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# The War List: OEF/OIF Statistics

Compiled by Ilona Meagher, editor of **PTSD Combat: Winning the War Within**  
Statistics current through March 2007 [[updated figures](#) available online]

**GWOT**=Global War on Terror | **OEF**=Operation Enduring Freedom/ Afghanistan War | **OIF**=Operation Iraqi Freedom/ Iraq War | **WWII**=World War Two | **VA**=Veterans Administration  
**KIA**=Killed In Action | **WIA**=Wounded In Action | **IED**=Improvised Explosive Device | **PTSD**=Post-traumatic Stress Disorder | **TBI**=Traumatic Brain Injury | **DoD**=Department of Defense

## Global War on Terror (GWOT)

Troops who have served in OEF/OIF since 2001: [~1.4 million](#)  
Portion of U.S. population that fought in WWII: [12%](#)  
Portion of U.S. population that fought in Vietnam War: [2%](#)  
Portion of U.S. population fighting in OEF/OIF: [0.5%](#)  
Active-duty armed forces, end of Cold War (early '90's): [2.2 million](#)  
Active-duty armed forces today: [1.4 million](#)  
OEF/OIF troops, separated from service, through summer 2006: [588,923](#)

## Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Medals

Purple Hearts awarded since 1932: [1.7 million](#)  
OEF/OIF Purple Hearts awarded: [13,944](#) (as of July 31, 2006)  
WWII Medals of Honor (the highest military citation) awarded: [464](#)  
Vietnam War Medals of Honor awarded: [245](#)  
OIF Medals of Honor awarded: [2](#) (both posthumously)

## Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Afghanistan/OEF

Duration, as of March 2007: [5 1/2 years](#) (started October 7, 2001)  
OEF KIA, all branches: [271](#) (as of Mar. 7, 2007)  
Taliban attacks on U.S./allied forces, 2005: [1,558](#)  
Taliban attacks on U.S./allied forces, 2006: [4,542](#)

## Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF

Duration, as of March 2007: [4 years](#) (started March 19, 2003)  
Troops in Iraq, as of Jan. 10, 2007 (pre-surge): [152,000](#)  
2007 official surge amount: [21,500](#)

Time to recruit/train/equip 10,000 new troops, Gen. Peter Pace: [2 years](#)  
Estimated strength of insurgency, November 2003: [~5,000](#)  
Estimated strength of insurgency, October, 2006: [20-30,000](#) (including militias)

## Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF, Attacks

Daily attacks by insurgents/militias, July 2003: [16](#)  
Daily attacks by insurgents/militias, November 2006: [185](#)  
Multiple fatality bombings, through Feb. 2007: [1,247](#)  
...suicide bombings portion of above figure: at least [426](#) (34.2%)  
Successful improvised explosive device (IED) attacks, June 2006: [1,481](#)  
...additional IEDs found and neutralized: [903](#)  
Successful IED attacks, January 2006: [834](#)  
...additional IEDs found and neutralized: [620](#)

## Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF, Human Costs

OIF KIA, all branches: [3,190](#) (as of Mar. 10, 2007)  
OIF KIA, non-hostile portion of above count (as of Mar. 10, 2007): [596](#)  
OIF KIA age breakdown as of end of Feb. 2007, younger than 22: [932](#)  
...22-24: [732](#)  
...25-30: [745](#)  
...31-35: [316](#)  
...>35: [366](#)  
Journalists killed: [93](#) (168 including drivers/interpreters)  
U.S.-trained military and police force killed, through Feb. 25, 2007: [6,158](#)  
Post-invasion Iraqi civilian deaths: [58,476](#) to [655,000](#)  
Internally displaced Iraqis, March 2003-November 2006: [~650,000](#)  
Iraqi physicians killed since invasion: [~2,000](#)  
Iraqi refugees living abroad: [1.8 million](#)  
Portion of professional class that has left since 2003: [40%](#)

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### Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF, Monetary Costs

2002 Bush administration prediction of overall OIF cost: \$100-200 billion  
Congressional budget estimate of OIF cost, through 2006: \$500 billion  
Conservative estimate of ultimate cost of OIF to taxpayer: \$2,000 billion

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### Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Coalition

Total non-U.S. troops, Jan. 2004: 25,600  
Total non-U.S. troops, as of Feb. 2007: 14,010  
**Britain...KIA: 134**  
...estimated cases of anxiety, depression: ~20,000  
...receiving mental health treatment from the MoD, through Oct. 2006: 2,123  
...diagnosed with PTSD: 328  
...year-on-year jump in troops seeking help: 20%  
...believed to be homeless: >1,000

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### Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Contracts

Private security contractor firms in Iraq, 2003: at least 60  
OIF Erinys (Brit private security firm) contract for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers protection, annually (from 2005 report): \$50 million  
OIF Kellogg, Brown & Root (a Halliburton subsidiary) contracts: ~\$20 billion  
Potential Halliburton overcharges flagged by a top Army procurement official, 2005: \$1 billion

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### Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Contractors

OIF contractors killed, as of end of 2006: almost 768  
...if added, would increase U.S. KIA count by: 25%  
OIF contractors wounded, as of end of 2006: 3,367  
Military personnel-to-contractor ratio, Gulf War (1991): 50-to-1  
Military personnel-to-contractor ratio, Iraq War (2003): 10-to-1  
Contractors in Iraq, 2007: 120,000  
...support/logistics contractors, 2005: 50,000  
...non-Iraqi security contractors, 2005: 20,000  
...Iraqi security contractors, 2005: 15,000  
...reconstruction contractors, 2005: 40-70,000  
KBR workers in Middle East: ~50,000  
Erinys private security guard pay: \$400-1,000 per day  
Overall annual pay: varies, some making \$100,000 or more  
Contractor pay vs. new Army private pay: at least 6X higher, mostly tax-free

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### Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Equipment

According to secret Pentagon study, Marines KIA from upper body wounds that might have survived with extra armor, 2003-2005: 80%  
Factories supplying armor for principal transport trucks, Jan. 2006: 1  
Marine uparmored Humvee shortfall, Jan. 2006: ~2,000  
Unaccounted Army parts/tools shipped to contractors, 2004: \$68 million (15%)  
...unreconcilable misc. parts shipped for repair, 2004: \$481.7 million (42%)  
...classified parts/tools accounting discrepancies: \$8.1 million (37%)  
Helicopters downed, through Feb. 2007: 59 (at least 29 by enemy fire)

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### Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Wounded in Action (WIA)

Vietnam War, receive other-continent, state-of-the-art critical care: 15 days  
OEF/OIF, receive other-continent, state-of-the-art critical care: 13 hours  
WWII, WIA-to-KIA ratio: 2-to-1  
Korea/Vietnam, WIA-to-KIA ratio: 3-to-1  
OIF, WIA-to-KIA ratio: 7-to-1  
OIF, wounded/ill casualty-to-KIA ratio: 16-to-1  
Vietnam War rate of initial injury survival: 7.5-in-10  
OIF rate of initial injury survival: 9-in-10  
OEF WIA, all branches: 1,062 (as of Dec. 2, 2006)  
OEF non-hostile WIA, medical transport required: 5,565 (as of Dec. 2, 2006)  
OIF WIA, all branches: 23,417 (as of Feb. 3, 2007)  
OIF non-hostile WIA, medical transport required: 32,544 (as of Feb. 3, 2007)  
OIF total casualties (as of Feb 3, 2007): 55,961  
OEF/OIF WIA not returned to service, through Feb. 10, 2007: 11,116  
OEF/OIF official WIA count on DoD website, Jan. 9, 2007: 50,508  
OEF/OIF official WIA count on DoD website, Jan. 10, 2007 (after figure was used by Harvard researcher Linda Blimes in a professional paper): 21,649

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### DoD - Disability

Government assigned value for prime age male: \$6.1 million  
Permanent and temporary disability benefits payments, 2004: \$1.2 billion  
Army soldiers approved for permanent retirement disability, 2001: 642  
...portion of total going through medical retirement process: 10%  
Army soldiers approved for permanent retirement disability, 2005: 209  
...portion of total going through medical retirement process: 3%  
Army soldiers placed on temporary disability leave, 2001: 165  
Army soldiers placed on temporary disability leave, 2005: 837  
Army soldiers given lump-sum severance pay vs. disability retirement: 11,174

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## DoD - Disability, Amputations

Amputations as Jan. 16, 2007: 500  
Does loss of fingers/toes count in above figure? No  
Amputations performed in 2004: 156 (fewer up-armored Humvees)  
Amputations performed in 2006: 128  
Multiple amputees (more than one limb) in 2006: ~25%  
Multiple amputees in first full year of OIF, 2003-2004: 13%  
OIF rate of amputations compared to previous wars: 2X  
Amputations, overall WIA count: 2.2  
Amputations, overall WIA/not able to return to service: 5%

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## DoD - Disability, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Combat troops exposed to bomb blasts, may suffer at least mild TBI: 11-28%  
Overall portion of WIA: 20%  
OEF/OIF troops diagnosed with mild/moderate/severe TBI at Walter Reed: 30%  
Portion of total OIF bomb blast victims with TBI: 60%  
OIF cases treated: 1,882  
Projected lifetime TBI treatment costs: \$35 billion  
Initial 2006 Republican Senate/House allotment of requested TBI research funding: 50%  
...requested TBI research funding provided after USA Today story: 100% (\$14 million)  
Increased funds for TBI research, cz evaluation forms, Mar 2007: \$14 million

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## DoD - Disability, Claims Process

Forms the typical wounded soldier is required to file: 22  
...various commands these forms need to go to: 8  
Information systems used to process the forms: 16  
Army personnel databases: 3 (which cannot read each others' files)  
Nationwide average waiting on claims processing: ~5,000  
Physical Evaluation Board caseload, 2001: 7,218  
Physical Evaluation Board caseload, 2005: 13,748  
PEBs in 1972 processing 19,000 cases: 6, with 260 employees  
PEBs in 2004 processing 15,000 cases: 3, with 70 employees

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## DoD - General and Mental Health

Troops receiving pre-deployment mental health assessment by professional (DoD is mandated by congress to assess all deploying troops): 1-in-300  
Army/Air Force required pre/post-deployment health assessment failure rate, GAO: 38-98% (depending upon base)  
Army/Air Force required immunization failure rate, GAO: 14-46%  
Troops seeking help for emotional issues returned back to units: 98%  
Troops referred for follow-up care after flagging by DoD for PTSD: 22%  
Troops kept on duty despite showing significant psychological distress pre-suicide, 2004-2005:

at least 11

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## DoD - Mental Health, Caregivers

Navy psychologist positions filled: 72% (85% including trainees)  
Navy psychiatrist positions filled: 62% (91% including trainees)  
Army psychiatrist/psychologist positions filled: 80-85%  
Portion of mental healthcare professionals not trained/supervised in four PTSD therapies recommended by the Pentagon and VA: 90%  
Deployed Army mental health providers, reporting high burnout/low motivation or morale, 2005: 1-in-3  
Behavioral-health workers (counselors/psychiatrists), high/very high burnout: 33%  
...primary-care specialists (doctors and nurses): 45%  
...chaplains: 27%

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## DoD - Discharge, Personality Disorder

Troops discharged with PD since 2003, Army: 4,092  
Troops discharged with PD since 2003, non-Army: 11,296  
Briefest Fort Carson PD diagnosis evaluation length: 10-20 mins.  
Military psychologist signatures required for PD discharge: 1 (PTSD needs medical review board)  
Processing of paperwork duration: a couple of days (PTSD, several months)  
VA disability benefits PD-diagnosed combat vet eligible for: 0%

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## Walter Reed

Year Walter Reed Army Medical Center opened: 1909  
Portion of wounded OEF/OIF troops treated at Walter Reed: 1-in-4  
BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) scheduled for Walter Reed: 2011  
Rate at which outpatient troops in limbo outnumber hospital patients: 17-to-1  
Average outpatient soldier stay: 10 months (some stuck as long as 2 yrs.)  
Walter Reed troops saying their outpatient experience was "stressful": 75%  
...saying that Army literature on navigating outpatient process is helpful: 12%  
Current outpatient soldiers waiting on Medical Evaluation Board processing (1st stage of process; 2nd stage is the Physical Evaluation Board): 704  
...highest level of waiting outpatients, summer of 2005: nearly 900  
Time MEB process should take, start-to-finish: 120 days  
...average at Walter Reed: 270 days  
Time to wade through both MEB and PEB processes: 9 to 15 1/2 months  
Federal employees providing facilities management services, pre-2007: 300  
...providing above services day before outsourcing went into effect: 60  
...private workers replacing above workers on February 3, 2007: 50

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## Women

Female troops, Vietnam: 7,500  
Female troops, Gulf War: 41,000  
Female troops, OEF/OIF to date: 160,500  
Female-to-male ratio: 1-in 10  
Portion of female troops in military: 15%  
OIF WIA: at least 450  
OIF KIA: 75 (as of Mar. 7, 2007)  
OIF females KIA as a percentage of total count: 2.18%

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## National Guard/Reserves

Reserve OIF KIA, as of end of Feb. 2007: 263  
National Guard OIF KIA, as of end of Feb. 2007: 408  
Combined reserve component, end of Cold War (early '90's): 1.2 million  
Combined selected reserve strength today: 830,000  
Portion of total overall military force: >1/3  
Portion of forces serving in OIF, 2004: 40%  
Portion of overall DoD budget: 8%  
Personnel deploying ANG units borrowed from other units in 2006: 1/3  
...equipment they needed to borrow: 60% (from a dozen other units)  
Of 170 guard troops required for deployment by the California National Guard's 756th in 2005, number available from the company: 7  
...units tapped to arrive at needed 170 troops (called cross-leveling): 65  
...locations individually tapped troops came from: 49  
U.S. reservist days of service, 2001: 12.7 million  
U.S. reservist days of service, 2006: 63 million  
Approved reservist permanent retirement disability claims, 2001: 16%  
Approved reservist permanent retirement disability claims, 2005: 5%

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## National Guard/Reserves - Equipment

Portion of total military equipment funding allocated to reserves: 3%  
Guard units rated 'not ready' in U.S. due to equipment shortfalls: ~90%  
Current level of authorized stock of dual-use equipment: 50%  
Value of equipment needed to bring Guard units to full readiness: \$38 billion  
Budgeted by Army to augment Guard equipment, through 2011: \$21 billion  
Humvee shortage: 22,000  
Medium truck shortage: 42,000  
Rifle, machine gun, other small arm shortage: 53,000  
Night vision device shortage: 264,000  
Tactical radio shortage: 50,000  
Black Hawk helicopters available to fight forest fires in Montana, out of 12: 2

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## Recruitment

Former active-duty service members joining the reserves, 1997: 61%  
Former active-duty service members joining the reserves, 2006: 38%  
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2005 (males): 21%  
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2006 (males): 14%  
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2005 (males/females): 15%  
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2006 (males/females): 10%  
2006 Air National Guard recruitment shortfall: 14%  
2006 Army recruitment shortfall: 8% (highest since 1979)  
Maximum recruitment age raised to: 39 (from 35)  
2005 recruits admitted under waivers (of criminal records): 21,880 (17%)  
...increase of above over 2000 waivers: 42%  
Recruits 'washed out' during basic trng/1st 6 months service, May 2005: 18.1%  
Recruits 'washed out' during basic trng/1st 6 months service, current: 7.6%

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## Multiple Deployments

Troops under acute stress, first tour of Iraq: 12%  
Troops under acute stress, second+ tour of Iraq: 18%  
Increased risk of acute combat stress in those serving multiple tours: 50%

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## Veterans Administration (VA)

VA networks: ~20  
VA hospitals (VAMCs): >150  
VA outpatient clinics: >800  
Inpatient PTSD programs: 27  
New readjustment counseling service centers expected in two years: 23  
VA employees: 235,000  
VA employees working at demobilization centers overseas: 100  
Proposed VA budget for 2008: \$87 billion  
OEF/OIF vets seeking services from walk-in vet centers, Oct. 2005: 4,467  
OEF/OIF vets seeking services from walk-in vet centers, June 2006: 9,103  
OEF/OIF vets seen by Milwaukee's Zablocki VAMC since wars' start: 2,300  
Projected OEF/OIF veterans expected to flood VA system: 750,000  
Lifetime projected cost for OEF/OIF veterans: \$300-600 billion

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## Veterans Administration (VA) - Disability

Polytrauma Centers nationwide providing specialized TBI care: 4  
...total beds: 48  
...treated at Polytrauma Centers to date: 425

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### Veterans Administration (VA) - Disability, Claims

OEF/OIF VA disability claims filed: ~150,000  
OEF/OIF VA disability claims granted: ~100,000  
OEF/OIF VA disability claims pending review: 30,000+  
Overall new claims backlog (any war) at VA awaiting processing, 2006: 400,000  
Average wait for VA claim processing: 6 months - 2 years  
Average 100% disability rating payment: \$2,400/month  
...50% disability rating payment: \$700/month

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### Veterans Administration (VA) - Appointments

People seen by the VA annually (all wars): ~5 million  
OEF/OIF vets treated at VA medical facilities since 2002: 205,097  
...above amount greater than VA's projection by: 3X  
Mental healthcare appointment length, high: 75-80 minutes  
Mental healthcare appointment length, low: 20-30 minutes  
National rate at which 20-30 mins. appointments were given: 51%  
...rate Artesia, NM, received 20-30 mins. appointments: 99%  
...rate Amarillo, TX, received 20-30 mins. appointments: 87%  
...rate Butler, PA, received 20-30 mins. appointments: 6%  
Average wait for new mental healthcare patient appointment:  
...at Loma Linda, CA: 39% received appointment within 30 days  
VA staff contemplating limiting services, adding waiting lists: 15-of-60  
...sent patients to group therapy when individual treatment needed: 40%  
...said they needed more staff: 30%  
Veterans receiving all mental health care outside of VA system: 22%  
Annual visits provided by VA for psychiatric care, 1995: 11.7  
Annual visits provided by VA for psychiatric care, 2006: 8.1  
...in Hudson Valley, NY: 22  
...in Fargo, ND: 3.1

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### Veterans Administration (VA) - Budget

Healthcare expenses increase, 2008 Bush budget: 9%  
Healthcare expenses cut, 2009 (projected): ~\$1.9 billion  
Healthcare expenses cut, 2010 (projected): ~\$1.9 billion

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### Veterans Administration (VA) - Mental Healthcare, Expenditures

Unspent of \$300 million VA told Congress it was setting aside for PTSD/mental health care programs in 2005/2006: \$54 million  
Inconsistent VA outlay of outpatient mental health care: \$500 to \$2000 per veteran, depending upon facility/region  
Montana, ranked by amount of troops sent to war: 4th  
Montana, ranked by % of delivered 2005 VA mental health services: 50th

VA mental health expenditures, 1995: \$2.01 billion  
VA mental health expenditures, 2004: \$2.19 billion  
VA expenditures on mental health ailments per veteran, 1995: \$3,560  
VA expenditures on mental health ailments per veteran, 2004: \$2,581  
...in Connecticut: \$2,317  
...in Saginaw, MI: \$468

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### Veterans Administration (VA) - Mental Healthcare, Treatment

OEF/OIF vets treated at VA for mental health conditions: 73,157  
OEF/OIF vets coming to VA for any type of counseling, September 2005: 43,682  
OEF/OIF vets coming to VA for any type of counseling, June 2006: 144,227  
Troops who sought mental healthcare in first year home: 35% (2006 study)  
...received a mental health diagnosis: 12% (2006 study)  
VA clinics that provided no mental healthcare in 2005: 100 (out of ~800)  
Specialist sessions returning troops receive vs. 10 years ago: 1/3 fewer

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### Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

U.S. PTSD incidence in the general population: 7.7 million  
OEF/OIF troops who have/may acquire PTSD, Nat'l Center on PTSD: 40%  
OEF/OIF vets being treated for PTSD, Sep. 2005: 20,394  
OEF/OIF vets being treated for PTSD, through end of 2006: 39,331  
...of above figure, receiving hospital care: 29,041  
...of above figure, receiving counseling center care: 9,103  
Of those treated for PTSD, enrolled in VA specialized care program: 27%  
...in Wisconsin: 13%  
...in Ohio: 45%

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### Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) - Evolution

OIF troops wishing for a 2006 exit of Iraq, Zogby early 2006 survey: 72%  
OIF troops wishing to "stay as long as needed": 1-in-5  
OIF troops who indicated "felt in great danger of being killed" on DoD demob form: over 50%  
...had thoughts of killing themselves while deployed: 2,411  
Returning vets who had PTSD one month after returning home: 4%  
...four months after returning home: 9%  
...seven months after returning home: 12%  
Seven-month vets showing no signs of PTSD/depression at one month: 78%  
Troops meeting DoD criteria for PTSD, stigmatized from seeking help: 2/3  
PTSD rate common to Army/Marine ground units vs. other units: nearly 4X  
Non-OEF/OIF troops reporting mental health concerns: 8.5% (2004)  
OEF troops reporting mental health concerns: 11% (2004)  
OIF troops reporting mental health concerns: 19% (2004)

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### Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) - History

Hospitalized Civil War troops diagnosed with insanity/"nostalgia": 7,800  
Post-war mental/"nervous" disease ("irritable heart") vets, Civil War: 44%  
Portion of troops aged 9-18, Civil War: 15%  
...increased likelihood of above group of getting "irritable heart": 93%  
Civil War vets losing at least 5% of company, increase in risk for cardiac, gastrointestinal, or nervous disease: 51%

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### Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) - Women

Vietnam-era veterans developing PTSD: 1/4  
Gulf War-era veterans w/PTSD, 2 years after deployment: 16%  
Rate of female-to-male combat PTSD: 2-to-1  
VA-treated females noting rape/attempted rape while in service: 1/4  
...raped multiple times: 37%  
...gang-raped: 14%  
Military sexual assaults reported, 2005: 2,374  
Military sexual assault investigations, 2004-2005: 3,038  
...of above, resulting in court-martial of perpetrator: 329 (10%)  
OEF/OIF vets diagnosed with possible PTSD: ~3,800  
Inpatient PTSD programs serving women exclusively: 2

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### OEF/OIF Suicides

Portion of veterans making up total U.S. suicide population: 25%  
Army soldier suicides in Iraq and Kuwait, 2005: 22  
...above rate compared to national average: nearly 2X  
Rate of OIF Army combat zone suicide increase, 2004 to 2005: 2X  
MN active-duty/discharged service member suicides, Jan. 2003-Oct. 2006: 13  
...extrapolation of above rate to 50 states: 650

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### Homelessness

Total homeless veterans (from all wars): 194,000  
Beds available in VA-funded shelters or hospitals, nationwide: 15,000  
Estimated OEF/OIF veterans currently homeless: 500-1,000  
OEF/OIF troops receiving shelter from VA, 2004-2006: 300  
OEF/OIF vets assisted by IAVA in New York City alone since 2004: 60

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### Family

Rate civilian families move across county lines annually: 1-in-12  
Rate military families move across county lines annually: 1-in-4  
Estimated kids with a mom or dad in uniform: 1.9 million

Calls to 24-hour helpline Military OneSource, 1st 10 months of 2005: 100,000  
...above figure, increase over year before: 20%  
Antidepressant prescriptions written for military families/service members, 14 mo. period 2005-2006: 200,000