



OREGON DEPARTMENT  
*of* VETERANS' AFFAIRS

# OREGON VETERAN DEMOGRAPHICS

Senate Interim Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs | September 23, 2024



PRESENTED BY  
Dr. Nakeia Daniels, 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



## DIVERSE OREGON VETERAN LANDSCAPE



Estimated **266,690** veterans in Oregon

**75%** served during a wartime era

More than **50%** of veterans are age 65 and older

**13.8%** are veterans of color

**9.8%** of veterans are women

**1 out of 15**  
OREGONIANS IS A VETERAN



**266,690**  
OREGON VETERAN POPULATION

## **75% OF OREGON VETERANS SERVED DURING WARTIME**



**WORLD WAR II**

**0.7%**



**KOREAN**

**4.5%**



**VIETNAM**

**34.1%**



**PEACETIME**

**24.3%**



**GULF**

**14.2%**



**POST 9/11**

**22.1%**



## USDVA FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPENDITURES

**\$3.99 BILLION**  
TOTAL FY 23 VA EXPENDITURES IN OREGON



**\$1.83 Billion**

Health Care Expenditures

Serving **96,430** Oregon Veterans



**\$1.98 Billion**

Disability Compensation and Pension Payments

Serving **84,493** Oregon Veterans



**\$128 Million**

Education Payments

Serving **6,970** Oregon Veterans





**~5%**

**OF OREGON DEPT OF CORRECTIONS (ODOC)**

**ADULTS IN  
CUSTODY ARE  
VETERANS**

### **Incarcerated Veterans Program**

- Established Incarcerated Veterans Program in August 2016 to assist incarcerated veterans transitioning into Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC) custody and then as they transition back to their communities.
- ODVA Coordinators assist veterans in custody with reducing, discontinuing, or apportioning monthly VA payments so that veterans are not overpaid while incarcerated.
- ODVA Coordinators have assisted ODOC in establishing a formal Veterans Benefit Specialist program in which a trained incarcerated veteran assists other veterans in learning about veterans' benefits.
- This work is done through outstanding partnership with ODOC.



## UNHOUSED VETERANS



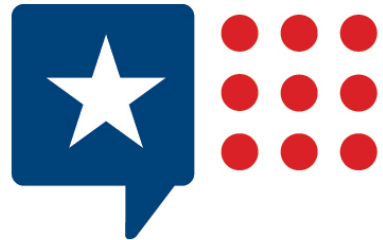
Oregon ranks in the top five states with highest percentage of veterans experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

In 2023, veterans made up 7.82% of Oregon's homeless population.

Estimated 1,460 homeless Oregon veterans on any given night.



### Veterans Crisis Line



**DIAL 988** then  
**PRESS 1**

### **Veteran Deaths by Suicides** as of 2021

- Approximately **18 million** U.S. Armed Forces veterans in 2024
- National veteran deaths by suicide: **6,329**
- Oregon veteran deaths by suicide: **139** (Total Oregon Suicides: 872)
  - 18-34: **16**
  - 35-54: **38**
  - 55-74: **56**
  - 75+ : **29**
- Oregon veteran deaths by suicides by firearms: **71.2%**
- Oregon deaths by suicides by female veterans: **10%**





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**Thank you for your time. Questions?**



