

Webinar

Organized by the Australasian Services Care Network

Moderator: Robert Lippiatt

Speakers:

Nathalie Grogan, *Research Assistant – Military, Veterans, and Society Program*

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RESPECT

Generations of Veterans: Population Changes in the United States

In this Webinar Ms Nathalie Grogan will share insights on the changing face of the Veteran population drawn from research undertaken by CNAS in a recently published Massachusetts Veteran Needs Assessment. This study is the latest in a series of Veterans needs assessments in different parts of the USA undertaken by CNAS. The study uses quantitative analysis of county-level population trends in Massachusetts related to both the veteran and general population that is applicable to the broader United States to map trends and issues.

To (re)-see this webinar:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAbpJY5nz04&ab_channel=VeteranTransitionandWellbeingWebinarSeries

Presentation about a population trends in the United States and how generations of veterans in society will be changing dramatically, as well as offer a few recommendations for what veteran serving organizations policymakers and the civilian community can do to best serve the veterans in their communities.

The research discussed in this presentation is pulled from a report published by CNAS in December 2020 available at:

<https://www.cnas.org/publications/reports/periodic-occupational-and-environmental-monitoring-summary>

Framework

The generations of veterans that served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam era conflicts are now aging and passing away, forcing a demographic change towards a veteran population that will one day be made up of veterans who volunteered. However, several decades will pass before we get to that point completely and, in the meantime, attention must be paid to the two different waves of veterans in their own ways simultaneously forcing a particular set of challenges.

Some key takeaways

As the veteran population changes, attention must be paid to the veteran population of the future. Changing demographics and medical advances combined to create a very interesting mix. Women veterans make up the fastest growing sub-population of veterans in the United States, and often require different needs than their male counterparts. Childcare, in particular, will become a much more salient issue for veterans and those who support veterans. In addition to gender diversity, increased diversity among the veteran population in terms of racial and ethnic identity and LGBT status will reinforce the importance of targeted outreach.

Medical advances and longevity increase in the past few decades have been extraordinary while veterans in the United States are generally in poorer health than their non-veterans peers. Support will need to be balanced between drastically different needs.

Recommendations:

- Improve resources.
- Tailor Support for specific subpopulations
- Commitment to civil-military intergration