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*REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE*

74-0145

Information Concerning The
Veterans Administration's Efforts
To Assist Educationally
Disadvantaged Veterans

B-114859

Veterans Administration

*BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES*

April 1974

089206



COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

B-114859

G
The Honorable Vance Hartke, Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs 503800
United States Senate

R Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you requested on December 6, 1972, we developed and sent a questionnaire to educationally disadvantaged veterans-- those with less than a high school education--to solicit information concerning their

--awareness of veterans' benefits,

--personal contacts with Veterans Administration (VA) representatives, 16

--participation in educational and training programs, and

--opinions on the adequacy of VA assistance.

The appendixes to this letter contain (1) the final summary of responses to the questionnaire and (2) a description of the techniques used in selecting the veterans to include in our sample.

We previously furnished your staff with preliminary summaries of the answers given by the veterans responding to the questionnaire, the various data processing records used in developing these summaries, and a verbatim listing of the responding veterans' comments or suggestions.

VA records show that about 545,000 of about 3.7 million veterans discharged between May 1968 and November 1972 were educationally disadvantaged. Through scientific sampling techniques we randomly selected 5,000 of these educationally disadvantaged veterans and sent them questionnaires during April and May 1973.

Of the questionnaires sent to veterans, 1,200 were executed and returned, 32 were returned unexecuted, 1,101 were returned as undeliverable, 2,615 were not returned, and 52 were not received in time to be included in our summary.

The information in the appendixes summarizes the veterans' answers exactly as received. Since all veterans to whom we sent questionnaires did not respond, we cannot make a statistically valid projection to the universe of all educationally disadvantaged veterans. However, in our opinion, the large number of veterans responding should provide a basis for drawing reasonable conclusions concerning the experiences and opinions of many educationally disadvantaged veterans.

As your staff requested, we have not obtained VA's comments on the information previously provided or in the appendixes. However, as agreed to by your staff, we have orally informed VA of the nature of our work performed for the Committee, and we are sending a copy of this letter, without the appendixes, to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

We will not release the information contained in the appendixes unless you agree or publicly announce the substance of it.

We trust that this information will serve the purpose of your request.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James B. Staats". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Comptroller General
of the United States

SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

1. (a) Marital Status:

392 Single
727 Married
70 Divorced
11 Invalid or no response
1200 Total

(b) Education status:

109 Full-time student
104 Part-time student
745 Currently not enrolled
242 Invalid or no response
1200 Total

2. Highest year of school completed:

(a) Elementary school

(a) _____ Veterans have completed first grade
(b) _____ " " " second grade
(c) _____ " " " third grade
(d) 1 " " " fourth grade
(e) 2 " " " fifth grade
(f) 8 " " " sixth grade
(g) 27 " " " seventh grade
(h) 110 " " " eighth grade

APPENDIX I

2. (b) High School

- (a) 156 Veterans have completed ninth grade
- (b) 261 " " " tenth grade
- (c) 238 " " " eleventh grade
- (d) 315 " " " twelfth grade

(c) College

- (a) 36 Veterans have completed freshmen year
- (b) 21 " " " sophomore year
- (c) 6 " " " junior year
- (d) 7 " " " senior year

12 Invalid or no response

1200 Total

3. Have you attended any school(s) while serving in the Armed Forces?

588 yes, military training school(s)

46 yes, school(s) other than sponsored by the military

44 yes, military training school(s) and school(s) other than sponsored by the military

508 no

14 Invalid or no response

1200 Total

APPENDIX I

4. When did you first learn about the following education or training programs?

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL	TUTORIAL
(a) Before service-time	<u>24</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>20</u>
(b) During service-time	<u>128</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>384</u>	<u>65</u>
(c) At time of separation	<u>36</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>31</u>
(d) After separation	<u>63</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>95</u>
(e) DOES NOT APPLY - I do not know about the program	<u>728</u>	<u>534</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>265</u>	<u>730</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>221</u>	<u>229</u>	<u>152</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>259</u>
Total	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>

APPENDIX I

5. How did you learn of the following education or training programs? (Check one or more under each program)

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL	TUTORIAL
(a) Veterans Administration: at separation center	<u>47</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>38</u>
by letter(s)	<u>25</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>25</u>
by personal interview	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>22</u>
(b) Veterans Service Organization: by letter(s)	<u>33</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>24</u>
by personal interview	<u>10</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>14</u>
(c) Media (radio, TV, newspaper, etc.)	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>7</u>
(d) Family/friends	<u>41</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>22</u>
(e) School(s)	<u>15</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>11</u>
(f) Military advisor	<u>99</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>263</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>47</u>
(g) Other	<u>17</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>26</u>
(h) DOES NOT APPLY - I do not know about the program	<u>737</u>	<u>549</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>730</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>283</u>	<u>252</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>284</u>	<u>299</u>
Total	<u>1353</u>	<u>1317</u>	<u>1820</u>	<u>1470</u>	<u>1265</u>

6. For those programs which you were not aware of (those checked in 5(h) above), would you have participated in them if you had been aware of them?

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL
(a) Yes	<u>398</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>167</u>	<u>247</u>
(b) No	<u>290</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>101</u>
(c) DOES NOT APPLY - I am aware of the program	<u>154</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>413</u>	<u>335</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>358</u>	<u>432</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>517</u>
Total	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>

7. What type of education or training did you receive under the following programs? (Check one or more under each program)

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL
(a) Refresher course	<u>20</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>49</u>
(b) Remedial course	<u>8</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>37</u>
(c) High School	<u>28</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>219</u>
(d) College	<u> </u>	<u>11</u>	<u>123</u>	<u> </u>
(e) Vocational or technical	<u> </u>	<u>46</u>	<u>121</u>	<u> </u>
(f) On-the-job or apprentice	<u> </u>	<u>35</u>	<u>73</u>	<u> </u>
(g) Correspondence courses	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>97</u>	<u> </u>
(h) Other	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>42</u>
(i) DOES NOT APPLY - I did not partici- pate in the pro- gram	<u>914</u>	<u>838</u>	<u>602</u>	<u>614</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>285</u>	<u>309</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>296</u>
Total	<u>1267</u>	<u>1268</u>	<u>1322</u>	<u>1257</u>

APPENDIX I

8. Did you complete the training you took under the following programs? (Check one or more under each program)

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL
(a) Yes, I completed training	<u>16</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>233</u>
(b) No, I am still in training	<u>13</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>152</u>	<u>21</u>
(c) No, because training was too difficult	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>
(d) No, because training took too much time	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>
(e) No, because of financial considerations	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>16</u>
(f) No, because I lost interest	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>6</u>
(g) No, because I transferred	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>27</u>
(h) No, other	<u>7</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>25</u>
(i) DOES NOT APPLY - I did not participate in the program	<u>904</u>	<u>824</u>	<u>588</u>	<u>598</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>289</u>	<u>311</u>	<u>254</u>	<u>307</u>
Total	<u>1259</u>	<u>1244</u>	<u>1279</u>	<u>1253</u>

9. Did you use the tutorial assistance program to assist you in any course(s)?

<u>16</u>	yes, and I passed the course
<u>4</u>	yes, but I failed the course
<u>15</u>	yes, I am currently using tutorial assistance
<u>151</u>	no, but I would have if I had known of the program
<u>248</u>	no
<u>698</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not take a course
<u>68</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

10. Would you be encouraged to enter an education or training program if you knew that tutorial assistance was available for any courses you took after you completed your high school education?

<u>664</u>	yes
<u>298</u>	no
<u>161</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I know about the tutorial assistance program
<u>77</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

11. What were your reasons for not participating in the VA education or training programs? (Check one or more under each program)

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL
(a) Did not know of the program	<u>569</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>175</u>
(b) Did not have sufficient background	<u>38</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>32</u>
(c) Lack of interest	<u>63</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>69</u>
(d) Could not afford it even with financial assistance	<u>39</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>41</u>
(e) Did not feel I needed it	<u>42</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>65</u>
(f) Assigned military duties interfered	<u>53</u>	<u>119</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>91</u>
(g) Had a full-time job	<u>111</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>131</u>
(h) Had a part-time job	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>9</u>
(i) Other	<u>23</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>50</u>
(j) DOES NOT APPLY-I participated in the program	<u>65</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>281</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>334</u>	<u>367</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>394</u>
Total	<u>1344</u>	<u>1329</u>	<u>1355</u>	<u>1336</u>

APPENDIX I

12. What was your primary objective in entering training under the VA education assistance programs?

<u>140</u>	to obtain a better job
<u>127</u>	to learn a new skill
<u>46</u>	to improve skills related to my present job
<u>156</u>	to qualify for a higher education
<u>34</u>	other
<u>530</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>167</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

13. Have you attained your primary objective?

<u>116</u>	yes
<u>251</u>	no, but I believe I will attain it
<u>127</u>	no, but I have partially attained it
<u>78</u>	no, and I do not believe I will attain it
<u>505</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>123</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

14. How would you rate the usefulness of your VA assisted training to your objective or career plan?

<u>285</u>	very useful
<u>105</u>	somewhat useful
<u>39</u>	of little use
<u>39</u>	of no use
<u>89</u>	not sure, still enrolled
<u>518</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>125</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

15. Who influenced you most in your decision to continue your education under the VA educational assistance programs?

<u>120</u>	family/friends
<u>22</u>	military advisor
<u>30</u>	VA representative
<u>12</u>	veterans service organizations
<u>24</u>	school counselor or teacher
<u>272</u>	personal decision
<u>31</u>	other
<u>551</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>138</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

16. Did you obtain a job after completion or termination of your VA assisted training?

<u>73</u>	yes, and job was related to training
<u>95</u>	yes, but job was not related to training
<u>32</u>	no, I did not attempt to get a job
<u>53</u>	no, but I did attempt to get a job
<u>587</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>223</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I am still enrolled in training
<u>137</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

17. How long after completion or termination of VA assisted training did you obtain this job?

<u>78</u>	immediately
<u>45</u>	within six months
<u>30</u>	more than six months later
<u>586</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>233</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I am still enrolled in training
<u>73</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not get a job
<u>155</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

APPENDIX I

18. How did you obtain this job after completion or termination of your VA assisted training? (Check one or more)

<u>11</u>	school assisted me
<u>7</u>	VA assisted me
<u>24</u>	State/Local Employment Office assisted me
<u>8</u>	private employment agency assisted me
<u>149</u>	no assistance, applied directly
<u>32</u>	other
<u>578</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>226</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I am still enrolled in training
<u>74</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not get a job
<u>175</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1284</u>	Total

19. Has the school, the VA, or others contacted you to determine if you obtained a job after you finished your VA assisted training? (Check one or more)

<u>212</u>	no, I was not contacted
<u>29</u>	yes, contact from the school
<u>27</u>	yes, contact from the VA
<u>18</u>	yes, contact from others
<u>575</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive VA educational assistance
<u>223</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I am still enrolled in training
<u>169</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1253</u>	Total

20. How would you rate the education or training programs you participated under?

	PREP	PROJECT TRANSITION	GI BILL	HIGH SCHOOL	TUTORIAL
(a) Excellent	<u>19</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>5</u>
(b) Good	<u>12</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>3</u>
(c) Fair	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>2</u>
(d) Poor	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>1</u>
(e) DOES NOT APPLY - I did not participate in the program	<u>942</u>	<u>852</u>	<u>603</u>	<u>629</u>	<u>906</u>
Invalid or no response	<u>218</u>	<u>263</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>283</u>
Total	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>	<u>1200</u>

21. Did you continue your education without use of VA educational assistance?

<u>280</u>	no, I continued my education with VA assistance
<u>687</u>	no, I did not continue my education
<u>24</u>	yes, because I did not know about VA benefits
<u>29</u>	yes, because of too much red tape
<u>8</u>	yes, because the school was not approved by VA
<u>75</u>	yes, other
<u>97</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

22. Are you interested in continuing your education under the GI Bill?

<u>560</u>	yes, definitely
<u>281</u>	yes, I think so
<u>41</u>	no, definitely
<u>189</u>	no, I do not think so
<u>88</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I continued my education under the GI Bill
<u>41</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

APPENDIX I

23. Did you have any problems obtaining a job after separation?

<u>478</u>	yes
<u>135</u>	no, I had a job waiting for me
<u>105</u>	no, I had a previous job held for me by law
<u>380</u>	no
<u>58</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I continued my education after separation
<u>44</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

24. Were you aware that the Veterans Administration provides counseling service to help veterans determine what type of education and training they would be best suited for?

<u>200</u>	yes, and I received counseling
<u>334</u>	yes, but I did not receive counseling
<u>490</u>	no, but I would have used the counseling service if I had known
<u>147</u>	no, and I doubt that I would have used the counseling service
<u>29</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

25. How would you rate the counseling service you receive from the Veterans Administration?

<u>66</u>	excellent
<u>89</u>	good
<u>65</u>	fair
<u>70</u>	poor
<u>841</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I did not receive counseling
<u>69</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

26. After your separation, were you contacted by the Veterans Administration (other than the VA representative at the separation center) or a veterans service organization to explain available benefits?

<u>404</u>	yes, by the VA
<u>72</u>	yes, by a veterans service organization
<u>112</u>	yes, by both the VA and a veterans service organization
<u>167</u>	no, I contacted the VA and/or a veterans service organization
<u>393</u>	no, I was not contacted
<u>52</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

27. How were you contacted? (Check one or more)

<u>318</u>	letter(s) within two months after separation
<u>189</u>	letter(s) two to six months after separation
<u>56</u>	letter(s) six months or more after separation
<u>68</u>	phone call
<u>82</u>	personal interview
<u>407</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I was not contacted
<u>173</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I contacted the VA and/or veterans service organization
<u>49</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1342</u>	Total

28. Did a VA representative and/or a representative of a veterans service organization (American Legion, VFW, etc.), personally interview you to explain available benefits?

<u>234</u>	yes, by a VA representative
<u>42</u>	yes, by a veterans service organization representative
<u>33</u>	yes, by a VA and a veterans service organization representative
<u>860</u>	no, I was not personally interviewed
<u>31</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

APPENDIX I

29. Where were you personally interviewed? (Check one or more)

<u>46</u>	at home
<u>186</u>	at VA regional office
<u>37</u>	at United States Veterans Assistance Center (USVAC)
<u>50</u>	other
<u>837</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I was not personally interviewed
<u>62</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1218</u>	Total

30. Could the personal interview be improved? (Check one or more)

<u>107</u>	no, does not need improvement
<u>74</u>	yes, if the representative was better informed
<u>106</u>	yes, if the representative understood present day problems better
<u>44</u>	yes, if the representative was my own age
<u>54</u>	yes, other
<u>828</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I was not personally interviewed
<u>65</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1278</u>	Total

31. Do you believe a personal interview to explain available benefits influenced or would have influenced you to seek an education with VA benefits?

<u>570</u>	yes
<u>457</u>	possibly
<u>139</u>	no
<u>34</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

32. Are you currently employed?

<u>890</u>	yes, full-time
<u>66</u>	yes, part-time
<u>224</u>	no
<u>20</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

33. What do you think are the reasons for your unemployment? (Check one or more)

<u>95</u>	there are no jobs available
<u>73</u>	training inadequate
<u>106</u>	more experience needed
<u>88</u>	starting pay too low and/or no opportunity for advancement
<u>17</u>	did not try to get a job
<u>904</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I am employed
<u>34</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1317</u>	Total

34. Do you believe additional training would help you become employed?

<u>249</u>	yes
<u>26</u>	no
<u>857</u>	DOES NOT APPLY - I am employed
<u>68</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

APPENDIX I

35. How can VA assistance be improved? (Check one or more)

<u>216</u>	contact later after separation
<u>500</u>	additional counseling with personal interview
<u>593</u>	better communications and information
<u>479</u>	more financial support
<u>326</u>	additional information centers
<u>96</u>	no improvement necessary
<u>78</u>	other
<u>68</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>2356</u>	Total

36. Based on your experience, do you have any suggestions regarding the kind of assistance and counseling which would help you further your education or training?

(Comments or suggestions have been provided informally to the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs)

37. Would you like to have a summary of the results of this survey?

<u>1057</u>	Yes
<u>104</u>	No
<u>39</u>	Invalid or no response
<u>1200</u>	Total

Sampling Techniques

In May 1968 VA installed the Veterans Assistance Discharge System (VADS) at its data processing center in Austin, Texas. The VADS sends letters to recently discharged servicemen to inform them of the various Federal benefits available to them and to encourage them to increase their knowledge and skills. VADS contains such information as the veteran's name, address, zip code, social security number, branch of service, date of discharge, and education level. Data pertaining to veterans is taken from Department of Defense Form DD-214s, Reports of Transfer or Discharge, which are received from service separation centers for each serviceman discharged.

In December 1972, through the use of the operating system version of the Haskins and Sells (H&S) IBM 360 Auditape System, we scanned approximately 3.7 million VADS records representing servicemen discharged between May 1968 and November 1972. From these records we determined that 544,772 veterans were educationally disadvantaged at time of discharge (less than a high school education). In March 1973 we selected a random sample of 5,000 educationally disadvantaged veterans from these 544,772 records using the same version of the H&S Auditape System.

On April 16, 1973, we mailed a questionnaire to each of the 5,000 veterans selected. On April 23, 1973, we mailed letters to the veterans who had not replied to our questionnaire encouraging them to reply. On May 2, 1973, we mailed another copy of the questionnaire to all veterans who had not replied as of that date.

Following are breakdowns of the number of veterans in our sample by date of discharge and by State or territory of residence.

APPENDIX II

Breakdown of the Sample of 5,000 Educationally
Disadvantaged Veterans by Date of Separation

<u>Date of discharge</u>	Number in sample (note a)	<u>Date of discharge</u>	Number in sample (note a)
5-68 to 7-70	2,787	9-71	84
7-70	85	10-71	67
8-70	92	11-71	86
9-70	102	12-71	100
10-70	106	1-72	125
11-70	93	2-72	72
12-70	95	3-72	69
1-71	90	4-72	90
2-71	97	5-72	53
3-71	124	6-72	38
4-71	83	7-72	39
5-71	72	8-72	34
6-71	82	9-72	45
7-71	70	10-72	31
8-71	65	11-72	13

^aEleven veterans in our sample are not included due to invalid information in their files.

Breakdown of the Sample of 5,000
Educationally Disadvantaged Veterans by
State or Territory

<u>State or territory</u>	<u>Number in sample (note a)</u>	<u>State or territory</u>	<u>Number in sample (note a)</u>
Alabama	96	New Hampshire	20
Alaska	5	New Jersey	136
Arizona	39	New Mexico	34
Arkansas	65	New York	355
California	450	North Carolina	152
Colorado	49	North Dakota	8
Connecticut	64	Ohio	247
Delaware	14	Oklahoma	66
District of Columbia	29	Oregon	58
Florida	182	Pennsylvania	224
Georgia	142	Puerto Rico	25
Hawaii	7	Virgin Islands	3
Idaho	17	Rhode Island	32
Illinois	277	South Carolina	85
Indiana	136	South Dakota	18
Iowa	51	Tennessee	132
Kansas	46	Texas	329
Kentucky	121	Utah	21
Louisiana	98	Vermont	15
Maine	32	Virginia	167
Maryland	91	Washington	71
Massachusetts	111	West Virginia	63
Michigan	243	Wisconsin	79
Minnesota	60	Wyoming	4
Mississippi	62	Pacific Islands	-
Missouri	115	APO California	3
Montana	16	APO New York	-
Nebraska	22	Foreign countries	1
Nevada	10		

^aTwo veterans in our sample are not included due to missing information in their files.