**Title:** Linking Veteran Status and Depression by Age in West Virginia

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**Purpose:** Depression is common amongst older adults, especially in veterans who have greater traumatic exposure (Kimron et al., 2019; Bedard-Gilligan et al., 2018). The purpose of this study is to analyze the association between veteran status and prevalence of depressive disorder in adults within West Virginia.

**Methods:** Using BRFSS data from 2018 provided by the CDC, three cross tabulations were used to examine the association between veteran status and prevalence of depressive disorder in adults 18+, 18 to 64, and 65+.

**Results:** Among the veterans within the 18+ age group, 19.2% reported depressive disorders, χ2(1, N=4822) = 15.11, p<.0001. Within the 18-64 age group 23.2% reported depressive disorders, χ2(1, N=2995) = 4.23, p<.0397. However, for the 65+ age group, 15.1% reported depressive disorders, χ2(1, N=1827) = 2.55, p<.1101.

**Discussion/Conclusions:** These findings provide the opportunity for future researchers to examine the effect of veteran status on depressive disorder by age in West Virginia.