



Pension & Fiduciary

Veterans Non-Service-Connected Pension and Survivors Pension

Pension is a needs-based benefit designed to provide certain wartime Veterans and their survivors with a minimum level of income that raises their standard of living.

Wartime Veterans who are age 65 or older or have a permanent and total non-service-connected disability, and who have limited income and net worth may be eligible. Veterans who are more seriously disabled may qualify for pension at the increased housebound or aid and attendance (A&A) rates. Surviving spouses and dependent children of deceased wartime Veterans are eligible for monthly pension benefits if they meet the net worth and income requirements.

The Fiduciary Program

The Fiduciary program provides oversight for VA's most vulnerable beneficiaries who are unable to manage their own VA benefits. Upon appointment by VA, a fiduciary is authorized to receive direct payment of a beneficiary's VA benefits and to disburse funds to creditors and the beneficiary according to the best interests of the beneficiary.



3 Pension Management Centers
219,587 Veterans and
159,083 Survivors
Receive Pension
Benefits

A note on the data:

The 2020 Annual Benefits Report is based on data from the VBA corporate database.

The availability of gender and age data is limited as some records have no gender or birthdate available. Those records are accounted for in the totals for each table but not in the category columns. Please see footnotes for additional information.

The Old Law Pension Program and Section 306 Pension Program are closed to new applicants. The term "Other Pension" is used to reference them.

Please see the section on page 2: "A Note on How the FY 2020 Pension Data is Presented" for important information on the color coding of the data tables.

Data regarding the fiduciaries of Veterans and survivors receiving VA benefit payments are stored in the Beneficiary Fiduciary Field System (BFFS) while data regarding claims, benefit types and award amounts for fiduciary related records are stored in the VBA corporate database.

Information on the fiduciary program begins on page [138](#).



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A Note on How the FY 2020 Pension Data is Presented

New to the Rolls

Individuals who began receiving pension during fiscal year 2020 (October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020) are considered “new to the rolls” and the tables are outlined in purple.

On the Rolls

All individuals who are receiving pension on September 30, 2020 are considered “on the rolls” and are outlined in tan/yellow. These tables include “new to the rolls” recipients.

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.

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Release history

Version & changes	Date
Data as of	09/30/2020



VA



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Pension Programs

Pension Benefits for Veterans

Wartime Veterans who meet one or more of the following basic eligibility criteria may be entitled to pension benefits:

- Permanent and total disability from non-service-connected causes. Veterans are considered permanently and totally disabled if they are:
 - A patient in a nursing home,
or
 - In receipt of Social Security disability benefits,
or
 - Unemployable due to disability as determined by VA.
- 65 years of age or older

Entitlement is subject to income and net worth limitations. Additional amounts may be paid to Veterans who have dependents or who, due to disability, are in need of the aid and attendance (A&A) of another person or are housebound.

Pension Benefits for Surviving Spouses

Surviving spouses of wartime Veterans have basic eligibility for survivors' pension if they meet the income and net worth limitations. Additional amounts may be paid to surviving spouses who have dependents or who, due to disability, are in need of A&A of another person or are housebound.

Pension Benefits for Surviving Children

Surviving children of wartime Veterans have basic eligibility for survivors' pension if they meet income and net worth limitations and are:

- Unmarried, and
 - Under the age of 18 years,
or
 - Between the age of 18 and 23 years and attending an accredited school,
or
 - Became permanently incapable of self-support prior to reaching 18 years of age.



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Special Monthly Pension: Aid and Attendance and Housebound

Veterans and survivors who need the A&A of another person or are housebound may be eligible for additional amounts of pension called special monthly pension. Because pension at the A&A and housebound rates is based upon a higher income limit, claimants ineligible for basic pension due to excessive income may be eligible for pension benefits if they are determined to need A&A or are housebound.

Aid and Attendance (A&A)

- Veterans or surviving spouses may be eligible for pension at the A&A rate if:
 - They require the assistance of another person in order to perform activities of daily living, such as bathing, feeding, dressing, toileting, adjusting prosthetic devices, or protecting themselves from the hazards of their daily environment,
or
 - They are bedridden, in that their disability or disabilities require that they remain in bed apart from any prescribed course of convalescence or treatment,
or
 - They are a patient in a nursing home due to mental or physical incapacity,
or
 - They have corrected visual acuity of 5/200 or less in both eyes, or concentric contraction of the visual field to 5 degrees or less.

Housebound

- Veterans may be eligible for pension at the housebound rate if:
 - They have a single permanent disability evaluated as 100-percent disabling and,
or
 - Due to a disability or disabilities, they are permanently and substantially confined to their immediate premises,
or
 - They have a single permanent disability evaluated as 100-percent disabling and another disability or disabilities, independently evaluated as 60-percent or more disabling.
- Surviving spouses may be eligible for pension at the housebound rate if disability or disabilities permanently and substantially confine them to their immediate premises.

Old Law and Section 306 Pension

Old Law and Section 306 Pension for Veterans and their surviving spouses and children use laws and regulations different from the current pension program to determine entitlement and the amount of monthly benefits. VA does not accept any new applications for benefits under these older programs. If a beneficiary loses entitlement to Old Law or Section 306 Pension due to changes in circumstances (for example, a change in income), the beneficiary must establish entitlement under the rules of the current Veterans pension or survivors pension program.



VA



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Quick Reference: Recipients and Amounts by Program

Totals – new recipients

Veterans who began receiving pension benefits	19,421
Survivors ¹ who began receiving pension benefits	26,756
Total	46,177

Estimated annual amounts paid – new recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Veterans Pension	19,421	\$16,530	\$321,037,558
Survivors Pension	26,756	\$12,093	\$323,558,937
Total	46,177	\$13,960	\$644,596,495

Totals – all recipients

Veterans receiving pension benefits	219,587
Survivors receiving pension benefits	159,083
Total	378,670

Estimated annual amounts paid – all recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Veterans Pension	219,587	\$12,717	\$2,792,541,086
Survivors Pension	159,083	\$9,333	\$1,484,705,365
Total	378,670	\$11,296	\$4,277,246,451

¹ The term “survivors” includes surviving spouses and children.

Recipients by Period of Service



New improved pension recipients by period of service

	Pre-World War I ²	World War I	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era
Veterans Pension	N/A	N/A	4,220	7,268	7,131	802
Survivors Pension	3	8	13,738	9,246	3,325	436
Total	3	8	17,958	16,514	10,456	1,238

All improved pension recipients by period of service

	Pre-World War I ³	World War I	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era
Veterans	N/A	N/A	19,765	38,317	143,900	17,605
Survivors	61	1,433	83,035	44,621	27,224	2,709
Total	61	1,433	102,800	82,938	171,124	20,314

Recipients and Amounts by Fiscal Year

All recipients FY 2016 to FY 2020

Benefit program	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Chg. FY 2019 to 2020
Veterans Pension	288,710	276,570	260,089	239,114	219,587	-8.2%
Survivors Pension	202,975	201,433	192,823	170,037	159,083	-6.4%
Total	491,685	478,003	452,912	409,151	378,670	-7.4%

All recipients estimated average individual amount paid annually FY 2016 to FY 2020

Benefit Program	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Chg. FY 2019 to 2020
Veterans Pension	\$11,991	\$12,103	\$12,350	\$12,538	\$12,717	1.4%
Survivors Pension	\$8,138	\$8,443	\$8,800	\$8,976	\$9,333	4.0%
Total	\$10,400	\$10,561	\$10,839	\$11,058	\$11,296	2.2%

² New to the rolls survivors of pre-World War I Veterans who served in the Spanish American War (3).

³ On the rolls survivors of pre-World War I Veterans who served in the Spanish American War (57), the Mexican Border War (4), and Peacetime (0).





New Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of pension

Type of pension	Number of Veterans	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Other Pension ⁴	NA	NA	NA
Improved Pension	19,421	\$16,530	\$321,037,558
Total	19,421	\$16,530	\$321,037,558

New Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension

Special monthly pension status	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
With aid and attendance (A&A)	12,823	66.0%	\$18,872	\$241,999,849
With housebound (HB)	84	0.4%	\$10,036	\$842,992
Total with A&A or HB ⁵	12,907	66.5%	\$18,815	\$242,842,841
Total without A&A or HB	6,514	33.5%	\$12,004	\$78,194,717
Total all	19,421	100.0%	\$16,530	\$321,037,558

New Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by gender

Gender	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male Veterans	18,365	94.6%	\$16,565	\$304,223,697
Female Veterans	803	4.1%	\$16,001	\$12,848,687
Gender not indicated	253	1.3%	\$15,673	\$3,965,174
Total	19,421	100.0%	\$16,530	\$321,037,558

⁴ The "Other Pension" category groups the Old Law and Section 306 Pension programs, which are no longer open to new applicants.

⁵ A subtotal of all beneficiaries with aid and attendance or housebound – used in all tables concerning special monthly pension.



All Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of pension

Type of pension	Number of Veterans	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Other Pension ⁶	565	\$1,738	\$982,238
Improved Pension	219,022	\$12,746	\$2,791,558,847
Total	219,587	\$12,717	\$2,792,541,086

All Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension

Special monthly pension status	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
With aid and attendance (A&A)	87,697	39.9%	\$17,989	\$1,577,584,149
With housebound (HB)	3,237	1.5%	\$10,758	\$34,824,483
Total with A&A or HB	90,934	41.4%	\$17,732	\$1,612,408,632
Total without A&A or HB	128,653	58.6%	\$9,173	\$1,180,132,453
Total all	219,587	100.0%	\$12,717	\$2,792,541,086

All Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by gender

Gender	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male Veterans	204,097	92.9%	\$12,694	\$2,590,733,551
Female Veterans	9,786	4.5%	\$13,143	\$128,621,919
Gender not indicated	5,704	2.6%	\$12,831	\$73,185,616
Total	219,587	100.0%	\$12,717	\$2,792,541,086

⁶ The "Other Pension" category groups the Old Law and Section 306 Pension programs, which are no longer open to new applicants.





New Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension and gender⁷

	Special monthly pension status	Number of Veterans	% of gender total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male Veterans	With aid and attendance (A&A)	12,129	66.0%	\$18,888	\$229,087,217
	With housebound (HB)	82	0.4%	\$10,045	\$823,684
	Total with A&A or HB	12,211	66.5%	\$18,828	\$229,910,901
	Total without A&A or HB	6,154	33.5%	\$12,076	\$74,312,796
Total		18,365	100.0%	\$16,565	\$304,223,697

Female Veterans	With aid and attendance (A&A)	526	65.5%	\$18,470	\$9,714,996
	With housebound (HB)	2	0.2%	\$9,654	\$19,308
	Total with A&A or HB	528	65.8%	\$18,436	\$9,734,304
	Total without A&A or HB	275	34.2%	\$11,325	\$3,114,383
Total		803	100.0%	\$16,001	\$12,848,687

All Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension and gender⁷

	Special monthly pension status	Number of Veterans	% of gender total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male Veterans	With aid and attendance (A&A)	80,788	39.6%	\$17,971	\$1,451,847,351
	With housebound (HB)	3,023	1.5%	\$10,780	\$32,587,477
	Total with A&A or HB	83,811	41.1%	\$17,712	\$1,484,434,829
	Total without A&A or HB	120,286	58.9%	\$9,197	\$1,106,298,723
Total		204,097	100.0%	\$12,694	\$2,590,733,551

Female Veterans	With aid and attendance (A&A)	4,156	42.5%	\$17,770	\$73,853,418
	With housebound (HB)	157	1.6%	\$10,594	\$1,663,229
	Total with A&A or HB	4,313	44.1%	\$17,509	\$75,516,647
	Total without A&A or HB	5,473	55.9%	\$9,703	\$53,105,272
Total		9,786	100.0%	\$13,143	\$128,621,919



⁷ Certain records do not indicate gender information and are not included in the totals.



New Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by period of service

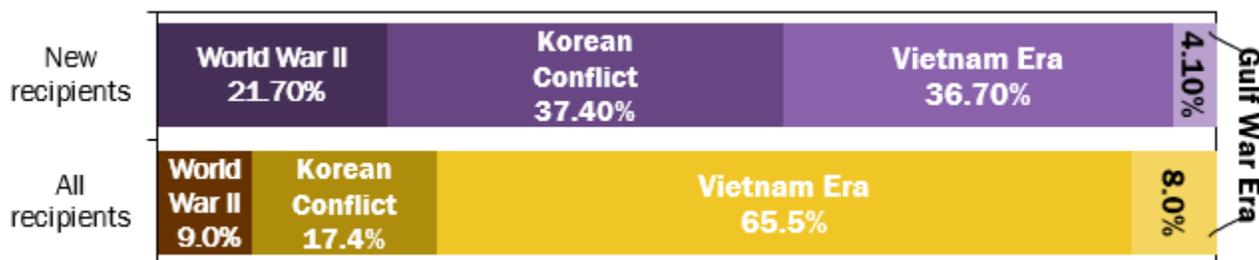
Period of service	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
World War II	4,220	21.7%	\$19,362	\$81,707,293
Korean Conflict	7,268	37.4%	\$18,837	\$136,904,406
Vietnam Era	7,131	36.7%	\$12,844	\$91,592,269
Gulf War Era	802	4.1%	\$13,508	\$10,833,591
Total	19,421	100.0%	\$16,530	\$321,037,558

All Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by period of service

Period of service	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
World War II	19,765	9.0%	\$17,797	\$351,762,529
Korean Conflict	38,317	17.4%	\$15,471	\$592,791,036
Vietnam Era	143,900	65.5%	\$11,142	\$1,603,335,855
Gulf War Era	17,605	8.0%	\$13,897	\$244,651,665
Total	219,587	100.0%	\$12,717	\$2,792,541,086

Chart: New compared to all Veterans Pension recipients by period of service

The chart below displays the distribution of the number of Veterans by period of service. The purple bars in the top row are new recipients and the brown/yellow bars on the bottom row indicate all Veterans receiving pension benefits at the end of the fiscal year.





New Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by age

Age range	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Age 34 and under	48	0.2%	\$14,223	\$682,704
Age 35 through 64	889	4.6%	\$12,802	\$11,380,924
Age 65 through 74	4,328	22.3%	\$10,727	\$46,426,123
Age 75 and over	14,156	72.9%	\$18,547	\$262,547,807
Total	19,421	100%	\$16,530	\$321,037,558

All Veterans Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by age

Age range	Number of Veterans	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Age 34 and under	519	0.2%	\$14,874	\$7,719,427
Age 35 through 64	29,168	13.3%	\$13,335	\$388,964,825
Age 65 through 74	105,899	48.2%	\$10,918	\$1,156,209,971
Age 75 and over	83,993	38.3%	\$14,758	\$1,239,583,575
Total⁸	219,587	100%	\$12,717	\$2,792,541,086



⁸ Total includes 8 Veterans and \$63,288 in benefits with no date of birth indicated in award record.



Chart: New compared to all Veterans Pension recipients by age

The chart below displays the ages of the Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 20 (purple line, left axis) vs. the total number of Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (yellow line, right axis).

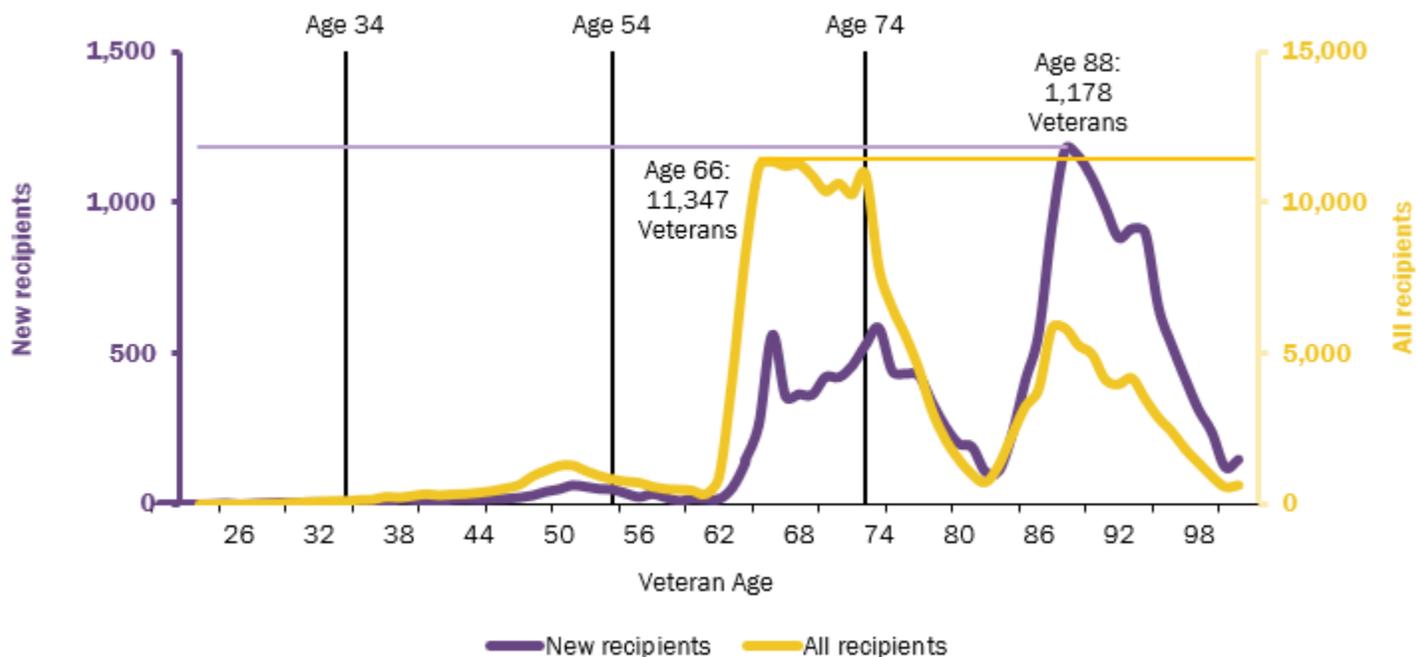
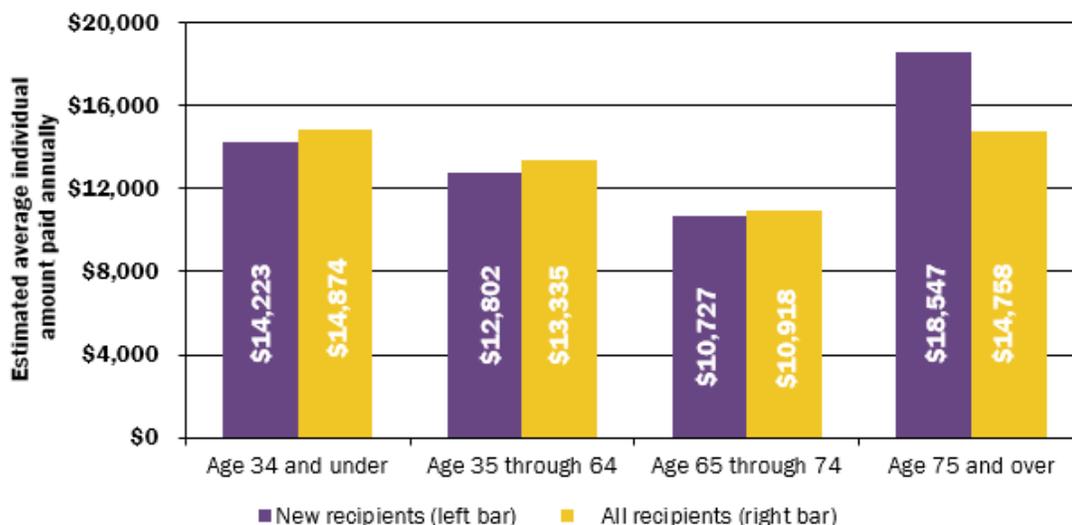


Chart: New compared to all Veterans Pension recipients by estimated average individual amounts paid annually and age

The chart below displays the estimated average individual amount paid annually to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 20 (purple bars on the left) vs. the estimated average individual amount paid annually for all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (yellow bars on the right) by age group.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits Administration



Survivors Pension Data⁹

New Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of pension

Type of pension	Number of survivors	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Other Pension ¹⁰	N/A	N/A	N/A
Improved Pension	26,756	\$12,093	\$323,558,937
Total	26,756	\$12,093	\$323,558,937

New Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension

Special monthly pension status	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
With aid and attendance (A&A)	24,242	90.6%	\$12,758	\$309,274,511
With housebound (HB)	47	0.2%	\$8,818	\$414,468
Total with A&A or HB ¹¹	24,289	90.8%	\$12,750	\$309,688,979
Total without A&A or HB	2,467	9.2%	\$5,622	\$13,869,958
Total all	26,756	100.0%	\$12,093	\$323,558,937

New Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by gender

Gender	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male survivors	206	0.8%	\$10,952	\$2,256,120
Female survivors	24,185	90.4%	\$12,203	\$295,131,398
Gender not indicated	2,365	8.8%	\$11,066	\$26,171,419
Total	26,756	100.0%	\$12,093	\$323,558,937

⁹ The term “survivors” throughout this section includes surviving spouses and children.

¹⁰ The “Other Pension” category groups the Old Law and Section 306 Pension programs, which are no longer open to new applicants.

¹¹ A subtotal of all beneficiaries with aid and attendance or housebound – used in all tables concerning special monthly pension.



All Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of pension

Type of pension	Number of survivors	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Other Pension ¹²	8,630	\$914	\$7,886,066
Improved Pension	150,453	\$9,816	\$1,476,819,299
Total	159,083	\$9,333	\$1,484,705,365

All Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension

Special monthly pension status	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
With aid and attendance (A&A)	102,379	64.4%	\$11,700	\$1,197,817,129
With housebound (HB)	797	0.5%	\$6,299	\$5,020,169
Total with A&A or HB	103,176	64.9%	\$11,658	\$1,202,837,298
Total without A&A or HB	55,907	35.1%	\$5,042	\$281,868,067
Total all	159,083	100.0%	\$9,333	\$1,484,705,365

All Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by gender

Gender	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male survivors	1,515	1.0%	\$4,484	\$6,792,860
Female survivors	120,832	76.0%	\$9,927	\$1,199,536,789
Gender not indicated	36,736	23.1%	\$7,578	\$278,375,716
Total	159,083	100.0%	\$9,333	\$1,484,705,365

¹² The "Other Pension" category groups the Old Law and Section 306 Pension programs, which are no longer open to new applicants.





New Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension and gender¹³

	Special monthly pension status	Number of survivors	% of gender total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male survivors	With aid and attendance (A&A)	158	76.7%	\$12,637	\$1,996,620
	With housebound (HB)	1	0.5%	\$792	\$792
	Total with A&A or HB	159	77.2%	\$12,562	\$1,997,412
	Total without A&A or HB	47	22.8%	\$5,504	\$258,708
Total		206	100.0%	\$10,952	\$2,256,120

Female survivors	With aid and attendance (A&A)	22,164	91.6%	\$12,795	\$283,589,159
	With housebound (HB)	39	0.2%	\$8,839	\$344,736
	Total with A&A or HB	22,203	91.8%	\$12,788	\$283,933,895
	Total without A&A or HB	1,982	8.2%	\$5,650	\$11,197,502
Total		24,185	100.0%	\$12,203	\$295,131,398

All Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by type of special monthly pension and gender¹³

	Special monthly pension status	Number of survivors	% of gender total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Male survivors	With aid and attendance (A&A)	353	23.3%	\$12,287	\$4,337,460
	With housebound (HB)	4	0.3%	\$8,649	\$34,596
	Total with A&A or HB	357	23.6%	\$12,247	\$4,372,056
	Total without A&A or HB	1,158	76.4%	\$2,091	\$2,420,804
Total		1,515	100.0%	\$4,484	\$6,792,860

Female survivors	With aid and attendance (A&A)	84,263	69.7%	\$11,782	\$992,819,086
	With housebound (HB)	682	0.6%	\$6,139	\$4,186,650
	Total with A&A or HB	84,945	70.3%	\$11,737	\$997,005,736
	Total without A&A or HB	35,887	29.7%	\$5,644	\$202,531,053
Total		120,832	100.0%	\$9,927	\$1,199,536,789



¹³ Certain records do not indicate gender information and are not included in the totals.



New Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by period of service

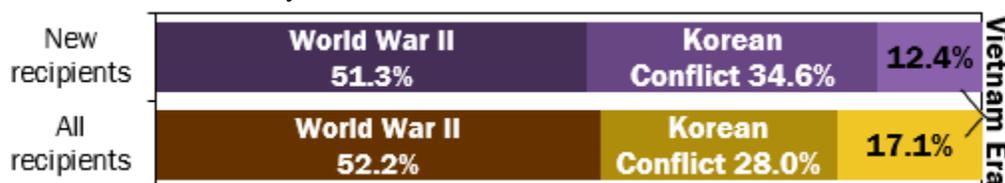
Veteran's period of service	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Pre-World War I	3	<0.1%	\$8,832	\$26,496
World War I	8	<0.1%	\$11,589	\$92,712
World War II	13,738	51.3%	\$12,607	\$173,189,008
Korean Conflict	9,246	34.6%	\$12,148	\$112,318,236
Vietnam Era	3,325	12.4%	\$10,357	\$34,437,251
Gulf War Era	436	1.6%	\$8,017	\$3,495,234
Total	26,756	100.0%	\$12,093	\$323,558,937

All Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by period of service

Veteran's period of service	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Pre-World War I	61	<0.1%	\$3,905	\$238,213
World War I	1,433	0.9%	\$3,313	\$4,747,211
World War II	83,035	52.2%	\$9,530	\$791,307,282
Korean Conflict	44,621	28.0%	\$9,695	\$432,605,100
Vietnam Era	27,224	17.1%	\$8,574	\$233,426,607
Gulf War Era	2,709	1.7%	\$8,262	\$22,380,951
Total	159,083	100.0%	\$9,333	\$1,484,705,365

Chart: New compared to all Survivors Pension recipients by Veteran's period of service¹⁴

The chart below displays the distribution of the number of survivors by the Veteran's period of service. The purple bars in the top row are new recipients and the brown/yellow bars on the bottom row indicate all survivors receiving pension benefits at the end of the fiscal year.



¹⁴ Survivors of Veterans of the Gulf War Era, World War I and Pre-World War I do not make up a significant enough portion of the total to be visible on the chart.





New Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by age

Age range	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Age 17 and under	24	0.1%	\$3,730	\$89,520
Age 18 through 34	54	0.2%	\$5,560	\$300,223
Age 35 through 64	1,227	4.6%	\$7,494	\$9,194,759
Age 65 through 74	1,225	4.6%	\$9,385	\$11,496,766
Age 75 and over	24,210	90.5%	\$12,487	\$302,306,154
Total¹⁵	26,756	100%	\$12,093	\$323,558,937

All Survivors Pension recipients and estimated annual payments by age

Age range	Number of survivors	% of total	Estimated average individual amount paid annually	Estimated total amount paid annually
Age 17 and under	177	0.1%	\$5,831	\$1,032,132
Age 18 through 34	262	0.2%	\$6,795	\$1,780,205
Age 35 through 64	18,514	11.6%	\$7,160	\$132,551,590
Age 65 through 74	18,091	11.4%	\$6,357	\$114,999,776
Age 75 and over	121,768	76.5%	\$10,117	\$1,231,944,726
Total¹⁶	159,083	100%	\$9,333	\$1,484,705,365

¹⁵ Total includes 16 survivors and \$171,516 in benefits with no date of birth indicated in award record.

¹⁶ Total includes 271 survivors and \$2,396,936 in benefits with no date of birth indicated in award record.





Chart: New compared to all Survivors Pension recipients by age

The chart below displays the ages of the survivors who began receiving benefits in FY 20 (purple line, left axis) vs. the total number of survivors receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (yellow line, right axis).

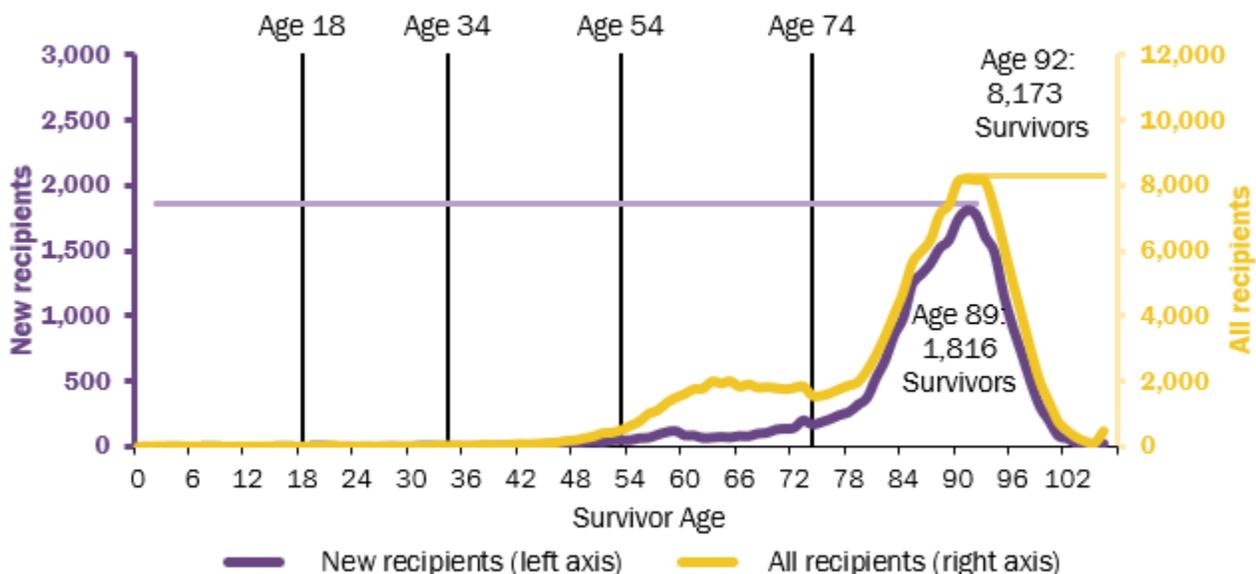
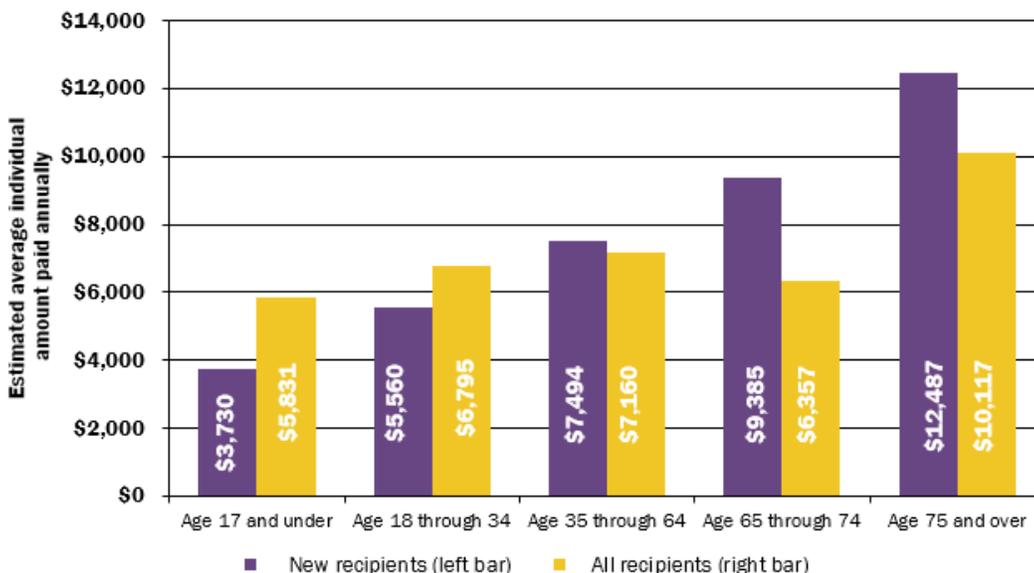


Chart: New compared to all Survivor Pension recipients by estimated average individual amounts paid annually and age

The chart below displays the estimated average individual amount paid annually to survivors who began receiving benefits in FY 20 (purple bars on the left) vs. the estimated average individual amount paid annually for all survivors receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (yellow bars on the right) broken down by age.





Fiduciary

Purpose of the Fiduciary Program



VA's Fiduciary Program provides protection to Veterans and other beneficiaries who are unable to manage their financial affairs. Under this program, VA appoints fiduciaries to manage VA benefits and ensure the welfare and needs of beneficiaries by using the least restrictive, yet most effective payment method. The program closely monitors fiduciaries for compliance with program responsibilities to ensure that VA benefits are being used for the sole purpose of meeting the needs, security, and comfort of beneficiaries and their dependents.

Beginning with fiscal year 2020, Fiduciary Program totals represent the number of beneficiaries served during the fiscal year.

Number of beneficiaries by beneficiary type¹⁷

Beneficiary Type	Number of Beneficiaries
Veteran	96,004
Surviving spouse	53,857
Adult disabled child	9,386
Minor child ¹⁸	2,640
Dependent parent	540
Insurance	352
Total¹⁹	162,779

Amount of benefits managed by benefit type²⁰

Benefit Paid	Estimated total amount paid annually	Estimated average individual amount paid annually
Compensation	\$2,244,599,818	\$37,818
Veterans Pension	\$565,712,167	\$17,296
Survivors Pension	\$488,730,293	\$10,183
Dependency and Indemnity Compensation	\$164,796,468	\$16,564
Total	\$3,463,838,746	

¹⁷ Source: Beneficiary Fiduciary Field System.

¹⁸ Includes minors in receipt of one-time insurance awards due to being named a beneficiary on an insurance policy.

¹⁹ Includes any beneficiary who received services from VA's fiduciary program during FY 20.

²⁰ Source: VBA corporate database.



Number of beneficiaries by fiduciary relationship²¹

Relationship	Number of Beneficiaries
Legal Custodian	121,252
Spouse Payee	25,556
Court Appointed Fiduciary	367
Supervised Direct Pay	109
Institutional Award	150
Custodian in Fact	40
Proposed Fiduciary ²²	15,312
Total	162,786

Misuse

During fiscal year 2020, fiduciary personnel conducted 1,551 misuse investigations of which 811 fiduciaries were removed based upon a finding of misuse of benefits. Of the cases VA referred to the VA Office of the Inspector General (OIG), 20 misuse cases were accepted by OIG for further investigation.

OIG reported the following actions have been taken²³:

- Investigations opened: 20
- Investigations completed and referred to prosecutor's office: 20
- Cases accepted for prosecution: 8
- Cases declined for prosecution: 4
- Cases pending: 8

The number of OIG prosecutorial outcomes during fiscal year 2020²³.

- Arrests: 12
- Indictments: 18
- Convictions: 2

The amount of funds involved in OIG prosecutorial outcomes during fiscal year 2020²⁴:

- The total amount of restitution ordered in cases arising from the misuse of benefits by a fiduciary was \$69,678.
- The total amount of money recovered by the government in misuse cases was \$856,377.
- The total amount of benefits reissued to beneficiaries was \$3,825,224.

²¹ Source: Beneficiary Fiduciary Field System.

²² Includes beneficiaries awaiting the final determination of incompetency and/or the appointment of a fiduciary.

²³ Includes action taken by OIG on cases referred as of the end of fiscal year 2020. Figures may include cases referred during previous fiscal years.

²⁴ Source: OIG.



Appendix – Fiduciary Hub Addresses and Regional Offices Served

Salt Lake City – UT VA Fiduciary Hub

550 Foothill Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84113
Regional offices served:

Salt Lake City	UT
Albuquerque	NM
Los Angeles	CA
Anchorage	AK
Oakland	CA
Boise	ID
Phoenix	AZ
Cheyenne	WY
Portland	OR
Denver	CO
Reno	NV
Ft. Harrison	MT
Honolulu	HI
San Diego	CA
Seattle	WA

Lincoln – NE VA Fiduciary Hub

3800 Village Dr.
Lincoln, NE 68516
Regional offices served:

Lincoln	NE
Wichita	KS
Sioux Falls	SD
Muskogee	OK
Fargo	ND
Waco	TX
Houston	TX

Milwaukee – WI VA Fiduciary Hub

5400 West National Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53214
Regional offices served:

Milwaukee	WI
Little Rock	AR
Des Moines	IA
St. Louis	MO
St. Paul	MN
New Orleans	LA
Chicago	IL

Louisville – KY VA Fiduciary Hub

321 West Main Street, Suite 390
Louisville, KY 40202
Regional offices served:

Louisville	KY
Roanoke	VA
Huntington	WV
Jackson	MS
Nashville	TN
Montgomery	AL
San Juan	PR

Indianapolis – IN VA Fiduciary Hub

575 North Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Regional offices served:

Indianapolis	IN
Detroit	MI
Newark	NJ
Baltimore	MD
Manchester	NH
White River	
Junction	VT
Boston	MA
Pittsburgh	PA
Philadelphia	PA
Wilmington	DE
Hartford	CT
New York	NY
Providence	RI
Buffalo	NY
Togus	ME
Cleveland	OH
Manila	PH

Columbia – SC VA Fiduciary Hub

6437 Garners Ferry Rd.
Columbia, SC 29209
Regional offices served:

Columbia	SC
Winston-Salem	NC
Atlanta	GA
St. Petersburg	FL

Fiduciary Hub Call Center:
1-888-407-0144



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration



Appendix – Pension Management Center Addresses and Regional Offices Served

Philadelphia – PA Pension Management Center

5000 Wissahickon Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

Milwaukee – WI Pension Management Center

5400 West National Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53214

St. Paul – MN Pension Management Center

1 Federal Drive
Fort Snelling
St. Paul, MN 55111

**The Manila Regional Office
processes all pension claims in
the Philippines.**

National Pension Call Center:

1-800-827-1000



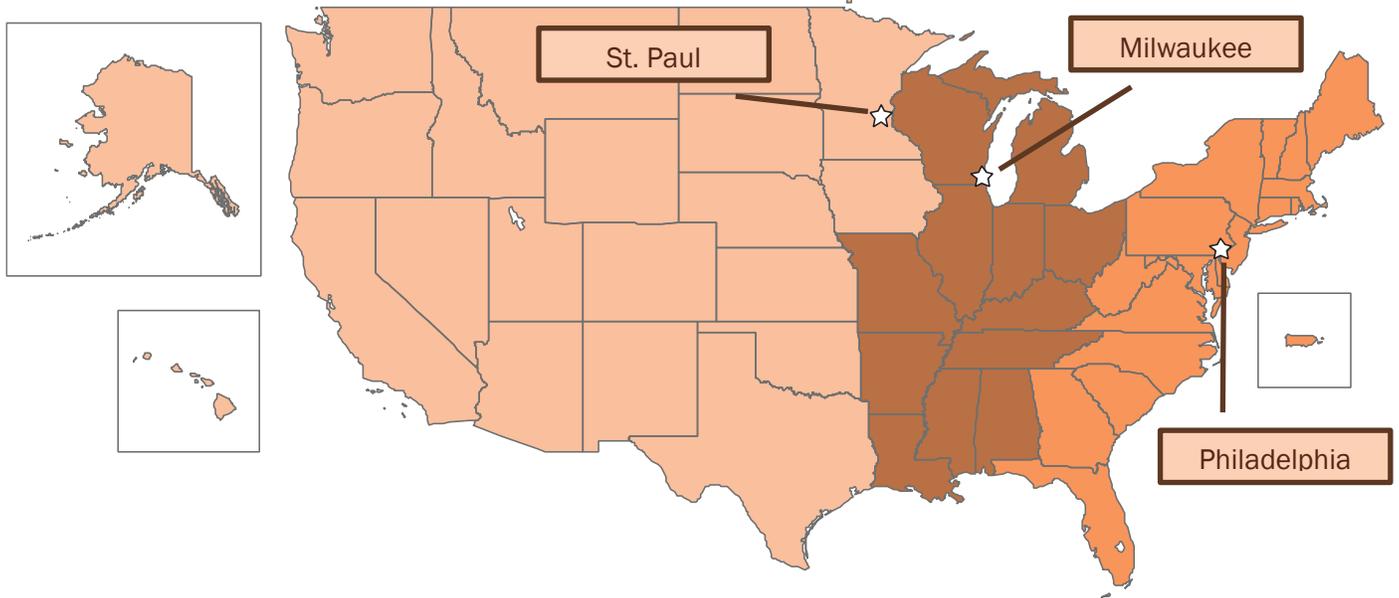
VA



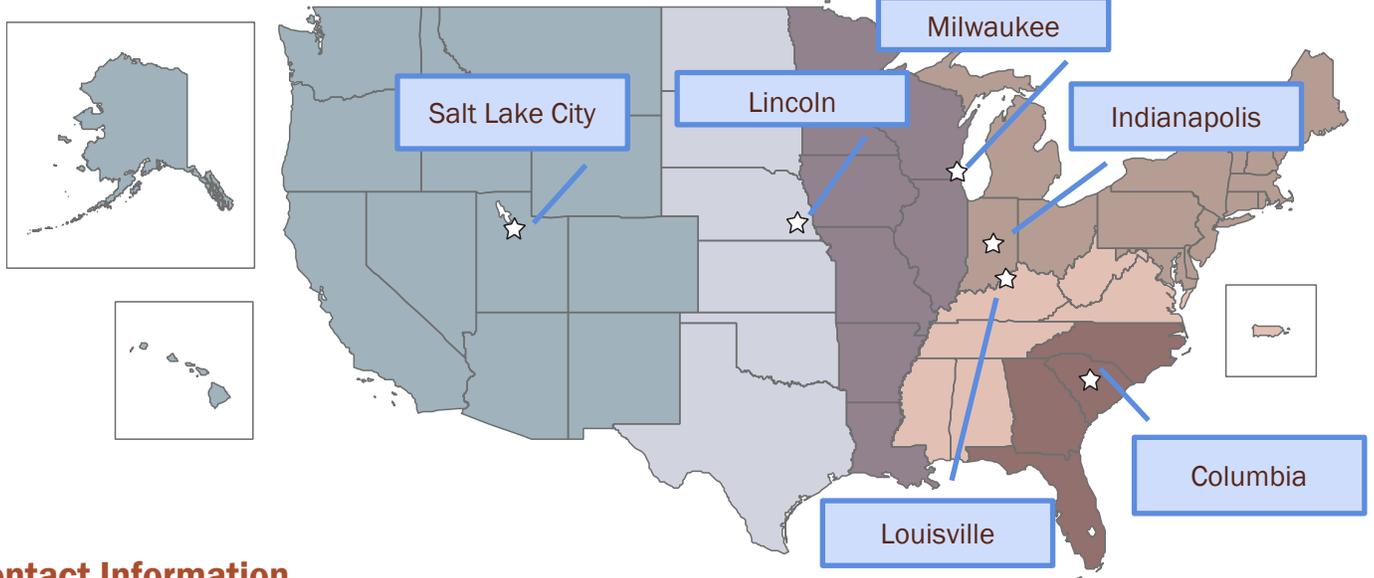
**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**
Veterans Benefits
Administration

Appendix – Maps of Fiduciary Hub and Pension Management Center Jurisdiction

Pension Management Centers



Fiduciary Hubs



Contact Information

Pension Information:
1-800-827-1000

Fiduciary Information:
1-888-407-0144

Annual Benefits Report
 (Office of Performance
 Analysis & Integrity)
202-461-9040

Department of Veterans Affairs
 home page
www.va.gov

Veterans Benefits Administration
 home page
benefits.va.gov

Pension home page
benefits.va.gov/pension

Fiduciary home page
benefits.va.gov/fiduciary

eBenefits
 (Online forms and applications)
www.ebenefits.va.gov



U.S. Department
 of Veterans Affairs
 Veterans Benefits
 Administration

