



2024 Veteran Employment Data Catalog

SUMMARY

In 2022, the Chief Evaluation Office (CEO) partnered with the Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) to fund contractor Westat to conduct the 2024 Veteran Employment Data Catalog. The data catalog aims to assist researchers by identifying existing public and restricted datasets related to the post-separation civilian transition, racial equity, and support for underserved veteran communities.

This catalog provides reference entries for 19 datasets that contain data related to these topic areas. Each dataset entry includes a description, potential research utility, strengths and limitations, sampling metadata, a list of relevant included variables, data structure metadata, and data accessibility metadata. Researchers can use this catalog to (1) find datasets containing variables related to their research questions, (2) gain an overview of a dataset's general relevance to veteran employment-related content, and (3) anticipate the types of veteran employment-related inquiries a dataset may be able to support.

This Department of Labor-funded study was a result of VETS's desire to identify a comprehensive list of data sources with information on the veteran status and employment outcomes of individuals and assess the value of these data sources for VETS analytic needs. It contributes to the labor evidence-base to inform Data, Methods, and Tools, Employment and Training, Disability and Employment, and Equity, and addresses Departmental strategic goals and priorities.

The 2024 Veteran Employment Data Catalog is part of the CEO's Administrative Data Research and Analysis (ADRA) program. ADRA identifies and examines administrative data sets from federal agencies to inform changing agency priorities. ADRA's studies focus on data that can help build evidence-based research to support Department strategic goals.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- There are many existing datasets with a rich set of demographic, economic, military-related, and veteran-related variables researchers can use to analyze topic areas related to VETS' mission.
- Researchers can use the data catalog to determine the scope of their research questions, find a dataset with relevant variables, and gain a broad overview of a dataset's veteran and employment-related metadata.
- Many of the cataloged datasets are restricted or require administrator approval to access.

[SEE FULL STUDY](#)



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SPONSOR: Chief Evaluation Office
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The Department of Labor's (DOL) Chief Evaluation Office (CEO) sponsors independent evaluations and research, primarily conducted by external, third-party contractors in accordance with the [Department of Labor Evaluation Policy](#). CEO's [research development process](#) includes extensive technical review at the design, data collection and analysis stage, including: external contractor review and OMB review and approval of data collection methods and instruments per the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), Institutional Review Board (IRB) review to ensure studies adhere to the highest ethical standards, review by academic peers (e.g., Technical Working Groups), and inputs from relevant DOL agency and program officials and CEO technical staff. Final reports undergo an additional independent expert technical review and a review for Section 508 compliance prior to publication. The resulting reports represent findings from this independent research and do not represent DOL positions or policies.