



National Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment

ATTC

Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

A Look at Military Populations



Goals for the session:

- Briefly summarize basic military cultural competence;
- Explore and identify nuanced alcohol and drug trends within military populations; and
- Address access to and disparities in services.



Defining to whom you are providing services:

Traditional Basic Eligibility: “must have served 24 continuous months or the full period for which they were called to active duty in order to be eligible”.

For the purpose of this session:

“A veteran is defined as any person who has prior service in the United States Armed Forces. A service member is defined as any person currently serving in the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, or Coast Guard, on active duty, reserve status, or in the National Guard.”



Basic Military/Veteran Competency

- Distinctions between branches
- Standards of Performance
- Dependents
- Unique Sub Populations
- Gaps between Civilian and Military Population



Know the differences between the branches!

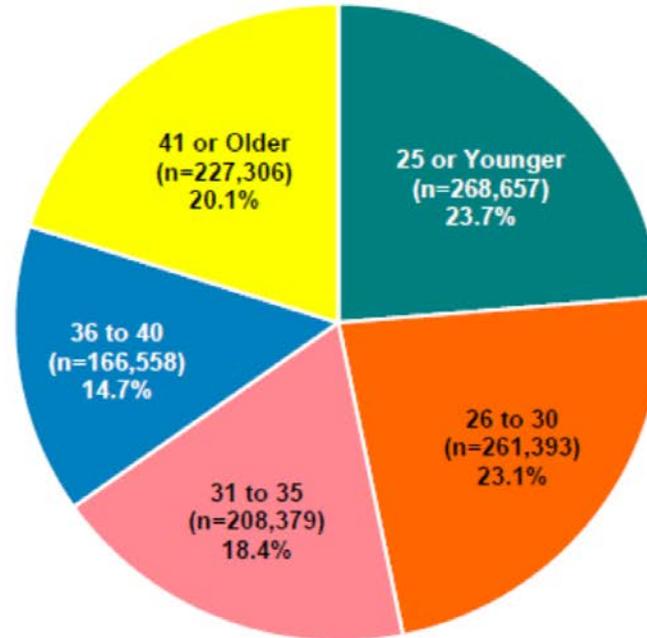




TOTAL FORCE FAMILIES (CONT.)

4.05. Age of Military Spouses (N=1,132,293)

This pie graph depicts the distribution of Active Duty and Selected Reserve spouses by age group. Across the DoD, there are 1,132,293 military spouses. Nearly half (46.8%) of spouses are 30 years of age or younger, while 20.1 percent of spouses are 41 years of age or older.





Unique Sub-Populations



Race and Ethnicity, Women, LGBTQ+



Bridging the Mil-Civ Gap





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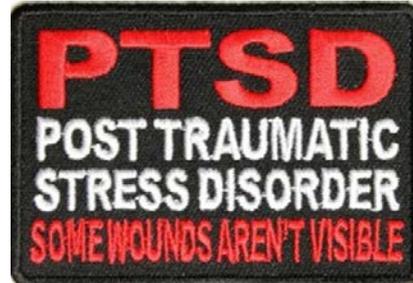
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Substance Use/Abuse Trends



WAR 
IS
TRAUMA.



Women in military populations are more than twice as likely to develop PTSD than male counterparts (10% for women and 4% for men).

Among women veterans of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, almost 20% have been diagnosed with PTSD. We also know that 27% of women Vietnam Veterans suffered from PTSD sometime during their postwar lives. Of men who served in Vietnam, the lifetime rate of PTSD was 31%.



Substance Abuse

In 2014, Department of Defense reports a 11.7% rate of prescription drug misuse among the branches, compared to a civilian rate of 4.4% *

Since 2004, alcohol use has increased 33% and prescription drug abuse has quadrupled

Self-reported rates of use:

- 19% of service members report heavy alcohol use
- 12% of service members report illicit drug use



Alcohol Use Among Veterans

The NHSDA (National Household Survey on Drug Abuse), reported the following alcohol use among the nearly 30 million veterans aged 18 and older living in the United States:

- ALCOHOL USE: Female Veterans 41% vs. Males Veterans 56%
- BINGE DRINKING: Female Veterans 14% vs. Male Veterans 23%
- HEAVY DRINKING: Female Veterans 2% vs. Male Veterans 7%



Prescription Drugs

- The percentage of both men and women reporting prescription drug misuse in all military services combined (11.5 percent) was more than twice that of the civilian population in the age group 18-64 (4.4 percent).
- Prescription drug abuse among women on active duty (13.1 percent) was more than four times the rate for civilian women (3.2 percent)
- Women in the military were shown to have a higher rate of past-month use compared to males.



From 2009-2011, 378,000 individuals discharged from the military, and one in every twelve had active prescriptions



1 in 10 VETERANS

(under age 65)



**DON'T HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE &
DON'T USE VETERANS AFFAIRS CARE.**

which means

**1.3 MILLION
VETERANS**

(under age 65)



**948,000 ADULTS
& CHILDREN**

(in veterans' families)

ARE UNINSURED



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Questions?