

Aging Minority Veterans Fact Sheet

Population of Aging Veterans

- Nearly 42 percent of the almost 23 million American veterans are aged 65 and older.
- More than 1.4 million veterans are aged 85 and older.
- Nearly 33 percent of Veterans Affairs (VA) enrollees are aged 75 and older.

Source: Department of Veterans Affairs Office of the Actuary

Population of Minority Veterans

- The percentage of minority veterans will increase from 21 percent in 2011 to 34 percent in 2040.
- Minority veterans are younger overall than White veterans, but American Indian/Alaska Native and Asian veterans are the oldest (median age of 57 years).
- The majority of minority veterans are Black (11 percent). Hispanics (6 percent) are the next largest racial/ethnic group, and the Hispanic veteran population will double by 2040.

Source: VetPop2011 (http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp); U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey



USACE photo by Dave Palmer

Homelessness & Older Veterans

- Approximately 40 percent of all homeless men are veterans. About 56 percent of all homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic.

Source: National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

- Almost half of all homeless veterans in the United States are over the age of 51.

Source: J. Khadduri and D. Culhane, 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, Diane Publishing, Darby, Pa, USA, 2011.