

# Veteran Business Owners are a Thriving Part of the U.S. Economy.

## Statistics affecting Operation Mess Hall

**9%**

Of all U.S. Firms are Veteran-Owned, Approximately 2.45 Million Firms

**Veteran-Owned Businesses at a Glance**

**\$1.22 trillion**

in sales receipts

**\$210 billion**

in annual payroll

**5.79 million**

employees

**13.2%**

Of Veterans are Self-Employed

12.3 non-veterans are self-employed.



# Veterans are interested in owning a business.

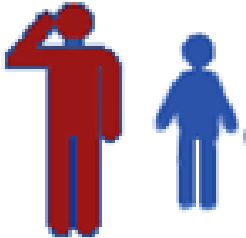
According to the U.S. Census bureau, one in ten of small businesses are veteran-owned.



... and Veterans are

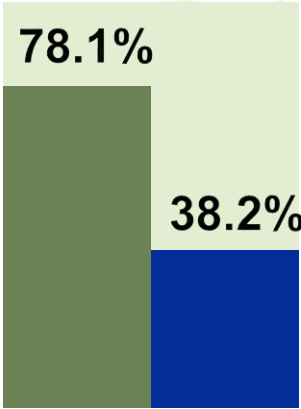
**45%**

More likely to own a business than non-veterans.

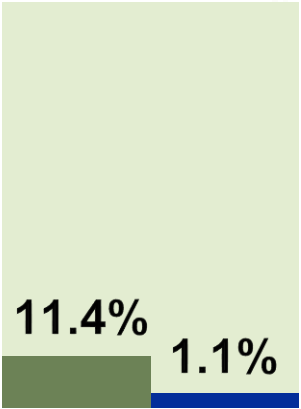


## Money Talks

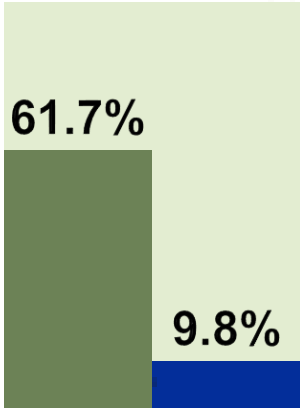
Veteran-Owned Employer Firms



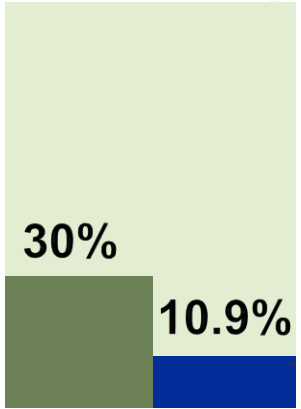
Veteran-Owned Non-Employer Firms



Getting Started Sources of Capital



Business Expansion Sources of Capital



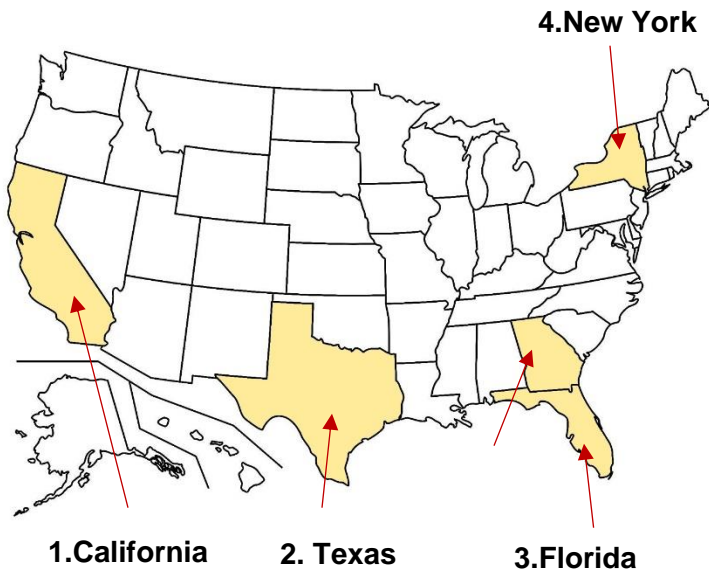
- Sales Of \$100,000 Or More
- Sales Of \$500,000 Or More

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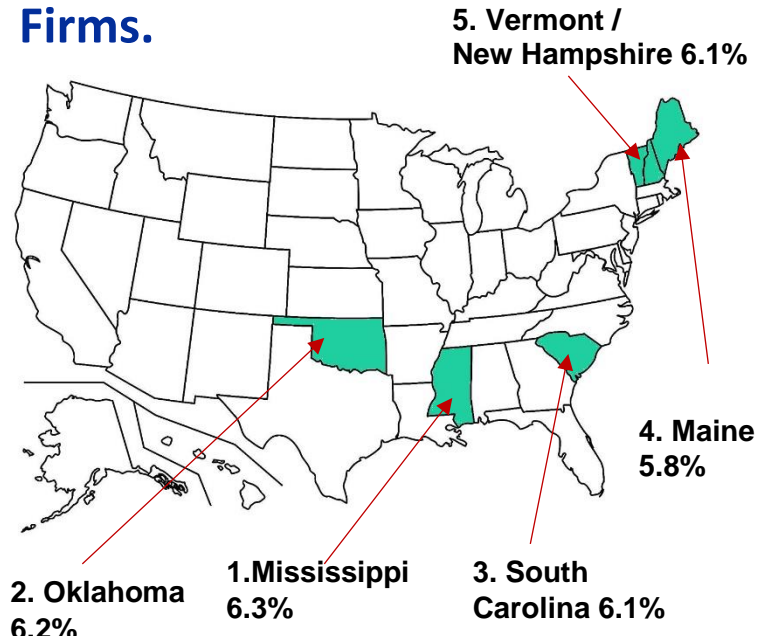
- Personal/Family savings
- Banks or Commercial Lenders

- Personal/Family savings
- Personal/Business Credit Cards (compared with 12.6% of all firms)

## Top 5 States with The Most Veteran-Owned Firms.

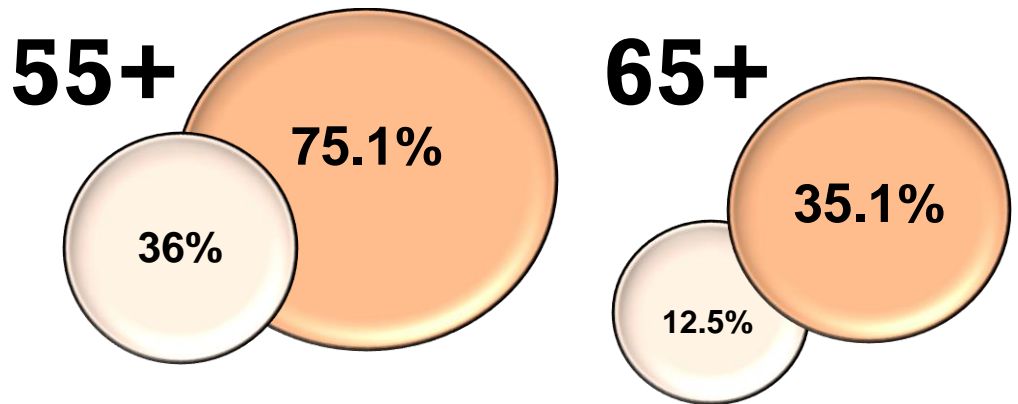
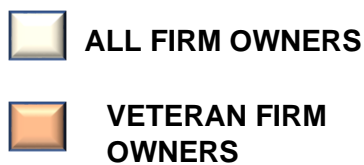


## Top 5 States with Highest Percentage of Sales/Receipts Attributed to Veteran-Owned Firms.



From the above graphic the best places to start a veteran-owned business is in the Southeastern part of the United States. South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Texas all place in the top 5 with most veteran-owned businesses, or the highest percentage of sales receipts attributed to veteran-owned businesses.

## Age is Just a Number



The US military offers very generous pension benefits—after 20 years of service, members can retire with 50% of their final salary for the rest of their lives. That allows many to retire around age 40.

Many veterans take advantage of the early retirement age to begin a business, or a new career.

# Patriotic Americans Like to Support Veterans.

In 2018 76% of all Americans considered themselves to very, or somewhat, patriotic.

