Employment Situation of Veterans for 2012

BLS releases annual summary of veterans' employment data

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released its annual summary of veterans employment data on March 20. Overall, 21.2 million men and women count themselves as veterans. The jobless rate for all veterans decreased to 7.0 percent and also decreased for Gulf War era II veterans to 9.9 percent.

Some of the highlights from the report include:

- 5.6 million veterans have served during the Gulf War era (August 1990 - present)
- Approximately 35 percent of Gulf War era II (September 2011 - present) veterans reported that they had served in Iraq, Afghanistan, or both.
- 9.9 million veterans were estimated to have served during World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam era. All of these veterans were at least 55 years old, and two-thirds were at least 65 years old. Nearly all (97 percent) of these veterans were men.
- About 3.0 million veterans, or 14 percent of the total, had a service-connected disability. Among veterans with a service-connected disability, about 3 in 10 had a rating of 60 percent or higher.

The labor force participation rate was generally lower for veterans with a service-connected disability compared to veterans from that period that did not have a service-connected disability. While the unemployment rate was statistically not different across these groups, the lower participation rate could be hiding those veterans who have given up seeking employment.

The occupational profiles for Gulf War era II veterans lined up with their nonveteran counterparts. About one-third of the employed men in both groups worked in management and professional occupations, a higher proportion than in any other major
occupational group. Among employed women, about 50 percent of Gulf War era II veterans and 42 percent of nonveterans worked in management and professional occupations.

Read the full report here.

New Resources: USICH Spotlights Veteran Homelessness
New statistics from latest PIT count; case studies on successful partnerships
The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness recently highlighted resources and case studies regarding homeless veterans in a new feature at their website.

Among these resources include more information from the 2012 PIT count (Ending Homelessness Among Veterans: A Report) and profiles of organizations on track to end veteran homelessness in their community (Positive Outliers: Communities on Track to End Veteran Homelessness).

A new innovation is highlighted called the Homeless Patient Aligned Care Team (HPACT) that integrates primary care with housing resources for veterans with high needs. Also featured is an innovative SSVF program in Wayne County, Michigan, plus solutions community-based organizations and public housing agencies have created to cover move-in costs associated with HUD-VASH.

These reports and more can be found here.

Highlight: Veterans Inc. and Home Depot Foundation Team Up; New Grant Opportunity
Partnership brings improvement to courtyard; grant opportunity for organizations
Team Depot - The Home Depot’s associate-led volunteer program - joined together with Veterans Inc. to reconstruct a 6,000-square foot courtyard. The Home Depot provided more than 100 volunteers from eight area stores, made possible from a $24,500 grant from The Home Depot Foundation. Read the full article here.

The Home Depot Foundation has also announced a new grant worth up to $5,000. The funding is available to contribute to special neighborhood efforts through their Community Impact Grants. The deadline is August 13.

Nonprofit organizations that are interested in using volunteers to help improve their community for veterans and their families can apply for this funding, which is provided in Home Depot gift cards, to purchase tools, materials or services from The Home Depot.
Learn more about this opportunity and how organizations have utilized this funding in the past [here](#).

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**About the Corporate Connection**
The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) created the Corporate Connection, in partnership with The Home Depot Foundation, to help America's businesses increase access to housing, employment and family stabilization services for homeless and at-risk veterans and their families. To learn more, visit the [Corporate Connection](#).