

NORTH DAKOTA **MILITARY DATA BOOK**



Service Members, Veterans, Families, and Survivors



2014-2015



Supporting All Who Have Served

A Coalition Dedicated to Strengthening an
Accessible, Seamless System of Support for
Service Members, Veterans, Families, and
Survivors in North Dakota

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[mental health, substance abuse, suicide, traumatic brain injury, ND Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation]	
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“Suicides challenge military services”

^{By Bismarck}
Tribune

“Veterans Officers Ask for Medical Services”

Williston Herald



“Serving the military men and women after the fact”

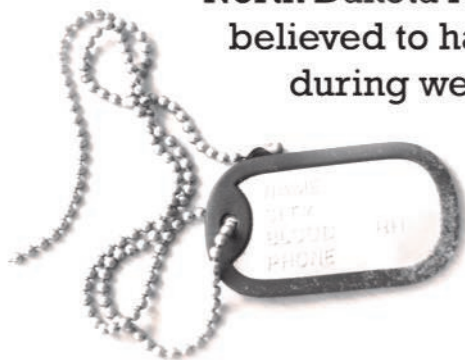
Williston Herald

“US Officials Launch New Strategy to Prevent Suicide”

INFORUM



**“North Dakota National Guard soldier
believed to have died by suicide
during weekend training”**



**“New VA clinic in Williston helps to
provide needs of area veterans”**

Williston Herald



“Soldier’s Suicide Impetus for Effort”



**“Event Helps Homeless and
In-Need Veterans”**



DEMOGRAPHICS

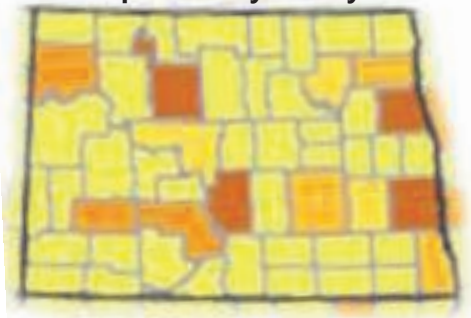
56,770

Veterans in North Dakota

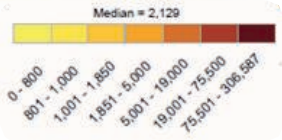
11% of the population

U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American Community Survey
1-Year Estimates

Veteran Population by County

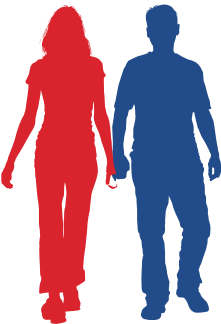


Department of Veterans Affairs,
Office of the Actuary, Veteran
Population Projection Model
(VetPop), 2011 as of 9/30/2013



Gender Deployment

8.9% Female
91.1% Male



North Dakota

U.S. Census Bureau 2012 American
Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Deployed since 9/11¹

[as of May 2012]

A total of 10,095 North Dakotans have
been deployed since 9/11.

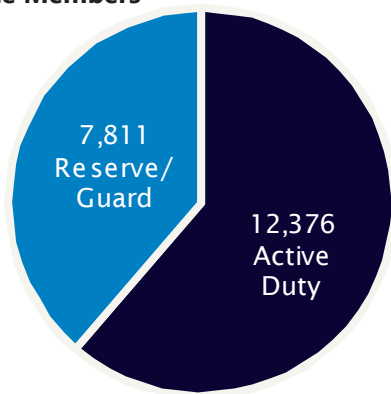


Dependents

Number of ND dependents by age¹

Age 0 - 5 = 3,251
Age 6 - 19 = 6,495
Age 20 - 29 = 4,285
Age 30 - 65 = 6,129
Age > 65 = 27

Number of Dependents for all Activated North Dakota Service Members¹



Single Parenting Family Life



142,000²

Nationally, approximately 142,000 members of the U.S. Armed Forces (Active, Guard, and Reserve) are single parents of minor children.

Military family life is characterized by unique demands.

- Separation
- Risk of injury or death of the service member
- Long work hours and shift work
- Frequent relocation
- Unique organizational culture and norms
- Family separations due to military deployments

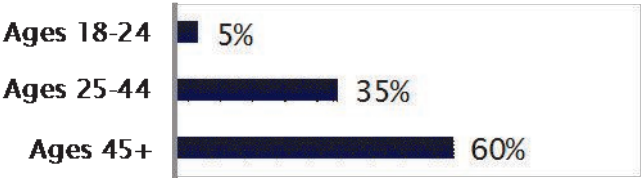
¹U.S. Department of Defense, Department of Manpower Data Center. (Dependent Data as of August 2012) (Deployment Data as of May 2012)

²Benchmark Institute: Guide to Veterans Legal Issues. (2011)

EMPLOYMENT

Unemployment Rate of Veterans 18 Years and Over [Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013 annual averages]	
United States	6.6%
North Dakota	3.2%

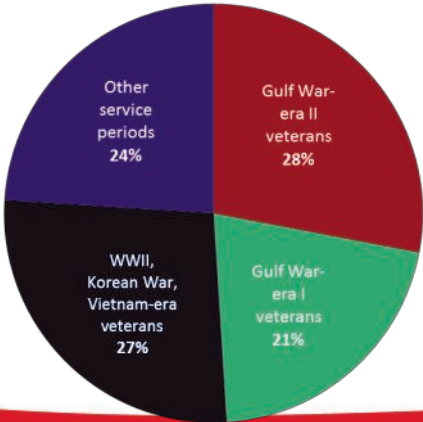
**Unemployed Veterans in the US
in 2013, by Age Category
(n=722,000)**



Bureau of Labor Statistics

While most veterans transition back to civilian life successfully, many still struggle. Securing steady employment in a rewarding, lucrative and long-term career is an enormous part of a successful transition.

National Unemployment by Period of Service



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, annual averages 2013

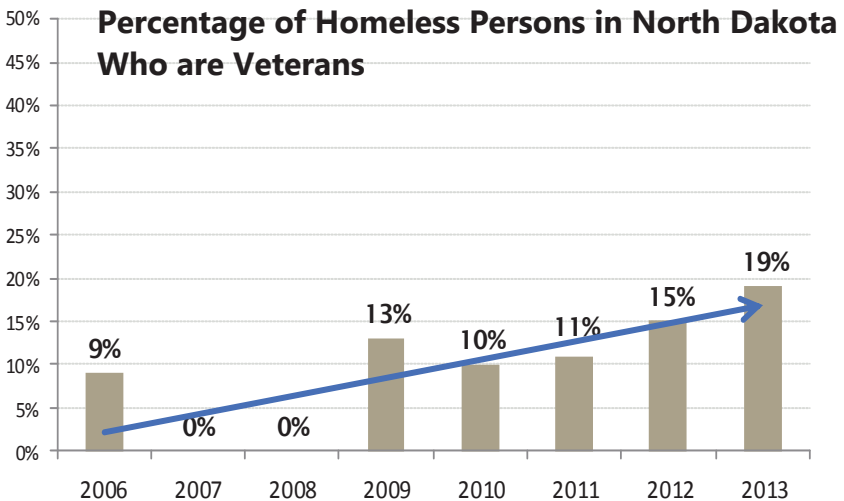
HOUSING

124

Homeless Veterans in ND

(121 sheltered and 3 unsheltered)

Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
2011 Point in Time Count



North Dakota Homeless Population Point-in-Time Survey, 2006-2013

According to HUD, a “**homeless person**” is an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence which includes temporary housing shelters.

Compared with other homeless adults,
homeless Veterans are ***more likely*** to ...

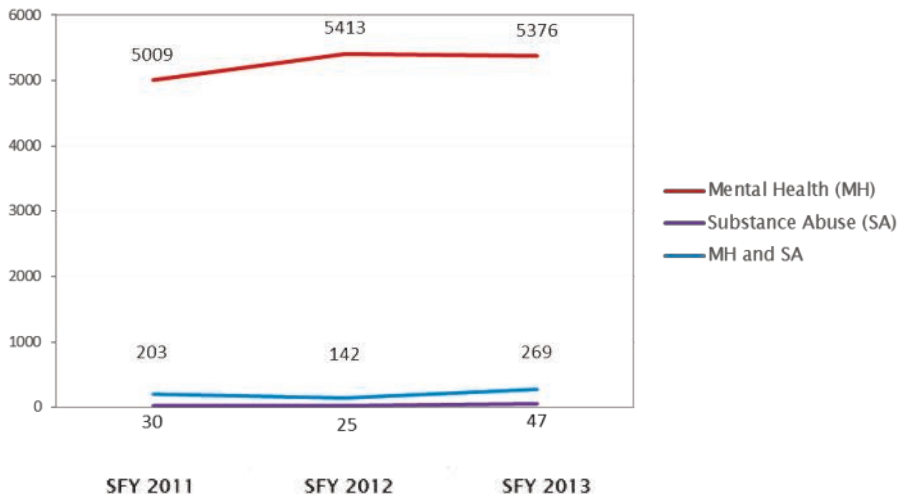
- ▶ Have **higher levels of education, military skills,** and employment experience that may be transferable
- ▶ Have a **mental illness, substance abuse and/or health problem** such as HIV/AIDS, cancer, or hypertension
- ▶ Be **living unsheltered** and experience **long-term homelessness**

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Substance Use and Mental Health

Veterans Health Administration

Number of Veterans Who Received Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services from Veteran Health in North Dakota



US Department of Veterans Affairs; Fargo VA Health Care System

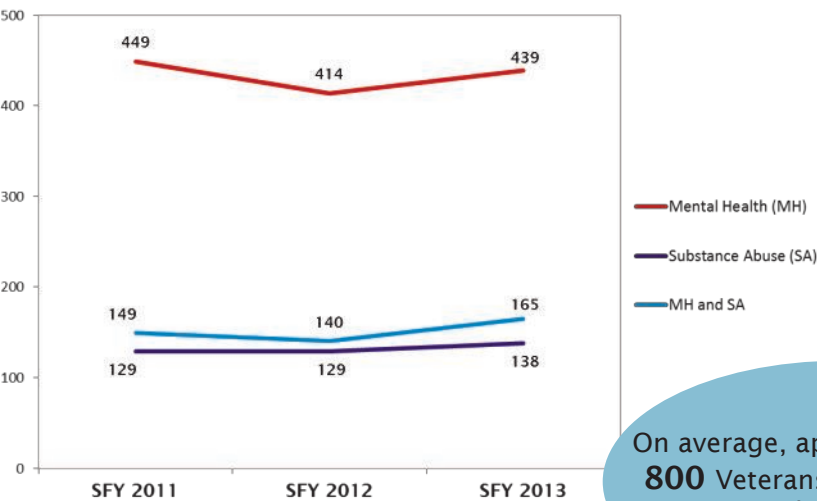
For the purposes of VA health benefits and services, a person who served in the active military service and who was discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable is a Veteran.

Nationally, about **half** of returning service members who **need treatment** for mental health conditions seek it, and **slightly more than half** who **receive treatment receive adequate care**¹

¹ http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_briefs/2008/RAND_RB9336.pdf

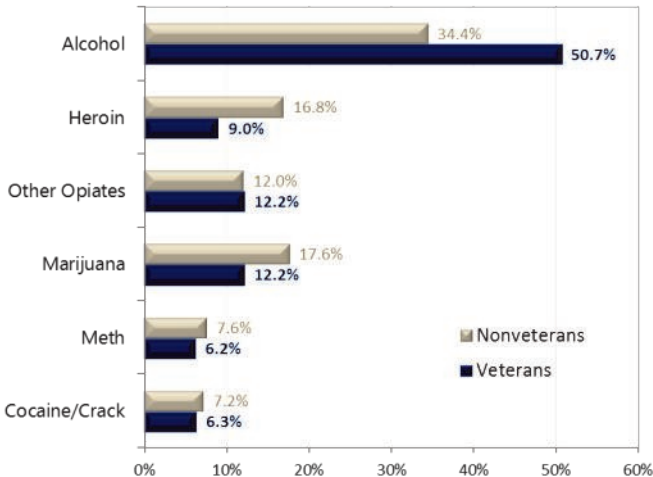
North Dakota Human Service Centers

Number of Veterans or Those Served in the Military Who Received Services from the Human Service Centers in North Dakota



On average, approximately **800** Veterans are served per year in the ND Human Service Centers.

National Primary Substance of Abuse in Treatment Admissions, Aged 21 to 39 [NATIONAL NSDUH, 2010]



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Substance Use and Mental Health

Nationally, mental and substance use disorders caused **more hospitalizations** among U.S. troops in 2009 than any other cause¹

An estimated **1 in 4** (25-30%) of U.S. veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have reported **symptoms of a mental disorder or cognitive condition**² (post-traumatic stress disorder, major depression, traumatic brain injury, etc.)



Definition of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (Mayo Clinic): mental health condition that's triggered by a terrifying event — either experiencing it or witnessing it. Symptoms may include flashbacks, nightmares and severe anxiety, as well as uncontrollable thoughts about the event.

Nationally, approximately **19%** of service members returning from Iraq or Afghanistan have **post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or depression**³

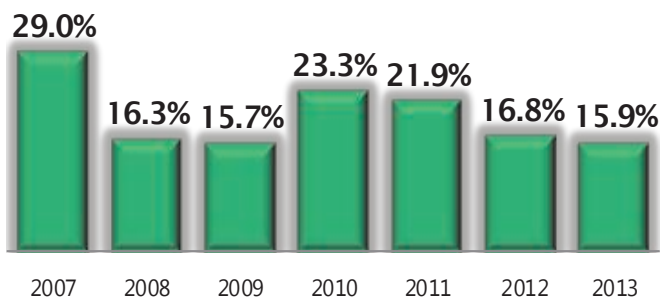
¹ Zoroya, G. (2010, May 14). Mental health hospitalizations up for troops. *USA Today*. Retrieved March 25, 2011, from http://www.armytimes.com/news/2010/05/gns_mental_health_051410/ (Original source: Pentagon's Medical Surveillance Month Report.)

² Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies. (November 6, 2008). *The NSDUH Report - Major Depressive Episode and Treatment for Depression among Veterans Aged 21 to 39*. Rockville, MD.

³ Tanielian, T. L., RAND Corporation & Center for Military Health Policy Research. (2008). *Invisible wounds of war: Summary and recommendations for addressing psychological and cognitive injuries*. Santa Monica: RAND.

Since the Global War on Terrorism began,
more North Dakota National Guard members have
died by SUICIDE than in COMBAT.

Percentage of Suicides Committed by Veterans in North Dakota



Many Factors Influence an Individual's Likelihood To Develop a Behavioral Health Problem.²

The **RISK FACTORS** below are associated with a **HIGHER** likelihood of suicide and the **PROTECTIVE FACTORS** are associated with a **LOWER** likelihood of suicide.

RISK Factors	PROTECTIVE Factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Some major physical illnesses, mental disorders, and substance use disorders ▶ Barriers to accessing health care ▶ Stigma associated with help-seeking behavior ▶ Easy access to lethal means (e.g., firearms or poison) ▶ Lack of social support and sense of isolation ▶ Cultural/religious beliefs that accept suicide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Effective clinical care for physical illnesses, mental disorders and substance use disorders ▶ Easy access to a variety of clinical interventions ▶ Support for help-seeking behavior ▶ Restricted access to lethal means (e.g., firearms or poison) ▶ Strong connections to family and community support ▶ Cultural/religious beliefs that discourage suicide

² Examples of risk and protective factors selected from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Injury Center: Violence Prevention, Suicide: Risk and Protective Factors, <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/suicide/riskprotectivefactors.html>.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Traumatic Brain Injury

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) has been defined as “an alteration in brain function, or other evidence of brain pathology, caused by an external force.”¹

About **1 in 5** service members, **nationally**, returning from Iraq or Afghanistan report experiencing a traumatic brain injury (**TBI**) during deployment²

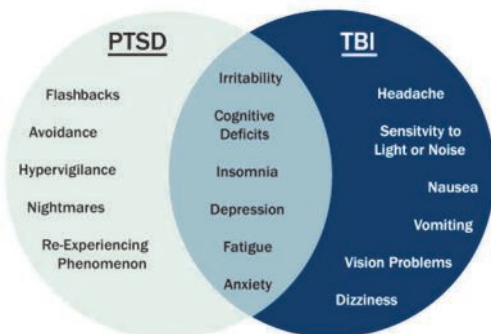
20%

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) has become known as a “**signature wound**” of *Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)* and *Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF)*, because the incidence of TBI is higher in these conflicts than it has been in previous conflicts.¹



From 2002-2010, **219 North Dakota** OEF/OIF Veterans were diagnosed with TBI-related conditions at a VA facility.²

Nationally, three-quarters of VA patients with a TBI diagnosis also had a diagnosis of PTSD.³



¹ Bagalman, Erin., Congressional Research Service. (Jan 2013). Traumatic Brain Injury among Veterans. Washington, DC: Library of Congress. http://www.ncsl.org/documents/statefed/health/TBI_Vets2013.pdf

² Tanielian, T. L., RAND Corporation & Center for Military Health Policy Research. (2008). *Invisible wounds of war: Summary and recommendations for addressing psychological and cognitive injuries*. Santa Monica: RAND.

³ Congressional Budget Office. (Feb 2012). The Veterans Health Administration's Treatment of PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury among Recent Combat Veterans.



1 in 10 (10.6%) **male inmates in North Dakota**

has some history of military service.

(1% of female inmates have some history of military service)

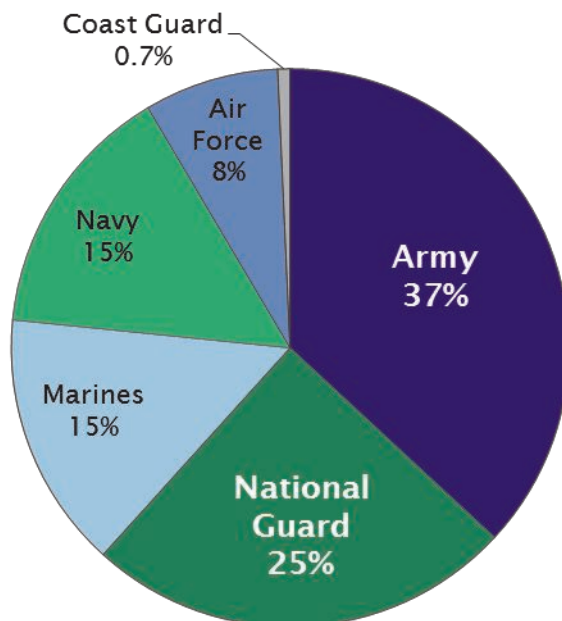
63 of the 141 male inmates have an honorable, medical, training, administrative, or general discharge status.

ND Veteran Inmates →

50.4% have an **SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER** diagnosis

14.2% have a serious **MENTAL ILLNESS** diagnosis

Military Branches Represented among Male Inmates



RESOURCES

National



www.warriorgateway.org



www.militaryonesource.mil



www.va.gov



www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil



www.nd.gov/veterans



www.nd.gov/dhs/services/mentalhealth



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

www.ndhealth.gov/suicideprevention/?id=73

SOURCES

Please note that definitions may be different based on the source of the data or information. For more information on this or other methodology questions, visit the selected websites below.

US Department of Veterans Affairs: National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics—www.va.gov/vetdata

United States Census Bureau: American Community Survey—www.census.gov/acs

United States Department of Labor: Bureau of Labor Statistics—www.bls.gov

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: National Survey on Drug Use and Health—www.samhsa.gov/data/NSDUH.aspx



MISSION

Strengthening an Accessible, Seamless Network of Support for Service Members, Veterans, Families, and Survivors

ABOUT US

Coalition members share a common interest in strengthening a seamless, accessible network of support across the state. The coalition is not a service provider, but represents a broad spectrum of programs and providers whose work touches the lives of service members, veterans, families and survivors.

PRIORITIES

Behavioral Health is the focus of ND Cares, as these problems are far-reaching and exact an enormous toll on individuals, their families, communities, and the broader society.

ND Cares Goals:

- * Conduct a comprehensive assessment of needs
- * Integrate existing programs and resources to strengthen an effective and efficient system
- * Develop a leader network to support collaborative efforts

ND Cares comprises a growing team of more than 40 military and civilian professionals throughout North Dakota.

For additional copies, contact:



North Dakota Department of Human Services
Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
Prevention Resource & Media Center (PRMC)
1237 West Divide Avenue, Suite 1D
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-328-8919
Email: ndprmc@nd.gov
www.nd.gov/dhs/prevention

