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# Defense Report

AUSA



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## Being A Veteran Is A Plus

According to the latest figures released by the Veterans Administration, veterans of United States armed forces have an average yearly income which is \$3,930 higher than that of non-veterans.

The VA Annual Report for FY '75, recently issued, compares incomes of veterans and non-veterans as of mid-1975 by educational level as follows:

<i>Educational Level</i>	<i>Average Income Veterans—Non Vets</i>	
Less than hi school	\$ 6,870	\$ 4,730
Some high school	9,830	7,340
High school grad	11,350	8,870
Some college	12,620	6,750
College grad	17,240	11,870

According to the Report, the fact that non-vets with "some college" education were earning less than their high school graduate counterparts was because almost half of the "some college" group were between 20 to 24 years of age, were still in school, had no significant work experience, and little or no personal income.

The Report also pointed out that, despite the considerable publicity about veterans of the Vietnam War having difficulty in finding jobs, the unemployment rate for all veterans was only 4.7 compared to 8.3 for non-vets. Considering only the veterans of the Vietnam War, their unemployment rate was 9.7 compared to 10.0 for non-vets. Only the youngest Vietnam vets were in job trouble, having an unemployment rate of nearly 20 percent. Vietnam Vets 25 years old and above had a rate of 7.6 percent which was better than the national average of 8.7.

Veterans were also better educated than non-veterans according to the report, having attained a median education level of 12.6 years of schooling as opposed to 12.3 for non-vets.

The Report covers the more than 29 million veterans on VA rolls. About seven million are from the Vietnam era, nearly six million from the Korean War, and about 13.5 million from World War II.

The VA Report, which was compiled with the close cooperation of the Bureau of the Census, makes it clear that today's veteran is better educated, more consistently employed, and making more money than the non-veteran. Armed Forces recruiting personnel should take note.