

New Hampshire Economic Conditions November 2014

Veterans in New Hampshire 2014

In 2013, there were more than 106,100 veterans age 18 and over in New Hampshire. Veterans are described by the American Community Survey (ACS) from the U.S. Census Bureau as men and women who have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and who were civilians at the time of the survey. Members of the Reserve and National Guard are counted as veterans if they had ever been called to active duty.¹

Period of Military Service among New Hampshire Veterans

Establishing the period of military service provides detailed information about the local veteran population and the type of services they may need. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs uses statistics about the number and characteristics of veterans to allocate funds and determine if services provided meet the needs of veterans in local areas. States and counties use the

Contents

Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Unemployment Rates. 5
Current Employment Statistics. 5

Not Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Unemployment Rates. 6
Current Employment Statistics. 6

Claims Activity 10

Number of New Hampshire Veterans Who Served During Periods of Conflict and Peace

Veterans who served by period	Pre-World War II November 1941 or earlier	World War II December 1941 to December 1946	Peace Time January 1947 to June 1950	Korean War July 1950 to January 1955	Peace Time February 1955 to July 1964	Vietnam Era August 1964 to April 1975	Peace Time May 1975 to July 1990	Gulf War I August 1990 to August 2001	Gulf War II September 2001 or later
Pre-World War II only	73								
World War II, no Korean War, no Vietnam Era		5,877							
Between Korean War and World War II only			105						
Korean War and World War II, no Vietnam Era		642	642	642					
Vietnam Era and Korean War and World War II		187	187	187	187	187			
Vietnam Era and Korean War, no World War II				950	950	950			
Korean War, no Vietnam Era, no World War II				10,535					
Between Vietnam Era and Korean War only					11,453				
Vietnam Era, no Korean War, no World War II						36,022			
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001) and Vietnam Era						1,583	1,583	1,583	
Gulf War (9/2001 or later), and Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), and Vietnam Era						361	361	361	361
Between Gulf War and Vietnam Era only							18,330		
Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), no Vietnam Era								10,187	
Gulf War (9/2001 or later) and Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), no Vietnam Era								4,632	4,632
Gulf War (9/2001 or later), no Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), no Vietnam Era									5,176
Total for Period	73	6,706	934	12,314	12,590	39,103	20,274	16,763	10,169

Source: 2013 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates

¹. American Community Survey (ACS) Topic Information: Veterans. Subject Definitions. <www.census.gov/hhes/veterans/files/ACS%20Topic%20Information%20Veterans.pdf>.

National Veterans Day Ceremony

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.²

information to establish local job training, rehabilitation services, and access to medical services.

Among New Hampshire veterans age 25 and over, the largest number, around 36,000, served solely during the Vietnam Era. The next largest group included 18,330 veterans who served during the period between the Vietnam Era and first Gulf War. The number of veterans who served during the periods prior to the Vietnam Era, including the Korean War, and World War II, was about 18,300. Another 11,400 veterans

served only during the non-war period between the Korean War and Vietnam Era.

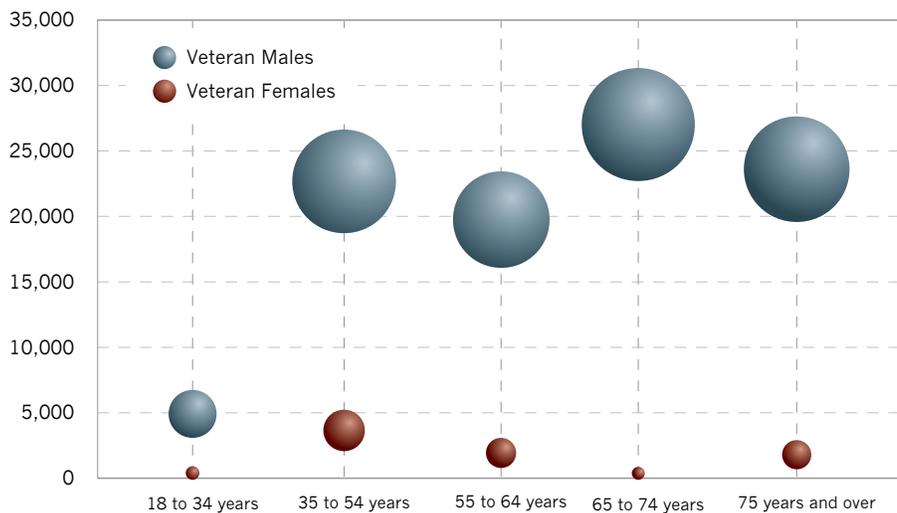
Almost 10,200 veterans age 25 and older served solely during the first Gulf War (Desert Storm), and roughly another 2,000 had also served during the Vietnam Era. About 4,600 veterans served during both Gulf War periods, and 5,100 served solely during the second Gulf War period.

Veterans are persons who are not on active duty during the data collection period.³

Age and Gender of Veterans in New Hampshire

The age and gender groups with the largest numbers of veterans were males age 65 to 74 years, with 27,000, and males age 75 or over, with 23,600. These include many veterans who served during the Vietnam Era and prior war periods. There were 22,700 male veterans age 35 to 54 years, and slightly more than 19,700 between 55 and 64 years. These age groups include veterans who served during the end of the Vietnam Era and the two Gulf War periods.

Age and Gender of Veterans in New Hampshire 2013



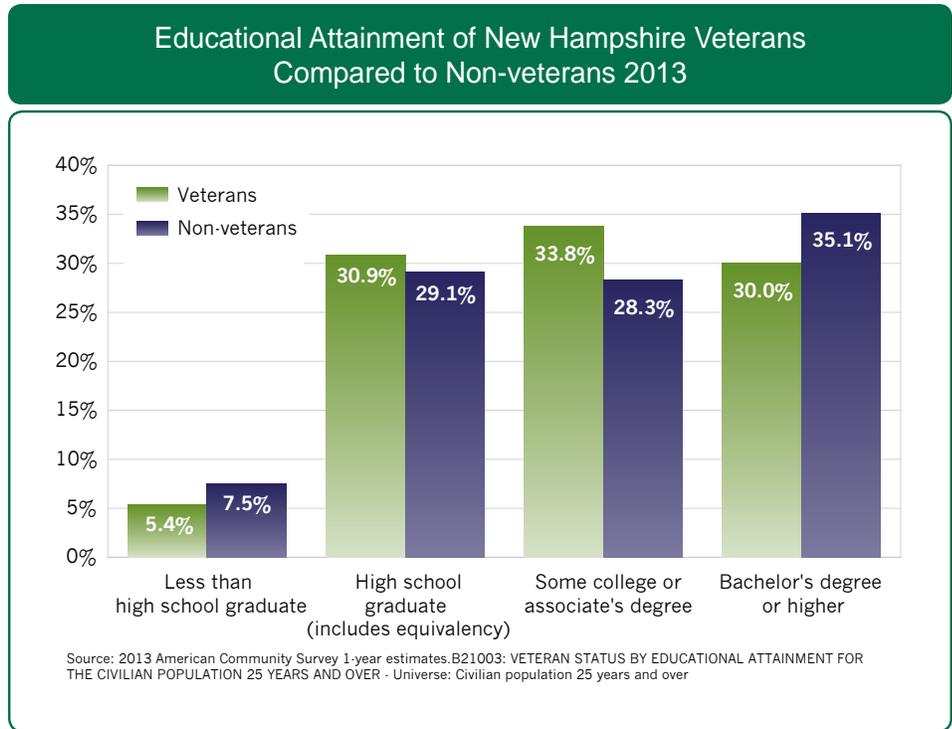
Source: 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimates. Table: B21001: SEX BY AGE BY VETERAN STATUS FOR THE CIVILIAN POPULATION 18 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: Civilian population 18 years and over

² U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs. Veterans Day - November 11. <www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/>. These estimates do include persons living in group quarters.

³ Ibid

The youngest age cohort, age 18 to 34 years, had the smallest numbers of veterans for both males and females. There are age limits for individuals to enlist in military service — as early as 17 years with parental consent, and 18 years without parental consent. There are also upper age restrictions for enlistment, ranging from 27 to 35 years, depending on the branch of the military and any credits for prior military service. These restrictions, as well as the fact that persons still on active duty are not included in veteran counts, contribute to the smaller numbers in the age group.⁴

The number of female veterans was much smaller than the number of male veterans in all corresponding age groups. The largest number of female veterans, about 3,600, was for age 35 to 54 years. It is understandable that numbers of female veterans are smaller. As far back as World War I, the U.S. Government limited the types of responsibilities and duties for women, prohibiting them from combat duty. Even though females were generally assigned in nursing or administrative positions, it did not prevent them from the risks of serving in the military; such as being captured as prisoners of war or death in the line of duty. In 1994, the Pentagon “Risk Rule” was modified to allow all eligible members of the military to be assigned to positions for which they qualified. The exception was that women would not be assigned to positions whose primary mission was direct combat duty. The new directive opened many more positions for women, but still barred them from combat duty and from receiving



related hazard pay compensation. In 2013, the Secretary of Defense completely lifted the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule, which banned combat roles for women serving in the military.⁵

Educational Attainment of New Hampshire Veterans

Veterans are assessed, in part, by educational attainment to determine employment potential and training needs. Slightly more than one-third, 33.8 percent, of New Hampshire veterans age 25 and over had some college or an Associate’s degree, compared to 28.3 percent of non-veterans with similar educational attainment. Virtually the same share of veterans, 30.9 percent, was high school graduates or equivalent, compared with non-veterans, 29.1 percent.

The opposite was the case for individuals who had a Bachelor’s degree or higher. A smaller share of veterans had a Bachelor’s degree, 30.0 percent compared to 35.1 percent of non-veterans. Only 5.4 percent of veterans and 7.5 percent of non-veterans had an educational attainment of less than a high school diploma.

Disabilities among New Hampshire Veterans

Among veterans 18 years and over, 84.3 percent had no service-connected disability rating. Any disease or injury incurred or aggravated during active service is considered a service-connected disability. The Veterans Administration assigns a ‘disability rating’ to each disability incurred, to determine if any financial compensation will be awarded to the

⁴. Are You Eligible to Join the Military? Military.com. <www.military.com/join-armed-forces/join-the-military-basic-eligibility.html>.

⁵. U.S. Department of Defense. Release No: 037-13. January 24, 2013. Defense Department Rescinds Direct Combat Exclusion Rule; Services to Expand Integration of Women into Previously Restricted Occupations and Units. <http://www.defense.gov/Releases/Release.aspx?ReleaseID=15784>.

veteran The rating determines the amount of financial compensation awarded. About one third of the 15.7 percent of veterans with a service-connected disability, or 5.1 percent of all veterans, were 10 to 20 percent disabled, and another 4.8 percent were rated as 70 percent or higher. There were 1.3 percent of veterans with a 50 to 60 percent disability rating and 2.5 with a 30 to 40 percent rating. The remaining two percent were about split between a zero percent rating and rating not reported. A zero percent rating indicates that there is an existing disability but it does not warrant any financial compensation.⁶

Labor Force Experience

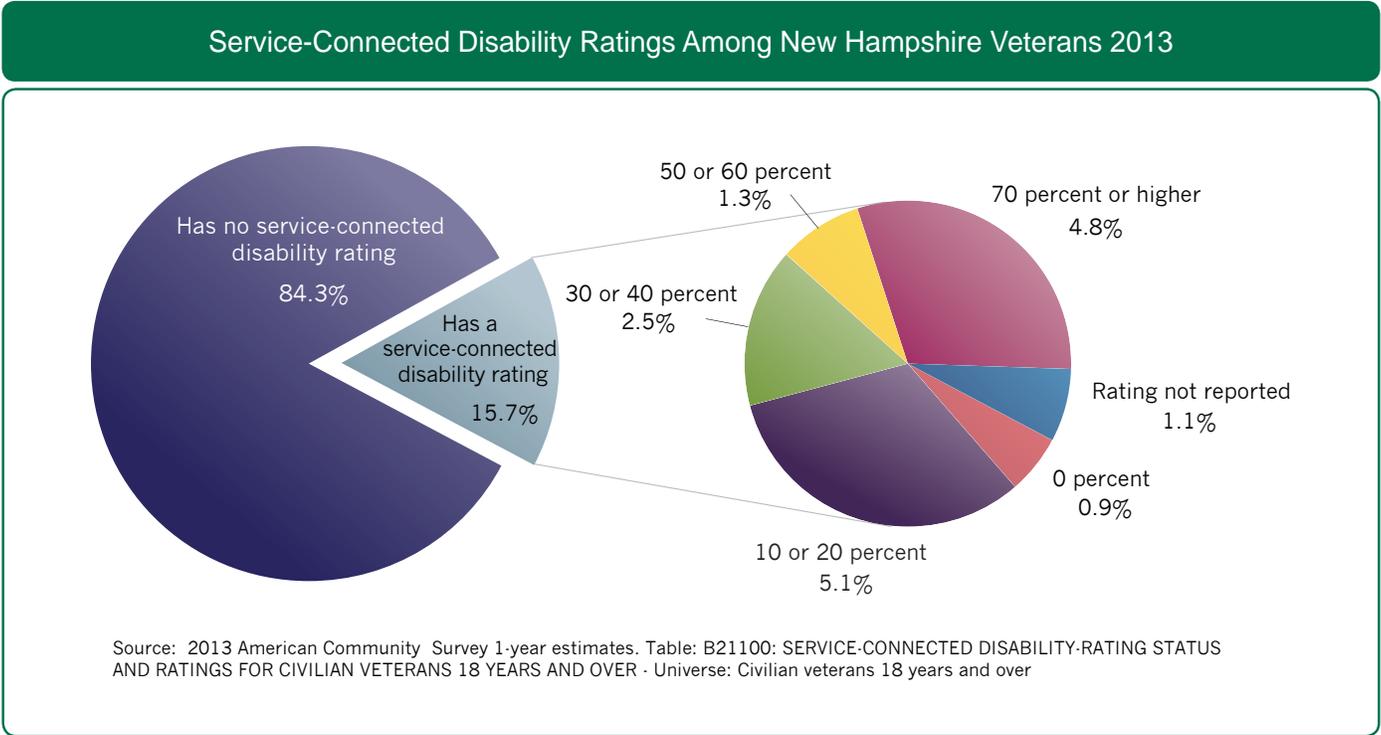
In 2013, there were 53,320 veterans age 18 to 64 years, and among them, 79.7 percent participated in the labor force. Of all New Hampshire residents age 18 to 64, veterans represented 6.2 percent of the labor force, and 6.3 percent of that population.

There were 26,320 New Hampshire veterans age 35 to 54 years. The labor force participation rate for this group was 86.3 percent. Veterans in this age group accounted for 7.0 percent of the population.

There were almost 5,310 veterans age 18 to 34 years, accounting for less than two percent of people in that age group. This group of veterans had a labor force participation rate of 85.5 percent.

Roughly 21,690 New Hampshire veterans were age 55 to 64 years, and they accounted for 11.2 percent of the population in that age group. These veterans had a labor force participation rate of 70.1 percent.

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⁶ U.S. Census Bureau. <www.census.gov/hhes/veterans/about/definitions.html>.