



Women Veteran Profile

Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics
February 2013

Official Veteran Population

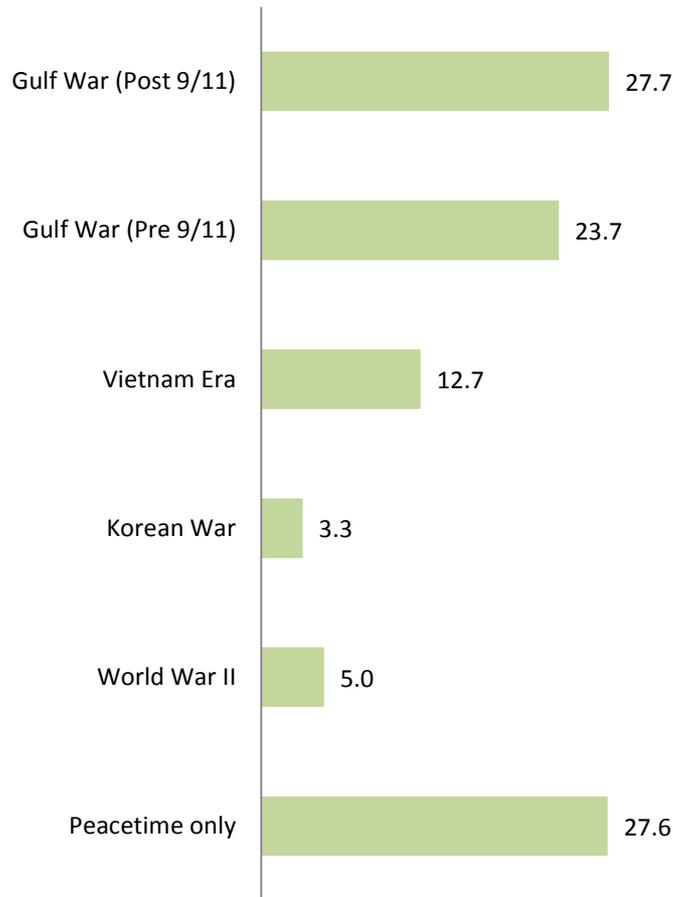
- The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) released the Veteran Population Model 2011 (VetPop2011) which provides the latest official Veteran population projection.
- VetPop2011 is an actuarial projection model developed by the Office of the Actuary for Veteran population projection from Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 to FY2040.
- Using the best available Veteran data by the end of FY2010, VetPop2011 projects future living Veteran counts by key demographic characteristics.
- The official Veteran population projection as of 9/30/2011 is 2,224,547 female veterans and 22,676,149 Veterans.
- For more information, please go to:
http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp

Women Veteran Profile

Data Source and Methods

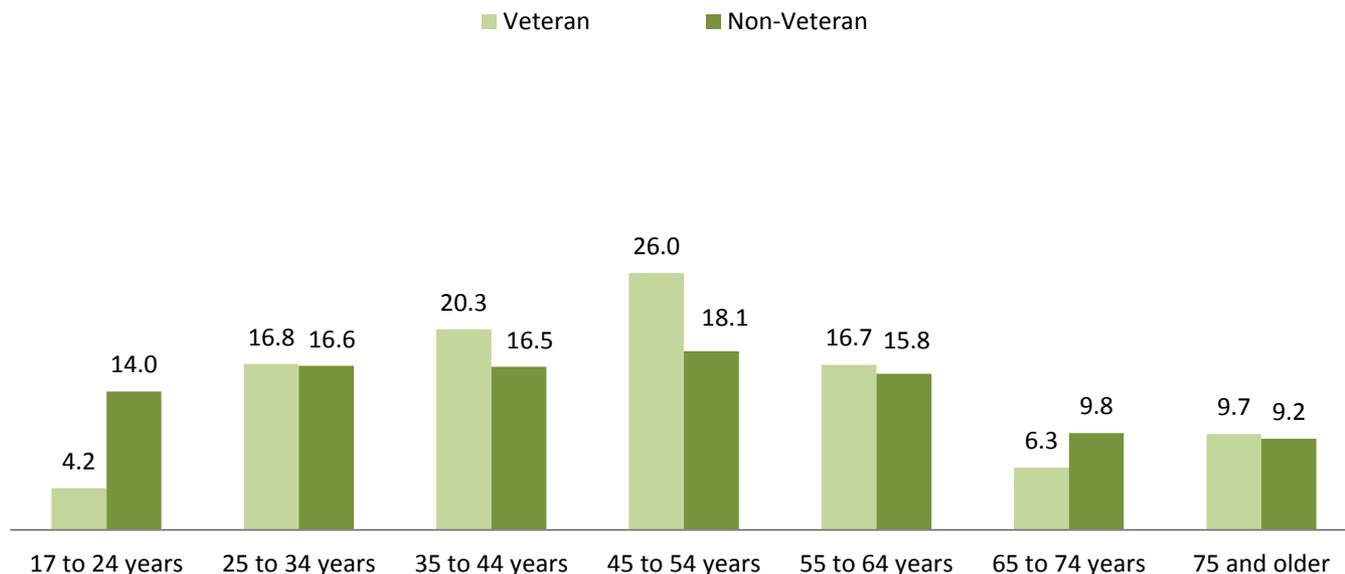
- Data for this analysis come from the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample
 - The ACS is an ongoing survey that provides annual data on the social and economic characteristics of the U.S. population.
 - The ACS uses a series of monthly samples to produce annually updated data for the same small areas (census tracts and block groups) formerly surveyed via the decennial census long-form sample.
- The universe for this analysis is the civilian population 17 years and older living in the United States and Puerto Rico
 - In ACS, the female Veteran population is 1,583,048, the female non-Veteran population is 124,185,889, and the male Veteran population is 20,013,903.
- All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level

Percentage of Women Veterans by Period of Military Service



Most female Veterans alive today served during the Gulf War II and during peacetime. The largest peacetime period since the advent of the All-Volunteer Force was from May 1975 to July 1990. Large proportions of female Veterans also served during the Gulf War Era.

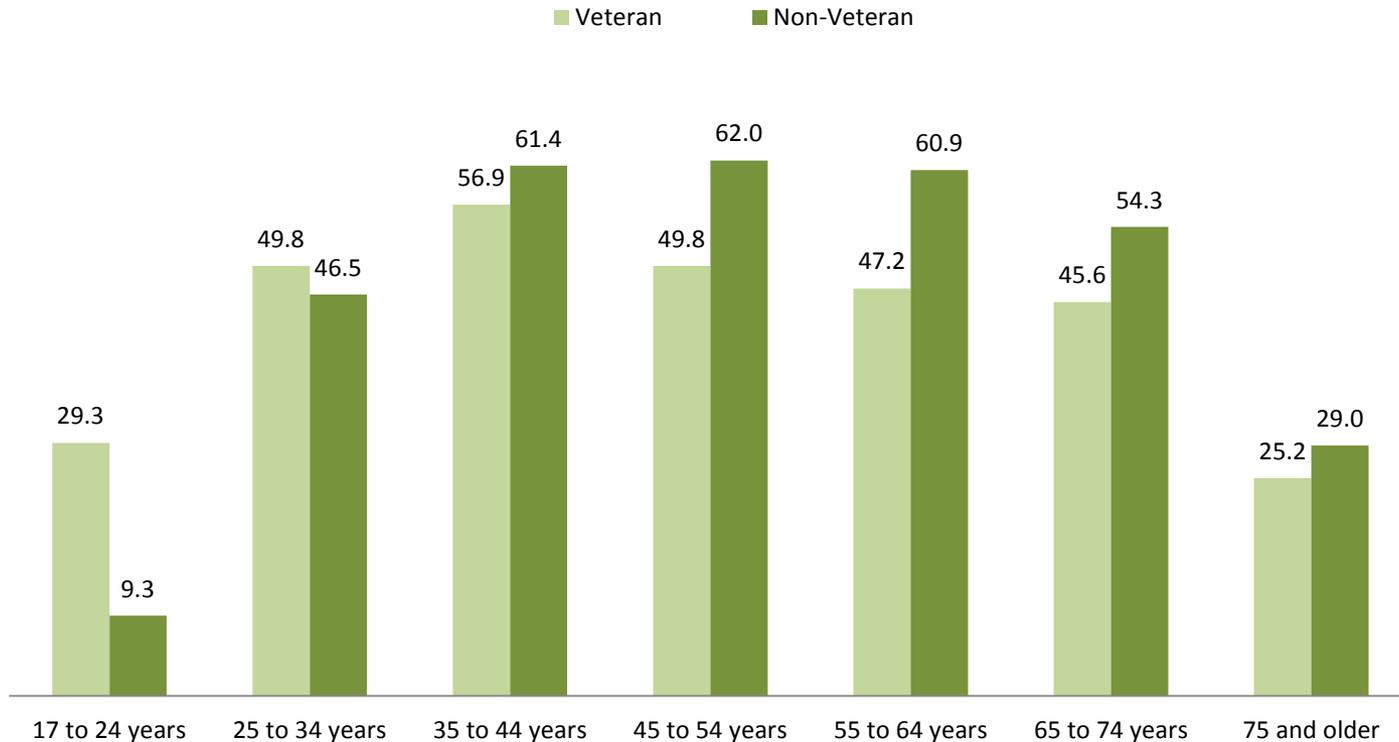
Percentage of Women by Age Distribution and Veteran Status



The lowest percentage of female Veterans is in the youngest age group, 17- to 24-year-old. These are the ages when most women would still be serving in the military and would not yet have become Veterans. The median age of female Veterans is 49 and female non-Veterans is 47 in 2011.

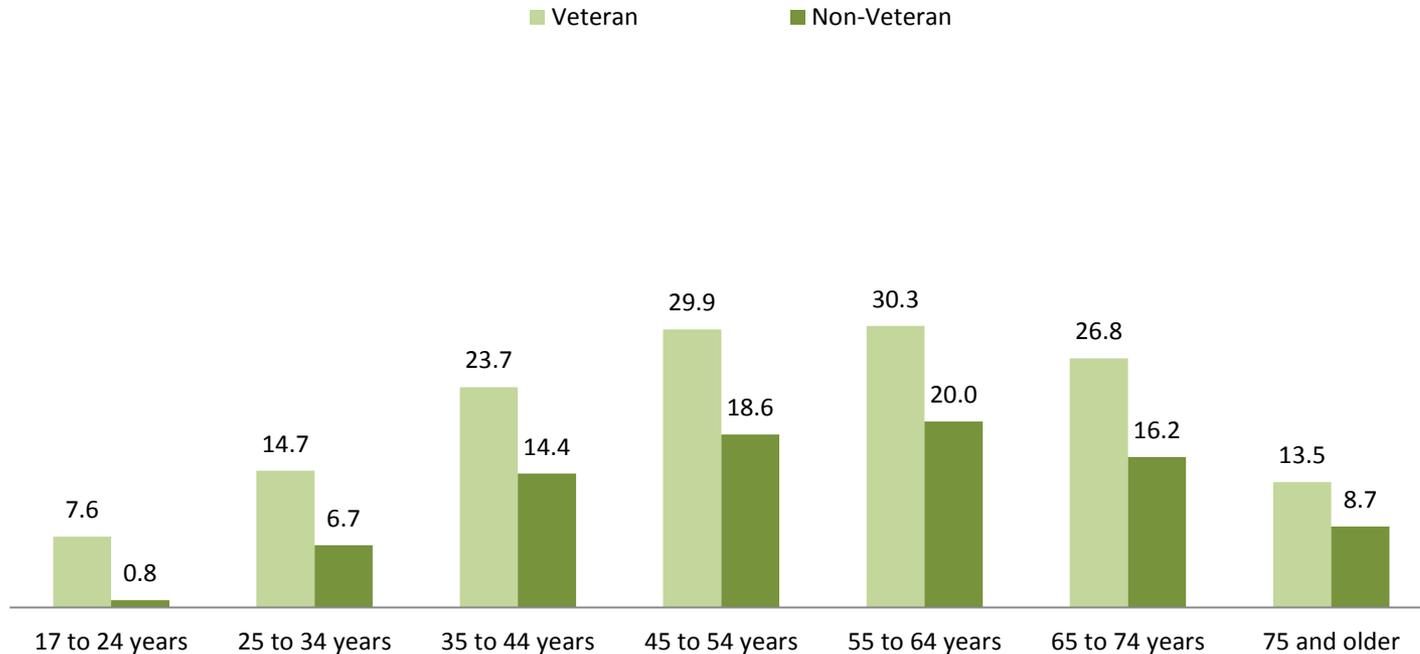
Note: There was no statistical significant difference between female veterans and non-Veterans in the age 25- to 34-year-old group.

Percentage of Married Women by Age and Veteran Status



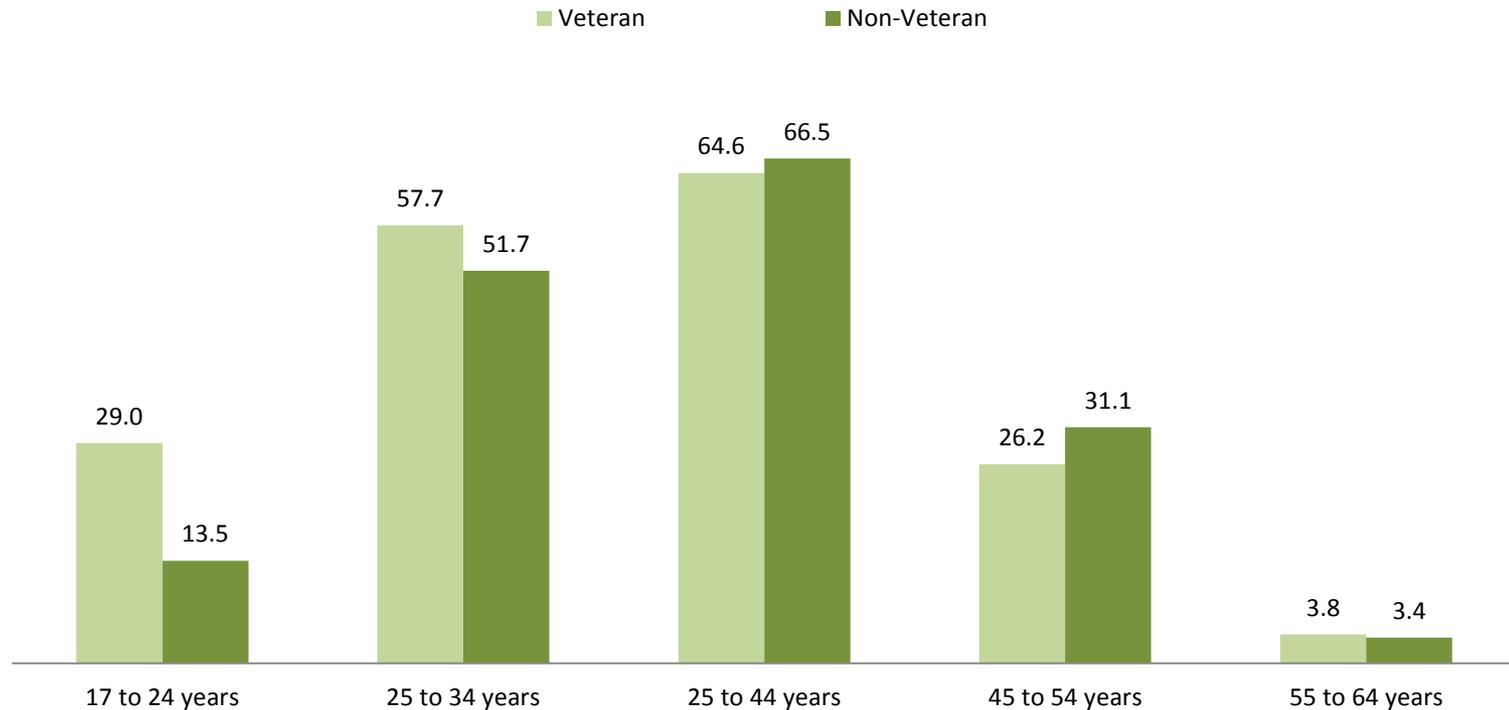
Female Veterans tend to get married at a younger age than non-Veteran women. About 29 percent of the 17- to 24-year-old female Veterans are married, compared with only 9 percent of the non-Veteran women of the same age.

Percentage of Divorced Women by Age and Veteran Status



Young female Veterans are not only more likely to be married than non-Veteran women, they are also more likely to be divorced. About 8 percent of the 17- to 24-year-old female Veterans are divorced, compared with 1 percent of similar non-Veteran female. In general, women Veterans are more likely to be divorced than non-Veteran women. About 23 percent of all female Veterans are currently divorced compared with 13 percent of non-Veteran women. Some married women may have been divorced previously.

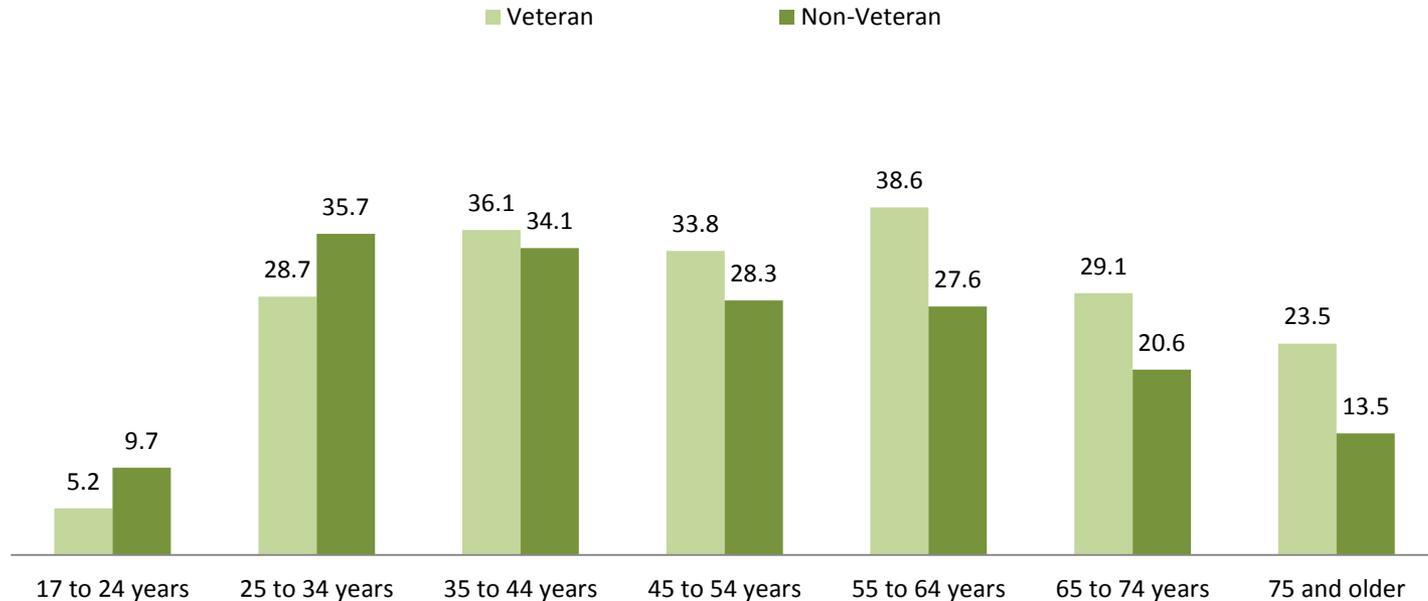
Percentage of Working-Age Women with Children Under 18 Years Old by Age and Veteran Status



The percentage of working-age women with children under 18 years old increases until the age of 44 and then it decreases. Female Veterans appear to have more children under 18 years old than non-Veteran women through the age of 34.

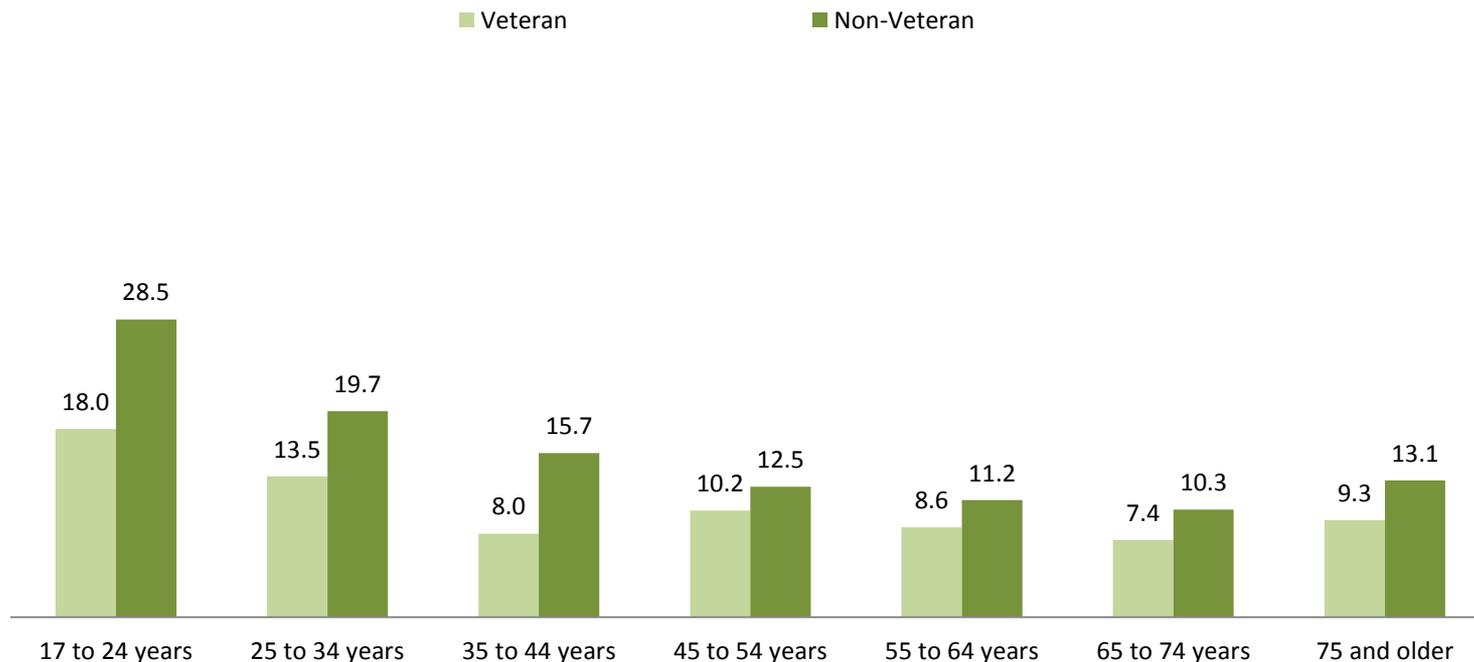
Note: There was no statistical significant difference between female veterans and non-Veterans in the age 55- to 64-year-old group.

Percentage of Women with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher by Age and Veteran Status



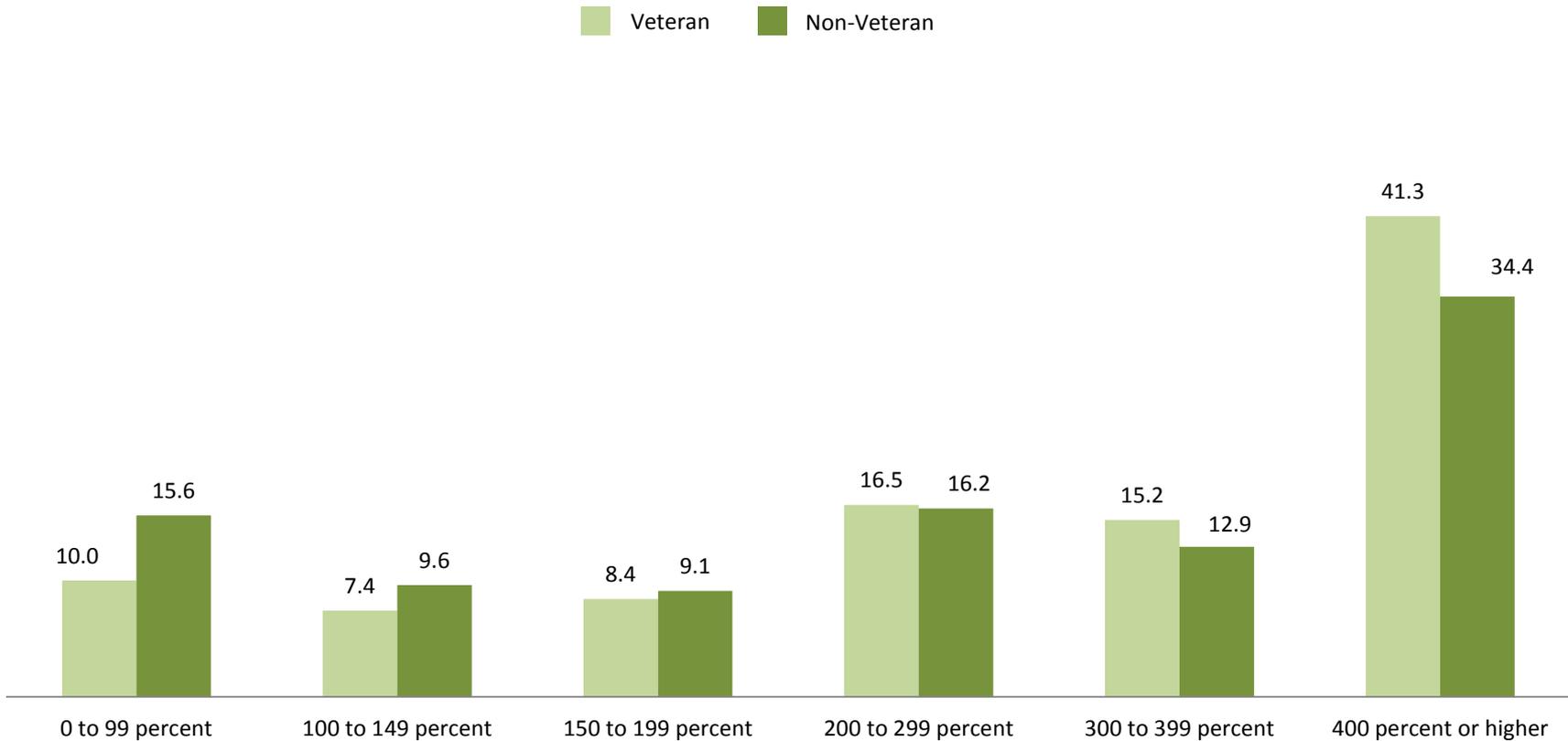
About 5 percent of 17- to 24-year-old and 29 percent of 25- to 34-year-old female Veterans had completed a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 10 percent and 36 percent, respectively, of non-Veteran women of the same ages. A higher percentage of female Veterans ages 35 and older had completed a Bachelor's or advanced degree compared with similar non-Veteran women.

Percentage of Women in Poverty by Age and Veteran Status



Overall, female Veterans are less likely than non-Veteran women to be living in poverty. About 10 percent of all female Veterans and 16 percent of all non-Veteran women are in poverty. Poverty rates are highest for the youngest women.

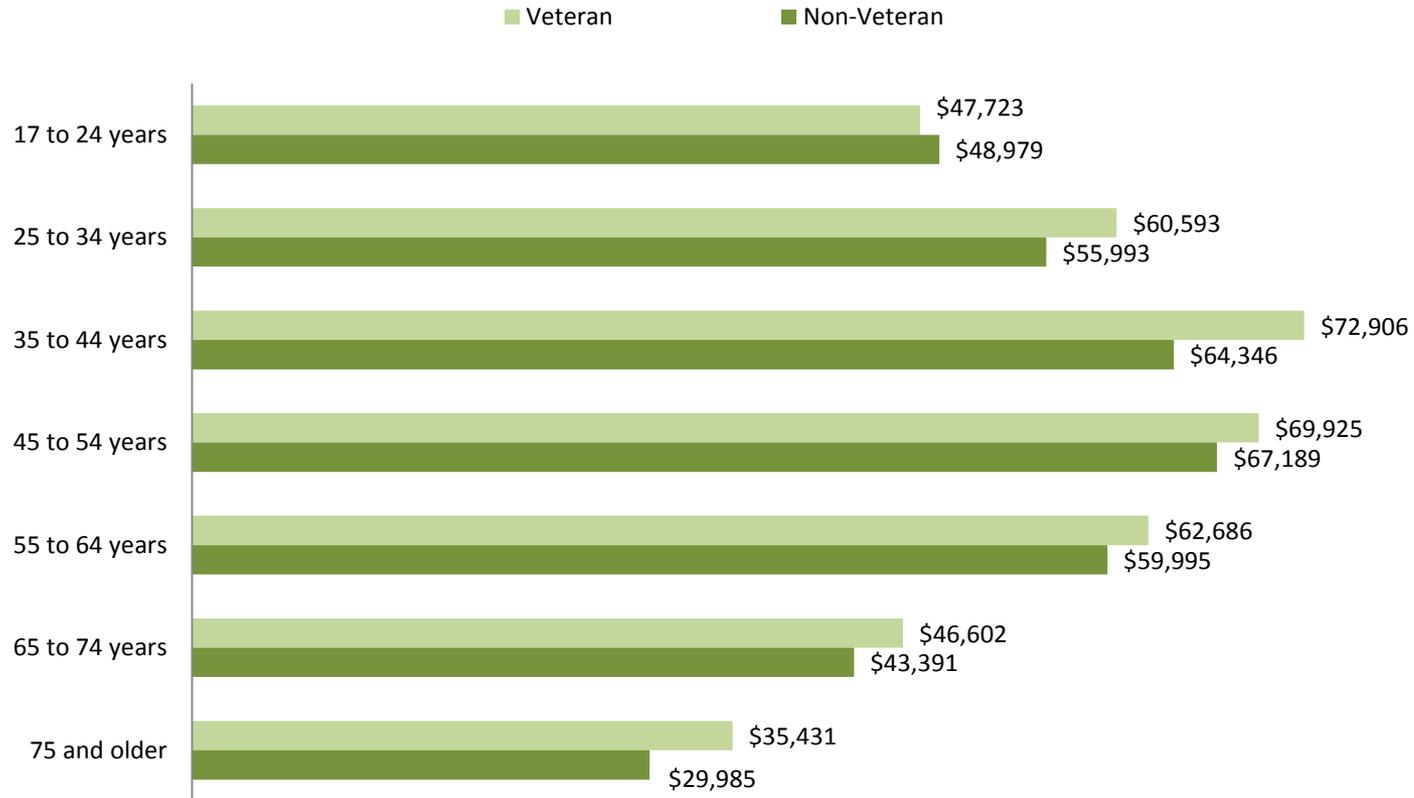
Percentage of Women in Poverty by Level Distributions



A lower percentage of female Veterans live below 100 percent of poverty compared with non-Veterans. About 90 percent of female Veterans don't live in poverty.

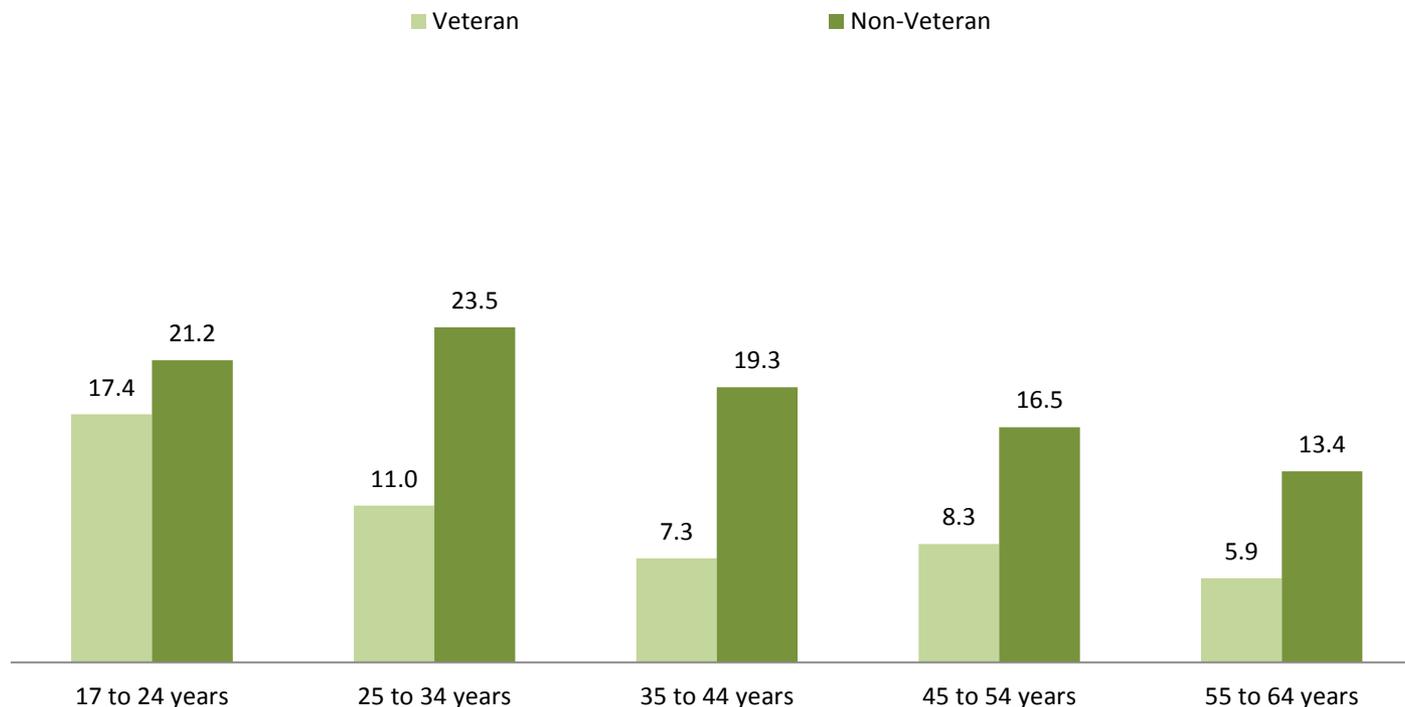
Notes: (1) Rates do not add up to 100 percent because institutionalized people, people in college dormitories, people in military group quarters and people under 15 years old were excluded. (2) There was no statistical significant difference between female Veterans and non-Veterans in the 200- to 299 percent poverty level.

Percentage of Women with Median Household Income by Age and Veteran Status



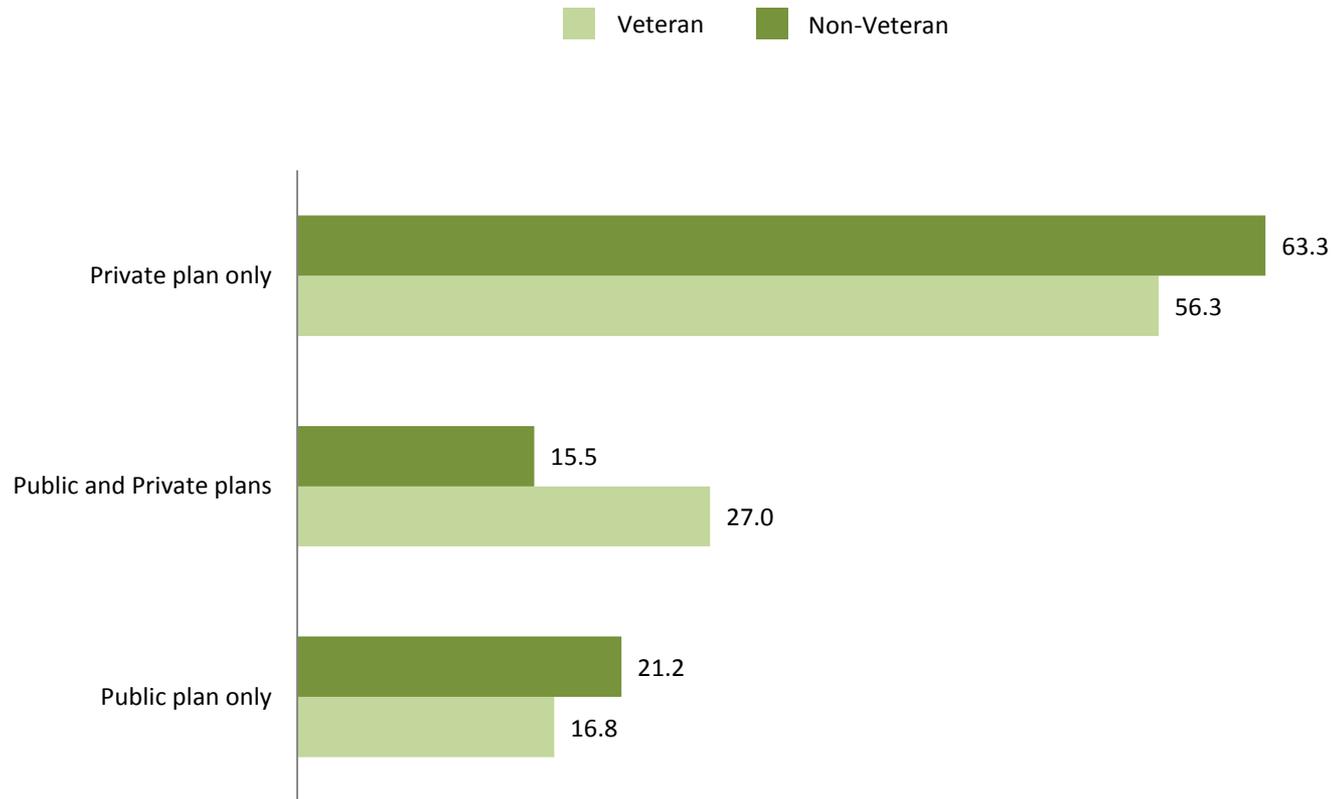
The median household income for all female Veterans living in households is \$60,300, compared with \$54,500 for non-Veteran women. Median household incomes is highest for women between 35- and 44-year-old for Veterans and between 45- and 54-year old for non-Veterans.

Percentage of Uninsured Women by Age and Veteran Status



Overall, 7 percent of female Veterans are uninsured, compared with 15 percent of non-Veteran women. The uninsured rates for women varied by age. Women Veterans under the age of 24 have the highest uninsured rates, at about 17 percent and non-Veteran women between the age 25 to 34 years old have the highest uninsured rate. The uninsured rates for female Veterans are significantly lower than the rates for non-Veterans in all age groups.

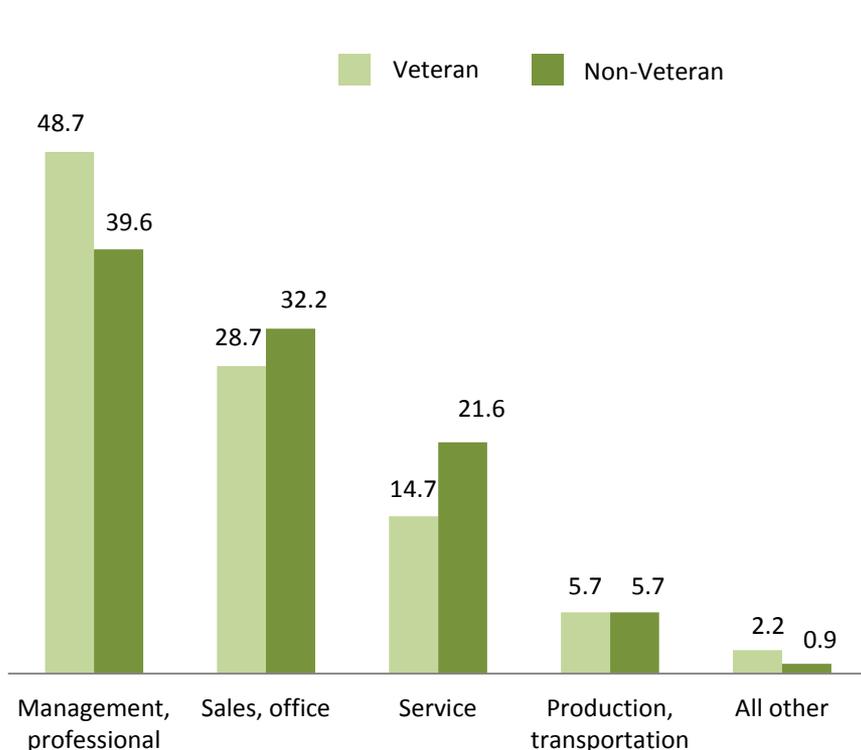
Percentage of Women with Health Insurance Coverage by Plan and Veteran Status



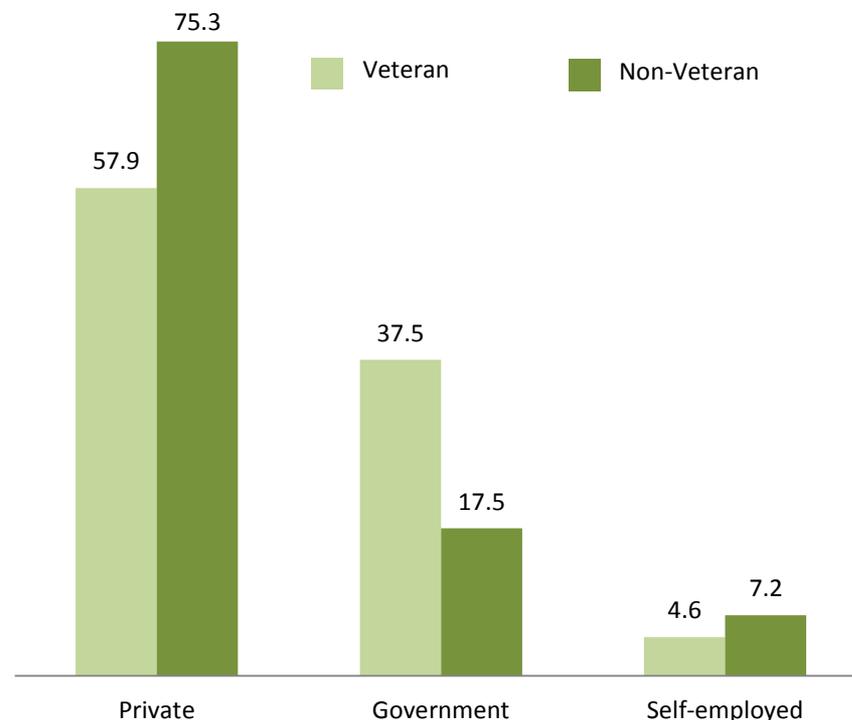
Female Veterans have a higher percentage of a combination of public and private plans. Non-Veteran women, on the other hand, have a higher percentage of either private or public plans.

Percentage of Employed Women by Occupation and Class of Worker

Percentage of Employed Women by Occupation



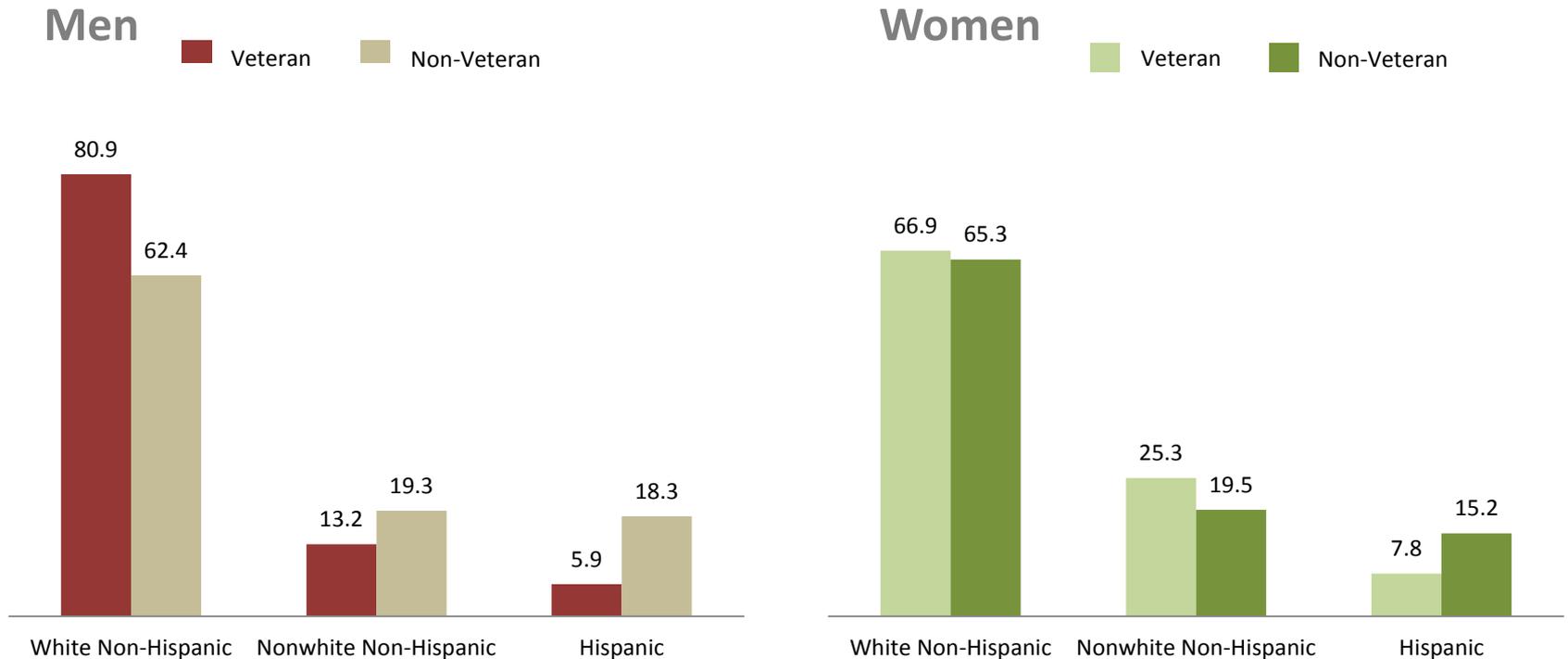
Percentage of Employed Women by Class of Worker



The percentage of female Veterans working in management and professional occupations is about 8 percent higher than that of non-Veteran women. A lower percentage of female Veterans work in service occupations, such as food service, janitorial, and child care, than female non-Veterans. About 38 percent of female Veterans work for local, state, or Federal government, compared to 18 percent of non-Veteran women.

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

Percentage of Veterans by Race and Ethnicity Distribution

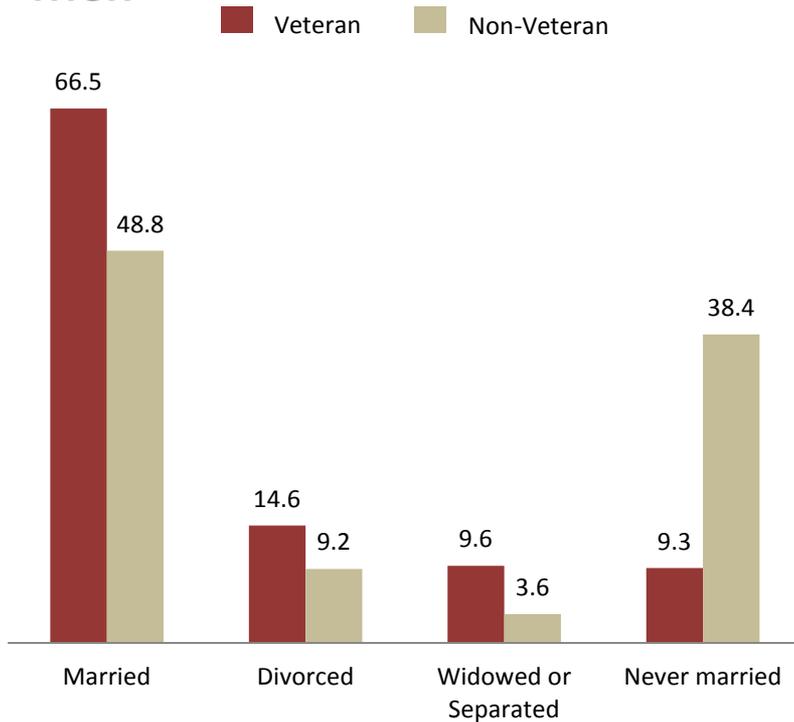


Male Veterans are more likely to be White not Hispanic than male non-Veterans. Both male and female Veterans are less likely to be Hispanic than non-Veterans.

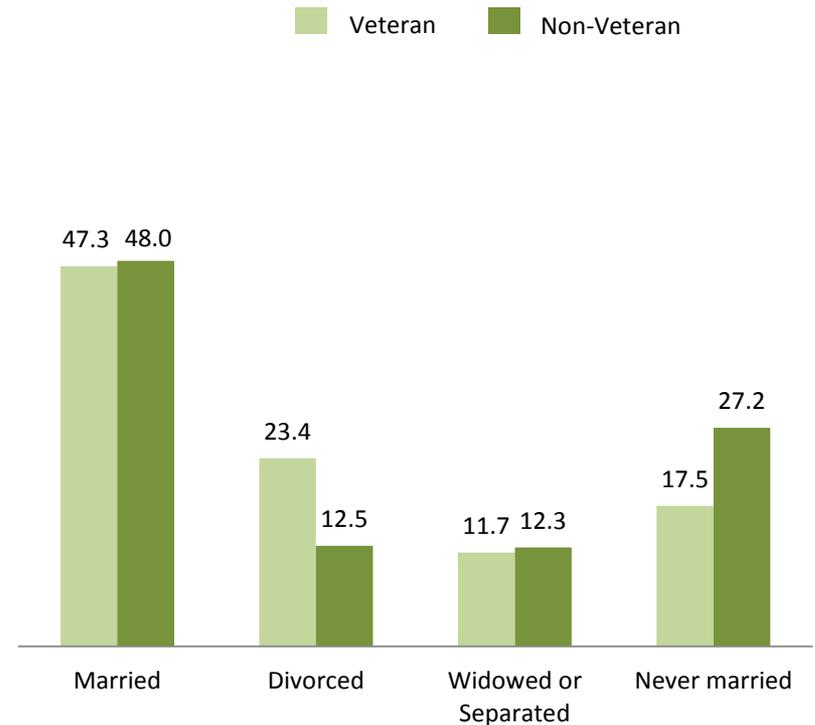
Note: "Nonwhite" includes Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, some other race, and two or more races.

Percentage of Veterans by Marital Status Distribution

Men



Women



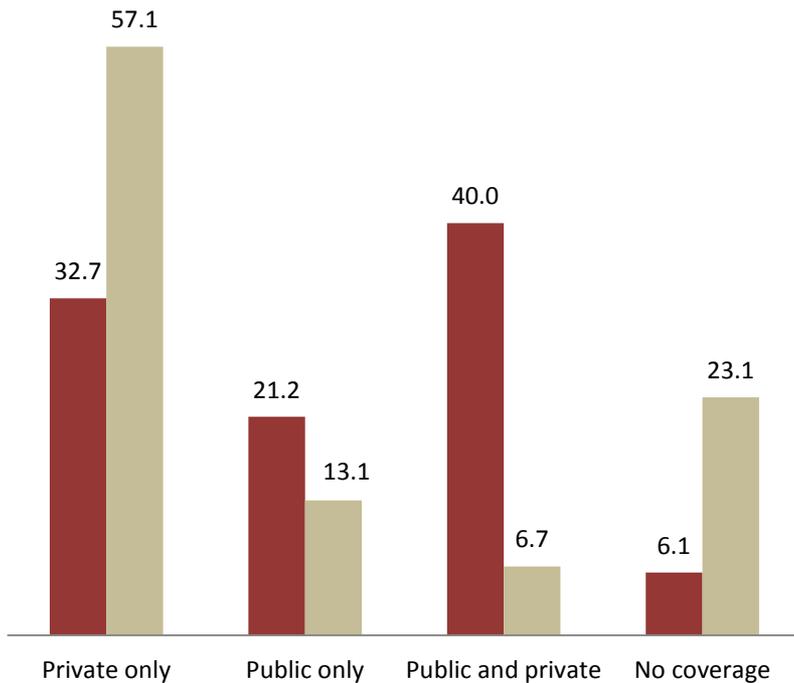
Male Veterans are more likely to be married and less likely to have never married compared with non-Veteran men. Both male and female Veterans are more likely to be divorced than non-Veterans.

Note: There was no statistical significant difference between female Veterans and non-Veterans by married status.

Percentage of Veterans by Health Insurance Coverage Distribution

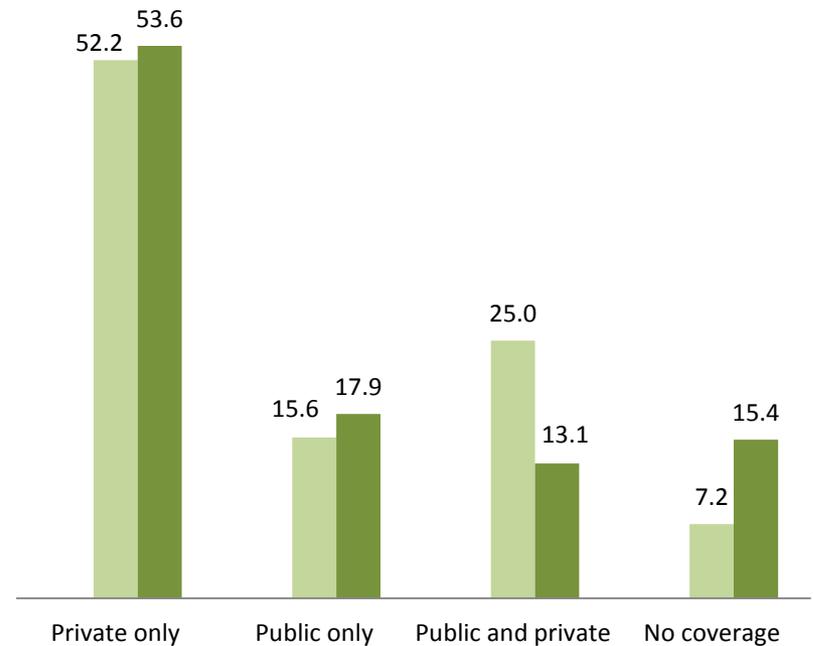
Men

■ Veteran
 ■ Non-Veteran



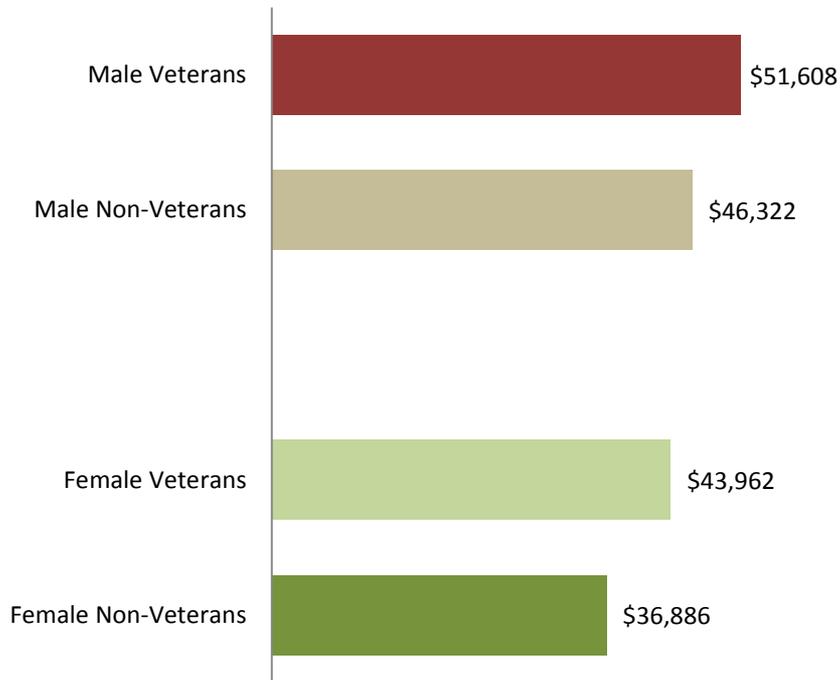
Women

■ Veteran
 ■ Non-Veteran



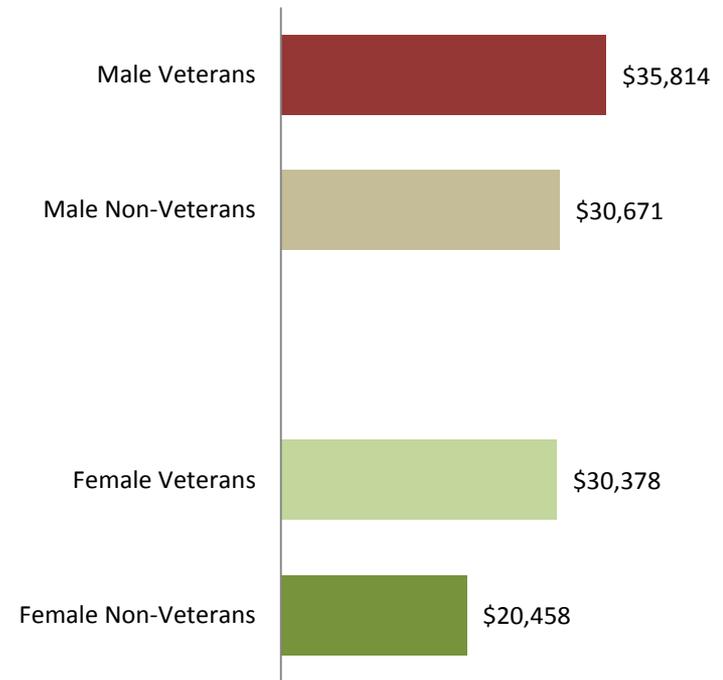
Both male and female Veterans are more likely to have a combination of public and private health insurance coverage compared with non-Veterans. Male and female Veterans had lower uninsured rates than non-Veterans.

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



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

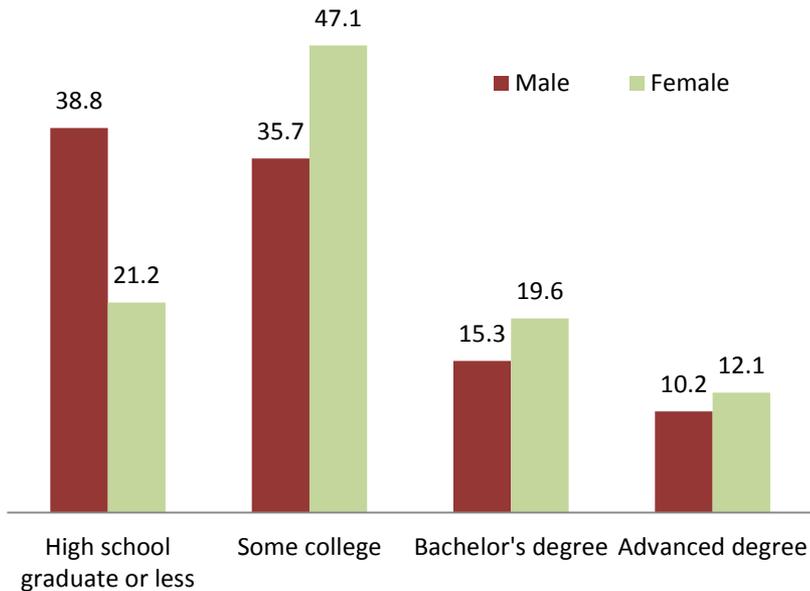
Median Personal Income by Sex and Veteran Status



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

Both male and female Veterans who work year-round and full time have higher median earnings than non-Veterans. Veterans of both sexes also had higher personal incomes than non-Veterans.

Percentage of Veterans by Distribution of Education Attainment

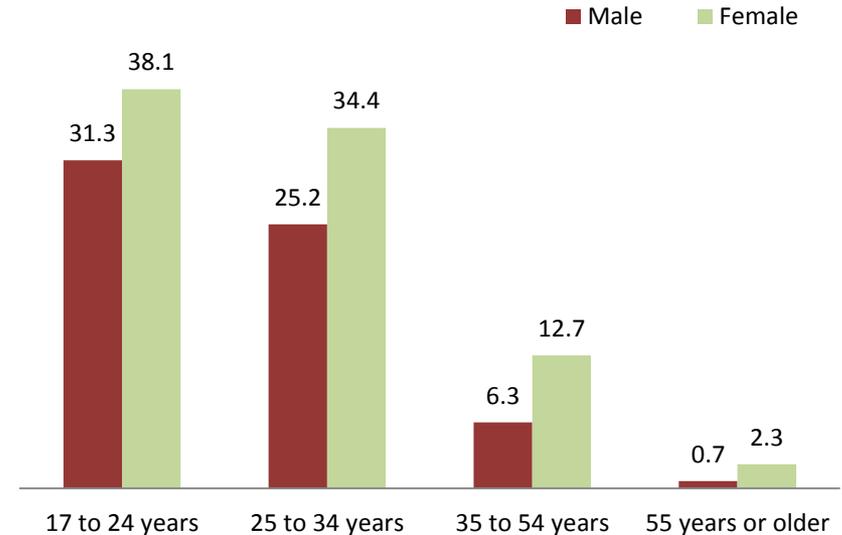


“Educational Attainment” refers to the highest level of education an individual has completed.

“Advanced Degree” refers to Master’s, PhD, JD, MD, or other professional degree.

A higher percentage of female Veterans have completed some college, a Bachelor’s degree, or an advanced degree, compared with male Veterans. A higher percentage of female Veterans than male Veterans in all age groups are enrolled in college.

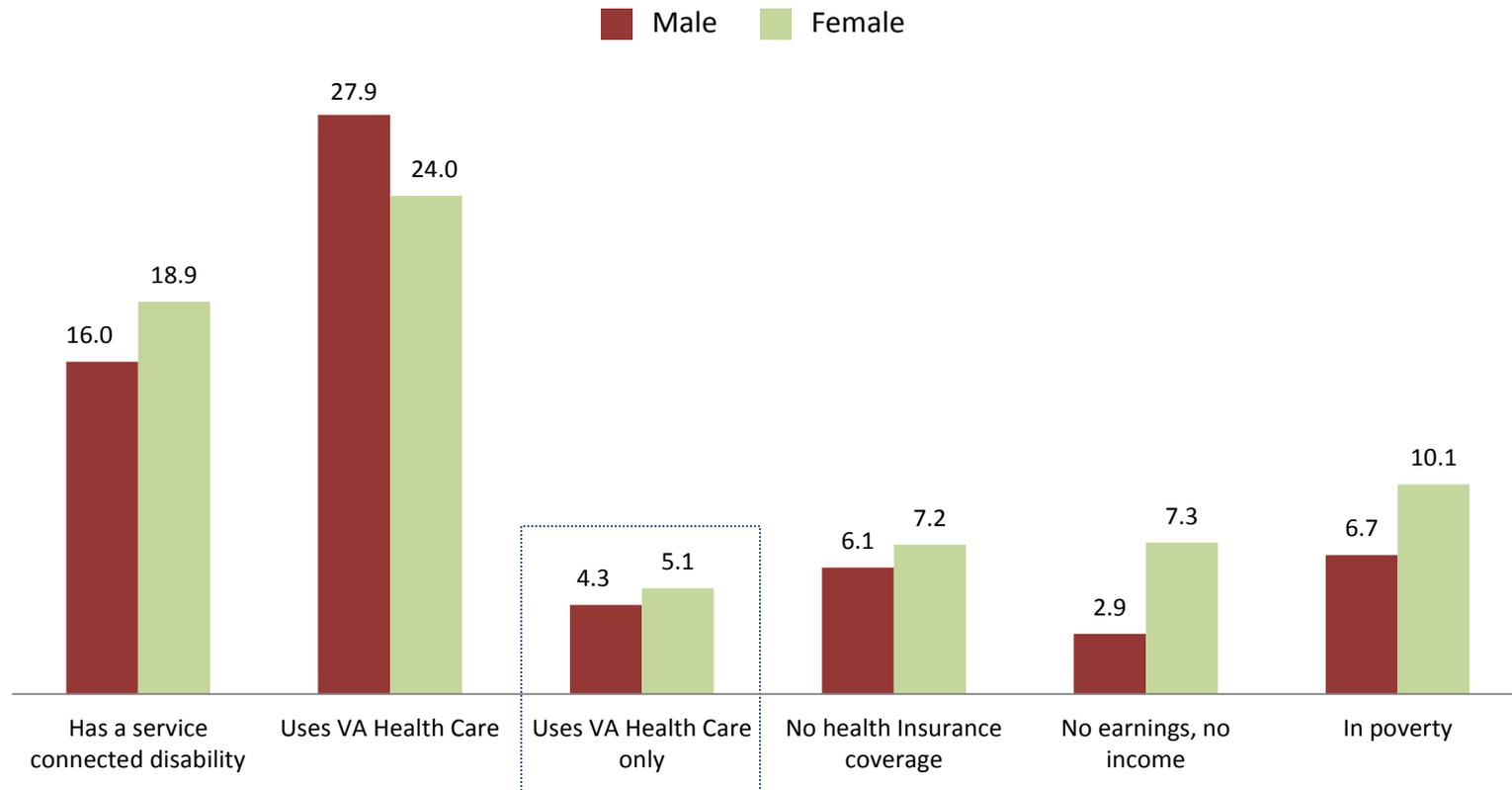
Percentage of Veterans Enrolled in College by Age



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

Note: The percentage of 17- to 24-year-old and 25- to 34-year-old female Veterans enrolled in college were not statistically different.

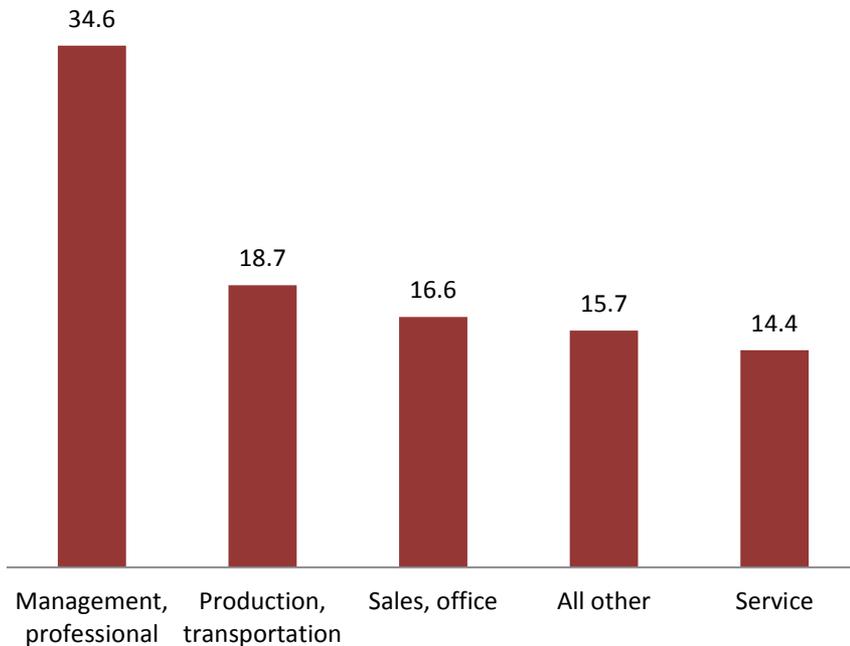
Percentage of Veterans by Selected Characteristics of Veterans



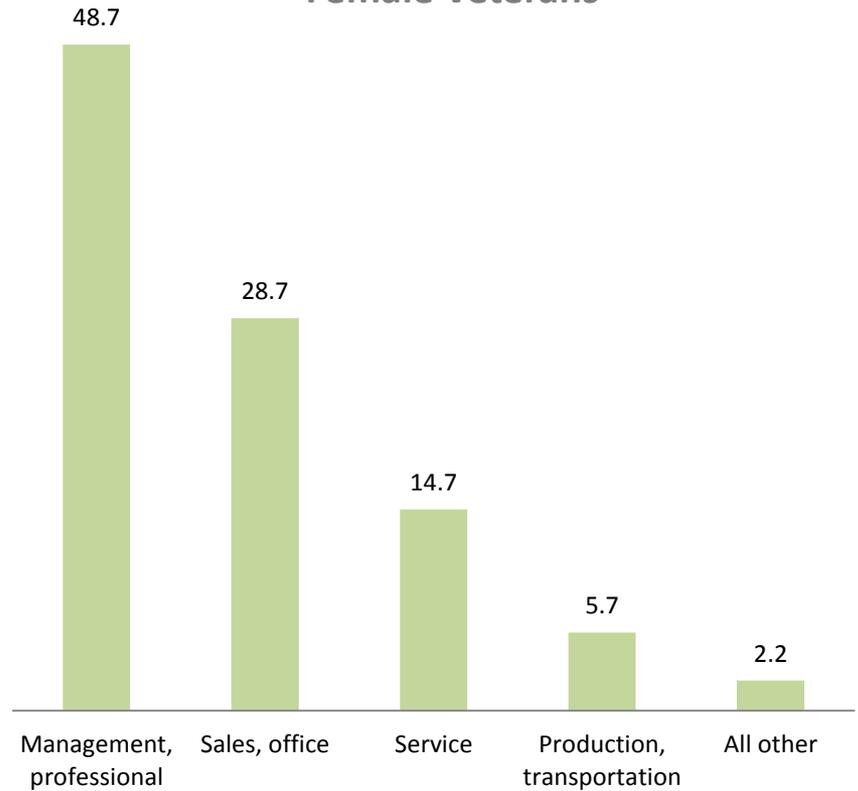
A higher percentage of female Veterans than male Veterans have a service-connected disability rating in 2011. Furthermore, a higher percentage of male Veterans use VA health care but a higher percentage of female Veterans use VA health care only.

Percentage of Employed Veterans by Occupation

Male Veterans



Female Veterans



A higher percentage of female Veterans than male Veterans work in management and professional and sales and office occupations in 2011. Nineteen percent of male Veterans work in production and transportation occupations.

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

Summary of Comparisons: Veteran and Non-Veteran

- A lower percentage of female Veterans are in the youngest age group, 17- to 24-year-old than female non-Veterans. These are the ages when most women would still be serving in the military and would not yet have become Veterans.
- The median age of female Veterans is 49 and female non-Veterans is 47.
- Compared to female non-Veterans, female Veterans are
 - More likely to be Nonwhite non-Hispanic,
 - More likely to be divorced,
 - Less likely to be uninsured,
 - Less likely to live below poverty, and
 - Have higher personal incomes.
- Compared to female non-Veterans, employed female Veterans are
 - More likely to be in management and professional occupations,
 - Less likely to be in service occupations, and
 - More likely to work in local, state, or Federal government.
- Female Veterans who work year-round and full-time earn about \$6,000 more than similar non-Veterans.

Summary of Comparisons: Female and Male Veterans

- The largest living cohort of female Veterans served during Gulf War II (September 2001 or later) and peacetime periods.
 - The largest living cohort of male Veterans served during the Vietnam Era (August 1964 to April 1975).
- Compared with male Veterans, female Veterans are
 - More likely to have completed some college, a Bachelor's degree, or an advanced degree, and enrolled in college,
 - More likely to have a service-connected disability rating,
 - Less likely to use VA health care at all but more likely to use **only** VA health care,
 - Less likely to be insured, and
 - More likely to have no earnings or income, and live in poverty.
- Employed female Veterans are more likely to work in management and professional occupations and sales and office occupations than employed male Veterans.
- Some differences between male and female Veterans may be attributable to age since male Veterans are on average significantly older than female Veterans.
 - The median age of male Veterans was 64 years, and
 - The median age of female Veterans was 49 years.

Contact Information

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For general inquiries, please email us at VANCVAS@va.gov.