



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations

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State Summary

November 2010

Arkansas And the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

General Information

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) offers a wide variety of programs and services for the nation's 23 million veterans. In 2009, about 5.75 million people were treated in VA health care facilities, 3.9 million veterans and survivors received VA disability compensation or pensions, more than 564,000 used GI Bill education benefits and nearly 326,000 home loans were guaranteed by GI Bill home loan benefits. VA issued nearly \$162,053 million in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit payments to 34,393 individuals and their educational institutions in 2009. Nearly 78,127 veterans took advantage of VA's vocational rehabilitation and employment service, and nationally, veterans held more than 1.2 million life insurance policies valued at \$14.6 billion in 2009. More than 106,000 veterans and family members were buried in VA's national cemeteries and more than 360,000 headstones and markers were provided for veterans' graves worldwide.

General Information – Arkansas

- *Number of veterans: 257,625*
- *VA expenditures in Arkansas: \$1.5 billion*
 - *Compensation and pensions: \$ 705 million*
 - *Readjustment benefits: \$36 million*
 - *Medical and construction programs: \$729 million*
 - *Insurance and indemnities: \$11 million*
- *Number of veterans receiving disability compensation or pension payments: 43,203*
- *Number of Arkansas veterans using GI Bill education benefits: 5,513*
- *Number of home loans in Arkansas backed by VA guarantees: 3,427*
- *Value of Arkansas home loans guaranteed by VA: \$539 million*
- *Number of VA life insurance policies held by Arkansas residents: 11,392*
- *Value of VA life insurance policies held by Arkansas residents: \$129 million*
- *Number of Arkansas participants in vocational rehabilitation: 991*
- *Number of veterans buried in Arkansas VA national cemeteries: 756*

Health Care

- One of the most visible of all VA benefits is health care. VA has 153 hospitals, 773 community-based outpatient clinics, 260 Vet Centers, 135 nursing homes, 47 residential rehabilitation treatment programs and 121 comprehensive home care programs. To improve patients' ability to access care, VA has changed from a hospital-based system to a primarily outpatient-focused system over the past decade. Veterans will make more than 60 million outpatient visits to VA health care facilities this year.

Health Care - Arkansas

- *Inpatient admissions, statewide, fiscal year 2009: 14,824*
 - *Fayetteville: 4,428*
 - *Central Arkansas (Little Rock and North Little Rock): 12,344*
- *Outpatient visits, statewide, fiscal year 2009: 1,118,000*
- *Outpatient clinic locations*

*Conway
El Dorado
Fort Smith
Harrison
Helena
Hot Springs
Jonesboro
Mena*

*Mountain Home
Mountain Home (Burnett-Croom)
Ozark
Paragould
Pine Bluff
Russellville
Texarkana*

Post-Conflict Care

- VA has launched special efforts to provide a "seamless transition" for those returning from service in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF). Each VA medical facility and benefits regional office has a point of contact to coordinate activities locally to help meet the needs of these returning combat service members and veterans. In addition, VA increased the staffing of benefits counselors at key military hospitals where severely wounded service members from Iraq and Afghanistan are frequently sent. Once home, recent Iraq and Afghan veterans have ready access to VA health care, which is free of charge for five years following separation for any health problem possibly related to wartime service. Some 537,000 veterans from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan have sought VA health care since returning stateside, about 47 percent of the total number of men and women leaving military service.

Post-Conflict Care - Arkansas

- *Veterans Readjustment Counseling Centers (Vet Centers) Locations:*
 - *Fayetteville*
 - *North Little Rock*

Disabilities and Pensions

- Not all military service-related issues end when people are discharged from active duty. About 2.9 million veterans receive monthly VA disability compensation for medical conditions related to their service in uniform. VA pensions go to about 316,000 wartime veterans with limited means. Family members of about 528,000 veterans qualify for monthly VA payments as the survivors of disabled veterans or pension recipients.

Disabilities and Pensions - Arkansas

- *Number of veterans receiving monthly disability compensation: 38,275*
- *Number of VA pensions to veterans in Arkansas: 4,928*
- *Number of disability compensation claims processed: 12,287*

Memorial Affairs

- Most men and women who served in the military are eligible for burial in a VA national cemetery, as are their spouses and dependent children. VA manages the country's network of national cemeteries with approximately 3 million gravesites at 131 national cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico, as well as in 33 soldier's lots and monument sites. In 2009, more than 106,000 veterans and dependents were buried in VA's national cemeteries. Additionally, VA provided more than 350,000 headstones and markers and 655,000 Presidential Memorial Certificates to the loved ones of deceased veterans. VA-assisted state veterans cemeteries provided more than 26,000 interments.

Memorial Affairs – Arkansas

- *National cemetery burials in Arkansas, 2009: 756*
 - *Fayetteville: 252*
 - *Fort Smith: 406*
 - *Little Rock: 98*
- *Headstones and markers provided in 2009 (statewide): 4,537*
- *Presidential Memorial Certificates issued in 2009 (statewide): 4,202*

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FY10 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

ARKANSAS
Expenditures in \$000s

County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
ARKANSAS	1,343	\$ 9,573	\$ 4,189	\$ -	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 173	\$ 4,971	501
ASHLEY	1,805	\$ 9,406	\$ 4,886	\$ -	\$ 280	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 177	\$ 4,063	528
BAXTER	6,146	\$ 27,479	\$ 15,423	\$ -	\$ 823	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 364	\$ 10,869	2,120
BENTON	18,552	\$ 75,398	\$ 34,021	\$ -	\$ 3,618	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 964	\$ 36,795	5,864
BOONE	3,938	\$ 19,285	\$ 10,663	\$ -	\$ 558	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 221	\$ 7,842	1,373
BRADLEY	1,128	\$ 5,300	\$ 2,537	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 116	\$ 2,574	266
CALHOUN	537	\$ 2,052	\$ 1,075	\$ -	\$ 172	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19	\$ 786	108
CARROLL	2,592	\$ 13,411	\$ 6,938	\$ -	\$ 204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ 6,107	1,009
CHICOT	765	\$ 6,528	\$ 3,069	\$ -	\$ 33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 3,351	343
CLARK	1,530	\$ 9,056	\$ 4,190	\$ -	\$ 377	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 138	\$ 4,352	491
CLAY	1,532	\$ 10,393	\$ 5,417	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104	\$ 4,750	618
CLEBURNE	3,928	\$ 20,547	\$ 10,854	\$ -	\$ 284	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 131	\$ 9,278	1,120
CLEVELAND	777	\$ 4,943	\$ 2,597	\$ -	\$ 167	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 2,157	250
COLUMBIA	1,731	\$ 8,782	\$ 4,856	\$ -	\$ 383	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ 3,467	485
CONWAY	1,784	\$ 13,718	\$ 5,836	\$ -	\$ 391	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101	\$ 7,390	692
CRAIGHEAD	7,062	\$ 29,274	\$ 16,581	\$ -	\$ 2,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 363	\$ 10,030	1,909
CRAWFORD	5,868	\$ 33,037	\$ 18,462	\$ -	\$ 1,064	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 119	\$ 13,392	2,361
CRITTENDEN	3,671	\$ 18,520	\$ 7,686	\$ -	\$ 745	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 161	\$ 9,929	1,074
CROSS	1,072	\$ 7,456	\$ 4,036	\$ -	\$ 234	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18	\$ 3,169	409
DALLAS	629	\$ 3,923	\$ 1,931	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ 1,856	218
DESHA	930	\$ 5,754	\$ 2,635	\$ -	\$ 155	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63	\$ 2,901	350
DREW	1,816	\$ 8,634	\$ 4,090	\$ -	\$ 441	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 78	\$ 4,025	477
FAULKNER	8,254	\$ 57,097	\$ 27,413	\$ -	\$ 3,369	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 483	\$ 25,831	2,545
FRANKLIN	1,755	\$ 10,856	\$ 6,235	\$ -	\$ 288	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ 4,287	676
FULTON	1,283	\$ 8,005	\$ 4,995	\$ -	\$ 169	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 2,795	448
GARLAND	10,155	\$ 59,211	\$ 28,763	\$ -	\$ 1,637	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 642	\$ 28,169	3,796
GRANT	1,708	\$ 11,056	\$ 5,048	\$ -	\$ 346	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ 5,572	472
GREENE	3,441	\$ 21,982	\$ 11,271	\$ -	\$ 731	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 128	\$ 9,852	1,211
HEMPSTEAD	1,520	\$ 7,612	\$ 4,328	\$ -	\$ 293	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 82	\$ 2,909	455
HOT SPRING	3,464	\$ 17,279	\$ 8,440	\$ -	\$ 387	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 115	\$ 8,336	998
HOWARD	1,055	\$ 5,046	\$ 2,617	\$ -	\$ 204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95	\$ 2,129	311
INDEPENDENCE	3,379	\$ 18,236	\$ 9,553	\$ -	\$ 628	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 131	\$ 7,924	887
IZARD	1,676	\$ 7,760	\$ 4,771	\$ -	\$ 211	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 2,739	480

FY10 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

ARKANSAS
Expenditures in \$000s

County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
JACKSON	1,057	\$ 8,251	\$ 4,153	\$ -	\$ 183	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56	\$ 3,859	470
JEFFERSON	7,276	\$ 50,183	\$ 25,053	\$ -	\$ 1,949	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 219	\$ 22,962	2,385
JOHNSON	1,830	\$ 12,309	\$ 6,459	\$ -	\$ 415	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79	\$ 5,355	725
LAFAYETTE	692	\$ 3,164	\$ 1,371	\$ -	\$ 73	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ 1,717	207
LAWRENCE	1,450	\$ 7,107	\$ 3,572	\$ -	\$ 208	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59	\$ 3,269	504
LEE	864	\$ 3,523	\$ 1,556	\$ -	\$ 51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 1,913	177
LINCOLN	1,290	\$ 5,414	\$ 2,705	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 2,539	264
LITTLE RIVER	966	\$ 5,528	\$ 3,185	\$ -	\$ 114	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 2,198	370
LOGAN	2,162	\$ 12,496	\$ 6,922	\$ -	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107	\$ 5,116	892
LONOKE	6,786	\$ 53,296	\$ 30,071	\$ -	\$ 3,242	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235	\$ 19,749	2,152
MADISON	1,243	\$ 8,277	\$ 3,548	\$ -	\$ 124	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61	\$ 4,543	554
MARION	2,474	\$ 12,600	\$ 7,007	\$ -	\$ 282	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 354	\$ 4,958	819
MILLER	3,987	\$ 14,807	\$ 8,377	\$ -	\$ 466	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 245	\$ 5,718	980
MISSISSIPPI	3,313	\$ 20,122	\$ 11,312	\$ -	\$ 784	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 7,926	1,051
MONROE	662	\$ 5,456	\$ 2,170	\$ -	\$ 92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62	\$ 3,132	255
MONTGOMERY	1,128	\$ 7,052	\$ 4,174	\$ -	\$ 179	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ 2,682	438
NEVADA	858	\$ 4,645	\$ 2,549	\$ -	\$ 153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79	\$ 1,864	231
NEWTON	819	\$ 4,691	\$ 2,449	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ 2,162	326
OUACHITA	2,666	\$ 13,812	\$ 6,704	\$ -	\$ 512	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 111	\$ 6,484	801
PERRY	1,121	\$ 7,576	\$ 3,612	\$ -	\$ 111	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20	\$ 3,833	309
PHILLIPS	1,312	\$ 9,250	\$ 4,390	\$ -	\$ 213	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 4,594	505
PIKE	962	\$ 4,620	\$ 2,238	\$ -	\$ 51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 2,289	295
POINSETT	2,184	\$ 8,603	\$ 4,505	\$ -	\$ 297	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35	\$ 3,766	622
POLK	2,311	\$ 18,441	\$ 9,736	\$ -	\$ 372	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 128	\$ 8,204	1,073
POPE	5,114	\$ 25,704	\$ 13,212	\$ -	\$ 1,533	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 551	\$ 10,408	1,423
PRAIRIE	915	\$ 5,129	\$ 2,499	\$ -	\$ 78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16	\$ 2,536	276
PULASKI	33,817	\$ 351,832	\$ 133,582	\$ 7,308	\$ 13,839	\$ -	\$ 38,751	\$ 2,626	\$ 155,726	12,151
RANDOLPH	1,674	\$ 11,127	\$ 6,359	\$ -	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58	\$ 4,360	618
SAINT FRANCIS	1,968	\$ 9,169	\$ 4,515	\$ -	\$ 298	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 129	\$ 4,227	529
SALINE	10,620	\$ 52,277	\$ 24,022	\$ -	\$ 2,394	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 589	\$ 25,272	2,970
SCOTT	1,021	\$ 7,113	\$ 3,105	\$ -	\$ 117	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15	\$ 3,875	482
SEARCY	904	\$ 6,595	\$ 3,691	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 119	\$ 2,720	373
SEBASTIAN	9,538	\$ 58,730	\$ 31,976	\$ 817	\$ 2,895	\$ -	\$ 828	\$ 635	\$ 21,579	4,161

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ARKANSAS
Expenditures in \$000s

County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
SEVIER	1,249	\$ 6,133	\$ 3,398	\$ -	\$ 129	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ 2,582	341
SHARP	2,124	\$ 13,448	\$ 7,787	\$ -	\$ 233	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112	\$ 5,316	847
STONE	1,477	\$ 10,247	\$ 6,395	\$ -	\$ 155	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 66	\$ 3,632	506
UNION	3,505	\$ 17,203	\$ 8,492	\$ -	\$ 539	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 238	\$ 7,934	1,095
VAN BUREN	2,363	\$ 13,351	\$ 7,941	\$ -	\$ 254	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95	\$ 5,061	685
WASHINGTON	13,546	\$ 107,593	\$ 31,953	\$ 22,144	\$ 4,608	\$ -	\$ 4,768	\$ 720	\$ 43,400	5,268
WHITE	6,597	\$ 40,592	\$ 22,445	\$ -	\$ 1,712	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 231	\$ 16,205	1,987
WOODRUFF	614	\$ 3,042	\$ 1,820	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 1,168	140
YELL	1,379	\$ 9,535	\$ 4,707	\$ -	\$ 201	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 4,596	522
ARKANSAS (Totals)	254,664	\$ 1,616,651	\$ 761,123	\$ 30,269	\$ 60,854	\$ -	\$ 44,347	\$ 14,031	\$ 706,027	85,624
CONG. DIST (01)	61,837	\$ 354,302	\$ 190,214	\$ -	\$ 12,808	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,783	\$ 148,498	19,803
CONG. DIST (02)	65,935	\$ 545,593	\$ 229,204	\$ 7,241	\$ 22,246	\$ -	\$ 38,751	\$ 4,168	\$ 243,983	21,861
CONG. DIST (03)	67,270	\$ 381,856	\$ 172,875	\$ 22,961	\$ 15,669	\$ -	\$ 5,596	\$ 3,915	\$ 160,840	24,559
CONG. DIST (04)	59,621	\$ 335,036	\$ 168,831	\$ 68	\$ 10,131	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,165	\$ 152,842	19,401
ARKANSAS (Totals)	254,664	\$ 1,616,787	\$ 761,123	\$ 30,269	\$ 60,854	\$ -	\$ 44,347	\$ 14,031	\$ 706,162	85,624

Notes:

* Veteran population estimates, as of September 30, 2010, are produced by the VA Office of the Actuary (VetPop 2007).

Prior to FY 08, "Loan Guaranty" expenditures were included in the Education & Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (E&VRE) programs. Currently, all "Loan Guaranty" expenditures are attributed to Travis County, TX, where all Loan Guaranty payments are processed. VA will continue to improve data collection for future GDX reports to better distribute loan expenditures at the state, county and congressional district levels.

** Unique patients are patients who received treatment at a VA health care facility. Data are provided by the Allocation Resource Center (ARC).

Expenditure data sources: Federal Assistance Awards Data System (FAADS) for Compensation & Pension (C&P) and Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (EVRE) Benefits; Veterans Benefits Administration Insurance Center for the Insurance costs; the VA Financial Management System (FMS) for Construction, Medical Research, General Operating Expenses, and certain C&P and Readjustment data; and the Allocation Resource Center (ARC) for Medical Care costs.

1. Expenditures are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars. For example, \$500 to \$1,000 are rounded to \$1; \$0 to \$499 are rounded to \$0; and "\$ -" = 0 or no expenditures.

2. The Compensation & Pension expenditures include dollars for the following programs: veterans' compensation for service-connected disability; dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected deaths; veterans' pension for nonservice-connected disabilities; and burial and other benefits to veterans and their survivors.

3. Medical Care expenditures include dollars for medical services, medical administration, facility maintenance, educational support, research support, and other overhead items. Medical Care expenditures do not include dollars for construction or other non-medical support.

FY10 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

**ARKANSAS
Expenditures in \$000s**

County/ Congressional District	Veteran Population*	Total Expenditure	Compensation & Pension	Construction	Education & Vocational Rehabilitation/ Employment	Loan Guaranty#	General Operating Expenses	Insurance & Indemnities	Medical Care	Unique Patients**
4. Medical Care expenditures are based on where patients live instead of where care is delivered.										