

## SAMHSA's Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance Center

### MILITARY FAMILIES LEARNING COMMUNITY BUILDING STRONG BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Reviewing Data Sources for Information about Military and Veterans - United States Census Data - **American Community Survey (ACS)**. Please access the data for your state/territory and then answer the questions on page 2.

To Access the data please follow the steps below:

1. Access the ACS data set by clicking on the above link: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>.
2. In the *Data by Topic* section (right column), locate the "Veterans" topic. Click on this topic.
3. Click on the *Geographies* section (left column) in order to add your location.
4. Under "select a geography type" choose "State"
5. Choose your home state (i.e., "California") and then "Add to your selections"
6. Close the geography section (Click on the X at top left).
7. Find the link for "Veteran Status" in the middle of the page. Click on this link.

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder website interface. The search results are displayed in a table with the following columns: ID, Topic, File or Document Title, Dataset, and About. The first row is selected, with 'VETERAN STATUS' circled in red. The table content is as follows:

ID	Topic	File or Document Title	Dataset	About
S2101	VETERAN STATUS		2011 ACS 1-year estimate	

The search criteria on the left side of the page are: Search using: 12101, Product Type: Subject Table, Census: 2011 ACS 1-year estimate, State: New York.

8. This should generate a table with the data report for your state.
9. At the top right, click “View All As PDF” then save this file on your computer.

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### Homework

**A. Please note that we will include your state/territory’s data in the Session 2 PPT if you submit it in advance to [mcleary@prainc.com](mailto:mcleary@prainc.com) by 11:00 a.m. on 7/25/13.**

**1. Please list:**

- *What is the total veteran population?*
- *Describe the demographics for:*
  - *Gender*
  - *Age*
  - *Race?*

**2. Please attach your state/territory’s PDF file.**

**B. Please be prepared to discuss the following questions during Session 2 of the learning community:**

1. Is the data generated in this report what you expected?
2. Run another report for your local county (return to step 4 and choose county).
3. What are you unable to determine using these data?