

Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Women Veterans Survey

This Women Veterans survey was sent out in April of 2007 to approximately 1600 women veterans on the WDVA mailing list and through the Wisconsin National Guard, Army, and Air Force via e-mail. Total responses received were 465.

Number of Responses

AGE GROUP	COUNT	
None	19	4.09%
18-30	87	18.71%
31-40	74	15.91%
41-50	80	17.20%
51-60	77	16.56%
61-70	23	4.95%
Over-70	105	22.58%
TOTAL	465	

What is/are your period(s) of service? Choose all that apply.

PERIOD OF SERVICE	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
WORLD WAR II	2	0	0	0	0	0	76	78	13.38%	
KOREAN WAR	0	0	0	0	0	1	27	28	4.80%	
VIETNAM WAR	5	0	0	4	47	13	7	76	13.04%	
DESERT SHIELD DESERT STORM	8	3	42	31	24	2	2	112	19.21%	
GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM	9	77	33	21	9	1	0	150	25.73%	
PEACE TIME	8	10	21	56	30	10	4	139	23.84%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	32	90	96	112	110	27	116	583		

Identify each branch of service you served in. Chose all that apply.

BRANCH OF SERVICE	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
ARMY	11	67	39	46	41	12	45	261	55.30%	
MARINES	1	1	7	7	5	1	14	36	7.63%	
NAVY	4	6	11	12	18	5	29	85	18.01%	
AIR FORCE	4	7	19	16	20	5	12	83	17.58%	
COAST GUARD	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	7	1.48%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	21	81	76	81	84	23	106	472		

What is your education Level? Indicate highest level.

EDUCATION LEVEL	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
HIGH SCHOOL	0	12	6	13	4	7	24	66	14.54%	
SOME COLLEGE	3	43	27	24	15	3	27	142	31.28%	
TRADE SCHOOL	1	0	1	0	0	1	13	16	3.52%	
ASSOCIATE DEGREE	4	6	11	9	18	5	8	61	13.44%	
BACHELOR DEGREE	2	20	20	23	31	3	15	114	25.11%	
ADVANCED DEGREE	3	4	9	11	9	4	15	55	12.11%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	13	85	74	80	77	23	102	454		

Please identify the medical areas that you are concerned about. Choose all that apply.

MEDICAL CONCERNS	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
AMPUTATION	0	2	4	0	1	1	2	10	2.23%	
GYN	5	19	21	22	28	5	16	116	25.84%	
HEAD INJURIES	1	0	6	7	8	2	7	31	6.90%	
MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS	3	3	13	17	20	5	18	79	17.59%	
SEXUAL ASSAULT	2	15	12	12	12	3	0	56	12.47%	
SLEEP DISORDER	6	14	17	27	24	8	16	112	24.94%	
UROLOGICAL PROBLEMS	4	3	5	2	10	3	18	45	10.02%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	21	56	78	87	103	27	77	449		

Please identify the mental health needs you are concerned about. Choose all that apply.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
ADJUSTING TO PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS	3	5	9	10	15	4	21	67	12.43%	
ANXIETY	5	14	21	27	25	5	11	108	20.04%	
DEPRESSION	4	15	26	28	34	8	11	126	23.38%	
GUILT FOR LEAVING THE FAMILY FOR DEPLOYMENT	2	15	11	8	3	0	1	40	7.42%	
STRESSORS OF BEING A SINGLE PARENT	1	6	14	10	5	0	1	37	6.86%	
PTSD	6	13	17	16	21	5	4	82	15.21%	
SEXUAL ASSAULT	2	14	13	13	5	2	1	50	9.28%	
OTHERS	1	0	5	5	10	0	8	29	5.38%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	24	82	116	117	118	24	58	539		

Do you feel that as a woman veteran you have different needs than your male counterparts? Choose all that apply.

NEEDS	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
AFTER DEPLOYMENT BEING A PARENT AGAIN	7	28	21	22	17	5	7	107	13.63%	
AFTER DEPLOYMENT BEING A SPOUSE AGAIN	8	18	17	25	18	4	9	99	12.61%	
AFTER DEPLOYMENT BEING SINGLE	4	19	14	18	21	3	12	91	11.59%	
AFTER DEPLOYMENT BEING A CIVILIAN AGAIN	4	20	27	21	22	4	15	113	14.39%	
AFTER DEPLOYMENT CONTINUING EDUCATION	3	17	18	26	20	5	15	104	13.25%	
DURING DEPLOYMENT	5	33	19	21	17	4	5	104	13.25%	
GETTING A JOB AS A COMBAT VETERAN	4	17	15	21	17	5	2	81	10.32%	
GOING BACK TO YOUR OLD JOB	4	16	12	18	20	4	12	86	10.96%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	39	168	143	172	152	34	77	785		

Have you applied for any of the following WDVA veteran benefits? Choose all that apply.

WDVA BENEFITS	AGE GROUP								TOTAL	
	NONE	18-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	OVER 70			
ASSISTANCE FOR THE NEEDY	0	1	1	3	0	1	4	10	2.43%	
ASSISTANCE WITH VA CLAIMS	3	3	10	11	11	4	12	54	13.11%	
HOME IMPROVEMENT LOAN	0	0	2	4	11	3	4	24	5.83%	
HOME LOAN	3	8	21	17	25	2	12	88	21.36%	
PERSONAL LOAN	0	1	11	8	8	4	7	39	9.47%	
RETRAINING GRANT	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	4	0.97%	
VAP HOMELESS PROGRAM	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0.49%	
VET ED	3	16	9	7	14	4	6	59	14.32%	
WISCONSIN GI BILL**	6	49	25	13	15	4	20	132	32.04%	
TOTAL RESPONSES	15	78	83	64	85	22	65	412		

** Wisconsin GI Bill did not exist until 2005. This leads us to believe that our older veterans confused it with the federal VA GI Bill.

Health - Other Concerns

Number	Topics of Interest
9	Cardiac
5	Chronic pain/migraines
5	Diabetes
4	Dental
4	Fibromyalgia
4	Hypertension
4	Weight Management & Exercise programs
3	Aging
3	Aging care
3	Arthritis
3	Breast Cancer
3	Dermatology
3	Neurological
3	Ophthalmology/Optical
2	Active Duty Injuries Unresolved/Documentation
2	Bone degeneration/density
2	Cancer
2	General Health Care/Screening
2	Hearing
2	Irritable Bowel Syndrome
2	Lungs / Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
2	Nerve damage/pain
2	Prescriptions/costs
2	Quality of care
1	Access to local medical facilities
1	Acid Reflux Disease
1	Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse issues
1	Asthma
1	Benchmarks for excellent and good measurements
1	Blood Clots
1	Candida Allergy
1	Chemical exposure
1	Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
1	Cognitive
1	Degenerative disk disease
1	Effects of combat on women physically
1	Eye Health-Blindness
1	Gastro intestinal disorders
1	Getting civilian insurance with pre-existing military treated health issues
1	Good Cholesterol
1	Gulf War Illness
1	Health care and Foreign Travel
1	Health Coverage
1	How to qualify for VA health care.

1	Immunizations
1	Joint injuries
1	Kidney
1	Knees
1	Liver
1	Lupus
1	MS
1	Muscular degeneration
1	Neck injuries
1	Necrotizing fasciitis
1	Nutrition
1	Pain Management programs
1	Podiatry
1	Poor circulation
1	Preventive Care
1	PTSD support for non-deployed
1	Skin Cancer
1	Stroke
1	Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction
1	Thyroid Disease
1	Transitioning from military to civilian life
1	Walking past men who raped women while they were active duty
1	Wet macular degeneration

Mental Health Care - Other Concerns

Number	Topics
3	Dementia
2	Aging
2	Eye Care
2	Memory loss/avoidance
2	Multisystemic Therapy
2	Suicide
1	Alzheimers
1	Assault
1	Chronic Multiple-scleriosis
1	Chronic Physical problems
1	Degenerative Disc and Joint Disease
1	Dental care
1	Depression
1	Domestic abuse
1	Fear of leaving safety of familiar places alone
1	Financial Problems
1	Flashbacks
1	Grief Counseling
1	Gulf War Syndrome
1	Lower Prescription costs
1	Marriage verses Single parenting
1	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder
1	Pain
1	Psychological effects of combat on women
1	Reserve vs. Active Duty issues & Support
1	Survivors Guilt
1	Transitioning from military to civilian life
1	VA Discrimination
1	Weight