

American Latino
Veterans Association

Impact Report

2023



Defending America, Always

VALOR – HONOR – VITAL

www.alvavets.org

@alvavets

Prepared for:
American Latino
Veterans
Association



Danny Vargas Chairman/CEO

Message From Chairman/CEO

We are so very grateful for our members, supporters, allies, and friends who made 2023 a great year for ALVA and the Latino veterans we exist to support.

Today, Hispanics make up 18% of the active-duty force, including 25% of the Marine Corps. However, Hispanics are only 8% of the officer corps and less than 3% of flag officers. There are over 1.5 million Latino veterans (over 8% of the total veteran population) and by 2046 they will make up 16% of the veteran population. Among minority veterans, Hispanics will grow from 32% of that cohort to over 36% in 2045. We must do all we can to support these brave Latinos and Latinas and make sure they thrive in their lives after military service.

A national nonprofit, ALVA is focused on workforce development/job placement, entrepreneurship, resources/benefits, advocacy, and telling the incredible stories of Latinos in the military throughout history and their families. Membership is free for all veterans, active-duty members, and their families; since we know that military service is not an individual exercise, but rather a family endeavor. This was highlighted during our ALVA Awards reception with the number of family members who came to support the honorees.

We look forward to continuing and growing our activities and reach in 2024 and invite you to join us in our mission to help Latino veterans thrive and recognize their indispensable contributions.



Vision

A day when all Latino veterans are empowered, successful and respected

Mission

To help Latino veterans thrive and recognize their indispensable contributions



Values

ALVA is a national nonprofit committed to being impactful, innovative, and responsive. To meet that commitment, we will:

- Respectfully honor the service and sacrifice of our members and all Latino veterans throughout our history
- Engage with our key stakeholders and carefully listen to their needs and suggestions
- Conduct ourselves with integrity and ethics in all we do
- Celebrate the diversity of our community and embrace all perspectives

Vision, Mission, and Values

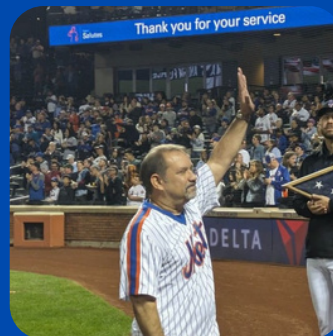


2023 ALVA Highlights



VSO Gathering with Min. Leader Jeffries - July 2023

- Held successful Career Expo and Job Matchmaking event with a focus on:
 - Applying military skills to civilian careers
 - Careers in Banking and Finance
 - Careers in Telecommunications
 - Careers in Consulting, Life Sciences, and Nonprofits
- Held successful ALVA Awards Event honoring:
 - Role Model: Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro
 - Military Service: SEAC Ramon "CZ" Colon-Lopez
 - Familia: Robert Bard/Lupita Colmenero & Family
 - Entrepreneur: Jeff Vigil
 - Community Service: Graciela Tiscareño-Sato
- New Advisory Council Members added:
 - John Leguizamo (Actor/Comedian)
 - Alberto Gonzales (Fmr US Attorney General)
 - Hon. Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon (Puerto Rico Rep.)
 - James Albino - Center for Minority Veterans
 - Lili Gil Valletta - Business Leader
- New MOUs with American GI Forum & NHIT
- Participated in two VSO gatherings with House Minority Leader Jeffries
- Media appearances in Axios, PBS, Univision
- Attended swearing in of new Asst SecDef for Health Affairs at The Pentagon
- Secured new sponsorships from Accenture, PMI, Bristol Myers Squibb, and Republic Services; As well as increases from T-Mobile and AT&T
- Added new "Attention ALVA!" podcasts
- Received award from Latina Style Magazine
- Featured at NY Mets home game



ALVA Career Expo Panelists, Washington, D.C. - NOV. 2023

ALVA Activities



ALVA CAREER EXPO – NOV. 2023

- Expert Panels
- Job Matchmaking

Entrepreneurship

- Small Business Webinars
- Opportunity/Supplier Matchmaking
- Business Mentor Connections

Workforce Development/Job Placement

- Virtual Job/Career Fairs
- Education/Training Offerors
- Virtual Apprenticeship Fairs



Fireside Chat with JPMorgan Chase



ALVA AWARDS, Washington, D.C. – NOV. 2023



Recognition and Inspiration

- High-quality Video Series
- Podcast Series with Interesting Guests
- Awards Events

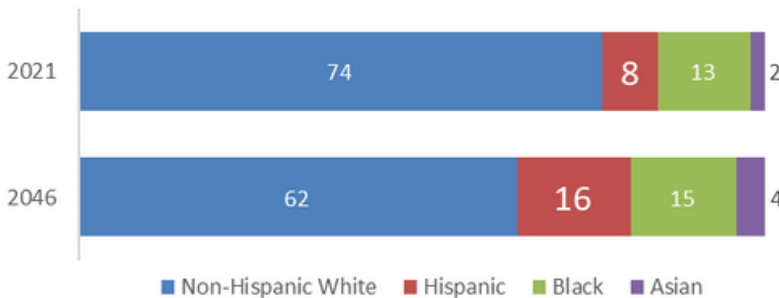
Resources and Policies

- Videos with Experts on Benefits, Mental Health, etc.
- Information on Resources/Benefits
- Advocacy on public policy

Serving Those Who Served

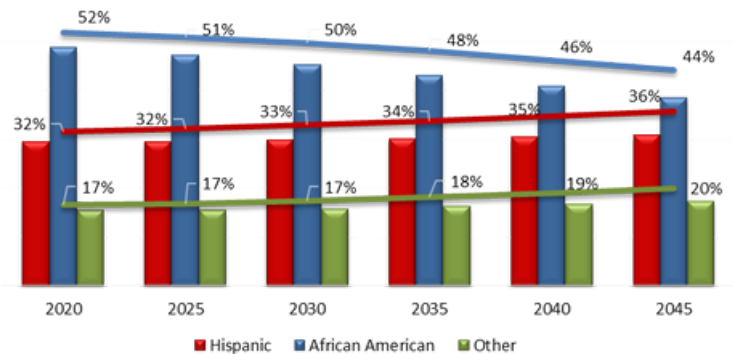
- There are nearly 1.5 million Latino veterans in the U.S. today
- By 2046, Latinos will be 16% of the total veteran population
- Latinos projected to represent a growing portion of the minority veteran population
 - From 32% in 2020 (1.48M) to 36% in 2045 (1.55M)
- Latinos impactful military service dates back to the Revolutionary War, including fighting in every way we have ever had

% of U.S. Veterans by race/ethnicity



Source: Dept. of Vets Affairs Vet Population Projection Model 2018

Minority Veteran Population Projection



There have been 60+ Hispanic Medal of Honor recipients

War	Key Figures & Facts
Revolutionary War	Spanish Gen. Bernardo de Galvez and over 10K Spanish troops stemmed advance of British from the south
Civil War	Navy's first Admiral, David Farragut, was famous for his immortal statement "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead"
WW I	First American warning shots fired in San Juan Bay. 200K+ Latinos served
WW II	500K+ Latinos USMC Guy Gabaldon captured 1K+ Japanese, single-handed
Korea	The 65 th Infantry Regiment (aka, Borinqueneers of Puerto Rico), among the highest decorated combat units
Vietnam	Everett Alvarez was the first naval aviator shot down during the conflict and spent 8.5 years as a POW
War on Terror	1 st Lt. Jennifer Moreno of San Diego, CA was killed in Afghanistan and awarded the Bronze Star

ALVA Membership is free for veterans, active duty members and their immediate family members. These members have full access to all content on the ALVA website and receive all member benefits and discounts (e.g., events, etc.).

More to Come

2023 was a fantastic year for the American Latino Veterans Association (ALVA) and its members! We grew our membership, secured new sponsors, launched our career expo and held our annual ALVA Awards. We grew our voice in the media and in advocacy. The best is yet to come. We will build off these successes in 2024 and beyond and ask you to join us on our journey to support Latino veterans.



Career Expo Panels

Jobs and Businesses

- ALVA will continue its efforts to identify and share training, education, apprenticeship, internship, and job opportunities for its members across the country.
- This may include in-person and virtual job/career fairs.
- ALVA will build upon its programs for entrepreneurs and business owners with useful information and matchmaking.

Recognition and Information

- Building off its very successful awards event in Washington, D.C., ALVA will host more awards events in different cities around the country, including San Antonio, San Diego, and more.
- We will add more videos, podcasts, and blogs to share valuable information on resources, benefits, and stories of Latino contributions to our military throughout history.



ALVA Awards Events



Meeting with House Minority Leader Jeffries and other VSOs

Continued Advocacy

- ALVA will continue to build off its engagement with Members of Congress, the Department of Veterans Affairs and DoD to provide a voice for Latino veterans and service members.
- We will also continue to support or oppose policies that impact the overall veteran community and/or the Latino community.



James Albino



Hon. Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon



John Leguizamo



Alberto Gonzales



Lili Gil Valletta

New ALVA Advisory Council Members Added in 2023

Growing ALVA Family

Huge Thanks to:

- Our over 400 members and those future members who will join the family
- Our dedicated Board of Directors who provide wise guidance and direction
- Our fantastic Advisory Council who help us in so many ways
- Our kind supporters around the country who recognize the importance of supporting our veterans

Our Sponsor Partners:



PHILIP MORRIS INTERNATIONAL



AT&T



Our Community Partners:



NATIONAL HEALTH IT COLLABORATIVE

"A Public/Private Partnership for a Healthier America"



Shaping Perceptions. Delivering Results.



Note:

Contact ALVA for sponsorship level and to explore community partnerships - info@alvavets.org



Thank You



ALVA Board of Directors

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