



# VETERAN SERVICE DEMAND FORECAST

## Aging. Utilization. Action.

★ DATA. RESOURCES. SOLUTIONS. STRONGER TOGETHER. ★

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

-  Aging drives future demand: 65+ Veterans will increase by **89%** by 2039.
-  VA healthcare use rises sharply with age, peaking in ages 75–84.
-  Proactive planning today will reduce access barriers and improve outcomes tomorrow.

### VETERAN POPULATION SUMMARY (ALL AGES)

  
**19.27M**  
Total Veterans  
100%

  
**8.25M**  
VA Users  
42.8% of Veterans

  
**8.70M**  
VA Healthcare Users  
47.0% of VA Users

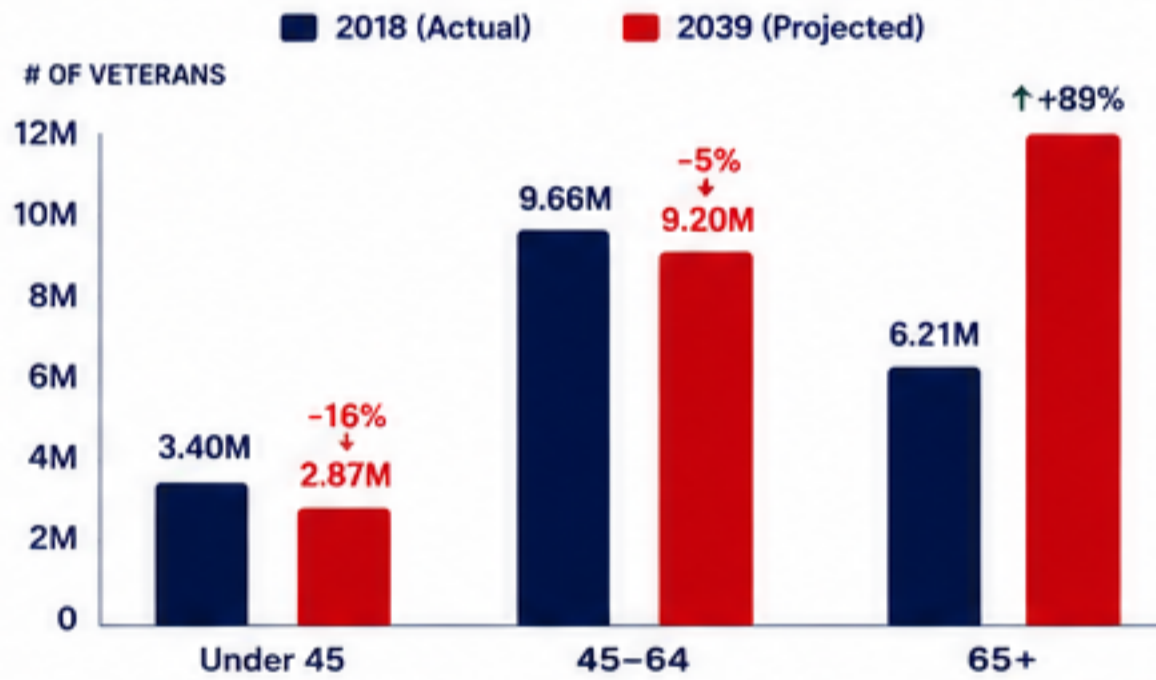
  
**90.0% / 10.0%**  
Male / Female Veterans

### DATA SOURCE

VA VetPop2018  
National Center for Veterans  
Analysis & Statistics  
Data as of 9/30/2018  
(Veteran Population Estimates Program)  
data.va.gov

### 1. POPULATION SHIFT: AGING VETERANS

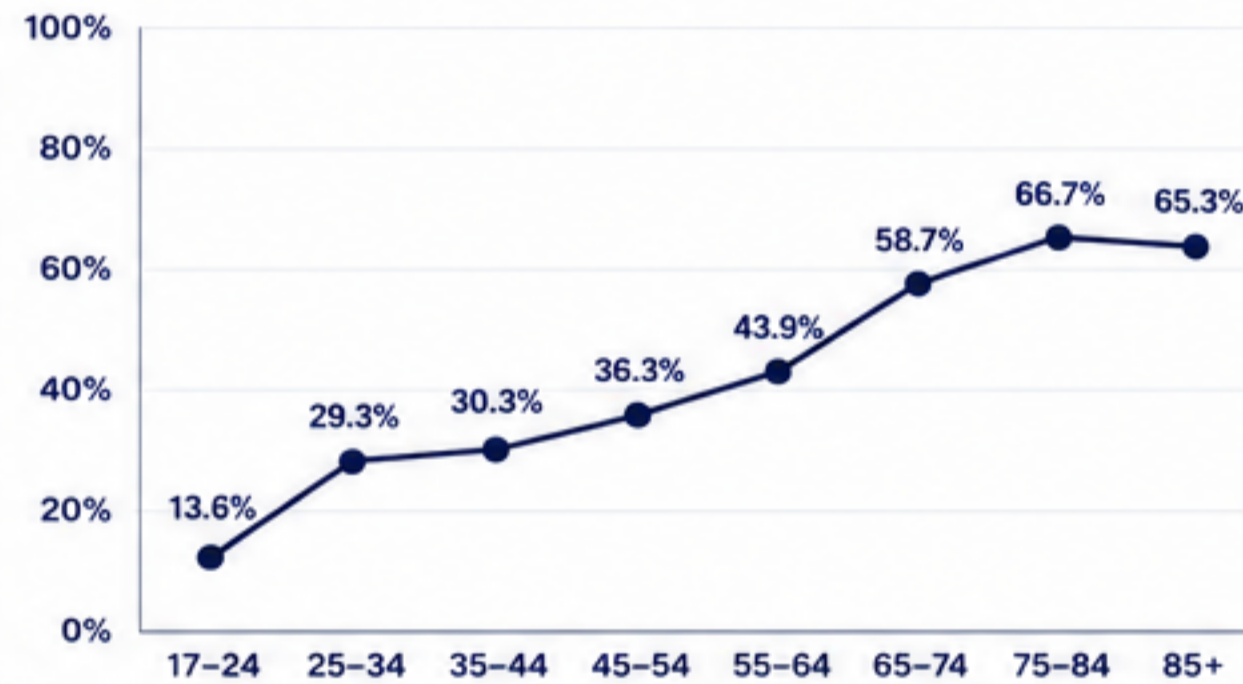
Veteran Population by Age Group (All Veterans)



 By 2039, Veterans age 65+ will increase to 11.74M, representing **55%** of the total Veteran population.

### 2. VA HEALTHCARE UTILIZATION BY AGE (2018)

% of Veterans Who Are VA Healthcare Users



 Healthcare utilization increases with age, peaking in ages 75–84 at **66.7%**.

### 3. FUTURE SERVICE DEMAND OUTLOOK






Greatest Projected Need Areas (2025–2039)

| Area                                                                                                                                                                   | Demand Trend                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</b><br>Increasing demand across all age groups.          |  <b>HIGH</b>   |
|  <b>TRANSPORTATION ACCESS</b><br>Rising need for older Veterans (65+).             |  <b>HIGH</b>   |
|  <b>CAREGIVER SUPPORT</b><br>Significant growth in the 65+ population.            |  <b>HIGH</b> |
|  <b>HOUSING STABILITY</b><br>Affordable, accessible housing needs will grow.      |  <b>HIGH</b> |
|  <b>TELEHEALTH EXPANSION</b><br>Critical for rural and mobility-limited Veterans. |  <b>HIGH</b> |


### OPERATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

-  Invest in aging-focused healthcare capacity, especially for 65+ Veterans.
-  Expand mental health services to address rising lifetime prevalence.
-  Strengthen transportation solutions to reduce barriers to care.
-  Increase partnerships for housing and caregiver resources.
-  Use data-driven forecasting to guide resource allocation and outreach.

### STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

-  Prioritize the 65+ population in infrastructure and program planning.
-  Enhance early outreach to younger Veterans (17–44) to increase engagement.
-  Invest in telehealth, mobile services, and rural access solutions.
-  Monitor female Veteran trends to ensure targeted, responsive services.
-  Leverage predictive data to align resources with future demand.

### NEED SUPPORT?

 **Veterans Crisis Line**  
**DIAL 988 then PRESS 1**  
**Text 838255**  
Free, confidential support  
24/7 for Veterans and  
their loved ones.

**988** SUICIDE & CRISIS  
LIFELINE

STAY CONNECTED  
www.spacecoastvmac.org



 **ABOUT THE DATA**  
This analysis is based on VA VetPop2018 data (data as of 9/30/2018) from the National Center for Veterans Analysis & Statistics.

**DATA SOURCES**

- VA VetPop2018: Veteran Population Estimates Program (data as of 9/30/2018). National Center for Veterans Analysis & Statistics. data.va.gov
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. (n.d.). Data Hub – VA Data Catalog. https://data.va.gov

- Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. (n.d.). Fast Facts – Florida's Veterans. https://www.floridavets.org/our-veterans/profilefast-facts/
- Karre, P. R., Cook, J. M., Taubman, A. B., & Caldaroni, L. B. (2024). What do successful military-to-civilian transitions look like? A revised framework and a new conceptual model. *Armed Forces & Society*, 50(1), 112–132.