

STATS IN BRIEF

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Veterans' Education Benefits

A Profile of Military Students Who Received Federal Veterans' Education Benefits in 2015–16

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Statistics in Brief publications present descriptive data in tabular formats to provide useful information to a broad audience, including members of the general public. They address simple and topical issues and questions. They do not investigate more complex hypotheses, account for inter-relationships among variables, or support causal inferences. We encourage readers who are interested in more complex questions and in-depth analysis to explore other NCES resources, including publications, online data tools, and public- and restricted-use datasets. See nces.ed.gov and references noted in the body of this document for more information.

Military service members,

veterans, and certain dependents and survivors can receive financial support for postsecondary education and technical training. Veterans' educational benefits can include tuition and fees, housing allowances, and stipends for books and supplies (Radford 2011; Radford et al. 2016). Veterans' education benefits are provided primarily through two programs, the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (also known as the Post-9/11 GI Bill).

The number of veterans who receive veterans' education benefits increased after the Post-9/11 GI Bill went into effect. The total number of veterans' education beneficiaries—including active duty service members, veterans, and their families—grew by 93 percent between 2009 and 2013 (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 2017). However since 2013, the number of beneficiaries has declined from a high of 1,091,044 to 893,725 in 2018 (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs 2017, 2019).

The amount spent on all sources of veterans' education benefits and military education aid has increased from \$12.1 billion in 2010–11 to \$14.3 billion in 2015–16, in 2015 dollars (Baum et al. 2016).

Though the utilization of veterans' education benefits has increased since the Post-9/11 GI Bill, many military undergraduate and graduate students are not receiving them (Radford et al. 2016). In 2011–12, the percentage of military students using veterans' education benefits was 55 percent among military undergraduate students and 46 percent among military graduate students.

The National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) can be used to understand the characteristics of military students who receive federal veterans' education benefits and military students who do not receive federal veterans' education benefits. Previous studies have not compared these two groups specifically; however, they have offered useful insights into the characteristics of military students overall. For example, prior National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) reports focused on the control and level of military students' postsecondary institutions, showing a higher percentage of military students than their nonmilitary counterparts attend for-profit universities (Radford 2011; Radford et al. 2016). NPSAS data cannot answer questions about the reasons why military students do not receive federal veterans' education benefits.

The purpose of this Statistics in Brief is to compare and contrast the characteristics of military students who receive federal veterans' education not

benefits and military students who do receive such benefits. This descriptive analysis adds to the existing literature on military students and the use of veterans' education by using data from the 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16). In NPSAS:16, information on military status and receipt of veterans' education benefits was based on data from the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), the federal financial aid application, and the student interview. VBA data include payments made for tuition and fees, housing, books and supplies, work-study, and other education expenses. Students were considered military students in 2015–16 if they were veterans or were military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Analyses reported in this brief focus on the 6 percent of undergraduate students and 7 percent of graduate students who are veterans, on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard (see exhibit 1).

It does not examine the receipt of veterans' education benefits by nonmilitary students.

Throughout this brief veterans and military service members (i.e., active duty, reserves, or National Guard) enrolled in undergraduate and graduate education in 2015–16 are referred to as "military students," "military undergraduates," and "military graduate students." Although active duty military service members have access to tuition assistance during their service, we include them as military students in this brief for consistency with prior briefs.

All comparisons of estimates were tested for statistical significance using the Student's *t* statistic, and all differences cited are statistically significant at the $p < .05$ level. No adjustments were made for multiple comparisons. For more information about the data, measures, and methods used in this brief, please see the Methodology and Technical Notes at the end of this report.

Exhibit 1. Percentage distribution of undergraduate and graduate students, by military status: 2015–16

Military status	Undergraduates		Graduate students	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Total	100.0	19,532,300	100.0	3,572,900
Nonmilitary students	93.9	18,339,600	93.3	3,331,900
Military students	6.1	1,192,700	6.7	241,000
Veterans	4.5	870,500	5.1	181,800
Military service members				
Active duty	1.5	293,000	1.4	49,400
Reserves or National Guard	0.2	29,200	0.3	9,800

NOTE: The National Postsecondary Student Aid Study sample does not include service academies due to their unique funding/tuition base; however, it does include institutions that offer Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs. In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Detail may not sum to total due to rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

STUDY QUESTIONS

1 What percentage of military students in 2015–16 received veterans' education benefits, and what was the average amount of aid received?

2 Did the demographic characteristics of military students in 2015–16 vary by receipt of veterans' education benefits?

3 Did the enrollment characteristics of military students in 2015–16 vary by receipt of veterans' education benefits?

KEY FINDINGS

- Some 43 percent of military undergraduates and 36 percent of military graduate students received veterans' education benefits in 2015–16.
- Among military students who received veterans' education benefits in 2015–16, the average amount for undergraduates was approximately \$15,100 (or \$8,000 when excluding housing) and for graduate students was approximately \$16,200 (or \$10,400 when excluding housing).
- Among military undergraduates receiving veterans' education benefits, 78 percent were male, compared to military undergraduates not receiving veterans' education benefits, where 73 percent were male.
- Among military undergraduates receiving veterans' education benefits, 60 percent were White, compared to military undergraduates not receiving veterans' education benefits, where 55 percent were White.
- The only demographic characteristic that was significantly related to receipt of veterans' education benefits among military graduate students was age. Among military graduate students receiving veterans' education benefits, 48 percent were between the ages of 30 and 39, compared to military graduate students not receiving veterans' education benefits, where 37 percent were between the ages of 30 and 39.
- A higher percentage who received veterans' education benefits attended exclusively full time (52 percent compared to 29 percent for military undergraduates, and 46 percent compared to 34 percent for military graduate students).
- A higher percentage of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits attended traditional, on-campus programs (81 percent) compared to military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits and attended on-campus programs (76 percent).

1 What percentage of military students in 2015–16 received veterans' education benefits, and what was the average amount of aid received?

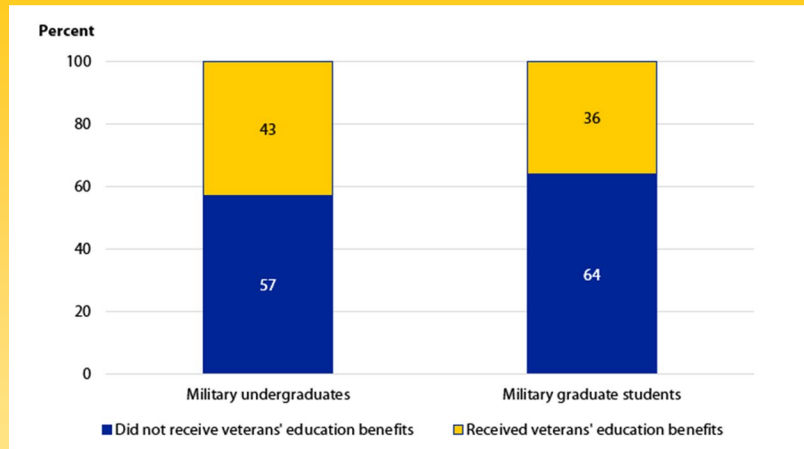
As shown in figure 1, 43 percent of military undergraduates and 36 percent of military graduate students in 2015–16 received veterans' education benefits (excluding housing). On average, military undergraduates who received veterans' educational benefits (excluding housing) received approximately \$8,000 in 2015–16, and military graduate students received \$10,400 (figure 2).

Overall, military graduate students received more federal aid than military undergraduates (table 1). Differences in federal aid receipt between military graduate students who received benefits and those who did not were smaller (\$3,000) than the military undergraduates differences (\$10,800), but were still significant.

Considering financial aid outside of veterans' education benefits, there was little difference between military undergraduate and graduate students who received the benefits and those who did not. The one exception was in terms of total federal aid excluding veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military education assistance. Some 50 percent of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits also received \$7,200 in other federal aid. While 40 percent of military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits received \$7,900 in other federal aid.

FIGURE 1.

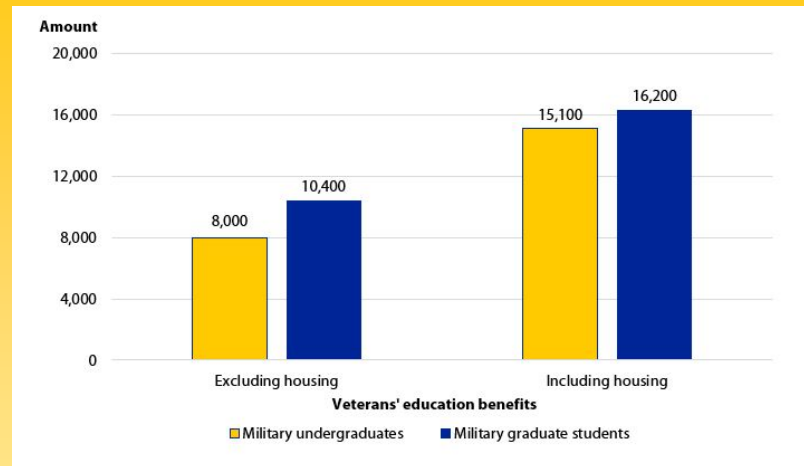
Percentage distribution of undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits: 2015–16



NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Benefit amounts include payments made for tuition and fees, books and supplies, work-study, and other education expenses. Benefit amounts do not include payments made for housing. Nonmilitary students who received veterans' education benefits include dependents and survivors. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

FIGURE 2.

Average amount of veterans' education benefits received by military undergraduate and graduate students: 2015–16



NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Benefit amounts include payments made for tuition and fees, books and supplies, work-study, and other education expenses. Average aid amounts are calculated only for students receiving aid. Average dollar amounts are reported in current 2015–16 academic year dollars.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table 1. Among military undergraduate and graduate students who received aid and did not receive veterans' education benefits, the percentage who received selected aid types and the average amount received: 2015–16

Aid type	Military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits		Military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits		Military graduate students who received veterans' education benefits		Military graduate students who did not receive veterans' education benefits	
	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount
Total federal aid, ¹ including veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military education assistance	100	\$18,700	42 ²	\$7,900	100	\$22,100	44 ²	\$19,100
Total federal aid, excluding veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military	50	7,200	40	7,900	26	21,200	43	18,800
Total nonfederal aid ³	37	3,800	41	3,900	39	6,300	41	7,000
Total loans, ⁴ excluding Parent PLUS Loans	24	7,800	27	7,900	27	21,100	43	18,400

¹ Federal aid consists of all federal grants, work-study awards, and federal loans including Direct PLUS loans. It includes aid from programs in Title IV of the Higher Education Act as well as aid from other federal sources such as Public Health Service Loans, Bureau of Indian Affairs Grants, and District of Columbia Tuition Assistance Grants. In addition, it includes veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military education assistance grants. It does not include education tax credits and tax deduction benefits.

² Estimate includes military students who received Department of Defense military education assistance grants.

³ Total nonfederal aid includes the total amount of nonfederal financial aid received in 2015–16. Total nonfederal financial aid includes state aid, institutional aid, private (alternative) loans, and grants from outside sources. Grants from outside sources include private sources and employer aid.

⁴ Total loans include the total amount of all federal, state, institutional, and other private commercial or alternative loans received during the 2015–16 academic year. Total loans also include Graduate PLUS Loans.

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Average aid amounts are calculated only for students receiving aid. Average dollar amounts are reported in current 2015–16 academic year dollars.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

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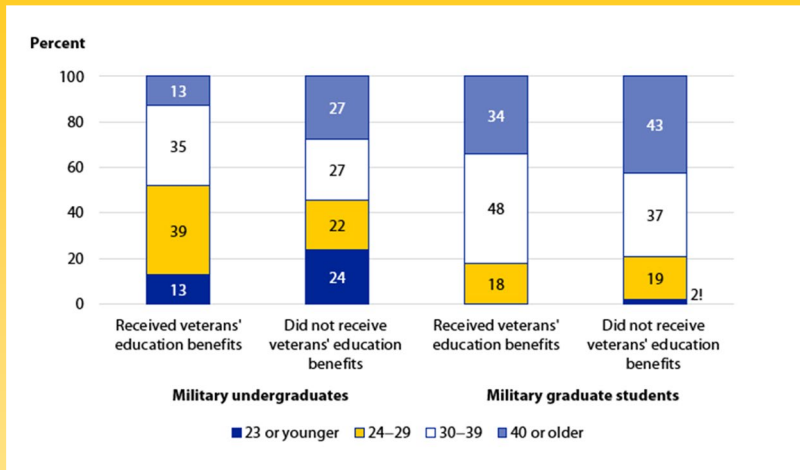
Did the demographic characteristics of military students in 2015–16 vary by receipt of veterans’ education benefits?

Overall, the characteristics of military undergraduates who received veterans’ education benefits were different from those who did not. A greater percentage of military undergraduates who received veterans’ education benefits were in the 24–29-year-old range, were male, and were White (compared to military undergraduates who did not receive veterans’ education benefits). Among military graduate students, differences were less pronounced between students who received and did not receive veterans’ education benefits.

Lower percentages of military undergraduates who received veterans’ education benefits were below age 24 or over the age of 39, compared to their counterparts who did not receive benefits (13 percent compared to 24 percent, and 13 percent compared to 27 percent). Roughly three-quarters of military undergraduates who received veterans’ education benefits were 24–39 years old, compared to approximately half of military

FIGURE 3.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans’ education benefits, by age: 2015–16



! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards were not met for the percentage of military graduate students who received veterans’ education benefits and were 23 or younger.

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans’ education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

undergraduates who did not receive veterans’ education benefits (figure 3).

Compared to military graduate students who did not receive veterans’ education benefits, a lower percentage of military graduates who received

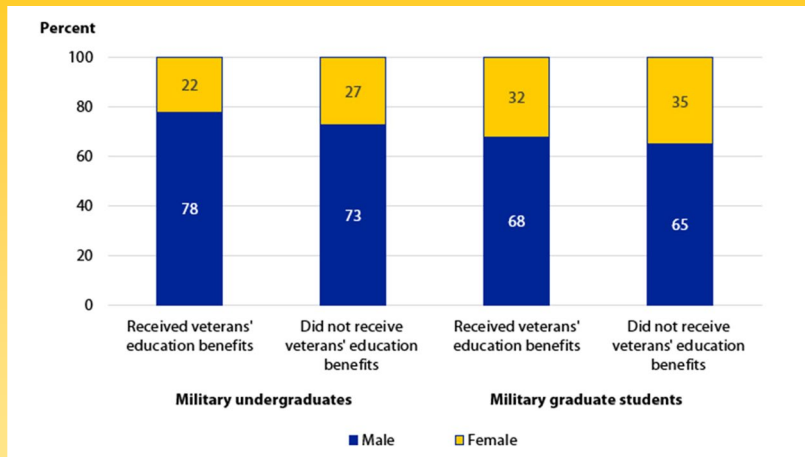
veterans’ education benefits were over the age of 39 (34 percent compared to 43 percent), and a higher percentage fell into the 30–39 year old age range (48 percent compared to 37 percent) (figure 3).

Seventy-eight percent of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits were male, compared to 73 percent of military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits (figure 4).

No measureable differences were found among military graduate students' receipt of veterans' education benefits by sex (figure 4).

FIGURE 4.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by sex: 2015–16



NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

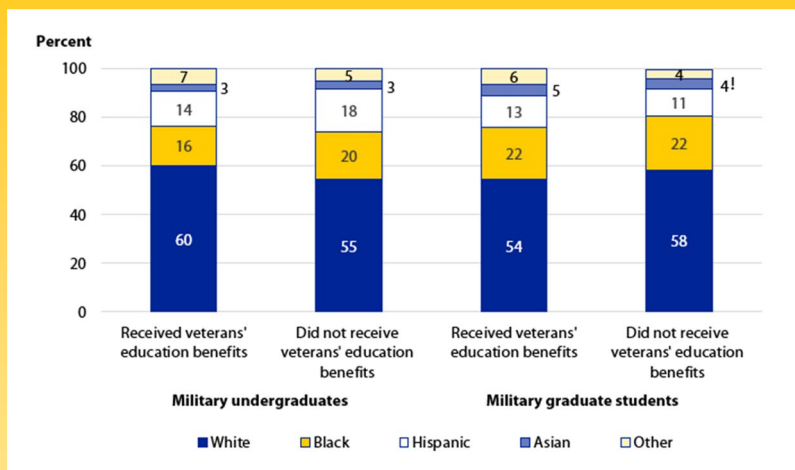
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

The distribution of military undergraduates by receipt of veterans' education benefits varied by race/ethnicity. Compared to military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits, a higher percentage of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits were white (60 percent compared to 55 percent), and a lower percentage were Black (16 percent compared to 20 percent) or Hispanic (14 percent compared to 18 percent). No measurable differences were found among military graduate students' receipt of veterans' education benefits by race/ethnicity (figure 5).

A higher percentage of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits than did not receive veterans' education benefits had a reported functional disability (26 percent compared to 22 percent). No measurable differences were found among military graduate students' receipt of veterans' education benefits by functional disability status (figure 6).

FIGURE 5.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by race/ethnicity: 2015–16



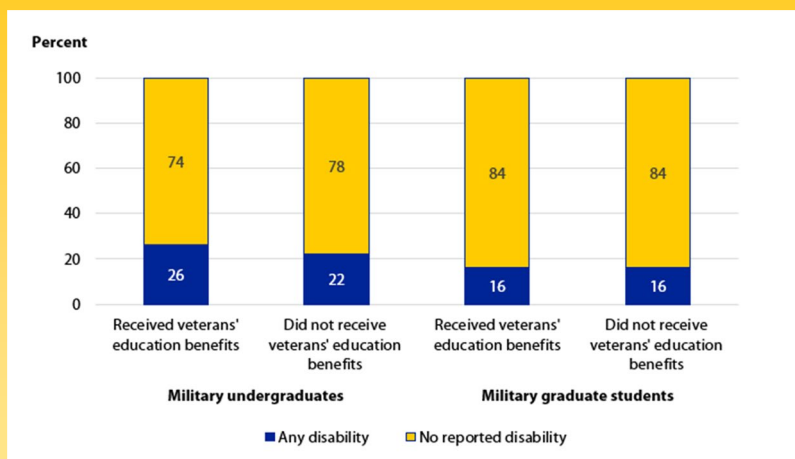
! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Other includes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians/other Pacific Islanders, and two or more races. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

FIGURE 6.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by disability status: 2015–16



NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

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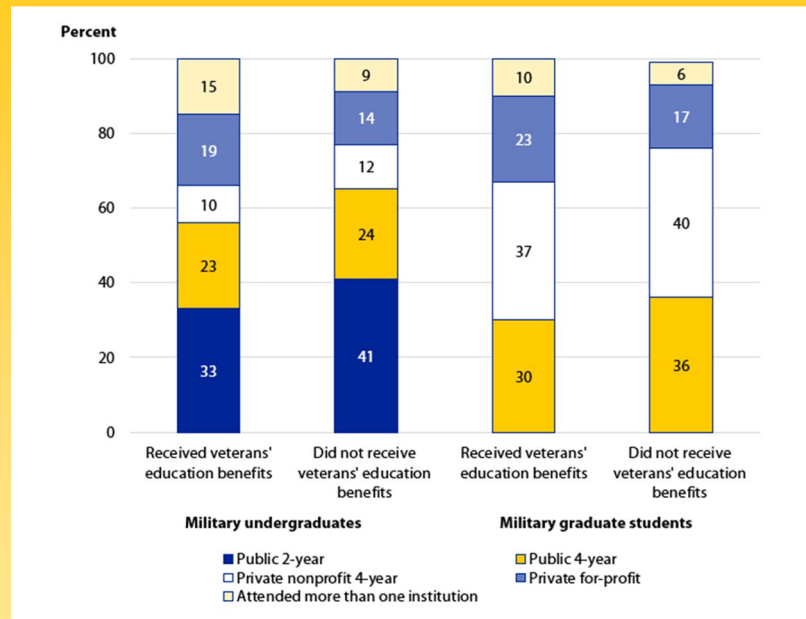
Did the enrollment characteristics of military students in 2015–16 vary by receipt of veterans’ education benefits?

There were not many differences between military students who received and did not receive veterans’ education benefits in terms of the control and level of institutions they attended. In 2015–16, military undergraduates receiving veterans’ education benefits attended more than one institution and for-profit institutions at higher rates than military undergraduates not receiving benefits (15 percent versus 9 percent, and 17 percent versus 13 percent, respectively). Conversely, fewer military undergraduates receiving benefits were enrolled in 2-year public institutions compared to those not receiving benefits (33 percent versus 41 percent) (figure 7).

For military graduate students, the only measurable difference in their receipt of veterans’ education benefits by control and level of institution were among those who attended more than one institution. A higher percentage of military graduate students who received veterans’ education benefits attended more than one institution than military graduate students who did not receive veterans’ education benefits (10 percent compared to 6 percent) (figure 7).

FIGURE 7.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans’ education benefits, by control and level of institution: 2015–16



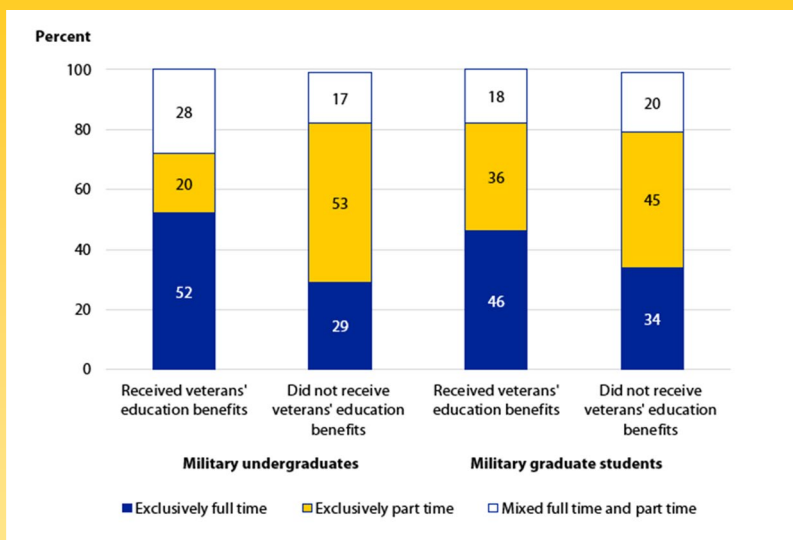
NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Other institutions include public less-than-2-year (0.3 percent for undergraduates) and private nonprofit less-than-4-year (0.5 percent for undergraduates). Receipt of veterans’ education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Attendance pattern differences between military students who received and did not receive benefits were more pronounced among undergraduates than they were for graduate students. A higher percentage of military undergraduates and military graduate students who received veterans' education benefits attended exclusively full time. Approximately half of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits attended exclusively full time, compared to 29 percent of military undergraduates who did not receive benefits. Exclusive part-time enrollment was lower for military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits (20 percent) than for military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits (53 percent). For military graduate students, 46 percent of those who received veterans' education benefits attended exclusively full time, compared to 34 percent who did not

FIGURE 8.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by attendance intensity: 2015–16



NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Full-time status for the purposes of financial aid eligibility is based on 12 credit hours, unless the awarding institution employed a different standard. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

receive veterans' education benefits. Exclusive part-time enrollment was lower for military graduates who received veterans' education benefits (36 percent) than for military graduates

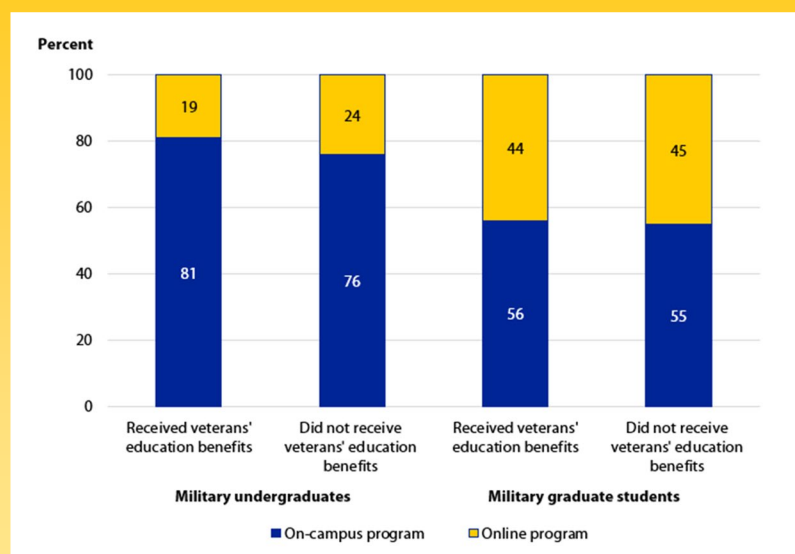
who did not receive veterans' education benefits (45 percent) (figure 8).

Overall, over three quarters of military undergraduates attended traditional, on-campus programs. A higher percentage of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits attended traditional on-campus programs (81 percent) and a lower percentage attended online programs (19 percent) compared to military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits (76 and 24 percent, respectively) (figure 9).

Compared to military undergraduates, higher percentages of military graduate students were enrolled in online programs. However, no measurable differences were found among military graduate students' receipt of veterans' education benefits by program type (figure 9).

FIGURE 9.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by program type: 2015–16

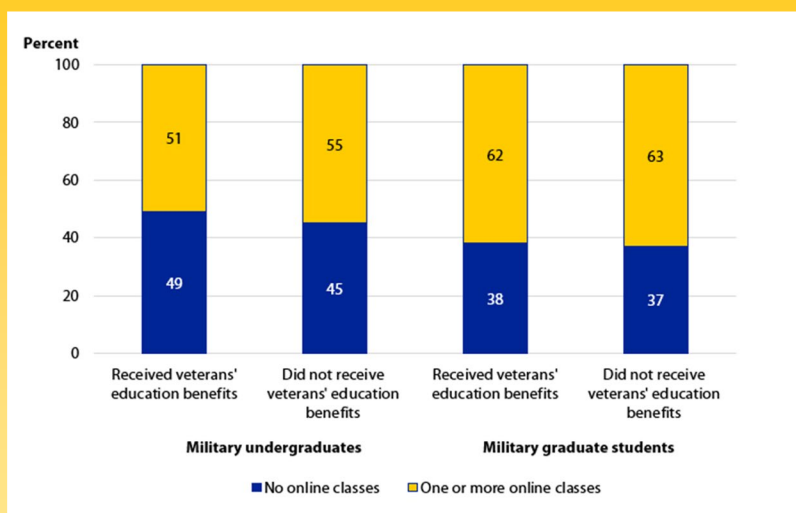


NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.
 SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Students can take online courses without taking a fully online program. In some cases, students take some courses in traditional on-campus classroom settings and other courses online during the year. Although one-quarter or less of the military undergraduates were enrolled in exclusively online programs, at least one-half of military undergraduates took one or more online courses. The differences in taking one or more online courses between military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits and those who did not was 4 percentage points. A lower percentage of military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits took one or more classes online compared to military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits (51 percent compared to 55 percent). No measurable differences were found among military graduate students' receipt of veterans' education benefits by online coursetaking (figure 10).

FIGURE 10.

Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by online coursetaking: 2015–16



NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

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<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2020488rev>

More detailed information on 2015–16 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students can be found in Web Tables produced by NCES using the NPSAS:16 survey data. Included are estimates of demographics, enrollment, and employment characteristics. Web Tables documenting how students pay for their undergraduate education are also available.

2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16): Student Financial Aid Estimates for 2015–16 (NCES 2018-466)
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018466.pdf>.

Student Financing of Undergraduate Education in 2015–16: Income, Tuition, and Total Price (NCES 2019-473)
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2019473>.

Student Financing of Undergraduate Education in 2015–16: Financial Aid by Type and Source (NCES 2019-474)
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019474.pdf>.

Readers may also be interested in the following NCES products related to topics covered in this Statistics in Brief:

After the Post-9/11 GI Bill: A Profile of Military Service Members and Veterans Enrolled in Undergraduate and Graduate Education (NCES 2016-435)
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2016435>.

Military Service Members and Veterans: A Profile of Those Enrolled in Undergraduate and Graduate Education in 2007–08 (NCES 2011-163)
<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2011163>.

Issue Tables: A Profile of Military Servicemembers and Veterans Enrolled in Postsecondary Education in 2007–08 (NCES 2009-182) <https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009182>.

Services and Support Programs for Military Service Members and Veterans at Postsecondary Institutions, 2012–13 (NCES 2014-017) <https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2014017>.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Survey Methodology

The estimates provided in this Statistics in Brief are based on data collected through the 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16). NPSAS covers broad topics on student enrollment in postsecondary education and how students and their families finance their education. In 2016, students provided data by completing a self-administered web or telephone survey. Data were also collected from the institutions that sample students attended and from other relevant databases, including the U.S. Department of Education’s Central Processing System and National Student Loan Data System (financial aid data), the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) (institutional data), the College Board and ACT (postsecondary entrance exam scores), the National Student Clearinghouse (enrollment and completion data), and the Veterans Benefits Administration (data on veterans and military service).

NPSAS:16 is the ninth administration of the NSPAS study, which began in 1986–87 and is conducted every 3 to 4 years. The target population includes students enrolled in Title IV postsecondary institutions in the United States at any point between July 1 and June 30 of the NPSAS year. In 2016, the population included about

20 million undergraduate and about 4 million graduate students.

The institution sampling frame for NPSAS:16 was constructed from the IPEDS 2014–15 Institutional Characteristics and 2013–14 12-month Enrollments and Completion files. The sampling design included first selecting eligible institutions and then selecting students from within those institutions. Of the 2,000 sampled institutions, the response rate was 87 percent. Each sampled institution provided a complete list of students who satisfied all NPSAS eligibility conditions.

The student sample was randomly selected via stratified systematic sampling from lists of students enrolled between July 1, 2015 and April 30, 2016 at the sampled institutions, with an oversampling of potential baccalaureate recipients who were veterans, other undergraduate students who were veterans, and graduate students who were veterans. The student sample consisted of approximately 99,000 undergraduate and 23,000 graduate students.

Estimates were weighted to adjust for unequal probability of selection for the sample, for nonresponse, and for poststratification to known population totals.

Key variables used in this analysis include military type (MILTYPE), veterans’ benefits (VETBEN2), institution sector (SECTOR4), and

attendance pattern (ATTNPTRN). These composite variables are derived from multiple sources of data including the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the National Student Loan Data System, institution records, and the NPSAS:16 student interviews. The analyses presented throughout the report are restricted to the 6.1 percent of undergraduates who were military students and 6.7 percent of graduate students who were military students.

Two broad categories of error occur in estimates generated from surveys: sampling and nonsampling errors. Sampling errors occur when observations are based on samples rather than on entire populations. The standard error of a sample statistic is a measure of the variation due to sampling and indicates the precision of the statistic. The complex sampling design used in NPSAS:16 must be taken into account when calculating variance estimates such as standard errors. The NCES web-based software application, PowerStats, which generated the estimates presented in this report, uses the balanced repeated replication method to adjust variance estimation for the complex sample design (Wolter 1985).

Nonsampling errors can be attributed to several sources: incomplete information about all respondents (e.g., some students or institutions refused to participate, or students participated but answered only certain items); differences among respondents

in question interpretation; inability or unwillingness to give correct information; mistakes in recording or coding data; and other errors of collecting, processing, and imputing missing data.

For more information on NPSAS methodology, see the following report:

- *2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16) Data File Documentation* (NCES 2018-482) (<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2018482>).

VARIABLES USED

The variables used in this Statistics in Brief are listed in exhibit 2. Visit the NCES DataLab website

<https://nces.ed.gov/datalab> to view detailed information on how these

variables were constructed and their sources. Information is available through DataLab’s analysis application—PowerStats, QuickStats, and TrendStats—and from codebooks available for each dataset through DataLab. Under *Detailed Information About PowerStats Variables, NPSAS Undergraduates: 2016* or *NPSAS Graduate Students: 2016*, select by *subject* or by *variable name*.

RESPONSE RATES

NCES Statistical Standard 4-4-1 states that “Any survey stage of data collection with a unit or item response rate less than 85 percent must be evaluated for the potential magnitude of nonresponse bias before the data or any analysis using the data may be released” (Seastrom 2014). This means

Exhibit 2. Variables used and response rates

Variable label	Variable name	Weighted response rate	
		All students	Military students
Age as of 12/31/15	AGE	100.00	100.00
Attendance intensity (all schools)	ATTNPTRN	93.89	94.85
Disability: has some type of disability	DISABIL2	57.48	54.83
Distance education: any classes taken at NPSAS taught entirely online	DISTEDUC	60.01	59.34
Distance education: entire program at NPSAS was online	DISTALL	60.76	60.28
Federal veterans’ education benefits	VETBEN	100.00	100.00
Federal veterans’ education benefits excluding housing	VETBEN2	100.00	100.00
Military type	MILTYPE	73.39	99.77
NPSAS institution sector (4 with multiple)	SECTOR4	100.00	100.00
Race-ethnicity (with multiple)	RACE	95.44	93.74
Sex	GENDER	100.00	100.00
Total federal aid (excludes veterans’/DoD)	TFEDAID	80.39	80.15
Total federal aid (including veteran’s DoD)	TFEDAID2	80.39	80.14
Total loans (excluding Parent PLUS Loans)	TOTLOAN	61.31	59.17

that nonresponse bias analysis could be required at any of three levels: institutions, study members, or items. In NPSAS:16, the institutional and study member level response rates were 88 percent and 94 percent, respectively (Wine, Siegel, and Stollberg 2018). Therefore, nonresponse bias analysis was not required at those levels.

The student interview response rate for NPSAS:16 was 66 percent. Due to the low interview response rate, nonresponse bias was conducted in which interview respondents and interview nonrespondents were compared. That analysis determined that the nonresponse weighting adjustment eliminated some but not

all of the significant bias in the student interview. Because study members, not interview respondents, are the unit of analysis in NPSAS:16, only a study member weight was created. As a result, nonresponse bias analyses could not be computed. More information about remaining nonresponse bias after the nonresponse weight adjustment is available in the data file documentation for NPSAS:16 (Wine, Siegel, and Stollberg 2018).

The low NPSAS:16 interview response rate necessitates nonresponse bias analysis for those variables based in whole or in part on student interviews.

In this Statistics in Brief, six variables required nonresponse bias analysis: DISABIL2 (55 percent), TOTLOAN (59 percent), DISTEDUC (59 percent), DISTALL (59 percent), TFEDAID2 (80 percent), and TFEDAID (80 percent). For each of these variables, nonresponse bias analyses were conducted to determine whether respondents and nonrespondents differed on the following characteristics: institutional control and sector; institutional region; student type (undergraduate or graduate); sampled baccalaureate recipient status; student age as of December 31, 2015; major (2-digit CIP code); degree program (undergraduates only); parent’s education; marital status; support children; income; federal aid receipt status (yes/no/don’t know); federal Pell Grant recipient (yes/no/don’t know); Direct Loan recipient (yes/no/don’t know); state aid

amount; Direct Loan amount; recipient (yes/no); federal Pell Grant institution enrollment; institution percentage of undergraduates who received any grant aid; veteran status; race; ethnicity; sex; institution percentage of full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students who received any grant aid at institution attended; institution number of first time, full-time undergraduate students living on campus of institution attended; institution average amount of grant and scholarship aid received at institution attended; institution number of full-time, first-time undergraduate students with incomes up to \$30,000 who were receiving Title IV aid at institution attended. Differences between respondents and nonrespondents were tested for statistical significance at the 5 percent level.

Nonresponse bias analyses of the variables in this Statistics in Brief with less than 85 percent indicated that respondents differed from nonrespondents on 53 to 58 percent of the characteristics analyzed, indicating there may be bias in these estimates (exhibit 3). Any bias due to nonresponse, however, is based upon responses prior to stochastic imputation in which missing data were replaced with valid data from the records of donor cases that matched the recipients on selected demographic, enrollment, institution, and financial aid related variables (Krotki, Black, and Creel 2005). The potential for bias in these estimates may be reduced by imputation.

Because imputation procedures are designed specifically to identify donors with similar characteristics to those with missing data, the imputation is

Exhibit 3. Summary of item-level nonresponse bias for military students at all types of institutions: 2015–16

Variable	Weighted response rate	Median percent relative bias across characteristics	Percent of characteristics with significant bias	Characteristic with greatest significant bias	Percent difference in means or average percent difference across all categories pre- and postimputation ¹
DISABIL2	54.8	19.84	58.12	Veteran	2.09
TOTLOAN	59.2	21.50	58.12	Veteran	6.57*
DISTEDUC	59.3	21.63	56.41	Veteran	6.59*
DISTALL	59.1	21.84	55.17	Veteran	10.35*
TFEDAID2	80.1	23.49	53.85	Veteran	3.01
TFEDAID	80.1	23.49	53.85	Veteran	1.06

* p < .05

¹ For categorical variables, this is the size-weighted average percentage difference across categories pre- and postimputation.

NOTE: Relative bias, significance, and effect size are calculated using the weighted differences between respondent and full sample means. Relative bias is defined as the ratio of estimated bias to the weighted full sample mean. Effect size for categorical variables is calculated as the square root of the sum over categories of the squared differences over full sample means.

Variables and characteristics that did not meet reporting standards were excluded from calculation of summary statistics.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

assumed to reduce bias. While the level of item-level bias before imputation is measurable, the same measurement cannot be made after imputation. Although the magnitude of any change in item-level bias cannot be determined, the item estimates before and after imputation were compared to determine whether the imputation changed the biased estimate as an indication of a possible reduction in bias.

For continuous variables, the difference between the mean before imputation and the mean after imputation was estimated. For categorical variables, the estimated difference was computed for each of the categories as the percentage of students in that category before imputation minus the percentage of students in that category after imputation. These estimated differences were tested for statistical significance at the 5 percent level. A significant difference in the item means after imputation implies a reduction in bias due to imputation. A

nonsignificant difference suggests that imputation may not have reduced bias, that the sample size was too small to detect a significant difference, or that there was little bias to be reduced.

Statistical tests of the differences between the means before and after imputation for three of the six variables were significant, indicating that the nonresponse bias was reduced through imputation. For more detailed information on nonresponse bias analysis and an overview of the survey methodology, see the *2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16) Data File Documentation* (NCES 2018-482) (<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2018482>).

STATISTICAL PROCEDURES

Comparisons of means and proportions were tested using the Student's *t* statistic. Differences between estimates were tested against the probability of a Type I error or significance level. The statistical significance of each comparison was

determined by calculating the Student's *t* value for the difference between each pair of means or proportions and comparing the *t* value with published tables of significance levels for two-tailed hypothesis testing. Student's *t* values were computed to test differences between independent estimates using the following formula:

$$t = \frac{E_1 - E_2}{\sqrt{se_1^2 + se_2^2}}$$

where E_1 and E_2 are the estimates to be compared and se_1 and se_2 are their corresponding standard errors.

No adjustments were made for multiple comparisons. It is important to note that many of the variables examined in this report may be related to one another and to other variables not included in the analyses. Complex relationships should be fully explored and warrant further analysis. Readers are cautioned against drawing causal inferences based on the results presented.

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APPENDIX A. DATA TABLES

Table A-1. Estimates for Figure 1: Percentage distribution of undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by military status: 2015–16

Military status	Undergraduates		Graduate students	
	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Received veterans' education benefits
Total	96.9	3.1	97.4	2.6
Military students	56.7	43.3	64.4	35.6
Nonmilitary students	99.5	0.5	99.7	0.3

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Benefit amounts include payments made for tuition and fees, books and supplies, work-study, and other education expenses. Benefit amounts do not include payments made for housing. Nonmilitary students who received veterans' education benefits include dependents and survivors. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-2. Estimates for Figure 2: Average amount of veterans' education benefits received by military undergraduate and graduate students: 2015–16

Veterans' education benefit	Military undergraduates	Military graduate students
Excluding housing	\$8,000	\$10,400
Including housing	15,100	16,200

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Benefit amounts include payments made for tuition and fees, books and supplies, work-study, and other education expenses. Average aid amounts are calculated only for students receiving aid. Average dollar amounts are reported in current 2015–16 academic year dollars.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-3. Estimates for Figure 3: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by age: 2015–16

Age	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
23 or younger	19	13	24	1 !	‡	2 !
24–29	29	39	22	19	18	19
30–39	31	35	27	41	48	37
40 or older	21	13	27	39	34	43

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

‡ Reporting standards not met.

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to 100 because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-4. Estimates for Figure 4: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by sex: 2015–16

Sex	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Male	75	78	73	66	68	65
Female	25	22	27	34	32	35

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-5. Estimates for Figure 5: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by race/ethnicity: 2015–16

Race/ethnicity	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
White	57	60	55	57	54	58
Black	18	16	20	22	22	22
Hispanic	16	14	18	12	13	11
Asian	3	3	3	4	5	4 !
Other ¹	6	7	5	5	6	4

! Interpret data with caution. Estimate is unstable because the standard error represents more than 30 percent of the estimate.

¹ Other includes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians/Other Pacific Islanders, and Two or more races.

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Other includes American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians/other Pacific Islanders, and two or more races. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-6. Estimates for Figure 6: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by disability status: 2015–16

Disability status	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Any disability	24	26	22	16	16	16
No reported disability	76	74	78	84	84	84

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-7. Estimates for Figure 7: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by control and level of institution: 2015–16

Control and level of institution	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Public 2-year	38	33	41	†	†	†
Public 4-year	23	23	24	34	30	36
Private nonprofit 4-year	11	10	12	39	37	40
Private for-profit	16	17	13	19	23	17
Multiple or other institution	12	15	9	8	10	6

† Not applicable.

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Other institutions include public less than 2-year (0.3 percent for undergraduates) and private nonprofit less than 4-year (0.5 percent for undergraduates). Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-8. Estimates for Figure 8: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by attendance intensity: 2015–16

Attendance intensity	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Exclusively full time	39	52	29	38	46	34
Exclusively part time	39	20	53	42	36	45
Mixed full time and part time	22	28	17	20	18	20

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Full-time status for the purposes of financial aid eligibility is based on 12 credit hours, unless the awarding institution employed a different standard. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-9. Estimates for Figure 9: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by program type: 2015–16

Program type	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
On-campus program	78	81	76	55	56	55
Online program	22	19	24	45	44	45

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table A-10. Estimates for Figure 10: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by online coursetaking status: 2015–16

Online coursetaking	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
No online classes	47	49	45	38	38	37
One or more online class	53	51	55	62	62	63

NOTE: In 2015–16, students were considered military students if they were veterans or military service members on active duty, in the reserves, or in the National Guard. Receipt of veterans' education benefits does not include housing. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

APPENDIX B. STANDARD ERROR TABLES

Table B-1. Standard errors for Table A-1 and Figure 1: Percentage distribution of undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by military status: 2015–16

Military status	Undergraduates		Graduate students	
	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Received veterans' education benefits
Total	0.09	0.09	0.12	0.12
Military students	1.12	1.12	1.37	1.37
Nonmilitary students	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.06

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-2. Standard errors for Table A-2 and Figure 2: Average amount of veterans' education benefits received among military students who received veterans' education benefits: 2015–16

Veterans' education benefit	Military undergraduates	Military graduate students
Excluding housing	\$350	\$570
Including housing	260	390

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-3. Standard errors for Table 1. Among military undergraduate and graduate students who received aid and did not receive veterans' education benefits, the percentage who received selected aid types and the average amount received: 2015–16

Aid type	Military undergraduates who received veterans' education benefits		Military undergraduates who did not receive veterans' education benefits		Military graduate students who received veterans' education benefits		Military graduate students who did not receive veterans' education benefits	
	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount
Total federal aid, including veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military education assistance	†	\$393	1.4	\$267	†	\$892	1.9	\$1,019
Total federal aid, excluding veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military education assistance	1.3	193	1.3	247	1.8	1,529	2.0	1,297
Total nonfederal aid	1.4	166	1.5	182	2.2	488	2.1	629
Total loans, excluding Parent	1.2	238	1.2	225	1.8	1,561	2.0	1,250

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-4. Standard errors for Table A-3 and Figure 3: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by age: 2015–16

Age	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
23 or younger	0.8	1.0	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.6
24–29	0.9	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.1
30–39	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.2	1.9
40 or older	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.5	2.2	1.8

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-5. Standard errors for Table A-4 and Figure 4: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by sex: 2015–16

Sex	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Male	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.9	2.0
Female	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.9	2.0

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-6. Standard errors for Table A-5 and Figure 5: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by race/ethnicity: 2015–16

Race/ethnicity	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
White	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.7	2.5	2.1
Black	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.7	2.1
Hispanic	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.3
Asian	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.0	0.9	1.3
Other	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	1.2	0.7

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-7. Standard errors for Table A-6 and Figure 6: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by disability status: 2015–16

Disability status	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Any disability	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.4
No reported disability	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.4

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-8. Standard errors for Table A-7 and Figure 7: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by control and level of institution: 2015–16

Control and level of institution	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Public 2-year	1.1	1.4	1.6	†	†	†
Public 4-year	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.6	2.6	2.1
Private nonprofit 4-year	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.6	1.9	2.3
Private for-profit	1.0	1.6	0.9	1.8	2.6	1.8
Multiple or other institution	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.7

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-9. Standard errors for Table A-8 and Figure 8: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by attendance intensity: 2015–16

Attendance intensity	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
Exclusively full time	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.8	1.7
Exclusively part time	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.5	2.0	2.0
Mixed full time and part time	0.9	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.7

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-10. Standard errors for Table A-9 and Figure 9: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by program type: 2015–16

Program type	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
On-campus program	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.8	2.0	2.4
Online program	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.8	2.0	2.4

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

Table B-11. Standard errors for Table A-10 and Figure 10: Percentage distribution of military undergraduate and graduate students who received and did not receive veterans' education benefits, by online coursetaking: 2015–16

Coursetaking	Military undergraduates			Military graduate students		
	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits	Overall	Received veterans' education benefits	Did not receive veterans' education benefits
No online classes	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.5	2.0	1.9
One or more online class	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.5	2.0	1.9

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16).

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The screenshot shows the NCES DataLab website. On the left, the logo reads "NCES DATALAB" with the tagline "Education data through fast, flexible, and powerful tools". Below this is a call to action: "Get started using DataLab: <https://nces.ed.gov/datalab/>". The main interface features a navigation bar with "Pre-K", "K-12", and "Postsecondary" tabs, along with "MORE TOOLS" and "LEARNING" links. A search bar labeled "RETRIEVE TABLE:" is present. A central hexagonal graphic contains the "DATALAB" logo. To the left of this graphic is a list of "ALL TOPICS" including Attendance and Enrollment, Education History, Educational Transitions, Employment, Faculty and Staff, Finances, Parents and Family, Pre-K and K-12 Staff, School and Institutional Characteristics, School Districts, Special Education, Staffing, Student Characteristics, and Teachers and Teaching. To the right, a "LAUNCH BY DATASET" section features buttons for "QuickStats", "PowerStats", and "TrendStats". At the bottom right, there is a "VIEW ALL DATASETS" link and contact information for NCES.

