,261	13.18%	1,589	3.16%	1,289,291	6.55%
40%	1,462	1.63%	330	0.60%	1,536	3.06%	417,792	2.12%
50%	222	0.25%	10	0.02%	27	0.05%	662,115	3.36%
60%	8	0.01%	334	0.61%	3,984	7.92%	278,104	1.41%
70%	1	<0.01%	527	0.96%	6	0.01%	355,515	1.81%
80%	2	<0.01%	4	0.01%	37	0.07%	19,720	0.10%
90%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	1	<0.01%	4,657	0.02%
100%	37	0.04%	14,189	25.76%	2,214	4.40%	397,307	2.02%
Total	89,713	100%	55,075	100%	50,275	100%	19,683,391	100%

The Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System

The following table shows the three most prevalent SC disabilities associated with each body system. Each body system has numerous disabilities associated with it.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of all body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	773,741	10.87%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	657,998	9.24%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	455,396	6.40%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		1,887,135	26.51%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		7,117,586	
Auditory	Tinnitus	1,450,462	55.50%
	Hearing loss	1,015,305	38.85%
	Labyrinthitis	31,086	1.19%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		2,496,853	95.54%
All auditory disabilities		2,613,285	
Skin	Scars, general	745,779	35.32%
	Eczema	328,151	15.54%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	317,425	15.03%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		1,391,355	65.90%
All skin disabilities		2,111,444	
Neurological	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	499,402	24.26%
	Migraine	383,622	18.64%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	217,781	10.58%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		1,100,805	53.48%
All neurological disabilities		2,058,164	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	813,277	59.43%
	Major depressive disorder	165,953	12.13%
	Anxiety disorder, unspecified	69,381	5.07%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		1,048,611	76.63%
All mental disabilities		1,368,427	





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 all body system disabilities
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	369,842	40.24%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery disease)	211,470	23.01%
	Varicose veins	63,698	6.93%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		645,010	70.18%
All cardiovascular disabilities		919,068	
Respiratory	Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	212,776	23.93%
	Allergic rhinitis	191,366	21.53%
	Bronchial asthma	108,565	12.21%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		512,707	57.67%
All respiratory disabilities		889,002	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	256,072	28.96%
	Hemorrhoids	224,143	25.34%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	76,030	8.60%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		556,245	62.90%
All digestive disabilities		884,368	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	259,528	37.89%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	106,533	15.55%
	Prostate gland injuries	56,811	8.29%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		422,872	61.74%
All genitourinary disabilities		684,965	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	431,166	88.18%
	Hypothyroidism	36,928	7.55%
	Hyperthyroidism	8,045	1.65%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		476,139	97.38%
All endocrine disabilities		488,942	





Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of all body system disabilities
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	35,226	13.97%
	Impairment to field of vision	23,465	9.31%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	22,881	9.08%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		81,572	32.36%
All eye related disabilities		252,069	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	19,568	19.37%
	Removal of uterus and both ovaries	15,948	15.79%
	Benign growths of gynecological system or breast	10,445	10.34%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		45,961	45.50%
All gynecological disabilities		101,008	
Dental/ Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	65,566	73.08%
	Malunion of lower jaw	8,853	9.87%
	Loss of teeth	6,300	7.02%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		80,719	89.97%
All dental/oral disabilities		89,713	
Hemic/ Lymphatic	Anemia	18,122	32.90%
	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	9,265	16.82%
	Splenectomy (removal of spleen)	7,081	12.86%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		34,468	62.58%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		55,075	
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	Malaria	27,839	55.37%
	Chronic fatigue syndrome	8,821	17.55%
	HIV-related illness	4,528	9.01%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		41,188	81.93%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		50,275	



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Most Prevalent SC Disabilities – by Disability Type

The disabilities listed on pages 35 through 37 are grouped by one of over 900 individual disability code names. Disability types in the table below with a ²⁴ footnote are groups of these code names based on the general disability type or condition. This was done to give a better picture of the most prevalent types of disabilities which affect Veterans.

For example: on page 35 under Musculoskeletal Disabilities, only the top 26.5% are listed and two of them are limitation-of-motion related – in the table below the top 66.5% of Musculoskeletal Disabilities are listed, 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 all body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of motion of a joint or appendage ²⁴	2,171,249	30.51%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	773,741	10.87%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	395,327	5.55%
	Impairment of the knee, general	375,764	5.28%
	Traumatic arthritis	281,779	3.96%
	Tendon inflammation	257,253	3.61%
	Degenerative arthritis	248,862	3.50%
	Bursitis	227,145	3.19%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		4,731,120	66.5%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		7,117,586	
Neurological	Paralysis of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ²⁴	1,183,923	57.52%
	Migraine	383,622	18.64%
	Inflammation of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ²⁴	188,445	9.16%
	Neuralgia of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ²⁴	111,914	5.44%
	Brain disease due to trauma	99,205	4.82%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		1,967,109	95.58%
All neurological disabilities		2,058,164	
The Eye	Impaired vision - one or both eyes ²⁴	51,723	20.52%
	Blind in one or both eyes ²⁴	48,662	19.30%
	Conjunctivitis ²⁴	23,299	9.24%
	Unhealed eye injury	17,386	6.90%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		141,070	55.96%
All eye related disabilities		252,069	



²⁴ This disability type is composed of a combination of 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	41,959	16.96%
	Tinnitus	29,310	11.85%
	Residuals of cold injury	14,140	5.72%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	11,148	4.50%
	Scars, general	9,281	3.75%
	Generalized anxiety disorder	5,464	2.21%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	5,178	2.09%
	Traumatic arthritis	4,041	1.63%
	Scars, head, face or neck	3,537	1.43%
	Flatfoot, acquired	3,361	1.36%
Total most prevalent World War II disabilities		127,419	51.50%
All World War II disabilities		247,396	
Korean Conflict	Hearing loss	65,473	20.56%
	Tinnitus	54,390	17.08%
	Residuals of cold injury	18,457	5.80%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	11,664	3.66%
	Scars, general	10,666	3.35%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	5,998	1.88%
	Scars, head, face or neck	4,232	1.33%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	4,037	1.27%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	4,024	1.26%
	Traumatic arthritis	3,623	1.14%
Total most prevalent Korean Conflict disabilities		182,564	57.33%
All Korean Conflict disabilities		318,471	



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Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Period of Service (Continued)

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of all POS disabilities
Vietnam Era	Tinnitus	456,453	9.05%
	Hearing loss	443,155	8.79%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	379,560	7.53%
	Diabetes mellitus	365,204	7.24%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	246,380	4.89%
	Scars, general	199,915	3.96%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery disease)	175,220	3.48%
	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	140,769	2.79%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	94,516	1.87%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	83,149	1.65%
Total most prevalent Vietnam Era disabilities		2,584,321	51.25%
All Vietnam Era disabilities		5,043,015	
Gulf War Era	Tinnitus	722,348	6.16%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	597,458	5.10%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	546,372	4.66%
	Scars, general	433,122	3.69%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	381,055	3.25%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	362,751	3.10%
	Migraine	327,328	2.79%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	303,919	2.59%
	Hearing loss	294,559	2.51%
	Eczema	242,293	2.07%
Total most prevalent Gulf War Era disabilities		4,211,205	35.92%
All Gulf War Era disabilities		11,724,463	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of all POS disabilities
Peacetime	Tinnitus	187,961	8.00%
	Hearing loss	170,159	7.24%
	Scars, general	92,795	3.95%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	91,809	3.91%
	Impairment of the knee, general	74,965	3.19%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	65,479	2.78%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	54,678	2.33%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	52,831	2.25%
	Hypertensive vascular disease	51,972	2.21%
	Traumatic arthritis	48,017	2.04%
Total most prevalent Peacetime disabilities		890,666	37.90%
All Peacetime disabilities		2,350,046	

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	6,449	13,335	180,739	1,347,594	94,877	1,642,994

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	247,396	318,471	5,043,015	11,724,463	2,350,046	19,683,391
Average # of disabilities per Veteran	2.41	2.44	3.74	6.28	3.26	4.72



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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. We are not able to identify which of these Veterans filed a claim for disabilities incurred during their actual overseas GWOT deployment.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of new GWOT compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total ²⁵	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	62,549	7.1%	6,669	4.3%	69,424	6.7%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²⁶	Musculoskeletal	49,176	5.6%	9,021	5.8%	58,371	5.6%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	49,089	5.5%	7,490	4.8%	56,772	5.5%
Scars, general	Skin	35,244	4.0%	6,733	4.3%	42,147	4.0%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	34,571	3.9%	4,713	3.0%	39,371	3.8%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	33,199	3.8%	4,632	3.0%	37,950	3.6%
Migraine	Neurological	26,877	3.1%	7,358	4.7%	34,345	3.3%
Bursitis	Musculoskeletal	25,001	2.8%	3,036	2.0%	28,123	2.7%
Impairment of the knee, general	Musculoskeletal	23,553	2.7%	3,710	2.4%	27,341	2.6%
Eczema	Skin	20,912	2.4%	3,520	2.3%	24,532	2.4%
Total most prevalent disabilities		360,171	40.9%	56,882	36.6%	418,376	40.2%
Total number of disabilities		880,633	100%	155,294	100%	1,039,532	100%

²⁵ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 1,323 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 3,605 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

²⁶ New to the rolls Veterans are no longer being rated under the discontinued disability types.



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Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total ²⁷	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	434,094	7.2%	38,481	3.8%	474,558	6.7%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	316,792	5.2%	46,792	4.6%	365,412	5.1%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²⁸	Musculoskeletal	302,687	5.0%	55,222	5.5%	359,764	5.1%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	269,556	4.5%	29,618	2.9%	300,108	4.2%
Scars, general	Skin	218,910	3.6%	40,250	4.0%	260,588	3.7%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	203,032	3.4%	26,603	2.6%	230,838	3.2%
Migraine	Neurological	168,415	2.8%	47,379	4.7%	217,029	3.1%
Degenerative arthritis of the spine	Musculoskeletal	174,354	2.9%	24,794	2.5%	200,235	2.8%
Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	Respiratory	145,340	2.4%	7,583	0.8%	153,584	2.2%
Hearing loss	Auditory	146,429	2.4%	6,185	0.6%	153,187	2.2%
Total most prevalent disabilities		2,379,609	39.4%	322,907	32.0%	2,715,303	38.3%
Total number of disabilities		6,045,108	100%	1,008,640	100%	7,091,080	100%

²⁷ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 12,787 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 37,332 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

²⁸ 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.



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GWOT SC Disabilities by Body System and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Male	Female	Total ²⁹
Musculoskeletal	2,699,435	437,244	3,153,869
Skin	687,803	124,749	817,291
Neurological	553,463	109,016	665,797
Auditory	608,333	49,806	660,881
Mental	419,474	71,829	493,190
Respiratory	347,549	58,309	408,131
Digestive	265,705	46,427	313,822
Cardiovascular	173,138	25,025	199,222
Genitourinary	145,269	13,669	159,732
The Eye	69,218	13,520	83,229
Endocrine	30,679	10,642	41,604
Dental/ Oral	31,171	9,332	40,786
Gynecological	1,551	31,904	33,908
Hemic/ Lymphatic	7,264	5,503	12,855
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	5,056	1,665	6,763
Total	6,045,108	1,008,640	7,091,080



²⁹ Total includes 37,332 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 all body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of flexion, knee	365,412	11.59%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	359,764	11.41%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	230,838	7.32%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		956,014	30.31%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		3,153,869	
Skin	Scars, general	260,588	31.88%
	Eczema	148,227	18.14%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	113,072	13.83%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		521,887	63.86%
All skin disabilities		817,291	
Neurological	Migraine	217,029	32.60%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	105,057	15.78%
	Brain disease due to trauma	67,230	10.10%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		389,316	58.47%
All neurological disabilities		665,797	
Auditory	Tinnitus	474,558	71.81%
	Hearing loss	153,187	23.18%
	Labyrinthitis	14,356	2.17%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		642,101	97.16%
All auditory disabilities		660,881	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	300,108	60.85%
	Major depressive disorder	53,567	10.86%
	Anxiety disorder, unspecified	39,775	8.06%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		393,450	79.78%
All mental disabilities		493,190	



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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 all body system disabilities
Respiratory	Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	153,584	37.63%
	Allergic rhinitis	114,691	28.10%
	Bronchial asthma	40,198	9.85%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		308,473	75.58%
All respiratory disabilities		408,131	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	140,053	44.63%
	Hemorrhoids	68,641	21.87%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	32,703	10.42%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		241,397	76.92%
All digestive disabilities		313,822	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	133,542	67.03%
	Varicose veins	19,627	9.85%
	Residuals of cold injury	7,137	3.58%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		160,306	80.47%
All cardiovascular disabilities		199,222	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	72,002	45.08%
	Nephrolithiasis (kidney stones)	16,283	10.19%
	Prostate gland injuries	13,617	8.52%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		101,902	63.80%
All genitourinary disabilities		159,732	
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	15,051	18.08%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	11,263	13.53%
	Unhealed eye injury	6,853	8.23%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		33,167	39.85%
All eye related disabilities		83,229	





Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of all body system disabilities
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	18,905	45.44%
	Hypothyroidism	15,505	37.27%
	Hyperthyroidism	2,344	5.63%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		36,754	88.34%
All endocrine disabilities		41,604	
Dental/ Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	36,517	89.53%
	Loss of teeth	1,733	4.25%
	Malunion of lower jaw	974	2.39%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		39,224	96.17%
All dental/oral disabilities		40,786	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	6,429	18.96%
	Disease or injury of the ovary	4,630	13.65%
	Benign growths of gynecological system or breast	3,630	10.71%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		14,689	43.32%
All gynecological disabilities		33,908	
Hemic/ Lymphatic	Anemia	8,205	63.83%
	Thrombocytopenia	901	7.01%
	Splenectomy (removal of spleen)	830	6.46%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		9,936	77.29%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		12,855	
Infection/ Immune/ Nutrition	Chronic fatigue syndrome	2,740	40.51%
	HIV-related illness	1,053	15.57%
	Systemic lupus erythematosus	965	14.27%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		4,758	70.35%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		6,763	



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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 2011 to FY 2015 by relationship³⁰

Relationship	2011	2012 ³¹	2013	2014	2015	% Chg FY 2014 to FY 2015
Surviving spouses	27,431	25,556	27,059	27,287	26,495	-2.90%
Surviving children	758	1,063	1,274	1,597	1,308	-18.10%
Surviving parents	2	3,254	1,387	343	226	-34.11%
Total	28,191	29,874	29,720	29,227	28,029	-4.10%

All DIC recipients by relationship

Relationship	Number of recipients	Percent of total
Surviving spouses	373,129	95.60%
Surviving children	13,316	3.41%
Surviving parents	3,825	0.98%
Total³²	390,309	100%

New surviving spouse DIC recipients

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated total amount paid annually	Percent of total
35 and under	490	\$10,492,625	2.39%
36 - 56	2,758	\$49,059,523	11.16%
57 - 75	16,564	\$267,025,770	60.73%
Over 75	6,592	\$111,497,708	25.36%
Total³³	26,495	\$439,716,849	100%

³⁰ VBA revised the FY 2011 - FY 2014 numbers to include additional survivors of Veterans.

³¹ 2012 total includes 1 recipient unidentifiable by relationship.

³² Total includes 39 recipients unidentifiable by relationship.

³³ Total includes 91 recipients and \$1,641,223 in estimated annual payments amounts unidentifiable by age.





All surviving spouse DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated total amount paid annually	Percent of total
35 and under	4,478	\$87,344,734	1.44%
36 - 56	29,927	\$500,597,220	8.25%
57 - 75	180,593	\$2,867,711,936	47.29%
Over 75	156,064	\$2,576,017,398	42.48%
Total³⁴	373,129	\$6,064,670,190	100%

New surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated total amount paid annually	Percent of total
Under age 18	817	\$4,241,372	59.97%
Age 18 and over – in school	132	\$529,124	7.48%
Age 18 and over – helpless	228	\$1,769,693	25.02%
Total³⁵	1,308	\$7,073,069	100%

All surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated total amount paid annually	Percent of total
Under age 18	4,564	\$24,369,315	25.96%
Age 18 and over – in school	360	\$1,511,438	1.61%
Age 18 and over – helpless	8,133	\$66,741,793	71.10%
Total³⁶	13,316	\$93,868,536	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.

³⁴ Total includes 2,067 recipients and \$32,998,902 estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age.

³⁵ Total includes 131 recipients and \$532,880 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age.

³⁶ Total includes 259 recipients and \$1,245,990 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age.



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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



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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: PO 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 400 South 18th Street St. Louis, MO 63103-2676	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



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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

116 North Jefferson Street
Roanoke, VA 24016

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 Office Addresses

North Atlantic **PA**
District

5000 Wissahickon Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Southeast District **TN**

3322 West End, Suite 408
Nashville, TN 37203

Midwest District **MO**

Robert A. Young Federal Building
1222 Spruce St., Suite 3.206
St. Louis, MO 63103

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
PO 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



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration

