

Suicide Prevention Initiatives for Student Veterans:

Data and Survey Collection

Dan Reilly
Wellness Resource Center
The University of Missouri

Disclaimer



Disclaimer:

Not an expert

Not a veteran

Identified as a guy doing a survey

Could not identify a definitive source

Talk about this topic WITH you

Veterans on Campus



Veterans On Campus

300,000, 5% of students

2 Million Coming to our campuses

500 to 600% Increase

Non-Traditional....

To Us



Non-Traditional

Older than traditional students, younger than veterans in general

Women represented 27% of student veterans, but made up only 7% of Veterans

Where?



Where will they study?

43% at two-year institutions

21% at 4 year institutions

Preliminary Findings

Sense of Belonging



Sense of Belonging

Look at college as more of a commuter, get in and get out

Do not crave traditional engagement

Some do not have a strong adherence to Student Veteran Status

But some do want

To be recognized as veterans

Want a Voice

And want access to other veterans on campus

Older Students

Veteran Status



- a) Veteran Status
 - i) Branch, seems to dissipate as they get farther from service
 - ii) Combat
 - iii) Non-Combat
 - iv) Disability

Veteran Experiences



- 1) Coming from Risk
 - a) 35% of the sample experienced “severe anxiety,”
 - b) 24% experienced “severe depression,” and
 - c) 20 – 40% reporting PTSD
 - i) Only 50% report seeking service
 - d) Significant numbers of participants thinking about suicide
 - i) (46%), with 20% having a plan,
 - ii) 10.4% thinking about suicide “often or very often,”
 - iii) 7.7% making an attempt, and
 - iv) 3.8% believing that suicide is either “likely” or “very likely.”

Statewide Survey



Dan Reilly
Wellness Resource Center
The University of Missouri
reillyd@missouri.edu

- 1) Statewide Survey
 - a) Pilot Data
 - i) All 20 4 year state institutions
 - ii) 7 Private Colleges
 - b) Fall Implementation