



MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY

We Stand for Those Who Served

Who We Are

- **Mission**

MVAA is the central coordinating agency for the state, providing support, care, advocacy and service to veterans and their families

- **Vision**

Making Michigan a destination that veterans and their families choose to live, raise a family, work, retire and play



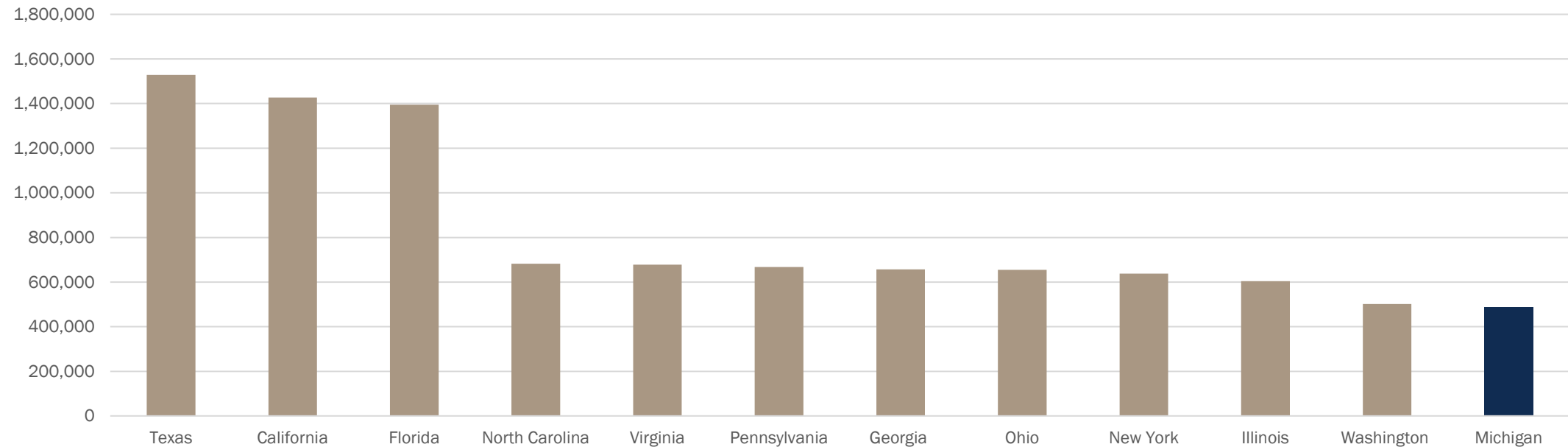
**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

We Serve All Veterans

- We are dedicated to serving all veterans, including those who have been traditionally underserved or underrepresented
- The agency has a unique initiative to ensure these veterans get the service and recognition they deserve



Michigan Veterans – Demographics



Michigan has one of the largest veteran populations in the country, **ranking 12th in 2024 with more than 486,000 veterans**

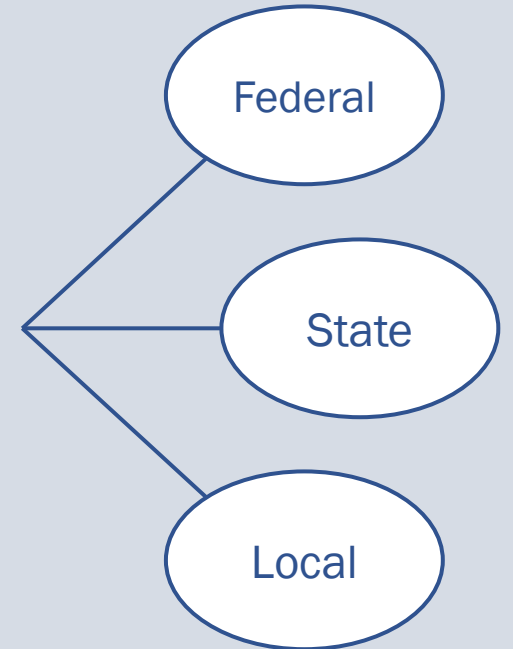
Source: VA.gov (As of September 30, 2024)



**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

Central Coordinating Agency for Veterans

MVAA helps connect veterans and their families to local, state and federal resources and services



**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center

- Serves as the nerve center of MVAA
- Connectedness through partnerships
- Call **1-800-MICH-VET**
(1-800-642-4838)
- Visit **Michigan.gov/MVAA**



Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency

Michigan Veteran Resource Service Center

Connecting veterans and their families to:

- DD-214 and other military docs
- Emergency services
- Veteran Service Officer (VSO) support
- Employment, education, health and wellbeing, and other general information requests

Call **1-800-MICH-VET**
(1-800-642-4838)

Visit **Michigan.gov/MVAA**



**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

Veteran Service Officers (VSO)

- VSOs work to connect veterans and their family members with the benefits they have earned
- To find the nearest VSO:
 - Visit **Michigan.gov/VSO**
 - Or call 1-800-MICH-VET



Michigan Veterans Trust Fund

- \$50 million trust fund established after WWII for emergent needs
- For war-time era veterans, peacetime-era veterans 65 years and older, and their surviving spouses
- Learn more at **Michigan.gov/MVTF**



Veteran-Friendly Employer & School Programs

- MVAA recognizes employers that commit to military veteran recruitment, training and retention practices
- MVAA recognizes postsecondary institutions that commit to supporting the needs of student veterans and military-connected students
- Certified as Gold-, Silver- or Bronze-level



Buddy to Buddy Veteran Mentorship Program

- A program that pairs military service members and veterans with trained peers
- Helps people to overcome the stigma around asking for help
- Connects those who are facing challenges with appropriate resources



To volunteer or connect with a Buddy,
visit Michigan.gov/MVAAB2B



**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

MVAA's **Link2Life** program supports the mental wellness of Michigan veterans and their family members. By identifying specific risk factors that cause mental health struggles or suicidal ideation, the program helps individuals address these areas and thrive in all facets of life



Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency

Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

The **Michigan Veteran Connector** program is a MVAA led statewide network of employers, healthcare institutions and community organizations, committed to asking the question:

“Have you or a member of your immediate household served in the military?”



**Michigan
Veteran
Connector**



**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

Underserved Veterans

- Addressing veteran homelessness
- MVAA advocated for **Women Veterans Recognition Day** as a state holiday, observed annually June 12
- We share stories through our **She is A Veteran** and **I Am a Veteran** campaigns



Other Key Initiatives

- **Michigan Vietnam Veteran Recognition Certificate**

Michigan is honoring Vietnam War-era veterans with a special certificate. Learn more at [Mi.gov/VietnamCertificate](https://mi.gov/VietnamCertificate)

- **Pinning Ceremonies**

MVAA occasionally recognizes veterans' service with pins during special events



**Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency**

State of Michigan Veteran Benefits

- Michigan has benefits available for service members, veterans and their dependents that support financial stability, health, education and quality of life
- Visit MVAA's new webpage at **[Mi.gov/VeteranBenefits](https://www.michigan.gov/VeteranBenefits)**



Michigan Veterans
Affairs Agency



Connect with Us

1-800-MICH-VET (1-800-642-4838)

Michigan.gov/MVAA

Linkedin.com/company/**MIVeteran**

Facebook.com/**MIVeterans**

Youtube.com/**@MIVeteran**

X.com/**MIVeteran**

Subscribe to MVAA's email newsletter! Visit **bit.ly/MVAANewsletter**