

MILITARY BASICS

Session One

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

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SESSION ONE: MILITARY BASICS

- **Basic Terms and Acronyms**
- **Branches of Service**
- **Demographics**
 - Active Duty
 - Reserve and Guard
 - Veteran
- **Student Veterans**
 - Background
 - Numbers
 - Demographics
 - Characteristics



SPEAKING THE SAME LANGUAGE

- **Military terms**
 - **DoD: Department of Defense**
 - **DHS: Department of Homeland Security**
- **Veteran terms**
 - **DD-214: Document given when you leave the military. Needed for anything to do with establishing services.**
 - **Post-9/11 GI Bill: Veterans Educational Assistance Act (2008)**
 - **TBI: Traumatic Brain Injury**
 - **OEF: Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)**
 - **OIF: Operation Iraqi Freedom**
 - **OND: Operation New Dawn**
 - **VA: United States Department of Veterans Affairs**

TYPES OF MILITARY SERVICE

- **Active Duty**
 - Full-time members of the Military
 - Living on base or in military housing and immersed in military culture
 - Stationed at a base either domestically or overseas
- **Reserve**
 - Part-time service members
 - Reservists are required to participate in training drills one weekend a month as well as a two-week program every year
 - Available for active duty deployment in times of war or national emergency
- **National Guard**
 - Part-time service to the Nation Guard
 - Participate in training drills one weekend a month and two full weeks per year
 - Assist communities in their state during emergencies (e.g., storms, floods, fires, and other natural disasters)
 - President can federalize the National Guard and its service members can be deployed overseas during times of conflict

SERVICE BRANCHES COMPARED

FULL TIME ⓘ

PART TIME ⓘ



Army

As the oldest branch of the U.S. Military, the Army protects the security of the United States and its resources.

Army Reserve

The Army Reserve trains part time near home until needed, and members deploy alongside the Army.

Army National Guard

Army National Guard members deploy with the Army on a part-time basis, with a special focus on homeland security and relief programs.



Marine Corps

The Marine Corps is often first on the ground in combat situations.

Marine Corps Reserve

Marine Corps reservists train domestically until needed, then deploy with the rest of the Corps.



Navy

The Navy defends the right to travel and trade freely on the world's oceans and protects national interests overseas.

Navy Reserve

The Navy Reserve trains service members close to home until they are needed in action.



Air Force

The U.S. Air Force protects American interests at home and abroad with a focus on air power.

Air Force Reserve

The Air Force Reserve gives service members the opportunity to train and serve on a part-time basis, as needed.

Air National Guard

The Air National Guard trains part time to assist in domestic disasters and international conflicts.



Coast Guard

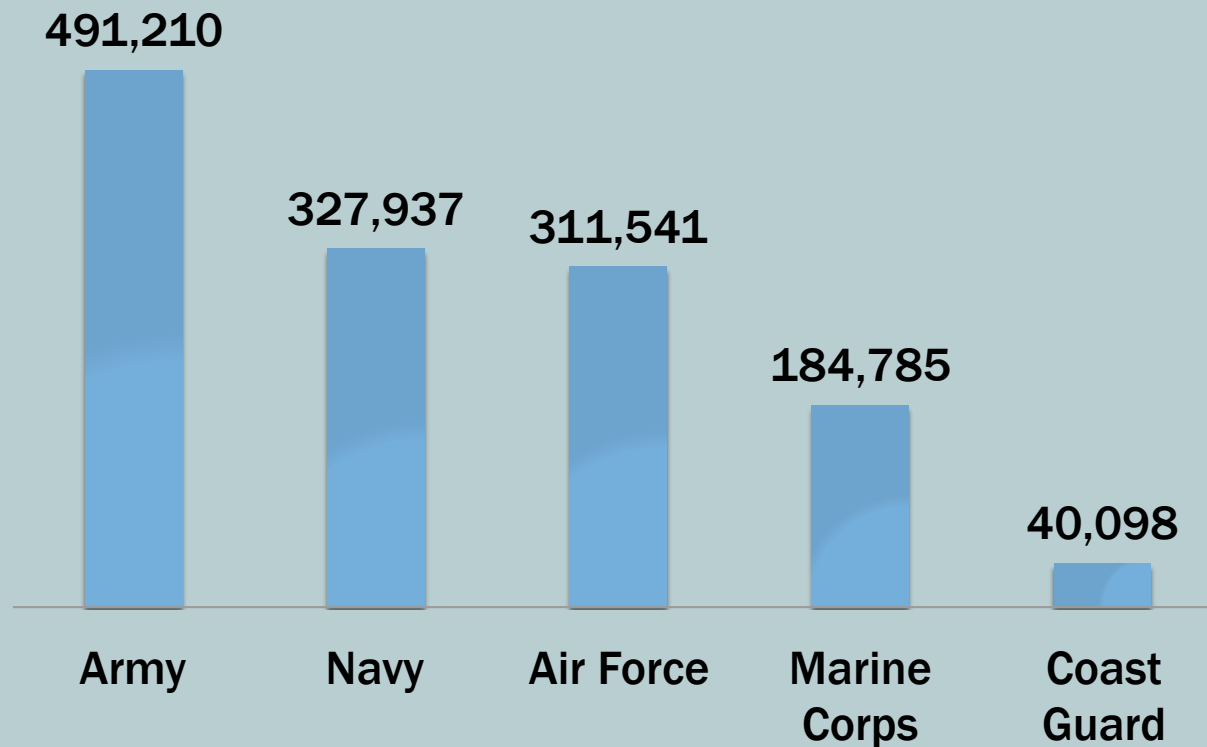
The Coast Guard protects America's waterways and deploys with the Navy during wartime.

Coast Guard Reserve

The Coast Guard Reserve offers a part-time service opportunity for service members to train near home.

ACTIVE DUTY: NUMBERS

Total military personnel: 1.35 million



ACTIVE DUTY: DEMOGRAPHICS

14.9%

Women

30.7%

Self identify as Black, African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Multi-racial, or other/unknown

49.4%

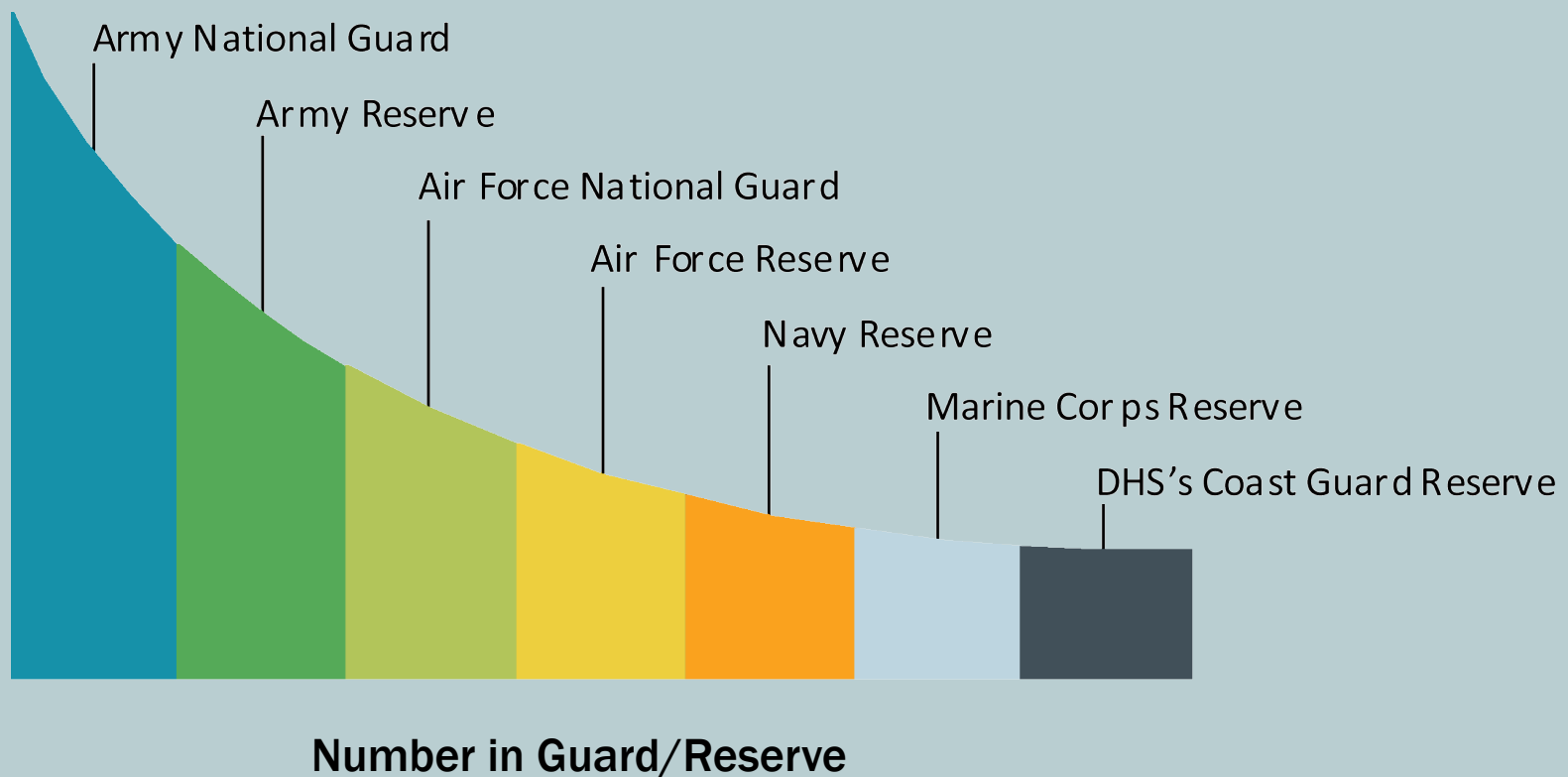
Enlisted personnel 25 years of age or younger

55.2%

Married
Dual-military marriages: 6.4%

RESERVE AND GUARD: NUMBERS

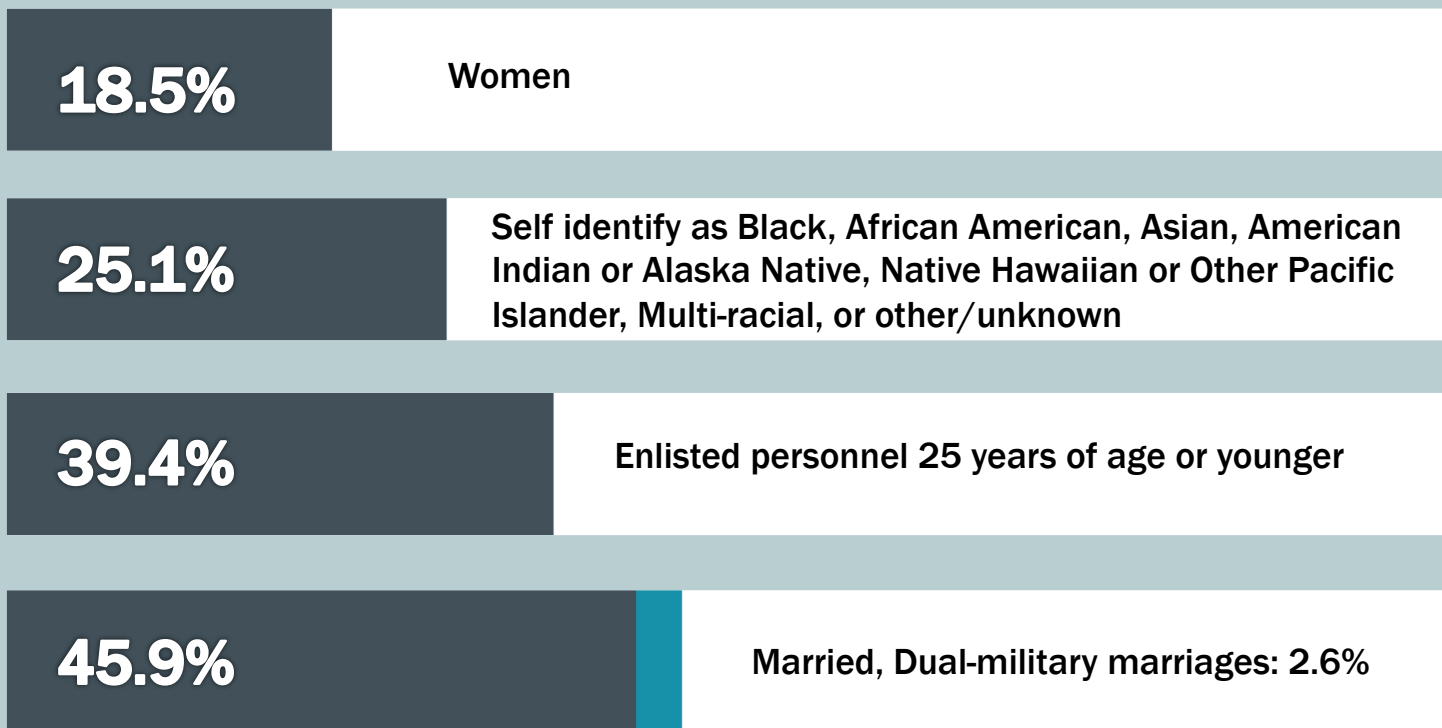
Total Selected Reserve Force: 842,510



*Selected Reserve members train throughout the year and participate annually in Active Duty training exercises.

Department of Defense, 2013.

RESERVE AND GUARD: DEMOGRAPHICS



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Department of Defense, 2013.

DEFINITION: VETERANS

- A person who has served in the military.
- For the purposes of VA benefits, a Veteran is a “person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.”*
 - A member of the National Guard or reserve components who is activated for federal military service and serves the full period of activation is considered a veteran for purposes of VA benefits.

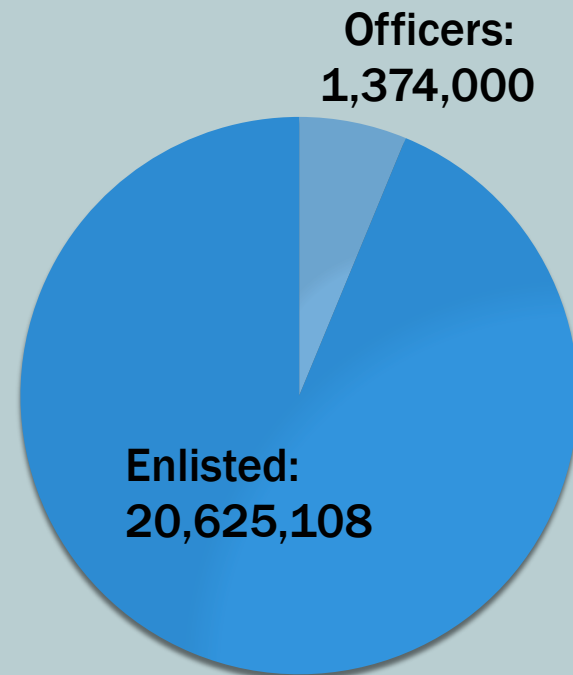
*Congressional Research Service, Who is a “Veteran”? – Basic Eligibility for Veterans’ Benefits, 13 February 2015.
<http://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42324.pdf> accessed 2 April 2015

VETERAN: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

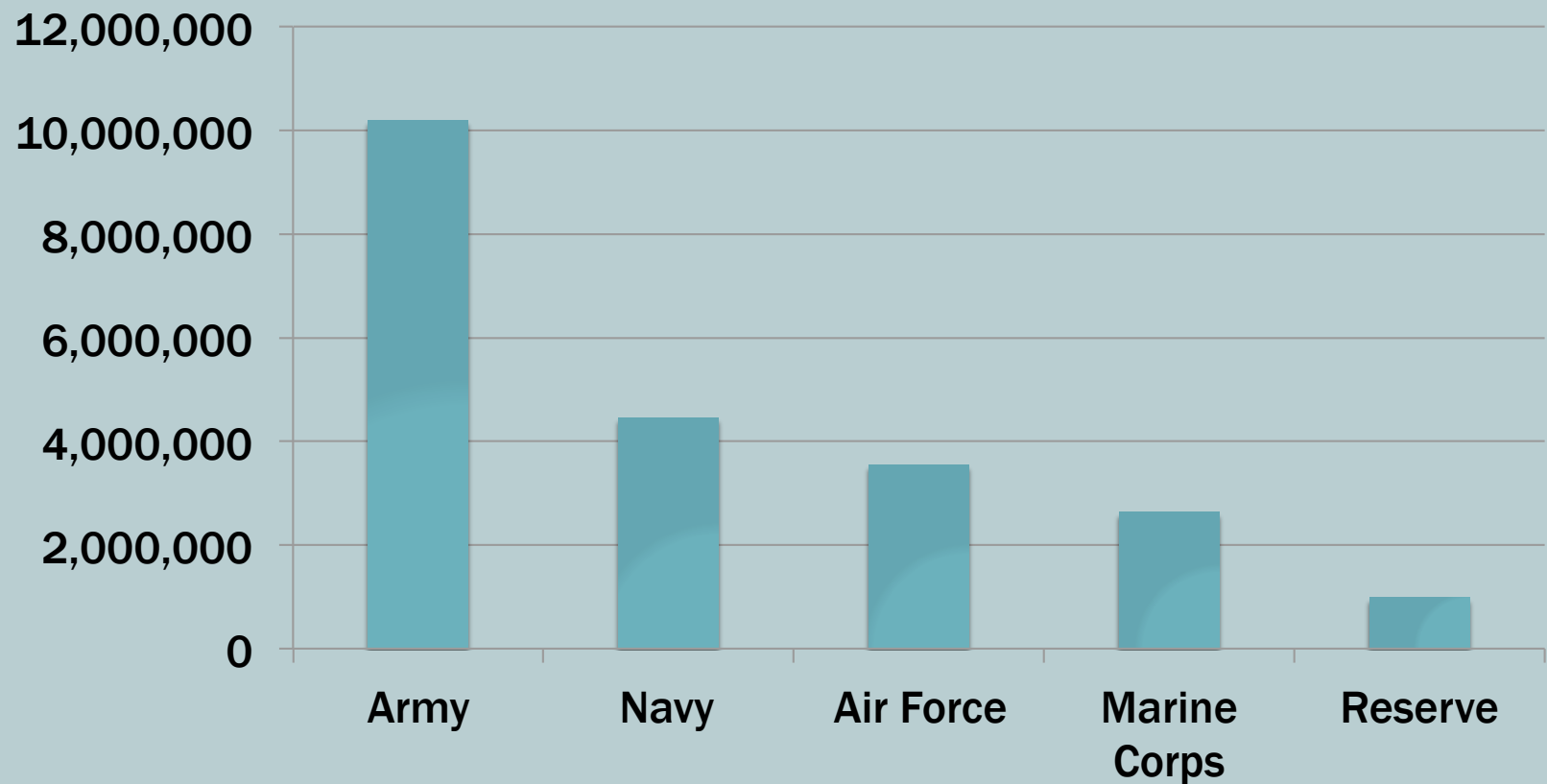
- Veterans have varying experiences based on when served, branch of service, etc.
- Veterans are not automatically qualified for Veterans Administration (VA) benefits or other programs provided to those who have served in the military

VETERANS: NUMBERS

- **Total: 21,999,108**
 - 20-29 year olds: 1,037,272
 - 30-39 year olds: 2,152,796
 - 40-49 year olds: 2,900,931

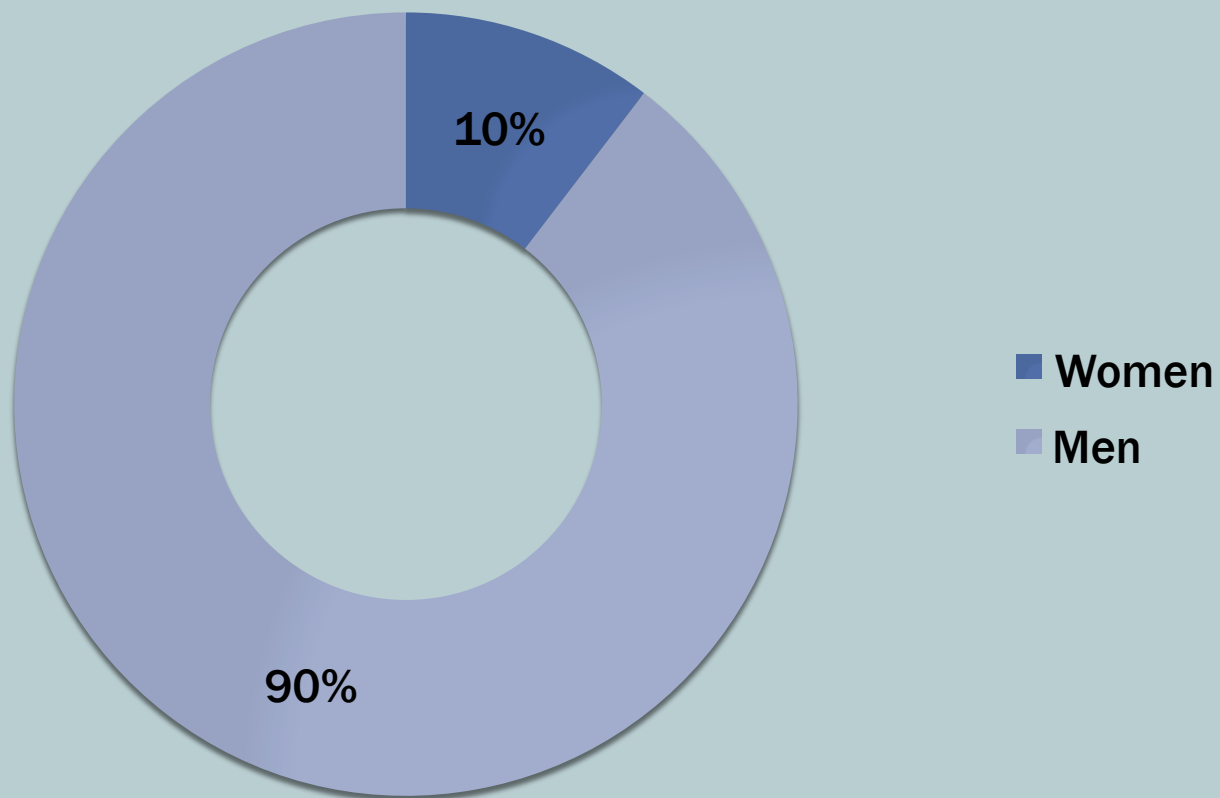


VETERANS: DEMOGRAPHICS



As of 9/30/14, per: Department of Veterans Affairs National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

VETERAN: DEMOGRAPHICS



INTRODUCTION TO STUDENT VETERANS

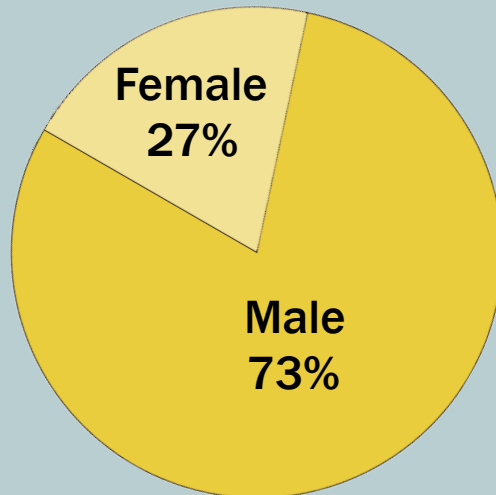
STUDENT VETERANS: BACKGROUND

- **Post-9/11 GI Bill**
 - Became effective August 2009
- Aims to provide financial assistance to veterans pursuing post-secondary education in the forms of financial aid for tuition and fees as well as stipends for books, supplies, and living expenses
- Dramatically increased the number of Veterans eligible for educational aid
 - **2009-2011: 34,393 to 555,329**



Source: Cate, C.A. (2011). Student veterans' college experiences: demographic comparisons, differences in academic experiences, and on-campus service utilization. Dissertation.

STUDENT VETERANS: NUMBERS



Only **10-12% of military personnel are women**. Female Student Veterans are over represented in postsecondary education.

Student Veterans

2009: 500,000

2013: over 1,000,000

STUDENT VETERANS: DEMOGRAPHICS

85%

Age 24 or older**
Most Student Veterans are between the ages of 24 and 40.

15%

traditionally
aged students

47%

Have children

47.3%

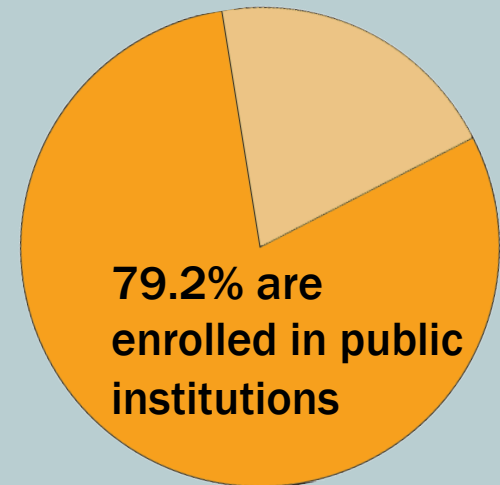
Married

62%

First-generation students

STUDENT VETERANS: DEMOGRAPHICS

- **51.7%** of Student Veterans successfully complete their degree/certificate within 4 to 5 years, a rate similar to other students
- Popular degrees include:
 - Business
 - Public service
 - Health
 - Science
 - Engineering



STUDENT VETERANS: CHARACTERISTICS

- Adjusting to the college environment may be more challenging for a number of reasons
 - Student veterans may have to relearn basic knowledge because of the time period between when they graduated high school and entered college
 - Relearning may delay time to complete degree or discourage continuation of education
 - Socialization with peers may cause stress
 - Age and life experience different than other students
 - College may appear to be “anti-military”
 - Faculty or peers may be against war, the military, etc. which may make a student veteran uncomfortable and unwilling to share their veteran status

Source: Cate, C.A. (2011). Student veterans' college experiences: demographic comparisons, differences in academic experiences, and on-campus service utilization. Dissertation.

CONTACT CYAN/PROJECT UNIFORM

For additional information or support with working with military communities and Student Veterans on tobacco-related issues, please contact CYAN/Project UNIFORM at info@projectuniform.org or (916) 339-3424 x26.

www.cyanonline.org
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