



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of the General Counsel
Washington DC 20420

APR - 4 2011

In Reply Refer To **024F**
Case No. 22690

Mr. Michael Wishnie
Supervising Attorney
Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization
P.O. Box 209090
New Haven, CT 06520

Dear Mr. Wishnie:

This letter is the final agency administrative decision by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in response to your appeal under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552. In your FOIA appeal letter, dated February 15, 2011, you disputed a partial "no records" response by the Veterans Benefits Administration ("VBA") to your initial FOIA request. The substance of your initial FOIA request concerned data with regard to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Your initial FOIA request sought various statistical information with regard to PTSD claims based on military sexual trauma (MST). After carefully considering your appeal, we have determined that your appeal should be granted in part and denied in part.

Before we address the substance of your appeal, we will begin by briefly explaining VBA's record keeping procedure. VBA maintains an electronic "corporate database", accessed and maintained through the suite of applications known as the Veterans Service Network ("VETSNET"), wherein it tracks certain information regarding benefit claims. In addition, VBA maintains a physical case file for each benefit claimant. VBA's physical case files are located in VBA's various VA facilities throughout the country.

Turning now to your appeal, we will first address the portions that we are denying. Regarding your requests for fact-specific information (Request Nos. 6-9 and 13-15), your requests for an itemization of each type of "non-MST-related PTSD" appeal filed, approved and/or rejected (Request No. 17), and your request for a race-based breakdown of data (Request No. 18), VETSNET does not contain any fact- or race-specific data entry fields and, except as noted below, also does not itemize different types of PTSD claims. Further, regarding your requests related to MST occurring outside the context of a PTSD claim (Request Nos. 11, 12 and 16), VBA only collects data within VETSNET for "Sexual Assault/Harassment" claimed in connection with a PTSD claim. Although additional tracking capability was added to VETSNET for claims processed beginning in fiscal year 2011, VETSNET did not track claimants who claim "Sexual Assault/Harassment" outside the context of a PTSD claim during the timeframe encompassed by your FOIA request. Thus, VBA

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does not maintain data from which it could generate statistics that would respond to your requests insofar as they seek statistical information related to specific case facts, types of PTSD, "non-PTSD, MST related conditions", or race. As noted above, VBA does maintain physical files. Thus, in order for VBA to determine statistical information specific to race, type of PTSD, "non-PTSD MST related condition", or fact pattern, its representatives would have to physically search through each of the hundreds of thousands of claimant files that VBA maintains at VA installations throughout the United States. Each such file is potentially voluminous, in that each contains, by way of example, relevant portions of each claimant's medical records, together with benefit records, for a number of years. Thus, VBA would likely have to search through millions of pages of information to attempt to respond to the aforementioned requests. Such action would necessarily be overly burdensome and unnecessary therefore. See Sephton v. FBI, 365 F. Supp. 2d 91, 101 (D. Mass. 2005) (explaining that FOIA does not require review of "every single file that might conceivably contain responsive information"); Garcia v. DOJ, 181 F. Supp. 2d 356, 368 (S.D.N.Y. 2002) ("The agency is not expected to take extraordinary measures to find the requested records."); Schrecker v. DOJ, 217 F. Supp. 2d 29, 35 (D.D.C. 2002) (finding "that to require an agency to hand search through millions of documents is not reasonable and therefore not necessary"); Blackman v. DOJ, No. 00-3004, slip op. at 5 (D.D.C. July 5, 2001) (declaring request that would require a manual search through 37 million pages to be "unreasonable in light of the resources needed" to process it); O'Harvey v. Office of Workers' Comp. Programs, No. 95-0187, slip op. at 3 (E.D. Wash. Dec. 29, 1997) (finding request to be unreasonably burdensome because search would require agency "to review all of the case files maintained by the agency" and "would entail review of millions of pages of hard copies"), aff'd sum nom. O'Harvey v. Comp. Programs Workers, 188 F.3d 514 (9th Cir. 1999) (unpublished table decision).

A search through VBA files for responsive information is also not required by FOIA because it would compel VBA to "become an ad hoc investigator[] for requesters whose requests are not compatible with [VBA's] own information retrieval systems." See Blakey v. DOJ, 549 F. Supp. 362, 366-67 (D.D.C. 1982), aff'd, 720 F.2d 215 (D.C. Cir. 1983) (unpublished table decision); see also Frank v. DOJ, 941 F. Supp. 4, 5 (D.D.C. 1996) (stating that agency is not required to "dig out all the information that might exist, in whatever form or place it might be found, and to create a document that answers plaintiff's questions"); Trenerry v. Dep't of the Treasury, No. 92-5053, 1993 WL 26813, at *3 (10th Cir. Feb. 5, 1993) (holding that agency not required to provide personal services such as legal research); Satterlee v. IRS, No. 05-3181, 2006 WL 3160963, at *3 (W.D. Mo. Oct. 30, 2006) (finding that request was improper where it would require agency to "conduct legal research" and answer questions "disguised as . . . FOIA request"). Thus, we uphold VBA's decision to deny your request insofar as it seeks fact-specific, race-specific, and/or itemized non-MST related PTSD information.

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We now turn to the portions of your appeal that are granted in part. There is no data entry field in VETSNET for "military sexual trauma." As noted above, however, beginning in FY2008, VBA did add functionality within VETSNET to allow decision-makers to record "Sexual Assault/Harassment" as a sub-type of PTSD that could be tracked. Prior to February, 2008, however, VBA did not collect information regarding "Sexual Assault/Harassment" as a classification of PTSD decisions. Thus, VETSNET contains no data prior to February 2008 for "Sexual Assault/Harassment" related PTSD. Further, both the "PTSD" and "Sexual Assault/Harassment" classifications are voluntarily chosen by the decision-maker from a menu selection. Thus, VETSNET may not reflect the total number of decisions made involving PTSD based on "Sexual Assault/Harassment." Additionally, "Sexual Assault/Harassment" may not correspond completely with your definition of "military sexual trauma." As noted above with regard to obtaining fact-specific data, in order for VBA to obtain "Sexual Assault/Harassment" data as it pertains to PTSD for any period prior to February 2008, or to obtain more complete information regarding the same after February 2008, VBA would have to search through each of its physical files. Again, such a request would be unreasonable and unduly burdensome.

We are, however, to the extent of our capability, releasing responsive statistical data regarding "Sexual Assault/Harassment" as a classification of PTSD determinations from February 2008 to FY2010. The document marked "Exhibit A" responds, to the best VBA's ability based on the caveat noted above, to your Request Nos. 4, 5 and 10. Additionally, we are producing the document marked "Exhibit B" in an attempt to respond fully to Request Nos. 1-3, which seeks information on claims filed, approved and rejected for each of FY2006-2010, together with disability distributions for those periods, for all types of PTSD cases. Unfortunately, VBA does not believe it has captured all the data. Please note that VETSNET is a suite of applications working within a complex database system. Generating the data reflected on Exhibit B required creating data matching protocols to unify various components of information located throughout the database. VBA devoted roughly ninety hours of employee programming time in order to generate Exhibits A and B. With additional data matching protocols and given an additional two weeks, VBA can derive a more accurate Exhibit B covering FY2006 – 2010.

Lastly, in an effort to cooperate as fully as possible, we are producing a set of documents marked as "Exhibit C," which consist of reports generated in the course of business over the last five years that pertain to PTSD. While the reports we have generated in the course of business are not fully responsive to your FOIA requests, we are producing them as Exhibit C in the hope that you will find that these reports aid your underlying purpose.

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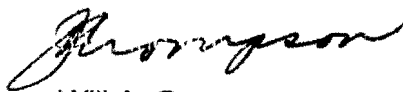
The FOIA requires us to advise you that if you believe the VA erred in this decision, you have the right to file a complaint in an appropriate United States District Court. We regret that we could not be more helpful.

As part of the 2007 FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
Room 2510
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: 301-837-1996
Facsimile: 301-837-0348
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Sincerely yours,


for Will A. Gunn
General Counsel

Enclosures

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services

**Counts of Veterans Receiving Compensation, With and Without
Future Exam Diaries**
Data Request 06-048

Introduction

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request received from the VBA Compensation and Pension Service (C&P Service) on December 2, 2005.

C&P Service Request

C&P Service requested counts of veterans currently receiving compensation with and without future exam diaries. They requested the following counts:

- Total number of veterans who are receiving compensation (total count, no breakdowns).
- Total number of veterans who are receiving compensation and are scheduled for a future exam (total count, no breakdowns).
- Total number of veterans who receiving compensation with at least one SC disability rated at 100% (total count, no breakdowns).
- Total number of veterans who are receiving compensation with at least one SC disability rated at 100% and are scheduled for a future exam (total count, no breakdowns).
- Total number of veterans who are service connected for PTSD (total count, with breakdowns by percentage assigned to PTSD).
- Total number of veterans who are service connected for PTSD and are scheduled for a future exam (total count, with breakdowns by percentage assigned to PTSD).

D&IS Response

D&IS identified **2,649,720** veterans receiving compensation in the current Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR). Of those, **52,222** have a future exam diary. Please note that the future exam diary in the CPMR is not associated with any particular disability. The following chart provides the requested counts.

Exhibit C

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services

	All Veterans Receiving Compensation	Veterans Receiving Compensation and have Future Exam Diary
Total	2,649,720	52,222

	All Veterans Receiving Compensation with at least one SC Disability Rated at 100%	Veterans Receiving Compensation with at least one SC Disability Rated at 100% and have Future Exam Diary
Total	209,686	12,575

Evaluation of PTSD	All Veterans Receiving Compensation with SC PTSD	Veterans Receiving Compensation with SC PTSD and have Future Exam Diary
0%	1,171	18
10%	16,862	271
20%	27	4
30%	57,938	2,267
40%	20	3
50%	56,766	3,240
60%	8	1
70%	61,389	3,712
80%	1	0
90%	54,097	0
100%	0	2,948
Total	248,279	12,464

Source

D&IS used the end of month November 2005 CPMR file to prepare this response.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 273-6811.

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services

Count of OEF/OIF Veterans Receiving Compensation for PTSD
Data Request 06-151

Summary

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request from the VBA Seamless Transition Office (STO) received on June 21, 2006. An updated request was received on June 28, 2006.

STO Request

The STO requested a count of OEF/OIF (Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom) veterans receiving compensation for PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). These veterans must have a current award and have service connection for PTSD with an evaluation of 10% or higher. An updated request also specified a count where the veteran has service connection for PTSD with an evaluation of 50% or higher, with a breakdown by the veteran's gender.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified **5,058** OEF/OIF veterans receiving compensation for PTSD (the evaluation of PTSD was 10% or higher) as of December 2005. Of these, **2,053** had PTSD evaluated at 50% or higher. Of these, **212** veterans were female, **1,840** veterans were male, and the gender was blank for **1** veteran.

Sources

D&IS used the following sources to complete this request:

- The Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR) file from the end of November 2005.
- The BIRLS (Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator Subsystem) file from the end of month June 2006.
- DMDC West, extract of OEF/OIF service members discharged to civilian status from September 2001 through October 31, 2005, provided by DMDC to the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) in December 2005.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 273-6811.

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services

Count of OEF/OIF Veterans Receiving Compensation for PTSD
Data Request 06-187

Summary

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request from the VBA Seamless Transition Office (STO) received on September 12, 2006.

STO Request

The STO requested a count of OEF/OIF (Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom) veterans receiving compensation for PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder), with breakdowns by the evaluation of PTSD and gender. These veterans must have a current award and have service connection for PTSD with an evaluation of 10% or higher.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified **9,553** OEF/OIF veterans receiving compensation for PTSD (the evaluation of PTSD was 10% or higher) as of July 2006. The following table provides the requested breakdowns.

PTSD Evaluation	Female	Male	Unknown	Total
10	131	1,318	1	1,450
20		5		5
30	363	3,964	2	4,329
40	1	2		3
50	220	2,212		2,432
70	94	813	1	908
100	36	389	1	426
Total	845	8,703	5	9,553

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services

Sources

D&IS used the following sources to complete this request:

- The Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR) file from the end of July 2006.
- The BIRLS (Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator Subsystem) file from the end of month August 2006.
- DMDC West, extract of OEF/OIF service members discharged to civilian status from September 2001 through May 2006, provided by DMDC to the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and received on June 1, 2006.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 273-6811.

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services
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**Compensation and Pension Service PTSD Grant/Denial Percentage
Trend for FY 2004-2006**
Data Request 06-194

Introduction

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request received from the VBA Compensation and Pension Service (C&P Service) on September 27, 2006.

C&P Service Request

C&P Service requested trend data regarding the number of PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) claims granted versus PTSD claims denied for fiscal years 2004-2006. The data is to be obtained from RBA2000 where service connection for PTSD was at issue and the decision was either service connection granted or service connection denied.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified **193,118** rating decisions completed between October 1, 2003, and September 27, 2006, where service connection for PTSD was at issue and the decision was either service connection granted or service connection denied. The following table contains the requested summary counts and percentages.

	SC #	SC %	NSC #	NSC %	Total
FY 2004	24,939	43.14%	32,864	56.86%	57,803
FY 2005	28,054	41.80%	39,053	58.20%	67,107
FYTD 2006	28,144	41.26%	40,064	58.74%	68,208

Source

D&IS used all RBA2000 files from October 1, 2003, through September 27, 2006, to complete this response:

Limitations

Rating data from RBA 2000 stored in the Corporate Database with a rating date during Fiscal Years 2004-2006 was used with the understanding that it may not represent the

Veterans Benefits Administration
Data and Information Services
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06-194

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. D&IS did extract data from July 2006, but cannot place full confidence in its accuracy or reliability. 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.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 273-6811.

Counts of Veterans with SC PTSD and/or IU by Fiscal Year
 (data from end of month September CPMR for each Fiscal Year)

06-195

FY	Veterans with SC PTSD as any of 6 Diags, any percent	Veterans with SC PTSD as First Diag, any percent	Veterans with SC PTSD as Primary Diag based on PTSD Percent (may be tied as highest eval)	Veterans with 100% SC PTSD as any of 6 Diags	Veterans with 100% SC PTSD as First Diag	Veterans with IU and SC PTSD as any of 6 Diags	Veterans with IU and SC PTSD as First Diag	Veterans with IU and SC PTSD as Primary Diag based on PTSD Percent (may be tied as highest eval)
FY 00	133,745	109,598	119,940	31,636	30,541	26,246	20,404	22,103
FY 01	144,920	119,685	130,254	34,803	33,624	32,427	25,817	27,800
FY 02	165,898	137,113	148,356	39,095	37,820	41,424	33,469	35,913
FY 03	193,791	160,537	172,976	44,423	43,041	53,817	43,961	46,961
FY 04	217,855	181,000	194,462	49,312	47,877	65,141	53,702	57,243
FY 05	244,846	203,377	218,249	53,700	52,201	74,662	62,054	65,900
FY 06	269,331	223,099	239,759	56,459	54,953	79,071	65,984	69,985
FY 07	274,794	226,295	243,785	57,242	55,671	80,775	67,414	71,566

Veterans Receiving Compensation with SC PTSD as Any of the 6 Diagnostic Codes,
by PTSD Percentage and Period of Service

06-195

FY 00									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			181	6	41	145	573	162	1,088
10			2,980	178	841	829	11,472	1,454	17,752
20						3	3	7	13
30	1		5,917	165	1,861	1,358	22,944	2,226	34,472
40			1			3	1	4	9
50			4,168	60	1,403	1,042	19,114	1,389	27,168
60					1	1	2	2	6
70			2,013	11	789	814	17,158	838	21,603
80			1						1
100			1,883	17	1,042	891	27,414	588	31,635
Total	1		16,814	436	5,958	5,086	98,681	6,670	133,745

FY 01									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			152	6	40	147	560	184	1,088
10			2,815	165	803	819	10,808	1,494	16,892
20						3	3	6	12
30	1		6,210	160	1,962	1,430	23,169	2,410	35,342
40			1			4	1	4	10
50			4,613	68	1,606	1,171	20,844	1,686	29,886
60					1	1	2	2	6
70			2,436	16	970	1,000	21,370	1,090	26,881
80			1						1
100			1,865	20	1,141	1,049	30,024	703	34,802
Total	1		18,093	421	6,523	5,624	108,779	7,479	144,920

FY 02									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			159	6	41	143	609	187	1,144
10			2,713	141	821	808	10,457	1,574	16,514
20						3	7	6	16
30	1		6,990	168	2,308	1,590	25,874	2,801	39,732
40			1			4	4	4	13
50			5,550	68	1,944	1,377	24,268	1,936	35,143
60					1	1	2	2	6
70			3,054	22	1,258	1,266	27,211	1,424	34,235
80			1						1
100			2,213	29	1,308	1,236	33,409	899	39,094
Total	1		20,681	433	7,681	6,428	121,841	8,833	168,898

Veterans Receiving Compensation with SC PTSD as Any of the 6 Diagnostic Codes,
by PTSD Percentage and Period of Service

FY:03									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			157	3	41	154	625	192	1,172
10			2,667	127	810	809	10,631	1,705	16,839
20					1	6	7	8	22
30			7,713	206	2,706	1,755	30,069	3,398	45,847
40						3	9	4	16
50			6,427	72	2,331	1,598	29,221	2,497	42,146
60			2		1	2	1	1	7
70			3,730	28	1,634	1,601	34,606	1,922	43,519
80			1						1
100			2,493	33	1,469	1,461	37,755	1,211	44,422
Total			23,180	467	8,993	7,389	142,824	10,938	193,791

FY:04									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			142	2	39	140	609	207	1,139
10	1	1	2,479	114	804	817	10,291	1,842	16,349
20					1	4	9	10	24
30		1	8,002	216	2,946	1,888	33,163	4,210	50,426
40						3	8	8	19
50			6,978	71	2,672	1,760	33,717	3,158	48,354
60			1		1	2	2	1	7
70			4,238	36	1,951	1,939	41,594	2,466	52,224
80			1						1
100			2,746	32	1,802	1,706	41,607	1,619	49,312
Total	1	2	24,587	471	10,016	8,259	161,000	13,519	217,855

FY:05									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			129	2	47	138	618	234	1,168
10			2,372	93	823	802	10,241	2,431	16,762
20					1	6	8	12	27
30	1		8,128	224	3,199	2,039	36,874	6,390	56,855
40						2	6	11	19
50			7,308	83	2,979	1,943	38,768	4,889	55,770
60			1		1	2	2	2	8
70			4,440	33	2,180	2,241	48,198	3,436	60,536
80			1						1
100			2,899	32	1,704	1,914	45,000	2,151	53,700
Total	1		25,276	467	10,944	9,087	179,713	19,356	244,846

Veterans Receiving Compensation with SC PTSD as Any of the 6 Diagnostic Codes,
by PTSD Percentage and Period of Service

FY 06									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			131	1	52	141	609	336	1,270
10			2,235	77	804	820	10,356	3,561	17,853
20					1	7	5	12	25
30			8,090	216	3,380	2,136	40,644	10,313	64,778
40						3	7	16	26
50			7,209	83	3,129	2,143	43,033	6,987	62,584
60			1		1	2	1	2	7
70			4,379	36	2,295	2,446	52,689	4,473	68,328
80			1						1
100			2,853	25	1,760	2,096	47,037	2,688	56,459
Total			24,899	437	11,422	9,794	194,391	28,388	269,331

FY 07									
Percent	Mexican Border Period	WWI	WWII	Philippine Pesos	Korean Conflict	Peacetime Era	Vietnam Era	Gulf War	Total
0			124		46	135	584	363	1,262
10			1,995	67	771	749	9,675	3,850	17,107
20					1	4	4	14	23
30			7,419	201	3,308	2,119	40,692	12,668	66,387
40						2	8	14	24
50			6,698	78	3,107	2,172	43,765	8,567	64,387
60					1	2	3	5	11
70			4,009	47	2,233	2,499	54,200	6,361	68,349
80			1				1		2
90						1			1
100			2,645	28	1,712	2,180	47,451	3,225	57,241
Total			22,891	421	11,179	9,863	196,383	34,057	274,784

Veterans Benefits Administration

Data and Information Services
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Counts Of GWOT Population Rated for PTSD and/or TBI

Data Request 07-184

Introduction

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request received from the VBA Chief of Staff on July 31, 2007.

Chief of Staff Request

The Chief of Staff requested counts of GWOT veterans service connected and nonservice connected for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). The diagnostic codes identified were 9411 and 8045 respectively.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified **25,623** OIF/OEF veterans who are service connected and/or nonservice connected for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). Of those, there are **24,899** veterans that are currently on the rolls. The attached Excel spreadsheet, "**FINAL_Results_07-184_08232007.xls**" contains the requested counts broken down by Regional office and by the specified diagnostic code combinations.

Sources

D&IS used five data sources to prepare this response:

- The end of month June 2007 Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR) for active records.
- The end of the month June 2007 Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR) for terminated records.
- The end of month June 2007 Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator Subsystem (BIRLS) file.
- The April 2007 DMDC roster of OIF/OEF veterans.
- All VETSNET (corporate database) award files received as of August 20, 2007.

Veterans Benefits Administration

Data and Information Services
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07-184

Limitations

Deployment Definition: VA has no official definitions for GWOT (the Global War on Terror), the military name for the current wars in and around Afghanistan and Iraq (OEF and OIF). VA relied entirely upon DMDC to report GWOT deployment.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 461-9040.

Veterans Benefits Administration

Data and Information Services

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Counts of Veterans With a Current Award Who are Service Connected for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Request 09-062

Introduction

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request made by the VBA Insurance Service on November 24, 2008.

Insurance Service Request

The Insurance Service requested a count of all veterans with a current award and who are service connected for PTSD, broken down by the evaluation assigned to PTSD. They also requested the same counts for the subpopulation who are Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) veterans, and for veterans on the Seriously Injured/Very Seriously Injured (SI/VSJ) list.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified **337,564** veterans with a current award and who are service connected for PTSD. The following table provides the requested breakdown summary counts.

PTSD Evaluation	All Veterans	GWOT Veterans	SI/VSJ Veterans
0%	2,136	646	13
10%	23,472	5,705	95
20%	29	11	
30%	88,503	18,602	570
40%	26	5	
50%	81,221	11,590	897
60%	15	5	
70%	79,631	4,790	546
80%	3	1	1
90%	2	1	1
100%	62,526	2,260	543
Total	337,564	43,616	2,666

Veterans Benefits Administration

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09-062

Sources

D&IS used the following data sources to complete this request:

- The Compensation and Pension Master Record files from the end of November 2008.
- All VETSNET (corporate database) award files received as of November 25, 2008.
- All VETSNET (corporate database) demographic files received as of November 25, 2008 (for veteran self reported GWOT status and for SI/VS status).
- The DMDC list of GWOT veterans received in June 2008.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 461-9040.

Veterans Benefits Administration

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Veterans on the TSGLI Paid List With a Current Award Who are Service Connected for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Request 09-091

Introduction

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request made by the VBA Insurance Service on December 16, 2008.

Insurance Service Request

The Insurance Service provided an input file with 8,984 records of veterans on the TSGLI Paid file. Three of these were duplicates, so there were 8,981 unique records. They requested a match of this file to veterans with a current award and who are service connected for PTSD.

D&IS Response

After matching the 8,981 records to BIRLS, there were 8,986 records due to multiple claim numbers for 5 veterans. D&IS identified **2,304** veterans on the TSGLI Paid file with a current award and who are service connected for PTSD. The attached MS Excel file, **FINAL_Results_09-091_12252008.xls**, contains the original input file with a service connected PTSD indicator.

Sources

D&IS used the following data sources to complete this request:

- The Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator subsystem (BIRLS) file from the end of November 2008 (for the claim number).
- The Compensation and Pension Master Record files from the end of December 2008.
- All VETSNET (corporate database) RBA2000 and award files received as of December 24, 2008.
- The TSGLI Paid file received from the requestor.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 461-9040.

Veterans Benefits Administration

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Counts of Veterans Receiving Benefits and Who Are Service Connected for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Data Request 09-104

Summary

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request received from the Office of the Chief of Staff on January 7, 2009.

Office of the Chief of Staff Request

The Office of the Chief of Staff requested a count of veterans receiving benefits who are service connected (SC) for post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), broken down by the evaluation assigned to PTSD and POW status, the number of veterans service connected for PTSD at less than 100% who are receiving Individual Unemployability benefits, and the number of POWs receiving benefits by conflict/action/war. They also requested the grant approval rate for claims for service connection for PTSD in rating decisions completed during the last two calendar years.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified 343,825 veterans receiving benefits who are service connected for PTSD. The table below provides the requested counts by evaluation. D&IS identified 176,076 rating decision issues for service connection for PTSD completed during 2007 and 2008. There were 81,995 grants, for a 46.6% grant approval rate.

SC PTSD Evaluation	All Awards	With IU	POWs
0%	2,167	117	23
10%	23,801	1,581	516
20%	31	2	
30%	90,754	10,313	2,322
40%	27	5	
50%	82,967	21,338	2,317
60%	14	8	1
70%	81,019	57,387	1,176
80%	3	1	1
90%	1		
100%	63,041		881
Total	343,825	90,752	7,237

Veterans Benefits Administration

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09-194

The following table provides the requested counts of POWs currently receiving benefits broken down by conflict/action/war (period of service is based on the entitlement code of the award) and benefit.

Period of Service	Compensation	Pension
Gulf War	286	
Korean Conflict	1,344	
Peacetime Era	155	
Vietnam Era	966	
World War II	13,306	1
Total	16,057	1

Sources

D&IS used the following sources to complete this request:

- All VETSNET (corporate database) award and RBA2000 files received as of January 15, 2009.
- The Compensation and Pension Master Record (CPMR) files from the end of month December 2008.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 461-9040.

Veterans Benefits Administration

Data and Information Services
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Counts of GWOT Veterans with Service Connected PTSD

Data Request 09-130

Introduction

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request made by the VBA Insurance Service on February 2, 2009. This response corrects and updates the previous response of February 5, 2009.

Insurance Service Request

The Insurance Service requested a count of all GWOT (Global War on Terrorism) veterans, a count of GWOT veterans who are service connected for PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder), and a count of how many GWOT veterans are currently receiving Paragraph 29 benefits for PTSD.

D&IS Response

D&IS identified 1,017,759 living GWOT veterans (1,027,099 total). Of these, 49,922 have service connected PTSD. Of these, **136** are currently receiving Paragraph 29 benefits for PTSD. The prior response indicated that there were 888 veterans currently receiving paragraph 29 benefits. This number is incorrect as it relied upon RBA2000 to identify current recipients based on having no "end date" for the benefit in RBA2000. However, we discovered that RBA2000 does not store an end date for the majority of these veterans, so we have matched the grant rating to currently running awards at 100% for the current, corrected count.

Sources

D&IS used the following data sources to complete this response:

- All RBA2000 files received as of February 21, 2009.
- All VETSNET (corporate database) demographic files received as February 3, 2009 (for veteran self-reported GWOT status).
- The DMDC GWOT roster received in August 2008.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 461-9040.

09-134

Request Item Number & Description	* Current as of January 31, 2009	FY 08	FY07	FY06	FY05	FY04	FY03
1) Unique veterans in receipt of compensation with a service connected condition of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD),		344,533	307,121	269,331	244,846	217,855	193,791
2) Of Veterans in item 1 how many also have a combat code. Parse out counts BDN and Corporate Combat Code value counts.							
2B) BDN Code and Description							
1 = None		8,672					
2 = Compensable		2,368					
3 = Noncompensable		178					
4 = Both		1,275					
5 = Unknown		7					
6 = Combat Service, no combat disability.							
2A) Corporate Code and Description							
Null = No Combat Disabilities		321,585					
2 = Combat Disabilities, all compensable.		7,547					
3 = Combat Disabilities, none compensable		489					
4 = Combat disabilities, some compensable.		2,412					
3) Of Veterans in item 1 also have a special issue code indicating Personal Trauma		8,486					
5) Accessions (new to the rolls) for veterans in receipt of compensation with a service connected condition of PTSD		30,477					
6) Count of all veterans who have been denied service connection for PTSD		233,265					
7A) Veterans on the most recent GWOT file who have been granted PTSD	51,305						
7B) Veterans on the most recent GWOT file who have been denied PTSD	22,686						

* Note GWOT file has August Separations and self reported GWOT as of February 1, 2009

Veterans Benefits Administration

Data and Information Services
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Counts of Veterans With Specified Conditions

Data Request 09-178

Summary

Data and Information Services (D&IS) provides the following data in response to a request received from the VA Insurance Service on March 23 2009.

Insurance Service Request

The Insurance service requested the following counts:

- GWOT (Global War on Terror) veterans rated service connected for PTSD at 100% and rated incompetent.
- GWOT veterans rated service connected for PTSD at 100% and in receipt of Aid and Attendance Benefits (SMC #03).
- GWOT veterans rated service connected for PTSD at 100% and rated incompetent and in receipt of Aid and Attendance Benefits (SMC #03).

D&IS Response

D&IS provides the following requested counts:

Category	Count
GWOT + rated SC for PTSD at 100% + Incompetent	147
GWOT + rated SC for PTSD at 100% + in receipt of Aid and Attendance Benefits (SMC #03)	20
GWOT + rated SC for PTSD at 100% + Incompetent + in receipt of Aid and Attendance Benefits (SMC #03)	8

Sources

D&IS used the following data sources to prepare this response:

- All VETSNET (corporate database) RBA2000 files received as of April 6, 2009.
- The DMDC GWOT roster file received in August 2008.

09-178

Veterans Benefits Administration

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- All VETSNET (corporate database) demographic files received as of February 3, 2009 (for veteran self-reported GWOT status).

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact D&IS at (202) 461-9040.

09-267

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 Counts of Diagnoses (PTSD) Running Awards in June 2009
 (FOIA request)

DIAGNOSIS	DISABILITY PERCENTAGE	PEACETIME	GULF WAR	VIETNAM ERA	KOREAN CONFLICT	WORLD WAR II	WORLD WAR I	WWI EXTENDED	PHILIPPINES	UNKNOWN PERIOD OF SERVICE	OEF/OIF
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	0	137	270	958	63	177	-	-	-	41	711
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	10	884	2,047	12,855	949	2,186	-	-	4	1,012	7,205
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	20	8	8	7	1	-	-	-	-	2	11
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	30	3,199	6,965	58,511	4,028	8,017	-	-	4	1,069	25,686
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	40	4	12	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	50	3,417	6,162	60,996	3,673	6,949	-	-	1	785	16,882
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	60	2	7	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	5
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	70	3,924	5,378	71,348	2,519	4,130	-	-	2	692	7,441
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	80	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	90	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	100	3,060	3,387	53,132	1,753	2,554	-	-	-	3,871	3,450
Note: A running award for a single veteran may have multiple diagnoses for the same diagnostic code, and/or with multiple disability percentages, and/or from multiple periods of service. Therefore, a single award may be represented in more than one cell of this matrix.											

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 Counts of Service Connected PTSD by Fiscal Year

10-136.

PTSD Counts By Fiscal Year												Total
FY	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%	
FY-2005	1,319	17,270	28	58,262	21	56,790	8	60,554	1	0	53,705	247,948
FY-2006	1,441	18,387	26	66,237	32	63,650	7	66,361	1	0	56,467	272,609
FY-2007	1,674	20,588	30	78,051	30	72,099	13	73,105	2	1	59,673	305,266
FY-2008	2,017	23,890	27	91,332	25	83,599	17	81,320	2	2	63,461	345,892
FY-2009	2,273	26,537	32	105,898	34	96,010	15	92,015	2	0	67,319	380,135

10-237

Count of living Veterans Service Connected to PTSD of Agoraphobia 85459

Count of living Veterans Service Connected to PTSD of agoraphobia 15097

Count of living Veterans Service Connected to PTSD of diagnosed code 44.4 entitled to Individual Employment 5209

Count of living Veterans Service Connected to BIP/Diagnosed code 44.4 entitled to Individual Employment 810

Count of living Veterans Service Connected to BIP/Diagnosed code 44.4 entitled to Individual Employment 8553

AH-2823-10

PTSD COUNTS BY FISCAL YEAR AND PERIOD OF SERVICE

Counts Of Service Connected (GRANT) Unique Veterans With Condition of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) By Fiscal Year And Period Of Service

Fiscal Year	Period Of Service	Unique Veteran Count
FY2005	GULF WAR	5,192
FY2005	WORLD WAR II	2,467
FY2005	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,216
FY2005	PEACETIME ERA	961
FY2005	VIETNAM ERA	17,881
FY2005	UNKNOWN	94
TOTAL		27,811
FY2006	GULF WAR	8,722
FY2006	WORLD WAR II	1,730
FY2006	KOREAN CONFLICT	928
FY2006	PEACETIME ERA	868
FY2006	VIETNAM ERA	16,050
FY2006	UNKNOWN	17
TOTAL		28,313
FY2007	GULF WAR	15,397
FY2007	WORLD WAR II	1,527
FY2007	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,011
FY2007	PEACETIME ERA	1,203
FY2007	VIETNAM ERA	19,218
TOTAL		38,356
FY2008	GULF WAR	20,290
FY2008	WORLD WAR II	1,407
FY2008	KOREAN CONFLICT	995
FY2008	PEACETIME ERA	1,383
FY2008	VIETNAM ERA	21,380
TOTAL		45,455
FY2009	GULF WAR	24,070
FY2009	WORLD WAR II	1,235
FY2009	KOREAN CONFLICT	859
FY2009	PEACETIME ERA	1,786
FY2009	VIETNAM ERA	22,994
TOTAL		50,954
GRANT TOTAL		190,894

Counts Of Not Service Connected (DENIAL) Unique Veterans With Condition of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) By Fiscal Year And Period Of Service

Fiscal Year	Period Of Service	Unique Veteran Count
FY2005	GULF WAR	5,493
FY2005	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,676
FY2005	PEACETIME ERA	3,492
FY2005	Philippine Pesos	16
FY2005	VIETNAM ERA	14,926
FY2005	WWI	1
FY2005	WWII	1,890
FY2005	UNKNOWN	6
TOTAL		27,500
FY2006	GULF WAR	7,575
FY2006	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,416
FY2006	PEACETIME ERA	3,350
FY2006	Philippine Pesos	10
FY2006	VIETNAM ERA	13,355
FY2006	WWII	1,386
FY2006	UNKNOWN	2
TOTAL		27,094
FY2007	GULF WAR	11,390
FY2007	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,581
FY2007	PEACETIME ERA	4,073
FY2007	Philippine Pesos	12
FY2007	VIETNAM ERA	15,923
FY2007	WWII	1,373
FY2007	UNKNOWN	4
TOTAL		34,356
FY2008	GULF WAR	18,065
FY2008	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,806
FY2008	PEACETIME ERA	5,485
FY2008	Philippine Pesos	9
FY2008	VIETNAM ERA	21,037
FY2008	WWII	1,394
FY2008	UNKNOWN	4
TOTAL		47,800
FY2009	GULF WAR	24,353
FY2009	KOREAN CONFLICT	1,949
FY2009	PEACETIME ERA	7,103
FY2009	Philippine Pesos	4
FY2009	VIETNAM ERA	25,693
FY2009	WWII	1,366
FY2009	UNKNOWN	3
TOTAL		60,491
GRANT TOTAL		197,241

PTSD COUNTS BY FISCAL YEAR

AH-2823-10

Counts of Unique Veterans With Condition of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) By Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Grants	Denials
FY2005	27,811	27,500
FY2006	28,313	27,094
FY2007	38,358	34,356
FY2008	45,460	47,800
FY2009	50,954	60,491
TOTAL	190,894	197,241