

Top 10 VA Service-Connected Disabilities in 2023

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides disability compensation to veterans who suffer from injuries or illnesses incurred or aggravated during active military service. This benefit is designed to offset the average loss in earning capacity caused by these conditions.

Veterans must file a disability claim with the VA to receive this compensation. Claims are evaluated based on the VA's Schedule for Rating Disabilities, which assigns percentage ratings in increments of 10% to reflect the severity of the condition and its impact on the veteran's ability to work.

The process involves submitting evidence of the disability, undergoing medical evaluations, and often includes an appeals process for denied claims. The goal is to ensure that veterans receive the support they need for conditions related to their service.

Here are the top 10 VA disabilities claimed by veterans in 2023, along with their respective diagnostic codes (DC), overviews, and rating criteria:

1. Tinnitus (DC 6260)

- **Overview:** Constant ringing or noise in the ears, typically rated at 10%.
- **Rating Schedule:** 10%

2. Hearing Loss (DC 6100)

- **Overview:** Rated based on speech discrimination tests and audiometric tests, with ratings ranging from 0% to 100%.
- **Rating Schedule:** 0% to 100%

3. Limitation of Flexion, Knee (DC 5260)

- **Overview:** Rated based on the degree of motion limitation in the knee, typically ranging from 0% to 30%.
- **Rating Schedule:** 0% to 30%

4. Lumbosacral or Cervical Strain (DC 5237)

- **Overview:** Rated based on motion limitation and impact on daily activities, with ratings ranging from 0% to 100%.
- **Rating Schedule:** 0% to 100%

5. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) (DC 9411)

- **Overview:** Rated from 0% to 100% based on occupational and social impairment.
 - **Rating Schedule:** 0% to 100%
- 6. Paralysis of the Sciatic Nerve (DC 8520)**
- **Overview:** Rated based on the degree of paralysis or weakness in the sciatic nerve, ranging from mild to complete paralysis (10% to 80%).
 - **Rating Schedule:** 10% to 80%
- 7. Limitation of Motion of the Arm (DC 5201)**
- **Overview:** Rated based on the degree of motion limitation in the arm, typically ranging from 20% to 40%.
 - **Rating Schedule:** 20% to 40%
- 8. Limitation of Motion of the Ankle (DC 5271)**
- **Overview:** Rated based on the degree of motion limitation in the ankle, typically ranging from 10% to 20%.
 - **Rating Schedule:** 10% to 20%
- 9. Migraine Headaches (DC 8100)**
- **Overview:** Rated based on the frequency and severity of migraine attacks, ranging from 0% to 50%.
 - **Rating Schedule:** 0% to 50%
- 10. Diabetes Mellitus (DC 7913)**
- **Overview:** Rated based on the level of control achieved through diet, medication, and insulin, with ratings ranging from 10% to 100%.
 - **Rating Schedule:** 10% to 100%

If you would like a more comprehensive step-by-step guide in navigating the medical and legal process with the Department of Veterans Affairs, please let us know.

Note: For a comprehensive understanding, you can refer to the full 2023 Disability & Compensation Report available [here](#).