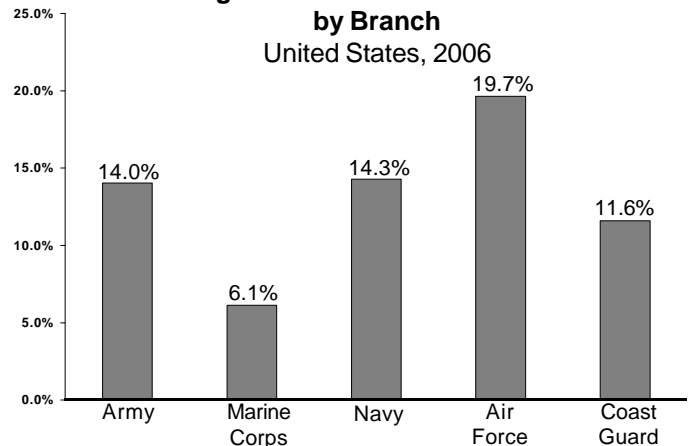


- ◆ In 2006 there were 1,640,984 female veterans in the United States, accounting for 7.0% of the total veteran population.
- ◆ In Minnesota there were 22,712 female veterans in 2006, accounting for 5.5% of Minnesota's veteran population. Of those veterans:
  - ◆ 18.3% served during the Vietnam era (1965-1975)
  - ◆ 30.5% served between 1980 and 1990
  - ◆ 15.2% served between 2001 and 2003
  - ◆ 14.8% served between 1975 and 1980
  - ◆ 14.1% served between 1990 and 2001
- ◆ According to a 2001 National Survey of Veterans, 11% of female veterans had life insurance coverage from the Veterans' Administration, roughly the same rate as male veterans.
- ◆ According to the same survey, 34% of female veterans had used at least one education benefit offered through the Veterans' Administration. These benefits can be used for college, junior college, vocational or technical training, flight school or job apprenticeships.
- ◆ In FY 2004, 209,350 female veterans, approximately 12.8% of female veterans nationwide, sought medical care through the Veterans' Administration. The Veterans' Administration manages 8 Women Veterans' Comprehensive Health Centers around the United States that focus on the unique health care needs of women, including one in Minnesota. A ninth facility is devoted to studying the impact of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among women.

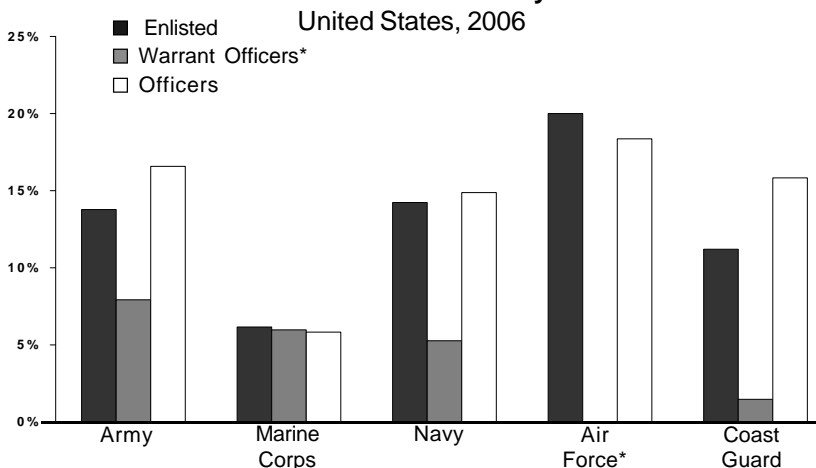
## Women in the Armed Forces

- ◆ Women will likely become a larger percentage of veterans in the United States. More than 90% of career choices in the armed forces are currently available to women.
- ◆ As of June 2006, women accounted for 14.4% of Active Duty personnel and 20.7% of Reserve personnel in the United States Armed Forces. The percentage of women enlisted varied within each branch of the military. The U.S. Marine Corps had the lowest rate of female enlistment with 6.1% among active duty personnel and 4.8% among reservists. The U.S. Air Force had the highest female enlistment rate, with 19.7% of active duty personnel and 23.8% of reserve personnel being women.

**Percentage of Women in the Armed Forces by Branch**  
United States, 2006



**Percentage of Women Enlisted and in Leadership Roles in the Armed Forces by Branch**  
United States, 2006



## Women in Leadership in the Armed Forces

- ◆ Relative to enlistment rates women are well-represented among leadership in the Armed Forces. In the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard, the percentage of female Officers exceeds the percentage of women enlisted in each of the branches. The percentage of women in leadership roles far exceeds the percentage of women who are enlisted when Warrant Officers are factored into the figures.
- ◆ The percentage of female Officers in the Marine Corps and the Air Force is slightly lower than the rates of women who are enlisted. In both cases the difference is less than 2%.

Compiled from "Women Veterans: Past, Present, and Future," by Robert E. Klein, [www.womensmemorial.org](http://www.womensmemorial.org), Women in Military Service for America, and <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/>, Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 3.0 [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis, MN: Minnesota Population Center.

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\*Warrant officers possess a high degree of specialization in a particular, often technical, field in contrast to the more general assignment pattern of other commissioned officers. The Air Force does not have Warrant Officer ranks.