A Snapshot of New Hampshire Veterans

Data from the 3-year American Community Survey (ACS), for 2009 – 2011, on the Veteran Status of the Civilian Population

Age and Gender

115,578 residents are veterans.

Veterans represent 11.2 percent of the state population age 18 years and older.

8,418 veterans are female.

Females represent 7.3 percent of the veteran population.

31,672 veterans (27.4 percent) are between 35 and 54 years old – the largest age group.

28,980 veterans (25.1 percent) are between 55 and 64 years old - the second largest age group.

24,585 veterans (21.3 percent) are 75 years or older.

Among males age 75 years and older, 23,571 (72.4 percent) are veterans.

A Veterans Day Timeline

In 1918, an armistice ending World War I between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on “the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.” On the first anniversary of that event, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first commemoration of Armistice Day. In May 1938, an act of Congress made Armistice Day a legal holiday. In 1954, the name “Armistice” was replaced with the name “Veterans,” and then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first official proclamation to have “Veterans Day” honor those who served in all American Wars. A national ceremony takes place each year at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.
Income (among civilians age 18 years and older who have an income)

$39,695 was the median income (2011 inflation adjusted dollars) of veterans in New Hampshire compared to $30,438 for non-veterans.

Employment

53,794 veterans represented 7.8 percent of New Hampshire’s civilian labor force aged 18 to 64 years.

Among veterans age 18 to 64 years in the civilian labor force, the 2009 to 2011 average unemployment rate was 6.5 percent, compared to 7.3 percent for corresponding non-veterans.

Poverty

4.4 percent of New Hampshire’s veterans age 18 years and over whom poverty status was determined in the past 12 months compared to 8.2 percent for non-veterans.

Education (universe population 25 years and older)

27.4 percent of veterans have a Bachelor’s Degree or higher, compared to 33.6 percent of the non-veteran population.

32.9 percent of veterans had some college or associate’s degree, compared to 28.4 percent of the non-veteran population.

32.3 percent of veterans have a high school diploma or equivalency, compared to 28.4 percent of the non-veteran population.

7.4 percent of veterans had less than a high school education compared to 8.7 percent of the non-veteran population.

The US Census Bureau compiles data on veteran status by place of residence. The Census Bureau defines a “civilian veteran” as a person 18 years old or over who has served (even for a short time), but is not now serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or military Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, and excludes the usual four to six months of initial training and yearly summer camps. All other civilians 16 years old and over are classified as nonveterans.¹

¹ Data are not available for veterans from the second Gulf war period who may have served multiple tours in both the Afghanistan and Iraqi wars. Additionally veterans who served in the Lebanon and Grenada conflicts were not counted as war time.
When New Hampshire Veterans Served

82,829 veterans (over 71 percent) have served during at least one war period.²
39,234 veterans served during the Vietnam era.
11,360 veterans served in World War II or earlier.

When New Hampshire Veterans Served

**Gulf War (9/2001 or later), no Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), no Vietnam Era 5,283
**Gulf War (9/2001 or later) and Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), no Vietnam Era 3,163
**Gulf War (9/2001 or later), and Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), and Vietnam Era 265
**Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001), no Vietnam Era 10,080
**Gulf War (8/1990 to 8/2001) and Vietnam Era 1,403
Vietnam Era, no Korean War, no World War II 39,234
Vietnam Era and Korean War, no World War II 1,398
Vietnam Era and Korean War and World War II 204
Korean War, no Vietnam Era, no World War II 11,175
Korean War and World War II, no Vietnam Era 612
World War II, no Korean War, no Vietnam Era 10,012
Between Gulf War and Vietnam Era only 19,764
Between Vietnam Era and Korean War only 12,249
Between Korean War and World War II only 559
Pre-World War II only 177

²The totals of veterans who served in Gulf Wars I and II may seem undercounted because many individuals who served in these wars are still on active duty. They will not be counted as veterans until they leave active duty.

Source: 2009-2011 American Community Survey

Transitioning Back To Civilian Life

Veterans are individuals who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and have returned to civilian life. One of the challenges of returning to civilian life is converting specific military experience and training into equivalent civilian job experience.

Career information web sites tailored to the needs of veterans can help. One such career site is My Next Move for Veterans, which provides a transferable skills match of a military occupation to civilian job titles.3

*My Next Move for Veterans* is designed for U.S. veterans who are current job seekers. It is an interactive tool which helps vets learn about their career options. The site has tasks, skills, salary information, job listings, and more for over 900 different careers. Veterans can find careers through keyword search; by browsing industries that employ different types of workers; or by discovering civilian careers that are similar to their job in the military. Veterans can also take advantage of the O*Net Interest Profiler, a tool that offers personalized career suggestions based on a person’s interests and level of work experience. *My Next Move for Veterans* can be accessed at: [www.mynextmove.org/vets/](http://www.mynextmove.org/vets/).

Another difficulty in transitioning a military career to civilian occupations is credentialing. A specific military training and the acquired military title/grade indicate service members attained the necessary credentials for the military occupation. In many cases, civilian occupations require specific credentials that mirror military training requirements. *Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL)* is a product for Navy4 and Army5 service members that defines civilian credentials which best correspond to Military Occupational Specialties (MOS), ratings, jobs, designators, and collateral duties/assignments. COOL outlines the steps needed to achieve civilian credentials, identifying the work, training and experience required.

COOL links to credentialing organizations and provides cross-references to programs that may help service members pay for credentialing fees, such as the Montgomery GI Bill, and the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES).

Information on certifications and licenses related to enlisted ratings, designators, collateral duties/out of rate assignments, and officer designations is available in COOL. It also explains how Navy and Army service members can meet civilian certification and license requirements and provides links to numerous resources to start the process. COOL is also a good resource for:

- Army and Navy Service Members (enlisted and officers) who want to know what civilian credentials relate to their ratings, designators, and collateral duties/out of rate assignments, and how to obtain credentials.
- Education, Career and Transition Counselors providing guidance on education, professional growth, and career requirements and opportunities.
- Army and Navy Recruiters who want to show potential recruits the opportunities for professional growth and civilian career preparation available through Navy service.
- Employers and Credentialing Boards interested in how military training and experience prepares Army and Navy service members for civilian credentials and jobs.

COOL can be accessed at:
For Navy, [www.cool.navy.mil](http://www.cool.navy.mil)
For Army, [www.cool.army.mil](http://www.cool.army.mil)

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