



CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND DEFENCE POLICY

BRIEFING NOTE

FOR INFORMATION

SUBJECT: Veteran Distribution in Canada ATIP Request # A-2015-00071

The following will provide a brief summary of the provincial distribution of Canadian military veterans provided by the Statistics Directorate of Veterans Affairs. In particular, emphasis will be made on the gender distribution of these veterans.

Data provided as of March 31, 2015 highlights that **Ontario** was home to approximately 250 900 veterans, the **largest aggregate number of veterans** vis-à-vis the other provinces in Canada. **Of note, Ontario is also home to the largest number of female veterans, which consists of 35, 600 individuals as of March 2015.**

Following Ontario, the second largest population of veterans in Canada are found in Quebec, where approximately 123,000 are located. In comparison, there is a total difference of over 100,000 veterans between Ontario and Quebec. In terms of female representation, Quebec also sees the second largest population at 17, 300 individuals.

The per-capita rates provide a different distribution of veterans among the provinces. Using the provided data, the veteran rate per capita has been calculated (Figure 1), and then broken down by gender (Figure 2 and 3). Nova Scotia has the highest rate, at 4559.92 veterans per 100,000 residents. New Brunswick follows closely behind at 4204.80. Ontario is the sixth largest home to veterans in Canada per capita, with a rate of 1819.17.

Distribution in terms of gender are largely similar to the per capita distributions (Figure 2). Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are first and second with regards to the representation of women, with per capita rates of 636.27 and 596.90. Ontario ranks sixth, with a per capita rate of female veterans of 258.12. Male veteran per capita rates (Figure 3) mirror closely with the rankings expressed in Figure 1. For men, Ontario ranks sixth, with a rate 1561.05 male veterans per 100,000 Ontario residents.

Although data was unavailable for a more detailed distribution within Ontario, the placement of veteran service providers provides great insight into where demands are greatest in the province. For example, the Veteran Transition Network operates its Ontario location from Kingston, Ontario, where a Canadian Forces Base is located. Further research provides support for Kingston as an essential location for research, as it is currently home to the national network of Military and Veterans Health Research Forum. **In addition, Kingston has been praised for**

being situated within a strong military-minded region (Canadian Forces Bases Kingston and Trenton), with the most veterans per capita in Canada.¹

In summary, Ontario ranks first in terms of their aggregate number of veterans, and by gender breakdown. In per capita rankings, it falls around the median of distribution. Unsurprisingly, both the aggregate and per capita number of women veterans in Ontario is much lower than that of men, yet their ranking in provincial distribution is the same as that of male veterans (sixth place). This suggests women do not necessarily locate in a particular province more so than their male coworkers.

¹ Alice Aiken. 2011. CIMVHR. Presentation Slide: Why Kingston?
<http://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/sites/webpublish.queensu.ca.uslcwww/files/files/trustees/agendasminutes/Mar0411.pdf> ; Turning the Spotlight on Military and Veteran's Health. 2010. Queen's Alumni Review.

Figure 1: Provincial Distribution of Veterans Per Capita

Province	Total Veterans Per Capita (per 100,000 residents)
Nova Scotia	4559.92
New Brunswick	4204.80
Newfoundland	2994.13
Prince Edward Island	2937.16
British Columbia	2137.43
Ontario	1819.17
Manitoba	1762.80
Alberta	1725.25
Territories	1604.73
Saskatchewan	1570.22
Quebec	1489.67

Figure 2: Provincial Rankings of Female Veterans Per Capita

Province	Female Veterans Per Capita (per 100,000 residents)
Nova Scotia	636.27
New Brunswick	596.90
Newfoundland	416.90
Prince Edward Island	409.84
British Columbia	305.35

Ontario	258.12
Manitoba	255.14
Territories	253.38
Alberta	245.44
Saskatchewan	229.36
Quebec	209.35

Figure 3: Provincial Rankings of Male Veterans Per Capita

Province	Male Veterans Per Capita (per 100,000 residents)
Nova Scotia	3923.65
New Brunswick	3607.90
Newfoundland	2577.22
Prince Edward Island	2527.32
British Columbia	1832.08
Ontario	1561.05
Manitoba	1507.65
Alberta	1479.80
Territories	1351.35

Saskatchewan	1340.86
Quebec	1280.31