



OREGON DEPARTMENT
of **VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

OREGON HOMELESS VETERANS

Presented to the House Interim Committee on Emergency Management, General Government and Veterans
September 28, 2023



PRESENTED BY
Kelly Fitzpatrick, Director



THE MISSION CONTINUES

SERVING AND HONORING VETERANS IN OREGON SINCE 1945



MISSION

To honor and serve all Oregon veterans and their families by aligning and delivering earned benefits and services that enhance and improve their lives in recognition of their service to our nation.



VISION

All veterans and their families thrive in Oregon.



VALUES

Stewardship
Excellence
Respect
Vision
Inclusivity
Commitment
Equity



AGENCY PROGRAMS

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

HOME LOAN PROGRAM

- » **HOME LOAN PROGRAM**
Provides home loans to qualified veterans

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

- » **STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS**
Monitoring of post-secondary institutions through the State Approving Agency function, partnerships with state agencies, tribal governments, counties, and national veterans' service organizations to assist veterans, and grant programs that direct funding to veterans and governmental and non-profit organizations

APPEALS AND SPECIAL ADVOCACY

- » **APPEALS AND SPECIAL ADVOCACY**
Claims and appeals assistance to all veterans, and focuses special advocacy assistance to historically underserved communities of veterans including women, LGBTQ+, and houseless veterans

AGING VETERAN SERVICES

- » **AGING VETERAN SERVICES**
Provides expertise and outreach in aging veterans' benefits and services, veteran volunteer program, and conservatorship and representative payee services

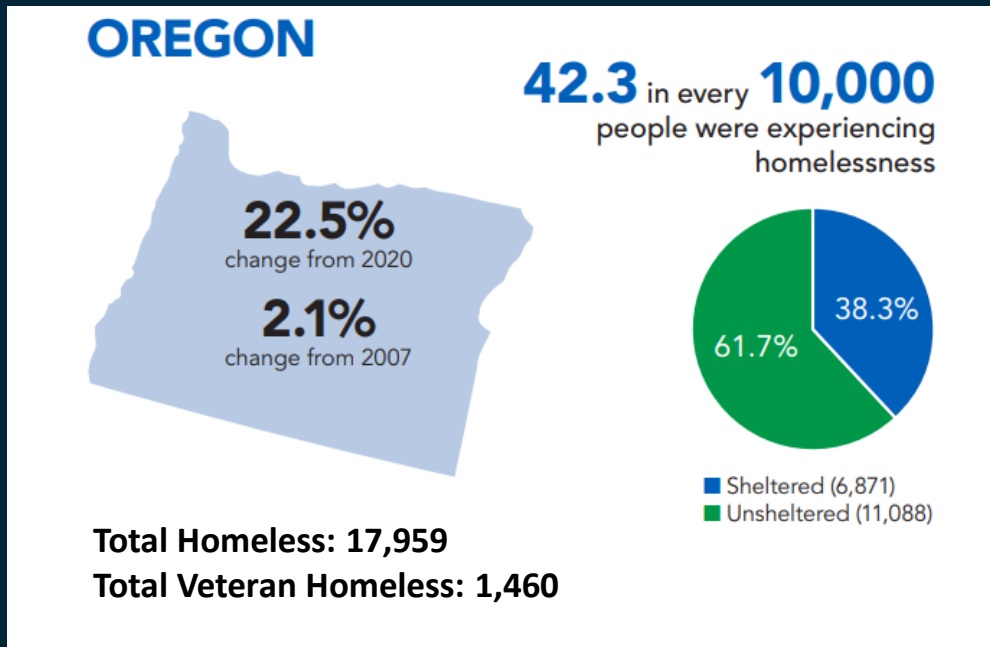
OREGON VETERANS' HOMES

- » **OREGON VETERANS' HOMES**
Provides oversight of the two Oregon Veterans' Homes (skilled-nursing and memory care facilities) in The Dalles and Lebanon



Homelessness in Oregon

Veteran homelessness data are derived from the 2022 HUD Point In Time (PIT) count.



- 2022 HUD PIT report:
 - **1,460 Homeless Veterans (8.1 % of homeless population)**
 - **17,959 total homeless in Oregon**
- ***Connecting veterans to benefits and the availability of affordable housing have the greatest positive impact on homelessness***



Homeless Veterans

Top 5 states with the highest percentages of people experiencing homelessness who are unsheltered:



Oregon Homeless Veteran Population over time:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Unsheltered	668	763	827	675	294	719
Sheltered	583	600	611	654	706	741
Total	1251	1363	1438	1329	1000	1460



Homeless Veterans

EXHIBIT 5.7: Largest Changes in the Number of Veterans Experiencing Homelessness
By State, 2009-2022

2020–2022		2009–2022	
Largest Increases			
MAINE	140 / 135.9%	OREGON	183 / 14.4%
OREGON	131 / 9.9%	MAINE	120 / 97.5%
MISSISSIPPI	71 / 104.4%	VERMONT	39 / 63.4%
UTAH	41 / 36.0%	N/A	N/A / N/A
ALASKA	40 / 42.6%	N/A	N/A / N/A



ODVA Grants: Veteran Services Grant

- Funded at \$938,118 in 21-23 biennium and \$947,556 in 23-25 biennium
- In the 2021-2023 grant cycle, 21 grantees reported over 8,495 veteran engagements.
- 9 grantees provided direct housing stability services to veterans
- 3 grantees provided indirect support for veterans with housing instability
- The remaining 9 provided services that focused on veteran needs unrelated to housing stability



ODVA Grants: Emergency Assistance

Oregon Veterans' Emergency Financial Assistance Program (OVEFAP):

Biennium	LAB amount	Total # Applications	Total \$ Requested	Total # Applications Funded	Total \$ Awarded
2019-2021	\$107,641	222	\$640,401	68	\$107,641
2021-2023	\$212,270	301	\$1,770,257	111	\$212,270
2023-2025	\$216,985				



ODVA Programs

- **Homeless Veterans Coordinator and Special Advocacy Coordinators**
- **Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Conservatorship Program**
- **Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Representative Payee Program**
- **OrVet Home Loan Program (HLP)**
- **Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Aging Veteran Outreach Program**



ODVA Partnerships

Direct Service – Veteran Service Officers

- Boots on the ground
- No wrong door approach

Indirect Service - Partners

- ODVA leverages events/activities led by counties, state agencies, Federally Recognized Tribes, USDVA



ODVA-USDVA Partnerships

- US Department of Veterans Affairs /VA Healthcare Systems:
Portland, Roseburg, Southern Oregon, Walla Walla, Boise
 - Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
 - Grant Per Diem (GPD)
 - Health Care for Homeless Veterans
 - HUD-VASH vouchers
- Director of the National Center on Homelessness among Veterans at VHA
- Network Homeless Coordinator, VISN 20, VA Northwest Health Care Network



Outreach

HOMELESS VETERANS

RESOURCES FOR...

- Who is a Veteran?
- Aging Veterans
- Behavioral Health Resources and Information
- Caregivers
- Family, Dependents and Survivors
- Homeless Veterans**
- Justice-Involved Veterans
- LGBTQ+ Veterans

No man or woman who served their country should be without a safe place to rest his or her head, and yet, veteran homelessness remains a persistent problem throughout the U.S.

It is estimated that there are over 1,400 homeless veterans in Oregon on any given night, and many more who are at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks and dismal living conditions. For the 2019 Point-in-Time Count maintained by Oregon Housing and Community Services, click here.

Although these numbers have trended downward over the past decade, this still represents more than 10 percent of all homeless Oregonians. This means that those who have served in the military, men and women, are significantly more likely to be homeless than the general public.

Explore below for more information about benefits and programs available to homeless veterans or those facing financial crises. If you need help, contact ODVA or one of the following resources today.

STAY INFORMED

Sign up for updates from ODVA about emergency assistance below.

Subscribe

LATEST NEWS

- We believe you and we believe in you: Resources for homeless Veterans 4/21/2022
- New village in Bend aims to provide shelter, aid to homeless people 4/29/2021
- Veterans Village homeless shelters taking steps: May move-in expected 3/31/2021



Homeless Veterans Landing Page - ODVA

2023

Oregon Stand Down Events

- 9/13: Salem // 8 am-4 pm // Salem YMCA
- 9/13: Roseburg // 9 am-3 pm // VFW Post #2468
- 9/14: Albany // 8 am-2 pm // Albany Eagles #2255
- 9/20: Portland // 9 am-2 pm // Portland Veterans Memorial Coliseum
- 9/20: The Dalles // 9 am-2 pm // The Dalles Civic Auditorium
- 9/29: Eugene // 6 am-3 pm // Lane County Events Center
- 11/3: Hillsboro // 10 am-2 pm // Sunrise Church

*Dates & time subject to change // Learn more at va.gov/homeless/events

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Oregon Stand Down Events

Connecting with veterans across the state

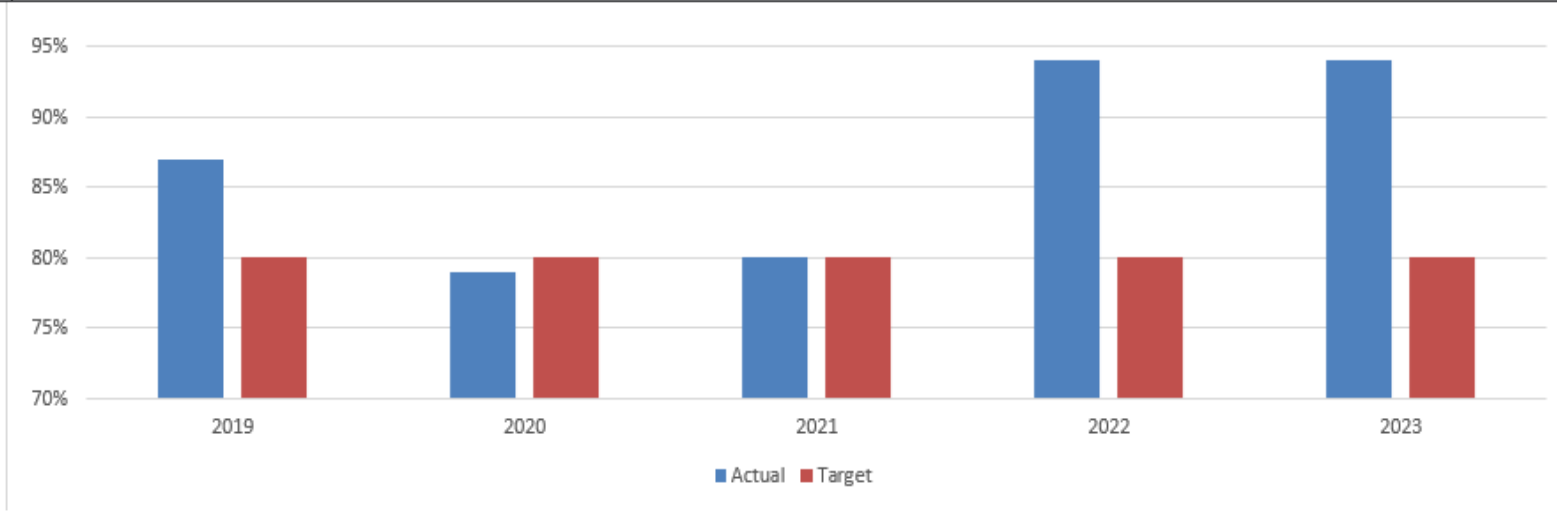
<https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Resources/Pages/Homeless-Veterans.aspx>

Homelessness

Key Performance Measures



KPM #7 Reducing Veteran Homelessness - Percentage of veteran homeless households who exited into permanent housing and retained that housing for six months or longer.
Data Collection Period: Jul 01 - Jun 30



Report Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Actual	87%	79%	80%	94%	94%
Target	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%

QUESTIONS



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