



2023

Arizona Veteran Survey

Full Report

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About the Survey

The fourth iteration of the Arizona Veteran Survey was conducted in 2023 by ASU College of Health Solutions (ASU CHS) and the Arizona Coalition for Military Families (ACMF), on behalf of our public and private sector partners. The 2023 survey received nearly 9,000 submissions, including respondents from all 15 counties.

ASU CHS and ACMF worked together to conduct three prior iterations of the Arizona Veteran Survey released in 2017, 2019, and 2021. The 2023 survey was developed based on questions from prior iterations and incorporated new questions relevant to the findings from the preceding survey. The 2023 survey included the following sections:

- **Demographics**
- **Physical & Mental Health**
- **Injuries/Disabilities**
- **Housing & Lifestyle**
- **Family & Social Supports**
- **Stressors & Suicide**
- **Substance Use & Treatment**
- **Legal Issues**
- **Education**
- **Employment**

All service members, veterans, family members, and community members were invited to take the online survey. The 2023 survey was

distributed via a link embedded in emails sent out by community partners and ACMF. The link directed participants to an online survey platform. As with the prior iterations, the survey was voluntary and anonymous.

The purpose of the biennial Arizona Veteran Survey is to gain insight into the needs of Arizona's military and veteran population to continue to assess interventions and improve the care and resources available. Survey responses were filtered, analyzed, and interpreted by the ASU CHS research team. The results for each question are based on the participants that responded to the question and do not account for the participants that skipped the question.

Information collected in this survey is being used to make recommendations for suicide prevention strategies and help identify the needs of these populations and communities to influence and aid the implementation of programs to reduce disparities. This document provides an overview of the data provided by participants.



DEMOGRAPHICS

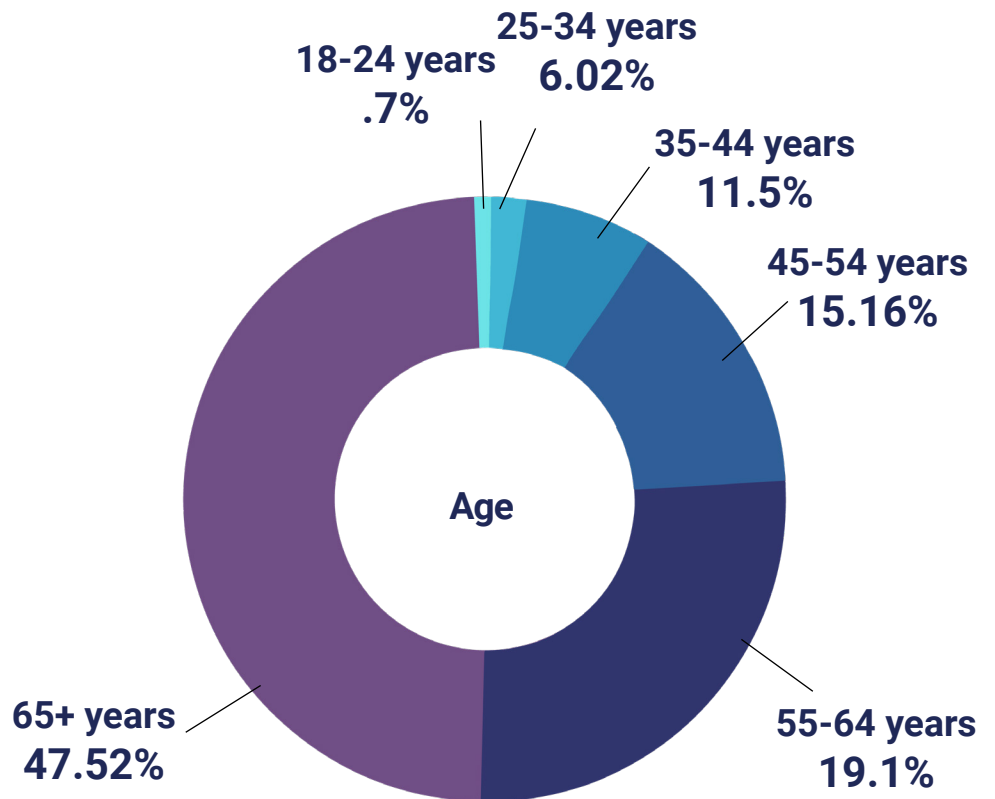
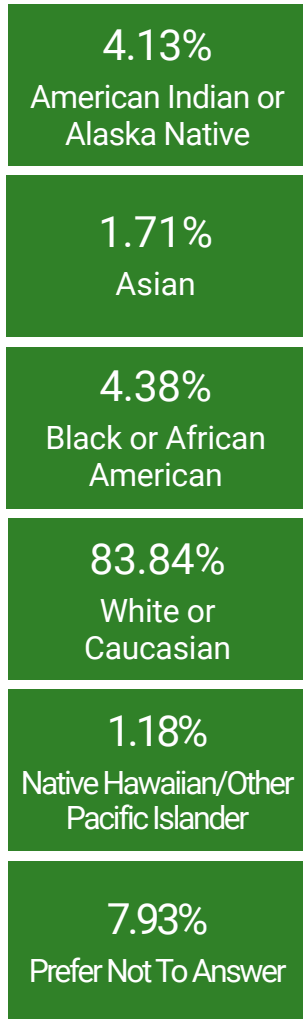
County	Percent of 2023 Survey Respondents by County	Percent of Arizona Veteran Population by County
Apache	1.15%	0.65%
Cochise	6.34%	3.77%
Coconino	2.77%	1.38%
Gila	1.1%	1.1%
Graham	0.97%	0.36%
Greenlee	0.37%	0.11%
La Paz	0.96%	0.58%
Maricopa	37.81%	51.61%
Mohave	5.26%	5.1%
Navajo	1.86%	1.48%
Pima	20.49%	17.39%
Pinal	7.81%	7.56%
Santa Cruz	0.84%	0.33%
Yavapai	7.83%	5.43%
Yuma	3.3%	3.17%
N/A	1.13%	

Respondent Type	Percent of 2023 Survey Respondents by Type of Respondent
Service Member	2.13%
Veterans	76.6%
Family Members	16.78%
Community Helpers	4.48%

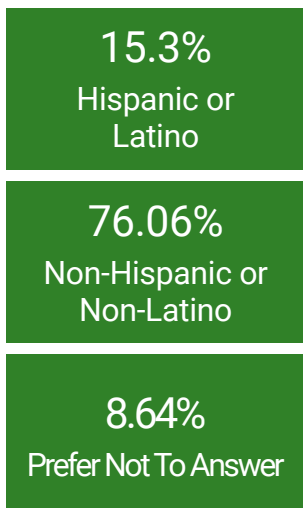
DEMOGRAPHICS

Race

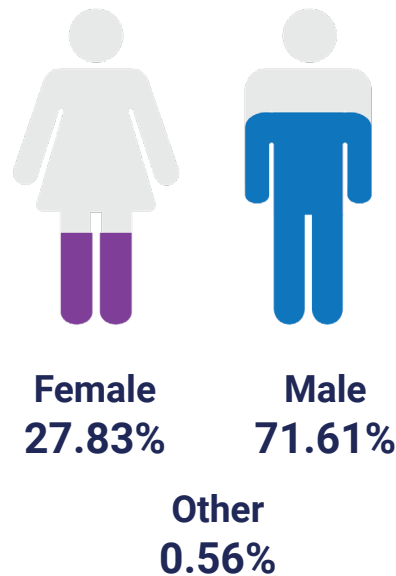
(could select more than one)



Ethnicity



Gender



BASIC NEEDS

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ Veteran respondents with lack of transportation reported that this kept them from the following in the past 12 months (could select more than one option):
 - **15.33%** Work
 - **7.56%** School
 - **38%** Medical appointments
 - **31%** Store (groceries, pharmacy, etc.)
 - **34.33%** Leisure activities
 - **25.22%** Family/Friends
 - **8.56%** Other
 - **19%** Prefer not to answer
- ✓ **10.95%** of veteran respondents could use or need more help with day-to-day activities such as bathing, preparing meals, shopping, managing finances, etc.
- ✓ Veteran respondents with children in childcare/preschool report having the following concerns about childcare or education:
 - **9.78%** Finding quality childcare/preschool
 - **16.52%** Affording childcare/preschool
 - **4.78%** Finding childcare/preschool in a convenient location
 - **9.35%** Finding childcare/preschool that works with their normal work schedule
 - **3.48%** Finding childcare/preschool that can accommodate their Guard/Reserve training schedule (drill weekends, annual training, etc.)

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ Service member respondents with lack of transportation reported that this kept them from the following in the past 12 months (could select more than one option):
 - **34.69%** Work
 - **30.61%** School
 - **48.98%** Medical appointments
 - **36.73%** Store (groceries, pharmacy, etc.)
 - **40.82%** Leisure activities
 - **28.57%** Family/Friends
 - **4.08%** Other
 - **8.16%** Prefer not to answer
- ✓ **19.3%** of service member respondents could use or need more help with day-to-day activities such as bathing, preparing meals, shopping, managing finances, etc.
- ✓ Service member respondents with children in childcare/preschool report having the following concerns about childcare or education:
 - **10.34%** Finding quality childcare/preschool
 - **27.59%** Affording childcare/preschool
 - **20.69%** Finding childcare/preschool in a convenient location
 - **15.52%** Finding childcare/preschool that works with their normal work schedule
 - **6.9%** Finding childcare/preschool that can accommodate their Guard/Reserve training schedule (drill weekends, annual training, etc.)

BASIC NEEDS

Family Member Respondents

✔ Family member respondents with lack of transportation reported that this kept them from the following in the past 12 months (could select more than one option):

- **22.86%** Work
- **5.71%** School
- **45.71%** Medical appointments
- **28.16%** Store (groceries, pharmacy, etc.)
- **26.53%** Leisure activities
- **24.9%** Family/Friends
- **5.71%** Other
- **17.55%** Prefer not to answer



✔ Family member respondents with children in childcare/preschool report having the following concerns about childcare or education:

- **8.63%** Finding quality childcare/preschool
- **21.83%** Affording childcare/preschool
- **5.08%** Finding childcare/preschool in a convenient location
- **9.14%** Finding childcare/preschool that works with their normal work schedule
- **1.02%** Finding childcare/preschool that can accommodate their Guard/Reserve training schedule (drill weekends, annual training, etc.)

✔ **11.96%** of family member respondents could use or need more help with day-to-day activities such as bathing, preparing meals, shopping, managing finances, etc.

EMPLOYMENT

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ **2.2%** of veteran respondents report that they were not employed but were looking for employment.
- ✓ Of the veteran respondents who are currently employed:
 - **52.16%** feel their position is stable.
 - **42.68%** feel they have opportunities for position advancement with their current company.
 - **37.24%** feel they have the training and education needed for their job and career interests.
 - **32.32%** feel they have the skills to find new employment if needed.
 - **31.1%** feel they have opportunities for pay advancement with their current company.
 - **23.69%** feel their career path is clear.
- ✓ Veteran respondents' **3** most commonly cited barriers to looking for employment were:
 - 1. Overqualified**
 - 2. Bias due to age, disability, or other reason(s)**
 - 3. Pay or benefits not sufficient to make a living**

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ Of the service member respondents who are currently employed (including those serving in active duty, guard, and reserve):
 - **52.27%** feel their position is stable.
 - **52.27%** feel they have opportunities for position advancement with their current company.
 - **40.15%** feel they have the training and education needed for their job and career interests.
 - **39.39%** feel they have the skills to find new employment if needed.
 - **43.94%** feel they have opportunities for pay advancement with their current company.
 - **35.61%** feel their career path is clear.
- ✓ Service member respondents' **3** most commonly cited barriers to looking for employment were:
 - 1. Pay or benefits not sufficient to make a living**
 - 2. Bias due to age, disability, or other reason(s)**
 - 3. Overqualified**



EMPLOYMENT

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **1.39%** of family member respondents report that they were not employed but were looking for employment.
- ✓ Of the family member respondents who are currently employed:
 - **53.58%** feel their position is stable.
 - **51.87%** feel they have opportunities for position advancement with their current company.
 - **37%** feel they have the training and education needed for their job and career interests.
 - **37.46%** feel they have the skills to find new employment if needed.
 - **27.36%** feel they have opportunities for pay advancement with their current company.
 - **20.54%** feel their career path is clear.



- ✓ Family member respondents' **3** most commonly cited barriers to looking for employment were:
 - 1. Pay or benefits not sufficient to make a living**
 - 2. Overqualified**
 - 3. Lack of quality jobs available**

FAMILY & SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ Veteran respondents feel like they have a support system:
 - **64.15%** Yes
 - **7.46%** No
 - **25.78%** Somewhat
 - **1.71%** Unsure
 - **0.91%** Prefer not to answer
- ✓ Top **3** sources veteran respondents rely on for support:
 - 1. Family**
 - 2. Friends**
 - 3. Animals**
- ✓ **38.19%** of veteran respondents reported feeling lonely or isolated from people around them sometimes, most of the time, or always.
- ✓ **15.82%** of veteran respondents have minor children living in the home.
- ✓ **32.63%** of veteran respondents reported that they are a caregiver to someone in their life.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ Service member respondents feel like they have a support system:
 - **62.21%** Yes
 - **5.81%** No
 - **30.23%** Somewhat
 - **1.74%** Unsure
- ✓ Top **3** sources service member respondents rely on for support:
 - 1. Family**
 - 2. Friends**
 - 3. Fellow military service members/ veterans**
- ✓ **43.61%** of service member respondents reported feeling lonely or isolated from people around them sometimes, most of the time, or always.
- ✓ **50%** of service member respondents have minor children living in the home.
- ✓ **54.44%** of service member respondents reported that they are a caregiver to someone in their life.



FAMILY & SOCIAL SUPPORTS

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ Family member respondents feel like they have a support system:
 - **66.02%** Yes
 - **5.37%** No
 - **25.25%** Somewhat
 - **1.34%** Unsure
 - **2.01%** Prefer not to answer
- ✓ Top 3 sources family member respondents rely on for support:
 1. **Family**
 2. **Friends**
 3. **Animals**



- ✓ **37.88%** of family member respondents reported feeling lonely or isolated from people around them sometimes, most of the time, or always.
- ✓ **33.22%** of family member respondents have minor children living in the home.
- ✓ **51.92%** of family member respondents reported that they are a caregiver to someone in their life.

FINANCES & BENEFITS

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ Veteran respondents had difficulty accessing or paying for the following in the past 12 months (could select more than one option):
 - **11.85%** Utilities (electric, gas, oil, water)
 - **10.07%** Rent/Mortgage
 - **11.92%** Food
 - **6.1%** Healthcare (physical or mental health)
 - **8.07%** Transportation
 - **1.44%** Childcare
 - **4.76%** Medication
 - **8.15%** Phone/Internet
 - **3.36%** Other expenses for children or dependents
 - **14.93%** Credit cards/debt
 - **9.16%** Other (ex. tuition, credit card debt, appliances, pet supplies, and more)
 - **5.34%** Prefer not to answer
- ✓ **28.63%** TRICARE/TRICARE for Life
- ✓ **1.38%** Indian Health Services and/or tribal funded services
- ✓ **43.69%** Medicare
- ✓ **2.68%** AHCCCS/Medicaid
- ✓ **22.12%** Employer-provided health insurance
- ✓ **6.57%** Individual/family health insurance via Marketplace or independently
- ✓ **3.37%** Other
- ✓ **1.51%** of veteran respondents reported that they do not have access to health care coverage or services at this time.
- ✓ **76.45%** of veteran respondents use VA healthcare or VA community care.
- ✓ **41.9%** of veteran respondents receive all of their health care through the VA.
- ✓ Veteran respondents have the following health care coverage (could select more than one option):



Service Member Respondents

- ✓ Service member respondents had difficulty accessing or paying for the following in the past 12 months (could select more than one option):

FINANCES & BENEFITS

Service Member Respondents cont.

- **20.38%** Utilities (electric, gas, oil, water)
 - **20.38%** Rent/Mortgage
 - **21.02%** Food
 - **13.38%** Healthcare (physical or mental health)
 - **14.01%** Transportation
 - **12.74%** Childcare
 - **10.19%** Medication
 - **14.65%** Phone/Internet
 - **5.73%** Other expenses for children or dependents
 - **19.11%** Credit cards/debt
 - **1.27%** Other (ex. tuition, credit card debt, appliances, pet supplies, and more)
 - **5.1%** Prefer not to say
- ✓ **45.45%** of service member respondents use VA healthcare or VA community care.
 - ✓ **26.29%** of service member respondents receive all of their health care through the VA.
 - ✓ Service member respondents have the following health care coverage (could select more than one option):
 - **57.14%** TRICARE/TRICARE for Life
 - **9.14%** Indian Health Services and/or tribal funded services
 - **12%** Medicare
 - **6.86%** AHCCCS/Medicaid
 - **27.43%** Employer-provided health insurance
 - **8%** Individual/family health insurance via Marketplace or independently
 - **2.86%** Other

- ✓ **4%** of service member respondents reported that they do not have access to health care coverage or services at this time.

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ Family member respondents had difficulty accessing or paying for the following in the past 12 months (could select more than one option):
 - **18.66%** Utilities (electric, gas, oil, water)
 - **20.09%** Rent/Mortgage
 - **19.02%** Food
 - **12.59%** Healthcare (physical or mental health)
 - **12.05%** Transportation
 - **4.11%** Childcare
 - **9.91%** Medication
 - **12.59%** Phone/Internet
 - **5.8%** Other expenses for children or dependents
 - **25.09%** Credit cards/debt
 - **1.7%** Other (ex. tuition, credit card debt, appliances, pet supplies, and more)
 - **6.52%** Prefer not to say

Family Member Respondents cont.

- ✓ **11.46%** of family member respondents use VA healthcare or VA community care.
- ✓ Family member respondents have the following health care coverage (could select more than one option):
 - **12.48%** TRICARE/TRICARE for Life
 - **5.19%** Indian Health Services and/or tribal funded services
 - **16.86%** Medicare
 - **5.67%** AHCCCS/Medicaid
 - **59.81%** Employer-provided health insurance
 - **7.05%** Individual/family health insurance via Marketplace or independently
 - **4.94%** Other
- ✓ **4.94%** of family member respondents reported that they do not have access to health care coverage or services at this time.



HIGHER EDUCATION

Level of Education	Veteran Respondents	Service Member Respondents	Family Member Respondents
Advanced status degree (e.g., M.D., Ph.D., J.D, Ed.D.)	3.84%	2.65%	3.81%
Master's degree	16.89%	21.19%	12.56%
Bachelor's degree	25.86%	26.49%	28.64%
Associate's or technical degree	27.99%	27.81%	23.69%
High school diploma or equivalent	23.5%	18.54%	28.54%
Did not complete high school	0.63%	3.31%	1.05%

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ 6.9% of veteran respondents reported that they were currently enrolled in a training or college program.
- ✓ 57.51% of veteran respondents have used the GI Bill.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ 42% of service member respondents reported that they were currently enrolled in a training or college program.
- ✓ 40% of service member respondents have used the GI Bill.

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ 13.64% of family member respondents reported that they were currently enrolled in a training or college program.
- ✓ 9.65% of family member respondents have used the GI Bill.



HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ **6.91%** of veteran respondents reported concerns about losing their current housing and **1.02%** reported they were currently without a steady place to live.
- ✓ **17.2%** of veteran respondents reported experiencing homelessness at least once in their lifetime.
- ✓ Veteran respondents' current housing:
 - **81.04%** Homeowner
 - **11.55%** Renter
 - **0.65%** Barracks/military housing
 - **0.7%** Subsidized housing (e.g. Section 8, HUD VASH)
 - **2.42%** Living with friends and/or family (not a temporary situation)
 - **0.77%** In temporary housing (living with friends/family, shelter, transitional housing, etc.)
 - **0.1%** No housing
 - **1.59%** Other
- ✓ **49.15%** of veteran respondents reported that they keep firearms in or around their home and **18.21%** preferred not to answer.
- ✓ **46.99%** of veteran respondents who reported that they keep firearms in or around their home also reported that they are loaded.
- ✓ **45.42%** of veteran respondents who reported keeping loaded firearms in or around their home reported that they are unlocked.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ **14.81%** of service member respondents reported concerns about losing their current housing and **6.17%** reported they were currently without a steady place to live.
- ✓ **26.92%** of service member respondents reported experiencing homelessness at least once in their lifetime.
- ✓ Service member respondents' current housing:
 - **49.69%** Homeowner
 - **21.12%** Renter
 - **12.42%** Barracks/military housing
 - **3.11%** Subsidized Housing (e.g. Section 8, HUD VASH)
 - **5.59%** Living with friends and/or family (not a temporary situation)
 - **3.11%** In temporary housing (living with friends/family, shelter, transitional housing, etc.)
 - **2.48%** No housing
 - **1.24%** Other
- ✓ **61.15%** of service member respondents reported that they keep firearms in or around their home and **10.19%** preferred not to answer.
- ✓ **55.21%** of service member respondents who reported that they keep firearms in or around their home also reported that they are loaded.
- ✓ **42.31%** of service member respondents who reported keeping loaded firearms in or around their home reported that they are unlocked.

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **8.82%** of family member respondents reported concerns about losing their current housing and **0.95%** reported they were currently without a steady place to live.
- ✓ **18.47%** of family member respondents reported experiencing homelessness at least once in their lifetime.
- ✓ Family member respondents' current housing:
 - **68.63%** Homeowner
 - **18.2%** Renter
 - **3.55%** Barracks/military housing
 - **0.95%** Subsidized housing (e.g. Section 8, HUD VASH)
 - **4.42%** Living with friends and/or family (not a temporary situation)
 - **0.69%** In temporary housing (living with friends/family, shelter, transitional housing, etc.)
 - **0%** No housing
 - **1.3%** Other
- ✓ **36.29%** of family member respondents who reported that they keep firearms in or around their home also reported that they are loaded.
- ✓ **29.05%** of family member respondents who reported keeping loaded firearms in or around their home reported that they are unlocked.



- ✓ **43.56%** of family member respondents reported that they keep firearms in or around their home and **10.69%** preferred not to answer.

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ **2.93%** of veteran respondents were experiencing criminal legal issues.
- ✓ The **3** most common civil legal issues veteran respondents are experiencing:
 - 1. Divorce**
 - 2. Child Support or Alimony Payments**
 - 3. Bankruptcy**
- ✓ **8%** of veteran respondents have been incarcerated.
 - Of veterans who have been incarcerated the **3** main barriers experienced upon release and integration into society are:
 - 1. PTSD**
 - 2. Difficulty finding employment**
 - 3. Barriers to social connectedness (tie)**
 - 3. Worse mental health than prior to incarceration (tie)**
- ✓ **1.9%** of veteran respondents have been involved in a veterans court.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ **24.84%** of veteran respondents were experiencing criminal legal issues.
- ✓ The **3** most common civil legal issues service member respondents are experiencing:
 - 1. Benefits**
 - 2. Child Support or Alimony Payments**
 - 3. Divorce (tie)**
 - 4. Employment (tie)**
- ✓ **13.33%** of veteran respondents have been incarcerated.

- Of service members who have been incarcerated the **3** main barriers experienced upon release and integration into society are:

- 1. Barriers to social connectedness**
- 2. Worse mental health than prior to incarceration**
- 3. Worse physical health than prior to incarceration**

- ✓ **15.23%** of service member respondents have been involved in a veterans court.

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **3.75%** of family member respondents were experiencing criminal legal issues.
- ✓ The **3** most common civil legal issues family member respondents are experiencing:
 - 1. Bankruptcy**
 - 2. Child Support or Alimony Payments (tie)**
 - 3. Divorce (tie)**
- ✓ **20%** of family member respondents have been incarcerated.
 - Of family members who have been incarcerated the **3** main barriers experienced upon release and integration into society are:
 - 1. Difficulty finding employment**
 - 2. Worse mental health than prior to incarceration**
 - 3. Worse physical health than prior to incarceration (tie)**
 - 4. Lack of secure housing (tie)**

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health

Stress Zone in the Past Month Prior to Taking the Survey

STRESS ZONE	VETERANS	SERVICE MEMBERS	FAMILY MEMBERS
LOW (no crisis and stress is manageable)	57.4%	37.01%	54.04%
MILD (trouble sleeping, relationship problems, irritable)	36.89%	48.7%	38.53%
MODERATE (panic attacks, self-harm, heavy substance use)	4.98%	13.64%	6.13%
SEVERE (danger to self or others)	0.73%	0.65%	1.3%

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ **19.85%** of veteran respondents rate their mental health as fair, and **7.68%** rate their mental health as poor.
- ✓ **10.09%** of veterans reported that they have little interest or pleasure in doing things more than half the days, another **9.53%** reported feeling this nearly every day.
- ✓ **8.49%** of veterans reported that they feel down, depressed, or hopeless more than half the days, another **7.18%** reported feeling this nearly every day.
- ✓ **42.17%** of veterans reported mental health concerns, and **20.75%** are currently seeking mental health care.
- ✓ **24.53%** of veteran respondents reported that someone close to them has recommended that they seek mental health care at least once.
- ✓ The **3** most common reasons veteran respondents with a mental health issue are not seeking care:
 - 1. Time**
 - 2. Cost**
 - 3. Concerned about being diagnosed with a mental health issue.**

Veteran Respondents cont.

- ✓ **4.27%** of veteran respondents had experienced moderate to severe stress (orange or red on the stress continuum) in the week prior to the survey.
- ✓ **41.3%** of veteran respondents know of at least one number to call to get help right away, aside from 911.
- ✓ **9.62%** of veteran respondents reported experiencing Military Sexual Trauma during their military service.
- ✓ **24.4%** of veteran respondents reported knowing one or more service members who experienced Military Sexual Trauma.
- ✓ Veteran respondents reported experiencing the following behavior by friends or family:
 - **4.18%** Physically hurt them
 - **4.88%** Threatened them with harm
 - **15.07%** Verbal or emotional abuse
- ✓ **12.32%** of veteran respondents have had thoughts of suicide.
- ✓ **2.75%** of veteran respondents have attempted suicide.
- ✓ **60.85%** of veteran respondents know someone who has died by suicide.



Service Member Respondents

- ✓ **14.68%** of service member respondents rate their mental health as fair, and **11.36%** rate their mental health as poor.
- ✓ **15.34%** of service members reported that they have little interest or pleasure in doing things more than half the days, another **9.14%** reported feeling this nearly every day.
- ✓ **16.57%** of service members reported that they feel down, depressed, or hopeless more than half the days, another **3.83%** reported feeling this nearly every day.
- ✓ **48.86%** of service members reported mental health concerns, and **31.25%** are currently seeking mental health care
- ✓ **46.29%** of service member respondents reported that someone close to them has recommended that they seek mental health care at least once.
- ✓ The **3** most common reasons service member respondents with a mental health issue are not seeking care:
 - 1. Time**
 - 2. Transportation**
 - 3. Cost**
- ✓ **5.77%** of service member respondents had experienced moderate to severe stress (orange or red on the stress continuum) in the week prior to the survey.
- ✓ **64.1%** of service member respondents know of at least one number to call to get help right away, aside from 911.

MENTAL HEALTH

Service Member Respondents cont.

- ✓ **22.58%** of service member respondents reported experiencing Military Sexual Trauma during their military service.
- ✓ **43.59%** of service member respondents reported knowing one or more service members who experienced Military Sexual Trauma.
- ✓ Service member respondents reported experiencing the following behavior by friends or family:
 - **12.82%** Physically hurt them
 - **18.59%** Threatened them with harm
 - **26.28%** Verbal or emotional abuse
- ✓ **11.61%** of service member respondents have had thoughts of suicide.
- ✓ **3.92%** of service member respondents have attempted suicide.
- ✓ **73.88%** of service member respondents know someone who has died by suicide.

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **23.03%** of family member respondents rate their mental health as fair, and **3.73%** rate their mental health as poor.
- ✓ **10.26%** of family members reported that they have little interest or pleasure in doing things more than half the days, another **4.73%** reported feeling this nearly every day.

- ✓ **6.42%** of family members reported that they feel down, depressed, or hopeless more than half the days, another **4.41%** reported feeling this nearly every day.
- ✓ **39.76%** of family members reported mental health concerns, and **16.45%** are currently seeking mental health care.
- ✓ **32.18%** of family member respondents reported that someone close to them has recommended that they seek mental health care at least once.
- ✓ The **3** most common reasons family member respondents with a mental health issue are not seeking care:
 - 1. Cost**
 - 2. Time**
 - 3. I don't think it would help me**
- ✓ **6.19%** of family member respondents had experienced moderate to severe stress (orange or red on the stress continuum) in the week prior to the survey.
- ✓ **39.56%** of family member respondents know of at least one number to call to get help right away, aside from 911.
- ✓ **17.16%** of family member respondents reported knowing one or more service members who experienced Military Sexual Trauma.

Family Member Respondents cont.

- ✓ Family member respondents reported experiencing the following behavior by friends or family:
 - **11.13%** Physically hurt them
 - **12.85%** Threatened them with harm
 - **29.77%** Verbal or emotional abuse
- ✓ **12.03%** of family member respondents have had thoughts of suicide.
- ✓ **5.43%** of family member respondents have attempted suicide.
- ✓ **58.55%** of family member respondents know someone who has died by suicide.



SUBSTANCE USE

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ **6.26%** of veteran respondents reported using marijuana for medical use, **3.47%** for recreational use, and **4.35%** for medical and recreational use.
- ✓ Veteran respondents reported use of the following substances within the past year:
 - **12.72%** Nicotine (cigarettes, vape, chewing tobacco, etc.)
 - **1.06%** LSD or other hallucinogens
 - **0.93%** Cocaine
 - **0.72%** Heroin
 - **0.58%** Ecstasy
 - **0.51%** Methamphetamine
 - **0.51%** Synthetic drugs
- ✓ **55.67%** of veteran respondents reported having been prescribed opioids.
- ✓ **5.68%** of veteran respondents reported having used prescription medications in a way that was different from how it was prescribed.
- ✓ **4.18%** of veteran respondents reported receiving substance use treatment in the past, **1.25%** are currently in treatment, and **1.3%** need treatment but are not currently receiving it.
- ✓ The top **3** most common treatment or recovery programs that veteran respondents have previously used or are currently in to manage substance use are:

- 1. Twelve Steps or abstinence based therapy**
- 2. Psychotherapy/counseling (e.g., Cognitive Behavioral Therapy)**
- 3. Inpatient/Outpatient Treatment**

- ✓ **13.26%** of veteran respondents reported having drinks containing alcohol **4** or more times a week in the past year, and **13.46%** reported having drinks containing alcohol **2-3** times a week in the past year.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ **6.58%** of service member respondents reported using marijuana for medical use, **5.26%** for recreational use, and **7.24%** for medical and recreational use.
- ✓ Service member respondents reported use of the following substances within the past year:
 - **18.79%** Nicotine (cigarettes, vape, chewing tobacco, etc.)
 - **6.71%** LSD or other hallucinogens
 - **8.72%** Cocaine
 - **8.05%** Heroin
 - **10.74%** Ecstasy
 - **7.38%** Methamphetamine
 - **4.7%** Synthetic drugs
- ✓ **47.06%** of service member respondents reported having been prescribed opioids.

SUBSTANCE USE

Service Member Respondents cont.

- ✓ **17.76%** of service member respondents reported having used prescription medications in a way that was different from how it was prescribed.
- ✓ **8.5%** of service member respondents reported receiving substance use treatment in the past, **4.58%** are currently in treatment, and **9.8%** need treatment but are not currently receiving it.
- ✓ The top **3** most common treatment or recovery programs that service member respondents have previously used or are currently in to manage substance use are:
 - 1. Psychotherapy/counseling**
 - 2. Peer Support Groups**
 - 3. Twelve Step or Abstinence-based Therapy**
- ✓ **6.62%** of service member respondents reported having drinks containing alcohol **4** or more times a week in the past year, and **14.57%** reported having drinks containing alcohol **2-3** times a week in the past year.

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **4.38%** of family member respondents reported using marijuana for medical use, **5.97%** for recreational use, and **4.01%** for medical and recreational use.

- ✓ Family member respondents reported use of the following substances within the past year:
 - **14.02%** Nicotine (cigarettes, vape, chewing tobacco, etc.)
 - **2.16%** LSD or other hallucinogens
 - **1.51%** Cocaine
 - **2.45%** Heroin
 - **2.35%** Ecstasy
 - **2.35%** Methamphetamine
 - **1.51%** Synthetic drugs
- ✓ **43.67%** of family member respondents reported having been prescribed opioids.
- ✓ **5.75%** of family member respondents reported having used prescription medications in a way that was different from how it was prescribed.
- ✓ **2.8%** of family member respondents reported receiving substance use treatment in the past, **1.59%** are currently in treatment, and **1.96%** need treatment but are not currently receiving it.
- ✓ The top **3** most common treatment or recovery programs that family member respondents have previously used or are currently in to manage substance use are:

Family Member Respondents cont.

1. Twelve Steps or abstinence-based therapy
2. Peer Support Groups
3. Psychotherapy/counseling (e.g., Cognitive Behavioral Therapy) (tie)
4. Inpatient/Outpatient Treatment (tie)

- ✔ 7.3% of family member respondents reported having drinks containing alcohol **4** or more times a week in the past year, and **11.04%** reported having drinks containing alcohol **2-3** times a week in the past year.



PHYSICAL HEALTH

Veteran Respondents

- ✓ **28.7%** of veteran respondents rate their physical health as fair, and **6.77%** rate their physical health as poor.
- ✓ **8.32%** of veteran respondents reported that they do not receive regular medical care as needed.
- ✓ The **3** most common reasons veteran respondents with a physical health issue are not seeking care:
 - 1. Time**
 - 2. Cost**
 - 3. Transportation**
- ✓ **64.62%** of veteran respondents report having or having concerns about injuries and/or disabilities.

Of these:

 - **69.32%** reported having a line of duty injury sustained while in the military.
 - **87.77%** reported having a disability documented by a medical professional.
 - **11.09%** reported that they are on social security disability.
 - **54.1%** self-identify as having visible/invisible wounds or injuries.
 - **38.69%** reported that they always experience pain, and another **31%** reported that they often experience pain.
 - **80.62%** have a VA service-connected disability rating.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ **17.61%** of service member respondents rate their physical health as fair, and **3.98%** rate their physical health as poor.
- ✓ **21.26%** of service member respondents reported that they do not receive regular medical care as needed.
- ✓ The **3** most common reasons service member respondents with a physical health issue are not seeking care:
 - 1. Time**
 - 2. Cost**
 - 3. Barriers (language, disability access, internet service for telehealth, etc.)**
- ✓ **45.2%** of service member respondents report having or having concerns about injuries and/or disabilities.

Of these:

 - **70.89%** reported having a line of duty injury sustained while in the military.
 - **75.64%** reported having a disability documented by a medical professional.
 - **25.64%** reported that they are on social security disability.
 - **62.34%** self-identify as having visible/invisible wounds or injuries.
 - **30.77%** reported that they always experience pain, and another **38.46%** reported that they often experience pain.
 - **56.41%** have a VA service-connected disability rating.

PHYSICAL HEALTH

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **21.08%** of family member respondents rate their physical health as fair, and **6.26%** rate their physical health as poor.
- ✓ **12.77%** of family member respondents reported that they do not receive regular medical care as needed.
- ✓ The **3** most common reasons family member respondents with a physical health issue are not seeking care:
 - 1. Time**
 - 2. Cost**
 - 3. Transportation**
- ✓ **18.33%** of family member respondents report having or having concerns about injuries and/or disabilities.

Of these:

 - **14.98%** reported having a line of duty injury sustained while in the military.
 - **71.68%** reported having a disability documented by a medical professional.
 - **12%** reported that they are on social security disability.
 - **37.05%** self-identify as having visible/invisible wounds or injuries.
 - **33.78%** reported that they always experience pain, and another **38.22%** reported that they often experience pain.
 - **14.67%** have a VA service-connected disability rating.



SPIRITUALITY

Veteran Respondents

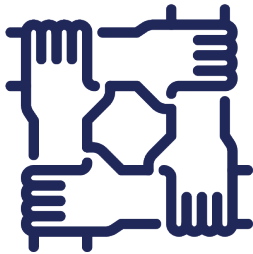
- ✓ **37.03%** of veteran respondents reported spirituality is a great source of strength and comfort, and **33.91%** responded that spirituality is somewhat a source of strength and comfort.

Service Member Respondents

- ✓ **37.21%** of service member respondents reported spirituality is a great source of strength and comfort, and **39.53%** responded that spirituality is somewhat a source of strength and comfort.

Family Member Respondents

- ✓ **45.95%** of family member respondents reported spirituality is a great source of strength and comfort, and **30.15%** responded that spirituality is somewhat a source of strength and comfort.



COMMUNITY HELPERS

Community helpers are a valuable part of the overall effort to provide support for Arizona's military and veteran community. A community helper is anyone who has an interest in helping service members, veterans and their families, but may not have the specialized training to do so. Helpers are members of the community, civic organizations or groups that interact with service members, veterans and their families.

Community helpers were invited to take this survey to share their experience of working with service members, veterans and their families, these are the key data points from the survey:

Role

- ✓ **23.31%** of community helper respondents work with or assist service members, veterans, and/or family members on a day-to-day basis.
- ✓ **11.04%** of community helper respondents are actively involved in military and veteran causes in the community (e.g., volunteer, advocate, donor, etc.)
- ✓ **62.27%** of community helper respondents are supportive of our military and veteran community.
- ✓ **1.23%** of community helper respondents are employed by a military entity.
- ✓ **64.11%** of community helper respondents are employed by a federal, tribal, state, or local agency.
- ✓ **23.93%** of community helper respondents are employed by a for-profit/nonprofit organization, or are a community member.

Concerns

- ✓ According to community helper respondents, the **5** most common concerns for service members, veterans, and their families are:
 - 1. Relationship(s) with spouse/significant other, or other family members**
 - 2. Disability or injuries**
 - 3. Financial issues (e.g., debt or credit)**
 - 4. Illicit drug abuse, including misuse or abuse of prescription drugs**
 - 5. Physical health concerns**
- ✓ The **5** most common resources community helpers have helped service members, veterans, and their families access are:
 - 1. Meeting basic needs for self or family**
 - 2. Move or transition**
 - 3. Legal issues**
 - 4. Parenting or child care**
 - 5. Caregiving**

COMMUNITY HELPERS

Suicide

- ✓ In the past year community helpers have observed the following in these populations:
 - Of the community helpers, **31.42%** responded to these questions.
 - **85.71%** of community helpers reported knowing veterans who had thoughts of suicide.
 - **41.67%** of community helpers reported knowing service members who had thoughts of suicide.
 - **38.1%** of community helpers reported knowing family members of a veteran or service member who had thoughts of suicide.
- ✓ **33.49%** Knew one or more veterans who died by suicide
- ✓ **15.27%** Knew one or more service members who died by suicide
- ✓ **14.28%** Knew one or more family members of a veteran who died by suicide
- ✓ **10.82%** Knew one or more family members of a service member who died by suicide
- ✓ **28.71%** Knew one or more family members or friends (Not a service member, veteran, or family member) who died by suicide
- ✓ **39.11%** Knew one or more acquaintances (not a service member, veteran, or family member) who died by suicide



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to the partners of the Arizona Coalition for Military Families that made this project possible, including the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, and the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services. Thank you to the many people, organizations, and partners throughout Arizona who distributed the survey through their organizations, communities, and networks. Thank you to each person who took the time to complete the survey, share their perspective, and contribute to improving care for all who serve.



For more information, please visit: www.ConnectVeterans.org/survey
or email survey@arizonacoalition.org.

Intended Use or Application

The intended use of this survey is to inform, educate, and promote quality information regarding the service member, veteran, and family member community. This data may be used in grant proposals or to support funding or donation requests. Data may also be used to inform legislators and leaders on policy decisions and to form workgroups associated with different social determinants of health. The Arizona Coalition for Military Families is available to provide technical assistance and hold meetings/gatherings to address specific regional or statewide topic areas of concern. For more information, visit www.ConnectVeterans.org/survey or email survey@arizonacoalition.org.