

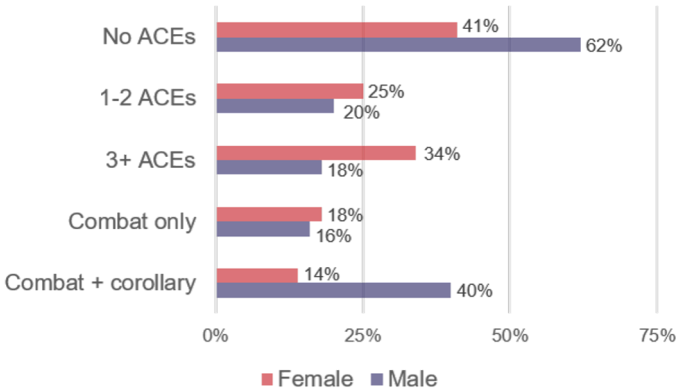


BACKGROUND

- In Fall 2018, a national sample of 5,844 Veterans who separated within the past 25-28 months participated in the fifth wave of the TVMI survey.
- Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are defined as physical or emotional neglect; physical, emotional, or sexual abuse; domestic violence; and family history of mental illness or alcohol abuse.
- Combat-related events items assessed events such as encountering land or water mines and firing one's weapon at enemy combatants. Corollaries of combat events included exposures like seeing civilians or fellow service members wounded or injured.
- All findings are compared to veterans who had no ACEs and no combat exposure. Future analyses will look at the impact of the different types of ACEs on Veterans' well-being outcomes.



TRAUMA PREVALENCE



PTSD

- Female Veterans with both combat and corollary exposure but no ACEs were 10.6 times more likely to screen positive for PTSD.
- Male Veterans with both combat and corollary exposure and 3+ ACEs were 10.2 times more likely to screen for PTSD, forming the highest risk group.



ANXIETY

- Female Veterans were 2.7-3.2 times more likely to have anxiety symptoms with both combat and corollary exposure, regardless of ACEs.
- The highest risk was among male Veterans with both combat and corollary exposure as well as 3+ ACEs (4.8 times more likely to have anxiety).



DEPRESSION

- Female Veterans with combat and corollary exposure were 4.5-6.2 times more likely to have depression symptoms, with greater risk paralleling more ACEs.
- Male Veterans with with corollary exposure were at highest risk if they also had 3+ ACEs.



ALCOHOL MISUSE

- The only significant predictors of probable alcohol misuse for female Veterans was 3+ ACEs and both combat and corollary exposure (4.1 times more likely).
- Male Veterans with both combat and corollary exposure were 1.3-1.6 times more likely to have probable alcohol misuse, with increasing risk paralleling increased ACEs.



ANGER ISSUES

- Female Veterans with 3+ ACEs were 2.5 times more likely to report anger issues if they had no exposure, and 3.6 times more with both combat and corollary exposures.
- For men, any exposure to ACEs had an increased likelihood of irritability or angry outbursts. The highest likelihood for combat & corollary exposure (5.8 times more likely).

