



Understanding opportunities for U.S. veterans

Veterans: Transition into the civilian workforce with confidence

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The post-military transition can be challenging, **but veterans have a lot to offer to employers.**

We created the **2023 Veteran Opportunity Report** to understand how the employment landscape has changed for veterans since the previous report was published in 2019.

While challenges remain, the new data reveals that veterans have a few key advantages in the job market.

Let's look at the facts:



You stay longer.

Veterans are 27% less likely than nonveterans to leave their first job within 6 months.



You're highly educated.

Veterans are 3x more likely to have a graduate degree than nonveterans. What's more, 60.5% of veterans attain a bachelor's degree or higher.



You're experienced.

Veterans have nearly 2x more work experience than nonveterans and have leadership as a top skill.



You're ready to apply your skills.

61% of veterans' first civilian jobs are in high-skill roles, and eight of LinkedIn's top 10 most in-demand skills are top veteran skills.

Low participation in internships may impact employment opportunities.

Internships can provide a gateway to new careers, but veterans are less likely than nonveterans to start an internship while in school.

30.4%

of nonveterans participate in at least one internship

5.3%

of U.S. veterans who start degrees after serving participate in at least one internship

Since internships often lead to full-time offers, forgoing them can impact long-term employment outcomes. In order to take advantage of these opportunities, however, student veterans may need better access to paid internships, since housing benefits provided via the GI Bill may pause or stop while veterans are out of school.



[Read the report](#)



Resources exist to help make the transition easier.

Many members of the military community still encounter stereotypes, underemployment challenges, and other hurdles as they transition into the civilian workforce. Identifying and preparing for these hurdles is one of the best ways to set yourself up for success as you take the next step in your career.

Use the insights contained in the **2023 Veteran Opportunity Report** and resources provided by LinkedIn as you embark on your career journey.



Here are three steps that can help:

1

Grow and lean on your network.

As you transition out of the military, focus on building your professional network. Start by connecting with people you already know on LinkedIn. Then, consider reaching out to fellow veterans and other professionals in roles or at companies that interest you. Ask for informational interviews to learn more about their current role and career path. Where appropriate, ask for referrals or introductions to other people that you want to meet.

2

Translate and grow your skills.

Learn how to apply your military skills in the civilian workforce with the [SkillBridge program](#). Then, gain access to a year of LinkedIn Premium ([available at no cost to veterans](#)) and explore LinkedIn Learning courses like “[LinkedIn for Veterans and the Military Community](#)” to help you build a standout LinkedIn profile and use the platform to find your next opportunity. You can also use the [Interview Prep Tool](#) to prepare for interviews.

3

Look for veteran-friendly opportunities.

Knowing which industries, companies, and occupations are the top employers of veterans in your state can help you prioritize where to look for opportunities. Download the full 2023 Veteran Opportunity Report for a complete breakdown of top veteran industries, employers, and occupations by state.

Conclusion

The 2023 Veteran Opportunity Report aims to help employers and policymakers shape a more equitable future. But it also exists to help you make more informed decisions to guide your job search and navigate your post-military career. In the face of stereotypes, veterans are proving themselves to be skilled and dedicated employees — and the future workforce will be stronger with you in it.

[Read the report](#)

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