



## Veterans in Minnesota

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About 411,000 military veterans live in Minnesota, according to the 2005-2007 American Community Survey. Eleven percent of Minnesotans ages 18 or older are veterans. This figure includes those who served only during peacetime as well as those who saw combat.

The number of veterans has fallen by 12 percent since 2000, reflecting mortality among those who served in World War II and Korea. The 1990 census found about 152,000 Minnesotans who served in the Second World War. This number fell to 96,000 in 2000 and 58,000 in the 2005-2007 American Community Survey. The number of Korean War veterans has declined 20 percent since 2000.

As of 2005-2007, about 144,000 Minnesotans were veterans of the Vietnam conflict. This is now the largest conflict-era population. Mortality is also taking a toll on the Vietnam generation; the number of Vietnam veterans dropped 5 percent since 2000.

The decline in the number of veterans of wars of the 1940s through the 1970s has been offset somewhat by the growth in the numbers from more recent conflicts in the Gulf Wars and Afghanistan. About 54,000 Minnesotans are veterans with service after 1990. About 21,000 served after September, 2001.

## U.S. Veterans by Period of Service, 1990, 2000 and 2005-2007

	1990	2000	2005-2007	Number change 2000 to 2005-2007	% change 2000 to 2005-2007
Total veterans	27,481,055	26,403,703	23,392,676	-3,011,027	-11.4
World War I	62,198	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pre World War II only	N/A	N/A	57,389	N/A	N/A
Between WWII and Korea only	N/A	N/A	195,355	N/A	N/A
World War II, No Korea, No Vietnam	8,345,431	5,171,644	2,972,620	-2,199,024	-42.5
World War II, Korea, No Vietnam	624,683	384,139	215,712	-168,427	-43.8
Feb. 1955 to July 1964 (Between Vietnam and Korea only)	2,944,497	2,866,219	2,555,279	-310,940	-10.8
Korea, No Vietnam, No World War II	3,720,976	3,215,739	2,570,492	-645,247	-20.1
Vietnam, Korea, World War II	258,624	160,854	77,177	-83,677	-52.0
Vietnam, Korea, No World War II	326,882	274,445	260,500	-13,945	-5.1
Vietnam, No Korea, No World War II	7,646,908	7,616,627	7,080,502	-536,125	-7.0
May 1975 to July 1990 only	3,352,156	3,448,136	3,097,489	-350,647	-10.2
After August 1990, No Vietnam	0	2,696,073	3,962,187	1,266,114	47.0
After August 1990, Vietnam	0	328,430	347,974	19,544	6.0
Other	198,700	241,397	N/A	N/A	N/A
By war period, including those serving in more than one war					
World War II	9,228,738	5,716,637	3,265,509	-2,451,128	-42.9
Korea	4,931,165	4,035,177	3,123,881	-911,296	-22.6
Vietnam	8,232,414	8,380,356	7,766,153	-614,203	-7.3
Gulf Wars	0	3,024,503	4,310,161	1,285,658	42.5

Sources: 1990 and 2000 Census, 2005-2007 American Community Survey

N/A: Not available

## Minnesota Veterans by Period of Service, 1990, 2000 and 2005-2007

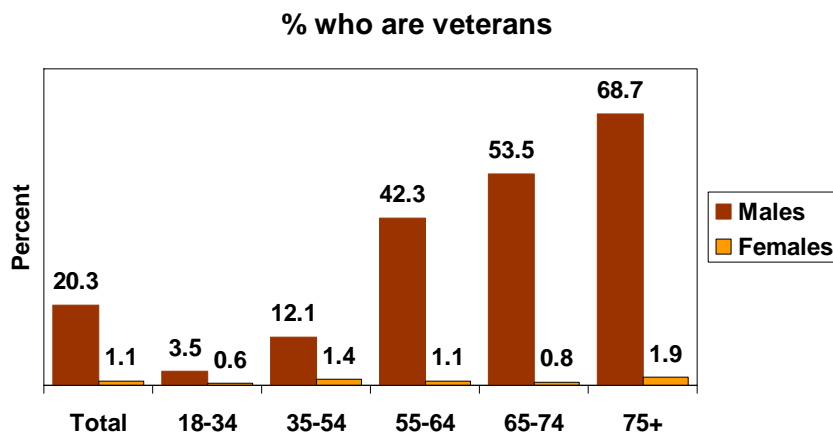
	1990	2000	2005-2007	Number change 2000 to 2005- 2007	% change 2000 to 2005-2007
Total veterans	489,498	464,968	411,065	-53,903	-11.6
World War I	1,397	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pre World War II only	N/A	N/A	940	N/A	N/A
Between Korea and WWII only	N/A	N/A	3,058	N/A	N/A
World War II, No Korea, No Vietnam	142,293	90,206	54,118	-36,088	-40.0
World War II, Korea, No Vietnam	8,387	5,221	3,065	-2,156	-41.3
Feb. 1955 to July 1964 (Between Vietnam and Korea only)	59,544	57,690	52,117	-5,573	-9.7
Korea, No Vietnam, No World War II	72,848	62,681	51,204	-11,477	-18.3
Vietnam, Korea, World War II	1,397	978	361	-617	-63.1
Vietnam, Korea, No World War II	2,072	1,712	2,058	346	20.2
Vietnam, No Korea, No World War II	146,299	146,799	138,576	-8,223	-5.6
May 1975 to July 1990 only	52,417	57,744	51,437	-6,307	-10.9
After August 1990, No Vietnam	N/A	35,263	50,896	15,633	44.3
After August 1990, Vietnam	N/A	3,132	3,235	103	3.3
Other	2,844	3,542	N/A	N/A	N/A
By war period, including those serving in more than one war					
World War II	152,077	96,405	57,544	-38,861	-40.3
Korea	84,704	70,592	56,688	-13,904	-19.7
Vietnam	149,768	152,621	144,230	-8,391	-5.5
Gulf Wars	0	38,395	54,131	15,736	41.0

Sources: 1990 and 2000 Census, 2005-2007 American Community Survey

N/A: Not available

Ninety-five percent of veterans are men. Older men are much more likely to be veterans than are younger men. More than two-thirds of men 75 or older are veterans, compared to only 12 percent of those ages 35 to 54 and 5 percent of those ages 18 to 34. These differences reflect historical factors such as the huge scale of World War II and the abolition of the draft after the Vietnam conflict.

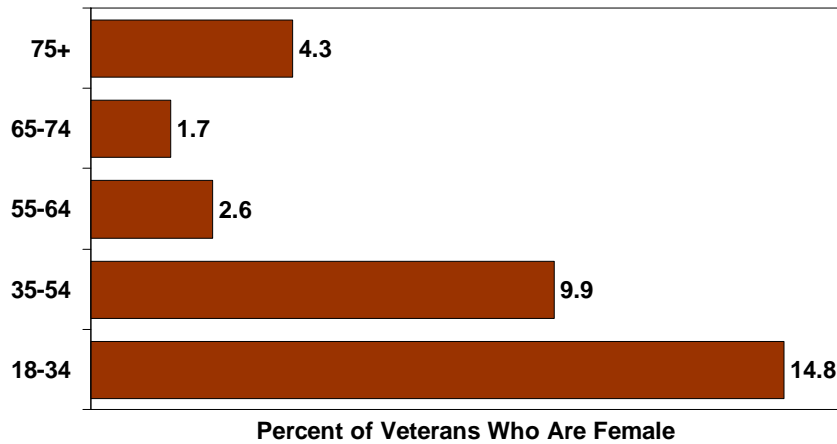
## Older Minnesota men most likely to be veterans



2005-2007 American Community Survey

Although relatively few women have served in the Armed Forces, they make up a substantial proportion of younger veterans. About 15 percent of veterans in the 18-to-34-year-old age group are women, compared to only 2 percent of those ages 65 to 74.

## Women make up a larger share of younger Minnesota veterans



2005-2007 American Community Survey

Veterans live in all parts of Minnesota. Areas with younger populations, college campuses and large numbers of immigrant tend to have lower proportions of veterans. Among counties with 20,000 or more population, the highest percentages of veterans are found in Cass, Crow Wing and Mower counties. The lowest proportions are in Nicollet, Scott and Rice counties.

## Number of Veterans by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA)

	Total Number of Veterans	Veterans, % of total 18+
United States	23392676	10.4
Minnesota	411,065	10.6
PUMA 00100: Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Norman and Clay counties	12,081	11.2
PUMA 00200: Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Clearwater, Mahnommen, Becker and Hubbard counties	11,581	13.7
PUMA 00300: Lake, Cook, Koochiching, Itasca and Cass counties	12,180	15.0
PUMA 00400: St. Louis County	19,870	12.6
PUMA 00500: Crow Wing, Aitkin, Carlton, Mille Lacs, Kanabec and Pine counties	19,334	13.9
PUMA 00600: Douglas, Wadena, Todd and Morrison counties	10,519	13.0
PUMA 00700: Otter Tail, Stevens, Wilkin, Traverse, Grant, Big Stone, Pope and Swift counties	10,552	12.1
PUMA 00800: Benton and Stearns counties	14,023	10.0
PUMA 00900: Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne and Wright counties	21,204	10.3
PUMA 01001: Anoka County (eastern portion)	14,382	10.5
PUMA 01002: Anoka County (western portion)	11,877	11.9
PUMA 01100: Carver and Scott counties	12,809	8.7
PUMA 01201: Dakota County (portion including Eagan, Inver Grove Heights and Mendota)	10,969	10.0
PUMA 01202: Dakota County (portion including Apple Valley and Burnsville)	8,066	9.8
PUMA 01203: Dakota County (portion including Hastings, Lakeville and Rosemount)	9,265	10.4
PUMA 01301: Hennepin County (portion including north and northeast Minneapolis and U. of Minnesota area)	6,907	7.3
PUMA 01302: Hennepin County (portion including southwest Minneapolis and downtown area)	6,582	6.5
PUMA 01303: Hennepin County (portion including southeast Minneapolis)	7,647	8.5
PUMA 01401: Hennepin County (western portion)	8,396	10.1
PUMA 01402: Hennepin County (portion including Brooklyn Park, Maple Grove, Osseo and Plymouth)	12,960	8.7
PUMA 01403: Hennepin County (portion including Crystal, Golden Valley and Robbinsdale)	8,963	10.9
PUMA 01404: Hennepin County (portion including Eden Prairie and Minnetonka)	8,446	10.0
PUMA 01405: Hennepin County (portion including Edina, Hopkins and St. Louis Park)	8,444	9.9
PUMA 01406: Hennepin County (portion including Bloomington and Richfield)	11,042	11.9
PUMA 01501: Ramsey County (portion including northern, western and eastern St. Paul)	9,743	7.8
PUMA 01502: Ramsey County (portion including central part of St. Paul)	6,091	7.9
PUMA 01601: Ramsey County (portion including Arden Hills, Shoreview, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake and Mounds View)	8,857	11.2
PUMA 01602: Ramsey County (portion including Falcon Heights, Maplewood and Roseville)	11,077	11.5

## Number of Veterans by Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA), continued

	Total Number of Veterans	Veterans, % of total 18+
PUMA 01700: Washington County	16,066	9.9
PUMA 01800: Kandiyohi, Meeker, McLeod, Sibley and Renville counties	11,433	11.5
PUMA 01900: Lac qui Parle, Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood and Brown counties	9,038	11.4
PUMA 02000: Blue Earth, Nicollet and Waseca counties	8,117	9.4
PUMA 02100: LeSueur, Rice and Goodhue counties	11,085	10.7
PUMA 02200: Wabasha, Winona, Fillmore and Houston counties	9,388	10.7
PUMA 02300: Olmsted County	10,354	10.1
PUMA 02400: Steele, Dodge, Freeborn and Mower counties	11,329	12.1
PUMA 02500: Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, Watonwan, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Martin and Faribault counties	10,388	11.6

Public Use Microdata Areas are defined by the Census Bureau in consultation with state and local governments. The minimum population size is 100,000.

Source: 2005-2007 American Community Survey

## Number of Veterans in Counties with Populations of 20,000 or More

County	Total Number of Veterans	Veterans, % of total 18+	County	Total Number of Veterans	Veterans, % of total 18+
Anoka	26,259	11.1	McLeod	3,020	11.1
Becker	3,247	13.4	Meeker	2,322	13.3
Beltrami	4,021	12.5	Mille Lacs	2,621	13.3
Benton	3,088	10.6	Morrison	3,134	12.8
Blue Earth	4,507	9.5	Mower	3,958	13.8
Brown	2,341	11.5	Nicollet	2,006	8.2
Carlton	3,454	13.3	Nobles	1,527	10.2
Carver	5,788	9.5	Olmsted	10,354	10.1
Cass	3,396	15.2	Otter Tail	5,900	13.2
Chisago	4,434	12.2	Pine	2,790	12.9
Clay	4,139	9.9	Polk	2,977	12.5
Crow Wing	6,600	14.1	Ramsey	35,768	9.5
Dakota	28,300	10.1	Rice	4,324	9.1
Douglas	3,697	13.2	Scott	7,021	8.2
Fillmore	1,746	10.9	Sherburne	5,755	9.6
Freeborn	3,190	13.0	St. Louis	19,870	12.6
Goodhue	4,375	12.5	Stearns	10,935	9.9
Hennepin	79,387	9.2	Steele	2,750	10.3
Isanti	3,281	11.4	Todd	2,268	12.4
Itasca	5,136	14.7	Wabasha	2,038	12.2
Kandiyohi	3,428	11.0	Washington	16,066	9.9
Le Sueur	2,386	11.4	Winona	3,784	9.5
Lyon	2,075	11.0	Wright	7,734	9.6
Martin	2,031	12.6			

Source: 2005-2007 American Community Survey

## Number of Veterans in Cities with Populations of 20,000 or More

City	Total Number of Veterans	Veterans, % of total 18+	City	Total Number of Veterans	Veterans, % of total 18+
Andover	2,276	11.3	Mankato	2,282	7.7
Apple Valley	3,492	9.7	Maple Grove	3,583	8.5
Austin	2,523	14.4	Maplewood	3,253	12.0
Blaine	4,290	10.4	Minneapolis	21,136	7.4
Bloomington	7,941	12.0	Minnetonka	4,977	12.5
Brooklyn Center	2,212	10.0	Moorhead	2,549	9.5
Brooklyn Park	4,624	9.0	New Brighton	2,073	12.5
Burnsville	4,574	10.0	New Hope	2,007	12.4
Champlin	1,398	8.4	Oakdale	1,650	8.2
Chanhassen	1,488	8.8	Owatonna	1,809	10.0
Chaska	1,797	11.6	Plymouth	4,506	8.6
Coon Rapids	5,170	11.6	Prior Lake	1,168	8.5
Cottage Grove	2,382	10.5	Ramsey	1,666	11.2
Crystal	2,008	11.8	Richfield	3,101	11.5
Duluth	6,669	9.8	Rochester	7,452	10.4
Eagan	3,921	8.6	Rosemount	1,364	9.9
Eden Prairie	3,469	7.8	Roseville	3,227	11.8
Edina	4,031	10.9	Savage	1,239	6.8
Elk River	1,539	10.2	Shakopee	1,783	7.3
Faribault	1,768	11.3	Shoreview	2,139	10.6
Fridley	2,500	12.5	St. Cloud	4,734	9.1
Golden Valley	1,707	10.2	St. Louis Park	3,192	9.0
Hastings	1,995	13.4	St. Paul	15,834	7.9
Inver Grove Heights	2,686	11.2	White Bear Lake	2,548	13.5
Lakeville	3,135	9.0	Winona	1,887	8.7

Source: 2005-2007 American Community Survey

Comparing socioeconomic characteristics of veterans and nonveterans is challenging because differences often reflect differences in age and gender rather than the differences between veterans and nonveterans. For example, among people over age 65 nonveterans are more likely to be poor than veterans, but nonveterans are also more likely to be women, and older women have higher poverty rates than older men.

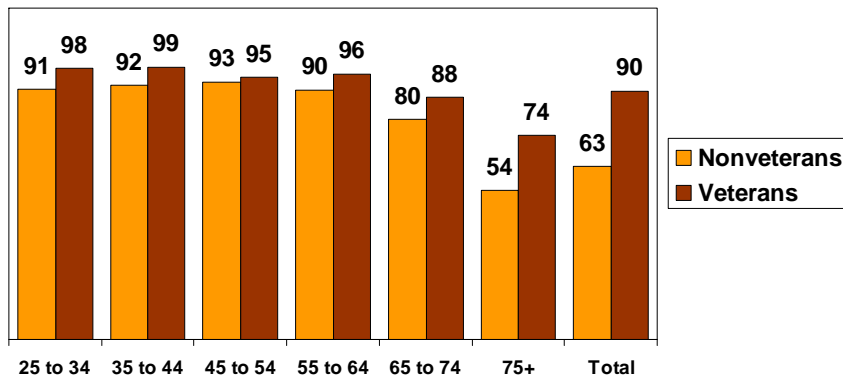
The American Public Use Microdata make it possible to contrast veterans and nonveterans controlling for age and gender. Because there are few female veterans in the sample, this report compares male veterans and nonveterans.

Male veterans and nonveterans have similar incomes, poverty rates and rates of disability.

On other indicators there are disparities between the two groups. Differences in educational attainment are striking. In most age groups, male veterans are more likely to be high school graduates than nonveterans, but are less likely to be college graduates. Although veterans generally match nonveterans in attending college, they are less likely to receive a degree.

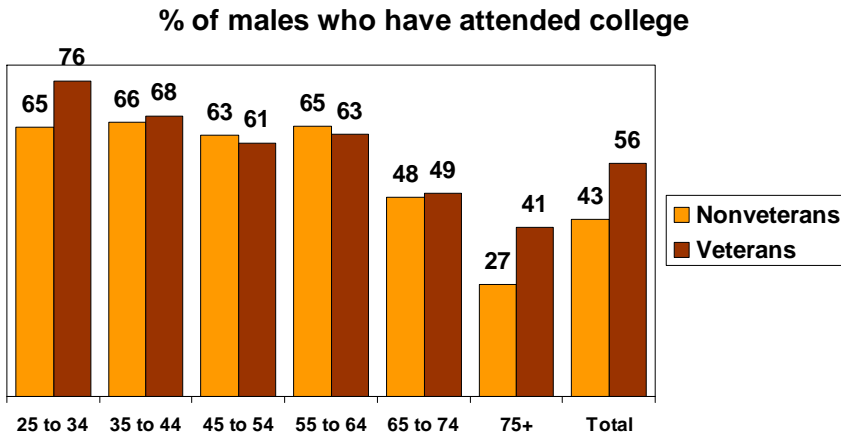
## Older Minnesota veterans are more likely to be high school graduates

% of males with high school diploma or higher



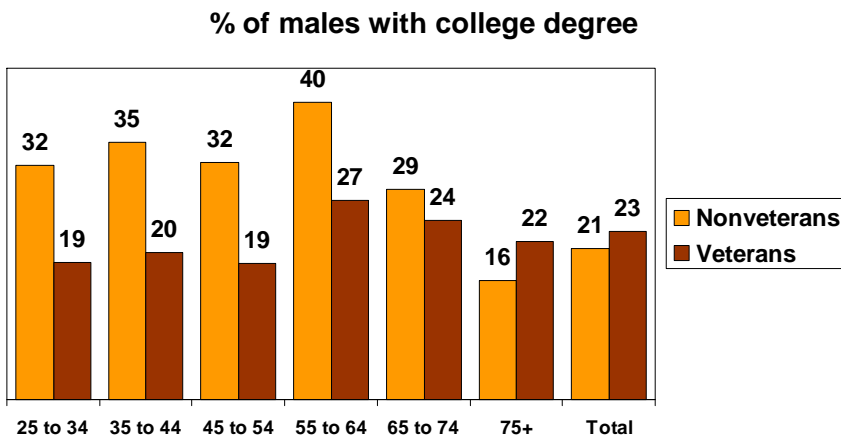
2005-2007 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata

## Oldest and youngest Minnesota veterans more likely to have attended college



2005-2007 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata

## Younger Minnesota veterans less likely to be college graduates

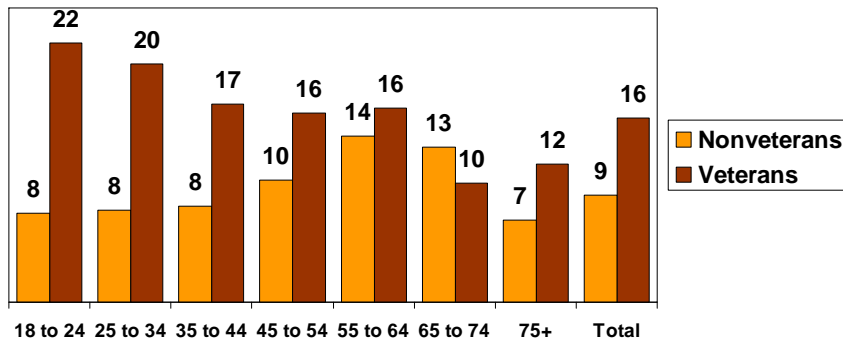


2005-2007 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata

Male veterans are also more likely to be employed by government than are nonveterans. Sixteen percent of veterans work for local, state or federal government, compared to nine percent of nonveterans.

## Veterans more likely to be employed in government

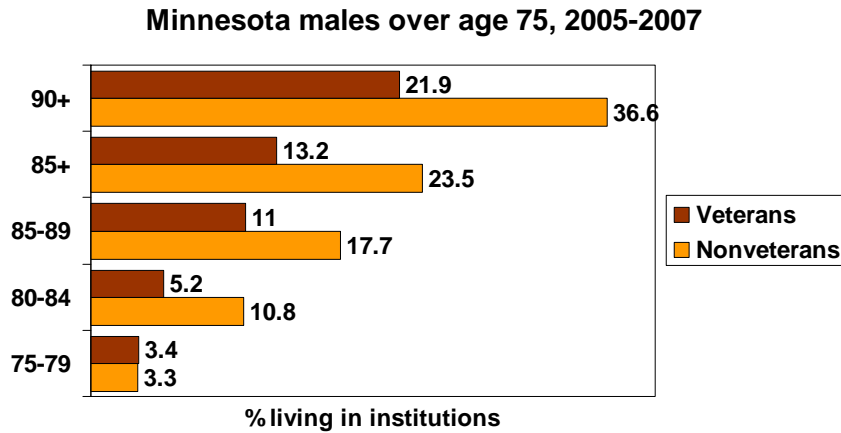
% of employed male veterans working for government



2005-2007 American Community Survey. Includes federal, state and local government.

Elderly veterans are less likely than nonveterans to be living in nursing homes or other institutions. Among men ages 85 or older, 24 percent of nonveterans resided in institutions, much higher than the 13 percent figure for veterans.

## Older nonveterans more likely to be living in institutions than veterans



2005-2007 American Community Survey microdata

### Sources:

Kelly Ann Holder, "The Educational Attainment of Veterans: 2007." U.S. Census Bureau, undated.

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/laborfor/veterans/veteranseducation.pdf>

1990 and 2000 Decennial census and 2005-2007 American Community Survey tables from American FactFinder

<http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html>

2005-2007 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample

<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/PUMS/>

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