



OFFICE OF GOVERNOR SCOTT WALKER  
STATE OF WISCONSIN

**2018 STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS:  
MILITARY AND VETERANS FACT SHEET**

*Next to my wife is Major General Donald Dunbar who is the Adjutant General of the 10,000 strong men and women of the Wisconsin National Guard. Thank you for your service, General Dunbar.* ([Wisconsin National Guard](#), Accessed 1/11/18)

*In September, General Dunbar, Chief Master Sergeant Thomas Safer and I had an opportunity to visit members of the 115th Fighter Wing from here in Madison while they were deployed to Kunsan Air Base in South Korea.* (Colby Hardin, "Wisconsin Governor, Adjutant General Visit Korea Showing Wisconsin ANG Their Support," [Kunsan Air Base](#), 9/18/17)

*Commanding Officer Bart Van Roo, who I had the honor of flying with in a F-16 in the past, and 255 airmen were deployed to one of the most intense spots in the world - South Korea.* (Senior Airman Colby L. Hardin, 8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs, "Kunsan Hosts Wisconsin Governor, Adjutant General," [Department of Military Affairs](#), 9/20/17)

*While we were there, we met Seventh Air Force Commander Lt. General Thomas Bergeson, a 1981 graduate of Wisconsin Rapids High School.* (Judy Steffes, "Korean War Vets from WASH. Co. Receive Peace Medal," [Washington County Insider](#), 9/23/16; [Lincoln High School Graduates](#), Compiled by: Marlys Manley Steckler, Completed February 2000)

*And, as if that wasn't enough, the commander of the 115th, Colonel Erik Peterson and many of the remarkable men and women of the Wisconsin National Guard joined me last month as we announced that Wisconsin had been selected to host the brand-new F-35A Lightning II fighter jets at Truax Field. Out of all the states in America, we had the number one location. I am looking forward to hearing the F-35s take off. That's the sound of freedom. Congratulations to this outstanding team! Many of them are here with us tonight.* (Steven Verburg, Madison Picked for F-35 Fighter Jets," [Wisconsin State Journal](#), 12/22/17; U.S. Air Force, "F-35A Ops 5 and 6 Congressional Brief," Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, 12/21/17)

*We offer 23 benefits for our veterans while the next closest state offers 21.* (Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs)

*Our veterans can attend college tuition free, and we expanded eligibility so more of our veterans' spouses and families can, too.* (Working and Winning for Wisconsin, [2017-19 Veto Message](#), State Budget Office)

*And U.S. News & World Report ranks our veterans homes among the best in the country.* (Best Nursing Homes Ranking, [U.S. News & World Report](#), Accessed 1/19/18)