



## **Food stamp usage by military families up**

News4Jax

Food stamp usage among military families has more than quadrupled between 2007 and 2010, according to statistics released by the Defense Commissary Agency. By the numbers, in 2010, 19,000 military families relied on the federal government's SNAP program for food. In 2011, nearly 21,000 military families used food stamps. And in 2012 and 2013, more than 22,000. In 2013, \$103 million [in food stamps] was spent in commissaries, or grocery stores at military facilities. And just last year, a decrease, but still \$84 million was spent.

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## **Obama stresses country's debt to veterans**

DoD News Media Activity

There are 21.5 million veterans today and the country is in the midst of a new wave of veterans, the president said. Since 9/11 more than a million service members have completed their military service and returned to civilian life. Each year another 200,000 transition to veteran status. The 9/11 generation -- tested in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan -- deserve the care they were promised, Obama said.

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## **First Lady: Actions, not words, are what count on vets issues**

DoD News Media Activity

There are more than 2 million female veterans in the United States. Women are serving at the highest levels of the military, but some citizens still do not understand the crucial role women play in the military, the first lady said. "And many folks still don't know that countless military spouses and caregivers are serving and sacrificing without putting on a uniform."

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## **McDonald: New generation of vets continue tradition of service**

DoD News Media Activity

"Each generation has done its part to deliver a strong and free America to the next generation," the secretary said. "They have done so with great determination, personal toughness and willingness to risk it all for others." McDonald especially acknowledged those who served in two conflicts. "This year marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and the beginning of our 50th commemoration of the decade-long war in Vietnam. To those who fought in both wars, thank you for your selfless service. Americans are ever grateful for your sacrifices."

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## **Survey highlights vets' dissatisfaction with government**

The Wall Street Journal (tiered subscription model)

Fewer than 1 in 4 veterans feel they are treated well by the federal government, and fewer than 1 in 5 feel they've received all the benefits they're entitled to, according to a survey released by Disabled American Veterans. Nearly two-thirds of respondents said their skills didn't translate well to civilian jobs.

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