



VETERAN WELL-BEING AND PROGRAM USE DURING EARLY REINTEGRATION (< 90 DAYS FROM SEPARATION)

Preliminary Results from The Veterans Metrics Initiative, October 2016

Issue 1

- 65% of the 387 study participants reported that they were employed.
- For those employed, 78% reported being satisfied with their current work.
- 54% used employment programs.



EMPLOYMENT

- Most study participants used job banks (51%), followed by programs teaching resume writing and military skills translation, career fairs, job placement, career counseling and mentoring, and last, training and certification programs.

- 25% of study participants reported that they were in school or pursuing technical or vocational training.
- Among these veterans, 73% reported that their educational experiences are advancing their career goals.



EDUCATION

- 53% of study participants used education benefits like the GI Bill.
- 30% used programs in this domain, mostly programs that transferred military experiences to academic credit (72%), and few used scholarship and academic social support programs.

- 91% of participants reported that they had stable housing, and 42% said that they owned their own home.
- 71% of study participants reported that they were satisfied with their ability to pay for necessities.



FINANCES

- 37% of study participants used the VA home loan program to help buy a house.
- 27% of all respondents used legal, financial, and housing programs, with 81% of them using financial planning programs.

- 59% reported a chronic physical condition, illness, or disability and 40% reported an ongoing mental health concern.
- Common issues included chronic pain (46%), sleep problems (38%), anxiety (27%), depression (24%), and posttraumatic stress disorder (20%).



HEALTH

- In the past 3 months, 82% of study participants used a hospital or clinic (30% used VA clinics), and 17% used mental health counseling.
- 9% used programs to increase access to care, to treat TBI and PTSD, and to manage their weight and increase physical activity.

- The majority (80%) are in an intimate relationship and 60% are parents.
- 66% reported involvement in community activities and 59% were satisfied with their sense of belonging in their community.



RELATIONSHIPS

- 11% of study participants used programs to improve social relationships with others, including with other veterans, others with disabilities, their families, and their communities.