

Utah Homeless Veterans 2017

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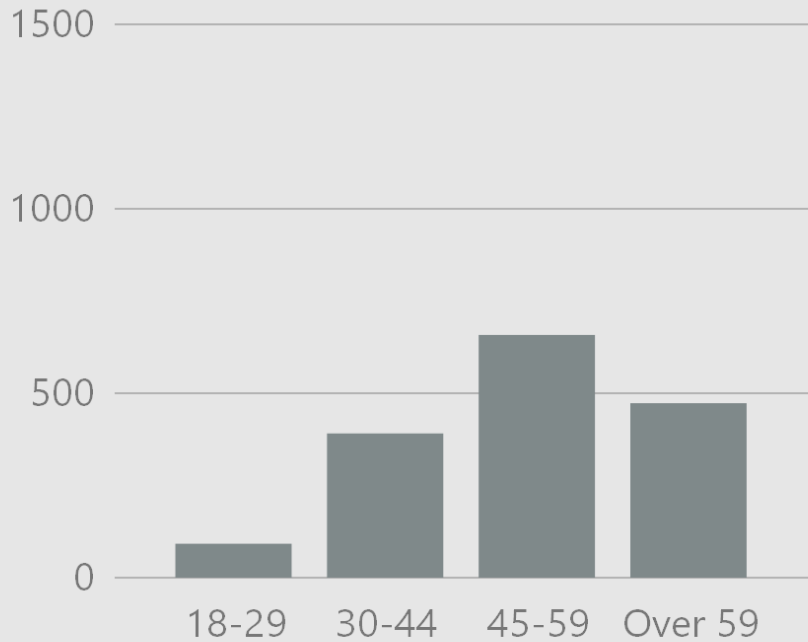
on any given night in 2017...

240

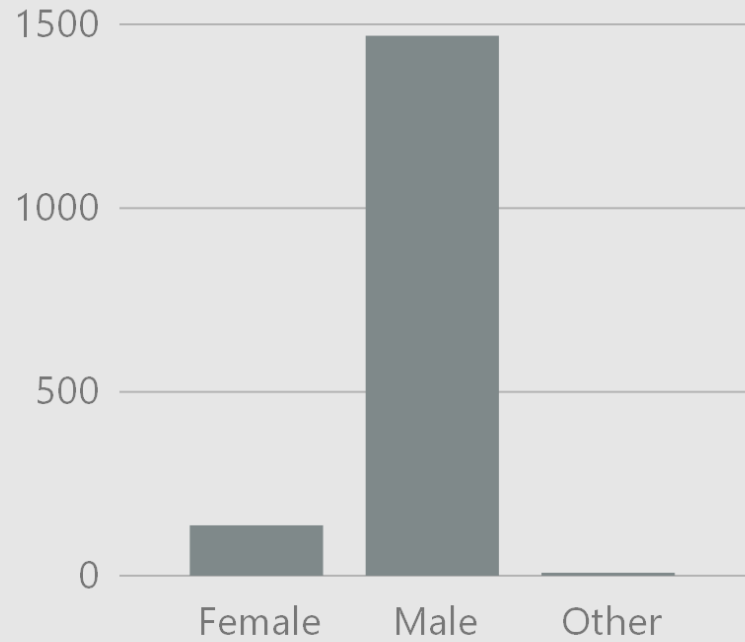
veterans were homeless
in Utah

homeless veteran demographics in Utah during 2017

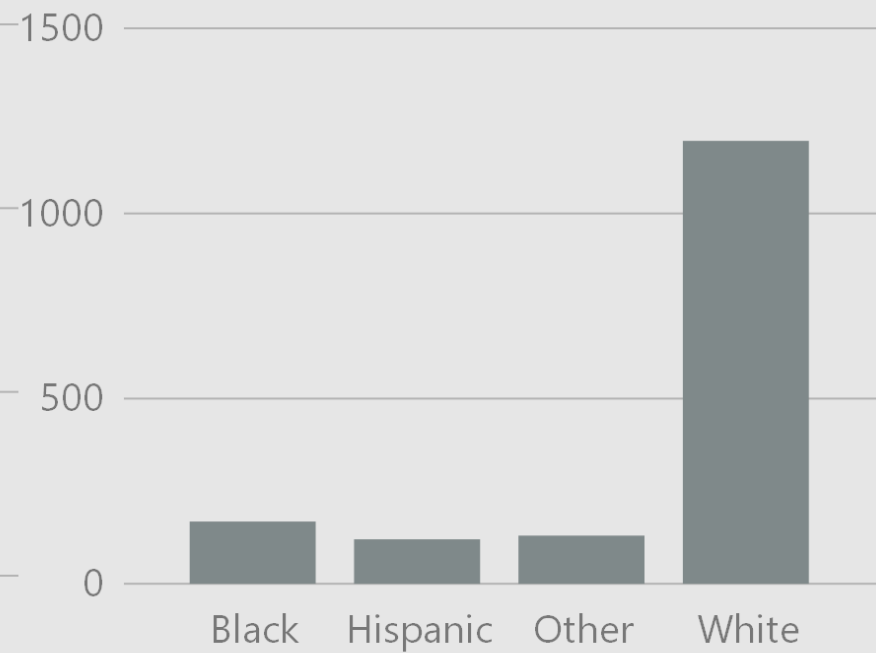
By Age Range



By Gender



By Race/Ethnicity

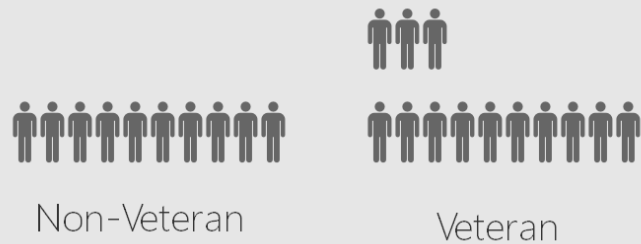


reasons for homelessness among veterans

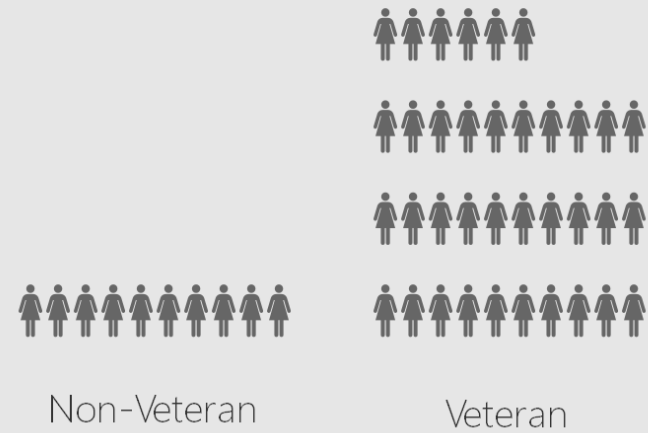
- poverty -
- underemployment -
- lack of access to affordable housing -
- isolation from family or friends -
- mental health issues -
- substance use -

likelihood of homelessness for veterans and non-veterans

male veterans
1.3 times more likely

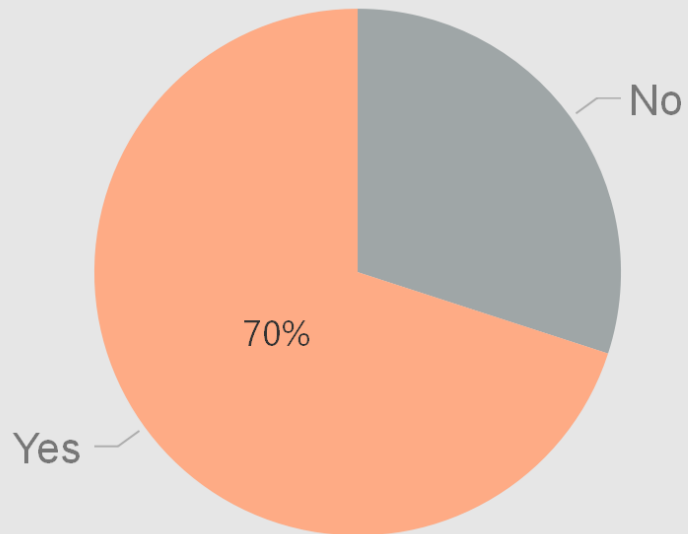


female veterans
3.6 times more likely

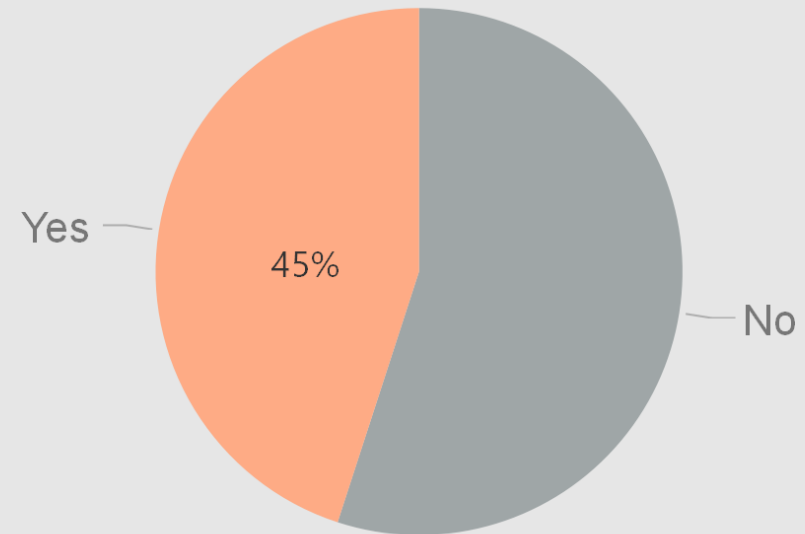


mental illness and substance use for veterans and non-veterans

Substance Use for Homeless Vets



Mental Illness for Homeless Vets



Veterans have medical coverage from the VA, right?

In general, **yes** but...

homeless veterans in Utah during 2017

medical coverage and disability



disabled homeless veterans
with no medical coverage

66

Veteran status

Discharge must be other than dishonorable.

Disabled status

Disability must be incurred or aggravated
in the line of duty.

VA medical benefit eligibility

Requires 24 continuous months of service, or
serving the full period of call to active duty, or
hardship discharge, or "early out."

Roughly 1 in 4
homeless veterans are discharged
for misconduct due to
alcoholism or drug use.

Discharge for misconduct
prior to 24 months or full period of service
leaves the veteran ineligible for
VA medical benefits.

possible explanations for number of homeless veterans and disabled veterans lacking medical coverage

- disability incurred after military service -
- ineligibility for VA medical benefits due to early discharge resulting from misconduct -
 - inaccuracy in the data due to self-reporting by homeless individuals -
 - inaccuracy in the data due to munging by UDRC staff -

conclusion

- 1304 veterans with no medical coverage seems high -
- roughly 400 can be explained by discharge due to misconduct -

Sources

UDRC provided dataset containing homeless case management data for Utah during 2017.

"Comprehensive Report on Homelessness: State of Utah 2017," Workforce Services, Housing & Community Development, <https://jobs.utah.gov/housing/scso/documents/homelessness2017.pdf>

"The Mental Health Needs of Veterans, Service Members and Their Families," American Psychological Association, <http://www.apa.org/advocacy/military-veterans/mental-health-needs.pdf>

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U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, <https://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/apply/veterans.asp>

"Study Shows 25% of Homeless Vets Were Discharged From Military For Substance Abuse," The Fix, 10/19/15, <https://www.thefix.com/study-shows-25-homeless-vets-were-discharged-military-substance-abuse>

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, Office of Research and Development, <https://www.research.va.gov/topics/homelessness.cfm>

Military Misconduct and Homelessness Among US Veterans Separated From Active Duty, 2001-2012. JAMA. 2015 Aug 25;314(8):832-4. Gundlapalli AV, Fargo JD, Metraux S, Carter ME, Samore MH, Kane V, Culhane DP. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26305655>