

# UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS

## JANUARY 2024



Executive Director: Gary Harter  
Deputy Director, Facilities: Jeff Hanson

Deputy Director, Military Affairs: Brian Garrett  
Deputy Director, Veteran Services: Cory Pearson

### MISSION

The Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs serves Veterans, current service members and their families by opening doors to benefits, education and jobs.

We advocate for Utah's military installations and defense sector.

### ECONOMIC IMPACT

(Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, 2021)

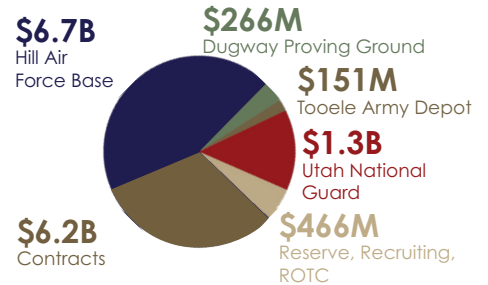
#### TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

**\$19.3B** Economic Activity  
**10.6%** Share of State GDP  
**211,000** Supported Jobs

#### VETERANS ECONOMIC IMPACT

**\$3.2B** Economic Activity  
**36,140** Supported Jobs

#### MILITARY ECONOMIC IMPACT



### VETERANS



**2,500**  
World War II



**8,914**  
Korean War



**41,407**  
Vietnam War



**23,514**  
Cold War/Peacetime



**61,449**  
Current Conflict

**132,960**  
Total Veterans



**91%**



**9%**

(Source: National Center for Veterans Analysis, 2022)

#### VETERAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

**2.8%** State of Utah **0.9%** Veterans

(Source: Utah DWS, Nov 2023)

### CURRENT EFFORTS

#### SUPPORTING "UTAH HOME" PRIORITIES

SALT LAKE VETERANS HOME REPLACEMENT

NORTHERN UTAH VETERANS CEMETERY

RURAL VETERANS OUTREACH

MILITARY & VETERAN FAMILY PROGRAMS

GREAT SALT LAKE SENTINEL LANDSCAPE

MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCY

UTAH IS BEST PLACE TO PERFORM MILITARY MISSIONS

TRANSITION EXCELLENCE CENTER

SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS

FOCUSED COMMUNICATIONS & LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY

- Veterans Business Registry
- E-Newsletter
- Veterans.utah.gov & Military.utah.gov

### MILITARY



**ARMY** **8,414**  
Active Duty 185  
National Guard 5,648  
Reserves 2,621



**AIR FORCE** **6,762**  
Active Duty 4,118  
National Guard 1,371  
Reserves 1,273



**NAVY** **381**  
Active Duty 92  
Reserves 117



**MARINES** **209**  
Active Duty 92  
Reserves 117



**SPACE FORCE** **50**  
Active Duty 50



**COAST GUARD** **2**  
Active Duty 2

Active Duty 4,485  
National Guard 7,019  
Reserves 4,354  
Civilians 16,055

**31,913**

### VA BENEFITS & HEALTHCARE

#### HEALTHCARE



**81,390**  
Unique Patients  
VA Salt Lake City Health Care System

**695,300**  
Outpatient visits (FY2022)



#### COMPENSATION & PENSION

**\$866M**  
Compensation & Benefits

**31,529**  
Utah Veterans w/ a Service  
Connected Disability

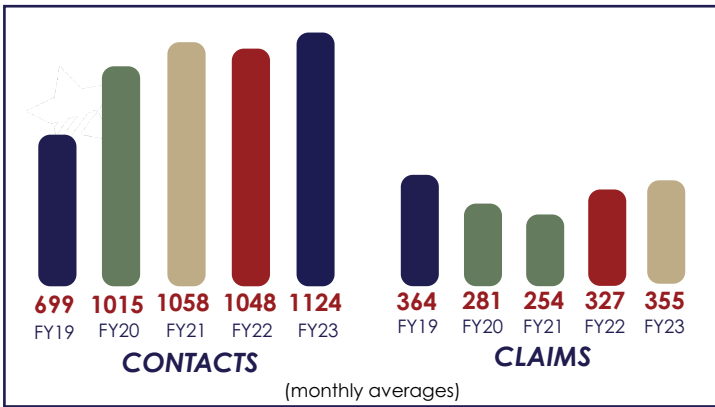
**21%**

Increase in  
Veterans'  
compensation  
from 2022



(Source: National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, FY2018-2022; VA Salt Lake City Health Care, FY2022)

## VETERANS OUTREACH & SERVICES



## NURSING HOMES & CEMETERY

### VETERANS HOMES

**93%** Occupancy  
**366** Veterans  
**21** Family Member  
**387** Total Residents

**800** Employees  
**\$59.1M** Expenditures



### CEMETERY

#### Internments

**494** FY23  
**565** FY22  
**573** FY21

Casket to Cremains **44:56**  
 Veterans to Spouses **73:27**

## PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS

### UTAH@EASE

PRO BONO LEGAL SUPPORT  
 PARTNERSHIP WITH AG'S OFFICE AND UTAH BAR

**1,168** Veterans inquired  
**687** Veterans supported  
**59** Attorneys in program

### VETERAN BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

PARTNERSHIP WITH SLCC

**1,402** Individuals supported  
**1,500+** Businesses supported  
**601** Jobs created

### MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM

PARTNERSHIP WITH DAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Military Family Advocate  
**184** Families supported

Military Educational Therapists  
**100** Students supported

### ACCELERATED CREDENTIALING TO EMPLOYMENT (ACE)

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH DWS

**287** Employment placements in '23  
**132** Obtained licenses in '23  
**360** Individuals in training

### UNCLAIMED PROPERTY INITIATIVE

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH TREASURER

**\$700K** Money returned  
**750** Veterans benefited

### HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT

STATE APPROVING AGENCY AND USHE

**7,652** Students have used GI Bill  
**216** Institutions/programs  
**8** Veterans support centers

### PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS

PARTNERSHIP WITH USOE

**39** Purple Star Schools in Utah  
**19** New schools added in 2023

### FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER GRANT

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH HOUSING AUTHORITY

**\$500K** Funding amount  
**200** Grants awarded

### VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES HONOR PASS

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH STATE PARKS

**4,000+** Passes distributed in 2023

### VETERANS ON COURSE

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH GOLF FOUNDATION

**10** Annual events held  
**600** Annual Veteran participants

### GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE TO PREVENT SUICIDE

PARTNERSHIP WITH SAMHSA, VA, & UTAH DHHS

**408** Gun safes to SMVF  
 Launched "Live On Military Playbook"

### UDVMA GRANT PROGRAM

RECREATION, MENTAL HEALTH, RECOGNITION, AND OTHER SUPPORT EFFORTS

**\$150,000** Grant funds awarded