



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The Center for Minority Veterans (CMV)

Commission on Care

December 14, 2015

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Director



Legacy of Military Service and Sacrifice

Minority Veterans have fought with honor and distinction in every U.S. war or conflict: Including Revolutionary War, War of 1812, the Civil War, Spanish American War, World Wars I and II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War, and the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Courtesy of: The Women's Memorial



Background and Who We Serve

- November 1994, Public Law 103-446 required SECVA to create Center for Minority Veterans (CMV) and established the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans (ACMV).
- CMV serves as principal advisor to SECVA on adoption and implementation of policies and programs affecting minority Veterans.
- Who We Serve: African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans (American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians), Pacific Islanders, and women Veterans who are minority group members.



Center for Minority Veterans Organization Chart





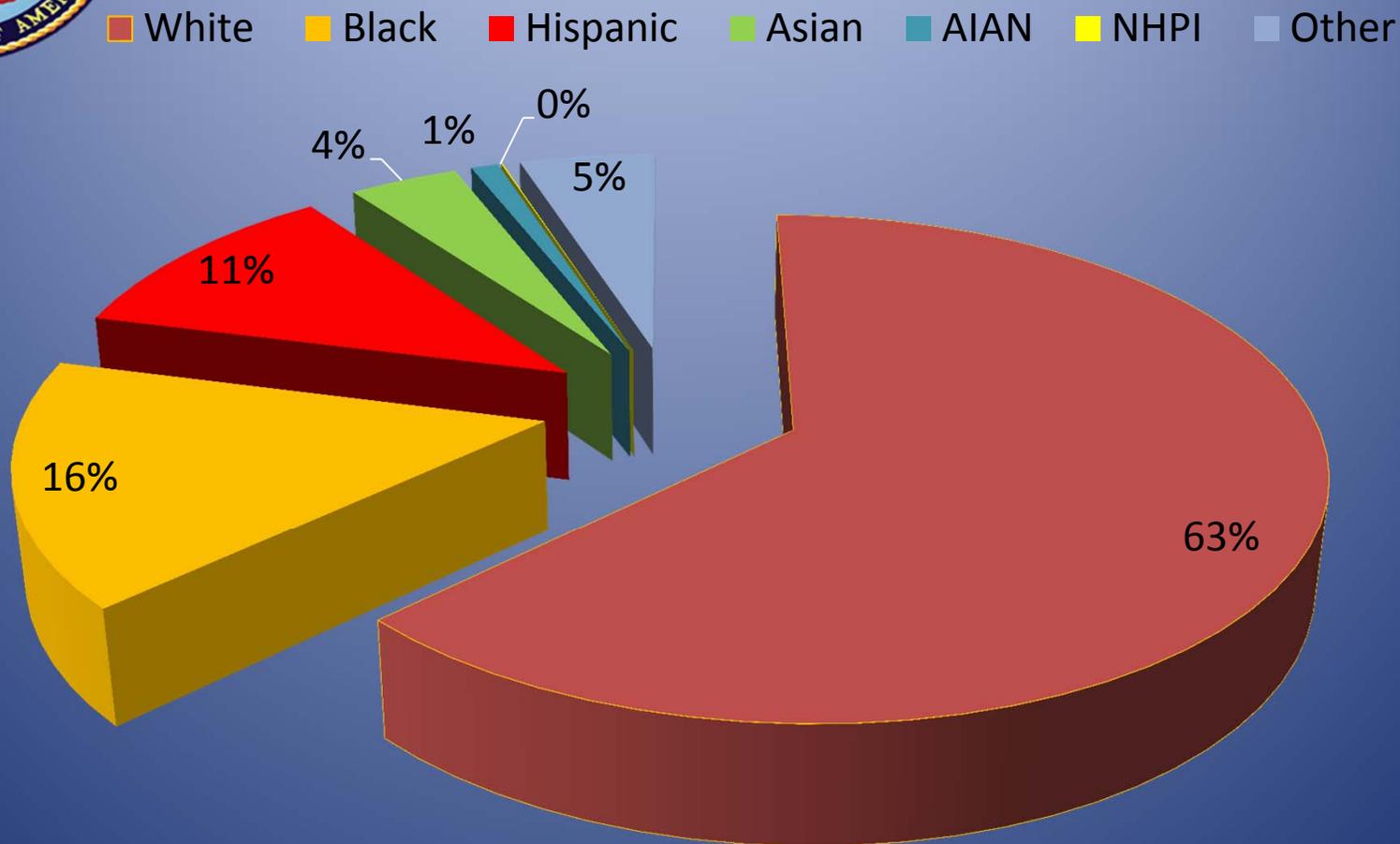
What We Do



- Educate Veterans, their families and survivors through targeted outreach and effective advocacy.
- Promote the use of VA programs, benefits, and services for minority Veterans.
- Disseminate information and provide culturally relevant programs that enhance Veteran-centric services to minority Veterans (*men & women).



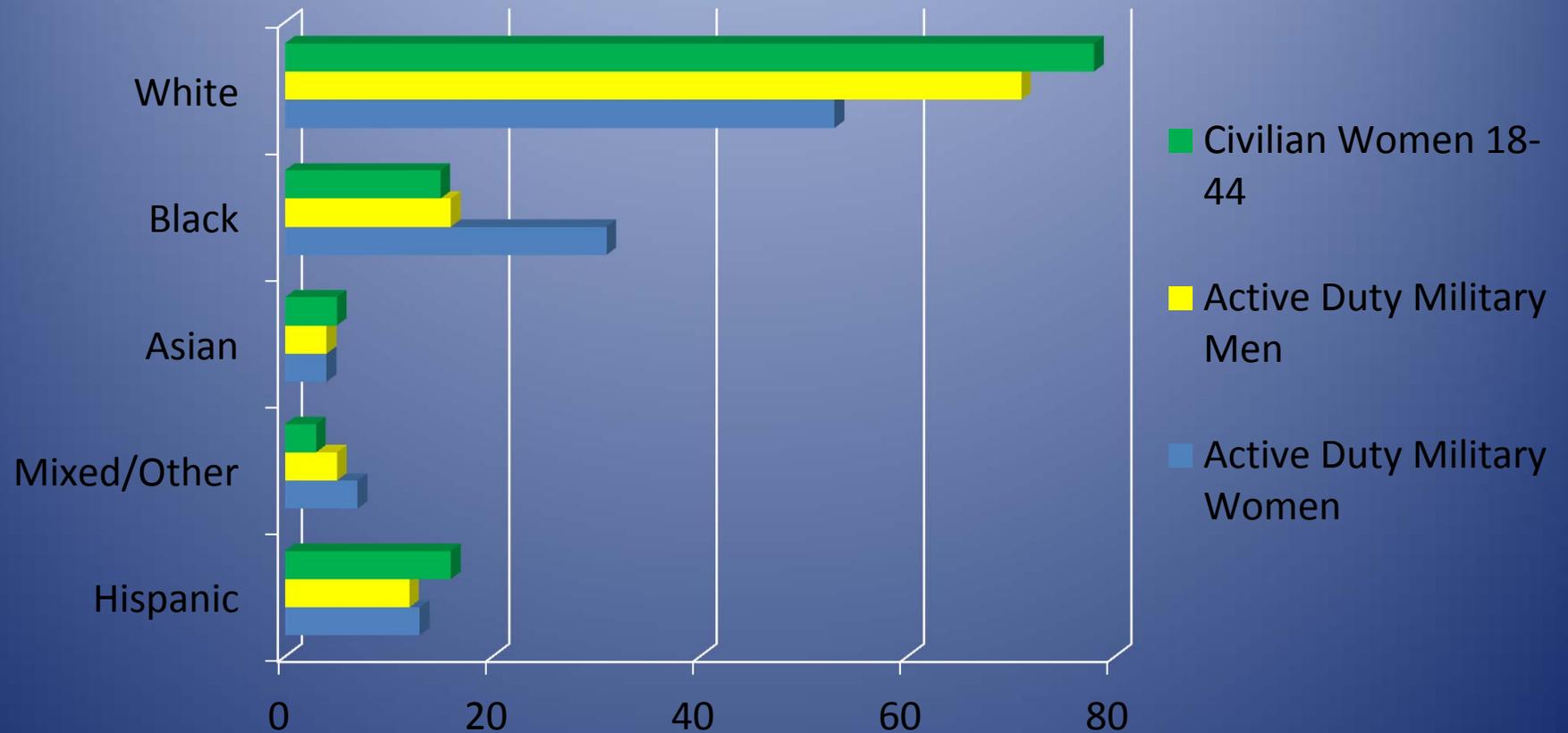
Active Duty Demographics (2010)



Source: DMDC Date Active Duty Personnel Master File 2012 (Sept 2012) 2012 Demographic s Profile of the Military Community



Active Duty Women by Race

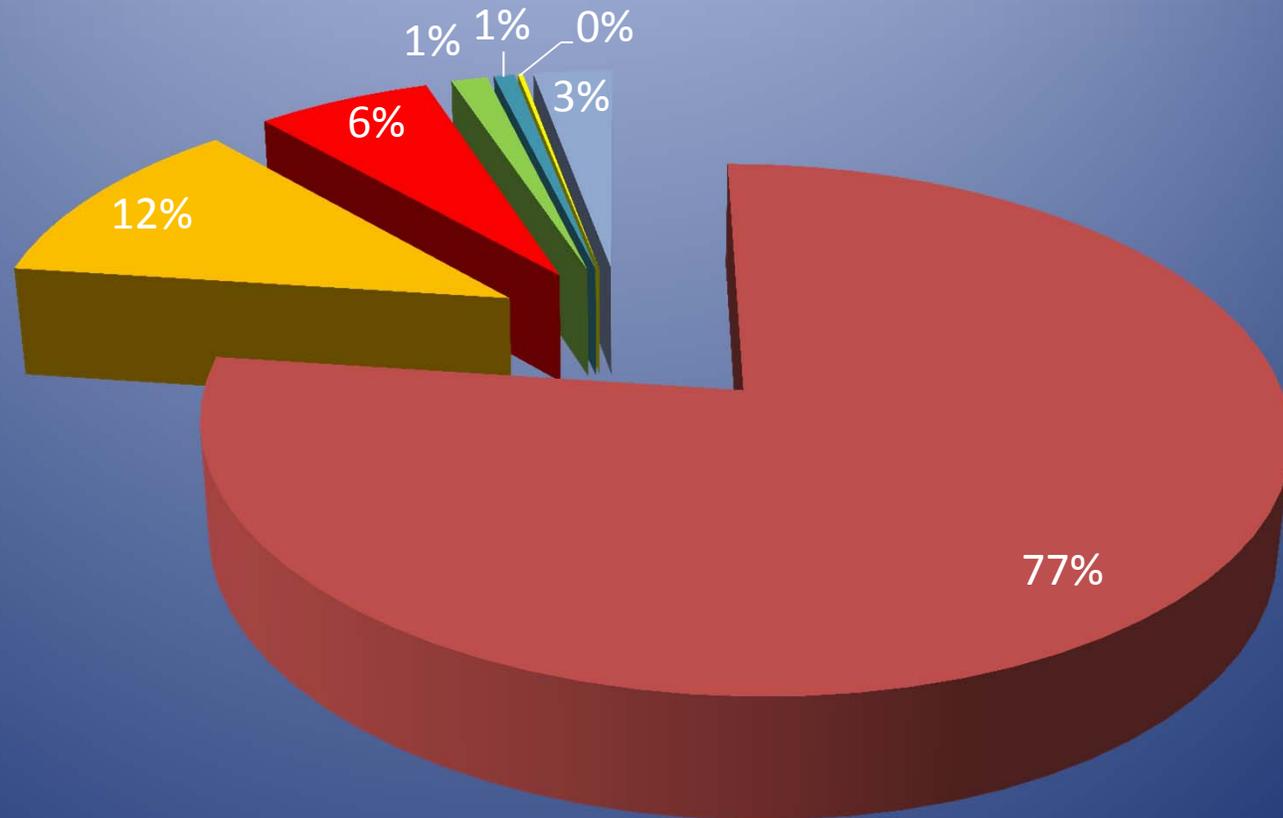


Note: All Racial groups represent their Hispanic and non-Hispanic components combined. Hispanic are any race. "Unknown" race not shown
Source: Department of Defense Population Representation in the Military Forces, FY 2010.



Veterans Demographics 2014

■ White ■ Black ■ Hispanic ■ Asian ■ AIAN ■ NHPI ■ Other

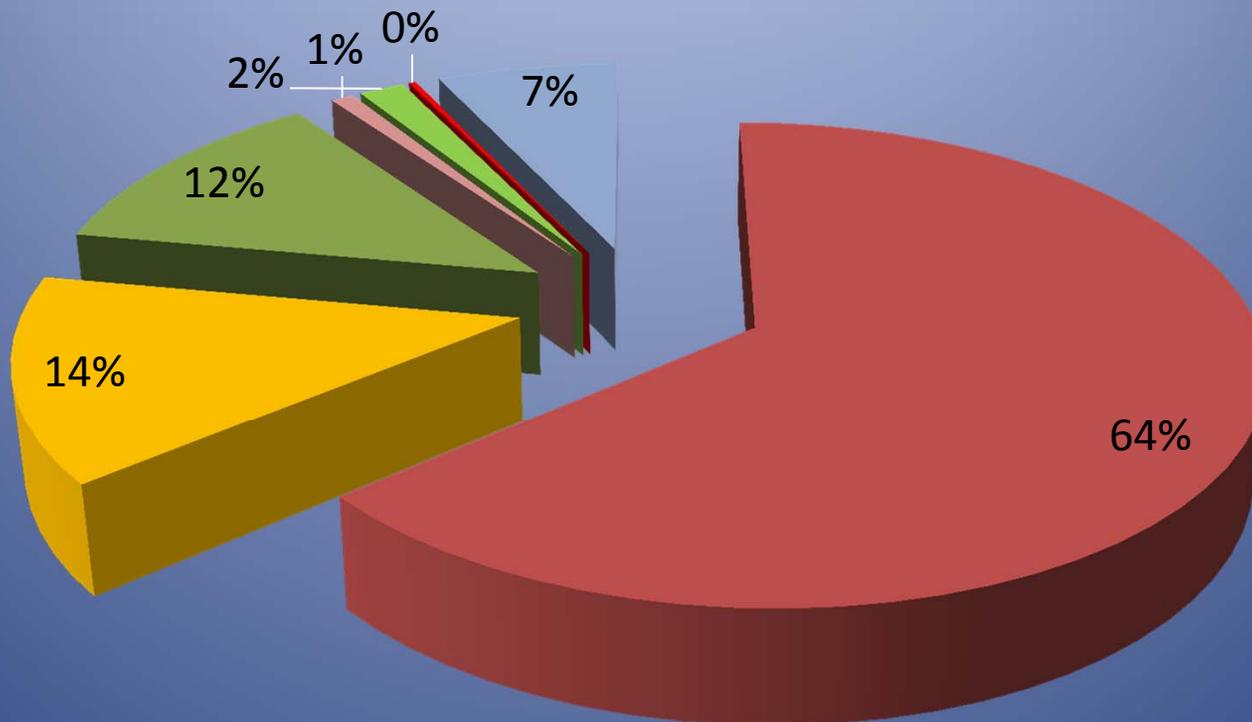


Note: Categories are mutually exclusive. 'Black' and 'All other races' are not Hispanic.
'All other races' includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Other (Some other Race and Two or more Races).
Source: Office of the Actuary, Veteran Population Projections Model (VetPop2014), Table 3L



Projected Veteran Population 2043

White Black Hispanic AIAN Asian NHPI Other



Increasing Diversity in Veterans Population

Note: Categories are mutually exclusive. 'Black' and 'All other races' are not Hispanic.

'All other races' includes American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Pacific Islander, and Other (Some other Race and Two or more Races).

Source: Office of the Actuary, Veteran Population Projections Model (VetPop2014), Table 3L



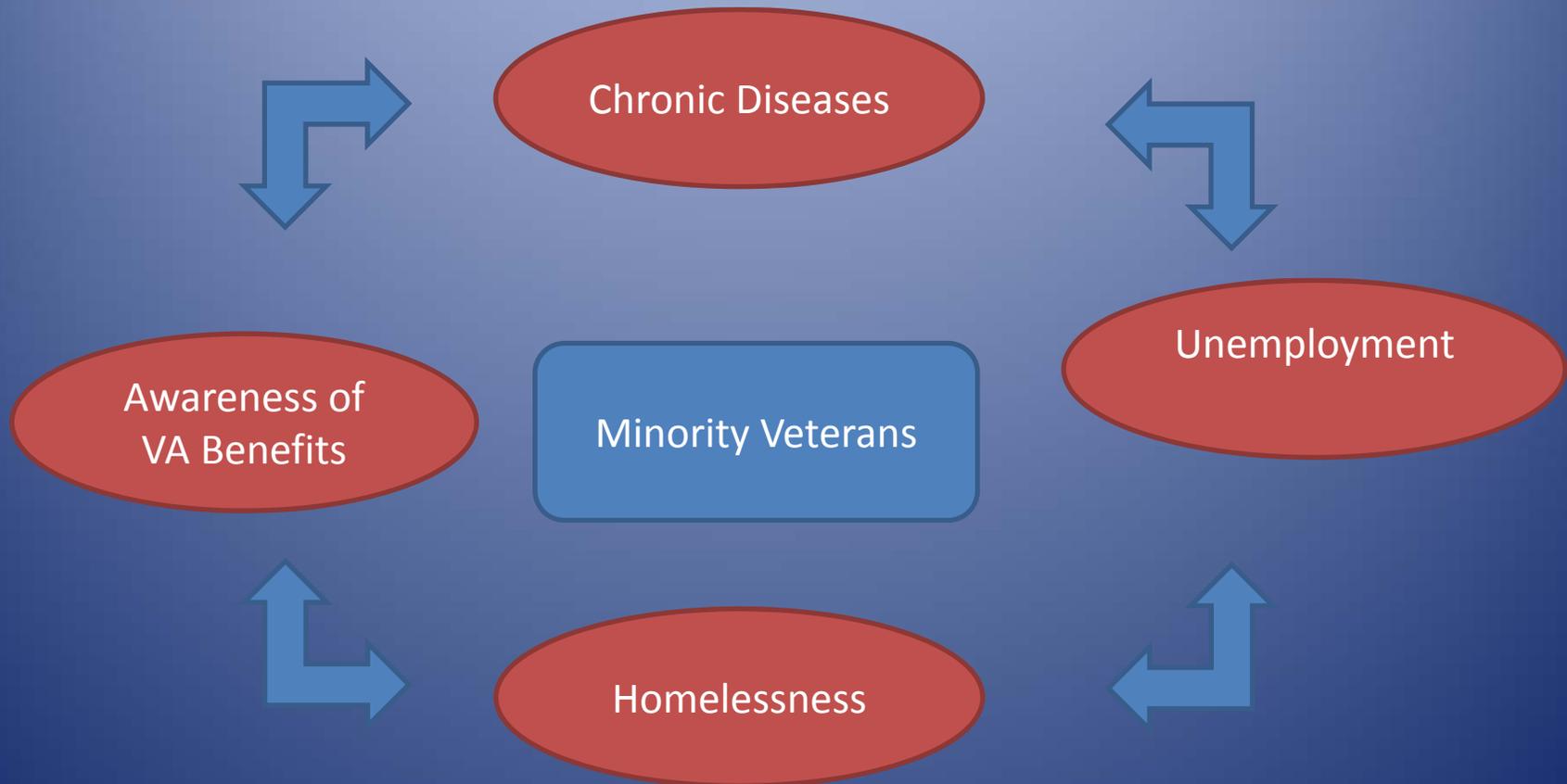
Women Veterans Diversity



- Women Veteran patients were much more heterogeneous on race/ethnicity than their male counterparts: 39% of women vs. 23% of men had a racial/ethnic minority background.
- Overall, 39% of all women Veteran VHA patients in FY12 represented a racial/ethnic minority group; 29% of women Veteran patients were Black/African American and 6% were Hispanic. An additional 1% of women Veteran patients in FY12 identified as American Indian/Alaska Native, 1% as Asian, and 1% as Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.



Veteran Challenges





Chronic Diseases (Minority Veterans Challenges)

*HSR&D Evidence Synthesis Pilot Program- Racial Disparities Review – Studies Analysis of Disparities for Selected Ailments



Clinical Content Areas

Cancer

Diabetes

Heart and Vascular Disease

HIV

Chronic Liver Disease

Kidney Disease

Hepatitis C





Minority Veterans Unemployment 2013 (Minority Veterans Challenges)



Note: People whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Data for Asians only available since 2000.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS).



Minority Veterans Homelessness (Minority Veterans Challenges)



- Veterans are fifty percent more likely to become homeless compared to all Americans and the risk is even greater among veterans living in poverty and **poor minority veterans.**



- HUD and VA examined the likelihood of becoming homeless among American veterans with particular demographic characteristics and found that during 2009, twice as many poor Hispanic veterans used a shelter compared with poor non-Hispanic veterans. African American veterans in poverty had similar rates of homelessness.



* HUD AND VA ISSUE FIRST-EVER REPORT ON VETERAN HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA, HUD No. 11-014, Feb 10, 2011



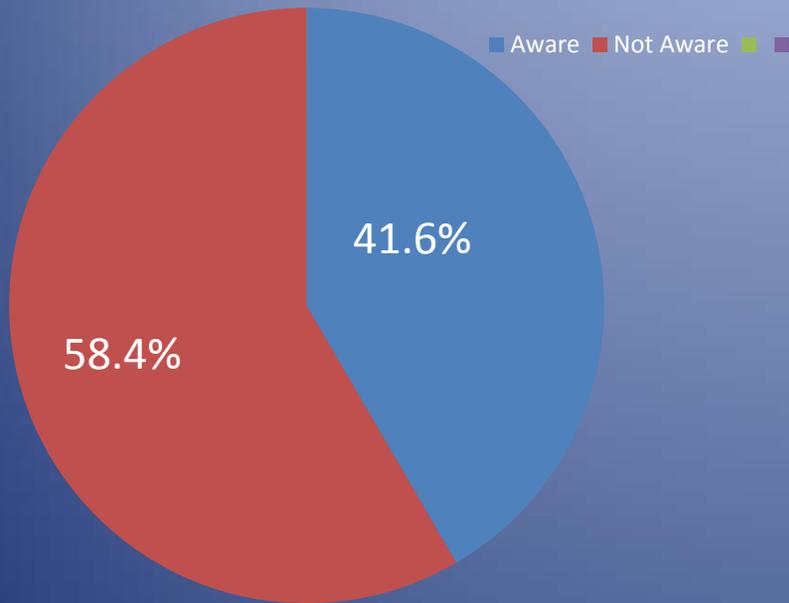
Demographic Characteristics of Homeless Veterans

Characteristic	All Homeless Veterans		Sheltered Veterans		Unsheltered Veterans	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Veterans	47,725	100.0	31,505	100.0	16,220	100.0
Gender						
Female	4,338	9.1	2,708	8.6	1,630	10.1
Male	43,295	90.7	28,749	91.3	14,546	89.7
Transgender	92	0.2	48	0.2	44	0.3
Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic	42,577	89.2	28,928	91.8	13,649	84.2
Hispanic	5,148	10.8	2,577	8.2	2,571	15.9
Race						
White	27,101	56.8	17,521	55.6	9,580	59.1
African American	16,407	34.4	12,212	38.8	4,195	25.9
Asian	351	0.7	204	0.7	147	0.9
Native American	1,261	2.6	559	1.8	702	4.3
Pacific Islander	369	0.8	168	0.5	201	1.2
Multiple Races	2,236	4.7	841	2.7	1,395	8.6

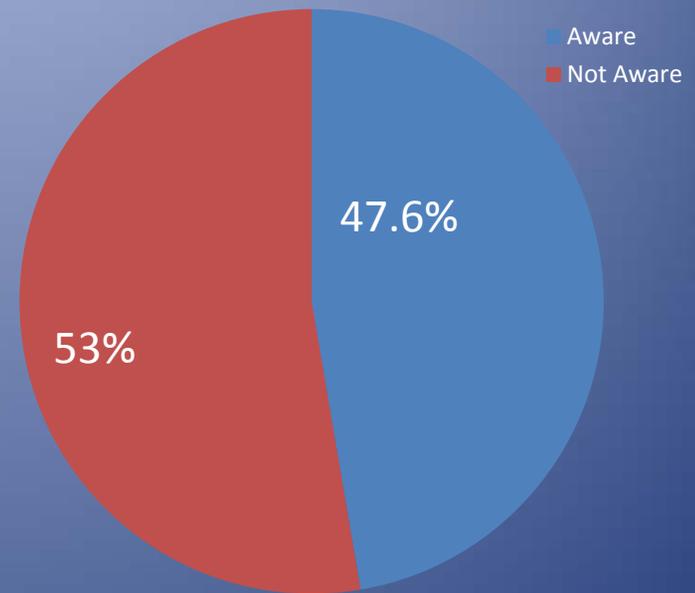


Awareness Levels of VA Benefits and Services

African American Veterans



Hispanic/ Latino Veterans





How We Outreach to Minority Veterans



- Staff/Minority Veteran Liaisons collaboration with internal/external organizations and other closely aligned non-government minority organizations (CMV)
- Secretary's Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans (ACMV)
- Minority Veterans Program Coordinators (MVPC)



LULAC
NAACP
American GI Forum
United States Hispanic
Leadership
Congressional Black
Caucus
Federal Asian Pacific
American Council

Department of Labor
National Congress of
American Indians
State Directors of
Veterans Affairs
Disabled American
Veterans
American Legion

Collaborative Partners- Reaching Out to Minority Veterans



CMV Staff Outreach Activities

- Women's Interactive Conference, November, 2014, Charlotte, NC
- Blacks in Government (BIG) National Training Conference August 2015, Orlando, FL.
- American GI Forum (AGIF) National Convention, July 2015, San Francisco, Ca
- 2015 League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Convention
- Blacks in Government (BIG) National Training Conference, July 2014, Las Vegas, NV.
- Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) - Kapwa: Moving Forward in Unity, July 2014, San Diego, CA.
- 2014 League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Convention and Exposition, July, New York, NY.
- American GI Forum (AGIF) National Conference, July 2014 in San Antonio, TX.
- National Association for Black Veterans (NABVETS), August 2014, New York, NY.
- Southwest Native American Veterans Alliance Conference (SWNAVA), September 2014 Albuquerque, NM.
- CMV Collaboration with District of Columbia VFW Post planned in 2015
- CMV and DAV collaboration to conduct outreach at job fairs in 2015
- CMV Collaboration with Prince George's County Maryland Veterans Commission



White House Initiatives Partnership

**White House Initiatives on
Asian American and
Pacific Islanders**

**President's Task Force
on Puerto Rico**

**White House Initiatives on
Educational Excellence
for Hispanics**

**Women and Girls Council
sub-committee Empowering
Women and Girls of color**



Secretary of Veterans Affairs' Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans (ACMV)



- Advise the Secretary on VA's administration of benefits and provision of health care benefits and services to minority Veterans.
- Provide an annual report to the Secretary outlining recommendations, concerns, and observations on VA's delivery of services to minority Veterans
- Meet with VA officials, Veteran Service Organizations and stakeholders to assess the VA's efforts in providing benefits and services to minority Veterans
- Make periodic site visits and hold Veterans Town Hall meetings



Members

- Minority Veterans
- Recognized authorities in fields pertinent to needs of minority veterans
- Minority veterans with experience in a military theater of operations
- Women veterans who are minority group members and recently separated from the military

Ex Officio Members

- Undersecretary for Health
- Undersecretary for Benefits
- Department of Defense
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health and Human Services

Secretary of Veterans Affairs' Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans (ACMV)



CMV Strategies

- Develop outreach agreements with national organizations
- Host virtual town hall meetings
- Collaborate with Veteran Service Organizations and partners to reach minority Veterans
- Expand partnership network



ACMV Recommendations 2015 Report

- VA enhance its existing data collection processes to include the reporting of race/ethnicity data for all benefits and utilization programs to ensure the identification of delivery gaps and potential disparate levels of service
- VA accelerate efforts to improve the diversity of the workforce at the GS-14, GS-15 and SESE levels by establishing benchmarks when possible and utilizing established diversity management practices
- VA develop an insular catchment area plan that includes service delivery initiatives and benchmarks for the Pacific Rim, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands
- NCA specify on its website availability of burial space by type and eligibility groups for each cemetery location to enhance the awareness level of burial benefits for minority Veterans by the end of FY 2016



Minority Veterans Program Coordinators (MVPC)



- Interdepartmental program (Approximately 276 coordinators collaterally assigned within VHA, VBA and NCA)
- Support and initiate activities that educate and sensitize internal staff to the unique needs of minority veterans
- Target and participate in outreach activities and educational forums utilizing community networks
- Assist the CMV in disseminating information



MVPC 2015 Results!!!

Administration	Number of Reports	Number of Activities	Veterans Seen	% of Minority Veterans Seen	Average Grade	Average of Outreach Per Month
NCA	243	1,407	177,999	37%	8	11
VBA	224	4,457	239,618	43%	11	21
VHA	498	5,211	434,705	50%	11	26
Overall	965	11,075	852,322	43%	10	19

CMV Recommendations

- Clinical Cultural Competency Training for providers
- Collection of racial/ethnic data (ACMV)
- Proactive strategies to increase diversity of SES and GS-13 –GS-15 positions to reflect the veteran population (ACMV)



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<http://www1.va.gov/CENTERFORMINORITYVETERANS/index.asp>

