



2021 Census results: Australian Defence Force Service

Data & Insights Branch

July 2022

CLASSIFICATION: OFFICIAL

Content



- **ABS Analytical Article findings**
- **Some key insights from census results**
- **Location of veterans, serving members, and DVA clients**
- **Where to get other DVA data**

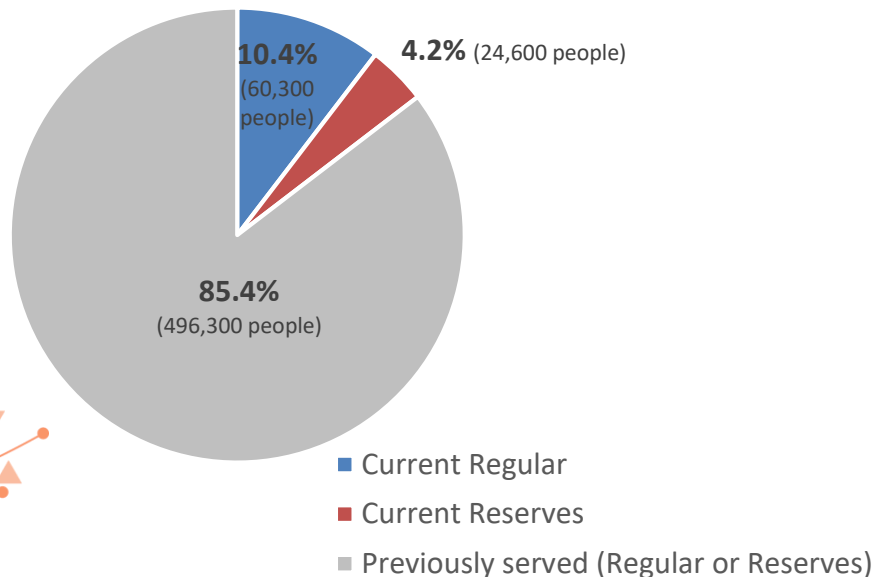
Article overview



Census

Populations	Topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular Service/Reserves• Currently serving (aged 15-64 years)• Previously served (aged 15 +)• Ever served (current + previous groups)• Never served	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic demographics (age, sex)• Indigenous status• Living arrangements – where, with whom, housing• Highest year of school• Income• Need for assistance with core activities• Long-term health conditions• Volunteering

- ▶ **581,100** people who had ever served in the ADF
- ▶ **2.8%** of the Australian population (aged 15+)



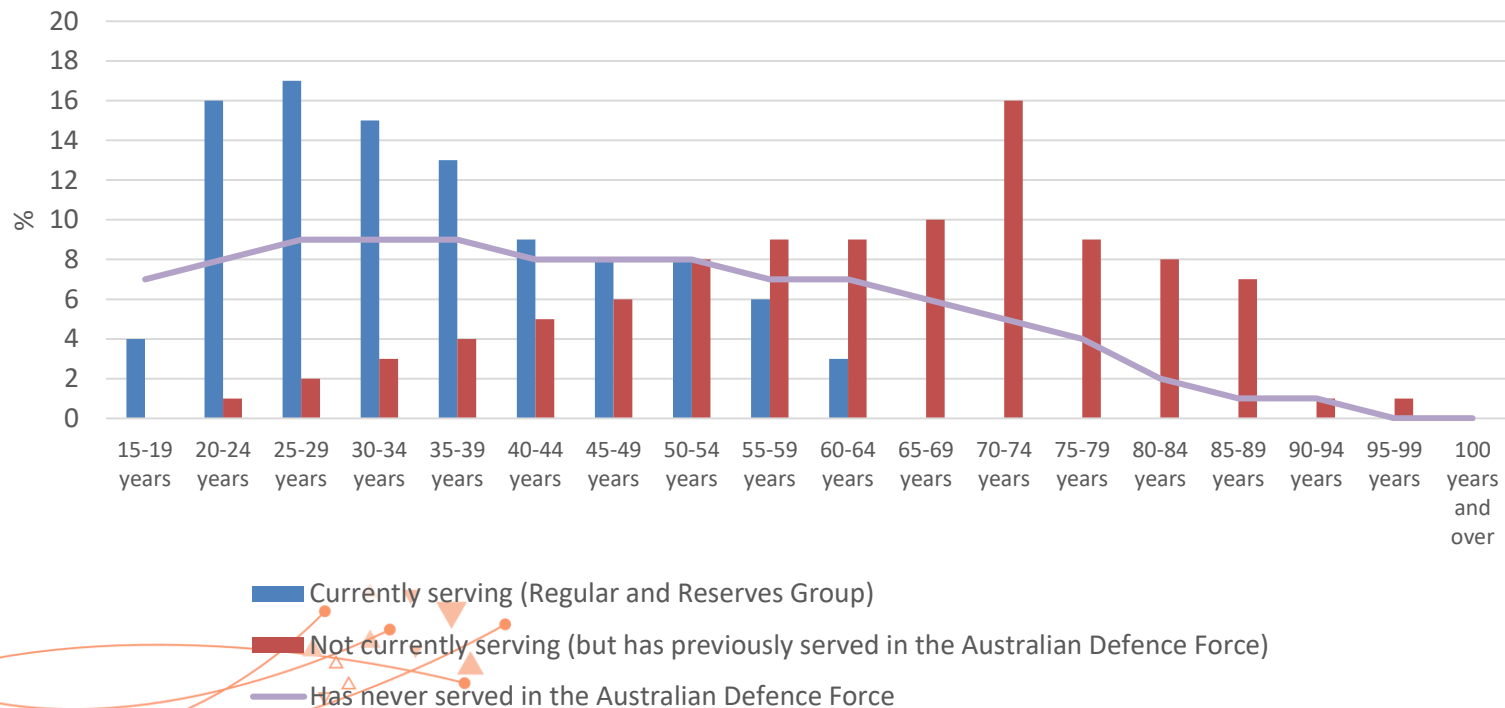
- ▶ **Currently serving**
 - 79% male and 21% female
 - Average age:
 - Regular service = 34 years
 - Reserves = 41 years

- ▶ **Previously served**
 - 87% male and 13% female
 - Average age = 64 years

Age profile: whether served in the ADF



Census



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



Census

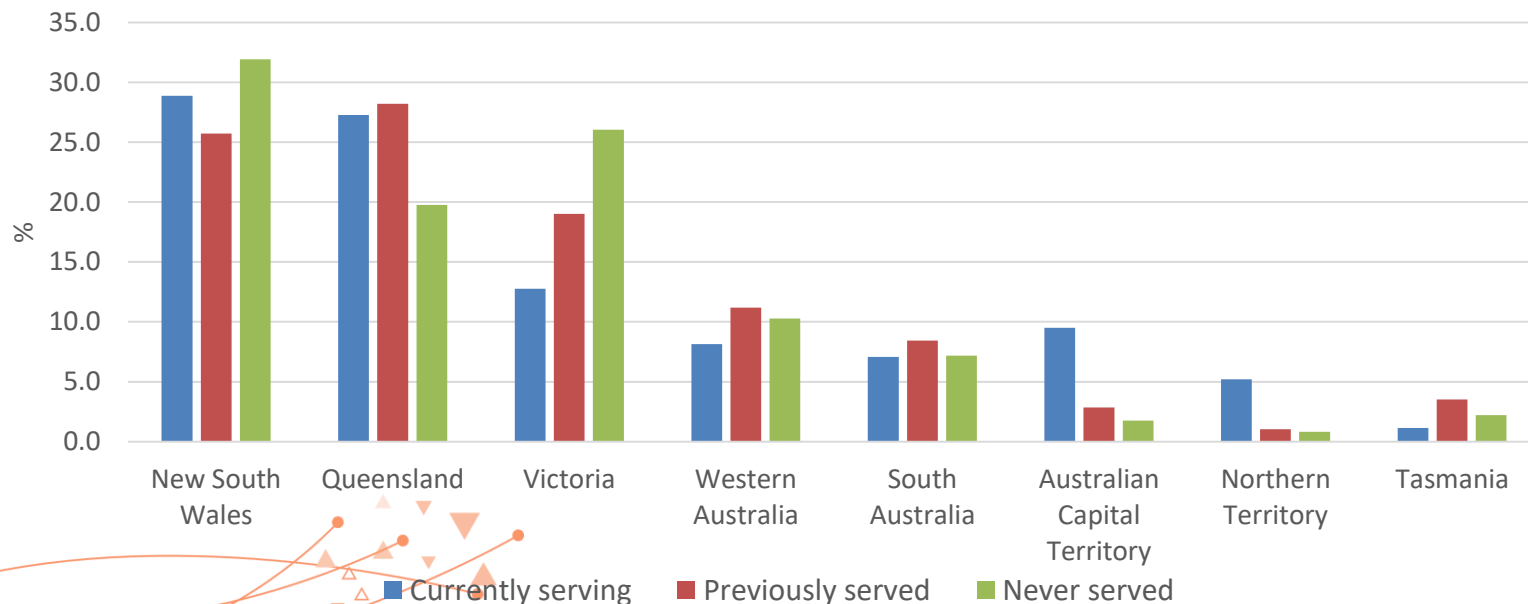
- ▶ 3,160 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people currently serving (3.7% of all currently serving)
 - 76% male and 24% female
 - 75% in the Regular Service and 25% in the Reserves
- ▶ Previously served (2.3% of previously served)
 - 82% male and 18% female
 - 57% in the Regular Service, 33% in the Reserves, and 10% in both

State of usual residence



Census

Proportion of those currently serving in the ADF by state or territory of usual residence



Top regions (SA3) for current service members



Census

Regular			Reserves		
	No.	%		No.	%
Townsville, QLD	4,962	8.2	Townsville, QLD	565	2.3
North Canberra, ACT	2,244	3.7	Queanbeyan, NSW	534	2.2
Rockingham, WA	1,995	3.3	Gungahlin, ACT	464	2.0
The Gap - Enoggera, QLD	1,643	2.7	North Canberra, ACT	369	1.5
Gungahlin, ACT	1,583	2.6	Tuggeranong, ACT	360	1.5

As a proportion of total current Regular or Reserves populations

Top regions (SA3) for previous service members



Census

Statistical area 3	#	% of total previous service population
Townsville, QLD	8,661	1.7
Toowoomba, QLD	5,063	1.0
Rockingham, WA	4,717	1.0
Onkaparinga, SA	4,696	1.0
Mornington Peninsula, VIC	4,394	0.9
Ipswich Inner, QLD	4,217	0.9
Shoalhaven, NSW	4,123	0.8
Newcastle, NSW	4,083	0.8
Geelong, VIC	4,068	0.8
Gosford, NSW	3,877	0.8
Mandurah, WA	3,857	0.8
Wyong, NSW	3,735	0.8

Households in Australia



Census

- ▶ 9.8 million households (occupied private dwellings) on Census night
- ▶ Around 1 in 20 (5.3%) had at least one person who had served in the ADF

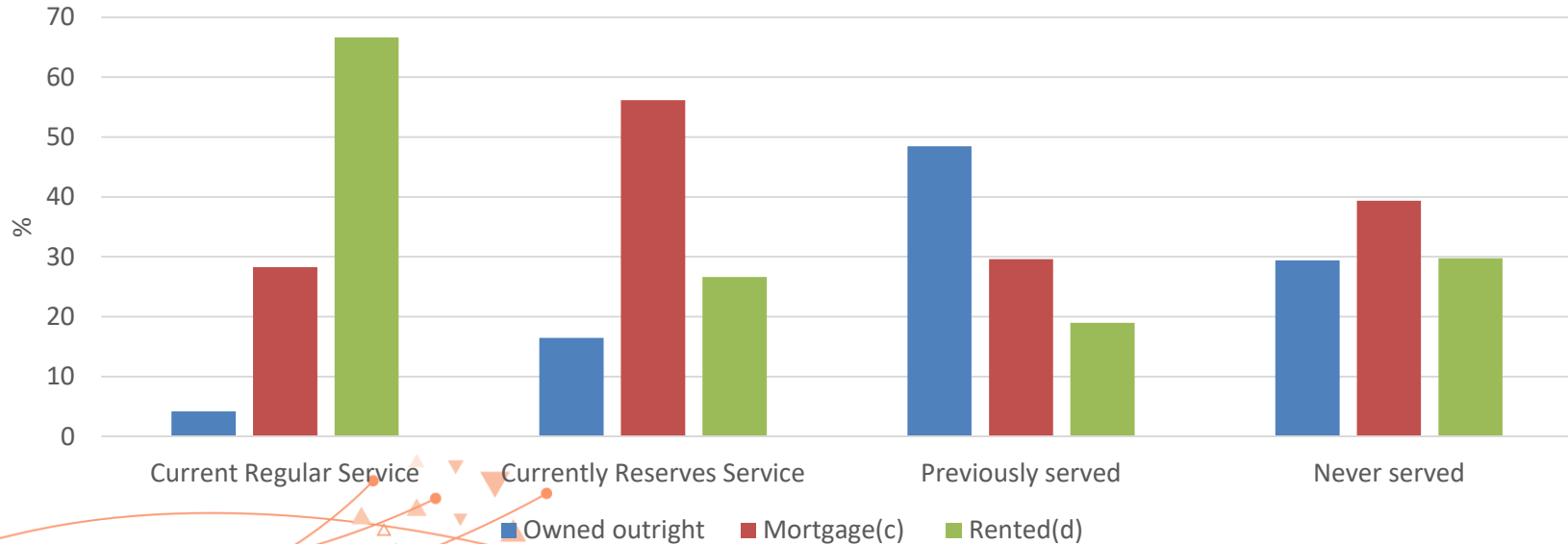


Living arrangements – private dwelling tenure type



Census

People aged 15 and over living in private households, Tenure type by
whether currently serving

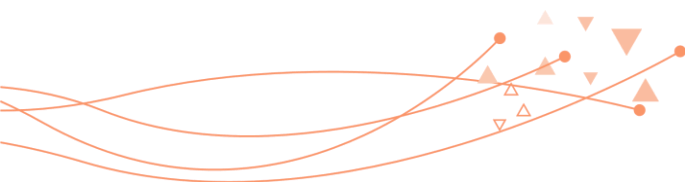


Non-private dwellings



Census

- ▶ Current service members:
 - Staff quarters (83%)
 - Residential college (hall of residence) (13%)
- ▶ Previous service members:
 - Nursing home (56%)
 - Accommodation for the retired or aged, not self-contained (23%)

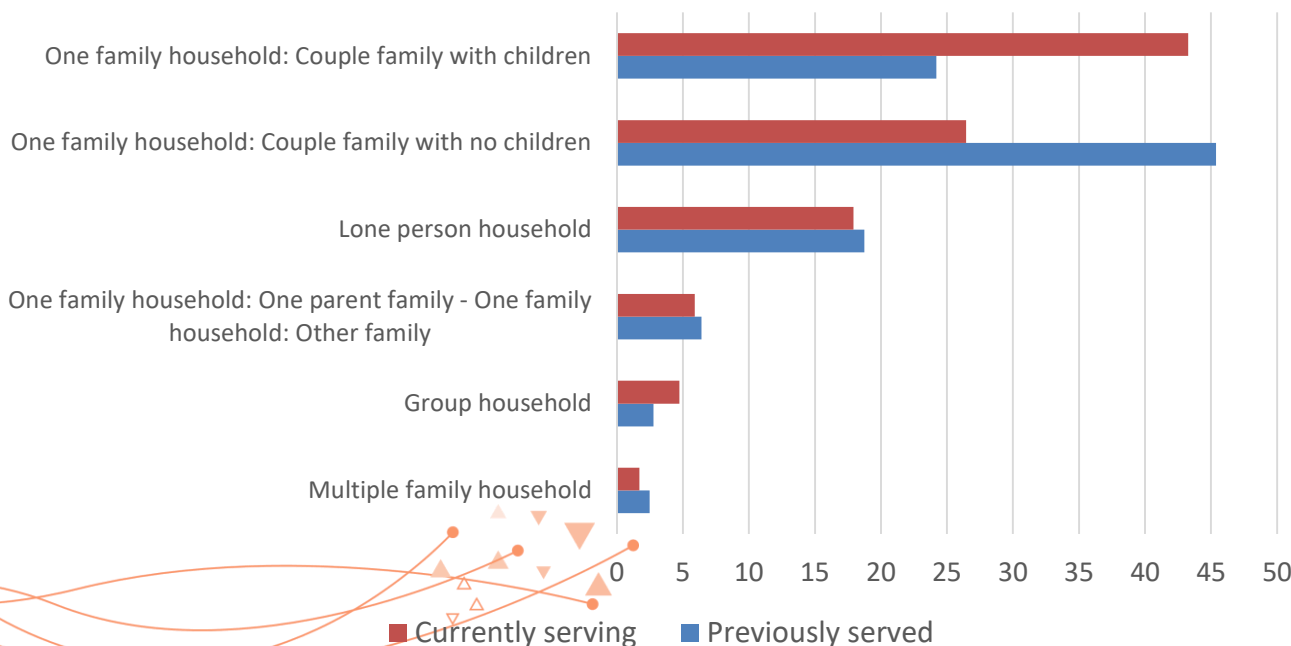


Family composition



Census

ADF service members living in private dwellings, family composition by whether currently serving



Currently serving

- Most likely to be living in a couple family with children (43%)

Previously served

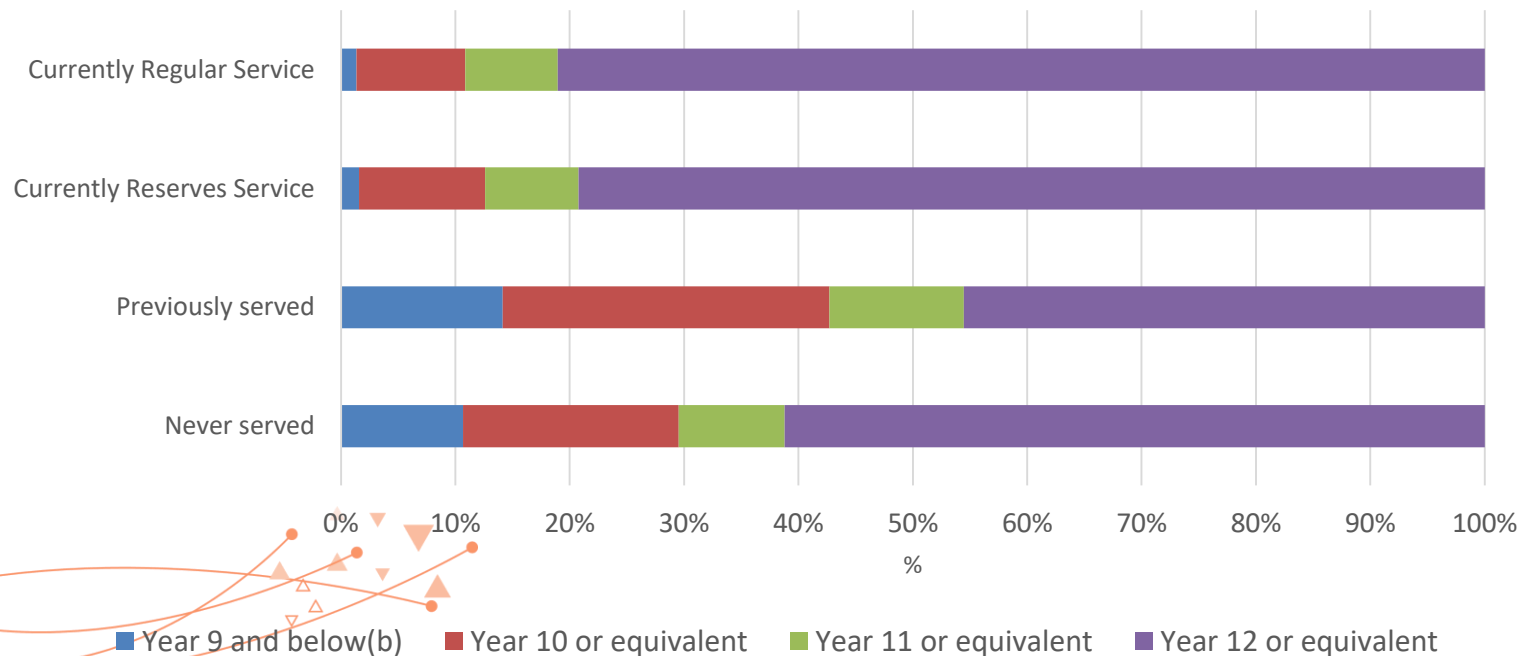
- Most likely to be living in a couple family with no dependent children (45%)

Highest year of school completed



Census

Highest year of school completed, by whether served in the ADF

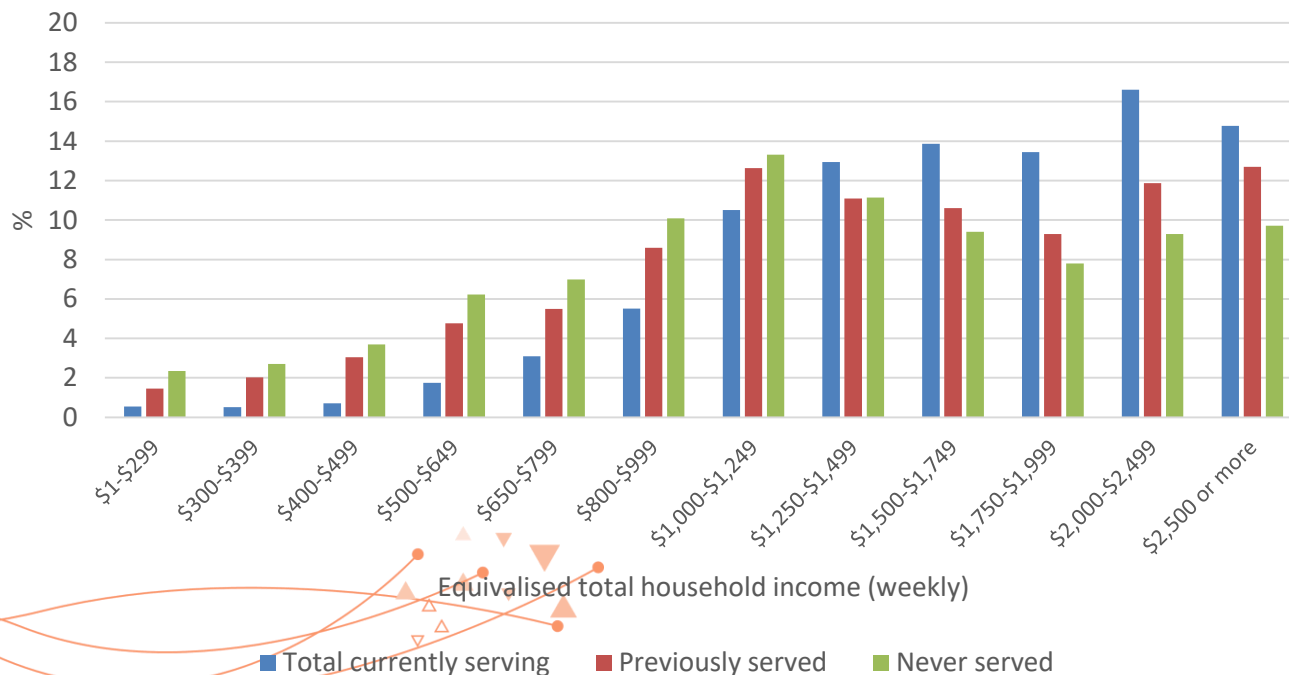


Income, people aged 15-64 years



Census

People aged 15-64, Equivalised weekly household income, by whether served in the ADF



Median weekly equivalised household income:

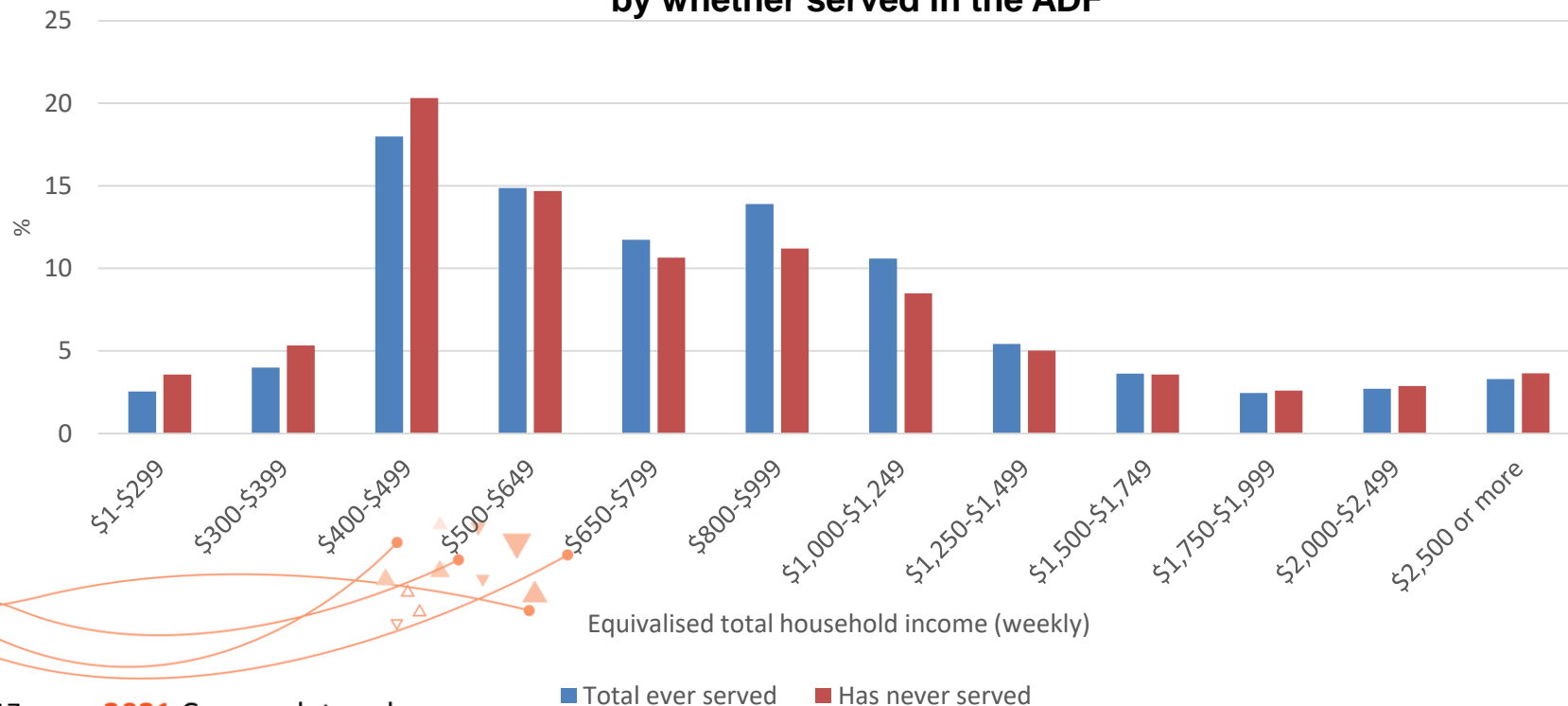
- Currently serving \$1,704
- Previous service \$1,438
- Never served \$1,261

Income, people 65 years and over



Census

People aged 65 and over, Equivalised total weekly household income, by whether served in the ADF

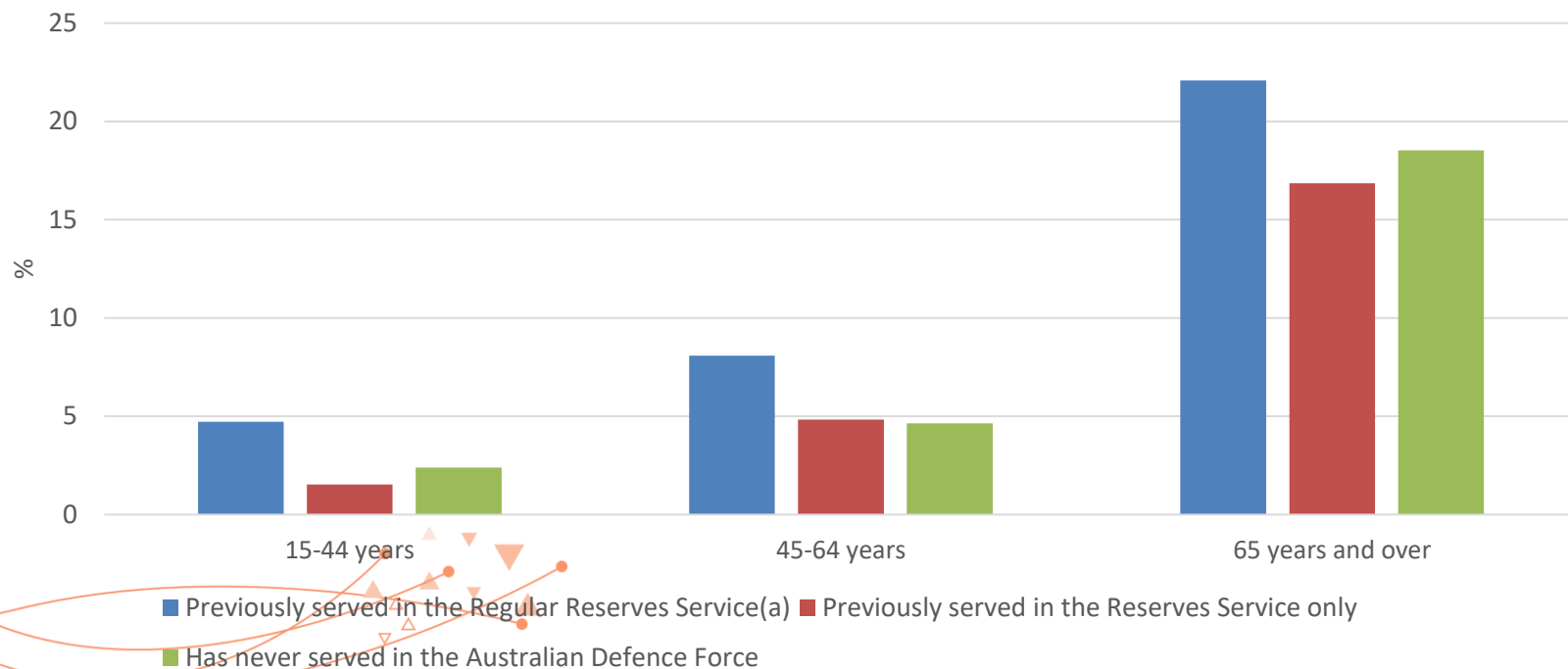


Need for assistance



Census

Whether needed assistance by type of previous service and age group

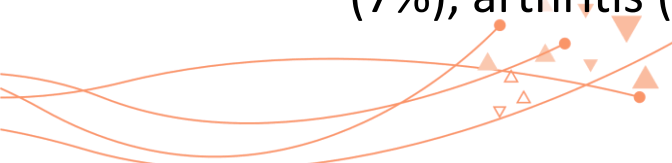


Long-term health conditions – current service



Census

- ▶ Current service members less likely to report LTHC than those with previous service and those who had never served.
- ▶ Of those aged 15-64:
 - Around one in five (22%) reported one or more LTHC
 - Younger members (15-44) less likely to report (16%) compared with 45-64 year-olds (38%)
 - Most common conditions reported: mental health conditions (7%), arthritis (6%), asthma (5%)

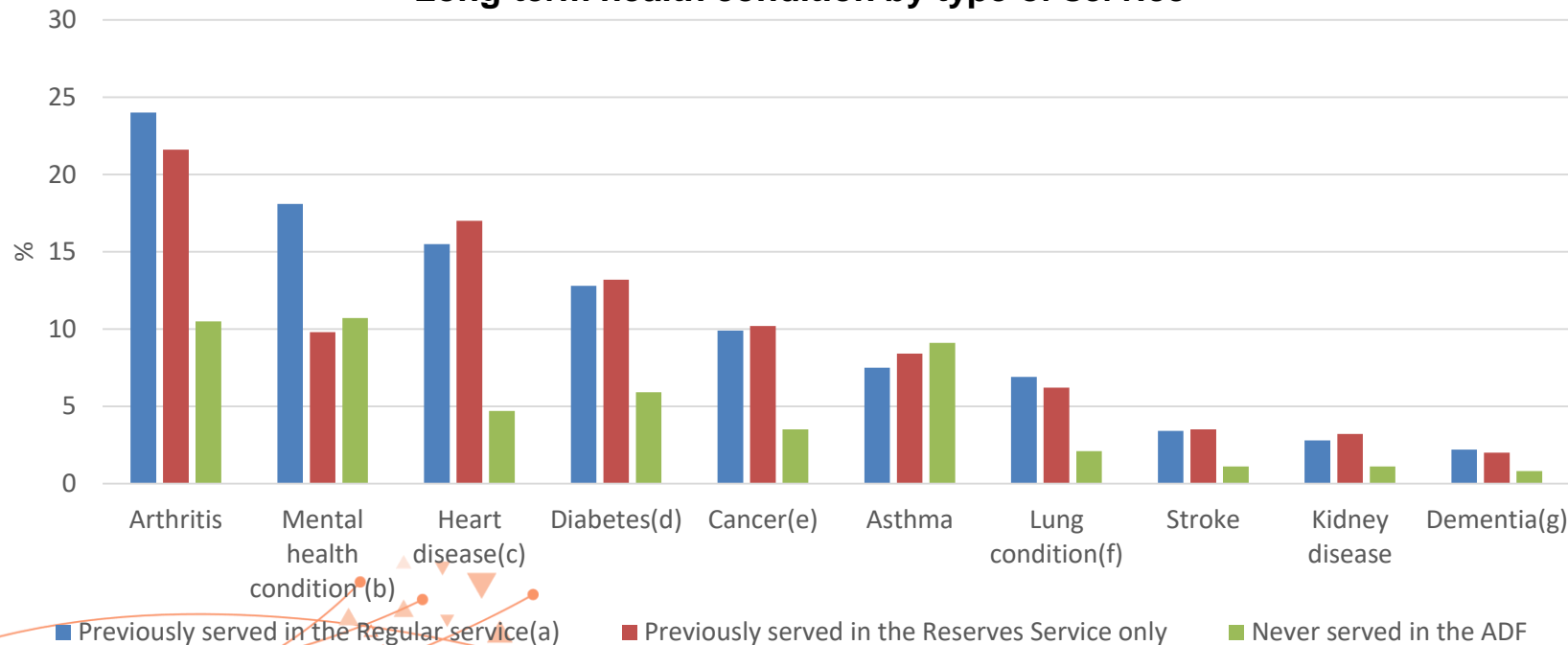


Long-term health conditions – previous service



Census

Long-term health condition by type of service

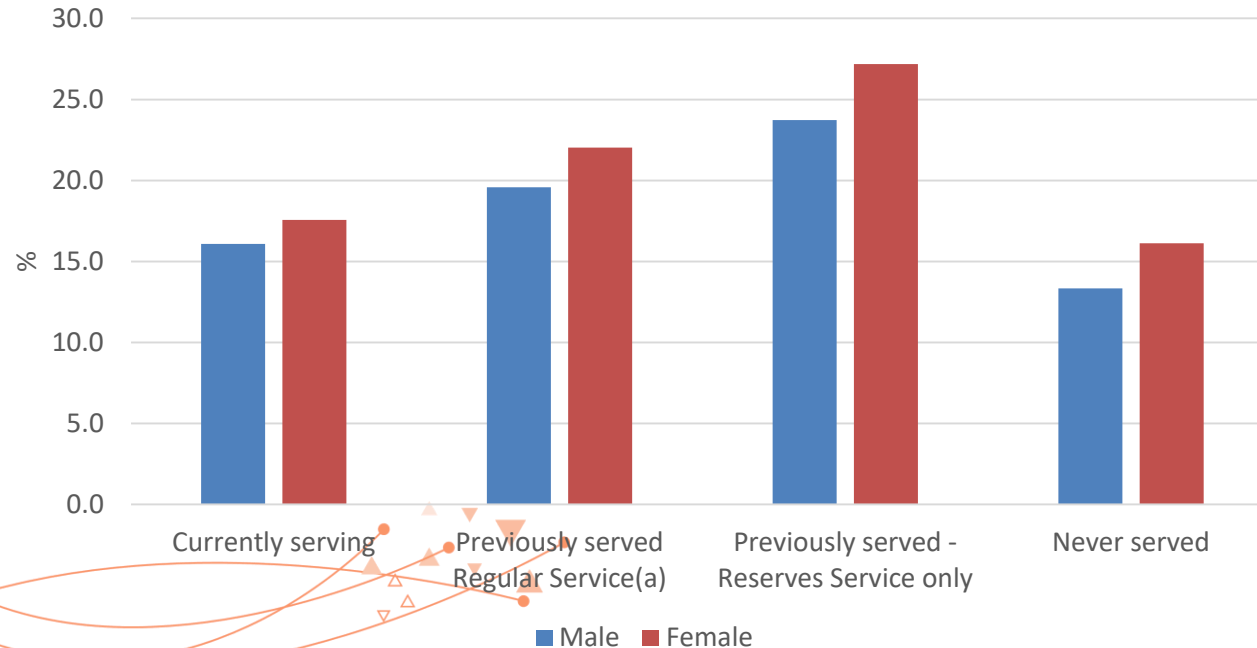


Volunteering



Census

Proportion who had volunteered in the previous 12 months, by whether served in the ADF and sex

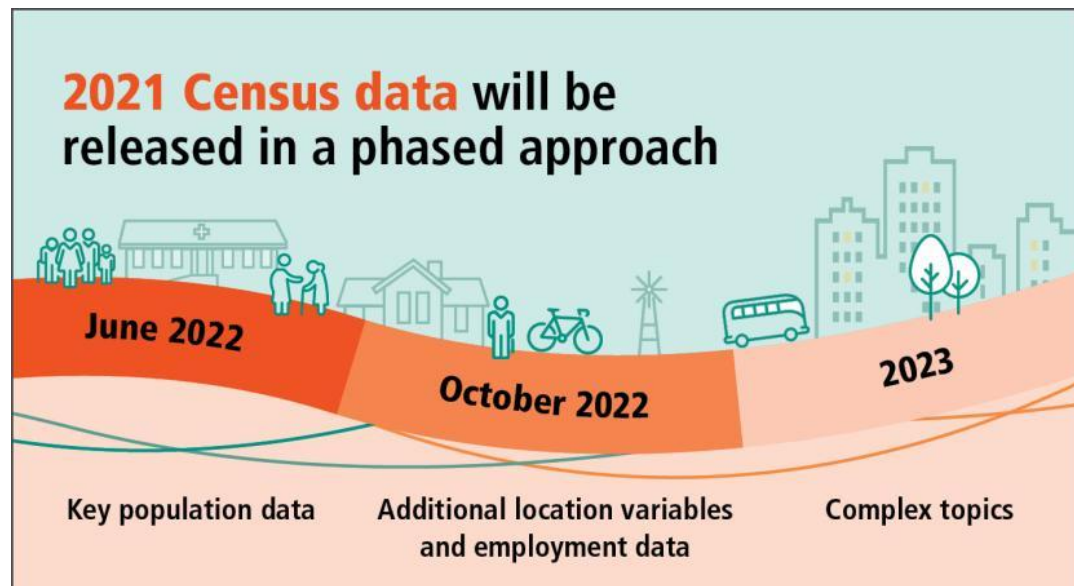


21% who had served in the ADF had volunteered in the previous 12 months (compared to **15%** of the never served group)

Second release - October



Census



Second release – Oct 2022

Internal migration (address of usual residence 1 year ago and 5 years ago)

Non-school qualification

Status in employment

Occupation

Public or private employer indicator

Workplace address (Journey to work)

Industry of employment

Hours worked

Method of travel to work

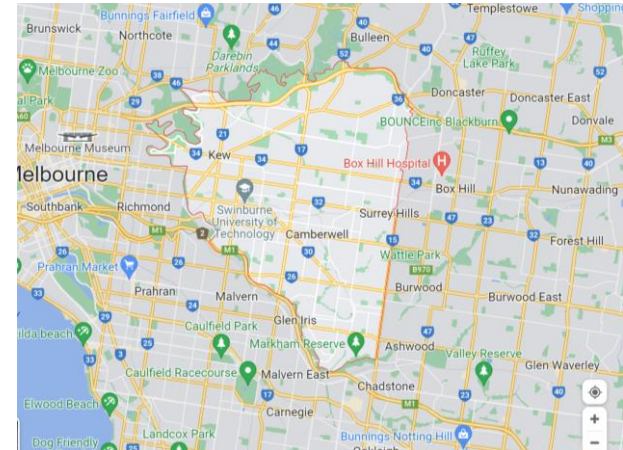
Some key insights include:

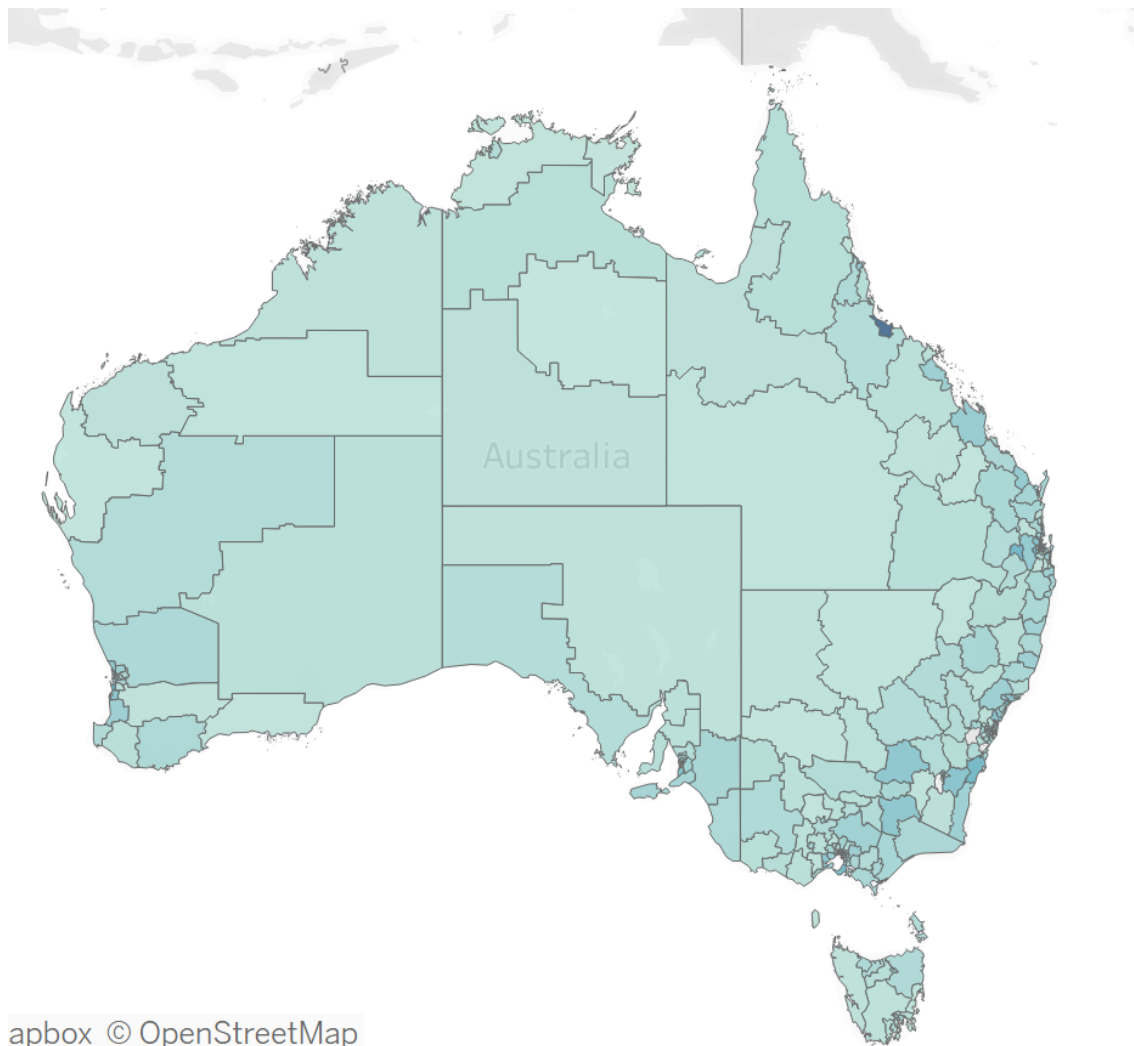
- Overall about 40% of total veterans reported in the census are DVA clients.
- 41% of male veterans and 36% of female veterans in the census are DVA clients.
- Queensland has the most veterans at 163,133, with 75,975 (47%) being DVA clients.
- Victoria has the lowest proportion of total veterans who are DVA clients with 33,929 of 105,225 (32%) veterans being DVA clients.
- Townsville is the region with the most currently-serving persons, and the most who have ever served. Approximately 66% of those in Townsville who have served are DVA clients.

More key insights include:

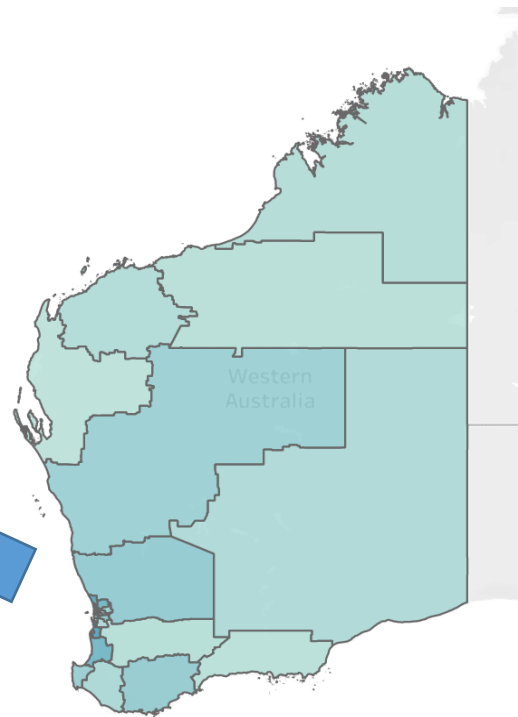
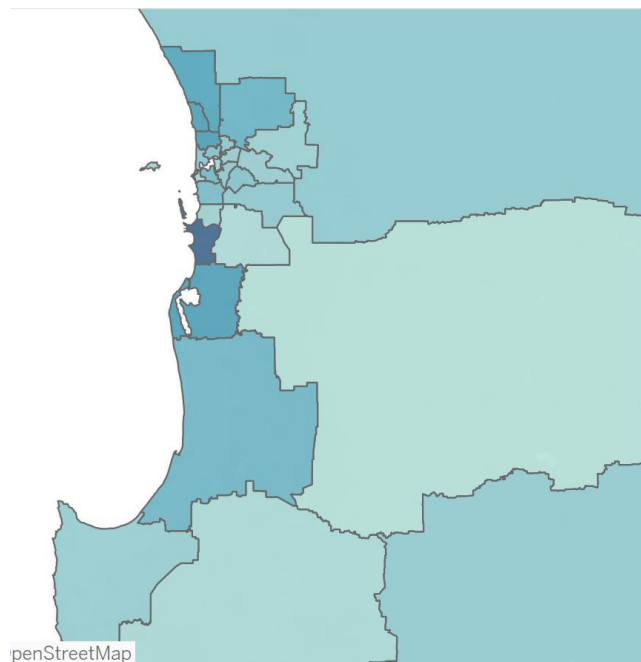
- 19 regions have more than 4,000 residents who have served. In these regions approximately 51% are DVA clients.
- 10 regions have more than 800 residents who have served with fewer than 25% being DVA clients.
- Boroondara in Victoria has 2,322 residents who have served, with 24% being DVA clients.
- Far North (Queensland) has 923 residents who have served, with 16% being DVA clients.
- In June 2021, DVA had 240,231 veterans as clients.

The total number of serving members and veterans identified in the census (581,139, noting a 96% response rate to the census) was very close to DVA's population model projection of 613,335, which includes 9,469 veterans from allied countries.

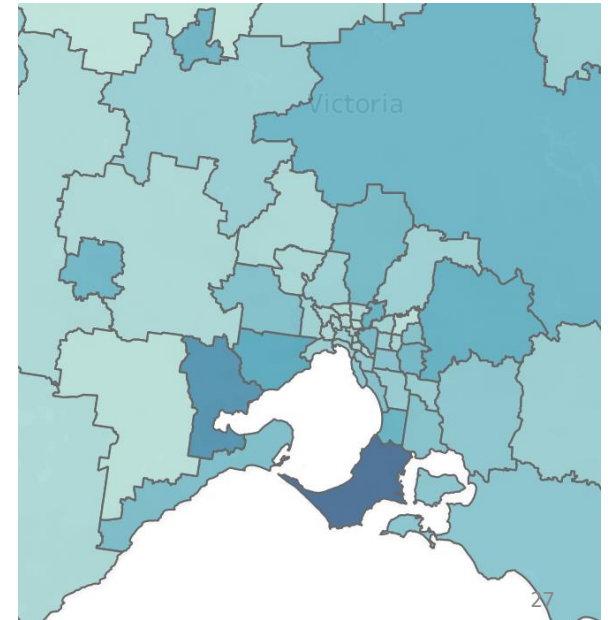
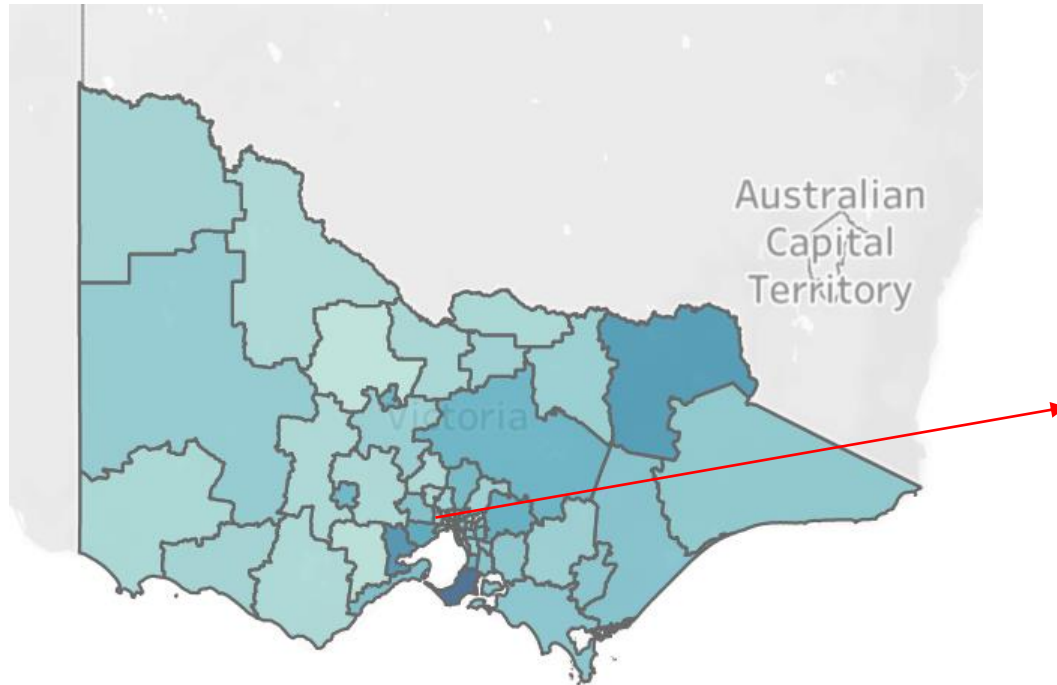




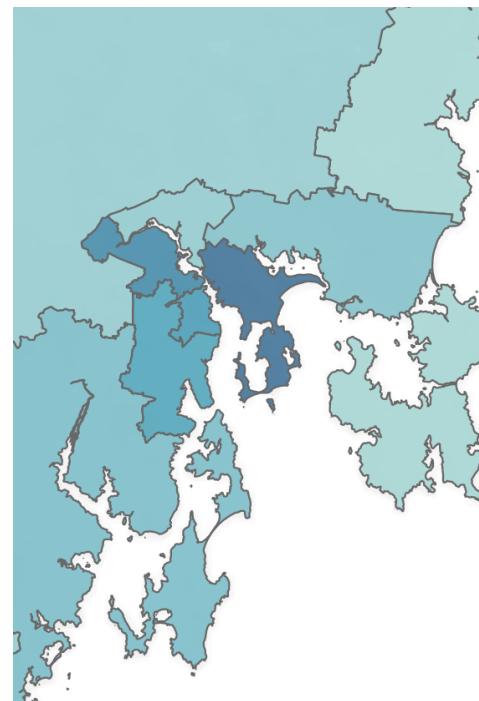
State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
WA	All WA	62,421	23,098	37.0%
	Rockingham	6,957	4,103	59.0%
	Mandurah	4,054	1,703	42.0%
	Stirling	4,049	1,395	34.5%



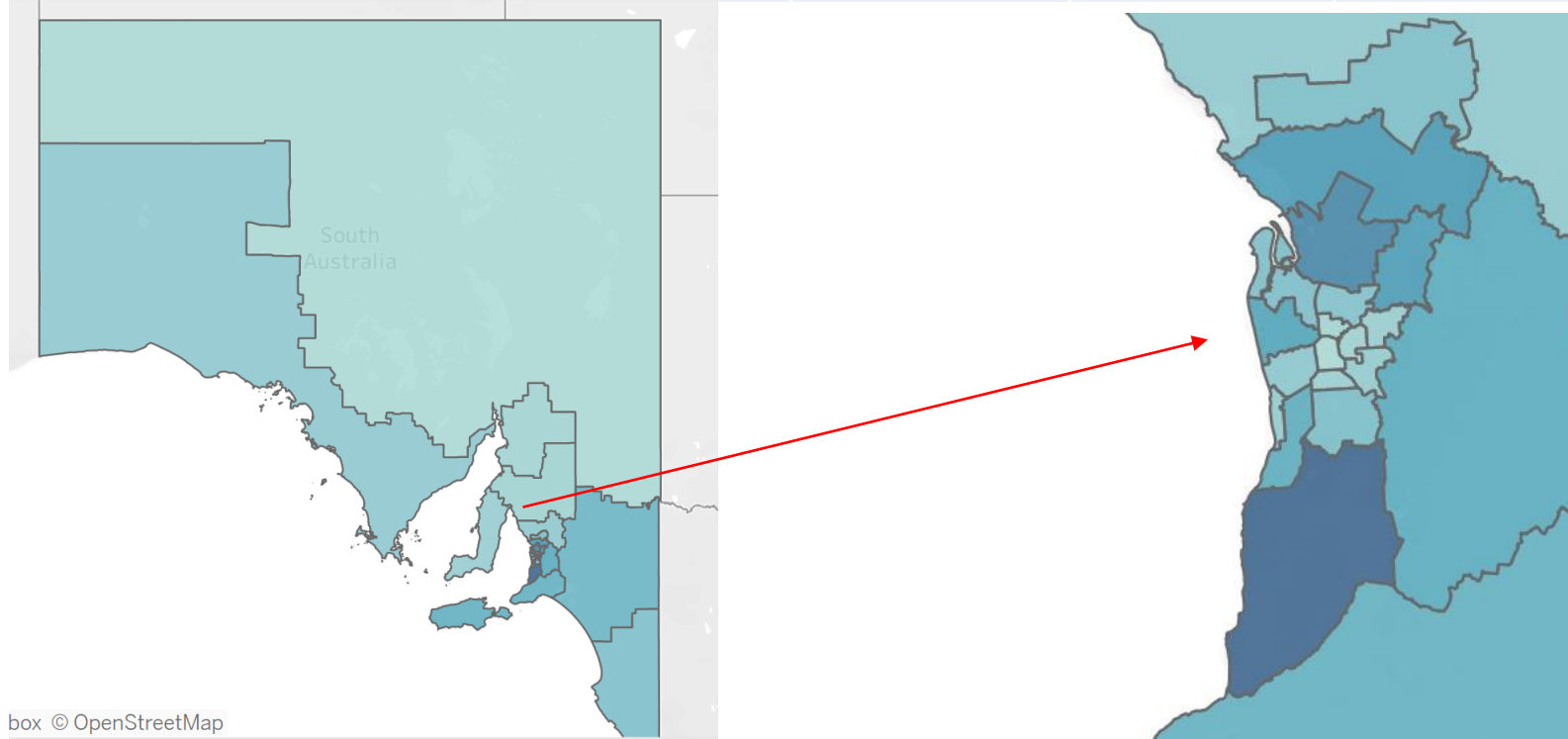
State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
VIC	All VIC	105,225	33,929	32.2%
	Mornington Peninsula	5,826	2,352	40.4%
	Geelong	4,255	1,405	33.0%
	Wodonga – Alpine	3,838	1,973	51.4%



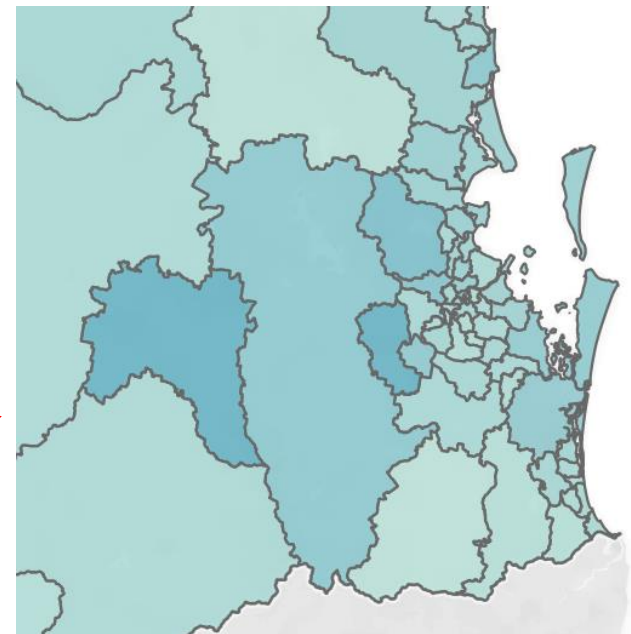
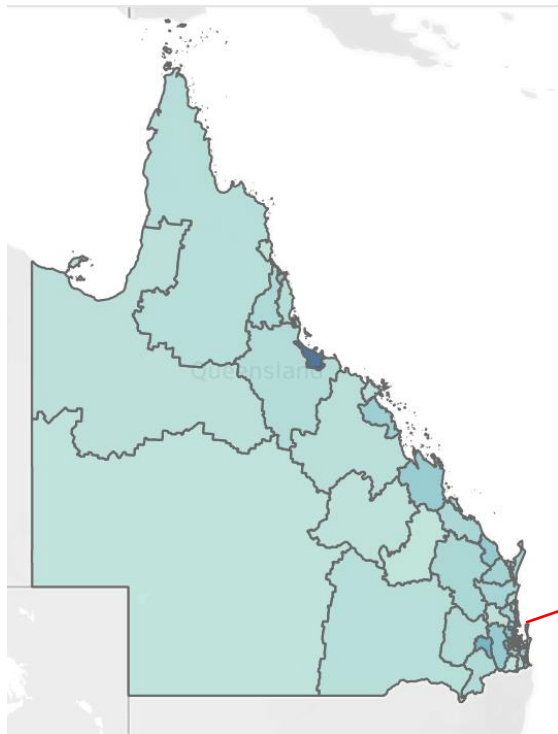
State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
TAS	All TAS	18,480	6,013	32.5%
	Launceston	2,535	788	31.1%
	Hobart - North East	2,286	715	31.3%
	Hobart - North West	1,822	552	30.3%



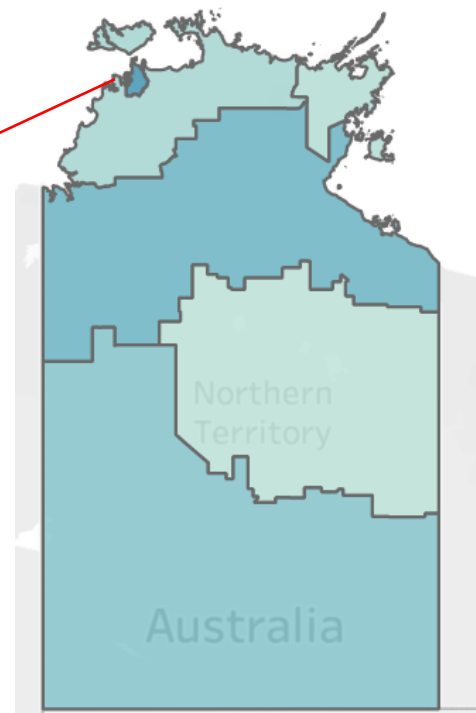
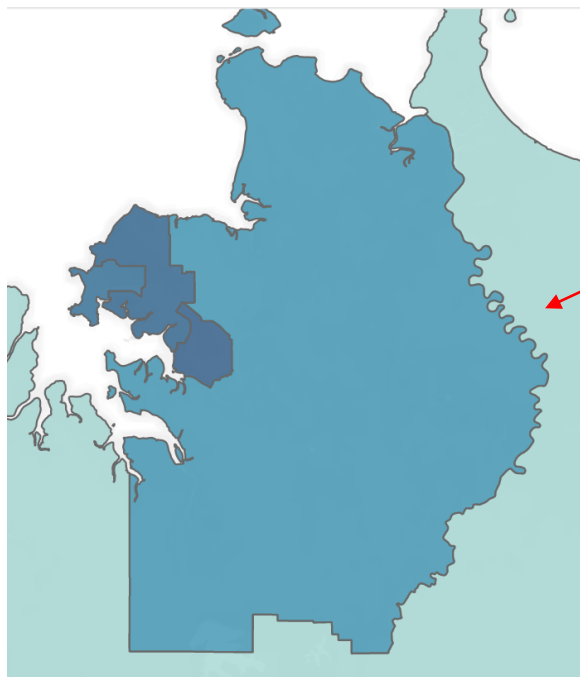
State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
SA	All SA	47,861	17,020	35.6%
	Onkaparinga	4,963	1,695	34.2%
	Salisbury	3,734	1,582	42.4%
	Playford	3,098	1,514	48.9%



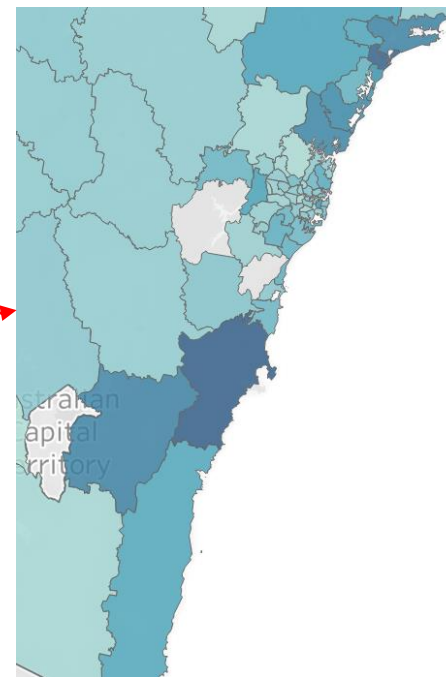
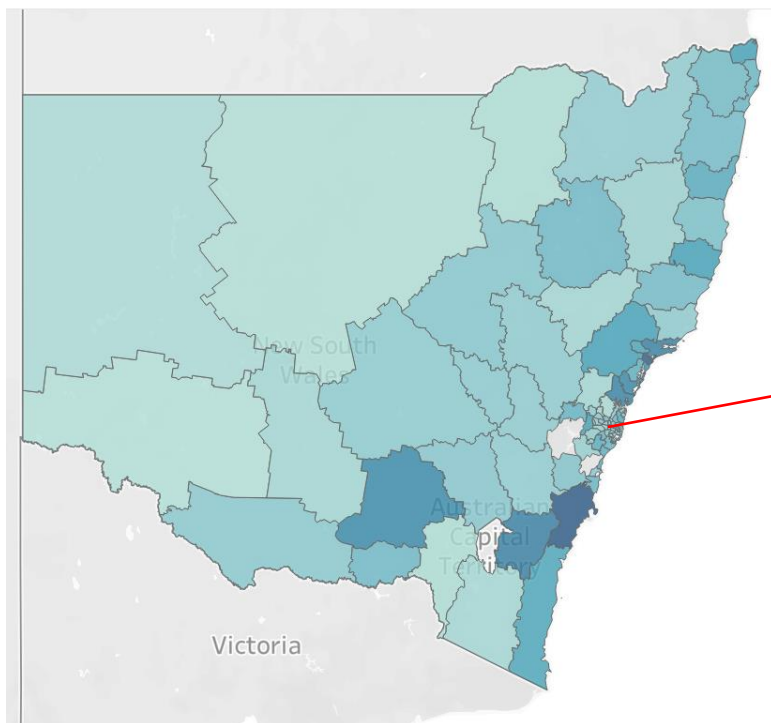
State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
QLD	All QLD	163,133	75,975	46.6%
	Townsville	14,180	9,382	66.2%
	Ipswich Inner	6,036	3,702	61.3%
	Toowoomba	5,972	2,839	47.5%



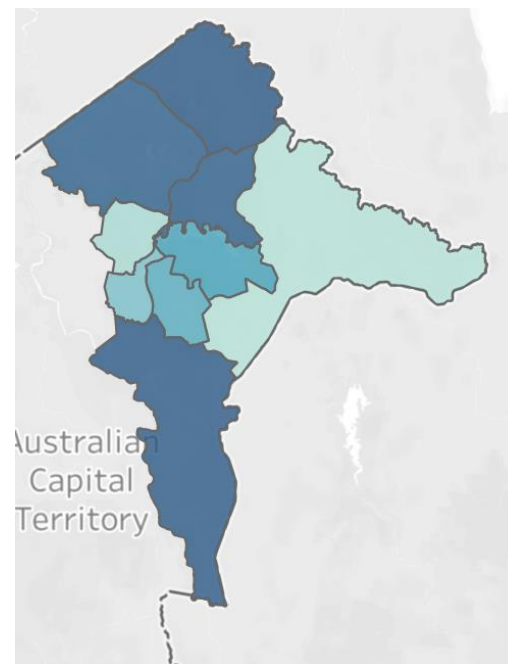
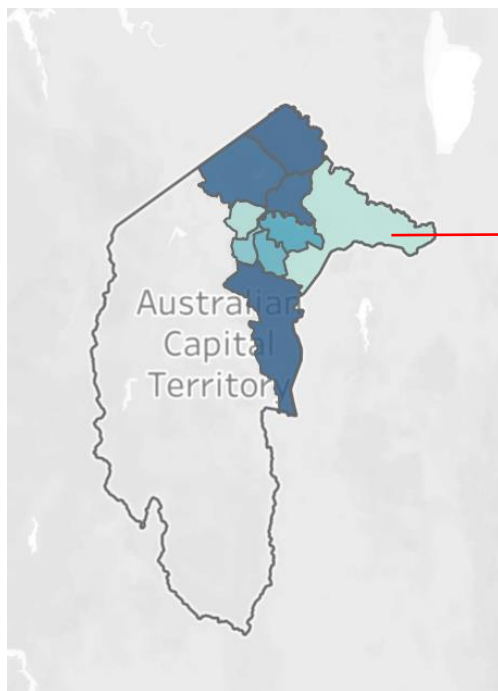
State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
NT	All NT	9,527	5,829	61.2%
	Palmerston	2,183	1,704	78.1%
	Darwin Suburbs	2,051	1,393	67.9%
	Darwin City	1,879	1,242	66.1%



State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
NSW	All NSW	152,137	58,326	38.3%
	Shoalhaven	5,697	2,889	50.7%
	Newcastle	5,411	2,372	43.8%
	Queanbeyan	4,268	2,495	58.5%



State	Location	Total veterans and serving members	Total DVA veteran clients	% of Veterans who are DVA clients
ACT	All ACT	22,218	11,686	52.6%
	Gungahlin	4,237	2,585	61.0%
	Tuggeranong	4,199	2,161	51.5%
	North Canberra	4,042	2,188	54.1%



Current published stats

Pensioner summary statistics — VEA only

These reports summarise the major pension groups by rate of payment, state of residence, sex, age and conflict in which the veteran first served.

Treatment population statistics

These statistics report on the Department's treatment card population by eligibility, card type, state, sex, age and conflict in which the veteran first served. The treatment population consists of veterans and dependants entitled to treatment at departmental expense and who have been issued a DVA Gold or White card

Top-20 accepted conditions (recent conflicts & Vietnam)

These statistics report the top-20 accepted VEA and MRCA conditions as coded by the Statements of Principles for the following conflicts: Afghanistan, Iraq, East Timor (Timor Leste), Solomon Islands, Vietnam

Population projections (Executive Summary)

The Executive Summary of DVA Beneficiaries contains 10 yearly National and State/Territory forecasts for all pensions, card holders and miscellaneous benefits entitled under the VEA, MRCA & DRCA. These forecasts can be broken down further into age, gender and other categories upon making request to the DVA Data & Insights Branch.

DVA Stats at a Glance

The DVA Stats at a Glance card is a summary card produced twice a year which includes high-level information about DVA's clients, pension rates and Departmental expenditure.

Local Government Area (LGA) profile

These reports summarise the numbers of DVA pensioners and treatment card holders in each of Australia's local government areas by State and Territory.

Federal electorate profile

These profiles report on the number of DVA pensioners and treatment card holders in each of the Federal electorates by State and Territory.