

**American Latino
Veterans Association**

Impact Report

2025



**Prepared for:
American Latino
Veterans
Association**

Defending America, Always

VALOR – HONOR – VITAL

www.alvavets.org

@alvavets

WHO WE ARE

At ALVA we help our brave Latino veterans succeed in life after military service.

We are changing the narrative about the Latino community in the U.S., ensuring everyone can recognize and honor our patriotism and sacrifices for our national defense since our nation's founding.

WHO WE SERVE

We are the only national non-profit focused on serving the 1.5 million Latino veterans in America and the nearly quarter of a million on active duty today.

ALVA membership is available to everyone irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, national origin or disability status.



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

Pillars of Focus and Activities

- Workforce Development & Job Placement
- Entrepreneurship
- Advocacy
- Benefits and Well-Being Support
- Recognition and stories of Latino military contributions throughout U.S. history and today.





Danny Vargas Chairman/CEO

Message From Chairman/CEO

We are deeply grateful to our members, supporters, partners, and friends whose commitment and belief in our mission made 2025 a landmark year for the American Latino Veterans Association and the Latino veterans we proudly serve. Your engagement, trust, and partnership continue to fuel our work and expand our impact nationwide.

As we look ahead, it is clear that the landscape of veteran support in America is evolving. From physical and mental health care to education, economic opportunity, and workforce readiness, veterans face both promising advancements and persistent challenges. In this environment, the role of strong, credible Veteran Service Organizations has never been more important. ALVA exists to ensure that Latino veterans are not only supported, but fully equipped to succeed in life after military service.

ALVA is unwavering in its commitment to the brave Latinas and Latinos who have served our nation. As a national nonprofit, we focus on workforce development and job placement, entrepreneurship, benefits and well-being support, advocacy, and preserving and elevating the powerful stories of Latino military service—past and present. We proudly offer free membership to veterans, active-duty service members, Guard and Reserve members, and their families, because we recognize that military service is not an individual experience, but a shared family sacrifice.

As we move into 2026, we are energized by the opportunities ahead and determined to scale our impact. We invite you to stand with us—through partnership, engagement, and support—as we continue our mission to help Latino veterans thrive and ensure their indispensable contributions to our nation are recognized, honored, and never forgotten.



OUR IMPACT



☆EXPERT☆

ALVA EVENTS
DELIVERED

30+

EXPERT SPEAKERS ON
CAREERS, BENEFITS,
MENTAL HEALTH, AND
MORE



ALVA MEMBERSHIP
COSTS

\$0

FOR VETERANS, ACTIVE
DUTY, GUARD, RESERVES,
AND THEIR FAMILIES



OUR INFORMATIONAL
VIDEOS REACHED

**10K+
VIEWERS**

INCLUDING WEBINARS,
PODCASTS, & LATINO
MILITARY STORIES



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

ALVA empowers veterans with valuable information and strategies for workforce readiness to position themselves and obtain great careers after military service.



THE NEED

Veterans bring a wealth of skills—leadership, discipline, teamwork, mission-focus—that are highly valued in civilian work. But despite this, transitioning into civilian employment isn't always smooth.

OUR IMPACT

ALVA delivered panels and content on AI and technology skills, translating skills to careers, accessing private sectors job opportunities, and more. Veterans who participated in ALVA workforce programming reported improved confidence and clarity in translating military skills to civilian careers.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

We help veterans with information and resources they need to help them start and grow successful businesses, thus enhancing economic mobility.

THE NEED

Key challenges veterans face in starting a business include access to capital, a lack of professional networks, navigating regulatory environments, translating military experience into business language, and managing high-risk financial decisions.

OUR IMPACT

ALVA delivered panels and content on entrepreneurship and government contracting, as well as networking with representatives from key banks and financial institutions. ALVA programming helped veteran entrepreneurs better navigate capital access and government contracting pathways



BENEFITS AND WELL-BEING

ALVA provides valuable insights on a variety of important issues affecting veteran well-being. We also help them access the benefits they have earned.



THE NEED

Veterans face significant well-being challenges during the transition to civilian life, including high rates of PTSD, depression, chronic pain, substance abuse, financial instability and obstacles to obtaining benefits.



OUR IMPACT

ALVA delivered panels and content on harm reduction, mental health, suicide prevention, financial stability, accessing education and housing benefits, and more.



ADVOCACY

As a Veterans Service Organization (VSO), ALVA takes its advocacy role seriously. We provide a voice for our veterans and represent their interests at the federal, state, and local levels.



THE NEED

Veterans need advocates to address critical needs including improved access to mental healthcare, securing benefits, streamlining VA services, supporting veterans in the justice system, and much more.

OUR IMPACT

Our advocacy includes gatherings and engagement with legislators, policy makers, and government representatives at the federal, state, and local levels. We focus on improving benefits for veterans, improved communications, harm reduction, and other policy matters.



RECOGNITION AND STORIES

Latinos have played a vital role in the founding, building, and defense of the United States since its earliest days. ALVA is dedicated to elevating their stories and affirming their place as brave, patriotic Americans.



Attention, ALVA! Podcast American Latino Veterans Association



★ ★ ★
UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

**LATINO
VALOR**

A VIDEO SERIES BY THE
AMERICAN LATINO VETERANS
ASSOCIATION (ALVA)
@ALVAVETS



THE NEED

Recognizing Latino military contributions is essential to understanding the full, accurate, and diverse history of the United States armed forces. It is also vital to altering the narrative of the Latino community from one of outsiders to one of integral, patriotic participants in U.S. history.

OUR IMPACT

ALVA continues its "Attention, ALVA" podcast series where we share inspiring stories and this year we launched the "Latino Valor" series of short videos highlighting stories of Latino military contributions from the Revolutionary War to today. We also have our ongoing "ALVA Awards" at events throughout the country. This year we honored deserving honorees at events in San Diego and Washington, D.C.

GROUND-BREAKING RESEARCH

ALVA conducted a ground-breaking research survey and subsequent report to Congress and the Administration on the “State of Latino Veterans”.

ALVA Delivers State of Latino Veterans Report to Congress and the Administration



To help Latino veterans thrive and recognize their indispensable contributions

www.alvavets.org
[@alvavets](https://twitter.com/alvavets)

The State of Latino Veterans 2025 Survey, conducted by ALVA between July and September 2025, provides new insight into the experiences, needs, and priorities of Hispanic and Latino veterans nationwide.

The findings reveal a highly educated, service-oriented, and entrepreneurial community, yet one that continues to face disproportionate barriers in accessing VA benefits, economic mobility, and culturally competent care. Despite high VA enrollment (81%), more than half reported discrimination during military service, and over one in ten experienced homelessness after separation.

The data underscore a clear message: Latino veterans are proud to serve, but the systems meant to support them still struggle to fully serve them.

The full report and the policy brief are available on the alva website: www.alvavets.org



ALVA IN THE COMMUNITY

Our civic engagement in the community includes attending numerous events, speaking at various forums, media appearances, supporting schools, and have been honored with several awards for our advocacy of Latino veterans.



Baltimore Ravens honor Latino Veterans



ALVA receives inaugural Julian Bond Institute Community Impact Awards



Meeting the Health Needs of Veterans & First Responders



VIRTUAL CONVENING LEADERS: "Latino Veterans in Corporate America" RECAP

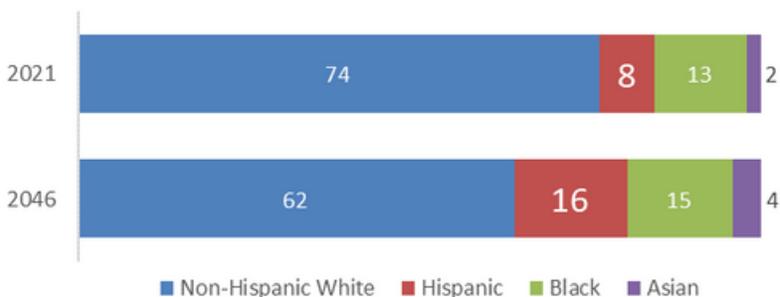
FRIENDS OF PUERTO RICO SINCE 2015



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 (36% in 2045)
- There are over 240K Latinos serving in active duty today.
- Latinos impactful military service dates back to the Revolutionary War, including fighting in every war we have ever had.

% of U.S. Veterans by race/ethnicity



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



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 all veterans, active duty members, guard, reserves, and their immediate family members. ALVA membership is available to everyone irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, national origin or disability status. These members have full access to all content on the ALVA website and receive all member benefits and discounts.

OUR TEAM

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Puerto Rico



Huge Thanks to:

- Over 1,000 members and those future members who will join the family.
- Our dedicated Board of Directors who provide wise guidance and direction.
- Our fantastic Regional Coordinators and influential 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:



JPMORGAN
CHASE & CO.



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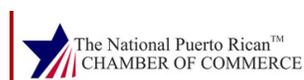
Our Community Partners:



Allianza



HISPANIC VETERANS
LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE



Public/Private Partnership for a Healthier America™

Join us as we scale our impact nationally — through sponsorship, partnerships, and shared commitment to those who served.





Thank You!



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Justin Vélez-Hagan, Director
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