



VIETNAM VETERANS' FAMILY STUDY

Article November 2010

Vietnam Veterans' Family Study (VVFS) Update

The VVFS is investigating the long term effects of war service on Vietnam veterans' families. This study will help provide a better understanding of what those impacts are and how best to assist those who need help.

The VVFS was originally programmed to conclude in December 2016, however, it is now anticipated that the final report, incorporating all the research elements, will be completed and handed to Government late in 2012. This is over four years earlier than originally programmed and will be achieved without compromising the scientific validity of the study.

New registrations have slowed considerably, however anyone who hasn't registered and would like to is encouraged to call the Family Studies Program Team on 1800 502 302 to discuss eligibility to participate. If eligible, you can be registered immediately.

The first research component of the study, the **Re-analysis of the Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Project** data, which was undertaken by Enhance Management, has been completed. This report is available on the main DVA web site (www.dva.gov.au/vvfs).

Five of the study's other research components are underway. These are the:

- **Semi-Structured Telephone Interviews** being undertaken by the Institute for Social Science Research and the Centre for Military and Veterans' Health.
- **History of Health Case Studies** being undertaken by Open Mind Research Group.
- **In-depth Case Study (Ethnographic Study)** being undertaken by TNS Social Research.
- **Main Survey** being undertaken by Colmar Brunton Social Research.
- **Children of Vietnam Veterans' Mortality Study** being undertaken by TNS Social Research.

The first three research components detailed above, along with the Re-analysis of the Vietnam Veterans' Sons and Daughters Project data, have provided information to assist with the development of the main survey questionnaire. It is expected that results from these three components will be finalised shortly with the final reports being referred to the Minister within the next few months for public release as soon as possible in 2011.

Once the main survey questionnaire has been piloted and its development completed it will be sent out to all registered participants. This will most likely be in the second quarter of 2011.

You can contribute to the success of this research by telling your friends and family about this study and by participating in the study.

More information on how to register for the study can be found at www.dva.gov.au/vvfs or by calling the FSP Team on freecall 1800 502 302.

Attachment

Vietnam Veterans' Family Study Participants & Registrations (by Type) – 29 Nov 10	
TOTAL Unique Participants	27156
TOTAL Registrations*	27473
Random Select Vietnam Veteran Group	
Vietnam Veteran (10,000 participants invited)	3990
<i>Relationship to Random Select Vietnam Veteran</i>	
Partner	2444
Child	3720
Brother	601
Sister	774
Brother-In-Law	34
Sister-In-Law	38
Nephew/niece	619
Total	12209
Random Select Control Group	
Vietnam-Era member (10,000 participants invited)	4056
<i>Relationship to Random Select Control Group (Vietnam-Era):</i>	
Partner	1740
Child	2204
Total	8000
TOTAL Random Select Registrations	20220
Self Select Group	
Vietnam Veteran	2396
<i>Relationship to Self Select Vietnam Veteran:</i>	
Partner	1295
Child	2477
Brother	82
Sister	79
Brother-In-Law	17
Sister-In-Law	20
Nephew/niece	74
Total	6440
Vietnam-Era member	514
<i>Relationship to Self Select Control Group (Vietnam-Era):</i>	
Partner	139
Child	160
Total	813
TOTAL Self Select Participants	7253
* This figure is the total number of registrations, not participants - an individual may be listed under more than one registration type IE: may be the partner of an RSVV as well as the sister of a RSCG and is counted as two different registration types.	