# Call Center Product Guide: Your VA disability ratings page

## What is it?

The "**Your VA disability ratings** page is where Veterans can view their combined disability rating and the individual disability ratings in their record. On this page, there are links to other information and tools that can help the Veteran understand their rating(s), and decide what to do if they have a problem or question. Information and tool links include:

- Breadcrumb links will take the Veteran a content page (Disability benefits), and a landing page (View your disability rating) with more information on disabilities and disability claims.
- A link to Check your claims and appeals
- Compensation 101: How did I get this rating? video on YouTube; this explains how disability claims are determined, and how ratings are calculated. C
- The VA phone number: 800-827-1000 D

Screenshot next page

VA Benefits and Health Care 🕶

About VA ✓

Find a VA Location

Home > Disability benefits > View your VA disability rating > Your VA disability rating



# Your VA disability rating

Your combined VA disability rating is 80%. This rating doesn't include any disabilities for your claims that are still pending. You can check the status of your disability claims or appeals with the Claim Status tool.

Check your claims or appeals

Your combined VA disability rating

80%

30%

40%

#### How did I get this rating?

Your total disability rating is based on evidence you provide, the results of your VA claim exam, and information from other sources.

Compensation 101: How did I get this rating? (YouTube)



#### Individual disabilities

#### Traumatic brain injury leading to cognitive dysphoria

**8** Service-connected | Related to: Disability Evaluation System (DES)

Effective date: 06/06/2012

#### Injury to lower back with osteoarthritis and degenerative sciatica

Not service-connected | Related to: Disability Evaluation System (DES)

#### Left knee injury, osteoporosis in patellofemoral joint

Not service-connected | Related to: Disability Evaluation System (DES)

#### Right shoulder injury, impingement and rotator cuff tendonitits

**8** Service-connected

Effective date: 11/23/2012

#### What if I don't see the disability rating I was expecting?

If you filed a new disability claim to add a condition, or if you appealed a disability decision in the past 3 months, we might still be processing your request.

#### What if I have questions?

You can call us at 800-827-1000. We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET.



The **Your VA disability ratings** screen will show disability ratings that are known to the VA. If a Veteran does not have a disability rating, an informational alert box will appear:



<u>Home</u> > <u>Disability benefits</u> > <u>View your VA disability rating</u> > **Your VA disability rating** 

# Your VA disability rating

1 We don't have a disability rating on file for you

We're sorry. We can't find a disability rating for you. If you have a disability that was caused by or got worse because of your service, you can file a claim for disability benefits.

Learn how to file a claim for disability compensation

If there is an error getting the Veteran's disability rating, an error alert will appear. It is possible that either the total combined VA disability rating, or the individual disabilities, or both, could show error alerts.



Target launch date is end of November 2019, early December 2020.

# **User Access**

# Who can access this?

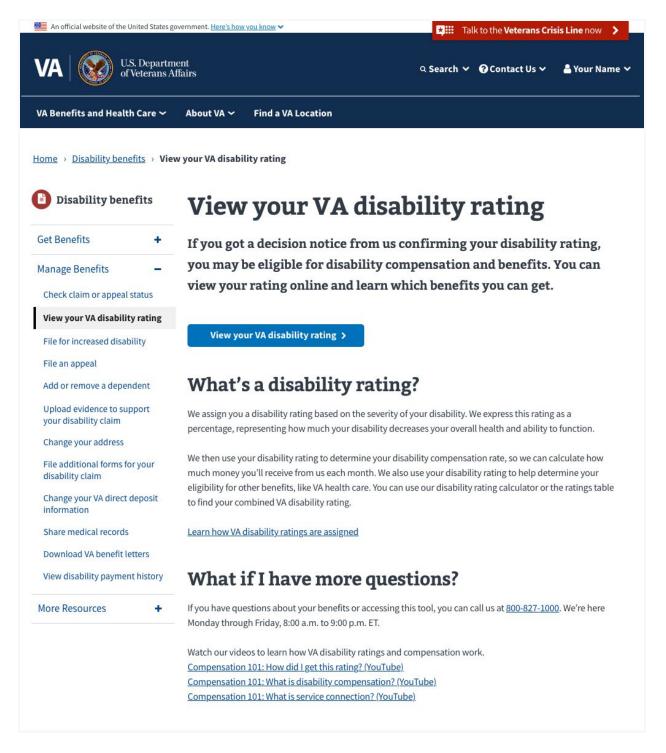
Like all sensitive pages on VA.gov, this page is available to users in MVI who have an identity proofed account (**eBenefits** Premium).

# How can users access this?

The **Your VA disability rating** page is accessible for testing within the **VA.gov** staging environment here: https://staging.va.gov/disability/view-disability-rating/rating. The page can be viewed using any modern browser.

# **Navigation**

If a Veteran searches or browses **VA.gov**, several links will connect to the **View your VA disability rating** landing page here: https://va.gov/disability/view-disability-rating. If the Veteran is already logged-in, they can proceed to the **Your VA disability ratings** page by clicking the blue **View your VA disability rating** > button.



Veterans who are not logged-in will see the same page, but with the green **Sign in or create an account** button. The **View your VA disability ratings** landing page has information about some basic access questions. It also has a link to **Learn how VA disability ratings are assigned**, which can help explain the VA disability rating calculation. The usual navigation links are in the left sidebar.

VA Benefits and Health Care >

About VA ~

**Find a VA Location** 

<u>Home</u> > <u>Disability benefits</u> > **View your VA disability rating** 



Check claim or appeal status

View your VA disability rating

File for increased disability

File an appeal

Manage Benefits

Add or remove a dependent

Upload evidence to support your disability claim

Change your address

File additional forms for your disability claim

Change your VA direct deposit information

Share medical records

Download VA benefit letters

View disability payment history

More Resources +

# View your VA disability rating

If you got a decision notice from us confirming your disability rating, you may be eligible for disability compensation and benefits. You can view your rating online and learn which benefits you can get.

Please sign in to view your VA disability rating

Try signing in with your **DS Logon, My HealtheVet,** or **ID.me** account. If you don't have any of those accounts, you can create one.

Sign in or create an account

# Am I eligible to use this tool?

You're eligible to use this tool if you got a decision notice from us confirming your disability rating.

# What's a disability rating?

We assign you a disability rating based on the severity of your disability. We express this rating as a percentage, representing how much your disability decreases your overall health and ability to function.

We then use your disability rating to determine your disability compensation rate, so we can calculate how much money you'll receive from us each month. We also use your disability rating to help determine your eligibility for other benefits, like VA health care. You can use our disability rating calculator or the ratings table to find your combined VA disability rating.

Learn how VA disability ratings are assigned

# What if I have more questions?

If you have questions about your benefits or accessing this tool, you can call us at 800-827-1000. We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET.

Watch our videos to learn how VA disability ratings and compensation work.

Compensation 101: How did I get this rating? (YouTube)

Compensation 101: What is disability compensation? (YouTube)

Compensation 101: What is service connection? (YouTube)

After authentication, the Veteran is brought to the **Your VA disability rating** page.

# **FAQs**

## Where can I learn more about disability ratings?

A link for more general information can be found here: https://www.va.gov/disability/about-disability-ratings/

#### What if I disagree with the information shown?

The link to the ratings calculator can be found here:

https://www.va.gov/disability/about-disability-ratings/ The link to the Claim Status Tool can be found here: https://www.va.gov/claim-or-appeal-status/

### Who can I call if I need help?

Help is available by calling the VA at **1-800-827-1000**. Ensure this is the number they were trying to reach.

### I have a disability that is pending; where can I go to get more information?

The Claim Status Tool is the best way to see the status of pending claims. The link for that is: https://www.va.gov/claim-or-appeal-status/

#### Can I log in on behalf of a Veteran to see his or her information?

VA.gov does not currently support this functionality, but many Veteran representatives maintain accounts with the Stakeholder Enterprise Portal (SEP, www.sep.va.gov) and can find the information that way.

#### What does "service-connected" mean?

"Service-connected" is a disability that occurred while the Veteran was in service. Not service-connected issues or injuries are important but may not contribute to the overall rating as they did not occur while the Veteran was in service.

# I don't see a number next to my individual rating. Where is it? What does that mean?

This may mean that there is no rating because the disability was considered not service-connected. Not service-connected disabilities will show 0% or nothing, but a service-connected issue or injury can show from 0% to 100%. In some cases the source database (CorpDB) may contain incorrect information about a disability, or it may be in

the process of being updated due to a recent decision. In that case, the Veteran should wait for some time before refreshing the page.

# **Functionality**

The **Your VA disability ratings** page simply shows the total combined VA disability rating and the individual disabilities that contribute to the total percentage. Individual disabilities can be service-connected (and therefore a part of that calculation), or not service-connected (and are not used for the total calculation).

The Veteran also has the option of browsing to **Check your claims or appeals** to learn more about the status of individual claims (e.g., active, inactive or pending).

# **Error Handling and Notifications**

The combined VA disability rating and the individual ratings are separate components. A loading spinner will appear when the page is loading the Veteran's disability information.

In the event that the page does not see the data, a blue messaging window appears.

In the event that the page cannot load, the page (or part of a page) due to a system issues, a red messaging window appears.

Also included is workflow that shows how the Veteran can get in and out of the Rated Disabilities tool.

# **Other Error Handling Notes**

- vets-api error mapping:
   https://github.com/department-of-veterans-affairs/vets-api/blob/master/config/locales/exceptions.en.yml This is a comprehensive list of all expected exceptions within vets-api, not specific to rated disabilities.
- Errors related to the disability compensation form (526) can be found here:
   https://github.com/department-of-veterans-affairs/vets-api/blob/master/lib/evss/disability\_compensation\_form/service\_exception.rb These get mapped to the exceptions.enyml file referenced above. The exceptions are handled in a linear/sequential fashion, meaning the first exception in the list that is encountered is the one that will be returned.