

# VETERANS *AND* ENERGY

## OPPORTUNITIES IN THE OIL & NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY

★ Vets4Energy ★



**A vast opportunity exists for the oil and natural gas industry to attract, retain, and develop lifelong careers for veterans in the industry.** Over the next four years, the Department of Defense estimates that approximately one million service members will transition out of the military. In addition, the Department of Veterans Affairs reports that there are more than 12 million veterans under the age of 65 living in the U.S. These veterans and military service members are highly trained in a wide variety of occupational areas; **their extensive skills attained from their military training and experience make them ideal candidates to fill the projected 1.9 million job opportunities** available in the oil and natural gas industry.

### VETERANS IN OIL & GAS

Over the last several years the number of veterans working in the oil and gas and petrochemical industries has been growing with **nearly 185,000 veterans employed in 2014**. These veterans are diverse, with **nearly 6,000 female veterans and more than 41,000 minority veterans filling positions in all sectors of the industry and across all regions of the country**. The West South Central, Middle Atlantic, and South Atlantic regions are especially prominent for veterans, with those three regions accounting for 60% of all veterans employed in the oil and gas industry. The oil & gas and petrochemical industries consistently employ larger shares of veterans than both the government and the private sector.

**In 2014, veterans accounted for:**

**10.5%**  
of the oil & gas and  
petrochemical industry  
workforce

**10.4%**  
of the government  
workforce

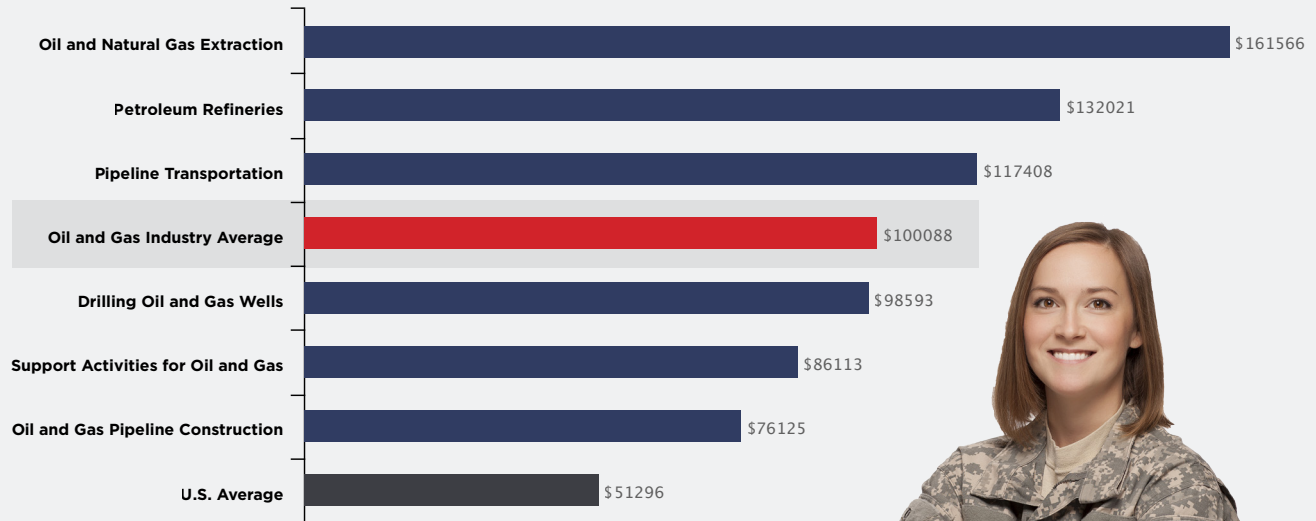
**6.5%**  
of the private  
sector workforce

**7%**  
Overall veterans accounted for 7%  
of total employment in the U.S.

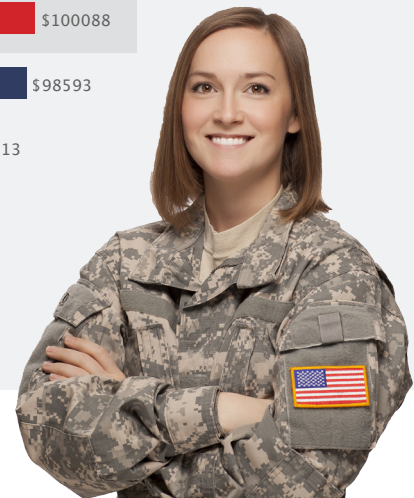
## BENEFITS

Jobs in the oil and natural gas industry offer good benefits, high pay, and the opportunity to make a difference. Based on 2014 average annual wage data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, **the average pay in the oil and gas industry is nearly \$50,000 higher than the U.S. average.**

### AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE - 2014



Bureau of Labor Statistics



## CONNECTING MILITARY TRAINING TO OIL & GAS JOBS

**Workforce training is critical to the projected industry growth that will keep the nation at a competitive advantage and provide the energy the nation depends on.** Veterans come to the civilian workforce with extensive technical and nontechnical skills gained through military experience and training; many of these skills have direct applicability to the oil and gas industry, making it an ideal industry for transitioning service members and veterans.

A key element in achieving a growing level of veterans to fill oil and gas industry jobs is to relate those skills that they have developed to the skills needed in industry. The challenge of translating military skills to civilian occupations can be daunting for both veterans and hiring managers. This is why the American Petroleum Institute has **developed the *Veterans Energy Pipeline*, an online tool for veterans and civilians that highlights the links between military occupations and top oil and gas jobs.** The tool also shows where there may be gaps in needed skills; it is vital to connect veterans with ways to supplement their skills with additional education and training that may be required for available positions.

Access the tool by visiting [www.veteransenergypipeline.com](http://www.veteransenergypipeline.com).

