

New Hampshire Economic Conditions

November 2013

Veterans in New Hampshire

Who are Veterans?

Veterans are men and women who have served (even for a short time), but are not currently 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. Those who served in the National Guard or Reserves are considered veterans only if they were called or ordered to active duty.¹

According to the 2012 American Community Survey 1-year estimates, over 108,000 individuals, almost 11 percent of New Hampshire's population, were veterans.²

Demographics³

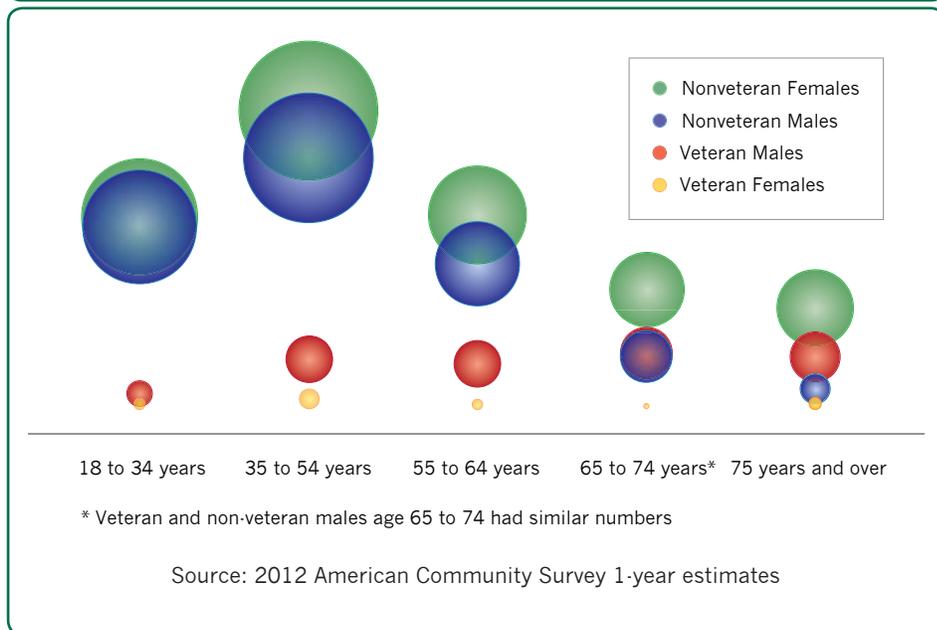
In 2012, over 48 percent of New Hampshire's civilian veterans were age 65 years and older, compared to 15 percent of the nonveteran population. Less than two percent of veterans in that age cohort were female. There are larger shares of veterans in the oldest

age cohorts, as they had enlisted during WWII and the Korean Conflict. Additionally, many who served during the Vietnam Era are now turning 65 years of age. Only seven percent of all New Hampshire veterans were in the youngest age

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NH Veterans and Non-veterans by Age and Gender, 2012



Data Availability Notice: Due to the federal government shutdown in October, the September statewide unemployment rate, originally scheduled for release on October 15, and the October statewide unemployment rate, originally scheduled for release on November 13, were delayed. Release of September and preliminary October data for the state have been rescheduled for November 20, 2013. September and October substate labor force statistics were also delayed, and are now scheduled for release on November 27, 2013.

September and October labor force data will be published in the December 2013 issue of *Economic Conditions*.

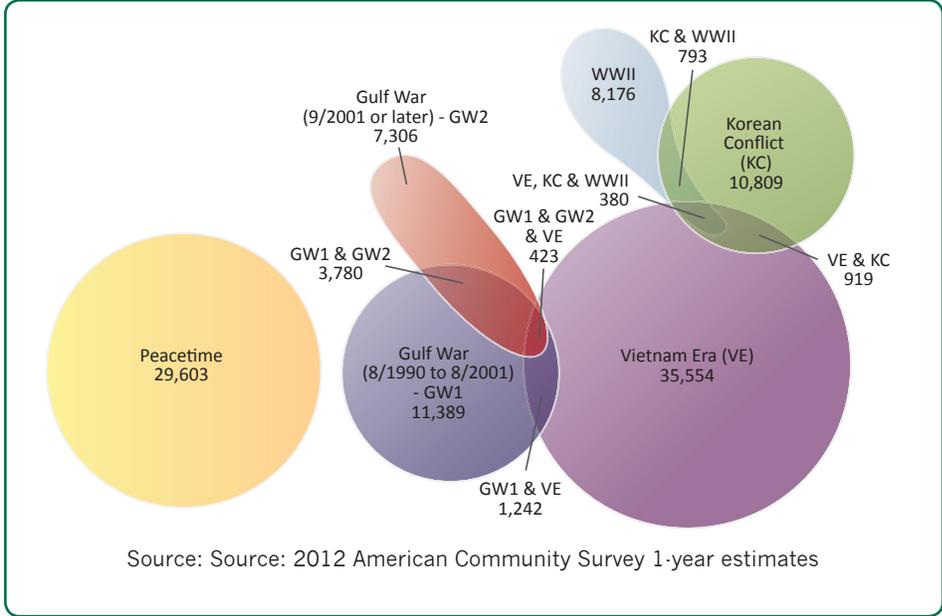
1. Definitions and Concepts. United States Census Bureau. <www.census.gov/hhes/veterans/about/definitions.html>. Accessed October 30, 2013.
 2. Population age 18 years and over is used for comparisons of the population to veterans because an individual must be age of majority to enlist in military service.
 3. U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table S2101; generated by Anita Josten; using American FactFinder; <<http://factfinder2.census.gov>>; 30 October 2013.

cohort, age 18 to 34 years. Excluding enlisted personnel who do not reenlist after their initial tour of duty, the smaller share for the youngest age cohort may be explained by the fact that individuals choosing a military career would still be active service until retirement in their late thirties.

War Service ⁴

The largest share of New Hampshire veterans, about 38,500 service men and women, served during the Vietnam Era. This represented about 35 percent of all New Hampshire veterans. Almost 30,000 veterans, about 27 percent of the state’s veterans, served during peacetime, the time periods between wars. Those who served during any Gulf War period accounted for the second largest share of veterans who served during war time, with about 22 percent of New Hampshire

Number of NH Veterans Who Served in War Periods, 2012



veterans. Many who served in one or both of the Gulf Wars are still in active service, and therefore are not yet veterans. Just over seven percent

of all New Hampshire veterans, roughly 8,000 veterans, served during multiple wars.

New Hampshire National Guard

With a motto of *Always Ready Always There*, the citizen soldiers and airmen of the New Hampshire National Guard respond to domestic emergencies, and support combat operations, counterdrug efforts, reconstruction missions, and more. Members of the New Hampshire National Guard, called or ordered to active duty but no longer serving, are considered veterans.

Under the leadership of the Adjutant General, the New Hampshire National Guard includes the Army Guard, the Air Guard and all Joint (combined Army and Air) units and personnel. The position of the Adjutant General is appointed by the Governor of the State of New Hampshire. When so ordered by the Governor, the New Hampshire National Guard assists other state agencies during natural disasters, in conducting search and rescue operations, or during civil unrest. The National Guard provides support to state and federal law enforcement with counterdrug operations, and provides support to the Army and Air Force with operationally ready units and personnel for war or national emergency as ordered by the President. The National Guard also provides support to a variety of community organizations for the benefit of the people of New Hampshire.^a

In addition to these duties, the Adjutant General’s office is responsible for operation of the New Hampshire State Veterans’ Cemetery, and the New Hampshire National Guard’s Military Funeral Honors Program, which provides military funeral honors ceremonies for honorably discharged veterans.^b

a. New Hampshire Adjutant General’s Department <www.nh.gov/adjgeneral/>.

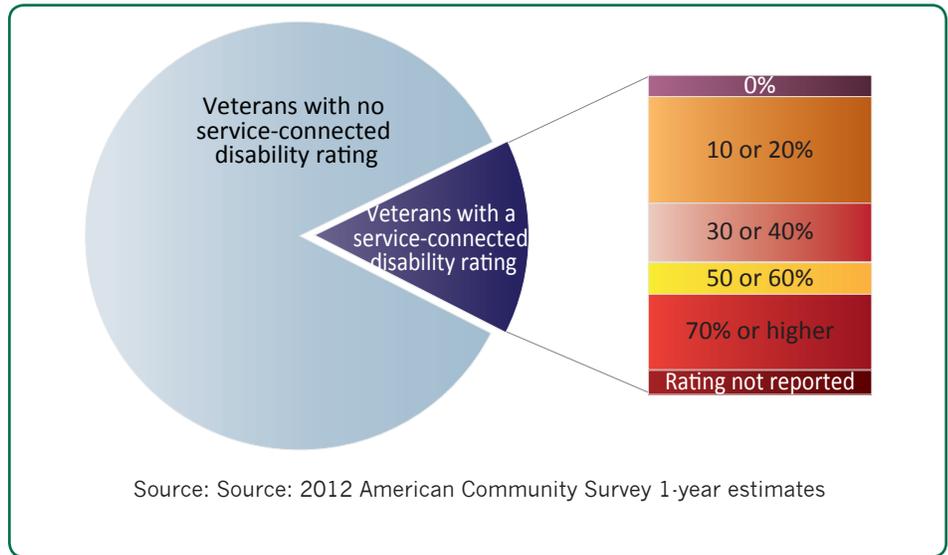
b. New Hampshire National Guard honor Guard. <www.nh.ngb.army.mil/units/honorguard>.

4. U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B21002; generated by Anita Josten; using American FactFinder; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 30 October 2013.

Disabled Veterans⁵

Roughly 140,000 people in New Hampshire had a disability, and about 18 percent of those were veterans.⁶ Over 16,000 New Hampshire veterans had a service-connected disability.⁷ About 5,500 veterans had a 10 to 20 percent disability rating, and 3,800 veterans had a 70 percent or higher disability rating. There were 3,000 veterans with a 30 to 40 percent disability rating, and 1,600 veterans with 50 to 60 percent disability rating due to a service-connected disability. Another 1,000 veterans had a 0 percent disability rating. The remaining New Hampshire veterans with a service-connected disability did not have a rating reported.

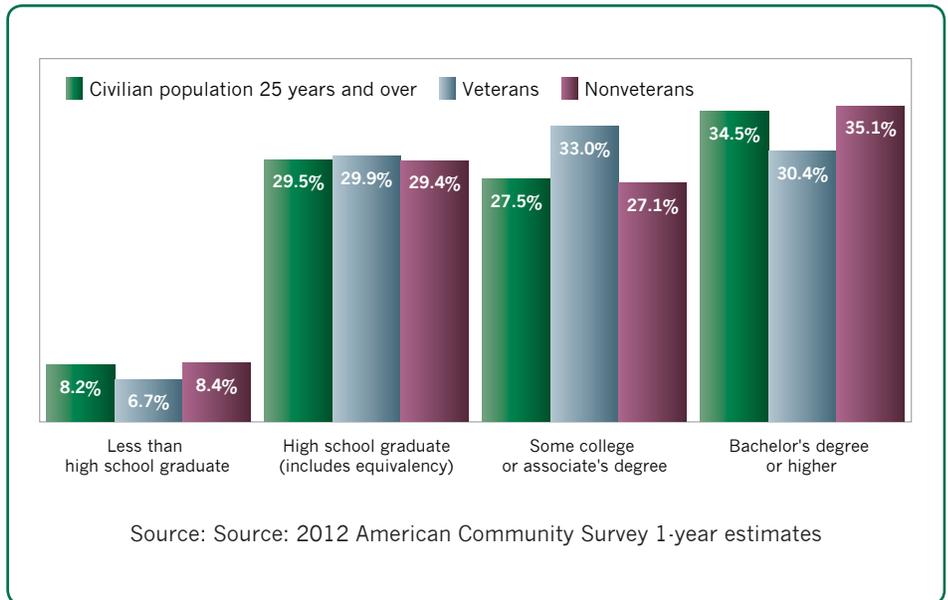
NH Veterans with Service-Connected Disability Rating, 2012



Educational Attainment⁸

Educational attainment is usually measured based on the population age 25 years and older, as the majority of adults have completed their education by this age. Just under two-thirds of New Hampshire veterans have attained at least some level of college education, and about 30 percent hold a Bachelor’s degree or higher. The share of veterans with a Bachelor’s degree is a little lower than nonveterans in the state, but the share of veterans with some college or an associate’s degree is significantly higher than nonveterans. The share of high school graduates among New Hampshire’s veterans and nonveterans were about the same.

Educational Attainment by Veteran Status in NH, 2012



Anita Josten

5. Following discharge from military service, the Department of Veterans affairs is responsible for assessing a veteran’s disabling conditions. Any disease or injury incurred or aggravated during active military service is considered a service-connected disability. A ‘disability rating’ is assigned by the VA based on the degree of disability on a scale of 0 to 100, in 10 percent increments. This rating is used to determine compensation payments for the disabled veteran. A zero-rating, as opposed to no rating, means a disability exists but is not severe enough to entitle the veteran to compensation payments. Veterans with multiple disabilities must have each disability separately assessed, then the VA assigns a combined disability rating to determine the appropriate compensation payment. <www.census.gov/hhes/veterans/about/definitions.html>.

6. U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table C21007; generated by Anita Josten; using American FactFinder; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 30 October 2013.

7. Op cit., Table B21100.

8. Op cit., Table S2101.