

**Veterans Benefits Administration  
Compensation and Pension Benefit Activity Among  
Veterans Deployed to the Global War on Terrorism**

This report reflects summary counts of the Compensation and Pension benefit activity among veterans who were deployed overseas in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT.) This report only identifies deployed GWOT veterans who have also filed a VA disability claim. Because many GWOT veterans had earlier periods of service, the claims identified in this report could have been filed and processed either prior to or subsequent to their GWOT deployment. VBA's computer systems do not contain any data that would allow us to attribute veterans' disabilities to a specific period of service or deployment. We are therefore not able to identify which of these veterans filed a claim for disabilities incurred during their actual overseas GWOT deployment.

### **Report Limitations**

1. **Preliminary Data:** VA used a DMDC list of 566,901 deployed GWOT veterans. This represents 42% of the cumulative deployed GWOT service member population of 1,324,419 through May 2006.
2. **Deployment Definition:** VA currently has no official definitions for GWOT, the military name for the current wars in and around Afghanistan and Iraq. VA relied entirely upon DMDC to report GWOT deployment
3. **Prior Claims:** Some of the veterans identified in this report had prior active military service. Therefore, some of these claims were for disabilities incurred during earlier periods of service and were received and processed prior to the veterans' GWOT deployment.
4. **Pending Claims:** This category counts some veterans who may have an existing grant or denial. In addition, pending issues were sorted into five categories. Some veterans have more than one type of pending issue, so the five subcategories do not equal the number of Claims Pending.
5. **VBA Systems:** This report gathered information from the Benefits Delivery Network (BDN) and the VBA Corporate environment. Rating data from RBA2000 stored in the Corporate Database with a rating date after May 2003 was used with the understanding that it may not represent the latest data and may contain inaccurate information. The application does not prevent the user from changing a rating after it is stored, so the stored data may be neither accurate nor current. The data extracted does not include work marked as "locked." These locked (not final) rating decisions could potentially change the results above based on the decisions made.
6. **Current Count:** This report is a current count from the data sources listed. This report does not contain cumulative counts of C&P benefit use.

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**Chart #1**  
**Compensation and Pension Benefit Activity Among Deployed GWOT Veterans**

Category	Reserves	Active Duty	Total
Deployed Service Members	371,974	952,445	1,324,419
Deployed Veterans	318,896	248,005	566,901
Claims Filed	62,135	90,534	152,669
Claims Processed	44,169	74,095	118,264
Claims Granted	36,338	68,481	104,819
Claims Denied	7,831	5,614	13,445
Claims Pending	17,966	16,439	34,405

**Chart #2**  
**Claims Granted Among Deployed GWOT Veterans**  
**Sorted by Combined Degree of Disability**

Combined Degree	Reserves	Active Duty	Total
0%	8,776	9,204	17,980
10%	10,370	14,406	24,776
20%	5,275	10,621	15,896
30%	3,721	10,206	13,927
40%	3,027	8,523	11,550
50%	1,488	4,739	6,227
60%	1,469	4,637	6,106
70%	878	2,743	3,621
80%	615	1,679	2,294
90%	239	683	922
100%	480	1,040	1,520
<b>Total</b>	<b>36,338</b>	<b>68,481</b>	<b>104,819</b>

**Sources**

PA&I used data from the Department of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) to prepare this report.

**DoD:**

- Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) East, cumulative count of service members deployed to OEF/OIF, from September 11, 2001 through May 2006
- DMDC West, extract of OEF/OIF service members discharged to civilian status from September 2001 through May 2006, provided to the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) in June 2006

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**VBA:**

- Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS), as of the end of the month May 2006
- Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR), active records ("A" type) as of the end of the month June 2006
- CPMR, terminated records ("E" type) as of the end of the month March 2006
- Pending Issue File (PIF), as of the close of business on June 26, 2006
- Rating Board Automation 2000 records, as of close of business June 23, 2006

**Definitions**

- **Claims Denied:** None of these veterans' conditions meet eligibility requirements for service connection under VA statutes and regulations. Denied claims are identified as "nonservice-connected," or "NSC." This category includes veterans receiving nonservice-connected disability pension.
- **Claims Filed:** The sum of Claims Granted, Claims Denied, and Claims Pending.
- **Claims Granted:** At least one of these veterans' conditions meets eligibility requirements for service connection under VA statutes and regulations. These grants are identified as "service-connected," or "SC." Veterans frequently file a claim for more than one condition. For veterans who filed a claim for more than one condition, this category contains veterans with a full grant of all conditions as well as veterans with a combination of disabilities granted and denied. Disabilities are evaluated according to VA regulations, and the extent of the disability is expressed as a percentage from zero percent to 100 percent, in increments of 10 percent. "Claims Granted" includes all service-connected disabilities, from zero percent to 100 percent, regardless of whether the veteran receives monetary compensation.
- **Claims Pending:** VA is reviewing these veterans' claims for compensation or pension benefits. This category includes appealed and reopened claims. This also includes diary issues, issues pending authorization, and issues pending acceptance.
- **Claims Processed:** The total of Claims Granted and Claims Denied. Claims Processed does not include Claims Pending.
- **Deployed Service Members:** Individuals with active duty military service from September 11, 2001, to May 31, 2006, who were deployed overseas in support of the GWOT. "Deployed Service Members" includes Activated Reserve Forces (i.e., Reserve and National Guard).

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- **Deployed Veterans:** This is a subset of the "Deployed Service Member" population. This category identifies individuals with active duty service, discharged since September 11, 2001, and identified by DMDC as deployed in support of GWOT. No subtraction was made for deaths.