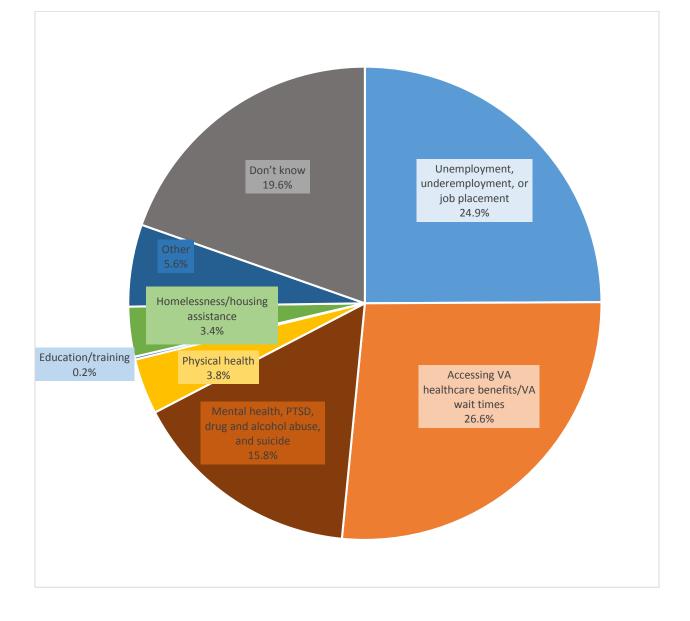
## **Greatest Challenge Veterans Face**

Thinking about veterans' issues, what is the greatest challenge that Illinois Veterans face?

Response	Percent
1. Accessing VA healthcare benefits/VA wait times	26.6%
2. Unemployment, underemployment, or job placement	24.9%
3. Don't know	19.6%
4. Mental health, PTSD, drug and alcohol abuse, and suicide	15.8%
5. Other	5.6%
6. Physical health	3.8%
7. Homelessness/housing assistance	3.4%
8. Education/training	0.2%



Response	Count	Percent
Unemployment, underemployment, or job placement	249	24.9%
Health or issues with the VA	462	46.2%
Accessing VA healthcare benefits/VA wait times	266	26.6%
Mental or physical health	196	19.6%
- Mental health, PTSD, drug and alcohol abuse, and suicide	158	15.8%
- Physical health	38	3.8%
Education/training	2	0.2%
Homelessness/housing assistance	34	3.4%
Other	56	5.6%
Don't know	196	19.6%

Note: In this table (and those that follow) we display both collapsed counts and un-collapsed counts. For example, we show the number of respondents that stated mental or physical health as the greatest issue as well as the count for mental health and the count for physical health.

## **Greatest Challenge Veterans Face by Geographic Region**

Thinking about veterans' issues, what is the greatest challenge that Illinois Veterans face?



	Chicago City (n=200)		Chicago Suburbs (n=500)		Downstate (n=300)	
Response	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Unemployment, underemployment, job placement	57	28.5%	151	30.2%	62	20.7%
Health or issues with the VA	88	44.0%	210	42.0%	143	47.7%
Accessing VA healthcare benefits/VA wait times	48	24.0%	128	25.6%	90	30.0%
Mental or physical health	40	20.0%	82	16%	53	18%
- Physical health	5	2.5%	20	4%	13	4%
<ul> <li>Mental health, PTSD, drug/alcohol abuse, and suicide</li> </ul>	35	17.5%	62	12.4%	40	13.3%
Education/training	1	0.5%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Homelessness/housing assistance	7	3.5%	18	3.6%	9	3.0%
Other	7	3.5%	30	6%	19	6%
Don't know	40	20%	89	17.8%	67	22.3%

## **Greatest Challenge Veterans Face by Veteran Status**

Thinking about veterans' issues, what is the greatest challenge that Illinois Veterans face?

	Veteran or On Active Duty (n=155)		Immediate Family of Vet (n=489)		Other (n=350)	
Response	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Unemployment, underemployment, job placement	32	20.6%	111	22.7%	106	30.3%
Health or issues with the VA	79	51.0%	241	49.3%	140	40%
Accessing VA healthcare benefits/VA wait times	52	33.5%	133	27.2%	80	22.9%
Mental or physical health	27	17.4%	108	22.1%	60	17.1%
- Physical health	8	5.2%	24	4.9%	6	1.7%
<ul> <li>Mental health, PTSD, drug/alcohol abuse, and suicide</li> </ul>	19	12.3%	84	17.2%	54	15.4%
Education/training	0	0%	2	0.4%	0	0%
Homelessness/housing assistance	4	2.6%	19	3.9%	11	3.1%
Other	14	9%	24	4.9%	18	5.1%
Don't know	26	16.8%	92	18.8%	75	21.4%