



Compensation

Service-Connected Disability or Death Benefits

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

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



Photo credit: U.S. Navy

56 Regional offices
15,855 employees
5.5 million compensation and service-connected death benefit recipients

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 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, 2020. The category of 0 percent indicates payment due to special monthly compensation or two or more permanent 0-percent service-connected disabilities which clearly interfere with normal employability. Veterans with a 0-percent combined degree of disability not receiving payment are not counted in this section.

Please see the section: "The Presentation of FY 2020 Compensation Data" on page 2 for important information on the color coding of the data tables.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation data are found beginning on page [114](#).



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Benefits Administration

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The Presentation of FY 2020 Compensation Data

New to the rolls

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

On the rolls

All individuals receiving benefits on September 30, 2020 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 [91](#).

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

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

VA has incorporated Global War on Terror (GWOT) data to the main data tables as a subset of the Gulf War era (GW) period of service. Since September 11, 2001, the Department of Defense has deployed personnel overseas in support of GWOT, including Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OIF/OEF/OND). For more information, see pages [73](#), [86](#) through [90](#), and [108](#) through [113](#).

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

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

Release history

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



VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration



Quick Reference: Recipients, Payments and Disabilities

Totals – new recipients

Veterans who began receiving compensation benefits	258,644
Survivors who began receiving service-connected death benefits	34,065
Total:	292,709

Estimated annual payments – new recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Compensation	258,644	\$3.53 Billion	\$13,641
Service-Connected Death ¹	34,065	\$585.0 Million	\$17,175
Total:	292,709	\$4.11 Billion	\$14,052

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

Tinnitus	149,368
Limitation of flexion, knee	98,492
Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	69,611
Scars, burns (2nd degree)	67,293
Limitation of motion of the arm	65,827
Hearing loss	61,158
Limitation of motion of the ankle	51,131
Post-traumatic stress disorder	45,153
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	42,303
Migraine	41,348
Total number of most prevalent disabilities	691,684
Total number of disabilities²	1,465,006

Average number of SC disabilities per new compensation recipient

New recipients: 258,644	Total number of disabilities: 1,465,006
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.66

¹ Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and Death Compensation.

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



Totals – all recipients

Veterans receiving compensation benefits	5,081,692
Survivors receiving service-connected death benefits	445,503
Total:	5,527,195

Estimated annual payments– all recipients

Benefit program	Number of recipients	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Compensation	5,081,692	\$91.43 Billion	\$17,991
Service-Connected Death	445,503	\$7.54 Billion	\$16,927
Total:	5,527,195	\$98.97 Billion	\$17,905

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Tinnitus	2,327,387
Hearing loss	1,343,013
Limitation of flexion, knee	1,313,306
Post-traumatic stress disorder	1,186,818
Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	1,129,931
Scars, general	1,017,297
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	1,010,640
Limitation of motion of the ankle	767,270
Migraine	667,878
Limitation of motion of the arm	661,045
Total number of most prevalent disabilities:	11,424,585
Total number of disabilities	28,970,943

Average number of SC disabilities per compensation recipient

All Veterans: 5,081,692	Total number of disabilities ³ : 28,970,943
Average SC disabilities per Veteran:	5.70

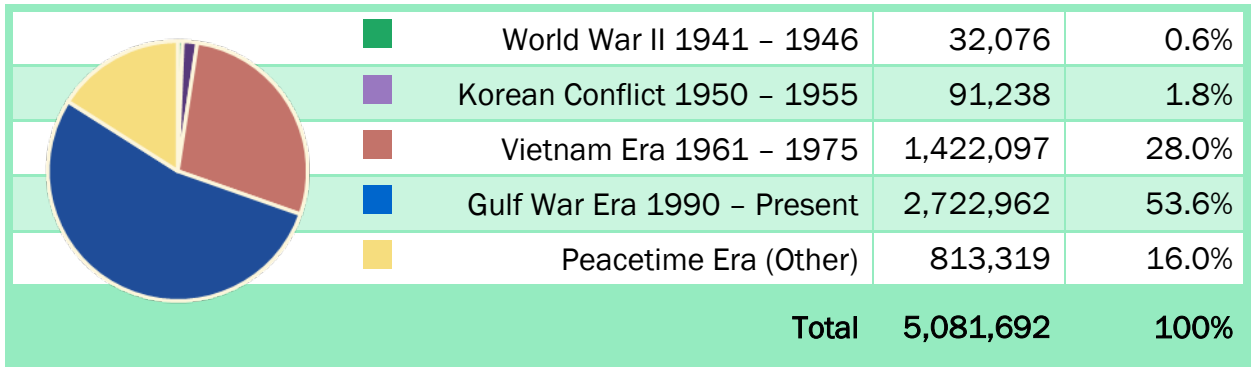
³ Total does not reflect all claimed disabilities as some disabilities are determined not to be related to service.



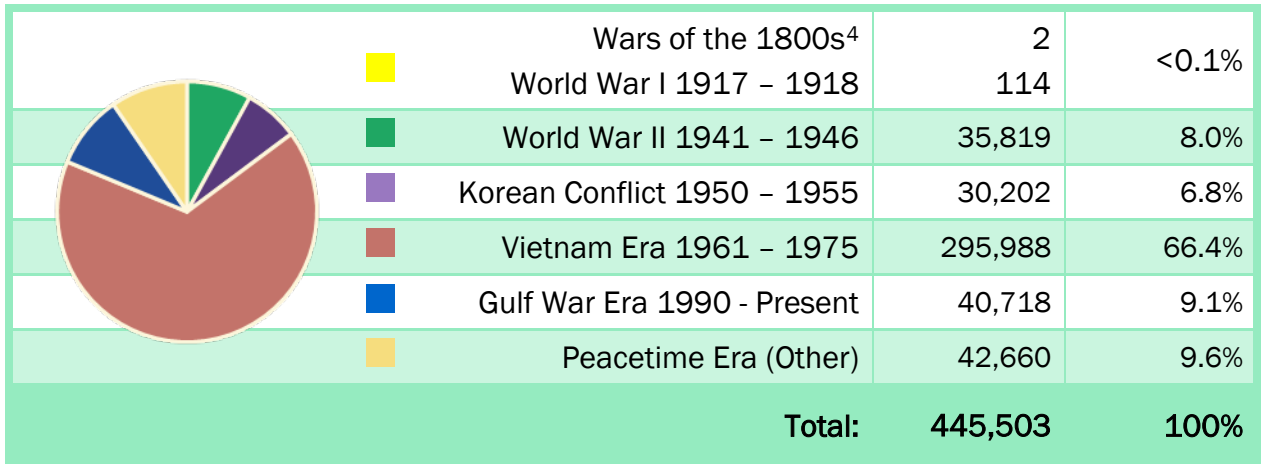


Quick Reference: Recipients and Disabilities by Period of Service

All compensation recipients by period of service



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



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

	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era	Peacetime Periods	Total
All Veterans	32,076	91,238	1,422,097	2,722,962	813,319	5,081,692
Disabilities	77,578	226,475	5,674,991	20,154,982	2,836,917	28,970,943
Average # of SC disabilities per Veteran	2.42	2.48	3.99	7.40	3.49	5.70
Total Veteran population ⁵	299,124	991,993	5,858,262	8,051,480	4,341,082	19,541,942

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 VetPop2018

https://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp



GWOT Quick Reference: Veterans Involved Global War on Terror

VBA has incorporated GWOT data within the “Gulf War Era” in all other tables. For more information see pages [86](#) through [90](#) and [108](#) through [113](#).

All Gulf War Era compensation recipients by GWOT status

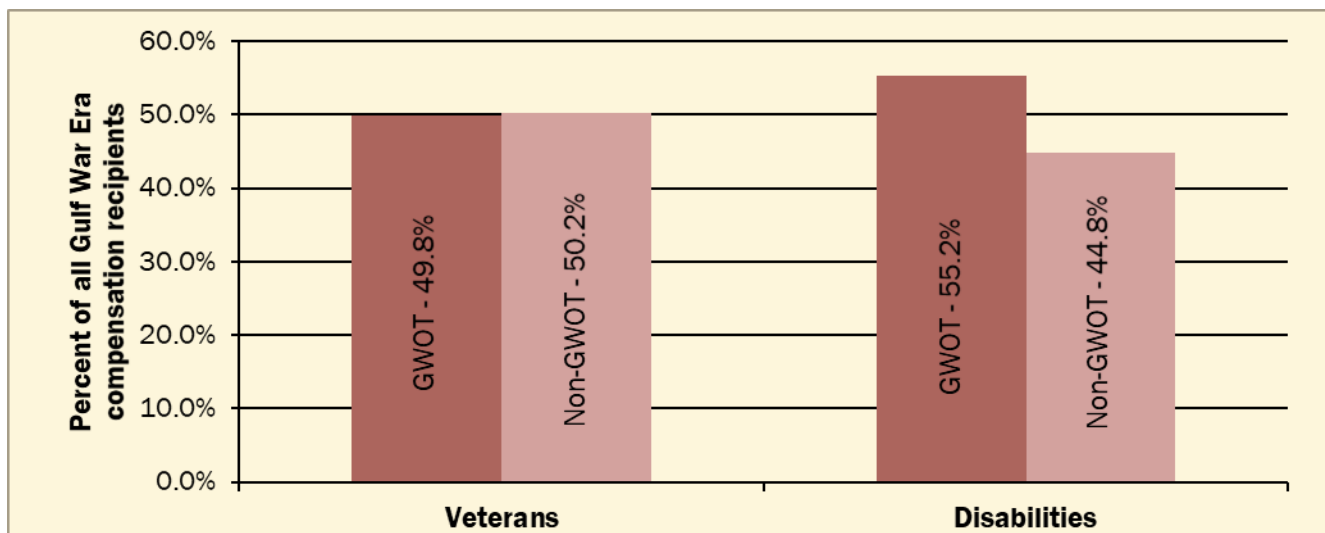
GWOT	1,356,341	49.8%
Non-GWOT	1,366,621	50.2%
Gulf War Era Total:	2,722,962	100%

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

GWOT	11,131,591	55.2%
Non-GWOT	9,023,391	44.8%
Gulf War Era Total:	20,154,982	100%

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

GWOT	Non-GWOT	Gulf War Era Total
8.21	6.60	7.40





Veterans by Fiscal Year and Combined Degree of Disability

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

New compensation recipients FY 2016 to FY 2020

Combined degree	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Chg. FY 2019 to 2020
0% ⁶	490	517	352	341	443	30%
10%	72,639	79,841	76,106	93,819	72,118	-23%
20%	26,222	26,904	23,706	26,106	20,174	-23%
30%	27,193	26,615	22,697	24,812	19,983	-19%
40%	23,871	23,728	20,563	22,169	17,377	-22%
50%	21,712	21,561	19,191	20,845	18,174	-13%
60%	24,571	24,338	21,130	22,426	18,398	-18%
70%	24,974	25,331	23,252	25,801	23,365	-9%
80%	20,204	19,875	18,631	19,022	16,519	-13%
90%	17,247	18,683	17,982	18,788	17,465	-7%
100%	25,427	29,325	30,918	34,962	34,628	-1%
Total	284,550	296,718	274,528	309,091	258,644	-16%

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



All compensation recipients FY 2016 to FY 2020

Combined degree	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Chg. FY 2019 to 2020
0%	10,053	9,567	9,019	8,446	8,055	-5%
10%	857,134	870,547	883,629	900,686	897,386	0%
20%	451,752	447,341	441,456	435,374	425,264	-2%
30%	404,936	402,871	398,301	392,592	383,648	-2%
40%	380,751	384,240	384,798	383,752	378,730	-1%
50%	284,836	292,608	297,779	300,811	301,172	0%
60%	391,029	407,506	421,137	431,720	436,617	1%
70%	398,160	423,956	447,330	469,606	486,296	4%
80%	363,315	394,925	426,483	455,239	478,731	5%
90%	272,330	309,933	348,325	387,876	422,989	9%
100%	542,147	609,325	684,851	778,173	862,804	11%
Total	4,356,443	4,552,819	4,743,108	4,944,275	5,081,692	3%



Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

New compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁷	% Total
0%	410	0.18%	29	0.08%	443	0.17%
10%	67,014	29.83%	4,840	14.54%	72,118	27.88%
20%	18,261	8.13%	1,840	5.53%	20,174	7.80%
30%	17,271	7.69%	2,657	7.98%	19,983	7.73%
40%	15,306	6.81%	2,036	6.12%	17,377	6.72%
50%	15,021	6.69%	3,115	9.36%	18,174	7.03%
60%	15,810	7.04%	2,551	7.66%	18,398	7.11%
70%	18,877	8.40%	4,450	13.37%	23,365	9.03%
80%	13,294	5.92%	3,203	9.62%	16,519	6.39%
90%	14,040	6.25%	3,401	10.22%	17,465	6.75%
100%	29,372	13.07%	5,169	15.53%	34,628	13.39%
Total	224,676		33,291		258,644	



All compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ⁸	% Total
0%	7,033	0.16%	593	0.11%	8,055	0.16%
10%	816,358	18.29%	61,722	11.22%	897,386	17.66%
20%	380,199	8.52%	36,863	6.70%	425,264	8.37%
30%	334,791	7.50%	41,827	7.61%	383,648	7.55%
40%	332,324	7.45%	40,882	7.43%	378,730	7.45%
50%	258,226	5.79%	39,235	7.14%	301,172	5.93%
60%	382,950	8.58%	48,716	8.86%	436,617	8.59%
70%	419,197	9.39%	62,358	11.34%	486,296	9.57%
80%	412,925	9.25%	62,056	11.29%	478,731	9.42%
90%	361,178	8.09%	59,192	10.76%	422,989	8.32%
100%	757,323	16.97%	96,435	17.54%	862,804	16.98%
Total	4,462,504		549,879		5,081,692	

⁸ Total includes 69,309 Veterans with no gender indicated in the award record.





Estimated Annual Total Payments by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

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

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual total payments		
	Male	Female	Total ⁹
0% ¹⁰	\$534,833	\$36,960	\$577,088
10%	\$114,414,273	\$8,280,566	\$123,148,295
20%	\$62,358,251	\$6,207,987	\$68,815,805
30%	\$94,942,550	\$14,797,970	\$110,041,774
40%	\$122,022,634	\$16,287,340	\$138,591,330
50%	\$169,451,999	\$35,190,311	\$205,073,787
60%	\$227,130,963	\$36,686,281	\$264,367,481
70%	\$343,010,139	\$80,747,050	\$424,473,912
80%	\$285,337,779	\$67,932,618	\$353,734,272
90%	\$347,984,818	\$82,095,030	\$430,660,919
100%	\$1,197,969,564	\$207,106,936	\$1,408,574,436
Total	\$2,965,157,804	\$555,369,051	\$3,528,059,098

⁹ Total includes \$7,532,244 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.

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



All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual total payments		
	Male	Female	Total ¹¹
0%	\$8,531,387	\$761,394	\$9,827,425
10%	\$1,403,800,700	\$106,458,264	\$1,543,539,240
20%	\$1,304,154,741	\$125,101,311	\$1,457,618,886
30%	\$1,934,198,104	\$243,988,337	\$2,218,297,764
40%	\$2,778,450,840	\$343,492,620	\$3,167,640,146
50%	\$3,052,924,021	\$463,904,318	\$3,559,968,314
60%	\$6,230,558,729	\$756,262,392	\$7,073,217,321
70%	\$9,842,085,991	\$1,382,800,983	\$11,343,856,475
80%	\$10,900,249,810	\$1,538,421,508	\$12,545,166,652
90%	\$10,749,743,540	\$1,657,548,031	\$12,489,605,394
100%	\$31,692,897,817	\$3,946,588,297	\$36,017,073,636
Total	\$79,897,595,680	\$10,565,327,453	\$91,425,811,253

¹¹ Total includes \$962,888,120 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.





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

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

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payment		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,304	\$1,320	\$1,306
10%	\$1,707	\$1,711	\$1,708
20%	\$3,415	\$3,374	\$3,411
30%	\$5,497	\$5,569	\$5,507
40%	\$7,972	\$8,000	\$7,976
50%	\$11,281	\$11,297	\$11,284
60%	\$14,366	\$14,381	\$14,369
70%	\$18,171	\$18,145	\$18,167
80%	\$21,464	\$21,209	\$21,414
90%	\$24,785	\$24,138	\$24,659
100%	\$40,786	\$40,067	\$40,677
Total	\$13,197	\$16,682	\$13,641



All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payment		
	Male	Female	Total
0%	\$1,213	\$1,284	\$1,220
10%	\$1,720	\$1,725	\$1,720
20%	\$3,430	\$3,394	\$3,428
30%	\$5,777	\$5,833	\$5,784
40%	\$8,361	\$8,402	\$8,364
50%	\$11,823	\$11,824	\$11,820
60%	\$16,270	\$15,524	\$16,186
70%	\$23,478	\$22,175	\$23,310
80%	\$26,398	\$24,791	\$26,205
90%	\$29,763	\$28,003	\$29,515
100%	\$41,849	\$40,925	\$41,744
Total	\$17,904	\$19,214	\$17,991





Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Age 34 and under	79,372	\$1,220,920,601	\$15,382
Age 35 through 54	80,720	\$1,369,035,785	\$16,960
Age 55 through 74	73,433	\$681,733,474	\$9,284
Age 75 and over	25,119	\$256,369,237	\$10,206
Total	258,644	\$3,528,059,098	\$13,641

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Age	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Age 34 and under	581,140	\$10,105,403,420	\$17,389
Age 35 through 54	1,586,901	\$30,364,190,779	\$19,134
Age 55 through 74	2,179,441	\$39,179,386,891	\$17,977
Age 75 and over	733,930	\$11,775,060,026	\$16,044
Total¹²	5,081,692	\$91,425,811,253	\$17,991

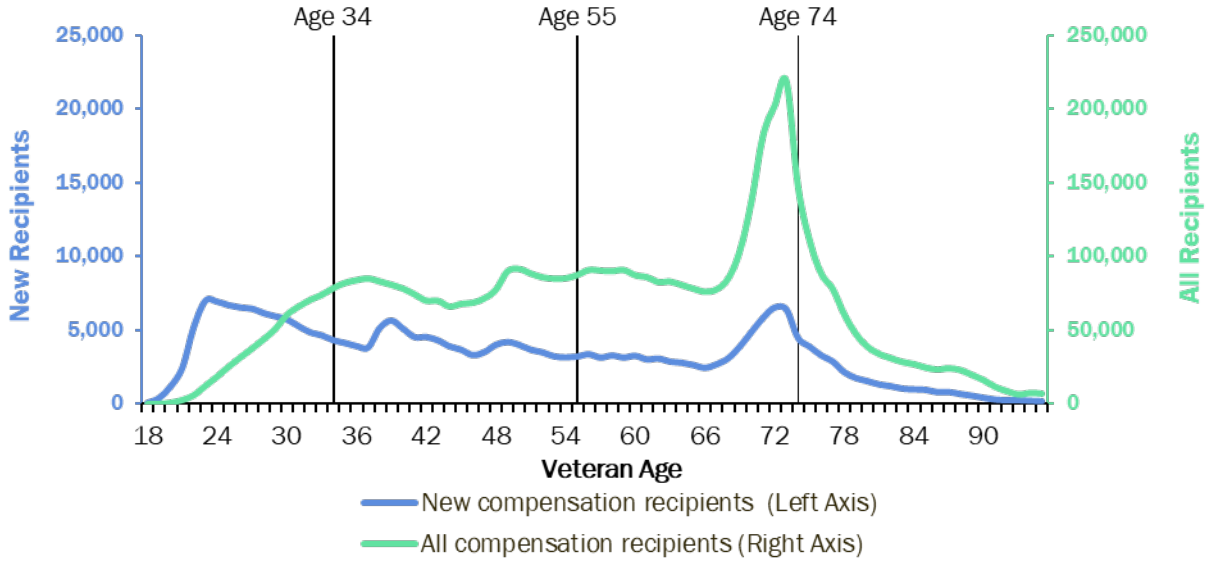
¹² Total includes 280 Veterans and \$1,770,136 in total estimated annual payment amounts unidentifiable by age.

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Age



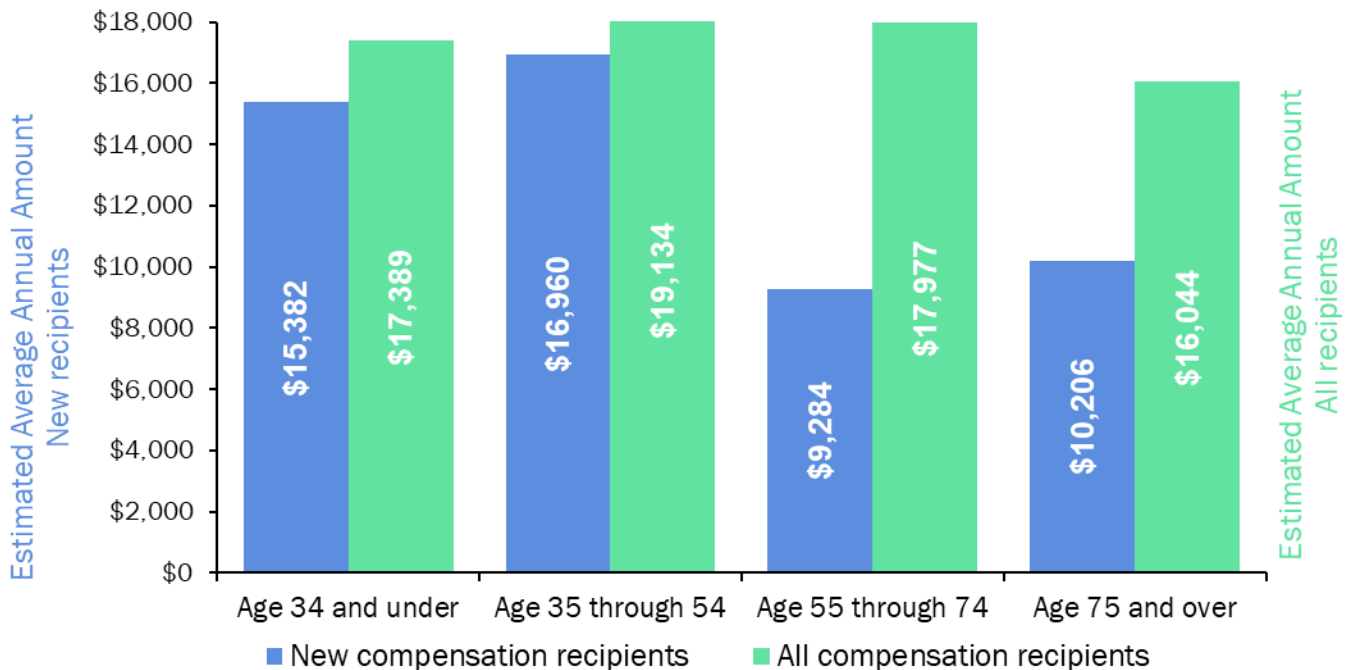
The chart below displays the ages of the Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2020 (blue line, left axis) vs. the total number of Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green line, right axis).

New compensation recipients compared to all compensation recipients by age



The chart below displays the annual estimated average individual payments to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2020 (blue bars on the left) vs. the estimated annual average individual payments for all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green bars on the right) according to age.

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





Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service

New compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
World War II	939	\$12,854,813	\$13,690
Korean Conflict	3,348	\$33,830,812	\$10,105
Vietnam Era	50,920	\$543,051,542	\$10,665
Gulf War Era	165,359	\$2,672,122,306	\$16,160
Peacetime Era	38,078	\$266,199,626	\$6,991
Total	258,644	\$3,528,059,098	\$13,641

All compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

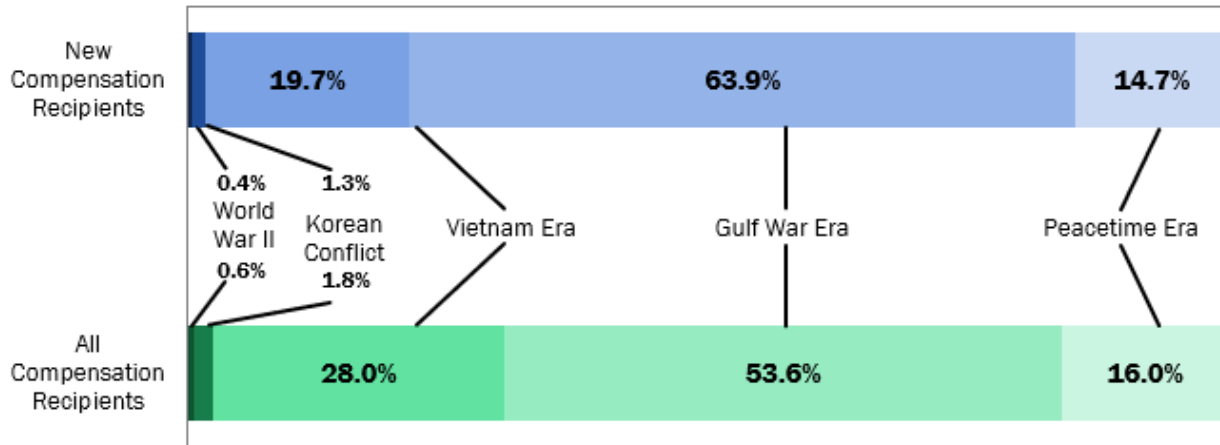
Period of service	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
World War II	32,076	\$448,259,703	\$13,975
Korean Conflict	91,238	\$1,173,231,876	\$12,859
Vietnam Era	1,422,097	\$27,992,871,444	\$19,684
Gulf War Era	2,722,962	\$51,218,256,882	\$18,810
Peacetime Era	813,319	\$10,593,191,347	\$13,025
Total	5,081,692	\$91,425,811,253	\$17,991

Charts: Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Period of Service



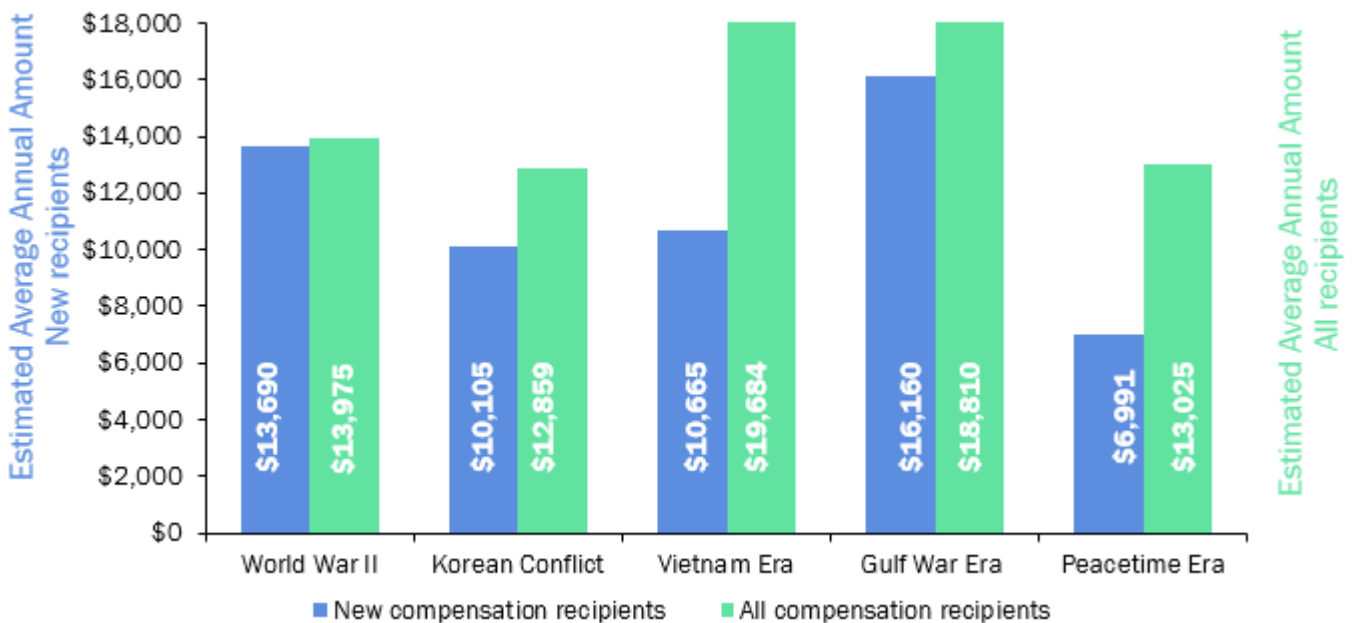
The chart below displays the distribution of the number of Veterans by period of service. The blue bars in the top row are new compensation recipients and the green bars on the bottom row indicate all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year.

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



The chart below displays the estimated annual average individual payments to Veterans who began receiving benefits in FY 2020 (blue bars on the left) vs. the estimated annual average individual payments for all Veterans receiving benefits at the end of the fiscal year (green bars on the right) broken down by period of service.

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





GWOT Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Gender

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

New GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Male	49,904	\$843,987,376	\$16,912
Female	9,405	\$180,865,591	\$19,231
Total¹³	59,348	\$1,025,628,977	\$17,282

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Gender	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
Male	1,170,073	\$23,954,737,032	\$20,473
Female	191,357	\$4,044,187,920	\$21,134
Total¹⁴	1,366,621	\$28,090,886,676	\$20,555

¹³ Total includes 39 Veterans and \$776,010 in payments with no gender indicated in the award record.

¹⁴ Total includes 5,191 Veterans and \$91,961,724 in payments with no gender indicated in the award record.

GWOT Veterans and Estimated Annual Payments by Combined Disability Degree



New GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Number of Veterans	Estimated annual total payments	Estimated annual average individual payment
0%	28	\$35,594	\$1,271
10%	9,466	\$16,151,306	\$1,706
20%	2,800	\$9,443,063	\$3,373
30%	4,218	\$23,740,607	\$5,628
40%	3,947	\$32,110,816	\$8,135
50%	4,915	\$56,395,535	\$11,474
60%	5,084	\$73,855,869	\$14,527
70%	7,507	\$137,405,218	\$18,304
80%	5,330	\$114,752,236	\$21,530
90%	5,974	\$148,019,154	\$24,777
100%	10,079	\$413,719,579	\$41,048
Total	59,348	\$1,025,628,977	\$17,282



GWOT Veterans by Combined Degree of Disability and Gender

All GWOT compensation recipients

Combined degree	Male	% Male	Female	% Female	Total ¹⁵	% Total
0%	488	0.04%	84	0.04%	581	0.04%
10%	96,312	8.23%	12,571	6.57%	109,663	8.02%
20%	62,289	5.32%	8,886	4.64%	71,690	5.25%
30%	74,534	6.37%	11,968	6.25%	86,858	6.36%
40%	85,285	7.29%	13,650	7.13%	99,292	7.27%
50%	76,677	6.55%	12,805	6.69%	89,818	6.57%
60%	125,032	10.69%	18,070	9.44%	143,560	10.50%
70%	136,345	11.65%	21,763	11.37%	158,584	11.60%
80%	153,738	13.14%	25,743	13.45%	180,011	13.17%
90%	141,281	12.07%	25,967	13.57%	167,724	12.27%
100%	218,092	18.64%	39,850	20.82%	258,840	18.94%
Total	1,170,073		191,357		1,366,621	



¹⁵ Total includes 5,191 Veterans with no gender indicated in the award record.

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



All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual total payments		
	Male	Female	Total ¹⁶
0%	\$645,919	\$111,192	\$769,025
10%	\$165,598,886	\$21,586,952	\$188,529,586
20%	\$211,600,532	\$30,112,539	\$243,457,938
30%	\$442,992,437	\$70,882,530	\$516,006,684
40%	\$729,590,484	\$115,959,347	\$848,610,900
50%	\$925,593,314	\$153,141,579	\$1,082,790,729
60%	\$1,913,244,207	\$272,968,021	\$2,193,311,994
70%	\$2,798,652,188	\$441,981,830	\$3,250,212,857
80%	\$3,699,107,408	\$606,283,102	\$4,317,898,681
90%	\$3,929,162,678	\$702,461,599	\$4,644,710,524
100%	\$9,138,548,980	\$1,628,699,228	\$10,804,587,757
Total	\$23,954,737,032	\$4,044,187,920	\$28,090,886,676

¹⁶ Total includes \$91,961,724 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.





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

All GWOT compensation recipients and estimated annual payments

Combined degree	Estimated annual average individual payments		
	Male	Female	Total ¹⁷
0%	\$1,324	\$1,324	\$1,324
10%	\$1,719	\$1,717	\$1,719
20%	\$3,397	\$3,389	\$3,396
30%	\$5,943	\$5,923	\$5,941
40%	\$8,555	\$8,495	\$8,547
50%	\$12,071	\$11,960	\$12,055
60%	\$15,302	\$15,106	\$15,278
70%	\$20,526	\$20,309	\$20,495
80%	\$24,061	\$23,551	\$23,987
90%	\$27,811	\$27,052	\$27,693
100%	\$41,902	\$40,871	\$41,742
Total	\$20,473	\$21,134	\$20,555



¹⁷ Total includes average of \$17,716 in benefits with no gender indicated in the award record.

Regarding Service-Connected Disability Data



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

Tables labeled “Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients” display counts of service-connected disabilities which VBA rated for new recipients during FY 2020. 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 2020.

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

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

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





Number of SC Disabilities by Body System and Fiscal Year

Number of SC disabilities of new compensation recipients FY 2016 to FY 2020

Body system	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 ¹⁸	% Chg. FY 2019 to 2020
Musculoskeletal	602,983	611,857	606,604	656,407	627,325	-4%
Auditory	233,324	247,944	239,837	278,501	217,866	-22%
Neurological	145,346	145,617	143,876	152,415	148,527	-3%
Skin	148,897	150,311	142,790	154,559	140,281	-9%
Mental	99,840	97,897	91,746	97,120	92,176	-5%
Respiratory	75,514	74,633	69,838	72,565	65,037	-10%
Digestive	54,874	55,438	52,425	54,521	49,785	-9%
Genitourinary	40,496	41,871	38,678	39,969	39,436	-1%
Cardiovascular	39,584	37,260	33,131	34,062	30,945	-9%
The Eye	16,065	15,388	15,445	16,676	15,882	-5%
Endocrine	18,006	17,000	13,308	13,249	12,921	-2%
Dental/Oral	7,950	8,365	8,504	9,771	10,010	2%
Gynecological	6,929	7,316	8,040	9,054	9,099	0%
Hemic/Lymphatic	3,660	4,311	3,838	3,734	3,736	0%
Infection/ Immune/Nutrition	1,905	1,740	1,746	1,870	1,949	4%
Total	1,495,373	1,516,948	1,469,806	1,594,475	1,465,006	-8%



Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients FY 2016 to FY 2020

Body system	2016	2017	2018	2019 ¹⁹	2020 ²⁰	% Chg. FY 2019 to 2020
Musculoskeletal	7,779,603	8,481,844	9,232,650	10,034,349	10,787,062	8%
Auditory	2,846,483	3,101,223	3,363,237	3,651,672	3,848,413	5%
Neurological	2,299,581	2,561,741	2,842,749	3,147,086	3,426,676	9%
Skin	2,292,040	2,503,676	2,719,071	2,952,061	3,147,221	7%
Mental	1,492,483	1,622,814	1,754,644	1,891,552	2,019,735	7%
Respiratory	971,673	1,058,623	1,147,705	1,241,294	1,324,533	7%
Digestive	936,490	992,557	1,049,665	1,108,885	1,161,794	5%
Cardiovascular	946,832	973,411	997,129	1,020,994	1,039,481	2%
Genitourinary	732,526	785,903	837,693	890,453	939,979	6%
Endocrine	500,362	510,195	515,030	517,852	520,946	1%
The Eye	267,124	282,611	298,751	315,408	329,298	4%
Gynecological	109,198	118,540	129,502	141,707	153,689	8%
Dental/Oral	98,416	107,895	118,309	129,816	140,832	8%
Hemic/Lymphatic	58,737	63,783	68,280	72,257	75,796	5%
Infection/Immune / Nutrition	50,851	51,679	52,714	53,933	55,444	3%
Total	21,382,399	23,216,495	25,127,129	27,169,321	28,970,943	7%

¹⁹ Total includes 2 disabilities with no body system indicated in the record.

²⁰ Total includes 44 disabilities with no body system indicated in the record.





Number of SC Disabilities by Evaluation and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability Evaluation	Male ²¹	Female	Total ²²
0%	7,822,528	1,264,951	9,161,628
10%	9,820,971	1,494,195	11,409,250
20%	2,805,724	319,966	3,154,572
30%	1,542,550	300,006	1,861,891
40%	559,983	71,603	638,454
50%	1,015,205	172,185	1,195,199
60%	309,585	27,985	342,216
70%	557,236	93,128	655,040
80%	23,075	1,378	24,888
90%	5,148	178	5,440
100%	472,147	43,127	522,361
Total	24,934,156	3,788,702	28,970,943

²¹ Total include 4 male disabilities unidentifiable by evaluation.

²² Total includes 248,085 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

Number of SC Disabilities by Body System and Gender



Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Male	Female	Total ²³
Musculoskeletal	9,104,327	1,611,590	10,787,062
Auditory	3,603,139	196,589	3,848,413
Neurological	2,942,664	457,693	3,426,676
Skin	2,679,246	439,178	3,147,221
Mental	1,710,245	291,858	2,019,735
Respiratory	1,114,364	201,631	1,324,533
Digestive	989,155	163,841	1,161,794
Cardiovascular	942,688	85,745	1,039,481
Genitourinary	877,809	52,360	939,979
Endocrine	475,041	36,848	520,946
The Eye	280,182	45,773	329,298
Gynecological	6,589	145,425	153,689
Dental/Oral	106,312	33,384	140,832
Hemic/Lymphatic	55,842	18,912	75,796
Infection/Immune/Nutrition	46,516	7,868	55,444
Total all disabilities	24,934,156	3,788,702	28,970,943

²³ Total includes 248,085 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total includes 37 male and 7 female disabilities unidentifiable by evaluation.



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Gender

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

Most prevalent SC disabilities of new compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	135,303	11.2%	13,691	5.5%	149,368	10.2%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	81,208	6.7%	17,189	6.9%	98,492	6.7%
Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	Musculoskeletal	55,923	4.6%	13,629	5.4%	69,611	4.8%
Scars, burns (2nd degree)	Skin	55,598	4.6%	11,612	4.6%	67,293	4.6%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	56,984	4.7%	8,795	3.5%	65,827	4.5%
6100-Hearing loss	Auditory	59,335	4.9%	1,573	0.6%	61,158	4.2%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	42,697	3.5%	8,378	3.3%	51,131	3.5%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	36,285	3.0%	8,787	3.5%	45,153	3.1%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	36,106	3.0%	6,118	2.4%	42,303	2.9%
Migraine	Neurological	30,523	2.5%	10,788	4.3%	41,348	2.8%
Total most prevalent disabilities		589,962	49%	100,560	40%	691,684	47%
Total number of disabilities²⁴		1,212,151	100%	250,658	100%	1,465,006	100%



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	2,154,642	8.6%	147,723	3.9%	2,327,387	8.0%
Hearing loss	Auditory	1,293,342	5.2%	28,532	0.8%	1,343,013	4.6%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	1,113,889	4.5%	193,828	5.1%	1,313,306	4.5%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	1,049,100	4.2%	127,648	3.4%	1,186,818	4.1%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ²⁵	Musculoskeletal	933,776	3.7%	189,763	5.0%	1,129,931	3.9%
Scars, general	Skin	876,169	3.5%	129,610	3.4%	1,017,297	3.5%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	904,077	3.6%	98,978	2.6%	1,010,640	3.5%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	663,587	2.7%	100,065	2.6%	767,270	2.6%
Migraine	Neurological	499,526	2.0%	164,912	4.4%	667,878	2.3%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	584,705	2.3%	73,733	1.9%	661,045	2.3%
Total most prevalent disabilities²⁶		10,072,813	40%	1,254,792	33%	11,424,585	39%
Total number of disabilities²⁷		24,934,156	100%	3,788,702	100%	28,970,943	100%

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

²⁶ Total includes 96,980 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

²⁷ Total includes 248,085 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.



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Number of SC Disabilities and Prevalence by Body System

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

Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Detail table	Total number	Percent of all disabilities	Most common degree of disability
Musculoskeletal	1	10,787,062	37.2%	10%
Auditory	1	3,848,413	13.3%	10%
Neurological	1	3,426,676	11.8%	10%
Skin	1	3,147,221	10.9%	0%
Mental	2	2,019,735	7.0%	70%
Respiratory	2	1,324,533	4.6%	0%
Digestive	2	1,161,794	4.0%	0%
Cardiovascular	2	1,039,481	3.6%	10%
Genitourinary	3	939,979	3.2%	0%
Endocrine	3	520,946	1.8%	20%
The Eye	3	329,298	1.1%	0%
Gynecological	3	153,689	0.5%	0%
Dental/Oral	4	140,832	0.5%	10%
Hemic/Lymphatic	4	75,796	0.3%	0%
Infection/Immune/Nutrition	4	55,444	0.2%	0%
Total all conditions²⁸	4	28,970,943	100%	10%

Number of SC Disabilities and Prevalence by Body System and Evaluation



Table 1 Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating %	Musculoskeletal		Auditory		Neurological		Skin	
0%	2,621,339	24.3%	1,110,539	28.9%	528,757	15.4%	2,417,473	76.8%
10%	5,660,627	52.5%	2,502,845	65.0%	1,364,220	39.8%	560,003	17.8%
20%	1,612,553	14.9%	61,469	1.6%	841,084	24.5%	38,457	1.2%
30%	398,148	3.7%	64,047	1.7%	352,802	10.3%	96,825	3.1%
40%	303,184	2.8%	34,992	0.9%	170,236	5.0%	3,204	0.1%
50%	99,531	0.9%	24,158	0.6%	122,986	3.6%	5,290	0.2%
60%	53,897	0.5%	11,912	0.3%	16,288	0.5%	24,244	0.8%
70%	5,015	<0.1%	7,820	0.2%	14,667	0.4%	12	<0.1%
80%	1,205	<0.1%	7,582	0.2%	5,683	0.2%	1,173	<0.1%
90%	992	<0.1%	3,026	0.1%	481	<0.1%	3	<0.1%
100%	30,568	0.3%	20,022	0.5%	9,472	0.3%	537	<0.1%
Total²⁹	10,787,062	100%	3,848,413	100.0%	3,426,676	100.0%	3,147,221	100.0%

Table 2

Rating %	Mental		Respiratory		Digestive		Cardiovascular	
0%	40,050	2.0%	530,043	40.0%	612,460	52.7%	320,584	30.8%
10%	118,603	5.9%	222,558	16.8%	350,583	30.2%	330,090	31.8%
20%	582	<0.1%	2,884	0.2%	40,587	3.5%	53,293	5.1%
30%	443,011	21.9%	132,533	10.0%	122,186	10.5%	132,565	12.8%
40%	575	<0.1%	341	<0.1%	6,155	0.5%	22,559	2.2%
50%	524,419	26.0%	390,997	29.5%	1,977	0.2%	422	<0.1%
60%	416	<0.1%	22,631	1.7%	15,615	1.3%	103,592	10.0%
70%	624,303	30.9%	27	<0.1%	305	<0.1%	54	<0.1%
80%	10	<0.1%	17	<0.1%	581	0.1%	17	<0.1%
90%	30	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	21	<0.1%
100%	267,736	13.3%	22,499	1.7%	11,342	1.0%	76,284	7.3%
Total	2,019,735	100.0%	1,324,533	100.0%	1,161,794	100.0%	1,039,481	100.0%

²⁹ Totals include 1 auditory, and 3 musculoskeletal disabilities with unknown evaluation.



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

Table 3 Number of SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Rating %	Genitourinary		Endocrine		The Eye		Gynecological	
0%	578,280	61.5%	24,664	4.7%	183,056	55.6%	80,101	52.1%
10%	52,972	5.6%	78,946	15.2%	76,204	23.1%	15,808	10.3%
20%	77,307	8.2%	381,356	73.2%	21,966	6.7%	250	0.2%
30%	32,354	3.4%	6,512	1.3%	28,748	8.7%	33,874	22.0%
40%	63,236	6.7%	18,580	3.6%	6,392	1.9%	793	0.5%
50%	28	<0.1%	20	<0.1%	2,984	0.9%	21,656	14.1%
60%	76,356	8.1%	7,023	1.3%	2,693	0.8%	332	0.2%
70%	12	<0.1%	3	<0.1%	2,164	0.7%	2	<0.1%
80%	7,575	0.8%	2	<0.1%	783	0.2%	223	0.1%
90%	-	-	2	<0.1%	877	0.3%	-	-
100%	51,859	5.5%	3,838	0.7%	3,431	1.0%	650	0.4%
Total	939,979	100.0%	520,946	100.0%	329,298	100.0%	153,689	100.0%

Table 4

Rating %	Dental/Oral		Hemic/Lymphatic		Infection/Immune/Nutrition		Total all body systems ³⁰	
0%	45,930	32.6%	34,800	45.9%	33,514	60.4%	9,161,628	31.6%
10%	61,075	43.4%	9,069	12.0%	5,647	10.2%	11,409,250	39.4%
20%	17,929	12.7%	2,979	3.9%	1,876	3.4%	3,154,572	10.9%
30%	9,998	7.1%	6,537	8.6%	1,751	3.2%	1,861,891	6.4%
40%	5,108	3.6%	380	0.5%	2,719	4.9%	638,454	2.2%
50%	704	0.5%	7	<0.1%	20	<0.1%	1,195,199	4.1%
60%	7	<0.1%	469	0.6%	6,741	12.2%	342,216	1.2%
70%	19	<0.1%	631	0.8%	6	<0.1%	655,040	2.3%
80%	2	<0.1%	2	<0.1%	33	0.1%	24,888	0.1%
90%	1	<0.1%	-	-	1	<0.1%	5,440	<0.1%
100%	59	<0.1%	20,922	27.6%	3,136	5.7%	522,361	1.8%
Total	140,832	100.0%	75,796	100.0%	55,444	100.0%	28,970,943	100%

³⁰ Totals include 4 disabilities with unknown evaluations and 44 disabilities unidentifiable by body system.

The Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System



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

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of flexion, knee	1,313,306	12.17%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	1,129,931	10.47%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	767,270	7.11%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		3,210,507	29.8%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		10,787,062	
Auditory	Tinnitus	2,327,387	60.48%
	Hearing loss	1,343,013	34.90%
	Labyrinthitis	56,908	1.48%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		3,727,308	96.9%
All auditory disabilities		3,848,413	
Neurological	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	1,010,640	29.49%
	Migraine	667,878	19.49%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	256,524	7.49%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		1,935,042	56.5%
All neurological disabilities		3,426,676	
Skin	Scars, general	1,017,297	32.32%
	Eczema	465,900	14.80%
	Scars, burns (2nd degree)	451,422	14.34%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		1,934,619	61.5%
All skin disabilities		3,147,221	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	1,186,818	58.76%
	Major depressive disorder	245,356	12.15%
	Chronic adjustment disorder	117,044	5.80%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		1,549,218	76.7%
All mental disabilities		2,019,735	



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

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of body system disabilities
Respiratory	Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	403,483	30.46%
	Allergic rhinitis	333,440	25.17%
	Bronchial asthma	135,848	10.26%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		872,771	65.9%
All respiratory disabilities		1,324,533	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	378,683	32.59%
	Hemorrhoids	275,635	23.72%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	142,657	12.28%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		796,975	68.6%
All digestive disabilities		1,161,794	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	436,083	41.95%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (coronary artery disease)	231,360	22.26%
	Varicose veins	77,170	7.42%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		744,613	71.6%
All cardiovascular disabilities		1,039,481	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	394,299	41.95%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	143,426	15.26%
	Prostate gland injuries	62,330	6.63%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		600,055	63.8%
All genitourinary disabilities		939,979	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	445,489	85.52%
	Hypothyroidism	48,841	9.38%
	Hyperthyroidism	8,885	1.71%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		503,215	96.6%
All endocrine disabilities		520,946	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total number of disabilities	% of body system disabilities
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	63,266	19.21%
	Impairment to field of vision	33,149	10.07%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	32,673	9.92%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		129,088	39.2%
All eye related disabilities		329,298	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	25,345	16.49%
	Removal of uterus and both ovaries	18,357	11.94%
	Disease or injury of the ovary	17,352	11.29%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		61,054	39.7%
All gynecological disabilities		153,689	
Dental/Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	114,191	81.08%
	Loss of teeth	8,668	6.15%
	Malunion of lower jaw	8,617	6.12%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		131,476	93.4%
All dental/oral disabilities		140,832	
Hemic/Lymphatic	Anemia	23,380	30.85%
	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	12,696	16.75%
	Leukemia	9,288	12.25%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		45,364	59.9%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		75,796	
Infection/Immune/ Nutrition	Malaria	22,897	41.30%
	Chronic fatigue syndrome	14,447	26.06%
	HIV-related illness	5,438	9.81%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		42,782	77.2%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		55,444	



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities – by Disability Type

The disabilities listed on pages [101](#) through [103](#) are grouped by one of over 900 individual disability codes. Disability types in the table below with a ³¹ footnote are groups of these codes based on the general disability type or condition. VBA created these groups to show more clearly the most prevalent types of disabilities which affect Veterans.

For example: on page [101](#) under Musculoskeletal Disabilities, only the top 29.8% are listed and two of them are related to limited motion. The table below lists the top 73.9% of Musculoskeletal disabilities, grouping all limitation-of-motion disabilities regardless of body part affected.

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Body system	Disability type	Total number	% of body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of motion of a joint or appendage ³¹	4,519,309	41.90%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	1,129,931	10.47%
	Degenerative arthritis of the spine	568,874	5.27%
	Impairment of the knee, general	447,347	4.15%
	Flatfoot, acquired	414,494	3.84%
	Intervertebral Disc Syndrome	361,398	3.35%
	Residuals of foot injury	272,776	2.53%
	Degenerative arthritis	255,656	2.37%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		7,969,785	73.9%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		10,787,062	
Neurological	Paralysis of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ³¹	2,168,940	63.30%
	Migraine	667,878	19.49%
	Inflammation of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ³¹	207,038	6.04%
	Neuralgia of a nerve or nerve group (all types) ³¹	139,875	4.08%
	Brain disease due to trauma	135,734	3.96%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		3,319,465	96.9%
All neurological disabilities		3,426,676	
The Eye	Blind in one or both eyes ³¹	77,237	23.46%
	Impaired vision - one or both eyes ³¹	55,327	16.80%
	Conjunctivitis ³¹	33,125	10.06%
	Excessive tearing	30,157	9.16%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		195,846	59.5%
All eye related disabilities		329,298	

³¹ This disability type is composed of several disability codes.

Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Period of Service



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service (POS)	Disability	Total number	% of all POS disabilities
World War II	Hearing loss	17,728	22.9%
	Tinnitus	12,628	16.3%
	Residuals of cold injury	3,744	4.8%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	3,449	4.4%
	Scars, general	2,500	3.2%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	1,437	1.9%
	Generalized anxiety disorder	1,114	1.4%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	985	1.3%
	Scars, head, face or neck	950	1.2%
	Traumatic arthritis	877	1.1%
Total most prevalent World War II disabilities		45,412	58.5%
All World War II disabilities		77,578	
Korean Conflict	Hearing loss	57,859	25.5%
	Tinnitus	48,287	21.3%
	Residuals of cold injury	10,813	4.8%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	7,730	3.4%
	Scars, general	6,875	3.0%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	3,680	1.6%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	3,414	1.5%
	Scars, head, face or neck	2,544	1.1%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	2,347	1.0%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	1,877	0.8%
Total most prevalent Korean Conflict disabilities		145,426	64.2%
All Korean Conflict disabilities		226,475	



Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Period of Service (Continued)

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of POS disabilities
Vietnam Era	Tinnitus	627,651	11.1%
	Hearing loss	574,800	10.1%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	401,466	7.1%
	Diabetes mellitus	369,301	6.5%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	340,327	6.0%
	Scars, general	224,458	4.0%
	Arteriosclerotic heart disease (Coronary artery disease)	191,659	3.4%
	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	164,584	2.9%
	Malignant growths of genitourinary system	126,993	2.2%
	Scars, superficial (tender)	75,437	1.3%
Total most prevalent Vietnam Era disabilities		3,096,676	54.6%
All Vietnam Era disabilities		5,674,991	
Gulf War Era	Tinnitus	1,327,489	6.6%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	1,156,865	5.7%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	964,653	4.8%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	720,063	3.6%
	Scars, general	666,716	3.3%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	663,857	3.3%
	Migraine	599,762	3.0%
	Limitation of motion of the arm	596,814	3.0%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	565,461	2.8%
	Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	462,657	2.3%
Total most prevalent Gulf War Era disabilities		7,724,337	38.3%
All Gulf War Era disabilities		20,154,982	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all compensation recipients

Period of service	Disability	Total number	% of POS disabilities
Peacetime	Tinnitus	311,332	11.0%
	Hearing loss	246,074	8.7%
	Scars, general	116,748	4.1%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	100,187	3.5%
	Limitation of flexion, knee	97,979	3.5%
	Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain	90,696	3.2%
	Impairment of the knee, general	68,764	2.4%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	63,393	2.2%
	Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	56,137	2.0%
	Post-traumatic stress disorder	54,110	1.9%
Total most prevalent Peacetime disabilities		1,205,420	42.5%
All Peacetime disabilities		2,836,917	

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

	World War II	Korean Conflict	Vietnam Era	Gulf War Era	Peacetime Periods	Total
New Veterans	939	3,348	50,920	165,359	38,078	258,644
Disabilities	1,764	6,274	123,598	1,248,966	84,404	1,465,006
Average # of disabilities per Veteran	1.9	1.9	2.4	7.6	2.2	5.7



GWOT Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Gender

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

Most prevalent SC disabilities of new GWOT compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total ³²	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	30,948	8.2%	4,529	5.3%	35,495	7.7%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	27,283	7.3%	5,641	6.6%	32,951	7.2%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	20,115	5.4%	3,050	3.6%	23,177	5.0%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³³	Musculoskeletal	18,373	4.9%	4,407	5.2%	22,795	4.9%
Scars, burns (2nd degree)	Skin	18,174	4.8%	4,060	4.8%	22,248	4.8%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	16,291	4.3%	3,058	3.6%	19,362	4.2%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	14,613	3.9%	2,834	3.3%	17,464	3.8%
Migraine	Neurological	11,111	3.0%	3,744	4.4%	14,867	3.2%
Limitation of flexion of the thigh	Musculoskeletal	9,771	2.6%	3,500	4.1%	13,281	2.9%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	10,749	2.9%	2,130	2.5%	12,894	2.8%
Total most prevalent disabilities		177,428	47.3%	36,953	43.3%	214,534	46.6%
Total number of disabilities		375,175	100%	85,318	100%	460,826	100%

³² Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 153 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 333 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

³³ VA is no longer evaluating Veterans who are New to the rolls under the discontinued disability types.



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Disability	Body system	Male	%	Female	%	Total ³⁴	%Total
Tinnitus	Auditory	689,413	7.3%	70,941	4.2%	762,765	6.9%
Limitation of flexion, knee	Musculoskeletal	555,473	5.9%	88,770	5.3%	646,534	5.8%
Lumbosacral or cervical strain ³⁵	Musculoskeletal	437,209	4.6%	84,249	5.0%	523,642	4.7%
Post-traumatic stress disorder	Mental	454,065	4.8%	60,025	3.6%	515,407	4.6%
Scars, general	Skin	313,389	3.3%	59,031	3.5%	373,995	3.4%
Limitation of motion of the ankle	Musculoskeletal	321,933	3.4%	45,844	2.7%	369,168	3.3%
Migraine	Neurological	274,378	2.9%	76,383	4.6%	352,291	3.2%
Limitation of motion of the arm	Musculoskeletal	283,900	3.0%	33,994	2.0%	318,980	2.9%
Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	Neurological	254,342	2.7%	40,811	2.4%	296,092	2.7%
Degenerative Arthritis of the Spine	Musculoskeletal	240,158	2.6%	35,462	2.1%	276,589	2.5%
Total most prevalent disabilities		3,824,260	40.6%	595,510	35.5%	4,435,463	39.8%
Total number of disabilities		9,412,252	100%	1,676,205	100%	11,131,591	100%

³⁴ Total most prevalent GWOT disabilities include 15,693 disabilities unidentifiable by gender. Total of all GWOT disabilities include 43,134 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

³⁵ The number of lumbosacral or cervical strain disabilities in this report includes disabilities which, in Annual Benefits Reports prior to FY 13, were counted under 5 discontinued disability names related to lumbosacral or cervical strain.





GWOT SC Disabilities by Body System and Gender

Number of SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Male	Female	Total ³⁶
Musculoskeletal	4,124,457	719,594	4,863,529
Skin	1,045,326	200,902	1,251,408
Neurological	1,010,120	201,853	1,216,439
Auditory	947,270	89,621	1,040,084
Mental	684,482	124,736	811,749
Respiratory	524,572	90,600	617,671
Digestive	391,795	71,981	465,644
Cardiovascular	236,430	36,038	273,563
Genitourinary	231,972	22,530	255,449
The Eye	101,536	21,835	123,903
Dental/Oral	49,653	15,305	65,305
Endocrine	42,050	15,208	57,544
Gynecological	2,577	54,107	57,242
Hemic/Lymphatic	10,740	8,806	19,650
Infection/Immune/Nutrition	9,261	3,086	12,397
Total	9,412,252	1,676,205	11,131,591

³⁶ Total includes 43,134 disabilities unidentifiable by gender.

GWOT Three Most Prevalent SC Disabilities by Body System



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of body system disabilities
Musculoskeletal	Limitation of flexion, knee	646,534	13.29%
	Lumbosacral or cervical strain	523,642	10.77%
	Limitation of motion of the ankle	369,168	7.59%
Total most prevalent musculoskeletal disabilities		1,539,344	31.7%
All musculoskeletal disabilities		4,863,529	
Skin	Scars, general	373,995	29.89%
	Eczema	214,797	17.16%
	Scars, burns (2nd degree)	175,498	14.02%
Total most prevalent skin disabilities		764,290	61.1%
All skin disabilities		1,251,408	
Neurological	Migraine	352,291	28.96%
	Paralysis of the sciatic nerve	296,092	24.34%
	Paralysis of the median nerve	89,104	7.32%
Total most prevalent neurological disabilities		737,487	60.6%
All neurological disabilities		1,216,439	
Auditory	Tinnitus	762,765	73.34%
	Hearing loss	225,565	21.69%
	Labyrinthitis	23,646	2.27%
Total most prevalent auditory disabilities		1,011,976	97.3%
All auditory disabilities		1,040,084	
Mental	Post-traumatic stress disorder	515,407	63.49%
	Major depressive disorder	78,142	9.63%
	Chronic adjustment disorder	54,254	6.68%
Total most prevalent mental disabilities		647,803	79.8%
All mental disabilities		811,749	



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

Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of body system disabilities
Respiratory	Sleep apnea syndromes (obstructive, central, mixed)	242,998	39.34%
	Allergic rhinitis	177,961	28.81%
	Bronchial asthma	54,639	8.85%
Total most prevalent respiratory disabilities		475,598	77.0%
All respiratory disabilities		617,671	
Digestive	Hiatal hernia	199,018	42.74%
	Hemorrhoids	99,335	21.33%
	Irritable bowel syndrome	65,661	14.10%
Total most prevalent digestive disabilities		364,014	78.2%
All digestive disabilities		465,644	
Cardiovascular	Hypertensive vascular disease	176,130	64.38%
	Varicose veins	28,096	10.27%
	Residuals of cold injury	10,431	3.81%
Total most prevalent cardiovascular disabilities		214,657	78.5%
All cardiovascular disabilities		273,563	
Genitourinary	Penile deformity (loss of erectile power)	125,422	49.10%
	Nephrolithiasis (kidney stones)	22,526	8.82%
	Prostate gland injuries	18,500	7.24%
Total most prevalent genitourinary disabilities		166,448	65.2%
All genitourinary disabilities		255,449	
The Eye	Loss of 1 eye; vision 20/40 in other	26,003	20.99%
	Conjunctivitis, chronic	15,967	12.89%
	Excessive tearing	14,328	11.56%
Total most prevalent eye related disabilities		56,298	45.4%
All eye related disabilities		123,903	



Most prevalent SC disabilities of all GWOT compensation recipients

Body system	Disability	Total Number	% of body system disabilities
Dental/Oral	Limited motion of the jaw	59,206	90.66%
	Loss of teeth	2,684	4.11%
	Malunion of lower jaw	1,307	2.00%
Total most prevalent dental/oral disabilities		63,197	96.8%
All dental/oral disabilities		65,305	
Endocrine	Diabetes mellitus	25,528	44.36%
	Hypothyroidism	21,637	37.60%
	Hyperthyroidism	2,994	5.20%
Total most prevalent endocrine disabilities		50,159	87.2%
All endocrine disabilities		57,544	
Gynecological	Removal of uterus	9,408	16.44%
	Disease or injury of the ovary	8,030	14.03%
	Disease or injury of the uterus	5,454	9.53%
Total most prevalent gynecological disabilities		22,892	40.0%
All gynecological disabilities		57,242	
Hemic/Lymphatic	Anemia	10,888	55.41%
	Iron Deficiency Anemia	1,487	7.57%
	Thrombocytopenia	1,383	7.04%
Total most prevalent hemic/lymphatic disabilities		13,758	70.0%
All hemic/lymphatic disabilities		19,650	
Infection/Immune/Nutrition	Chronic fatigue syndrome	5,745	46.34%
	Systemic lupus erythematosus	1,486	11.99%
	HIV-Related Illness	1,448	11.68%
Total most prevalent infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		8,679	70.0%
All infection/immune/nutrition disabilities		12,397	



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 2016 to FY 2020 by relationship

Relationship	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Chg. FY 2019 to FY 2020
Surviving spouses	27,464	30,280	29,855	30,436	32,461	6.7%
Surviving children	1,238	1,444	1,398	1,294	1,437	11.1%
Surviving parents	189	278	205	178	167	-6.2%
Total	28,891	32,002	31,458	31,908	34,065	6.8%

All DIC recipients by relationship

Relationship	Number of recipients	Percent of total
Surviving spouses	427,860	96.0%
Surviving children	14,357	3.2%
Surviving parents	3,258	0.7%
Total³⁷	445,503	100%

New surviving spouse DIC recipients

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
35 and under	510	\$11,259,535	2.0%
36 - 56	2,284	\$44,393,778	7.7%
57 - 75	21,376	\$372,106,153	64.6%
Over 75	8,194	\$146,799,295	25.5%
Total³⁸	32,461	\$576,391,906	100%

³⁷ Total includes 28 recipients unidentifiable by relationship.

³⁸ Total includes 97 recipients and \$1,833,145 in estimated annual payments amounts unidentifiable by age.



All surviving spouse DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving spouses	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
35 and under	4,040	\$82,114,739	1.1%
36 - 56	26,005	\$471,483,359	6.3%
57 - 75	227,119	\$3,874,738,373	52.2%
Over 75	169,691	\$2,979,160,637	40.1%
Total³⁹	427,860	\$7,425,261,672	100%

New surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
Under age 18	971	\$5,075,609	62.1%
Age 18 and over – in school	117	\$535,064	6.5%
Age 18 and over – helpless	271	\$2,220,286	27.2%
Total⁴⁰	1,437	\$8,176,347	100%

All surviving child DIC recipients by age

Age	Number of surviving children	Estimated annual total payments	Percent of total
Under age 18	5,636	\$31,538,489	30.0%
Age 18 and over – in school	323	\$1,465,942	1.4%
Age 18 and over – helpless	8,247	\$71,193,046	67.8%
Total⁴¹	14,357	\$104,976,906	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.

³⁹ Total includes 1,005 recipients and \$17,764,564 estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age.

⁴⁰ Total includes 77 recipients and \$338,598 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age and status.

⁴¹ Total includes 135 recipients and \$665,612 in estimated annual payments unidentifiable by age and status.



Appendix

VBA Regional Office Addresses

Anchorage VA Regional Office **AK**

1201 North Muldoon Road
Anchorage, AK 99504

Montgomery VA Regional Office **AL**

345 Perry Hill Road
Montgomery, AL 36109-3798

Little Rock VA Regional Office **AR**

2200 Fort Roots Drive, Building 65
North Little Rock, AR 72114-1756

Phoenix VA Regional Office **AZ**

3333 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012-2405

Oakland VA Regional Office **CA**

Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building
1301 Clay Street – Suite 1400N
Oakland, CA 94612-5209

San Diego VA Regional Office **CA**

8810 Rio San Diego Drive
San Diego, CA 92108-1508

Los Angeles VA Regional Office **CA**

Federal Building
11000 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90024-3602

Denver VA Regional Office **CO**

155 Van Gordon Street
Denver, CO 80228

Hartford VA Regional Office **CT**

555 Willard Avenue,
Building 2E – Room 5137
Newington, CT 06111-2693

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 310909
Newington, CT 06131

Wilmington VA Regional Office **DE**

1601 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington, DE 19805

St. Petersburg VA Regional Office **FL**

9500 Bay Pines Boulevard
St. Petersburg, FL 33708
Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1437
St. Petersburg, FL 33731

Atlanta VA Regional Office **GA**

1700 Clairmont Road
Atlanta, GA 30033-4032
Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 100026
Decatur, GA 30031-7026

Honolulu VA Regional Office **HI**

459 Patterson Road, East Wing
Honolulu, HI 96819

Des Moines VA Regional Office **IA**

210 Walnut Street – Room 1063
Des Moines, IA 50309-9825

Boise VA Regional Office **ID**

444 West Fort Street
Boise, ID 83702

Chicago VA Regional Office **IL**

2122 W. Taylor Street
Chicago, IL 60612

Indianapolis VA Regional Office **IN**

575 North Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1526

Wichita VA Regional Office **KS**

Robert J. Dole Regional Office
5500 E. Kellogg Avenue
Wichita, KS 67218-1698

Louisville VA Regional Office **KY**

321 West Main Street, Suite 390
Louisville, KY 40202-3835

New Orleans VA Regional Office **LA**

1250 Polydras Street, Rm 200
New Orleans, LA 70113-2692

Boston VA Regional Office **MA**

John F. Kennedy Building
Government Center – Room 1265
Boston, MA 02203-0393

Baltimore VA Regional Office **MD**

Federal Building
31 Hopkins Plaza – Room 233
Baltimore, MD 21201-0001

Togus VA Regional Office **ME**

One VA Center
Augusta, ME 04330-6795



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Benefits
Administration



**Detroit
VA Regional Office**

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

MI

**St. Paul
VA Regional Office**

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

MN

**St. Louis
Records Mgmt. Center**

4300 Goodfellow Boulevard
Building 104
St. Louis, MO 63120-8950

MO

**St. Louis
VA Regional Office**

9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63103

MO

**Jackson
VA Regional Office**

1600 East Woodrow Wilson Avenue
Jackson, MS 39216

MS

**Ft. Harrison
VA Regional Office**

3633 Veterans Drive
Ft. Harrison, MT 59636

MT

**Winston-Salem
VA Regional Office**

Federal Building
251 North Main Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27155-1000

NC

**Fargo
VA Regional Office**

2101 Elm Street
Fargo, ND 58102

ND

**Lincoln
VA Regional Office**

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

NE

**Manchester
VA Regional Office**

Norris Cotton Federal Building
275 Chestnut Street
Manchester, NH 03101

NH

**Newark
VA Regional Office**

20 Washington Place
Newark, NJ 07102-3174

NJ

**Albuquerque
VA Regional Office**

500 Gold Avenue, South West
Albuquerque, NM 87102-3118

NM

**Reno
VA Regional Office**

5460 Reno Corporate Drive
Reno, NV 89511

NV

**Buffalo
VA Regional Office**

130 South Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202-2478

NY

**New York
VA Regional Office**

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

NY

**Cleveland
VA Regional Office**

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

OH

**Muskogee
VA Regional Office**

Federal Building
125 South Main Street
Muskogee, OK 74401-7025

OK

**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

**Philadelphia
VA Regional Office**

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

PA

**Pittsburgh
VA Regional Office**

1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4004

PA

**San Juan
VA Regional Office**

50 Carr 165
Guaynabo
San Juan, PR 00968-8024

PR

**Providence
VA Regional Office**

380 Westminster Street
Providence, RI 02903-3246

RI

**Columbia
VA Regional Office**

6437 Garners Ferry Road
Columbia, SC 29209-2495

SC

**Sioux Falls
VA Regional Office**

2501 West 22nd Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

SD



VA



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

**Nashville
VA Regional Office**
110 Ninth Avenue, South
Nashville, TN 37203-3817

TN

**Houston
VA Regional Office**
6900 Almeda Road
Houston, TX 77030-4200

TX

**Waco
VA Regional Office**
One Veterans Plaza
701 Clay Avenue
Waco, TX 76799-0001

TX

**Salt Lake City
VA Regional Office**
550 Foothill Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84113

UT

**Roanoke
VA Regional Office**
210 Franklin Rd, SW
Roanoke, VA 24011

VA

**White River Junction
VA Regional Office**
215 North Main Street
White River Junction, VT 05001

VT

**Seattle
VA Regional Office**
Federal Building
915 Second Avenue, Room 1392
Seattle, WA 98174-1060

WA

**Milwaukee
VA Regional Office**
5400 W. National Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53214

WI

**Huntington
VA Regional Office**
640 Fourth Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701-1340

WV

**Cheyenne
VA Benefits Office**
2360 E. Pershing Blvd. Cheyenne, WY
82001-5356

WY

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

**Manila
VA Regional Office**
U.S. Embassy
1501 Roxas Blvd
Pasay City, Philippines 1302
Mailing Address:
PSC 501
DPOAP 96515

District Offices

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

Southeast District TN
3322 West End, Suite 408
Nashville, TN 37203

Continental District CO
155 Van Gordon Street
Lakewood, CO 80228

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

Centralized Mail Address

**SMS Janesville Facility –
Centralized Mail**
Department of Veterans Affairs
Claims Intake Center
P.O. Box 4444
Janesville, WI 53547-4444

Contact Information

Compensation Information:
1-800-827-1000
Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 and press 1

Department of Veterans Affairs
home page
www.va.gov

Veterans Benefits Administration
home page
benefits.va.gov

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

Compensation home page
benefits.va.gov/compensation



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
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Administration

