

2024 Veteran Employment Data Catalog



Submitted to

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Disclaimer: This report was prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Chief Evaluation Office (CEO), by Insight Policy Research (now Westat) under contract number 1605DC-18-A-0018. The views expressed are those of the authors and should not be attributed to DOL, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement of same by the U.S. Government.

Acknowledgments

This catalog was prepared for the DOL CEO and Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS). The authors received invaluable support, guidance, and contributions from Allison Hyra and Janine O’Donnell at Westat and Janet Javar at DOL CEO. The authors would also like to thank Kim Kerson and Nancy McKenzie at Westat for their formatting and editing expertise.

Suggested Citation

Ring, M., Montgomery, S., and Cody, S. (2024). *2024 Veteran Employment Data Catalog*. U.S. Department of Labor.

1. Introduction

The U.S. Department of Labor’s (DOL’s) Chief Evaluation Office (CEO), in collaboration with the Veterans’ Employment and Training Services (VETS), commissioned Insight Policy Research (Insight) to identify existing datasets that could be used to answer research questions pertaining to veteran status and employment outcomes. DOL was interested in identifying and cataloging both public and restricted datasets that aligned with the following topic areas:

- Service members transitioning into civilian employment
- Existing programs and policies in VETS
- Racial equity and supporting underserved communities for veterans

Veterans’ Employment and Training Service’s Mission: We prepare America’s veterans, service members, and military spouses for meaningful careers, provide them with employment resources and expertise, protect their employment rights, and promote their employment opportunities.

This compendium provides a one-page description of 19 datasets that provide data related to the above priority areas. Ten of the 19 datasets are publicly available, while access to the other 9 is restricted. We formatted each one-pager to highlight each dataset’s contents, structure, accessibility, and utility. Researchers interested in exploring veteran employment questions may use this compendium to identify datasets that can answer their questions.

2. Content in Each One-page Description

Variables

Insight recorded the presence of variables for each dataset. These are variables that can be used to explore questions related to VETS’ priority learning agenda items. We grouped these variables into four categories:

- ▶ Sociodemographic—Personal and social characteristics
- ▶ Employment—Type of and compensation for work
- ▶ Military—Service characteristics and termination of service
- ▶ Veteran—Service era and post-service health information

Note: Almost all datasets in this compendium have additional data elements. These one-page descriptions are not meant to be inclusive of all the information a dataset may have, but they are focused on the elements relevant to questions of veteran employment.

Metadata

We detailed the source, structure, and accessibility of each dataset. Researchers interested in veteran employment questions may use this information for additional context to the variables, including unit of observation (e.g., individual, household), how data were collected (e.g., longitudinal survey), and when data were collected.

Utility

Insight provided a summary of each dataset's uses as they relate to the topic areas. This includes a one-sentence summary after the dataset's description and lists of strengths and limitations.

3. How To Use This Document

Variable to Dataset

Researchers may use this document to find datasets that contain variables related to their research questions. For example, a researcher could identify datasets containing variables pertaining to employment status and race.

Dataset to Contents

For each dataset, researchers may use the related one-page description for an overview of its veteran employment-related variables and its metadata. For example, a researcher can quickly discern that the American Community Survey contains many sociodemographic and employment variables, along with more limited service-related information.

Dataset to Inquiry

Researchers can also use a dataset's one-page description to determine the scope of questions that dataset can answer. For instance, a researcher can use the American Community Survey to assess characteristics of veterans at a person or household level.

Limitations

These one-page descriptions are intentionally limited in scope to provide a brief "snapshot" of datasets relevant to three topic areas: (1) Service members transitioning into civilian employment; (2) existing programs and policies in VETS; and (3) racial equity and supporting underserved communities for veterans. The descriptions are designed to help researchers identify datasets that have potential to answer their research questions. Researchers will need to access each dataset's documentation, such as a data dictionary, to fully understand its structure and variables. In addition, Insight included some restricted datasets that did not provide public access to all the information in the one-page descriptions. As such, Insight inferred some content for those restricted datasets based on information about them in published reports. Occasionally, a variable's existence in a dataset is implied by a statement or conclusion in the dataset's documentation that would require that variable to have been measured. In these cases, the variable's existence in the dataset is inferred, and the variable is included in that dataset's respective table. Composite variables that could feasibly be constructed from other explicitly measured variables are not included in that dataset's respective table. The status of a given variable in a dataset

also refers to its presence or absence in the dataset's most recent published material (e.g., data dictionary, codebook, annual report, dashboard, etc.) as of May 2024. Each table's footnotes provide the reference year of the dataset's most recent published material.

Variable Dictionary

- ▶ Age: any variable referring to the length of time in years from a person's birth to the time the data are collected.
- ▶ Combat exposure: any variable referring to a history of service in combat or a combat zone.
- ▶ Date of separation: any variable referring to the date that an individual's active-duty military status expires (before retirement).
- ▶ Disability (non-SCD): any variable referring to a medical condition not caused by an individual's military service (not a service-connected disability).
- ▶ Earnings: any variable referring to earned income from employment in flow measurements greater than a per-hour wage (e.g., weekly, monthly, or annual). If an "hours worked" variable exists in the dataset alongside an hourly wage measurement, then that dataset is also considered to contain an earnings variable.
- ▶ Education: any variable referring to educational attainment.
- ▶ Employment status: any variable referring to an individual's current status as a paid and working employee.
- ▶ Ethnicity: any variable referring to one of the ethnicity categories included in the 1997 U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) standards on race and ethnicity.
- ▶ Gender: any variable referring to biological sex or self-identified gender identity.
- ▶ Hours worked: any variable referring to the hours spent working as a paid employee. This includes continuous hour-unit measurements and discrete full-time/part-time measurements of hours worked.
- ▶ Industry: any variable referring to a group of firms producing or providing a particular good or service.
- ▶ Justice Involvement: any variable referring to interaction with an element of the U.S. legal system.
- ▶ LGBTQ: any variable referring to sexual orientation, sexuality, or gender identity (e.g., including "same-sex" relationships).
- ▶ Marital status: any variable referring to a classification of adults as being married, never married, separated, divorced, or widowed.
- ▶ Medical discharge status: any variable referring to a release from military service due to a medical condition.
- ▶ Months un/employed: any variable referring to an individual's employment or unemployment duration.
- ▶ MOS: any variable referring to a standard Military Occupational Specialty.
- ▶ National Guard/Reserve status: any variable referring to an individual's status as a U.S. military Reserve component member.
- ▶ Number of jobs: any variable referring to the number of jobs an individual works. This definition includes an individual's classification as a "multiple jobholder."
- ▶ Occupation: any variable referring to an employed individual's type of job.
- ▶ Other VA benefits: any variable referring to VA-managed programs other than those covering the cost of health care for veterans or their families (e.g., GI Bill, PCAFC, VA home loans, etc.).
- ▶ Race: any variable referring to one of the racial categories included in the 1997 OMB standards on race and ethnicity.

- ▶ Rank: any variable referring to either U.S. military rank or U.S. military pay grades.
- ▶ Rural/urban status: in this context, a dataset is considered to contain a rural/urban status variable if the keywords “rural” or “urban” are used in its reference material.
- ▶ SCD (service-connected disability): any variable referring to a medical condition caused by an individual’s military service.
- ▶ Service branch: any variable referring to classification into one of the six standard U.S. military branches.
- ▶ Service era: any variable referring to service during a defined period of U.S. military conflict.
- ▶ TAP participation: any variable referring to participation in the VA’s Transition Assistance Program.
- ▶ VA health insurance: any variable referring to VA-managed programs covering the full or partial cost of health care for veterans or their families (e.g., VA health care, CHAMPVA, etc.). This variable does not consider TRICARE a type of VA health insurance.

American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample

Description: The [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#) tracks social, economic, demographic, and housing information annually across the United States at various geographic levels. The survey is a primary dataset for detailed population and housing information. The 1-year ACS Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) is constructed by sampling the full ACS to obtain records representing approximately one percent of the total U.S. population, or about two-thirds of the full ACS sample. The 5-year ACS PUMS file is a combination of five sequential 1-year ACS PUMS files.

You can use these data to see which variables help explore research questions about employment among veterans by person- or household-level social, economic, housing, and demographic data as opposed to aggregate statistics for larger geographies.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nationally representative sample of U.S. persons and households ■ Uses standard, Federal geographies ■ One-year supplements provide additional information for smaller populations ■ Wide variety of subjects included ■ Publicly accessible data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Five-year files increase precision for State and local estimates but limit assessment of year-to-year changes

Sample: Nationally representative

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual and Household

Frequency of data collection: Annually

Date range: 2005–present (1-year estimates), 2009–present (5-year estimates)

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce

Location: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/microdata.html>

Permission: Public use microdata are available in 1-year and 5-year files.

Consumer Expenditures Survey Public Use Microdata

Description: The annual [Consumer Expenditures Survey](#) (CE) Public Use Microdata (PUMD) monitors how U.S. households spend their money. No other survey collects this range of consumer expenditure and income information directly or in combination with demographic data.

You can use these data to explore associations between income and expenditures for different demographic groups, including veterans.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Publicly available data ■ Survey has been collected for more than 40 years ■ Detailed expenditure information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Few military or veteran-specific variables ■ Narrow focus on consumers and consumer-related issues

Sample: Nationally representative sample of the civilian noninstitutional population; includes 20,000 interview surveys and 11,000 diary surveys annually

Source of data: Survey, including interviews and diaries maintained by respondents

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual and Household

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 1980–present

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Location: <https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cex/home.htm>

Permission: Public use microdata are available in annual interview and diary microdata files. Summary tables are also publicly available for 1-year and multi-year periods.

Current Population Survey Public Use Microdata

Description: The [Current Population Survey \(CPS\)](#) is a monthly survey of 60,000 U.S. households that captures basic labor and demographic information. The Veterans Supplement and the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) provide additional demographics, economic status, service, and benefits information.

You can use these data for nationally representative analyses spanning many years. Challenges can arise because of changes in the survey’s variables and respondents.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nationally representative ■ Publicly available household-level data ■ TAP information available pre-2020 ■ Detailed labor force information ■ Detailed veteran information in Veterans Supplement ■ Can be either cross-sectional or longitudinal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Data can be complicated to use ■ Some TAP information not collected post-2020 ■ Veterans Supplement is biennial pre-2009

Sample: Nationally representative

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2023 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual and Household

Frequency of data collection: Monthly (CPS), Biennial/Annual (Veterans Supplement), Annual (ASEC)

Date range: 1940–present (basic monthly survey), 1985–present (Veterans Supplement), 1947-present (ASEC)

Data accessibility

Owner: Administered by the U.S. Census Bureau and sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The BLS and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs sponsor the CPS Veterans Supplement. The Census Bureau and the BLS sponsor the ASEC.

Location: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.html>

Permission: The basic CPS is released monthly in public microdata files. The Veterans Supplement’s microdata files are released every August (the 2010 file was released in July). The ASEC’s microdata files are released every March (the ASEC was released in April before 1955).

Department of Defense Active-Duty Spouse Survey

Description: The [U.S. Department of Defense \(DoD\) Active-Duty Spouse Survey \(ADSS\)](#) and Reserve Component Spouses Survey (RCSS) collect the perspectives, experiences, and attitudes of active-duty and Reserve component military spouses. Each survey is conducted every 2 years. The DoD conducted only the ADSS for 2021; the DoD resumed administration of the RCSS for 2023.

You can use these data to understand active-duty and Reserve component military spouses’ financial status, employment, educational attainment, well-being (spouse and children), deployment and reintegration, and opinions on support programs. The 2019 survey also included information about transition assistance needs.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generalizable to the entire active-duty and Reserve component military spouse population Collects opinions on spousal support programs The only survey of active-duty and reserve military spouses administered by the DoD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No information about service members or veterans Data internal to DoD and not publicly accessible Low response rate could compromise data reliability

Sample: Active-duty and Reserve component military spouses. The 2021 ADSS survey had a response rate of 21 percent with a sample size of 11,764.

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Additional variables may be available in this dataset; however, limited public information about the survey is available. Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2021 wave of ADSS data collection and the 2019 wave RCSS data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Biennial

Date range: 2006–2012, 2015–present

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Department of Defense

Location: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/data-research-and-statistics/survey-findings/>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. The DoD publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Department of Defense Annual Report on Suicide in the Military

Description: The [Annual Report on Suicide in the Military \(ARSM\)](#) is the official Department of Defense (DoD) source for suicide counts and rates for service members and military dependents. The report also provides a discussion of initiatives to reduce and prevent suicide among service members, veterans, and their families.

You can use these data to understand service member suicide counts and rates and identify information on suicide prevention programs by the DoD and Military Services.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Detailed information on cause of death, current year counts, rates of suicide, and trends over time ■ Concise and official summary of DoD programs and information related to suicide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Presents pre-analyzed and summarized information ■ Difficult to determine what variables are included ■ Data not publicly available

Sample: N/A

Source of data: Administrative data

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Additional variables may be available in this data set; however, limited public information about the survey is available. Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 2018–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Defense Suicide Prevention Office, U.S. Department of Defense

Location:

https://www.dspo.mil/Portals/113/Documents/ARSM_CY22.pdf?ver=StAk_q6lJgNRUsOlptzVVA%3d%3d

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. The DoD publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Member Survey

Description: [Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America \(IAVA\)](#) surveys its members every 2 years and produces a summary report. The summary report provides high-level survey results on findings for demographics, military service, transition experiences, social issues, employment and education, health, well-being, and healthcare.

You can use these data for information on Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, including an in-depth look into their perspectives on experiences with the transition out of the military and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs services, such as healthcare and the GI Bill.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Detailed information on transition out of the military and experience with VA healthcare and benefits ■ Easy-to-read figures and charts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Raw data are not available; presented only in summary form ■ Convenience sample of self-selected membership group; findings cannot be generalized

Sample: IAVA members. Only a certain portion of members were invited to voluntarily participate in the survey. IAVA membership is free; registration is required through the IAVA website.

Source of Data: Summary report

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Person

Frequency of data collection: Variable

Date range: 2010–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America

Location: <https://iava.org/iava-research/>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. The IAVA publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Medical Expenditure Panel Survey

Description: The annual [Medical Expenditure Panel Survey \(MEPS\)](#) consists of multiple, large-scale surveys of families, individuals, medical providers, and employers. The Household Component collects information on various household health and insurance information, including access, use, and cost of health services.

You can use these data for information on respondents’ health, insurance coverage, employment, and use of medical services. This survey includes active-duty service members.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Detailed medical data ■ Nationally representative sample ■ Families are tracked for 2 years ■ Useful variable explorer tool 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Website difficult to navigate ■ No information on veterans, only active-duty service members

Sample: Nationally representative survey of roughly 12,000 families per year, including approximately 32,000 individuals. Families are tracked for two calendar years in the Household Component.

Source of Data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: VA benefits information includes Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMP), types and quantity of doctors’ visits, and amount paid by VA. Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Household

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 1996–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Location: <https://datatools.ahrq.gov/meps-hc>

Permission: Public microdata are available at the MEPS ARDQ website. Restricted microdata are available upon approval at the AHRQ Data Center or at a Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC).

Military Family Advisory Network’s Military Family Support Programming Survey

Description: The Military Family Advisory Network (MFAN) created the biennial [Military Family Support Programming Survey](#) to assess the needs of service members, veterans, and their families.

You can use these data for quantitative and qualitative insights into the lived experiences of military families. They are helpful for understanding military community perspectives on topics including childcare, family relationships, finances, well-being, health, and transition.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Contains information on transition support ■ Includes qualitative, open-ended questions along with quantitative questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Information available in pre-analyzed and summarized report form ■ Biennial frequency ■ Convenience sample cannot be generalized to specific populations

Sample: Convenience sample; results cannot be generalized to specific portions of the military or veteran community

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2021 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Person

Frequency of data collection: Biennial

Date range: 2018–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Military Family Advisory Network

Location: <https://www.mfan.org/research-reports/>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. The MFAN publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Millennium Cohort Study

Description: The [Millennium Cohort](#) Study is the largest and longest-running health study of U.S. military personnel. Cohorts of military personnel are enrolled and followed over time, collecting detailed data on how military occupational and development-related exposures influence the long-term physical health, mental health, and quality of life of those who have served.

You can use these data for examining short- and long-term outcomes for service members and veteran employment and health.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Detailed variables on military service, including combat exposure and military occupations ■ Extensive measures on service member and veteran health and wellness ■ The same individual can be tracked over time ■ Enrollment of multiple cohorts facilitates breadth and depth of military cohort analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Data access is restricted, and use must be approved through proposal process ■ Lack of publicly available detailed information on variables

Sample: Representative sample of U.S. military personnel, including all branches, Reserve, and National Guard members. Participants were first enrolled in 2001, with additional groups enrolled in 2004, 2007, 2011, and 2020. Participants are enrolled when they are service members but are followed over time even as they exit the military.

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>	
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables referenced in the Millennium Cohort Study 20-Year Report

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Every 3 to 5 years for enrolled panels/cohorts

Date range: 2001–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Naval Health Research Center, U.S. Department of Defense

Location: <https://www.millenniumcohort.org/>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. Requests for collaboration by researchers must be made in writing as a preproposal to the Millennium Cohort Study principal investigator, who will serve as a point of contact for all collaborative research. Investigators interested in obtaining further information on collaborative research within the Millennium Cohort are invited to contact usn.nhrc-MillenniumCohortPI@health.mil.

National Directory of New Hires

Description: The [National Directory of New Hires](#) records almost all newly hired employees in the United States, along with unemployment insurance and quarterly wage data.

You can use these data to link labor-related features, such as employer information, date of hire, wages, and unemployment insurance, with other datasets using employees’ Social Security numbers or Taxpayer Identification Numbers.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Contains data on almost all newly hired employees in the United States ■ Includes Social Security numbers, which can help link these data to other databases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Restricted access ■ Only employment-related variables

Sample: National repository. Contains information on all new hires across the United States; limited exceptions include federal agencies conducting classified work.

Source of data: Administrative data

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Race <input type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Quarterly

Date range: 1996–present

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Office of Child Support Enforcement, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Location: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/outreach-material/national-directory-new-hires>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. Anonymized microdata are available upon approval to researchers using the data to conduct research likely to contribute to achieving the purposes of the Social Security Act.

National Survey of Military-Affiliated Entrepreneurs

Description: The D’Aniello Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University administers the [National Survey of Military-Affiliated Entrepreneurs](#). This survey captures military-affiliated entrepreneurs’ motivations, business characteristics, barriers to entrepreneurship, business capital, personal wellness, and experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can use these data for detailed information on entrepreneurship, including business information and transitioning from the military into entrepreneurship.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A subset of 645 responses are longitudinal ■ Questions capture transitioning from the military into entrepreneurship ■ Public dataset forthcoming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Difficulty determining what variables are present ■ Few if any demographic or service-related variables

Sample: Convenience sample of veteran entrepreneurs. The sample is not intended to be used as a representative sample of military or veteran entrepreneurs.

Source of Data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2021 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 2020–present

Data accessibility

Owner: D’Aniello Institute for Veterans and Military Families, Syracuse University

Location: <https://ivmf.syracuse.edu/nsmae?q=/nsmae-series/&>

Permission: Microdata are available to researchers upon approval by the data administrator. Additional details can be found at <https://ivmf.syracuse.edu/research-analytics/data-insights-tools/nsmae-dashboard/>

Student Veterans of America Census

Description: The [Student Veterans of America Census](#) collects basic demographic information on student veterans nationally.

You can use these data for national- or state-level information on veteran student demographics, employment, and education, including education-related finances.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Captures information on student veterans not always included in national databases ■ Uses information on the GI Bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Convenience sample ■ Questionable access or ability to merge with other datasets ■ Data presented strictly in a data visualization format ■ Aside from the website visualization tools, data are not publicly available

Sample: Convenience sample of student veterans; cannot be generalized to the broader population of student veterans

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2020 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Person

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 2016–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Student Veterans of America

Location: <https://studentveterans.org/research/sva-census/>

Permission: Microdata files are not publicly available. The Student Veterans of America publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Student Veterans of America Life Cycle Atlas

Description: The goal of the [Student Veterans of America Life Cycle Atlas](#) is to convey a comprehensive view of student veterans’ transitions throughout life. Instead of focusing on specific transitions, such as the military to college or college to the workforce, the data contain information on all life transitions.

You can use these data to assess important life transitions among student veterans in relation to career trajectories, service features, location, and even prior transitions. Depending on the variables, the data may also help assess the efficacy of transition programs.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Detailed information on life stages and transitions of veterans ■ Dynamic and interactive visualizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Convenience sample ■ Data presented strictly in a data visualization format ■ Aside from the website visualization tools, data are not publicly available

Sample: Convenience sample of student veterans; therefore, this cannot be considered a representative sample of veterans or student veterans

Source of Data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>	TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>	
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: No data are available on the update schedule for this dataset.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Person

Frequency of data collection: Unclear

Date range: N/A

Data accessibility

Owner: Student Veterans of America

Location: <https://studentveterans.org/research/life-cycle-atlas/>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. Interactive Sunburst and Sankey lifepath diagrams are available on the Student Veterans of America website.

Student Veterans of America National Veteran Education Success Tracker

Description: According to Student Veterans of America, the goal of the [National Veteran Education Success Tracker](#) is to study the “academic success of the contemporary student veteran using the post-9/11 GI Bill.”

You can use these data for assessing the impact of the post-9/11 GI Bill on veterans’ academic outcomes, including disaggregating by demographic features.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A public-private partnership involving VA’s Veterans Benefits Administration ■ In-depth information on academic outcomes for veterans using the post-9/11 GI Bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Data extend only to 2015 ■ Limited service- or veteran-specific information

Sample: Student veterans using the post-9/11 GI Bill between August 2009 and December 2013. Obtained from VA through Freedom of Information Act request and then by merging National Student Clearinghouse enrollment data.

Source of data: Program administrative data

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2017 NVEST Report.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Person

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 2009–2015

Data accessibility

Owner: Student Veterans of America

Location: <https://studentveterans.org/research/nvest/>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available The SVA published a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Suicide Data Repository

Description: Created in 2013, the [Suicide Data Repository \(SDR\)](#) is a joint repository and comprehensive mortality database from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). A joint Board of Governors (BoG) is tasked with overseeing management, implementation, and data requests for the SDR.

You can use these data for the evaluation of suicide prevention programs.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Merges data from multiple Federal agencies ■ Collects longitudinal data on suicide ■ Generally takes 3 weeks after a request to receive data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No publicly available information on variables in the SDR ■ Principal investigators (PIs) must be from DoD or VA but can sponsor external co-PIs ■ BoG reviews data requests quarterly

Sample: Uses eight data sources from agencies including those outside DoD and VA, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Source of data: Administrative data

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Variables included above are assumed based on the repository fact sheet stating that the DMDC's Active Duty Master File, Active Duty Transaction File, Reserve Component Commons Personnel Data System (RCCPDS) Master File, RCCPDS Transaction File, and Defense Casualty Analysis System are integrated data sources. These data are cited as sources for the above variables in the 2022 U.S. DoD Demographics Profile of the Military Community, and on their respective websites.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Person

Frequency of data collection: N/A

Date range: N/A

Data accessibility

Owner: DoD and VA

Location: <https://www.dsps.mil/Home/Suicide-Data-Repository/>

Permission: Restricted. Access to microdata requires approval by the SDR Board of Governors and must be used for research or study efforts sponsored by the DoD or VA. The Principal Investigator must also be from the DoD or VA, but third-party organizations may be co-investigators.

Survey of Income and Program Participation Public Use Microdata

Description: The [Survey of Income and Program Participation \(SIPP\)](#) is a nationally representative survey of households administered by the U.S. Census Bureau that records participation in government programs and includes many economic and demographic features.

You can use these data for analyzing the effectiveness of government programs and capturing economic well-being over time. See the Census Bureau’s [Uses of SIPP](#) page for more details.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Series of longitudinal surveys ■ Consistent 4-month recall period ■ Built to analyze government programs ■ Uses the same address dataset as other Census surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Panel durations vary ■ Complex, multistage sampling methodology ■ Military and VA health insurance coverage is grouped together as one response category ■ National Guard/Reserve status derived from data about National Guard/Reserve pay

Sample: Nationally representative sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized U.S. population. Read more about the two-stage sampling method involving primary sampling units (PSUs) and addresses within these PSUs at the [SIPP Sampling information page](#). SIPP is a household-based survey designed as a continuous series of national panels. Each panel has a large sample of households interviewed multiple times over a 4-year period.

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Households

Frequency of data collection: 4-month reference periods (1984–2013), 1-year reference periods (2014–present)

Date range: 1984–present

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Census Bureau

Location: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp.html>

Permission: Public use microdata are available in 1-year files.

Veterans Employment Outcomes

Description: The [Veterans Employment Outcomes \(VEO\)](#) data record pay grade and industry for Army veterans discharged from 2000 to 2015, along with a variety of demographic features.

You can use these data to assess aggregate trends by state in pay grade and industry for all Army veterans discharged from 2000 to 2015. Generalization beyond these data is not advisable.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Accessible data exploration tool ■ Data can be downloaded in table format in CSV files ■ Data are comprehensive, covering Army veterans discharged from 2000 to 2015 ■ Follows discharged Army veterans over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Data records were captured only from 2000 to 2015 ■ Only aggregate data are available ■ Not a generalizable sample beyond the time period and Service branch

Sample: Covers only Army veterans discharged between 2000 and 2015; this is further split into two cohorts, one from 2000 to 2007 and another from 2008 to 2015.

Source of data: Program administrative data. VEO was a shared partnership among the U.S. Army, State Labor Market Information offices, and the U.S. Census Bureau.

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the public-use data files retrieved from https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/veo_experimental.html

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 2000–2015

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce

Location: https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/veo_experimental.html

Permission: Summary tables by occupation, pay grade, geography, industry, and demographic features are publicly available. Microdata are available to researchers upon approval for access to the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics database at an FSRDC.

Veteran Readiness and Employment Longitudinal Study

Description: The [Veteran Readiness and Employment \(VR&E\) Longitudinal Study](#) measures long-term VR&E post-program outcomes such as income, employment, homeownership, and the use of supplemental programs. The Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act, Section 334, requires the VA to conduct this study over the course of 20 years, following three cohorts from 2010, 2012, and 2014.

You can use these data for assessment of the VA's VR&E program and supplemental public programs, such as unemployment and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), and their long-term impact on veterans' workforce outcomes.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tracks individual veterans over 20 years ■ Meant to assess impact of VA's VR&E and related public programs ■ VA releases annual reports from survey results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lack of publicly available detailed information on variables ■ Cohorts limited to 2010, 2012, and 2014

Sample: Veterans who establish a plan of services with the VR&E program and respond to the survey. Note: Appendix B, which contains methodology, is not present in the public report.

Source of data: Program administrative data and survey. Table 2A-1 in the VR&E 2020 Longitudinal Study annual report records the sources of the variables.

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2020 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of data collection: Annual

Date range: 2010–present

Data accessibility

Owner: U.S. Veterans Benefits Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Location: <https://www.benefits.va.gov/VOCREHAB/VRELongitudinalStudy.asp>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. The VA publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.

Wounded Warrior Project Annual Warrior Survey

Description: The [Annual Warrior Survey](#) is conducted by the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP), a veteran service organization, to inform their programs, services, and advocacy. Topics covered in the survey include demographics, physical and mental health, healthcare, identity, finances, and education. Beginning in 2021, the survey transitioned to a longitudinal survey that follows individual wounded veterans over time.

You can use these data for information on post-9/11 wounded veterans, particularly for health and healthcare issues such as exposure to toxic burn pits, use of telehealth, or barriers to getting care and opinions on transition support.

Strengths	Limitations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Follows wounded veterans over time ■ Covers topics not found in other datasets, such as sexual trauma, telehealth, and identity ■ Asks respondents about barriers to employment and their opinions on transition support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Raw data are unavailable ■ Survey results cannot be generalized to broader population of wounded veterans, only to WWP membership

Sample: WWP members. The survey is administered over 1 month every year to a subset of WWP members. Therefore, it cannot be considered a representative sample of wounded veterans or veterans.

Source of data: Survey

Variables to explore veteran employment

Sociodemographic	Gender..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Race <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Age..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LGBTQ+ <input type="checkbox"/>	Marital Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Disability (non-SCD)..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural/Urban Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education Level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Justice Involvement..... <input type="checkbox"/>		
Employment	Employment Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Earnings..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hours Worked..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Number of Jobs..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Months Un/Employed .. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Military	Service Branch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Combat Exposure..... <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date of Separation <input type="checkbox"/>	MOS <input type="checkbox"/>	Medical Discharge Status ... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	National Guard/Reserve Status..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		TAP Participation..... <input type="checkbox"/>
Veteran	Service Era <input type="checkbox"/>	SCD..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VA Health Insurance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other VA Benefits..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Note: Table reflects the availability of variables in the 2022 wave of data collection.

Data structure

Unit of observation: Individual

Frequency of Data Collection: Annual

Date Range: Cross-sectional design: 2010–2020; Longitudinal design: 2021–present

Data accessibility

Owner: Wounded Warrior Project

Location: <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/mission/annual-warrior-survey>

Permission: Microdata are not publicly available. The WWP publishes a report containing summary tables and visualizations for the variables indicated above, which are derived from its restricted survey data.