

United States Senate

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Schumer Study: Upstate New York Veterans Could be Shortchanged Nearly \$80 million for VA Health Care

A new Schumer study found that almost 281,648 upstate New York veterans could lose almost \$80 million if the proposed budget for the VA Health Service is approved. The Budget provides approximately \$31 billion for veterans healthcare, a slightly more than \$3.2 billion increase over last year. However, this increase still only accounts for slightly more than half of the \$5.7 billion increase it is estimated would be required to allow the VA to meet its core mission and obligations. As a result, veterans' health care will be short by almost \$2.5 billion and service could decline nationally.

The Schumer study is based on complete United States Department of Veterans Affairs data from 2004 and 2005.

There are currently **84,849** veterans living in the **Capital Region**. The **34,302** Capital Region veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$8,221,066**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Albany	23,195	9,377	\$3,405,717
Fulton	5,240	2,118	\$449,846
Montgomery	4,370	1,767	\$390,293
Rensselaer	13,001	5,256	\$1,271,802
Saratoga	18,074	7,307	\$1,048,945
Schenectady	12,118	4,899	\$942,183
Schoharie	2,971	1,201	\$338,997
Washington	5,880	2,377	\$373,283
Capital Region Total	84,849	34,302	\$8,221,066

There are currently **75,591 veterans** living in **Central New York**. The **30,558** Central New York veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$9,234,772**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Onondaga	34,409	13,910	\$5,256,578
Oswego	10,741	4,342	\$1,336,213
Cortland	3,843	1,554	\$353,185
Madison	5,408	2,186	\$611,504
Oneida	21,190	8,566	\$1,677,292
Central New York Total	75,591	30,558	\$9,234,772

There are currently **93,332 veterans** living in the **Rochester-Finger Lakes Region**. The **37,731** Rochester-Finger Lakes veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$9,838,048**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Monroe	51,658	20,884	\$3,612,336
Cayuga	7,232	2,924	\$658,585
Livingston	5,164	2,088	\$671,052
Ontario	8,817	3,564	\$2,551,867
Schuyler	1,928	779	\$292,085
Seneca	2,970	1,201	\$440,015
Tompkins	5,504	2,225	\$370,261
Wayne	7,787	3,148	\$789,717
Yates	2,272	918	\$452,130
Finger Lakes Total	93,332	37,731	\$9,838,048

There are currently **156,026 veterans** living in the **Hudson Valley**. The **63,076** Hudson Valley veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$19,971,461**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Westchester	51,895	20,979	\$7,965,171
Orange	25,703	10,391	\$2,837,910
Columbia	6,126	2,477	\$712,238
Dutchess	22,646	9,155	\$3,938,895
Greene	4,507	1,822	\$648,779
Putnam	7,172	2,899	\$659,975
Rockland	16,460	6,654	\$1,304,464
Sullivan	6,481	2,620	\$711,426
Ulster	15,036	6,079	\$1,192,603
Hudson Valley Total	156,026	63,076	\$19,971,461

There are currently **52,233 veterans** living in the **North Country**. The **21,116** North Country veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$3,168,192**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Clinton	7,185	2,905	\$362,525
St. Lawrence	9,388	3,795	\$603,426
Warren	6,803	2,750	\$368,852
Essex	4,418	1,786	\$266,266
Franklin	4,337	1,753	\$227,067
Hamilton	686	277	\$51,424
Herkimer	6,251	2,527	\$419,234
Jefferson	10,700	4,326	\$725,831
Lewis	2,465	997	\$143,567
North Country Total	52,233	21,116	\$3,168,192

There are currently **59,414 veterans** living in the **Southern Tier**. The **24,019** Southern Tier veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$6,513,038**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Broome	17,204	6,955	\$1,027,289
Allegany	4,384	1,772	\$625,721
Chemung	8,650	3,497	\$1,190,516
Chenango	4,922	1,990	\$355,258
Delaware	4,540	1,835	\$292,216
Otsego	5,152	2,083	\$318,129
Steuben	9,682	3,914	\$2,456,357
Tioga	4,880	1,973	\$247,552
Southern Tier Total	59,414	24,019	\$6,513,038

There are currently **130,693 veterans** living in Western New York. The **52,834** Western New York veterans who are enrolled in the VA Health Service could be shortchanged a total of **\$22,872,262**.

County	Total Number of Veterans	Estimated Number of Veterans Enrolled in the VA Health Service	Amount of Funding Veterans could be Shortchanged
Erie	78,254	31,636	\$15,835,343
Genesee	5,099	2,061	\$1,186,836
Niagara	19,310	7,806	\$2,548,222
Orleans	3,583	1,448	\$404,471
Wyoming	3,702	1,497	\$379,736
Cattaraugus	8,037	3,249	\$937,212
Chautauqua	12,708	5,137	\$1,580,442
Western NY Total	130,693	52,834	\$22,872,262