



Georgia Department of Veterans Service



2016 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 2016; this refers to the State of Georgia's fiscal year from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016. Where information refers instead to calendar year 2015, this will be noted.

Where federal data are concerned, the latest available data is sometimes from Federal Fiscal Year 2015 (Oct. 1, 2014, to Sept. 30, 2015). Such cases are noted where they occur.

An electronic version of this report is available online at 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

Students from Lovejoy High School's JROTC perform Missing Man Table honors. This was one of several special events the Georgia Department of Veterans Service participated in to honor veterans during 2016.

(Credit: Photo, GDVS/Charlotte May)



MIKE ROBY
COMMISSIONER

Department of Veterans Service

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January 3, 2017

Governor Nathan Deal
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:

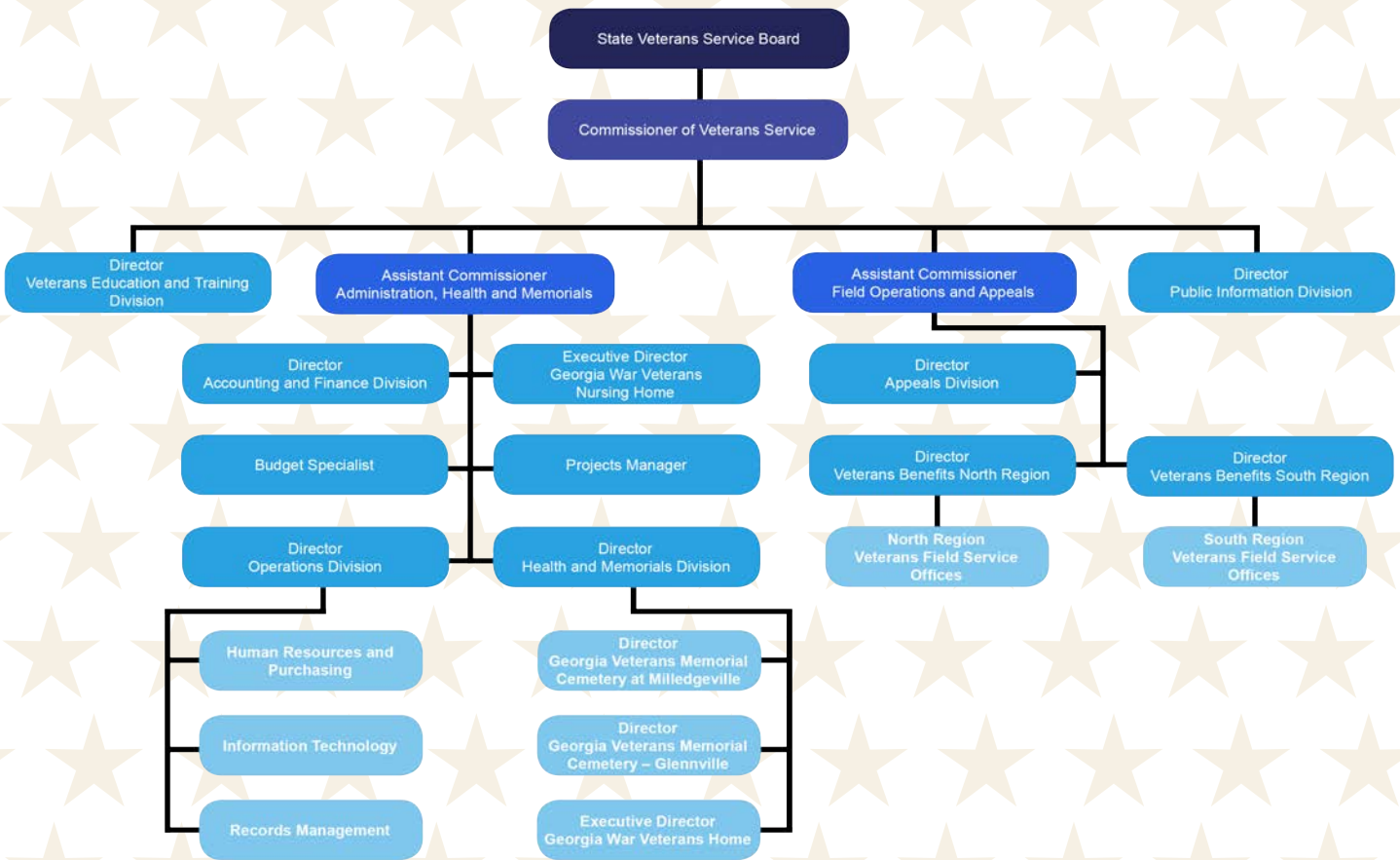
“The Commissioner of Veterans Service shall furnish to the Governor, the members of the General Assembly, the Veterans Service Board, veterans' organizations, and the public generally an annual report with reference to claims presented on behalf of veterans of this state, concerning veterans aided under 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 2016. 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 774,000+ 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.

Patricia Ross was appointed to the Board in April 2016.



Eddie Whitted



Philip G. Youngblood



Dan Cravey



Fred T. Fincher, Sr.



Shawn Hanley



Pat Phillips



Patricia Ross

2016 BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD MEMBER

PHILIP G. YOUNGBLOOD
 CHARLES EDWARD "EDDIE" WHITTED
 DANIEL CRAVEY
 FRED T. FINCHER, SR.
 SHAWN HANLEY
 PAT PHILLIPS
 PATRICIA ROSS

POSITION

CHAIRMAN
 VICE CHAIRMAN
 SECRETARY
 MEMBER
 MEMBER
 MEMBER
 MEMBER

CITY

QUITMAN
 BLACKSHEAR
 MILNER
 LAGRANGE
 ATLANTA
 BLAIRSVILLE
 WARNER ROBINS

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICE

Serving Those Who Served

The mission of the Department of Veterans Service is to serve the 752,000+ 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.

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 that approved institutions and establishments meet and maintain acceptable standards so that 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 2016, 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,” the newest education benefit 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.

This new GI Bill has been described as “the most comprehensive education benefits package since the original GI Bill was signed into law in 1944.” For veterans qualified at the 100% tier, the program pays tuition and fees, a housing allowance, and a book stipend.

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 to commit to a four-year extension to a six or more year active duty commitment.

During fiscal year 2016, there were 21,688 Georgians receiving GI Bill benefits. An additional 922 veterans were enrolled in OJT programs.

In total, 22,592 Georgia veterans were enrolled in college degree and professional programs, technical career programs, vocational programs, flight training, and OJT programs during fiscal year 2016.

In FY 2016, 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 2016, there were 418 approved educational institutions and 1,266 approved training establishments in Georgia. The Veterans Education & Training Division monitors all 1,684 approved educational institutions and training establishments.

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

During 2016, 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 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 Public Information 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, pamphlets, and calendars, all of which are updated as changes occur in laws, regulations, or benefits.

The Public Information Division maintains 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://www.facebook.com/gavetsvc).

Although the division strives to utilize the latest available new media tools, the

department's website, 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, blog, and calendar of events.



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 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 that is accredited by the Joint Commission.

In fiscal year 2016, the nursing home provided 57,944 days of care to Georgia's veterans with an average age of 83. During the year, there were 227 admissions and 232 discharges with an average length of stay of 199 days.

Services to patients included 4,336 physical therapy treatments and 6,236 individual occupational

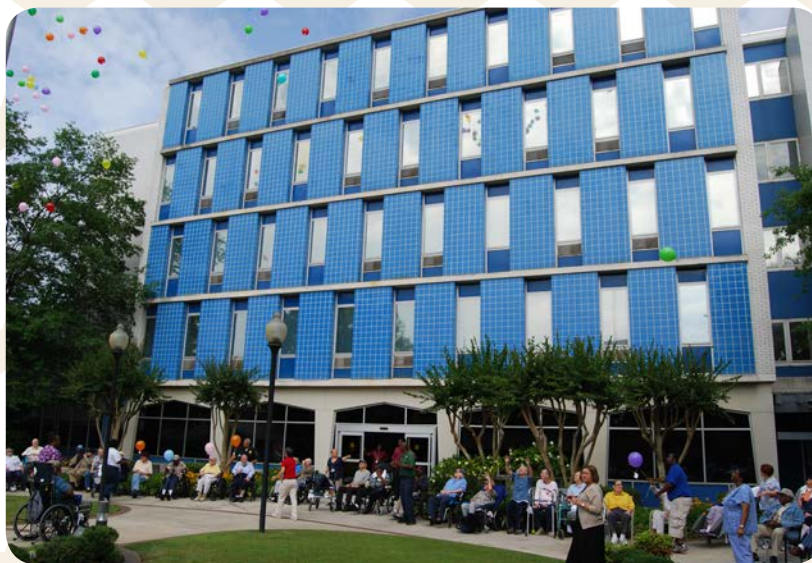
therapy procedures.

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 \$7.5 million during fiscal year 2016.

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 2016, which included the Richard B. Russell Building with 86 budgeted beds; the Joe T Wood Building with 140 budgeted beds; and the Alzheimer's Wing of the Pete Wheeler Building with 24 budgeted beds.

Residents have access to several recreational facilities. These include a fitness center; an 18-hole putt-putt golf course that was renovated this year; a library; computers with Internet access and Skype; and a multi-purpose recreation center with pool tables, table games, books, and a large collection of movies.

The GDVS field office serving veterans in the home and in Baldwin, Hancock, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson counties is located in the Wheeler Building Rotunda. Veteran-related contacts for this field office totaled 21,902 for calendar year 2016. 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.

During fiscal year 2016, veteran patients at the home received 88,459 days of skilled nursing care.

The nursing home admitted 160 patients during the year and had 153 discharges/deaths. The average length of stay for current skilled veteran patients is 1,326 days or 3.6 years.

During fiscal year 2016, federal assistance in funding a portion of the cost of providing care to veterans in the home amounted to \$11,602,246.

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 3,181 individual volunteers providing in excess of 10,794 hours of time valued at over \$260,480 presented over 634 activities during the year.

The value of donated items made available to the home during fiscal year 2016 was \$40,634. Groups and individuals also provided direct monetary donations of \$18,950 in support of special activities and projects.



GEORGIA VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Milledgeville

Georgia 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 31, 2016, there were 2,928 veterans, spouses, and dependents buried at the GVMC. The burials are composed of 2,038 casketed burials, 512 cremations in the columbarium, 350 in-ground cremations, and 28 memorial markers.

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 17, 2016, 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 the Patriot Guard Riders, Honor Guards from the Georgia Military College Prep School, Morgan County High School Air Force JROTC and Civil Air Patrol Augusta Composite Squadron GA-069 and music



by Stacey Blanton. The cemetery received enough wreaths to place one on every grave. Volunteers placed these 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

Georgia 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, 2016, there were 1,050 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 2016, 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. Lieutenant Colonel Michael R. Biankowski, Commander of Fort Stewart's 9th Engineer 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. Also, Cemetery Director Ernie Cowart welcomed the crowd to the cemetery, as over 250 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, 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 300 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 2016

OVERVIEW

Office Visits	166,623
Other Visits	245,032
Women's Program Visits	21,710
Hearings	885

SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS – FEDERAL BENEFITS

Compensation and Pension	47,954
DIC and Death Pension	5,267
Education, Training, and Vocational Rehabilitation	4,153
Notices of Disagreement and Appeals Filed	6,352
Medical	13,355
Micellaneous	223,014
Advice	184,620

SERVICES & TRANSACTIONS – STATE BENEFITS

Driver's License	14,386
Business License	380
State Veterans Home Applications	423
License Plates	4,925
Natural Resources	1,335
Tax Exemptions	2,289
Social Security/Welfare Assistance	4,079
Advice	60,118

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.

ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION REPORT: Required for pension benefits and/or the annual certification of income for medical benefits.

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.

PREFERENCE POINTS: Provision of paperwork documenting service in the U.S. Armed Forces for use in employment application to State of Georgia.

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 2016

Class Name	Program Name	Budget	Expenditures
Personal Services	Administration	1,660,539.00	1,660,535.96
Regular Operating	Administration	124,749.00	115,211.50
Computer Charges	Administration	64,205.00	63,844.67
Real Estate Rentals	Administration	44,643.00	44,641.62
Telecommunications	Administration	61,067.00	61,066.56
Contracts	Administration	182.00	192.27
		<u>1,955,385.00</u>	<u>1,945,492.58</u>
Personal Services	Milledegville Cemetery	386,863.00	308,822.71
Regular Operating	Milledegville Cemetery	100,518.00	152,878.90
Telecommunications	Milledegville Cemetery	4,183.00	2,579.09
		<u>491,564.00</u>	<u>464,280.70</u>
Personal Services	Glennville Cemetery	337,229.00	294,977.57
Regular Operating	Glennville Cemetery	33,922.00	122,039.40
Telecommunications	Glennville Cemetery	7,904.00	6,248.79
		<u>379,055.00</u>	<u>423,265.76</u>
Personal Services	Field Operations	4,757,245.00	4,757,242.26
Regular Operating	Field Operations	320,946.00	310,557.50
Real Estate Rentals	Field Operations	212,019.00	212,017.45
Telecommunications	Field Operations	76,144.00	76,137.90
Capital Outlay	Field Operations	374,789.00	374,788.86
Contracts	Field Operations	55,162.00	55,321.06
ROE For Projects And Insurance	Field Operations	41,240.00	41,235.04
		<u>5,837,545.00</u>	<u>5,827,300.07</u>
Personal Services	Appeals	903,798.00	903,794.49
Regular Operating	Appeals	25,606.00	25,605.99
Telecommunications	Appeals	6,155.00	6,153.68
Contracts	Appeals	160.00	152.83
		<u>935,719.00</u>	<u>935,706.99</u>
Personal Services	Education And Training	527,200.00	539,731.23
Regular Operating	Education And Training	47,276.00	40,239.22
Real Estate Rentals	Education And Training	69,059.00	72,135.91
Telecommunications	Education And Training	10,214.00	10,104.70
Contracts	Education And Training	1,250.00	246.50
		<u>654,999.00</u>	<u>662,457.56</u>
Personal Services	Augusta	52,292.00	49,721.70
Op Exp/Pay Med College of GA	Augusta	13,783,151.00	13,780,419.82
		<u>13,835,443.00</u>	<u>13,830,141.52</u>
Personal Services	Milledegville Skilled Care	52,292.00	49,501.37
Regular Operating	Milledegville Skilled Care	47,330.00	47,330.00
Contracts	Milledegville Skilled Care	20,422,712.00	20,289,192.93
		<u>20,522,334.00</u>	<u>20,386,024.30</u>
Totals		<u>44,612,044.00</u>	<u>44,474,669.48</u>

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 2015 (October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015). The figures were provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and were the latest available at the end of 2016. (See pages 25-29 for more detailed breakdown of these figures.)

Compensation and Pension

\$3,112,295,000

Medical Care

\$1,915,096,000

Construction

\$9,538,000

Insurance and Indemnities

\$48,836,000

Education and Vocational Rehabilitation

\$508,282,000

General Operating Expenses

\$106,659,000

Total Expenditure

\$5,705,037,000



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



The Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame opened in the Floyd Veterans Memorial Building. The Hall of Fame honors Georgia's veterans for their valor, achievements, and service. The public display educates the public of their outstanding accomplishments.



Commissioner Roby and members of the GDVS staff met with Takashi Shinozuka, the Consul General of Japan in Atlanta. The Consul General hopes to work with the GDVS to honor Georgia's veterans, particularly those who served in Japan, in the upcoming year.



Commissioner Roby and members of the Governor's Returning Veterans Task Force visited Fort Stewart and Fort Gordon to hold their quarterly meetings and learn about transition training and resources available in Georgia.



Thomas Murphy, the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, visited the GDVS to discuss upcoming changes in the appeals process with state representatives and GDVS staff.



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.

Our employees met for an extended annual training in July 2016. Service officers were split into small groups for more intense and focused training sessions. Quizzes and a comprehensive exam tested our service officers knowledge of veterans benefits and how to best serve Georgia's veterans and their families.



North Region Veterans Field Service Officers



South Region Veterans Field Service Officers

YEAR IN REVIEW

Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration



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 225 ceremonies and distributed over 15,800 certificates since 2015.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration



As part of its ongoing role as an Official Commemorative Partner with the U.S. Department of Defense during the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration, the Georgia Department of Veterans Service sponsored two commemoration programs during 2016, including a tribute to Vietnam veterans who work for the State of Georgia.



YEAR IN REVIEW

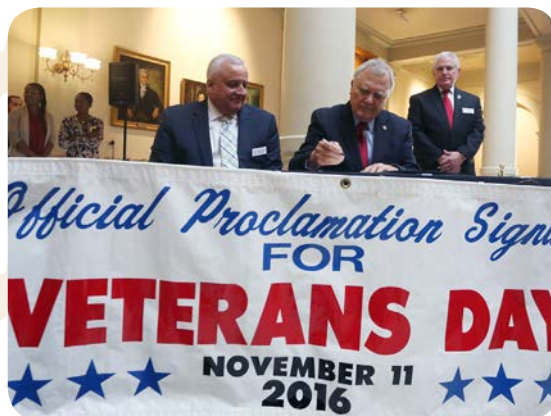
VECTR Center Opening

The Georgia Veterans Education Career Transition Resource Center opened in August 2016 in Warner Robins. Home to the GDVS Warner Robins field office, the VECTR Center helps veterans and their families transition into Georgia's public colleges, universities, and workforce. Veterans Service Board member Patricia Ross is the Executive Director of the VECTR Center.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Veterans Day



VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY15 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY15 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	1,169	\$ 6,577	\$ 3,678	\$ -	\$ 175	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16	\$ 2,709	373
ATKINSON	421	\$ 3,703	\$ 1,757	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20	\$ 1,846	193
BACON	802	\$ 4,820	\$ 2,854	\$ -	\$ 59	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86	\$ 1,821	210
BAKER	303	\$ 1,373	\$ 863	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ 452	63
BALDWIN	4,050	\$ 24,251	\$ 13,211	\$ -	\$ 1,065	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 154	\$ 9,821	970
BANKS	1,041	\$ 7,275	\$ 4,310	\$ -	\$ 249	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ 2,668	298
BARROW	5,884	\$ 27,822	\$ 15,261	\$ -	\$ 2,117	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178	\$ 10,267	1,113
BARTOW	7,859	\$ 38,620	\$ 24,261	\$ -	\$ 2,494	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 542	\$ 11,323	1,392
BEN HILL	1,215	\$ 11,138	\$ 5,915	\$ -	\$ 292	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 4,878	396
BERRIEN	1,492	\$ 13,783	\$ 7,869	\$ -	\$ 809	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92	\$ 5,013	519
BIBB	11,712	\$ 94,330	\$ 48,622	\$ -	\$ 6,289	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 746	\$ 38,673	3,914
BLECKLEY	1,012	\$ 9,971	\$ 4,175	\$ -	\$ 332	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ 5,418	253
BRANTLEY	1,277	\$ 9,471	\$ 4,505	\$ -	\$ 361	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 78	\$ 4,526	511
BROOKS	1,374	\$ 10,128	\$ 3,885	\$ -	\$ 127	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64	\$ 6,051	542
BRYAN	3,995	\$ 37,900	\$ 23,589	\$ -	\$ 8,364	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 390	\$ 5,557	1,033
BULLOCH	5,043	\$ 28,263	\$ 13,918	\$ -	\$ 3,698	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 148	\$ 10,499	1,140
BURKE	1,791	\$ 16,636	\$ 7,436	\$ -	\$ 556	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87	\$ 8,557	616
BUTTS	2,373	\$ 14,148	\$ 9,040	\$ -	\$ 690	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ 4,294	450
CALHOUN	443	\$ 3,211	\$ 1,566	\$ -	\$ 146	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14	\$ 1,484	141
CAMDEN	7,368	\$ 49,546	\$ 27,209	\$ -	\$ 8,352	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 267	\$ 13,719	1,854
CANDLER	764	\$ 5,119	\$ 2,490	\$ -	\$ 204	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 2,404	243
CARROLL	8,063	\$ 60,500	\$ 30,392	\$ -	\$ 3,709	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 625	\$ 25,773	1,974
CATOOSA	5,221	\$ 23,651	\$ 13,249	\$ -	\$ 1,127	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 108	\$ 9,167	1,240
CHARLTON	943	\$ 6,244	\$ 3,126	\$ -	\$ 166	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ 2,945	317
CHATHAM	27,480	\$ 204,092	\$ 112,503	\$ -	\$ 40,733	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,224	\$ 48,632	7,148
CHATTAHOOCHEE	1,394	\$ 4,461	\$ 2,948	\$ -	\$ 378	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	\$ 1,125	175
CHATTOOGA	1,954	\$ 11,153	\$ 7,982	\$ -	\$ 437	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126	\$ 2,607	395
CHEROKEE	18,069	\$ 82,397	\$ 52,297	\$ -	\$ 7,338	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,278	\$ 21,485	2,430
CLARKE	5,872	\$ 35,774	\$ 19,969	\$ -	\$ 4,019	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 404	\$ 11,382	1,285
CLAY	281	\$ 1,637	\$ 779	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	\$ 801	66
CLAYTON	21,316	\$ 154,967	\$ 78,981	\$ -	\$ 12,105	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 729	\$ 63,152	6,393
CLINCH	530	\$ 3,223	\$ 1,651	\$ -	\$ 78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 1,493	152
COBB	47,004	\$ 256,009	\$ 140,703	\$ 1,785	\$ 33,977	\$ -	\$ 461	\$ 3,982	\$ 75,101	8,668
COFFEE	2,439	\$ 18,895	\$ 9,888	\$ -	\$ 614	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130	\$ 8,263	839
COLQUITT	2,666	\$ 20,288	\$ 10,690	\$ -	\$ 671	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268	\$ 8,659	882
COLUMBIA	14,750	\$ 197,386	\$ 122,098	\$ -	\$ 28,390	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,236	\$ 45,662	5,340
COOK	1,272	\$ 9,140	\$ 5,070	\$ -	\$ 435	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 3,596	453
COWETA	11,847	\$ 61,641	\$ 38,365	\$ -	\$ 5,013	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 562	\$ 17,701	2,341
CRAWFORD	995	\$ 4,658	\$ 1,861	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 2,597	339

VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY15 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY15 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	1,511	\$ 10,759	\$ 5,564	\$ -	\$ 488	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 122	\$ 4,584	432
DADE	1,369	\$ 6,663	\$ 3,892	\$ -	\$ 245	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 157	\$ 2,368	300
DAWSON	2,343	\$ 9,341	\$ 6,321	\$ -	\$ 541	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 2,414	340
DECATUR	2,063	\$ 9,414	\$ 4,583	\$ -	\$ 427	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 4,352	648
DEKALB	37,589	\$ 515,023	\$ 175,310	\$ 293	\$ 34,810	\$ -	\$ 95,057	\$ 3,994	\$ 205,559	13,184
DODGE	1,515	\$ 11,482	\$ 4,836	\$ -	\$ 459	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49	\$ 6,138	476
DOOLY	867	\$ 4,362	\$ 2,706	\$ -	\$ 197	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15	\$ 1,443	193
DOUGHERTY	6,939	\$ 67,474	\$ 42,277	\$ -	\$ 4,392	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 551	\$ 20,254	2,517
DOUGLAS	11,986	\$ 79,964	\$ 46,937	\$ -	\$ 8,633	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 546	\$ 23,848	2,808
EARLY	866	\$ 4,999	\$ 3,142	\$ -	\$ 225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39	\$ 1,592	226
ECHOLS	219	\$ 1,197	\$ 191	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5	\$ 996	91
EFFINGHAM	6,039	\$ 29,874	\$ 18,228	\$ -	\$ 4,099	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 227	\$ 7,320	1,146
ELBERT	1,659	\$ 10,744	\$ 5,991	\$ -	\$ 169	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 4,508	494
EMANUEL	1,325	\$ 15,531	\$ 6,439	\$ -	\$ 482	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 8,561	571
EVANS	776	\$ 5,447	\$ 3,047	\$ -	\$ 306	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9	\$ 2,086	232
FANNIN	2,062	\$ 15,309	\$ 9,960	\$ -	\$ 171	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 72	\$ 5,106	705
FAYETTE	11,125	\$ 68,492	\$ 48,966	\$ -	\$ 5,344	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 933	\$ 13,250	1,966
FLOYD	6,688	\$ 33,109	\$ 21,373	\$ -	\$ 1,590	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 504	\$ 9,641	1,360
FORSYTH	12,202	\$ 34,565	\$ 20,030	\$ -	\$ 2,261	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 757	\$ 11,518	1,511
FRANKLIN	1,823	\$ 10,198	\$ 5,686	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 4,059	421
FULTON	46,460	\$ 396,755	\$ 195,562	\$ -	\$ 38,622	\$ -	\$ 2,967	\$ 5,134	\$ 154,470	13,278
GILMER	2,598	\$ 17,500	\$ 11,246	\$ -	\$ 363	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 147	\$ 5,744	702
GLASCOCK	164	\$ 1,594	\$ 668	\$ -	\$ 92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51	\$ 783	66
GLYNN	7,660	\$ 46,872	\$ 27,035	\$ -	\$ 2,244	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 652	\$ 16,941	2,248
GORDON	3,537	\$ 18,439	\$ 11,809	\$ -	\$ 773	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 122	\$ 5,735	700
GRADY	1,685	\$ 11,230	\$ 4,786	\$ -	\$ 564	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ 5,720	694
GREENE	1,390	\$ 7,649	\$ 4,787	\$ -	\$ 110	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149	\$ 2,603	327
GWINNETT	45,449	\$ 242,685	\$ 129,552	\$ -	\$ 26,307	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,275	\$ 83,551	9,511
HABERSHAM	3,369	\$ 18,450	\$ 11,730	\$ -	\$ 754	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 309	\$ 5,658	761
HALL	12,369	\$ 61,654	\$ 35,522	\$ -	\$ 3,389	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,227	\$ 21,516	2,561
HANCOCK	695	\$ 5,755	\$ 3,045	\$ -	\$ 276	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 2,422	230
HARALSON	2,160	\$ 11,466	\$ 6,840	\$ -	\$ 470	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 157	\$ 3,999	484
HARRIS	3,964	\$ 28,045	\$ 19,565	\$ -	\$ 2,273	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 302	\$ 5,905	917
HART	2,072	\$ 8,970	\$ 4,675	\$ -	\$ 202	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109	\$ 3,984	518
HEARD	845	\$ 4,486	\$ 2,428	\$ -	\$ 230	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ 1,804	232
HENRY	20,702	\$ 159,001	\$ 100,146	\$ -	\$ 17,046	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,352	\$ 40,457	5,020
HOUSTON	20,708	\$ 168,264	\$ 110,281	\$ -	\$ 21,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 928	\$ 35,747	5,270
IRWIN	652	\$ 3,149	\$ 1,811	\$ -	\$ 131	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1,205	196
JACKSON	5,269	\$ 27,626	\$ 17,425	\$ -	\$ 1,838	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 394	\$ 7,969	1,006

VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY15 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY15 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	1,135	\$ 6,235	\$ 3,519	\$ -	\$ 344	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 118	\$ 2,253	291
JEFF DAVIS	725	\$ 7,395	\$ 3,384	\$ -	\$ 167	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 3,802	322
JEFFERSON	1,140	\$ 15,817	\$ 5,578	\$ -	\$ 404	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ 9,807	467
JENKINS	710	\$ 5,348	\$ 1,993	\$ -	\$ 87	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ 3,238	183
JOHNSON	528	\$ 5,313	\$ 2,043	\$ -	\$ 169	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 3,099	204
JONES	2,288	\$ 10,363	\$ 4,426	\$ -	\$ 503	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89	\$ 5,346	662
LAMAR	1,783	\$ 9,288	\$ 5,387	\$ -	\$ 408	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ 3,419	359
LANIER	875	\$ 7,244	\$ 3,089	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22	\$ 3,433	313
LAURENS	4,050	\$ 70,005	\$ 20,954	\$ 625	\$ 1,325	\$ -	\$ 5,523	\$ 259	\$ 41,320	1,955
LEE	3,142	\$ 17,349	\$ 11,237	\$ -	\$ 1,661	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 214	\$ 4,238	746
LIBERTY	11,380	\$ 126,666	\$ 77,351	\$ -	\$ 22,413	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 561	\$ 26,341	3,747
LINGOLN	870	\$ 8,600	\$ 3,772	\$ -	\$ 244	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14	\$ 4,570	255
LONG	1,772	\$ 20,398	\$ 11,728	\$ -	\$ 4,114	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ 4,503	688
LOWNDES	13,071	\$ 86,005	\$ 46,739	\$ -	\$ 10,368	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 596	\$ 28,302	3,135
LUMPKIN	2,601	\$ 12,093	\$ 7,163	\$ -	\$ 1,233	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 132	\$ 3,566	495
MCDUFFIE	1,806	\$ 16,423	\$ 8,779	\$ -	\$ 722	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 56	\$ 6,866	594
MCINTOSH	1,336	\$ 8,194	\$ 5,011	\$ -	\$ 351	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45	\$ 2,787	388
MACON	1,092	\$ 5,593	\$ 2,517	\$ -	\$ 253	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47	\$ 2,775	270
MADISON	2,185	\$ 14,169	\$ 9,192	\$ -	\$ 433	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 168	\$ 4,376	567
MARION	887	\$ 5,755	\$ 3,716	\$ -	\$ 304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36	\$ 1,699	229
MERIWETHER	1,936	\$ 9,161	\$ 5,007	\$ -	\$ 290	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48	\$ 3,815	393
MILLER	516	\$ 1,739	\$ 960	\$ -	\$ 85	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16	\$ 677	119
MITCHELL	1,652	\$ 7,312	\$ 4,374	\$ -	\$ 504	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 151	\$ 2,283	407
MONROE	2,078	\$ 11,583	\$ 6,200	\$ -	\$ 487	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 73	\$ 4,823	584
MONTGOMERY	577	\$ 4,993	\$ 2,433	\$ -	\$ 210	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 2,308	195
MORGAN	1,209	\$ 8,654	\$ 5,043	\$ -	\$ 348	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 392	\$ 2,870	311
MURRAY	2,403	\$ 13,481	\$ 8,686	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54	\$ 4,441	606
MUSCOGEE	23,439	\$ 311,642	\$ 214,428	\$ -	\$ 36,996	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,726	\$ 57,492	7,561
NEWTON	8,629	\$ 59,805	\$ 33,612	\$ -	\$ 4,270	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 288	\$ 21,636	2,117
OCONEE	2,693	\$ 11,444	\$ 8,157	\$ -	\$ 465	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 148	\$ 2,673	361
OGLETHORPE	963	\$ 5,572	\$ 2,315	\$ -	\$ 160	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62	\$ 3,035	337
PAULDING	11,780	\$ 48,451	\$ 26,506	\$ -	\$ 4,562	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 221	\$ 17,162	2,073
PEACH	2,726	\$ 27,591	\$ 17,793	\$ -	\$ 2,213	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 348	\$ 7,237	761
PICKENS	3,337	\$ 12,959	\$ 8,973	\$ -	\$ 397	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 151	\$ 3,439	437
PIERCE	1,256	\$ 12,940	\$ 6,444	\$ -	\$ 445	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76	\$ 5,975	581
PIKE	1,500	\$ 8,586	\$ 5,305	\$ -	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 77	\$ 2,753	317
POLK	2,819	\$ 16,749	\$ 11,487	\$ -	\$ 821	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 143	\$ 4,297	570
PULASKI	809	\$ 6,484	\$ 3,890	\$ -	\$ 284	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 2,306	218
PUTNAM	2,088	\$ 11,355	\$ 5,658	\$ -	\$ 276	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 73	\$ 5,349	509

VA STATISTICAL DATA

FY15 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY15 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	278	\$ 2,512	\$ 1,391	\$ -	\$ 26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15	\$ 1,080	106
RABUN	1,583	\$ 8,981	\$ 4,845	\$ -	\$ 202	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 102	\$ 3,832	422
RANDOLPH	517	\$ 2,669	\$ 1,616	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43	\$ 950	129
RICHMOND	21,369	\$ 340,064	\$ 164,097	\$ 6,835	\$ 23,020	\$ -	\$ 2,651	\$ 1,886	\$ 141,575	10,216
ROCKDALE	8,112	\$ 58,829	\$ 33,798	\$ -	\$ 4,384	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 297	\$ 20,350	2,043
SCHLEY	283	\$ 1,662	\$ 946	\$ -	\$ 89	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ 603	55
SCREVEN	1,166	\$ 7,033	\$ 3,104	\$ -	\$ 349	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28	\$ 3,552	316
SEMINOLE	848	\$ 5,020	\$ 2,889	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 439	\$ 1,593	244
SPALDING	4,820	\$ 30,533	\$ 18,795	\$ -	\$ 1,796	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 226	\$ 9,717	1,190
STEPHENS	1,972	\$ 13,333	\$ 8,342	\$ -	\$ 634	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81	\$ 4,276	483
STEWART	328	\$ 2,740	\$ 1,999	\$ -	\$ 101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	\$ 630	105
SUMTER	1,866	\$ 13,710	\$ 8,817	\$ -	\$ 436	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 156	\$ 4,301	522
TALBOT	593	\$ 5,936	\$ 4,540	\$ -	\$ 332	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11	\$ 1,053	157
TALIAFERRO	115	\$ 1,279	\$ 335	\$ -	\$ 44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 898	49
TATTNALL	2,311	\$ 15,020	\$ 8,793	\$ -	\$ 1,309	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 182	\$ 4,736	566
TAYLOR	603	\$ 3,521	\$ 2,066	\$ -	\$ 151	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21	\$ 1,283	156
TELFAIR	780	\$ 9,180	\$ 3,516	\$ -	\$ 88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63	\$ 5,514	296
TERRELL	822	\$ 3,849	\$ 2,313	\$ -	\$ 138	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20	\$ 1,378	197
THOMAS	3,466	\$ 28,019	\$ 13,767	\$ -	\$ 1,733	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 589	\$ 11,930	1,253
TIFT	2,429	\$ 19,745	\$ 12,225	\$ -	\$ 1,108	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 6,262	742
TOOMBS	1,680	\$ 16,898	\$ 7,298	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43	\$ 8,856	666
TOWNS	1,373	\$ 8,903	\$ 5,408	\$ -	\$ 155	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24	\$ 3,316	439
TREUTLEN	416	\$ 3,946	\$ 1,368	\$ -	\$ 91	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87	\$ 2,400	152
TROUP	4,608	\$ 34,303	\$ 21,924	\$ -	\$ 1,791	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 10,188	1,151
TURNER	625	\$ 4,861	\$ 3,002	\$ -	\$ 248	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ 1,579	201
TWIGGS	724	\$ 6,080	\$ 2,330	\$ -	\$ 174	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 207	\$ 3,369	250
UNION	2,682	\$ 17,839	\$ 10,790	\$ -	\$ 356	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 328	\$ 6,365	953
UPSON	2,268	\$ 13,420	\$ 8,385	\$ -	\$ 443	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175	\$ 4,417	583
WALKER	5,244	\$ 33,848	\$ 22,264	\$ -	\$ 1,228	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 378	\$ 9,978	1,287
WALTON	6,659	\$ 48,133	\$ 30,268	\$ -	\$ 3,718	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 555	\$ 13,590	1,385
WARE	3,154	\$ 24,062	\$ 12,698	\$ -	\$ 846	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 218	\$ 10,300	1,179
WARREN	371	\$ 3,512	\$ 1,270	\$ -	\$ 99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7	\$ 2,136	129
WASHINGTON	1,436	\$ 14,276	\$ 5,874	\$ -	\$ 538	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165	\$ 7,698	547
WAYNE	2,816	\$ 17,028	\$ 9,646	\$ -	\$ 918	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 114	\$ 6,350	765
WEBSTER	189	\$ 1,041	\$ 584	\$ -	\$ 31	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89	\$ 337	37
WHEELER	513	\$ 4,879	\$ 1,837	\$ -	\$ 53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16	\$ 2,973	184
WHITE	2,408	\$ 14,013	\$ 8,260	\$ -	\$ 504	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65	\$ 5,184	607
WHITFIELD	4,876	\$ 29,204	\$ 18,695	\$ -	\$ 1,517	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 324	\$ 8,669	1,160
WILCOX	722	\$ 5,334	\$ 2,469	\$ -	\$ 153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58	\$ 2,653	176

VA STATISTICAL DATA AND NOTES

FY15 GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF VA EXPENDITURES (GDX)

FY15 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	980	\$ 6,926	\$ 3,276	\$ -	\$ 156	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32	\$ 3,462	263
WILKINSON	745	\$ 7,996	\$ 3,605	\$ -	\$ 111	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41	\$ 4,238	270
WORTH	1,758	\$ 8,412	\$ 4,643	\$ -	\$ 426	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61	\$ 3,282	497
GEORGIA (Totals)	752,499	\$ 6,706,037	\$ 3,112,296	\$ 9,538	\$ 608,282	\$ -	\$ 106,659	\$ 63,167	\$ 1,915,096	197,468
CONG. DIST (01)	76,341	\$ 591,415	\$ 336,567	\$ -	\$ 91,595	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,909	\$ 158,343	21,793
CONG. DIST (02)	60,230	\$ 527,986	\$ 322,933	\$ -	\$ 44,165	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,070	\$ 155,818	19,012
CONG. DIST (03)	61,524	\$ 448,065	\$ 290,982	\$ -	\$ 37,456	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 4,461	\$ 115,165	13,686
CONG. DIST (04)	46,752	\$ 418,622	\$ 178,645	\$ 79	\$ 31,545	\$ -	\$ 4,847	\$ 3,339	\$ 200,167	14,979
CONG. DIST (05)	36,609	\$ 475,459	\$ 170,950	\$ 215	\$ 32,546	\$ -	\$ 91,300	\$ 3,863	\$ 176,585	12,875
CONG. DIST (06)	37,696	\$ 221,592	\$ 138,400	\$ -	\$ 28,873	\$ -	\$ 1,870	\$ 3,571	\$ 48,877	5,322
CONG. DIST (07)	38,722	\$ 193,892	\$ 109,398	\$ -	\$ 20,513	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,966	\$ 61,016	7,155
CONG. DIST (08)	65,336	\$ 494,608	\$ 279,873	\$ 2	\$ 42,244	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,780	\$ 168,709	18,504
CONG. DIST (09)	56,488	\$ 300,850	\$ 181,403	\$ -	\$ 13,392	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,701	\$ 102,353	12,890
CONG. DIST (10)	53,757	\$ 360,580	\$ 201,284	\$ 487	\$ 25,040	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,421	\$ 130,348	12,524
CONG. DIST (11)	49,623	\$ 258,307	\$ 157,891	\$ 195	\$ 28,753	\$ -	\$ 457	\$ 4,045	\$ 66,967	8,044
CONG. DIST (12)	62,332	\$ 765,769	\$ 383,322	\$ 6,971	\$ 61,735	\$ -	\$ 8,174	\$ 4,327	\$ 301,240	23,915
CONG. DIST (13)	58,283	\$ 401,082	\$ 208,651	\$ 1,590	\$ 37,370	\$ -	\$ 3	\$ 3,357	\$ 150,110	16,443
CONG. DIST (14)	48,807	\$ 246,811	\$ 151,997	\$ -	\$ 13,055	\$ -	\$ 8	\$ 2,354	\$ 79,398	10,316
GEORGIA (Totals)	752,499	\$ 6,706,037	\$ 3,112,296	\$ 9,538	\$ 608,282	\$ -	\$ 106,659	\$ 63,167	\$ 1,915,096	197,468

Notes:

* Veteran population estimates, as of September 30, 2015, are produced by the VA Office of the Actuary (VetPop 2014).

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 (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 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
[facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://www.facebook.com/gavetsvc)
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 706-823-2218
Bainbridge 229-248-2599
Blairsville 706-745-6341
Brunswick 912-262-2345
Canton 770-720-3538
Carrollton 404-321-6111, x 2554
Cartersville 770-387-3746
Cedartown 770-749-2209
Clarkesville 706-754-4316
Columbus 706-649-1264
Conyers 770-388-5075
Cordele 229-276-2366
Dalton 706-272-2355
Decatur 404-728-7611
Douglas 912-389-4898
Dublin 478-272-4266
Fort McPherson 404-321-6111, x 4997
Gainesville 770-531-6060
Glennville 912-654-5159
Greensboro 706-453-7455
Griffin 770-412-4023
Hartwell 706-376-4461
Hinesville 912-920-0214, x 2948
LaFayette 706-638-5544
LaGrange 706-845-4095
Lawrenceville 404-321-6111, x 1964
Lyons 912-526-8860
Macon 478-751-3186
Marietta 770-528-3254
Milledgeville 478-445-4751

Veterans Field Service Offices

Moultrie 229-891-7135
Newnan 770-254-7260
Oakwood 404-321-6111, x 8225
Rome 706-295-6026
Savannah 912-920-0214, x 2194
St. Marys 912-510-3440
Statesboro 912-871-1104
Swainsboro 478-289-2617
Thomasville 229-225-4050
Tifton 229-386-3856
Valdosta 229-333-2178
Warner Robins 478-293-1005
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 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,
[facebook.com/gavetsvc](https://www.facebook.com/gavetsvc),
or 404-656-5933.