

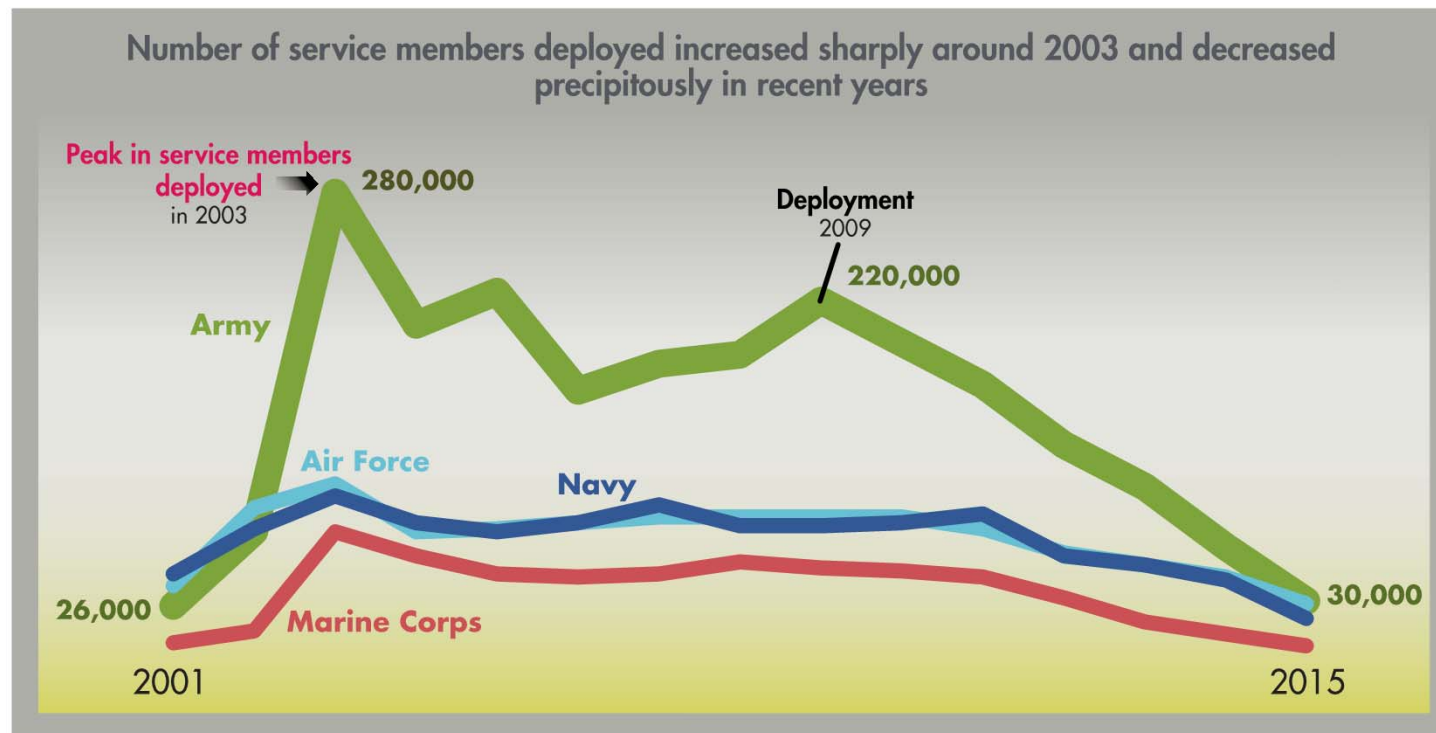


“The Evolving Health Needs of the  
Post-9/11 Veteran Community”  
Phillip Carter  
RAND Corporation



Who are our  
post-9/11 veterans?

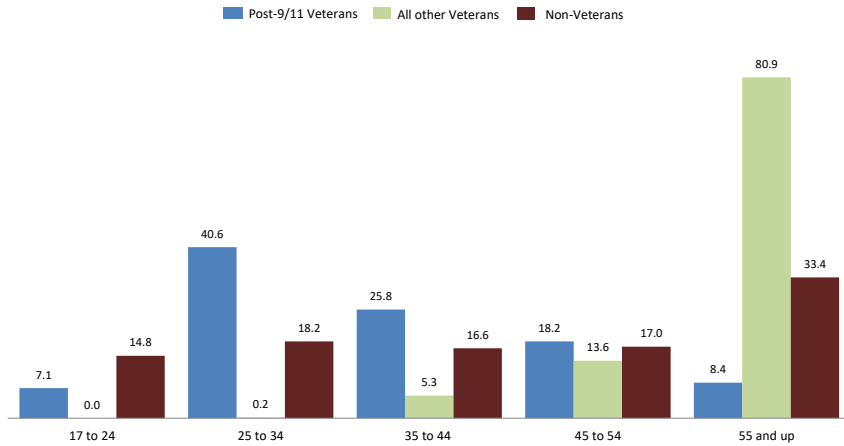
# Military Deployments (2001-2015)



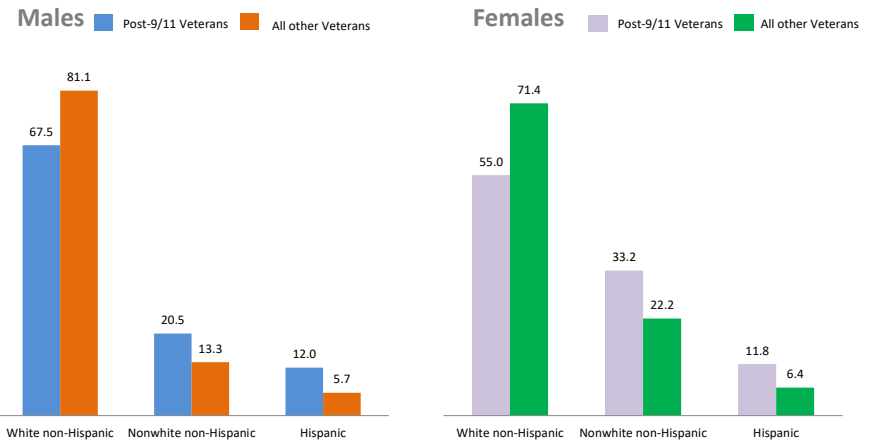
See: Wenger, Jennie W., Caolionn O'Connell, and Linda Cottrell, Examination of Recent Deployment Experience Across the Services and Components. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2018. [https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RR1928.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR1928.html)

Characteristics	Army	Air Force	Marine Corps	Navy	All Services
<b>Individuals deployed by component, and by service</b>					
Regular	855,000	397,000	333,000	515,000	2,100,000
Reserve	156,000	47,000	38,000	55,000	295,000
National Guard	344,000	84,000	N/A	N/A	428,000
<b>Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>1,326,000</b>	<b>518,000</b>	<b>367,000</b>	<b>563,000</b>	<b>2,774,000</b>
<b>Number of deployments by rank, gender, and family structure</b>					
Commissioned Officer	325,000	284,000	73,000	172,000	854,000
Warrant Officer	73,000	0	6,000	7,000	86,000
Enlisted	1,938,000	968,000	597,000	1,009,000	4,512,000
Male	2,096,000 (90.0%)	1,089,000 (87.2%)	652,000 (96.6%)	1,034,000 (87.5%)	4,871,000 (89.6%)
Female	232,000 (10.0%)	160,000 (12.8%)	23,000 (3.4%)	148,000 (12.5%)	563,000 (10.4%)
Age at time of deployment (Average, in years)	29.3	31.1	25.0	28.7	29.0
Married at time of deployment	1,389,000 (59.7%)	768,000 (61.5%)	305,000 (45.2%)	622,000 (52.7%)	3,085,000 (56.8%)
Had children at time of deployment	1,164,000 (50.0%)	606,000 (48.5%)	198,000 (29.4%)	492,000 (41.6%)	2,460,000 (45.3%)
<b>Total<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>2,335,972</b>	<b>1,252,424</b>	<b>676,351</b>	<b>1,187,932</b>	<b>5,452,679</b>

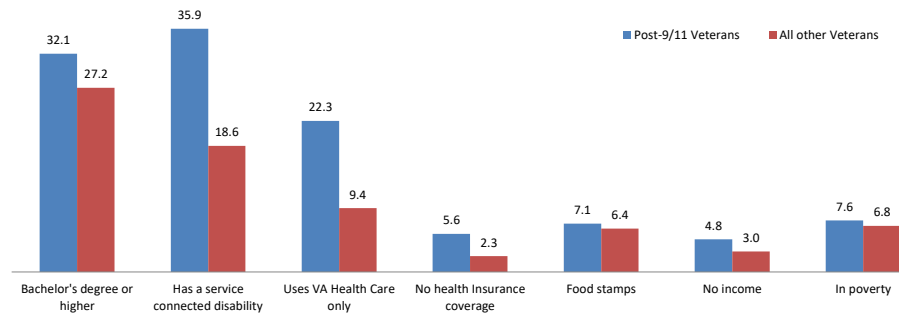
**Age Distribution for Post-9/11 Veterans, All Other Veterans, and Non-Veterans**  
(in percent)



**Race Distribution**  
(in percent)



**Selected Characteristics of Veterans**  
(in percent)



Source: VA, Profile of Post-9/11 Veterans, [https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Post\\_911\\_Veterans\\_Profile\\_2016.pdf](https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/Post_911_Veterans_Profile_2016.pdf)



What health challenges face our post-9/11 veterans?

Not all veterans are eligible for VA health care:

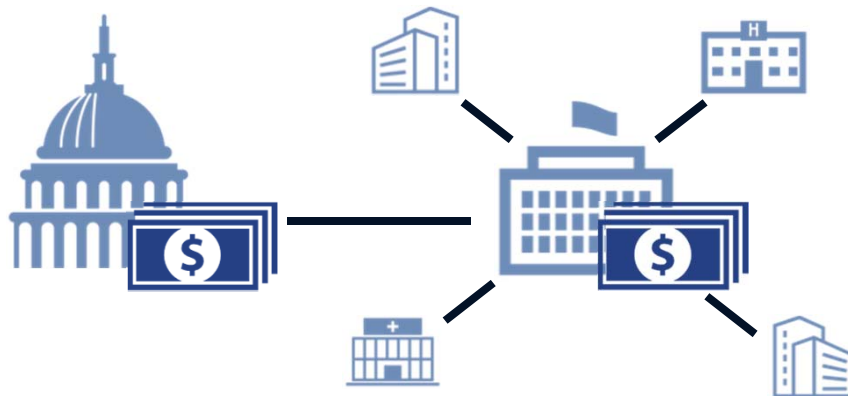
Minimum service requirement



Service-connected condition

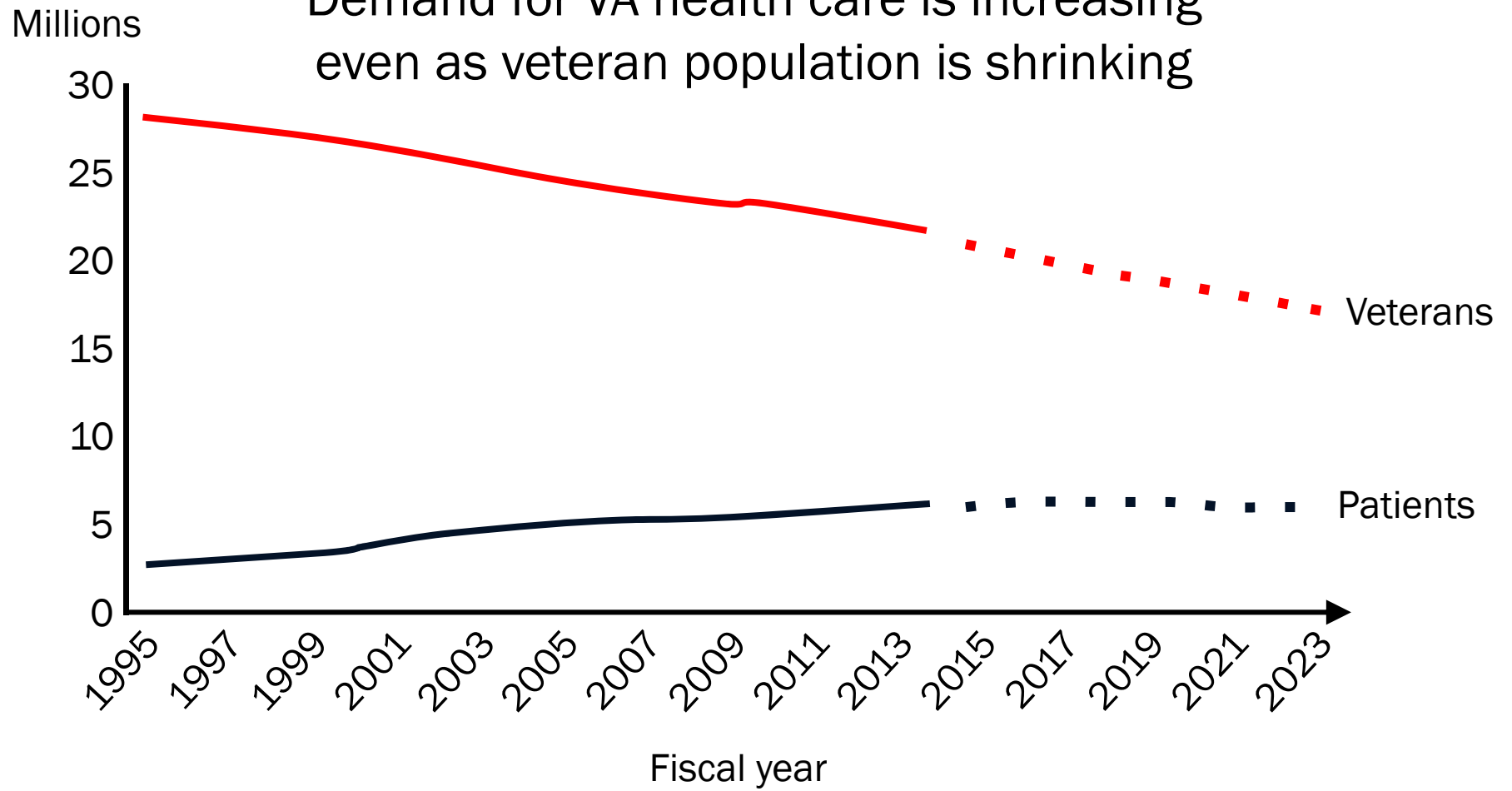


Individual income below \$35-55k



VA budget is annual appropriation

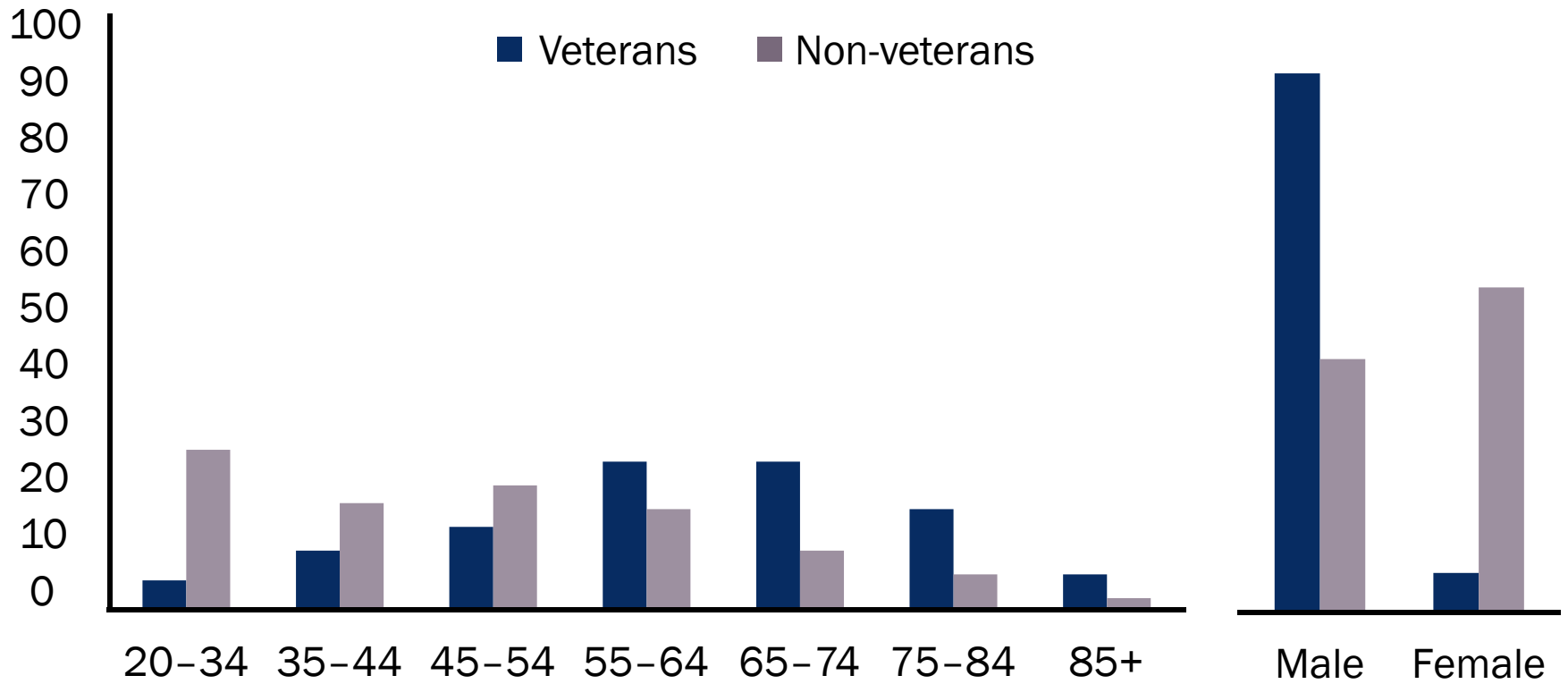
Demand for VA health care is increasing even as veteran population is shrinking

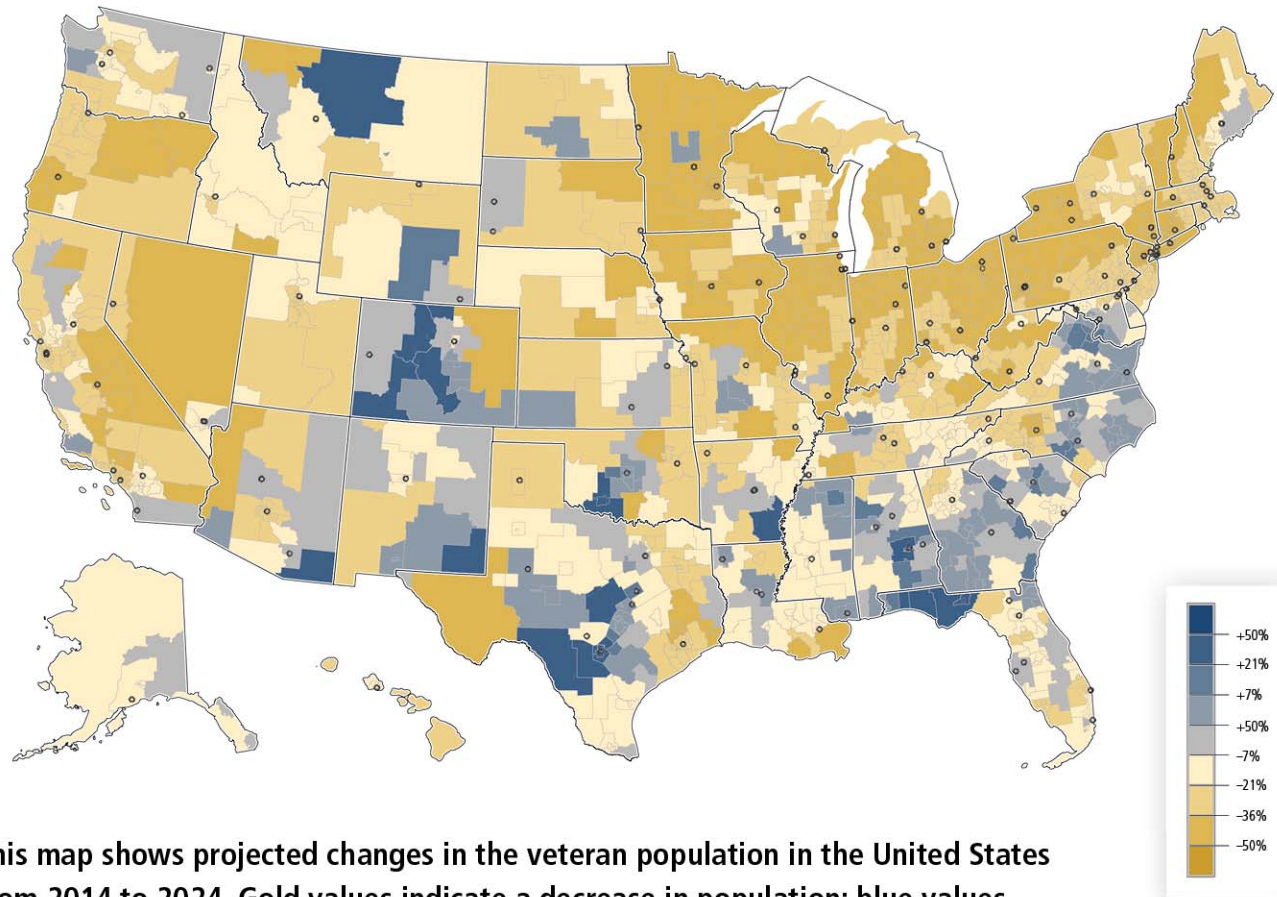




Veterans are older and more likely to be male –  
but this will change as veteran population changes

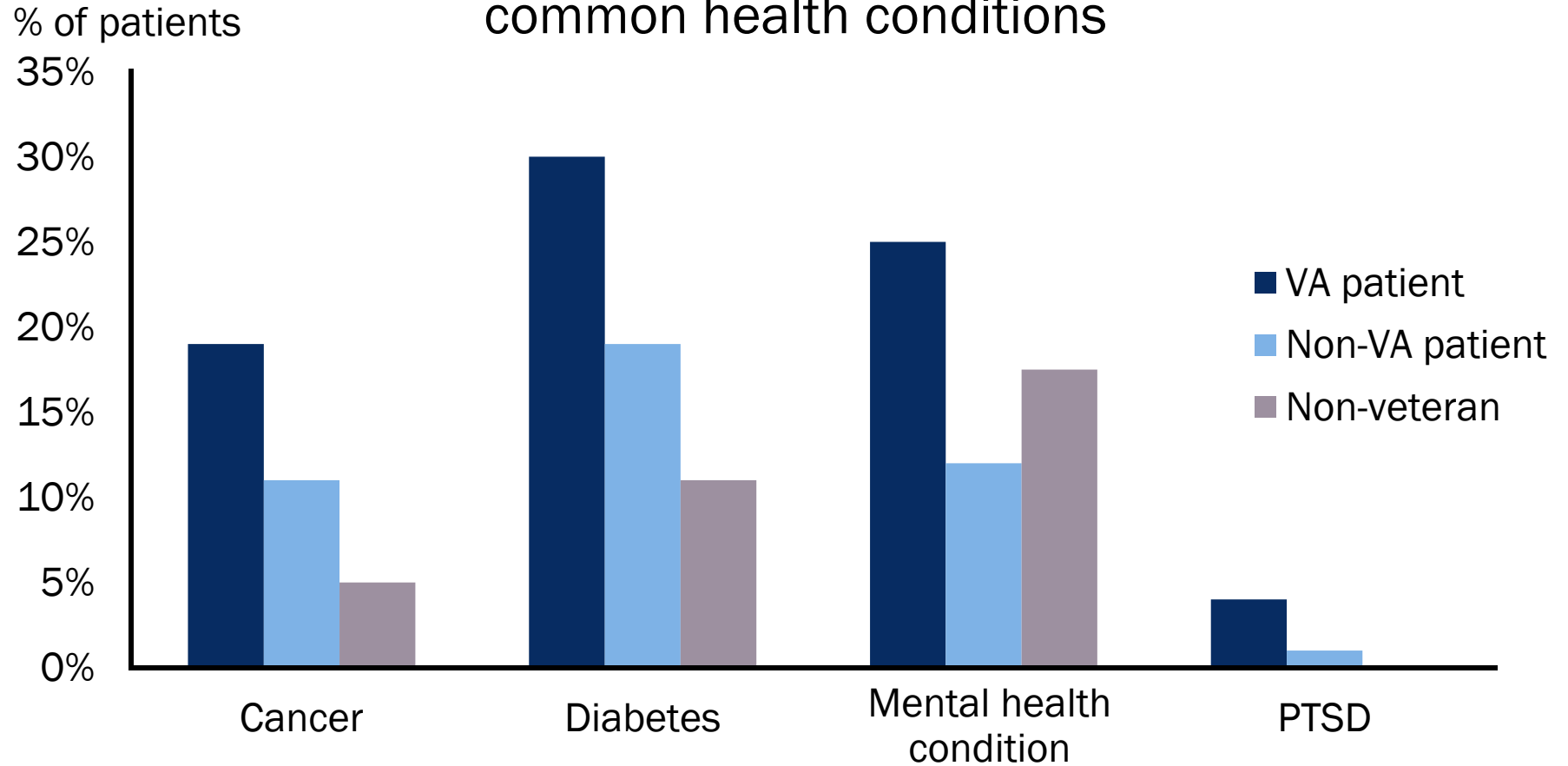
% of total





**This map shows projected changes in the veteran population in the United States from 2014 to 2024. Gold values indicate a decrease in population; blue values indicate an increase. The dots indicate locations of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers.**

## VA patients are more likely to be diagnosed with many common health conditions



# Demand for VA care will evolve by 2024

- Demand will increase for the next few years and then likely level off as population stabilizes
- The VA patient population will evolve
  - Current VA patient population will become older and less healthy
  - Post-9/11 veterans will grow as a share of the population
  - The geographic location of veterans will change
- The future is uncertain
  - A new conflict could increase demand for VA services by 500,000-925,000 new VA patients

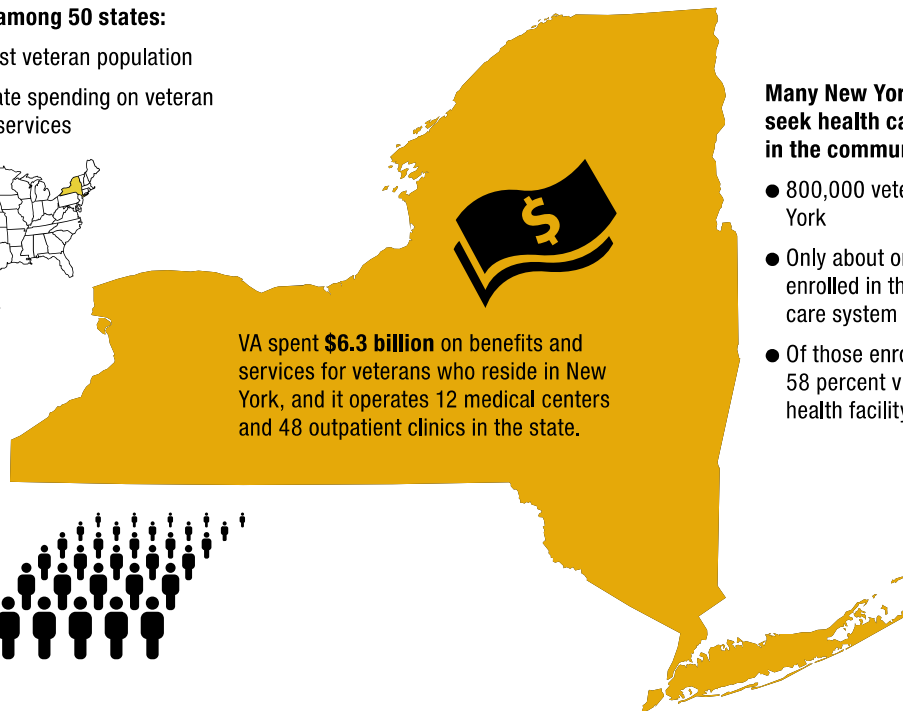
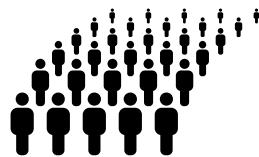


What health challenges face  
New York veterans?

# Veterans' Health in New York

## Rankings among 50 states:

- 5th largest veteran population
- 4th in state spending on veteran medical services



VA spent **\$6.3 billion** on benefits and services for veterans who reside in New York, and it operates 12 medical centers and 48 outpatient clinics in the state.

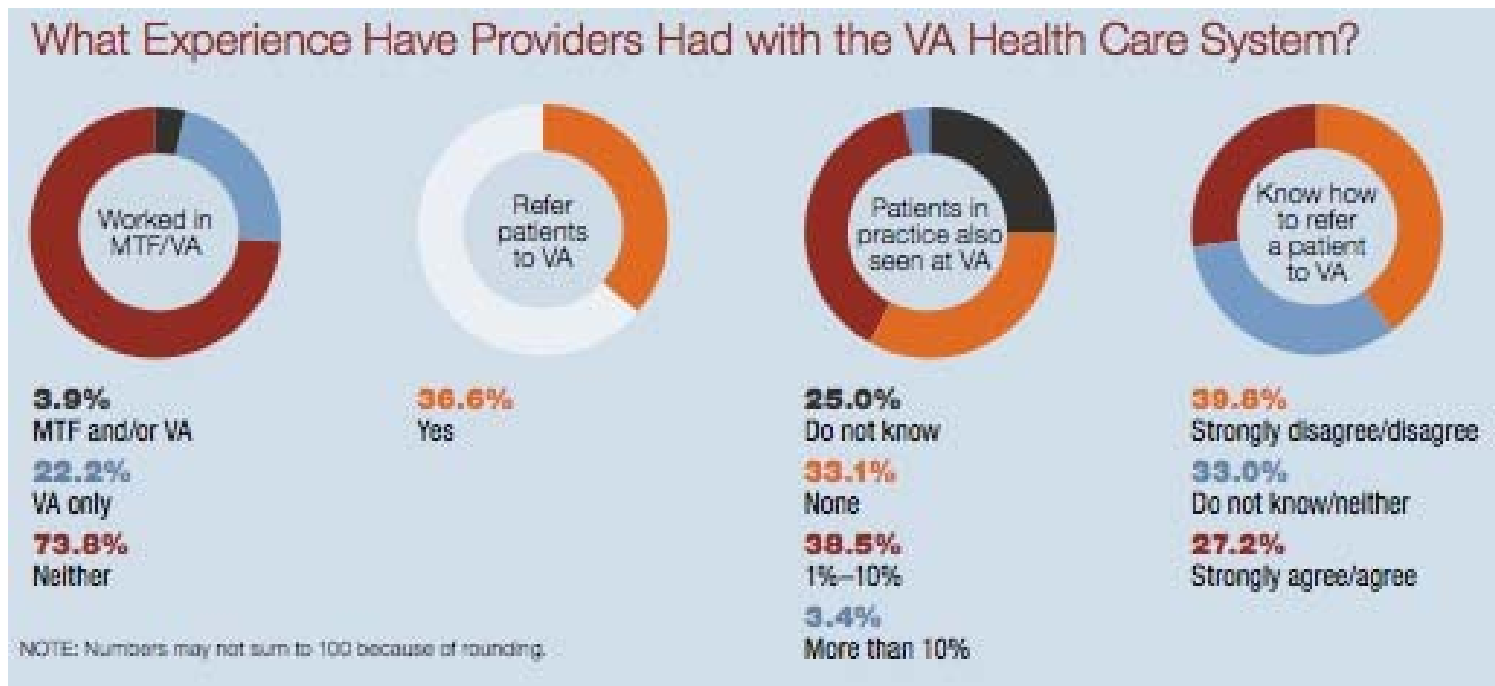
## Many New York veterans seek health care services in the community sector:

- 800,000 veterans in New York
- Only about one-half enrolled in the VA health care system
- Of those enrolled, only 58 percent visited a VA health facility in 2015



Tanielian, Terri, Carrie M. Farmer, Rachel M. Burns, Erin L. Duffy, and Claude Messan Setodji, *Ready or Not? Assessing the Capacity of New York State Health Care Providers to Meet the Needs of Veterans*, Santa Monica, Calif.: RAND Corporation, RR-2298-NYSHF, 2018. As of May 04, 2018: [https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RR2298.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2298.html)

# VA Experience in the New York Private Sector Health Care Market



**As the number of criteria for readiness to serve veterans increases, the percentage of ready providers decreases:**

### Cumulative Results of Provider Readiness

Accepting new patients



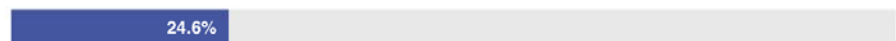
*and* prepared to treat conditions common among veterans



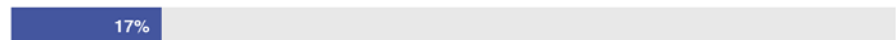
*and* uses clinical practice guidelines



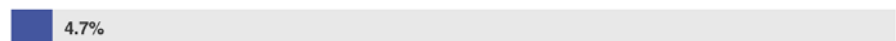
*and* screens for conditions common to veterans



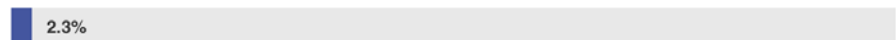
*and* accomodates patients with disabilities



*and* familiar with military culture



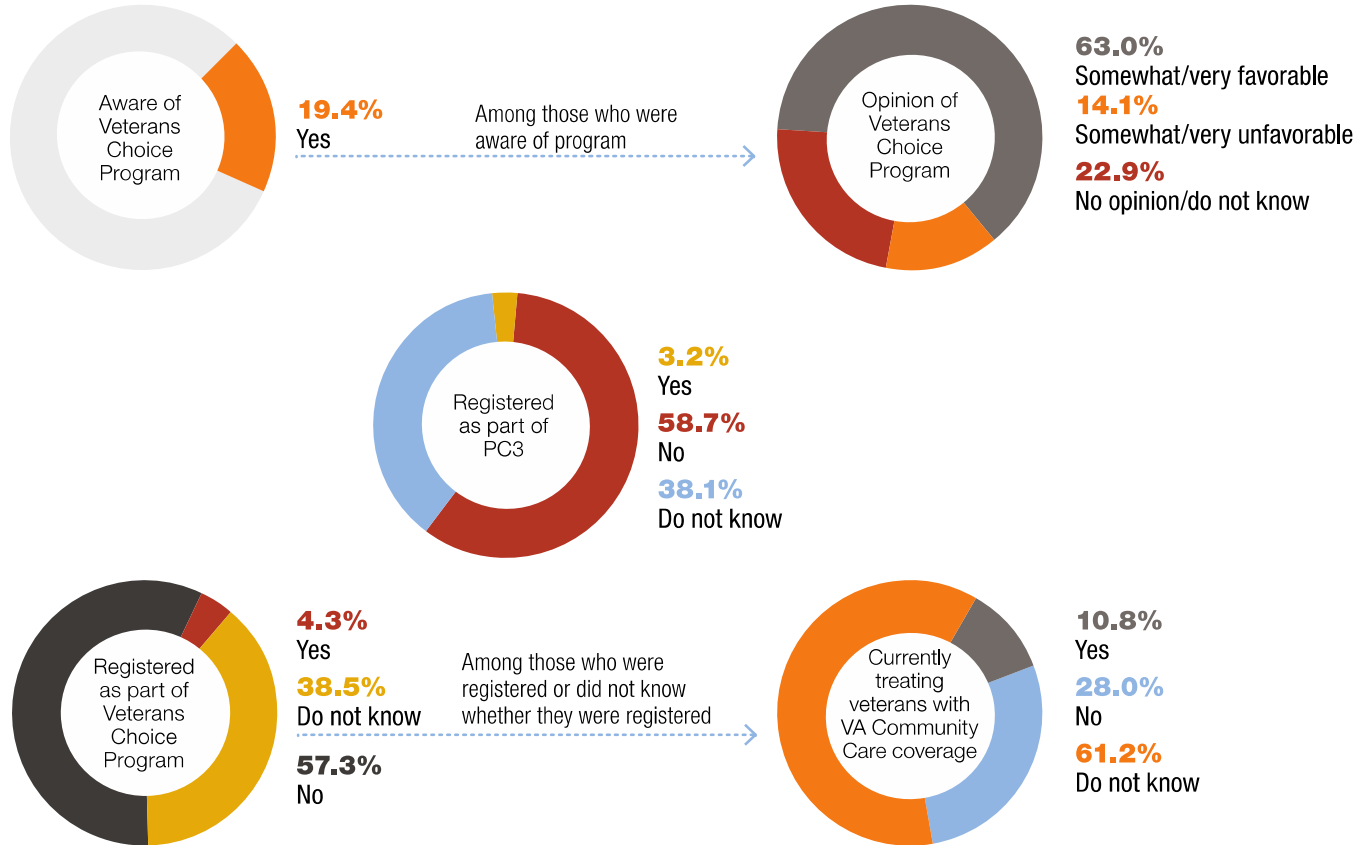
*and* screens patients for military/veteran affiliation



**As the number of criteria for readiness increases, the percentage of ready providers plummets.**



## What Experience Do Providers Have with VA Community Care?



NOTE: Numbers may not sum to 100 because of rounding.



Future issues and choices facing post-9/11 veterans



What is our social contract of service?



What will be the trajectory of the post-9/11 veterans cohort?



What is the optimal blend of public, private and nonprofit effort to serve veterans?



How will American society and communities relate to and serve veterans in the future?



Questions?  
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