

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Fast Fact Sheet: Veterans

Population

- US Population = **328,074,533** (est. as of 22 Jan 2019)
- US Population age 18 and Under = **78,737,888** (est. 24% [2010 Census %] of 328,074,533)
- US Population identified as "Veteran" = 20,000,000 (est. USDVA)
 Declining % of US Population
- <u>US Troops since 9/11</u> = **2,770,000** on **5,400,000** deployments (RAND 2018)

War Era Cohorts

- Gulf War = **7,271,000**
- Vietnam Era = **6,551,000**
- Koran Conflict = **1**,**475**,**000**
- World War II = **624,000**

As of 2016 Gulf War Era (including OEF/OIF) cohort is the largest in number among the veteran cohort

Since 9/11

- \$5,600,000,000 (\$5.6 Trillion) spent on overseas US Military operations (RAND 2018)
 - \$26,386 average taxpayer has contributed since 2001
- 6,980 US Troop Casualties (US DOD as of 22 Jan 2019)
 - 4,423 OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM
 - 73 OPERATION NEW DAWN
 - 2,351 OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM
 - **70** OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE
 - **63** OPERATION FREEDOM'S SENTINEL

Oregon Veterans

- **303,000** (est. USDVA)
- <u>\$1,359,151,000</u> (Compensation/Benefit return to Oregon Veterans, USDVA) of total US figure **\$84,138,460,000**
- All services combined = minimum \$257.00 return for every \$1.00 invested in veterans' care and outreach

Summary

Some may question the role of the State of Oregon in the development, implementation, and study of veterans' policy. Yet 303,000 veterans – and their families – are navigating a new era of US Foreign Policy involvement. We remain at war longer than 24% - 78,737,888 Americans – have been alive. This has never happened in US History; we are beyond the certainties of historical reference. Our challenges are likely to increase, rather than decrease, as we seek to serve our family, friends, and neighbors during this critical time.