

# Veteran Warriors

One Family,  One Fight!

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## Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

### Veteran Warriors Survey Results

**July 13, 2022**

Veteran Warriors launched a voluntary survey in February to gain insight into the needs of a caregiver within the Veteran community as a whole. The goal of the survey was to identify general needs and specific needs as they related to particular cohorts. The survey allowed one submission and submitters to provide comments and feedback.

Total participants: 9,226

- ☆ May 7, 1975, and earlier – Vietnam, Korean War, and WWII
- ☆ May 1975–Sept 10, 2001
- ☆ Legacy – Post 9/11 in the program on the date of expansion
- ☆ Post 9/11 – non-legacy, some had applied for the program and been denied, others had been in the program and discharged before the moratorium, and 2 were new applications post-expansion.

**Results: There are substantial needs across the board; no one era can be viewed individually due to the wide range of conditions.**

- ☆ Vietnam and earlier's most significant need for a caregiver were for ADL prompting and reminders.
- ☆ Desert Storm/Desert Shield (Gulf War) 1975–2001 Veteran's most significant need is assistance with ADLs and some assistance with supervision, protection, or instruction, followed by a need for solely ADL assistance sometimes and supervision check-ins.
- ☆ Legacy Veteran's most significant needs are some assistance with ADLs and some assistance with supervision, protection, or instruction, followed by a need for supervision check-ins and prompting.
- ☆ Post 9/11, non-legacy Veterans' most significant needs, like Legacy, is some assistance with ADLs and some assistance with supervision, protection, or instruction. However, the pattern changes to the second most significant need for Post 9/11 non-legacy Veterans is ADL prompting, and then Veterans. They are dependent on ADLs and need some assistance with supervision, protection, or instruction.

#### Ratings:

- ☆ Over half of the Veterans who served in May 1975 and earlier had a VA rating of less than 70%. Less than 10% of May 1975 and earlier Veterans were rated 100% permanent and total.
  - Four of these Veterans were awarded aid and attendance
    - One through compensation and the other three through a pension.
  - Six of these Veterans had an assigned fiduciary or guardian.
    - One of the six has an award for the homebound.
- ☆ Over half of the 1975–2001 Veterans did not have a 60% or higher rating.
  - Less than a quarter had a rating of 100% permanent and total.
    - 13 of those rated 100% permanent, and the total included aid and attendance, housebound, fiduciary, or guardianship.
- ☆ Over 70% of Post 9/11 Veterans had a rating of 100% permanent and in total.
  - Over half of those included aid and attendance, housebound, fiduciary, or guardianship.

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## Caregiver needs:

- ☆ **May 1975 and earlier** – Out of 1,208 survey participants
  - 449 were spouses
    - 347 indicated a need for caregiver assistance for some of their own needs.
      - 217 of these spouses indicated that they also have a caregiver.
  - 402 were children
    - 12 of the children caring for a parent Veteran indicated a need for caregiver assistance for some of their own needs.
  - 270 were grandchildren
    - 23 indicated a need for caregiver assistance for some of their own needs.
  - 87 were 'other'
    - 7 indicated that they also have a caregiver.
      - four indicated they have a caregiver.
  
- ☆ **1975–2001 Veterans** – Out of 2,351 survey participants
  - 1,690 were spouses
    - 1 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 602 were children
    - 7 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 18 were grandchildren.
    - 2 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 41 were 'other'
    - 5 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
      - three indicated they have a caregiver.
  
- ☆ **Post 9/11 Legacy** – Out of 2,590 caregivers
  - 2,284 were spouses.
    - 8 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 212 were children
    - 3 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 32 were parents
    - 12 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
      - four indicated they have a caregiver.
  - 62 were 'other'
    - 0 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.

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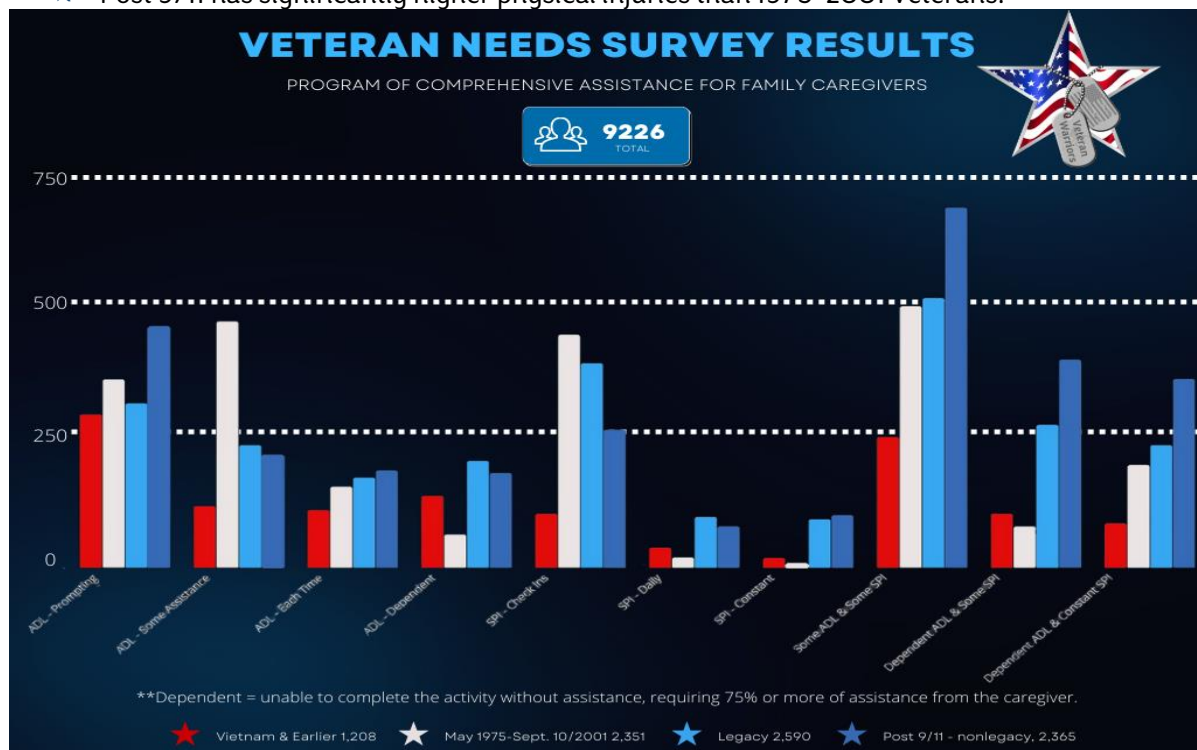
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- ☆ **Post 9/11 Non-Legacy** – Out of 2,365 caregivers
  - 1,850 were spouses
    - 14 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 297 were children
    - 10 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 112 were parents
    - 6 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
  - 106 were 'other'
    - 9 indicated a need for caregiver assistance with some of their own needs.
      - two indicated they have a caregiver.

## Overall Summary:

- ☆ Less than 10% of May 1975 and earlier Veterans were rated 100% permanent and total, and there is a prominent need for prompting, cueing, and some assistance with ADLs and supervision.
  - There are substantially higher needs of the caregiver for the caregiver's assistance in this cohort.
- ☆ Over half of the 1975–2001 Veterans did not have a 60% or higher rating.
- ☆ Over 70% of Post 9/11 Veterans had a rating of 100% permanent; in total, over half of those included aid and attendance, housebound, fiduciary, or guardianship.
- ☆ The needs for Post 9/11 as a whole and Veterans who served from 1975–2001 are relatively consistent. There are similarities related to Gulf War Illness in both cohorts that create a need for assistance. Both cohorts have neurological impairments with demyelinating conditions increasing the need for a caregiver.
- ☆ Post 9/11 has significantly higher physical injuries than 1975–2001 Veterans.



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