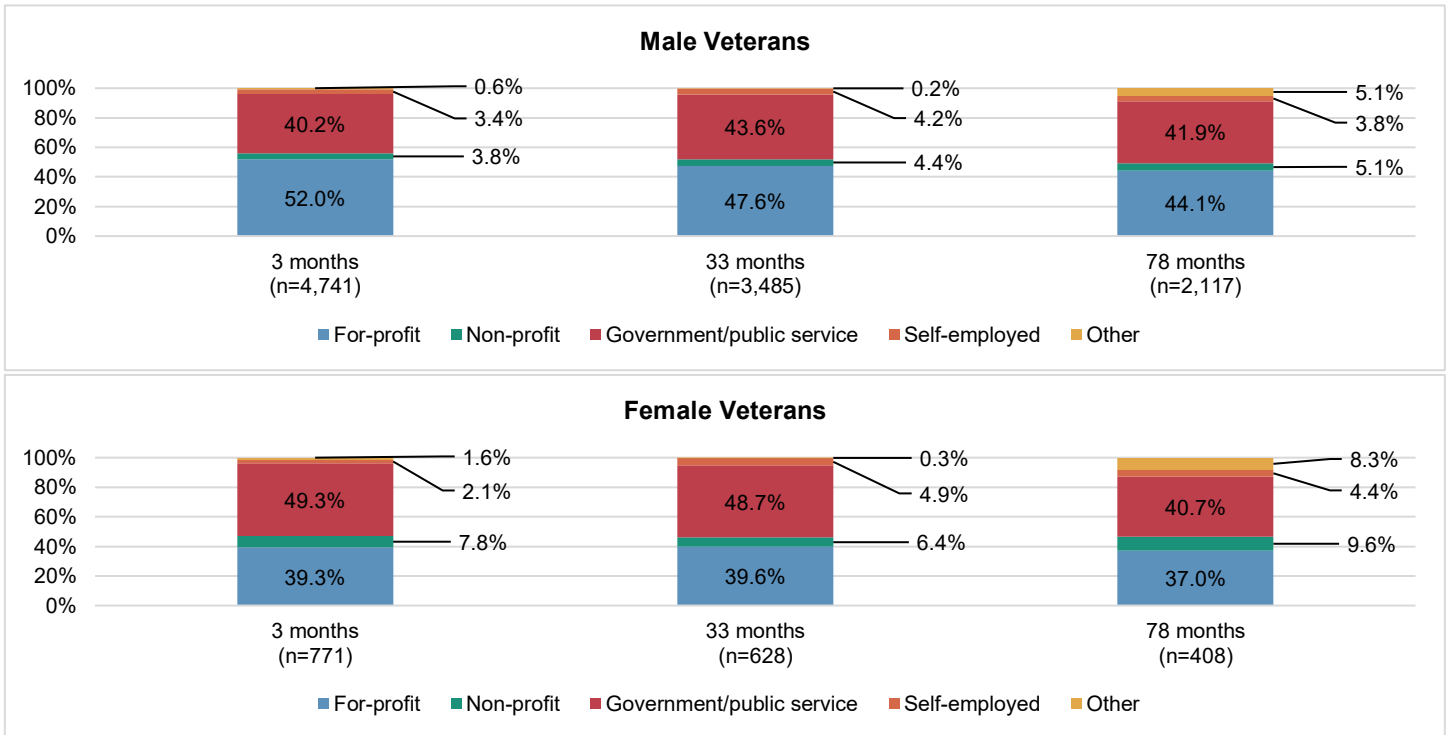


Where Post-9/11 Veterans Work

Takeaway: For-profit businesses and government/public service are the largest reported employers of post-9/11 veterans. More males work at for-profit businesses, while more females work at government/public service; however, the percentage of males and females within each type of employer decreases over 78 months post-separation from the military. The top industries employing post-9/11 veterans included those in healthcare, information technology, first responders, construction, transportation, sales, education, and business sectors. The top industries for males and females were related to information technology and healthcare, respectively. Employment programs and services should keep these findings in mind when helping veterans with their career goals during the transition from military to civilian life.

Employer Type by Gender and Months Post-Separation from Military Service



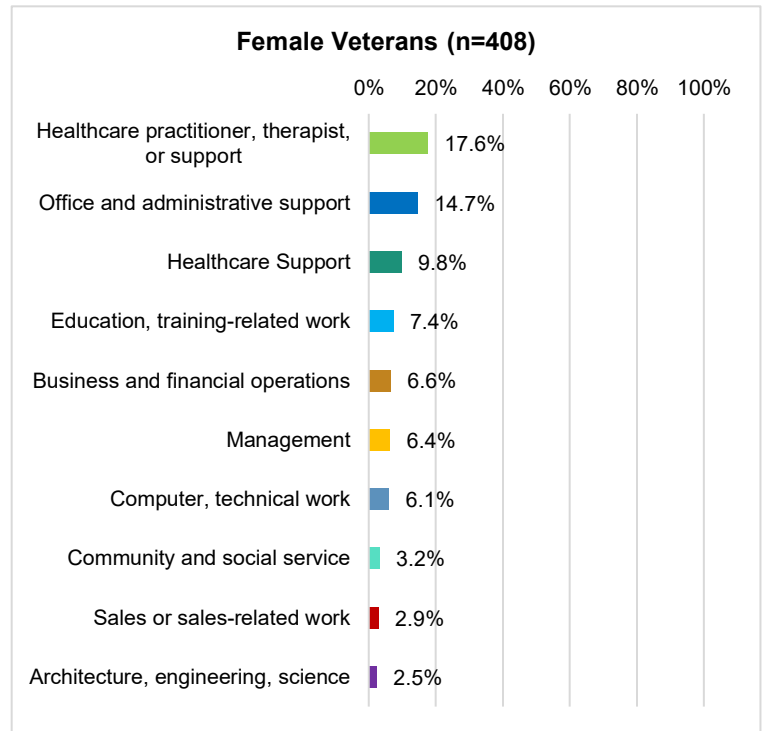
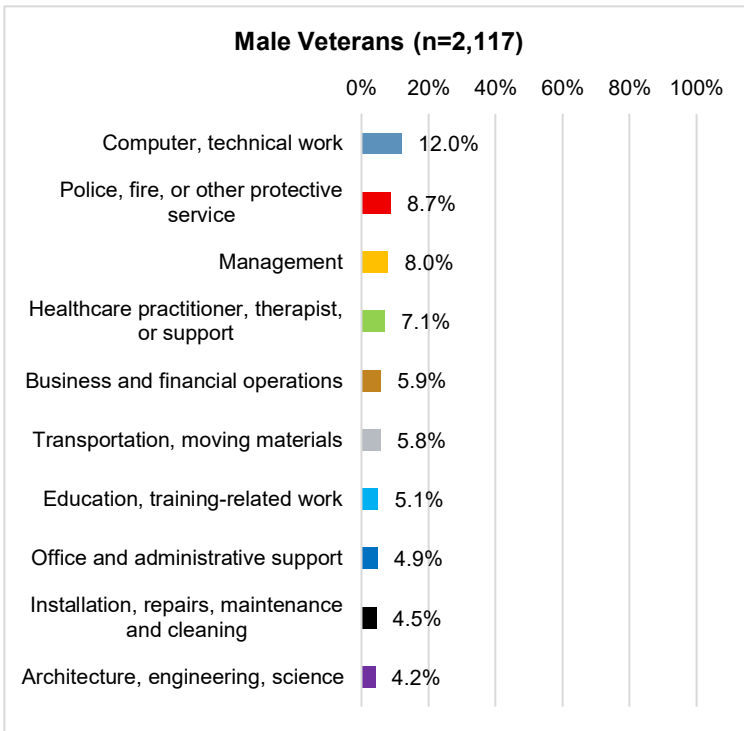
Note. The government/public service category includes local, state, and federal government (i.e., Department of Veterans Affairs, Armed Forces as a civilian, Armed Forces as Active Duty, and other federal government organizations) and public service, such as public schools, fire departments, police departments, and other public services at the state or local level.

This study examined the types of employers of post-9/11 veterans across 6.5 years after separating from the military. For all veterans, the largest types of employers across time were for-profit businesses and government/public service. Veterans at for-profit businesses decreased from 50.2% at 3 months post-separation to 43.0% at 78 months post-separation. Veterans working for government/public service increased slightly from 41.5% to 41.7% between the same times. When examined by gender, more males worked at for-profit businesses, which decreased from 52.0% at 3 months to 44.1% at 78 months. While fewer females worked at for-profit businesses, the change between 3 months (39.3%) and 78 months (37.0%) was smaller. Males working for government/public service changed very little between 3 months (40.2%) and 78 months (41.9%), while females gradually decreased from 49.3% to 40.7% at the same times.

Both male and female veterans reported an increased percentage of non-profit employers between 3 months and 78 months. Males increased from 3.8% to 5.1%, while females increased from 7.8% to 9.6%

Also of note is the simultaneous decrease in self-employment and increase in other employer types for males and females by 78 months, which was in November 2023, after the COVID-19 pandemic. This may be due to veterans taking on multiple jobs, such as gig work.

Top 10 Industry Types by Gender at 78 Months Post-Separation from Military Service



This study also examined the industries in which post-9/11 veterans are employed. Out of 24 possible options, the industries of veterans after 78 months post-separation differ by gender. Of the top ten industries, the most common industry for males was computer, technical work (12.0%), while the most common industry for females was healthcare practitioner, therapist, or support (17.6%). The second most common industry for males and veterans was police, fire, or other protective service (8.7%) and office and administrative support (14.7%), respectively.

While the percentages vary, six industries were in the top 10 for both males and females, including architecture, engineering, science; business and financial operations; computer, technical work; education, training-related work; healthcare practitioner, therapist, or support; management; and office and administrative support. The industries of installation, repairs, maintenance and cleaning; police, fire, or other protective service; and transportation, moving materials were unique to the top 10 for males. Community and social service; healthcare support; and sales or sales-related work were unique to the top 10 industries for females.

Study Summary

The Veterans Metrics Initiative: Linking Program Components to Post-Military Well-Being (TVMI) collected six waves (i.e., 3, 9, 15, 21, 27, and 33 months) of well-being and program utilization data from almost 10,000 post-9/11 veterans who had separated from military service in 2016. Additional waves (i.e., 51 and 78 months) of data were collected independently by the Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness at Penn State through the Veterans Engaging in Transition Studies (VETS), which is part of the VETERANetwork. 3,514 veterans from TVMI voluntarily chose to participate in VETS.

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