



## Mild TBI and Veterans Disability

How Does Mild TBI Impact Service-Connected Disability Ratings?

Disabilities due to serving in the military are rated from 0 to 100% and used to determine the amount of disability benefits a Veteran receives. This study looked at whether having concussions and other factors affected service-connected disability ratings. More than 8 out of 10 of the study participants had at least one concussion. Here are the main findings:

- ★ More than 8 of 10 Veterans had one or more disabilities and a service-connected disability rating greater than 0%.
- ★ Higher service-connected disability ratings seen when the Veteran had at least one concussion and the rating increased with each additional concussion.
- ★ Blast-related concussion increased disability ratings the most.
- ★ Excessive alcohol use lowered the Veteran's service-connected disability rating.



For more information on CENC visit:

<http://www.cencstudy.org>

### **Reference:**

Dismuke-Greer, C.E., Nolen, T.L., Nowak, K., Hirsch, S., Pogoda, T.K., Agyemang, A. A., et al. (2018). Understanding the impact of mild traumatic brain injury on veteran service-connected disability: Results from chronic effects of neurotrauma consortium. *Brain Injury*, 1-10. doi:10.1080/02699052.2018.1482428