



# Georgia Department of Veterans Service



## 2019 Annual Report

Mike Roby, Commissioner



## About this Report

In accordance with state law, the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Veterans Service annually submits a report of the agency's activities to the Governor and the General Assembly. The GDVS Annual Report also serves as a repository of general information about the department.

Throughout this report, many references are made to Fiscal Year 2019; this refers to the State of Georgia's fiscal year from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019. Where information refers instead to calendar year 2019, this will be noted.

Where federal data are concerned, the latest available data is sometimes from Federal Fiscal Year 2018 (Oct. 1, 2017, to Sept. 30, 2018). Such cases are noted where they occur.

An electronic version of this report is available online at [veterans.georgia.gov/annual-report](http://veterans.georgia.gov/annual-report). An archive of the most recent editions of the GDVS Annual Report may be found in the same location.

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## About the Cover

Georgia State Representative Rhonda Burnough has hosted Georgia's Gold Star Fathers Day Ceremony annually since 2017. Commissioner Roby joined state representatives, the Georgia National Guard, and several Gold Star Fathers on November 7, 2019 to honor and remember their children. This was one of several special events the Georgia Department of Veterans Service participated in to honor veterans during 2019.

(Credit: Photo, GDVS/Charlotte May)



MIKE ROBY  
COMMISSIONER

## Department of Veterans Service

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January 17, 2020

Governor Brian Kemp  
Members of the General Assembly  
Members of the Veterans Service Board  
Citizens of the State of Georgia

Greetings:

Section 38-4-11 of the Code of Georgia reads:

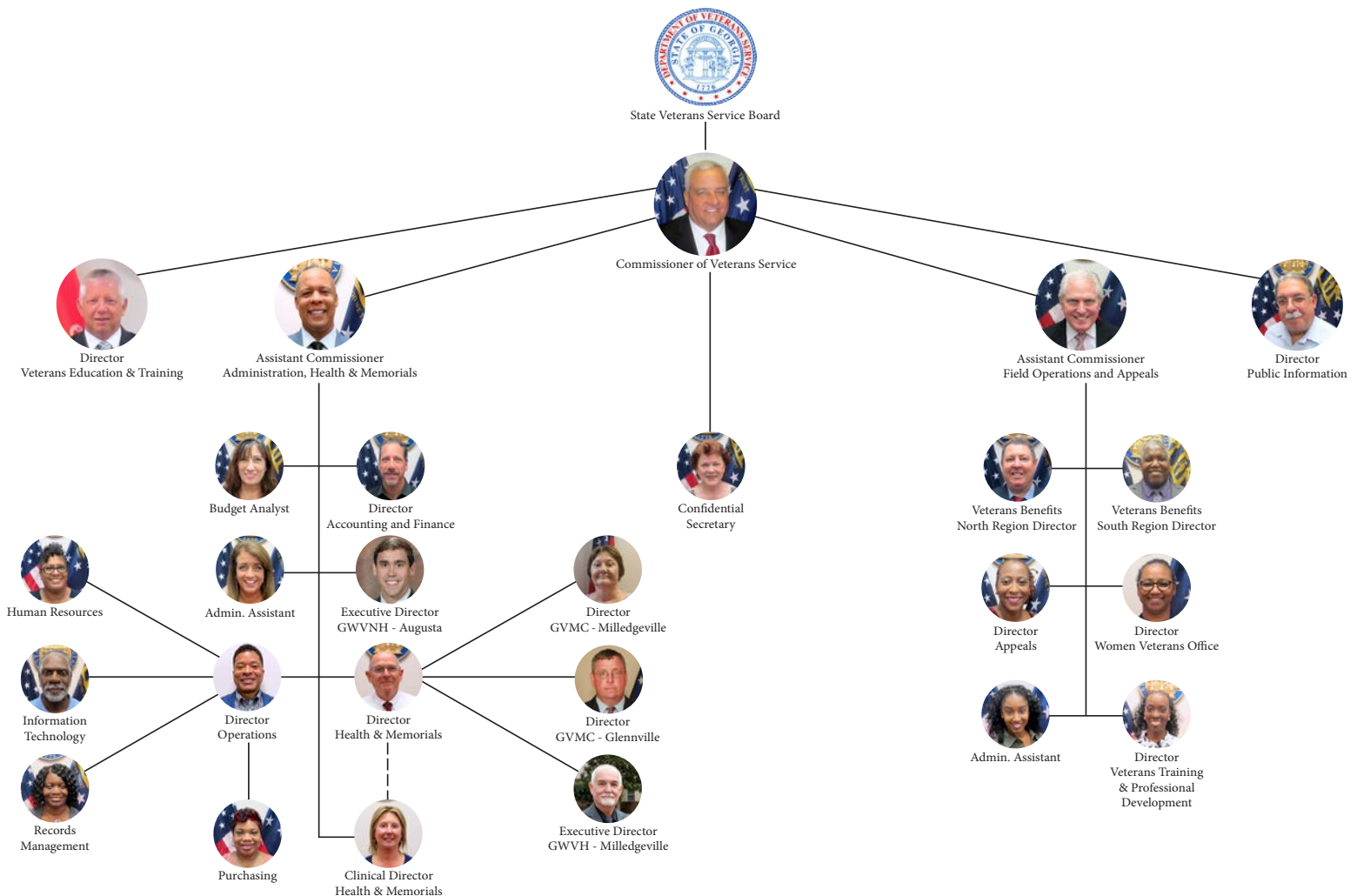
*“The Commissioner of Veterans Service shall furnish to the Governor, the members of the General Assembly, the Veterans Service Board, veterans' organizations, and the public generally an annual report with reference to claims presented on behalf of veterans of this state, concerning veterans aided under federal, state, or local legislation, and otherwise to report the activities and accomplishments of the Department of Veterans Service.”*

In compliance with the above section, I have the honor to present herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Veterans Service for the year 2019. A copy of this report is also available at <https://veterans.georgia.gov/annual-report>.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Roby  
Commissioner

# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



## MISSIONS:

TO ASSIST GEORGIA'S 700,000+ VETERANS WITH BENEFITS CLAIMS TO OBTAIN COMPENSATION, PENSION AND SERVICES FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA).

TO PROVIDE NURSING CARE TO VETERAN PATIENTS AT THE AUGUSTA AND MILLEDGEVILLE STATE VETERANS HOMES.

TO PROVIDE MEMORIAL BENEFITS TO GEORGIA'S VETERANS WHO SERVED FAITHFULLY AND HONORABLY IN THE ARMED FORCES OF OUR NATION AND TO THEIR FAMILIES AT THE GLENNVILLE AND MILLEDGEVILLE STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES THAT ARE SHRINES TO THE MEMORY OF OUR STATE'S HEROES.

## VISION:

WE WILL PROVIDE THE HIGHEST QUALITY ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA'S VETERANS TO AID THEM IN OBTAINING ALL THE BENEFITS FROM THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED.

WE WILL PROVIDE THE HIGHEST QUALITY NURSING HOME SERVICES TO GEORGIA'S VETERAN PATIENTS, AS JUDGED BY VA SURVEYS, STATE INSPECTIONS AND OTHER ACCREDITING AGENCIES.

WE WILL PROVIDE SHRINE STANDARD SERVICES AT GEORGIA'S STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES TO MEMORIALIZE OUR STATE'S FALLEN AND DECEASED HEROES WHO FAITHFULLY AND HONORABLY SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES.

## VALUES:

WE VALUE THE SERVICE GEORGIA'S VETERANS HAVE PROVIDED TO OUR NATION AND OUR STATE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF OUR NATION AND THE FREEDOMS WE ALL ENJOY BECAUSE OF THAT SERVICE.

WE VALUE THE ONGOING PARTNERSHIP OUR STATE HAS WITH THE VA TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND SERVICE TO GEORGIA'S VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.



# VETERANS SERVICE BOARD

The constitution of the State of Georgia specifies the State Veterans Service Board be composed of seven members. Each member must be a veteran of the armed forces of the United States and must have served honorably during wartime.

The Governor appoints members, subject to confirmation by the State Senate. Board member terms are staggered and are for seven years. From its membership, the Board elects a chairman, vice chairman, and secretary. Every four years the Board appoints a Commissioner, through whom the Board controls the overall policy of the Department of Veterans Service.

2019 saw the departure of longtime board member Pat Phillips and the appointment of Takosha Swan.



Thomas Mash



Patricia Ross



Phil Youngblood



Dan Cravey



Shawn Hanley



Takosha Swan



Eddie Whitted

## 2019 BOARD MEMBERS

### BOARD MEMBER

PATRICIA ROSS  
THOMAS MASH  
PHILIP G. YOUNGBLOOD  
DANIEL CRAVEY  
SHAWN HANLEY  
TAKOSHA SWAN  
CHARLES EDWARD “EDDIE” WHITTED

### POSITION

CHAIRMAN  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
SECRETARY  
MEMBER  
MEMBER  
MEMBER  
MEMBER

### CITY

WARNER ROBINS  
LAWRENCEVILLE  
QUITMAN  
MILNER  
ATLANTA  
CONYERS  
BLACKSHEAR

# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

## *Serving Those Who Served*

The mission of the Department of Veterans Service is to serve the 700,000+ veterans residing in Georgia, their dependents and survivors in all matters pertaining to veterans benefits.

This responsibility falls into two basic tasks: informing veterans and their families about veterans benefits; and directly assisting and advising veterans and their families in securing the benefits to which they are entitled.

To support these missions, the department maintains an appeals division, field offices, two veterans nursing homes, two veterans cemeteries, and a public information division.

The Appeals Division's mission is to process appeals of Georgia veterans.

The Veterans Field Service Offices, located throughout the state, provide direct assistance to veterans at the local level. The department representatives provide counsel and assist veterans in gathering the documents and information required to support their claims.

The War Veterans Nursing Homes provide skilled nursing care to Georgia's war veterans who need those services.

The Veterans Memorial Cemeteries provide final resting places for Georgia's veterans and their spouses and serve as shrines to their memory and their service to our nation.

The Public Information Division's mission is to keep Georgia veterans informed about these issues.

The uninformed may be prone to use the phrase "duplication of effort" when referring to the functions

of the Department of Veterans Service and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; nothing could be further from the truth.

To a veteran seeking benefits from the VA, the role played by the Department of Veterans Service might be compared to that of an attorney representing a client in court.



The necessity for personal assistance in filing and pursuing claims and in maintaining a continuing information program results from the legal principle that veterans benefits are not awarded automatically – all must be applied for.

The VA pays a veteran exactly what he or she applies for when they are entitled, and no more. The aim of

the Department of Veterans Service is to obtain for a veteran or dependents the earned benefits to which they are entitled, to tell them when they are entitled, and to assist them in gathering and preparing evidence needed to justify a claim and prove their entitlement.

The advancing age of Korean and Vietnam War veterans, and the frequent changes that occur in veterans benefits legislation, will necessitate the continuance of a variety of veterans programs in the years ahead.

As the Congress continues to seek ways to reduce the deficit, veterans benefits will continue to be in a state of flux.

This means veterans will continue to need assistance in interpreting the changes and determining how they impact their personal situation.

# GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

## Department Functions

**Effectuate** and carry out the laws of the state pertaining to veterans.

**Inform** veterans, their dependents, and survivors as to their rights and benefits under federal and state legislation, or local ordinances.

**Assist** veterans, their dependents, and their beneficiaries in the preparation, presentation, proof, and establishment of such claims, privileges, rights and other benefits accruing to them under federal, state, and local laws.

**Report** any evidence of incompetence, dishonesty, or negligence on the part of any employee dealing with veterans affairs.

**Promote** and protect the rights of Georgia's veterans under federal and state law.

**Apply** for and accept gifts, grants, and other contributions from the federal government or from any other governmental units.

**Construct** and operate nursing homes and personal care homes for the benefit of eligible war veterans.

**Construct** and operate state veterans cemeteries for the benefit of eligible veterans and their dependents.

**Advise** the Governor, the Veterans Service Board, and the General Assembly as to needed veterans legislation.

**Maintain** files on all veterans

who have filed claims for veterans benefits through the department.

**Conduct** educational programs by personal appearances before veterans organizations, service clubs, fraternal groups, and other such organizations so as to acquaint the public generally with the work of the department.

**Conduct** outreach to women veterans to improve awareness of eligibility for federal and state veterans benefits and services.

**Make** representatives of the department available throughout the state to assist all veterans, their dependents, and survivors in preparing and filing claims for benefits and to acquaint them with all legal rights and privileges.

**Cooperate** with all national, state, and local governmental and private agencies, to secure or offer services or any benefits to veterans and their dependents.

**Assist** and cooperate with all veterans organizations in their work.

**Assist** other states in securing evidence for claims.

**Promote** enlargement and improvement of VA hospital facilities in the state.

**Sponsor** observance of Veterans Day in the state.

**Certify** eligibility for veterans driver licenses and honorary driver licenses.

**Certify** eligibility for disabled veteran discounts at

Department of Natural Resources facilities.

**Issue**, to qualified veterans, Certificates of Exemption from certain business taxes and fees.

**Assist** qualified veterans in obtaining honorary hunting and fishing licenses.

**Assist** in obtaining special motor vehicle license plates for qualified veterans, including veterans of specific military campaigns, retired veterans, and recipients of certain medals, as well as special tax-exempt license plates for Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war, disabled veterans, and Medal of Honor recipients.

**As State Approving Agency**, enter into contracts with the federal government for the qualification, approval, certification, and supervision of educational institutions and training establishments applying for or participating in federal programs for educating and training veterans.

**As Chair Agency of the Returning Veterans Task Force**, investigate how state services can be provided to veterans returning from military service, issue recommendations to each agency regarding improving service delivery, and transmit specific suggestions for legislation to the Governor and senior leaders of the General Assembly.



# VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING DIVISION

## State Approving Agency

By law, the Georgia Department of Veterans Service is designated as the State Approving Agency, responsible for approving and supervising all institutions and establishments in Georgia, which offer education and training under the provisions of the Veterans Educational Assistance Program.

Within the GDVS, the State Approving Agency (SAA) function is performed by the Veterans Education & Training Division. This division is responsible for ensuring approved institutions and establishments meet and maintain acceptable standards so eligible persons who attend may receive educational assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

This includes all public and private schools and all establishments offering apprenticeship and other on-the-job training (OJT). The satisfactory performance of these duties requires extensive knowledge in education administration and understanding the laws and regulations that govern and control the Veterans Educational Assistance Program.

In 2018, the GDVS continued to expand opportunities for Georgia veterans to receive their education benefits while enrolled in approved on-the-job training (OJT) and apprenticeship programs.

The Montgomery GI Bill education program, initiated in 1985, remains a great success. This program expanded the education benefits program to include vocational, technical, flight, correspondence, and OJT/apprenticeship training for reservists and veterans.

The Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008 program expanded the benefits available to certain service members and veterans with active duty military service after September 11, 2001.

The Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Improvements Act of 2010 made significant improvements such as adding OJT/apprenticeship and non-college degree schools, vocational schools, and flight schools to what is covered under the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

The Department of Defense also offers a “Transferability of Education Benefits” option for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. This retention program requires eligible active duty veterans with at least six years of service to commit to an additional four years of service upon approval.

On August 16, 2017 the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, also known as the “Forever GI Bill” was signed into law, which will bring significant changes to veterans’ education benefits. This includes removing the 15-year limitation to use education benefits for veterans who left active duty on or after January 1, 2013.

During fiscal year 2018, there were 21,993 Georgians receiving GI Bill benefits at educational institutions. An additional 874 veterans were enrolled in OJT programs.

In total, 21,119 Georgia veterans were enrolled in college degree and professional programs, technical career programs, vocational programs, flight training, and OJT programs during fiscal year 2018.

In FY 2018, the approval of educational institutions and training establishments for the education of Georgia veterans resulted in the processing of numerous individual actions in the approval, re-approval, withdrawal and compliance survey process.

At the close of 2018, there were 408 approved educational institutions and 1,335 approved training establishments in Georgia. The Veterans Education & Training Division monitors all 1,743 approved educational institutions and training establishments.

The division conducts regular inspection visits to ensure approval criteria and schools’ standards of progress are being followed as prescribed by law.

During 2018, personnel assigned to the Veterans Education & Training Division conducted numerous visits for the purpose of approval, re-approval, inspection, and compliance surveys.

For more information on all GI Bill programs, visit [benefits.va.gov/gibill](https://benefits.va.gov/gibill) or call the GDVS Education & Training Division at 404-656-2306.



# PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION

The Public Information Division collects, evaluates, and disseminates information to veterans regarding changes in benefits laws, and proper procedures to be followed in the filing of claims.

When appropriate, the division mails news and information releases concerning veterans affairs to newspapers, radio and television stations throughout Georgia.

The releases are used to inform veterans about the latest changes regarding veterans affairs and to provide information on the status of proposed or pending legislation that may affect them.

Through an aggressive internal communication program, the division keeps the field offices informed about changes in the law and policy interpretations that impact veterans.

The division supports the department's field personnel in their efforts to promote the department and the services it provides by their frequent contacts with the news media in their respective areas.

Public speaking forums are an important ingredient of the department's overall information program. All department personnel are encouraged to accept speaking engagements at meetings of veterans organizations and civic clubs. These personal appearances provide excellent opportunities for telling the veterans benefits story. Department personnel also participate in local radio talk shows and make presentations at local schools.

The division compiles, edits, and publishes a series of print materials explaining in detail the various benefits available to veterans, their dependents, and survivors. These include books, flyers, and pamphlets, all of which are updated as changes occur in laws,

regulations, or benefits.

This division is responsible for the department's online presence, including its website, blog, and several social media channels.

Veterans, their families, and all others interested in veteran-related news are encouraged to follow @gavetsvc on Twitter, where the department is leveraging the social media service to share the latest news of the day as it happens.

Those interested in more in-depth news and a chance to interact with other veterans and veteran advocates are encouraged to "like" the Georgia

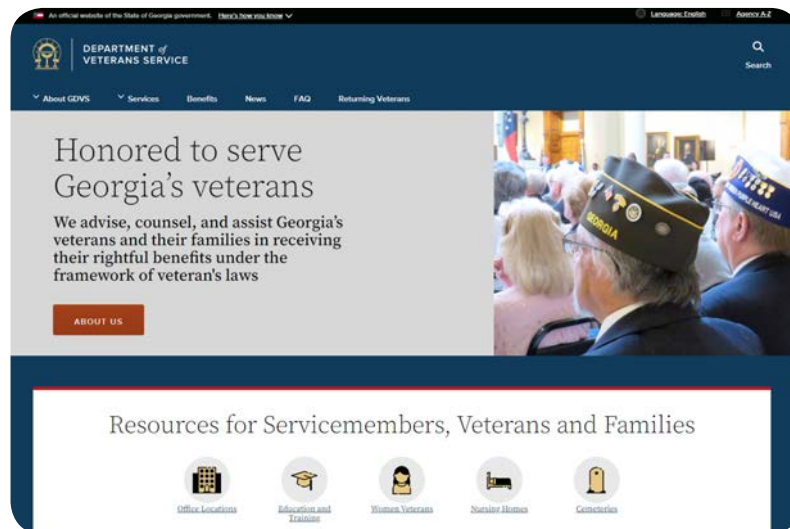
Department of Veterans Service's page on Facebook: [facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://facebook.com/gavetsvc).

Although the division strives to utilize the latest available new media tools, the department's website, [veterans.georgia.gov](https://veterans.georgia.gov), remains the top source for official Georgia Department of Veterans Service information.

The GDVS

website is a repository of information about veterans benefits, including the most up-to-date version of *State Benefits for Georgia Veterans*, and detailed information concerning all aspects of the department: Commissioner Roby, Georgia War Veterans Homes, Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemeteries, Veterans Field Service Offices, Appeals Division, and Veterans Education & Training. The website is also home to the department's official news feed and calendar of events.

The department's website underwent extensive revision and was relaunched within the state's new website design framework early in 2019. The updated website is fully accessible for all Georgians. It includes many new features, a refreshed appearance, and makes it easier for veterans to find important information and office locations.



# GEORGIA WAR VETERANS NURSING HOME

## Augusta

The Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home in Augusta is a 192-bed skilled nursing care facility located adjacent to the campus of Augusta University and the Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home is operated under an interagency agreement between the Georgia Department of Veterans Service and Augusta University.

Primarily, the facility provides medical, rehabilitation, and skilled nursing services to Georgia's aged and infirm war veterans. Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home also serves

as a teaching facility to acquaint medical, dental, pharmacy, and allied health students with the medical conditions and diseases of the aged. This provides students with practical experience and helps them gain expertise in treating the disabled and the elderly.

Also located at the facility is a GDVS Veterans Field Service Office that serves residents of the home and veterans of Richmond and Columbia counties.

Dedicated in 1969, the facility was the first of its kind in the nation to be built with financial grant assistance from the federal government. It is one of a select group of such institutions accredited by the Joint Commission.

In fiscal year 2019, the nursing home provided 53,288 days of care to Georgia's veterans with an average age of 82. During the year, there were 272 admissions and 286 discharges with an average length of stay of 213 days.

Services to patients included 5,681 physical therapy treatments and 7,224 individual occupational

therapy procedures.

Veteran patients were treated by a medical director and family medicine residents providing daily physician coverage. Other services were provided by a certified activities therapist and staff, three facility social workers and a staff of registered, licensed

practical nurses and certified nursing assistants.

To help provide care and treatment, the federal government, through the Department of Veterans Affairs, provided financial assistance totaling in excess of \$8.1 million during fiscal year 2019.

Throughout the year, veteran service

organizations, civic and fraternal organizations and religious groups demonstrated their concern for the well-being of veteran patients through numerous donations, visits, and sponsorship of frequent activities for Georgia War Veterans Nursing Home residents.



# GEORGIA WAR VETERANS HOME *Milledgeville*

The Georgia War Veterans Home, situated on approximately 17 acres in Milledgeville, is a 375-bed facility licensed and certified by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to provide skilled nursing care to aged and infirm Georgia war veterans. United Veteran Services of Georgia, Inc., a subsidiary of UHS-Pruitt Corporation of Norcross, operates the home for the Department of Veterans Service under a contractual agreement.

The home operated three skilled nursing care facilities in 2019. The Carl Vinson Building remains at an 84 – bed capacity, the Joe T. Wood Building remains at a 140 – bed capacity and the Alzheimer’s Unit remains at a 24 – bed capacity.

The Richard B. Russell Building is undergoing major renovations for a new 58 – bed skilled care sub-acute therapy unit which will treat service-connected disabled veterans as part of the home.

Once renovations are completed by the middle of year 2021, the Georgia War Veterans Home will have a capacity of 306 beds provided state funds remain available at the current level.

During fiscal year 2019, veteran patients at the home received 82,777 days of skilled nursing care. The nursing home admitted 141 patients during the year and had 141 discharges/deaths. The average length of stay for current skilled veteran patients is 1,308 days or 3.6 years.

During fiscal year 2019, federal assistance in funding a portion of the cost of providing care to veterans in the home amounted to \$12,212,689.

As in previous years, many veterans service organizations, civic groups, and church groups

continued their sponsorship of numerous activities such as movies, games, dance parties, bingo, picnics, and other activities and programs for the general well-being of the veteran patients at the home.

Groups and individuals that comprised the equivalent of 3,145 individual volunteers providing in excess of 11,589 hours of time valued at over \$208,602 presented over 1,213 activities during the year.

The value of donated items made available to the home during fiscal year 2019 was \$354,801. Groups and individuals also provided direct monetary donations of \$27,853 in support of special activities and projects.

The GDVS Veteran Field Service Office serving veterans in the home and in Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson counties is located in the Wheeler Building. This office also serves the 250 veterans of the Georgia War Veterans Home by assisting with compensation and pension claims, counseling services, and family-related issues. Veteran-related visits for this field office totaled over 6,230 for calendar year 2019. These visits resulted in more than 10,258 transactions in support of their well-deserved benefits.

The home also hosts a VA community clinic which provides outpatient care to veterans in Baldwin and the surrounding counties.





# GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

## Milledgeville

**G**eorgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Milledgeville is located approximately five miles south of downtown Milledgeville along Georgia Highway 112.

This cemetery, established on 142 acres the Georgia Department of Veterans Service received from the Georgia Forestry Commission, includes an administration/visitor center with a state-of-the-art information booth, a committal chapel, a carillon, and 12 columbarium shelters for cremations. Cemetery grounds also include a six-acre lake and a three-acre, multi-tier walled ceremonial area.

The cemetery will eventually be the final resting place for more than 100,000 eligible veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependents.

As of December 1, 2019, there were 3,827 veterans, spouses and dependents buried at GVMC. Burials are composed of 2,627 casketed burials, 696 cremations, 476 in ground cremations, and 28 memorial markers.

The cemetery celebrated the opening of its Phase III expansion in October 2018. The expansion includes 15 acres of developed land and added space for 1,520 pre-placed crypts and 320 columbarium niches.

The avenue of flags is displayed when ceremonies are held at the cemetery, such as Memorial Day and Wreaths Across America. In addition, it is displayed on Flag Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day.

Flags were placed on all burial sites and at the front entrance of the cemetery in recognition of Memorial Day. The Knights of Columbus, Patriot Guard,

and members of the 48th Infantry Brigade conducted a ceremony attended by approximately 500 people.

Flags were placed on all burial sites in the cemetery in recognition of Veterans Day.

On December 15, 2018, the cemetery hosted its annual Wreaths Across America ceremony honoring our past and present military. Seven wreaths, provided by the Worchester Wreath Company, were presented honoring each branch of our Armed Forces, Merchant Marines and POWs/MIAs. The ceremony included members of the Morris Little American Legion Post, the Patriot Guard Riders, Honor



Guards from the Retired Marine Corps League, and Civil Air Patrol of Morgan County and music by Stacey Blanton. Members of the 139<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron, 5<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Intelligence Squadron coordinated volunteers placing wreaths on graves following the ceremony.

The cemetery has many visitors each year. Some are visiting grave sites, some are seeking information about the cemetery and burial requirements, and many have just heard about the cemetery and want to see the grounds.

Cemetery staff members remain active in the local community by meeting frequently with business groups, veterans organizations, and church groups.

The GVMC's hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding official state holidays.

The cemetery is open to families, visitors, and the general public seven days each week from 8 a.m. to dusk.



# GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

## *Glennville*

**G**eorgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery – Glennville is situated on the 42.6 acre site of the former Dyess Farm, just north of the Glennville city limits on U.S. Highway 301, 25 miles west of the main post of Fort Stewart.

The initial 26-acre phase of the cemetery contains 1,400 pre-placed in-ground double vaults, for eligible veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependents; 766 conventional single depth sites; 1,384 cremation interment sites, which include a columbarium and in-ground sites; and 429 spaces for memorial markers. These memorial markers are placed in memory of those veterans whose remains are unavailable for burial.

GVMC–Glennville was dedicated on November 28, 2007, and will eventually be the final resting place for more than 21,000 veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependents. As of December 31, 2019, there were 1,595 veterans, spouses, and family members interred.

A key feature of the cemetery is the co-location of the Glennville Veterans Field Service Office, which provides assistance to veterans and their families in Bryan, Long, Tattnall, and Wayne counties.

In 2019, GVMC–Glennville hosted its annual Memorial Day ceremony to honor veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of our country. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the Glennville American Legion post and the Glennville Veterans of Foreign Wars post. Lt. Col. Luke Richards, Commander of Fort Stewart's Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, was the guest speaker for

the ceremony. He took the opportunity to inform the crowd of the importance of Memorial Day as a time to honor today's soldiers as well as soldiers of the past who have all sacrificed. Cemetery Director Ernie Cowart welcomed the crowd to the cemetery, as over 350 people attended the ceremony during a beautiful spring day.

For Memorial Day and Veterans Day, Boy Scout Troop 929 placed U.S. flags at the grave sites of the veterans interred in the cemetery. In December, the Bonaventure Children of the American Revolution Society, along with the Glennville Faith



Riders, and other civic groups sponsored a Wreaths Across America ceremony to place wreaths at all the interment sites in the cemetery. The Air Force JROTC of Effingham County High School took part in the ceremony and provided the color guard. Stephanie Lawless, director of the Toombs County High School Band, performed "Taps." A crowd of over 400 people attended the ceremony and then helped place wreaths at the graves.

Cemetery staff members remain active in the local community by meeting frequently with civic groups, veterans organizations, and other various groups.

GVMC–Glennville's hours of operation are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding official state holidays.

The cemetery is open to families, visitors, and the general public seven days each week from 8 a.m. to dusk.



# STATISTICAL REPORT

## Calendar Year 2019

### OVERVIEW

Office Visits .....	161,526
Other Visits .....	168,769
Women's Program Visits .....	14,607
Hearings .....	1,387

### SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS – FEDERAL BENEFITS

Compensation and Pension .....	43,424
DIC and Death Pension .....	7,353
Education, Training, and Vocational Rehabilitation .....	2,170
Notices of Disagreement and Appeals Filed .....	9,142
Medical .....	12,327
Micellaneous .....	134,162
Advice .....	186,718

### SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS – STATE BENEFITS

Driver's License .....	11,652
Business License .....	421
State Veterans Home Applications .....	250
License Plates .....	3,405
Natural Resources .....	1,178
Tax Exemptions .....	2,123
Social Security/Welfare Assistance .....	8,729
Advice .....	60,845

### TOTALS

Visits .....	344,902
Federal Actions .....	395,155
State Actions .....	88,603

# STATISTICAL REPORT

## Definitions

**OFFICE VISIT:** A visit to a Veterans Field Service Office by a veteran, family member, or other interested individual to inquire about, or make application for, veterans benefits provided by the federal government or the State of Georgia. It includes the provision of advice and assistance to the individual(s), the completion of forms or other correspondence/documentation related to veterans benefits.

**OTHER VISIT:** A telephone call, email, mail or telefax made to or received from a veteran, family member, or other interested individual to inquire or advise about veterans benefits provided by the federal government or the State of Georgia. It includes the provision of advice and assistance to the individual(s).

**HEARING:** A hearing is conducted by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to review and adjudicate an appeal of a previous decision by the VA and is conducted by a hearing officer or judge of the VA. It includes the preparation by a claims and appeals officer (VCAO) and the actual presentation at the formal hearing in person or by electronic means by a VCAO.

### **SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS: FEDERAL BENEFITS**

*The following categories include the initiation and/or completion of an application for benefits as defined:*

**COMPENSATION AND PENSION:** Claims for monetary benefits submitted by veterans, dependents, or survivors.

**DIC AND DEATH PENSION:** Dependents Indemnity Compensation and Death Pension.

**EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION:** Includes educational benefits at an institution of higher learning, on-the-job training, or apprenticeship training, as provided in the current educational benefits of the "GI Bill." Referral to the GDVS Veterans Education & Training Division or the VA Regional Office Educational Benefits office is included as part of this service or transaction.

**NOD AND APPEALS:** Notice of Disagreement or Appeal related to a claim application for VA benefits.

**MEDICAL:** Treatment of medical or dental conditions, admission to health care facilities, and vocational rehabilitation.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Includes the initiation and application for other benefits not listed elsewhere. This includes insurance claims and applications for burial benefits (grave markers and interment in veterans cemeteries); loans, powers of attorney, and changes of address; loan benefits, advice on eligibility requirements, normal processing methods, etc.; applications for designation of power of attorney for GDVS to act on behalf of the veteran with VA claims actions; advice on making a change of address using VA's processes.

**ADVICE:** Advice provided to a veteran or family member about federal benefits. As a result of advice provided to a client, other services or transactions may be provided at the same time or at a later visit.

### **SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS: STATE BENEFITS**

*The following categories include the initiation and/or completion of an application for benefits as defined:*

**DRIVER'S LICENSE:** Georgia Veteran's Driver's License, Honorary Driver's License, or National Guard Driver's License.

**BUSINESS LICENSE:** Certificates issued to certain disabled veterans exempting them from the payment of business license taxes.

**STATE VETERANS HOME APPLICATION:** Admission to a State Veterans Home.

**LICENSE PLATES:** Commemorative service, disabled veteran, military award, etc.

**NATURAL RESOURCES:** A park pass provided to eligible veterans and the submission of the application to the GDVS Central Office for approval and issuance.

**TAX EXEMPTIONS:** Tax exemptions for which the veteran may be eligible.

**SOCIAL SECURITY/WELFARE ASSISTANCE:** Advice regarding an application for Social Security or welfare benefits.

**ADVICE:** Advice provided to a veteran or family member about state benefits. As a result of advice provided to a client, other services or transactions may be provided.

# GDVS FINANCIAL REPORT

## *Fiscal Year 2019*

Class Name	Program Name	Budget	Expenditures
Personal Services	Administation	1,691,490.00	1,666,075.00
Regular Operating	Administation	56,565.00	55,100.00
Computer Charges	Administation	58,345.00	58,342.00
Real Estate Rentals	Administation	8,596.00	8,586.00
Telecommunications	Administation	76,932.00	76,927.00
Contracts	Administation	37.00	-
		1,891,965.00	1,865,030.00
Personal Services	Milledgeville Cemetery	387,810.00	380,050.00
Regular Operating	Milledgeville Cemetery	168,480.00	157,656.00
Vehicle Purchase	Milledgeville Cemetery	26,742.00	26,742.00
Telecommunications	Milledgeville Cemetery	4,183.00	3,232.00
		587,215.00	567,680.00
Personal Services	Glennville Cemetery	311,935.00	309,321.00
Regular Operating	Glennville Cemetery	94,533.00	93,952.00
Telecommunications	Glennville Cemetery	7,904.00	7,273.00
		414,372.00	410,546.00
Personal Services	Field Operations	5,638,987.00	5,552,681.00
Regular Operating	Field Operations	653,827.00	579,364.00
Real Estate Rentals	Field Operations	230,037.00	230,030.00
Telecommunications	Field Operations	86,934.00	83,433.00
Contracts	Field Operations	100,262.00	100,254.00
ROE For Projects And Insurance	Field Operations	48,787.00	48,785.00
		6,758,834.00	6,594,547.00
Personal Services	Appeals	901,175.00	887,257.00
Regular Operating	Appeals	12,931.00	10,934.00
Telecommunications	Appeals	8,005.00	6,996.00
Contracts	Appeals	5.00	-
		922,116.00	905,187.00
Personal Services	Education And Training	617,220.00	617,210.00
Regular Operating	Education And Training	40,786.00	39,359.00
Real Estate Rentals	Education And Training	96,176.00	96,136.00
Telecommunications	Education And Training	13,834.00	14,130.00
		768,016.00	766,835.00
Personal Services	Augusta	57,760.00	55,971.00
Regular Operating	Augusta	50,000.00	50,000.00
Op Exp/Pay Med College of GA	Augusta	15,063,757.00	14,993,921.00
		15,171,517.00	15,099,892.00
Personal Services	Milledgeville Skilled Care	187,565.00	185,677.00
Regular Operating	Milledgeville Skilled Care	550,000.00	548,161.00
Capital Outlay	Milledgeville Skilled Care	3,254,000.00	3,254,000.00
Contracts	Milledgeville Skilled Care	20,015,557.00	19,810,702.00
		24,007,122.00	23,798,540.00
Totals		50,521,157.00	50,008,257.00



# VA MONETARY REPORT

## Benefits & Definitions

Listed below is a report of the monetary benefits received by the veterans and the dependent survivors of deceased veterans in Georgia during federal fiscal year 2018 (October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018). The figures were provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and were the latest available at the end of 2019. (See the end of this report for a more detailed breakdown of these figures.)

*Compensation and Pension*  
**\$3,638,052,000**

*Medical Care*  
**\$2,109,274,000**

*Construction*  
**\$19,122,000**

*Insurance and Indemnities*  
**\$47,387,000**

*Education and Vocational Rehabilitation*  
**\$486,659,000**

*General Operating Expenses*  
**\$101,247,000**

*Total Expenditure*  
**\$6,401,768,000**



**Compensation and Pension:** Benefits expenditures for the following categories: compensation payments, pension payments, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, and burial allowances.

**Medical Care:** Operating expenses incurred through the provision of health care services to veterans. The specific programs reported for this category are: medical care, General Post Fund, medical and prosthetic research, and miscellaneous accounts.

**Construction:** Funding for Major Projects, Minor Projects, Grants for Construction of State Extended Care Facilities, and Grants for Construction of State Veterans Cemeteries.

**Insurance and Indemnities:** Expenditures for death claims, matured endowments, dividends, cash surrender payments, total disability income provision payments, and total and permanent disability benefits payments.

**Education and Vocational Rehabilitation:** Expenditures in this category include: automobile and adaptive equipment, specially adapted housing, Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance (Chapter 35), Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Veterans (Chapter 31), Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance (Chapter 32), Montgomery G.I. Bill for Selected Reserves (Chapter 1606), Reserve Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 1607), Montgomery G.I. Bill (Chapter 30), Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance (Chapter 33).

**General Operating Costs:** General Operating Expenses represent the costs necessary to provide administration and oversight for the benefits provided by VA. This includes costs for overhead and human resources [to operate VA's regional office, hospitals, health clinics, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities in Georgia]. This category does not include payments made directly to beneficiaries.

# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Activities



Commissioner Roby and top state officials, including Adjutant General Tom Carden, met at the Governor's mansion in January to greet new Governor Brian Kemp. Commissioner Roby discussed current GDVS goals and his vision's for the department's future plans.



Commissioner Roby participated in the unveiling and dedication of the Augusta-Central Savannah River Area Vietnam War Veterans Memorial on National Vietnam War Veterans Day.



The Women Veterans Office held their first symposium in June. Commissioner Roby joined Director Veda Brooks at the VECTR Center in Warner Robins during the opening ceremony. Women veterans were invited to spend two days learning about benefits and resources.



Georgia Building Authority craftsmen built a base for the state's POW/MIA Chair of Honor from wood from the state capitol grounds. Commissioner Roby and State Property Officer Steve Stancil unveiled the chair and placed it in its permanent home in the Veterans Memorial Towers in downtown Atlanta.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Annual Training



The Georgia Department of Veterans Service annually gathers its Veterans Field Service Officers and Appeals Officers for training to ensure all employees maintain certification and stay up-to-date on the latest changes to regulations governing veterans benefits.

The department's Training and Development Division plans and coordinates lessons for all department employees. Service officers were split into small groups to target key competency areas. At the end of the week, employees complete a comprehensive final exam to test their knowledge and maintain their accreditation with VA.



South Region Veterans Field Service Officers





North Region Veterans Field Service Officers





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Supermarket of Veterans Benefits

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service hosted a Supermarket of Veterans Benefits in Warner Robins on Thursday, April 25, 2019.

The Supermarket of Veterans Benefits is a gathering of federal, state, and local government agencies to provide a “one-stop shop” for veterans benefits. While the Supermarket is one of the Department’s signature events and has been held in various cities across the state since 1966, this was the first one held since 2015. Over 3,000 veterans and their families met with GDVS staff and representatives from more than 25 agencies and non-profit organizations.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Supermarket of Veterans Benefits*



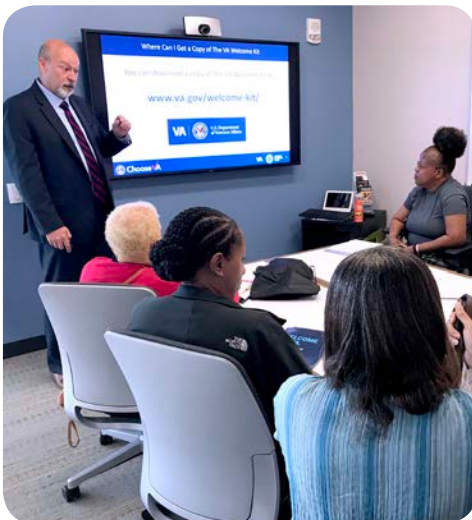


# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Women Veterans Office Conference



The Women Veterans Office hosted a “Life After the Military” conference focusing on health, wellness, and transitioning to civilian life at the VECTR Center in Warner Robins in June.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Korean War Certificates of Honor

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service and the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Atlanta hosted 3 Korean War Certificate of Honor and Ambassador for Peace Medal ceremonies in 2019.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration



Dalton

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service launched the Vietnam War Certificate of Honor program in 2015, with the goal of honoring every one of Georgia's 207,000 Vietnam War veterans.

The Georgia Department of Veterans Service has been involved in over 342 ceremonies and distributed over 28,350 certificates and 22,700 lapel pins since 2015.



Stockbridge



Augusta



Golden Isles



Greensboro



Washington



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration

As part of its ongoing role as an Official Commemorative Partner with the U.S. Department of Defense during the Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration, the GDVS sponsored two commemoration programs during 2019.

In March, the department joined Governor Brian Kemp and MG James Jackson to relaunch the Vietnam War Certificate of Honor program. The new certificates feature the signature of Governor Kemp.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration

In September, the department hosted a program to honor all Georgians held as prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Veterans Day*



# VA STATISTICAL DATA

## FY18 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY18 Summary of Expenditures by State 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**
APPLING	1,038	\$ 7,593	\$ 4,065	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ 3,510	353
ATKINSON	405	\$ 3,302	\$ 1,832	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 1,399	161
BACON	583	\$ 3,654	\$ 2,248	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85	\$ 1,308	191
BAKER	171	\$ 1,979	\$ 939	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ 1,027	98
BALDWIN	2,988	\$ 26,669	\$ 14,170	\$ -	\$ 785	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 272	\$ 11,442	1,101
BANKS	1,112	\$ 6,838	\$ 4,284	\$ -	\$ 260	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 94	\$ 2,200	311
BARROW	5,058	\$ 30,122	\$ 18,244	\$ -	\$ 1,950	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ 9,807	1,180
BARTOW	7,901	\$ 42,279	\$ 27,583	\$ -	\$ 2,513	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 172	\$ 12,011	1,515
BEN HILL	1,086	\$ 11,913	\$ 6,212	\$ -	\$ 202	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38	\$ 5,461	429
BERRIEN	1,582	\$ 14,536	\$ 8,430	\$ -	\$ 748	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 145	\$ 5,213	525
BIBB	10,499	\$ 109,487	\$ 60,392	\$ -	\$ 5,937	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,182	\$ 41,976	4,017
BLECKLEY	862	\$ 8,651	\$ 4,554	\$ -	\$ 341	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ 3,727	285
BRANTLEY	1,283	\$ 8,688	\$ 4,706	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14	\$ 3,717	501
BROOKS	1,419	\$ 10,050	\$ 3,836	\$ -	\$ 306	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 5,843	519
BRYAN	4,621	\$ 55,630	\$ 36,735	\$ -	\$ 9,142	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 209	\$ 9,544	1,570
BULLOCH	4,504	\$ 35,021	\$ 17,430	\$ -	\$ 3,818	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 265	\$ 13,507	1,336
BURKE	1,551	\$ 17,092	\$ 7,600	\$ -	\$ 363	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102	\$ 9,027	663
BUTTS	1,613	\$ 16,398	\$ 9,920	\$ -	\$ 701	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107	\$ 5,670	492
CALHOUN	282	\$ 3,369	\$ 2,203	\$ -	\$ 131	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 1,032	123
CAMDEN	7,947	\$ 58,031	\$ 34,683	\$ -	\$ 8,736	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 154	\$ 14,457	2,215
CANDLER	798	\$ 5,488	\$ 2,892	\$ -	\$ 255	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ 2,313	242
CARROLL	6,849	\$ 66,421	\$ 34,576	\$ -	\$ 4,110	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 351	\$ 27,384	2,040
CATOOSA	4,284	\$ 27,038	\$ 14,896	\$ -	\$ 856	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107	\$ 11,180	1,408
CHARLTON	864	\$ 7,480	\$ 3,613	\$ -	\$ 247	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 181	\$ 3,439	305
CHATHAM	27,583	\$ 237,736	\$ 136,770	\$ -	\$ 36,994	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,065	\$ 61,906	8,609
CHATTAHOOCHEE	1,996	\$ 5,118	\$ 3,475	\$ -	\$ 213	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	\$ 1,420	184
CHATTOOGA	1,600	\$ 9,900	\$ 7,037	\$ -	\$ 230	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ 2,559	401
CHEROKEE	15,375	\$ 93,654	\$ 61,198	\$ -	\$ 8,726	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 856	\$ 22,874	2,764
CLARKE	4,857	\$ 37,546	\$ 21,665	\$ -	\$ 3,704	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 435	\$ 11,742	1,405
CLAY	216	\$ 1,004	\$ 570	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 434	51
CLAYTON	17,722	\$ 173,288	\$ 91,730	\$ -	\$ 11,009	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 947	\$ 69,600	7,220
CLINCH	389	\$ 2,609	\$ 1,254	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,324	167
COBB	41,295	\$ 279,404	\$ 164,130	\$ -	\$ 29,111	\$ -	\$ 532	\$ 2,961	\$ 82,669	9,259
COFFEE	2,216	\$ 19,913	\$ 10,892	\$ -	\$ 659	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102	\$ 8,260	866
COLQUITT	2,427	\$ 21,624	\$ 11,789	\$ -	\$ 575	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 260	\$ 9,000	913
COLUMBIA	16,832	\$ 262,236	\$ 166,785	\$ -	\$ 32,369	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,537	\$ 61,546	6,947
COOK	1,175	\$ 10,428	\$ 5,456	\$ -	\$ 333	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 71	\$ 4,567	468
COWETA	11,375	\$ 69,557	\$ 46,166	\$ -	\$ 5,038	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 430	\$ 17,923	2,838
CRAWFORD	1,051	\$ 5,416	\$ 2,353	\$ -	\$ 71	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ 2,911	298

# VA STATISTICAL DATA

## FY18 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY18 Summary of Expenditures by State 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**
CRISP	1,250	\$ 10,307	\$ 5,596	\$ -	\$ 316	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ 4,335	401
DADE	1,135	\$ 7,365	\$ 4,450	\$ -	\$ 276	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 2,607	342
DAWSON	2,024	\$ 10,958	\$ 7,776	\$ -	\$ 864	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86	\$ 2,233	356
DECATUR	1,751	\$ 11,340	\$ 5,711	\$ -	\$ 324	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 196	\$ 5,109	655
DEKALB	35,652	\$ 540,859	\$ 192,426	\$ 11,965	\$ 25,632	\$ -	\$ 96,039	\$ 2,681	\$ 212,117	13,897
DODGE	1,321	\$ 12,537	\$ 5,658	\$ -	\$ 345	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33	\$ 6,501	451
DOOLY	672	\$ 4,701	\$ 2,899	\$ -	\$ 105	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59	\$ 1,638	176
DOUGHERTY	6,698	\$ 74,064	\$ 47,047	\$ -	\$ 3,645	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 631	\$ 22,740	2,550
DOUGLAS	10,858	\$ 91,583	\$ 55,257	\$ -	\$ 8,470	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 737	\$ 27,120	3,218
EARLY	620	\$ 4,920	\$ 3,212	\$ -	\$ 94	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 108	\$ 1,506	212
ECHOLS	197	\$ 986	\$ 89	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 897	92
EFFINGHAM	5,486	\$ 42,547	\$ 26,543	\$ -	\$ 5,469	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107	\$ 10,428	1,591
ELBERT	1,271	\$ 12,310	\$ 6,024	\$ -	\$ 317	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104	\$ 5,865	482
EMANUEL	1,323	\$ 17,169	\$ 7,258	\$ -	\$ 313	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 9,567	637
EVANS	737	\$ 4,634	\$ 2,932	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12	\$ 1,691	202
FANNIN	2,056	\$ 16,857	\$ 10,894	\$ -	\$ 517	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 167	\$ 5,278	743
FAYETTE	10,133	\$ 77,316	\$ 55,422	\$ -	\$ 6,550	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 590	\$ 14,754	2,456
FLOYD	6,637	\$ 35,251	\$ 22,575	\$ -	\$ 1,270	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 559	\$ 10,847	1,448
FORSYTH	10,167	\$ 39,273	\$ 24,499	\$ -	\$ 2,973	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 829	\$ 10,972	1,718
FRANKLIN	1,421	\$ 10,304	\$ 6,252	\$ -	\$ 406	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101	\$ 3,544	416
FULTON	43,733	\$ 432,149	\$ 220,055	\$ 561	\$ 37,656	\$ -	\$ 1,777	\$ 3,983	\$ 168,117	14,052
GILMER	2,495	\$ 18,807	\$ 12,086	\$ -	\$ 307	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165	\$ 6,248	768
GLASCOCK	160	\$ 1,390	\$ 624	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 766	71
GLYNN	7,301	\$ 48,228	\$ 29,644	\$ -	\$ 2,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 576	\$ 15,623	2,236
GORDON	3,321	\$ 18,789	\$ 12,330	\$ -	\$ 826	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 5,557	711
GRADY	1,669	\$ 12,377	\$ 6,256	\$ -	\$ 401	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 5,689	672
GREENE	1,251	\$ 8,331	\$ 5,243	\$ -	\$ 14	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112	\$ 2,963	342
GWINNETT	39,046	\$ 275,761	\$ 156,726	\$ -	\$ 27,551	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,385	\$ 88,098	10,784
HABERSHAM	2,826	\$ 17,954	\$ 11,967	\$ -	\$ 687	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 345	\$ 4,954	814
HALL	10,543	\$ 63,752	\$ 39,757	\$ -	\$ 3,475	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 850	\$ 19,671	2,734
HANCOCK	536	\$ 5,811	\$ 3,272	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ 2,464	236
HARALSON	1,805	\$ 11,116	\$ 6,397	\$ -	\$ 447	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ 4,181	488
HARRIS	3,445	\$ 34,202	\$ 24,775	\$ -	\$ 2,220	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107	\$ 7,100	1,180
HART	1,656	\$ 9,425	\$ 4,893	\$ -	\$ 204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ 4,303	520
HEARD	792	\$ 4,125	\$ 2,444	\$ -	\$ 29	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ 1,645	232
HENRY	19,718	\$ 207,556	\$ 135,368	\$ -	\$ 20,011	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,512	\$ 50,666	6,428
HOUSTON	21,055	\$ 210,473	\$ 142,271	\$ -	\$ 20,550	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,030	\$ 46,622	6,124
IRWIN	620	\$ 3,976	\$ 2,011	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ 1,884	233
JACKSON	4,708	\$ 31,280	\$ 21,133	\$ -	\$ 2,029	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 317	\$ 7,800	1,122



# VA STATISTICAL DATA

## FY18 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY18 Summary of Expenditures by State 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**
JASPER	918	\$ 7,105	\$ 3,890	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 124	\$ 3,051	326
JEFF DAVIS	734	\$ 7,601	\$ 3,492	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 3,936	305
JEFFERSON	1,054	\$ 12,601	\$ 5,495	\$ -	\$ 345	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63	\$ 6,699	440
JENKINS	631	\$ 3,967	\$ 1,964	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12	\$ 1,911	162
JOHNSON	476	\$ 4,862	\$ 2,258	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ 2,560	185
JONES	2,037	\$ 10,934	\$ 5,347	\$ -	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55	\$ 5,291	623
LAMAR	1,457	\$ 9,545	\$ 5,386	\$ -	\$ 367	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 187	\$ 3,604	389
LANIER	905	\$ 7,275	\$ 3,757	\$ -	\$ 402	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 240	\$ 2,876	302
LAURENS	3,566	\$ 79,022	\$ 22,850	\$ 6,628	\$ 1,030	\$ -	\$ 1,158	\$ 137	\$ 47,218	1,980
LEE	2,529	\$ 20,852	\$ 14,037	\$ -	\$ 1,199	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64	\$ 5,553	851
LIBERTY	14,780	\$ 161,574	\$ 102,625	\$ -	\$ 23,171	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325	\$ 35,453	4,876
LINCOLN	630	\$ 7,229	\$ 3,850	\$ -	\$ 167	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 3,163	265
LONG	2,580	\$ 32,589	\$ 19,849	\$ -	\$ 4,685	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 183	\$ 7,872	1,101
LOWNDES	10,265	\$ 95,412	\$ 52,004	\$ -	\$ 9,657	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 491	\$ 33,259	3,493
LUMPKIN	2,810	\$ 13,868	\$ 8,182	\$ -	\$ 908	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 4,736	611
MCDUFFIE	1,548	\$ 18,864	\$ 9,636	\$ -	\$ 607	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61	\$ 8,560	641
MCINTOSH	1,162	\$ 9,806	\$ 5,226	\$ -	\$ 252	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 207	\$ 4,121	419
MACON	779	\$ 5,534	\$ 2,880	\$ -	\$ 141	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9	\$ 2,503	298
MADISON	1,860	\$ 14,802	\$ 9,386	\$ -	\$ 697	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 4,655	566
MARION	750	\$ 6,214	\$ 4,207	\$ -	\$ 203	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 1,802	239
MERIWETHER	1,459	\$ 10,224	\$ 6,072	\$ -	\$ 421	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81	\$ 3,650	466
MILLER	347	\$ 1,908	\$ 970	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 904	124
MITCHELL	1,301	\$ 8,812	\$ 5,429	\$ -	\$ 391	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ 2,901	375
MONROE	2,001	\$ 12,231	\$ 7,038	\$ -	\$ 439	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 4,701	529
MONTGOMERY	421	\$ 4,914	\$ 2,378	\$ -	\$ 37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13	\$ 2,486	204
MORGAN	1,219	\$ 8,670	\$ 5,458	\$ -	\$ 208	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23	\$ 2,981	308
MURRAY	2,071	\$ 14,590	\$ 8,773	\$ -	\$ 302	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ 5,356	628
MUSCOGEE	24,451	\$ 340,013	\$ 240,632	\$ -	\$ 31,408	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,313	\$ 64,659	8,428
NEWTON	7,691	\$ 72,628	\$ 40,865	\$ -	\$ 4,430	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 302	\$ 27,030	2,445
OCONEE	1,919	\$ 11,862	\$ 8,244	\$ -	\$ 818	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 335	\$ 2,465	413
OGLETHORPE	1,022	\$ 5,542	\$ 2,750	\$ -	\$ 39	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ 2,722	352
PAULDING	10,609	\$ 60,203	\$ 33,758	\$ -	\$ 5,736	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 449	\$ 20,260	2,593
PEACH	2,441	\$ 29,024	\$ 21,166	\$ -	\$ 1,998	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 294	\$ 5,566	725
PICKENS	2,630	\$ 13,565	\$ 9,456	\$ -	\$ 561	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 3,507	438
PIERCE	1,431	\$ 12,366	\$ 6,757	\$ -	\$ 210	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 101	\$ 5,298	599
PIKE	1,321	\$ 8,674	\$ 5,224	\$ -	\$ 549	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 214	\$ 2,688	324
POLK	2,563	\$ 17,247	\$ 12,122	\$ -	\$ 762	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190	\$ 4,174	614
PULASKI	809	\$ 7,674	\$ 4,660	\$ -	\$ 161	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59	\$ 2,794	232
PUTNAM	1,827	\$ 13,368	\$ 6,538	\$ -	\$ 247	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 133	\$ 6,450	485

# VA STATISTICAL DATA

## FY18 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY18 Summary of Expenditures by State 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**
QUITMAN	173	\$ 2,405	\$ 1,522	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 84	\$ 746	95
RABUN	1,400	\$ 8,290	\$ 4,690	\$ -	\$ 170	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87	\$ 3,343	397
RANDOLPH	371	\$ 2,964	\$ 1,891	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 947	135
RICHMOND	21,714	\$ 366,735	\$ 179,196	\$ (32)	\$ 22,002	\$ -	\$ 1,768	\$ 1,540	\$ 162,261	10,806
ROCKDALE	6,701	\$ 69,194	\$ 41,105	\$ -	\$ 4,576	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 391	\$ 23,121	2,394
SCHLEY	294	\$ 2,191	\$ 1,372	\$ -	\$ 108	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44	\$ 667	72
SCREVEN	1,003	\$ 7,448	\$ 3,449	\$ -	\$ 155	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104	\$ 3,740	309
SEMINOLE	723	\$ 4,088	\$ 2,551	\$ -	\$ 54	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20	\$ 1,462	219
SPALDING	4,662	\$ 35,435	\$ 21,392	\$ -	\$ 1,569	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190	\$ 12,283	1,353
STEPHENS	1,737	\$ 13,352	\$ 9,097	\$ -	\$ 521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 117	\$ 3,617	478
STEWART	278	\$ 3,305	\$ 2,341	\$ -	\$ 26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23	\$ 915	142
SUMTER	1,806	\$ 14,815	\$ 9,196	\$ -	\$ 548	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92	\$ 4,979	546
TALBOT	469	\$ 6,631	\$ 5,172	\$ -	\$ 184	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 1,235	168
TALIAFERRO	117	\$ 1,549	\$ 345	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 1,193	58
TATTNALL	1,684	\$ 17,207	\$ 9,962	\$ -	\$ 1,101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36	\$ 6,108	540
TAYLOR	450	\$ 3,417	\$ 1,912	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 1,465	147
TELFAIR	687	\$ 8,551	\$ 3,706	\$ -	\$ 49	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ 4,755	253
TERRELL	585	\$ 4,797	\$ 2,641	\$ -	\$ 58	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 114	\$ 1,983	221
THOMAS	3,290	\$ 27,280	\$ 15,135	\$ -	\$ 1,399	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 120	\$ 10,625	1,234
TIFT	2,250	\$ 22,152	\$ 13,596	\$ -	\$ 676	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 145	\$ 7,734	949
TOOMBS	1,827	\$ 15,345	\$ 7,771	\$ -	\$ 516	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126	\$ 6,932	614
TOWNS	1,204	\$ 10,076	\$ 6,267	\$ -	\$ 61	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 83	\$ 3,665	500
TREUTLEN	411	\$ 3,595	\$ 1,557	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ 1,997	138
TROUP	3,892	\$ 37,256	\$ 24,254	\$ -	\$ 1,310	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 291	\$ 11,401	1,305
TURNER	511	\$ 5,162	\$ 3,146	\$ -	\$ 432	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26	\$ 1,558	197
TWIGGS	637	\$ 5,572	\$ 2,686	\$ -	\$ 49	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22	\$ 2,815	212
UNION	2,417	\$ 21,514	\$ 11,908	\$ -	\$ 314	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 154	\$ 9,138	1,098
UPSON	2,078	\$ 14,729	\$ 8,368	\$ -	\$ 521	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102	\$ 5,737	599
WALKER	4,605	\$ 35,368	\$ 23,567	\$ -	\$ 1,244	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 291	\$ 10,267	1,372
WALTON	5,730	\$ 57,130	\$ 37,294	\$ -	\$ 4,187	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 339	\$ 15,311	1,507
WARE	2,765	\$ 24,392	\$ 13,701	\$ -	\$ 610	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178	\$ 9,903	1,131
WARREN	316	\$ 3,320	\$ 1,312	\$ -	\$ 33	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 1,975	130
WASHINGTON	1,236	\$ 15,600	\$ 6,790	\$ -	\$ 481	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 179	\$ 8,151	559
WAYNE	2,420	\$ 19,479	\$ 11,714	\$ -	\$ 980	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 88	\$ 6,698	800
WEBSTER	162	\$ 1,165	\$ 573	\$ -	\$ 56	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 496	49
WHEELER	301	\$ 4,052	\$ 1,833	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 2,219	149
WHITE	2,424	\$ 14,716	\$ 9,231	\$ -	\$ 411	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81	\$ 4,994	607
WHITFIELD	4,916	\$ 29,332	\$ 18,478	\$ -	\$ 970	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 205	\$ 9,679	1,258
WILCOX	451	\$ 4,279	\$ 2,384	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ 1,820	169

# VA STATISTICAL DATA AND NOTES

## FY18 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY18 Summary of Expenditures by State 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**
WILKES	752	\$ 7,683	\$ 3,684	\$ -	\$ 143	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37	\$ 3,818	286
WILKINSON	645	\$ 8,984	\$ 4,009	\$ -	\$ 111	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67	\$ 4,798	333
WORTH	1,572	\$ 10,099	\$ 5,558	\$ -	\$ 187	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ 4,280	513
<b>GEORGIA (Totals)</b>	<b>694,168</b>	<b>\$ 6,401,768</b>	<b>\$ 3,638,052</b>	<b>\$ 19,122</b>	<b>\$ 486,669</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 101,274</b>	<b>\$ 47,387</b>	<b>\$ 2,109,274</b>	<b>218,156</b>
CONG. DIST (01)	80,315	\$ 717,240	\$ 431,141	\$ -	\$ 92,058	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,475	\$ 189,566	26,021
CONG. DIST (02)	54,916	\$ 589,208	\$ 375,660	\$ -	\$ 37,522	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,407	\$ 170,619	19,800
CONG. DIST (03)	57,918	\$ 497,788	\$ 328,477	\$ 561	\$ 35,894	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,777	\$ 129,079	16,116
CONG. DIST (04)	42,821	\$ 574,521	\$ 222,787	\$ 11,748	\$ 29,572	\$ -	\$ 93,515	\$ 3,001	\$ 213,898	16,637
CONG. DIST (05)	35,152	\$ 390,992	\$ 180,490	\$ 217	\$ 27,727	\$ -	\$ 2,502	\$ 2,851	\$ 177,204	13,146
CONG. DIST (06)	31,407	\$ 234,895	\$ 149,381	\$ -	\$ 24,342	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 2,538	\$ 58,632	5,503
CONG. DIST (07)	32,954	\$ 209,784	\$ 121,317	\$ -	\$ 20,431	\$ -	\$ 1,797	\$ 2,822	\$ 63,418	8,003
CONG. DIST (08)	60,519	\$ 555,753	\$ 330,055	\$ -	\$ 38,441	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,499	\$ 183,758	19,840
CONG. DIST (09)	50,042	\$ 324,369	\$ 202,401	\$ -	\$ 14,143	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,257	\$ 104,568	13,721
CONG. DIST (10)	45,458	\$ 406,519	\$ 235,992	\$ 99	\$ 25,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,253	\$ 142,044	13,857
CONG. DIST (11)	45,064	\$ 281,186	\$ 177,226	\$ -	\$ 26,871	\$ -	\$ 530	\$ 2,625	\$ 73,935	8,776
CONG. DIST (12)	61,082	\$ 861,220	\$ 442,608	\$ 6,497	\$ 60,671	\$ -	\$ 2,926	\$ 3,989	\$ 344,528	26,261
CONG. DIST (13)	52,291	\$ 487,692	\$ 273,674	\$ -	\$ 40,790	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 3,652	\$ 169,575	19,043
CONG. DIST (14)	44,230	\$ 270,601	\$ 166,841	\$ -	\$ 13,066	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 2,242	\$ 88,450	11,432
<b>GEORGIA (Totals)</b>	<b>694,168</b>	<b>\$ 6,401,768</b>	<b>\$ 3,638,052</b>	<b>\$ 19,122</b>	<b>\$ 486,669</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 101,274</b>	<b>\$ 47,387</b>	<b>\$ 2,109,274</b>	<b>218,156</b>
<b>Notes:</b>										
* Veteran population estimates, as of September 30, 2018, are produced by the VA Predictive Analytics and Actuary Service (VetPop 2016).										
# 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: USASpending.gov for Compensation & Pension (C&P) and Education and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (E&VRE) 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 \$0; and "\$-" = 0 or no expenditures.										
2. The Compensation & Pension expenditures include dollars for the following programs: veterans' compensation for service-connected disabilities; 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.										
4. Medical Care expenditures are allocated to the patient's home location, not the site of care.										





## Georgia Department of Veterans Service

Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite E-970  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4800

[veterans.georgia.gov](http://veterans.georgia.gov)  
[facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://facebook.com/gavetsvc)  
[twitter.com/gavetsvc](https://twitter.com/gavetsvc)

### **Veterans Field Service Offices**

Albany 229-430-1797  
Americus 229-931-2546  
Athens 706-369-5630  
Atlanta 404-656-5940  
Augusta 706-721-4301  
Augusta VAMC 706-823-2236  
Bainbridge 229-248-2599  
Blairsville 706-745-6341  
Brunswick 912-264-7360  
Canton 770-720-3538  
Carrollton 404-321-6111, x 20-2589  
Cartersville 770-387-3746  
Cedartown 770-749-2209  
Columbus 706-649-1266  
Conyers 770-388-5075  
Cordele 229-276-2366  
Dalton 706-272-2355  
Decatur VAMC 404-728-7611  
Decatur 404-321-6111, x 20-3749  
Demorest 706-778-7610  
Douglas 912-389-4898  
Dublin 478-272-4266  
Fort McPherson 404-321-6111, x 20-4997  
Gainesville 770-531-6060  
Glennville 912-654-5159  
Greensboro 706-453-7455  
Griffin 770-412-4074  
Hartwell 706-376-4461  
Hinesville 912-920-0214, x 2948  
LaFayette 706-996-8056  
LaGrange 706-845-4355  
Lawrenceville 404-321-6111, x 20-1964  
Lyons 912-526-8860  
Macon 478-476-8868, x 6694  
Marietta 770-528-3254

### **Veterans Field Service Offices**

Milledgeville 478-445-6900  
Moultrie 229-891-7135  
Newnan 770-254-7408  
Oakwood 404-321-6111, x 20-8225  
Rome 706-295-6026  
Savannah 912-920-0214, x 2191  
St. Marys 912-510-3440  
Statesboro 912-871-1104  
Thomasville 229-225-4050  
Tifton 229-391-6080, x 6233  
Valdosta 229-333-2178  
Warner Robins 478-218-3905  
Washington 706-678-2821  
Waycross 912-285-6340  
Waynesboro 706-554-3874

The GDVS also provides limited service  
to several satellite locations.

See [veterans.ga.gov/satellite-locations](http://veterans.ga.gov/satellite-locations)  
for more information.

### **GDVS Central Office**

Public Information 404-656-5933

Appeals Division 404-929-5345

Veterans Education & Training 404-656-2306

Women Veterans Coordinator 404-656-2300

*We value your input.*

Give feedback at [gavetsvc@vs.state.ga.us](mailto:gavetsvc@vs.state.ga.us),  
[facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://facebook.com/gavetsvc),  
or 404-656-5933.