

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS

JANUARY 2025



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, 2024)

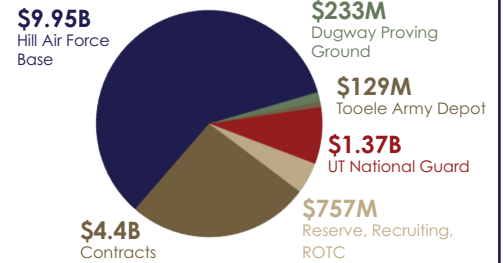
TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$22.2B Economic Activity
7.8% Share of State GDP
173,713 Supported Jobs

VETERANS ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$4.5B Economic Activity
38,249 Supported Jobs

MILITARY ECONOMIC IMPACT



VETERANS



1,021
World War II



3,684
Korean War



38,430
Vietnam War



14,096
Cold War/Peacetime



70,932
Current Conflict

129,783
Total Veterans



91%



9%

(Source: National Center for Veterans Analysis, 2023)

VETERAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

3.5% State of Utah **3.0%** Veterans

(Source: Utah DWS, Nov 2024)

CURRENT EFFORTS

SUPPORTING GOVERNOR'S "BUILT HERE" PRIORITIES

SALT LAKE VETERANS HOME REPLACEMENT

NORTHERN UTAH VETERANS CEMETERY

RURAL VETERANS OUTREACH

MILITARY & VETERAN FAMILY PROGRAMS

MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCY

- Encroachment, Energy, UAS
- Great Salt Lake Sentinel Landscape

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 **8,513**
Active Duty 179
National Guard 5,868
Reserves 2,466



AIR FORCE **6,778**
Active Duty 4,067
National Guard 1,418
Reserves 1,293



NAVY **376**
Active Duty 31
Reserves 345



MARINES **213**
Active Duty 130
Reserves 83



SPACE FORCE **5**
Active Duty 5



COAST GUARD **3**
Active Duty 3

Active Duty 4,415
National Guard 7,286
Reserves 4,187
Civilians 15,888

32,578

(Numbers as of July 2024)

VA BENEFITS & HEALTHCARE

HEALTHCARE



83,764
Unique Patients
VA Salt Lake City Health Care System

698,930
Outpatient visits (FY2024)

COMPENSATION & PENSION



\$935M
Compensation & Benefits

37,134
Utah Veterans w/ a Service
Connected Disability

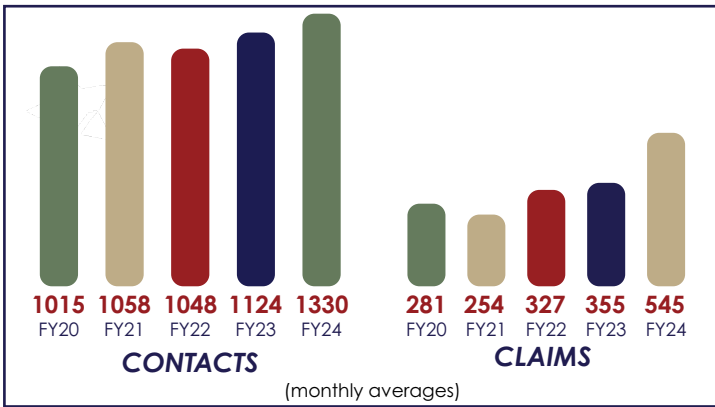
8%

Increase in
Veterans'
compensation
from 2023



(Source: National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, FY2022-2023; VA Salt Lake City Health Care, FY2023)

VETERANS OUTREACH & SERVICES



NURSING HOMES & CEMETERY

VETERANS HOMES

94% Occupancy
375 Veterans
16 Family Member
391 Total Residents

800 Employees
\$59.1M Expenditures



CEMETERY Interments

504 FY24
494 FY23
565 FY22

Casket to Cremains **50:50**
 Veterans to Spouses **70:30**

PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS

VETERAN BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

PARTNERSHIP WITH SLCC



2,278 Individuals supported
816 Jobs created

MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM

PARTNERSHIP WITH DAVIS, WEBER, OGDEN, & TOOELE SCHOOL DISTRICTS



200+ Families and students supported

GREAT SALT LAKE SENTINEL LANDSCAPE

FEDERAL, STATE, & LOCAL PARTNERSHIP TO PROTECT MILITARY MISSIONS & CONSERVATION



2.7M Total area in acres
1,700 Sq miles of protected environments

PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION



67 Purple Star Schools in Utah
28 New schools added in 2024

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER GRANT

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH HOUSING AUTHORITY



181 Grants awarded FY24
52:48 Currently serving to Veteran

GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE TO PREVENT SUICIDE

PARTNERSHIP WITH SAMHSA, VA, & UTAH DHHS



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

HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT

STATE APPROVING AGENCY AND USHE



8,301 GI Bill® beneficiaries
304 Institutions & Apprenticeships
11 Veterans support centers

UTAH STATE PARKS VETERANS PASSES

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH STATE PARKS



7,000 Honor Passes distributed in 2024
1,600 Veterans Park Pass Pilot Program

ACCELERATED CREDENTIALING TO EMPLOYMENT (ACE)

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH DWS



267 Employment placements in '24
180 Obtained licenses in '24
228 Individuals in training

NATIONAL ABILITY CENTER MILITARY & VETERANS PROGRAMS



1,633 Veteran/Military participants (FY24)
11,497 Total experiences

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY INITIATIVE

PARTNERSHIP WITH UTAH TREASURER



\$1.24M Money returned
750+ Veterans benefited

UTAH@EASE

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



1,418 Veterans inquired
857 Veterans supported
66 Attorneys in program