

### SNAPSHOT

## DOC VETERANS DATA

The information below applies to those confined to the D.C. Jail and Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF) on September 3, 2015:

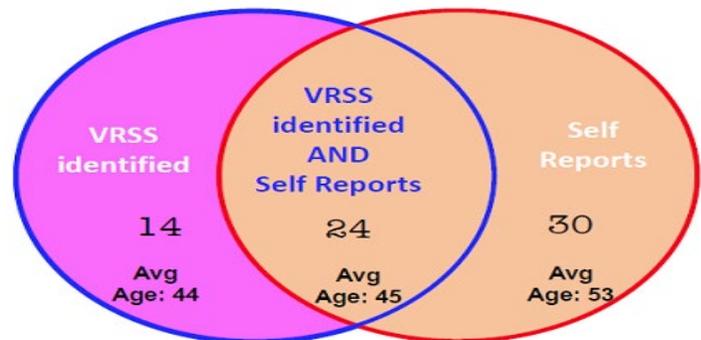
- ✓ 3.84% of the population (68 veterans)
- ✓ 74 % had felony offenses
- ✓ 26% had misdemeanor offenses
- ✓ Average age  
Age 44 per VRSS  
Over 50 per self-reports
- ✓ 23% reported they were homeless at the time of arrest
- ✓ 38% reported they were unemployed when arrested
- ✓ 54% were diagnosed with substance use
- ✓ 61% were diagnosed with mental illness

## Background Information

The DCDOC system is comprised of two primary correctional facilities—the D.C. Jail and the Correctional Treatment Facility which is operated by the Corrections Corporation of America under contract with the District of Columbia. The agency also contracts with two privately operated halfway houses for the community placement of inmates. Those in the custody of the DCDOC include male and female pre-trial detainees, sentenced misdemeanants, sentenced felons and parole violators.

Traditionally correctional agencies have relied on the self-reporting of veterans' information by those in custody. However in August of 2014, DCDOC gained access to the Veterans Reentry Search Service (VRSS) reference system which provides a more accurate source for identification of charged, convicted, and incarcerated veterans. Through use of this system, DCDOC is now better able to facilitate connections to services and support through the Veterans Administration/Veterans Justice Programs (VJP).

As part of the interface process, DCDOC uploads its list of incarcerated persons to identify individuals from the VRSS system who have served in the military---reports are issued twice each week. If an inmate fails to provide all required information (such as a social security number), DOC relies on the combined VRSS and self-reported data to identify veterans.

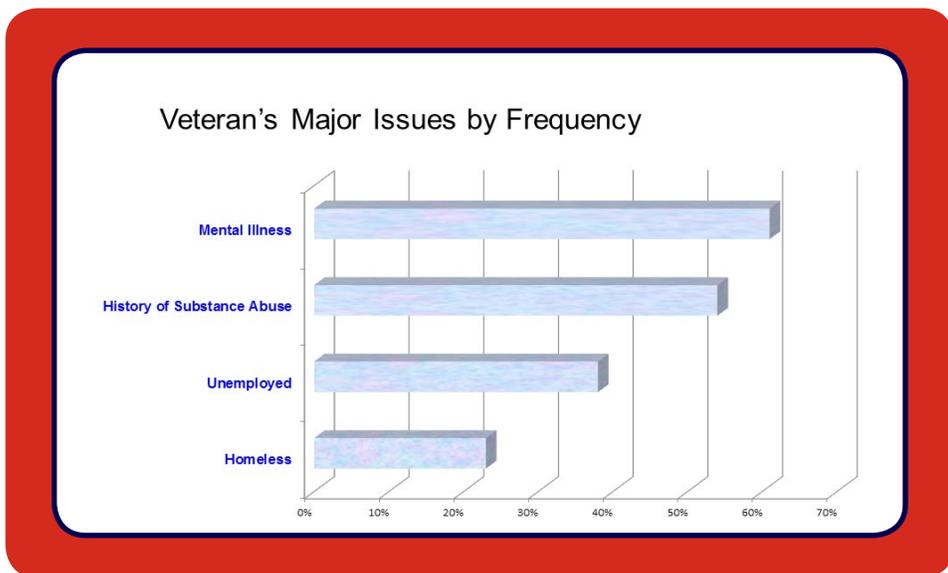


Total Veterans on Census Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>: 68

# DCDOC REENTRY SERVICES FOR VETERANS

DCDOC focuses on connecting Veterans with organizations that provide comprehensive treatment, reentry programming and support based upon individual need. The goal is to initiate these linkages during the early period of incarceration so that release plans are solidly in place prior to release.

During the front-end commitment processing, DOC streams videos on how to access and use reentry services and products. Basic information about emergency services and community resources (to include agencies that specialize in services to veterans) is also issued at release. This process is especially important in accomodating persons who may be detained for less than 72 hours.



## Veterans Outreach

Incarcerated Veterans Reentry Specialists from the Veterans Administration visit the CDF once a week in order to provide reentry support to veterans scheduled for release within six (6) months. Representatives from the non-profit organization Veterans on the Rise also visit the CTF on a weekly basis to provide services to their Veteran population.

Their data indicates that between April 2015 and September 15, 2015, case management services were provided to 77 veterans at the D.C. Jail. This included dissemination of information on benefits, services and care; eligibility determination; application/referrals for assistance through the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program; primary health/mental health care as well as substance abuse treatment and vocational training.

The Veterans on the Rise (VOTR) program provides critical wraparound services including transitional housing; referrals for mental health and substance use services; job placement assistance/employment referrals; green jobs vocational training as well as referrals to other community service providers.

Their data indicates that during FY 2015 they worked with 48 veterans at the CTF, referring 18 to the Office of Returning Citizens Affairs, placing 4 with a mental health core service agency, referring 14 to green maintenance training, placing 10 in transitional housing, 2 in substance use inpatient treatment, and helping 4 obtain employment. In addition, those with honorable discharges were referred to the VA for other available services.