World War II: 70 Years On

On May 8, 1945, the Allied countries of World War II formally accepted Germany’s unconditional surrender of its military. Victory in Europe (V-E) Day marked the end of World War II in Europe. August 14, 1945, Victory Over Japan (V-J) Day marked the day Japan unconditionally surrendered to the Allies, effectively ending World War II.

Living U.S. World War II Veterans

28% of all males 18 and over in 1950 were WWII veterans

Women in World War II
Total: 342,000
Died: 217

Active Duty Military Strength Totals 1940–2011

Data Sources:
U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States, 2003 (Table 523, page 348)
American Community Survey, 2010 and 2013
IPUMS-USA, University of Minnesota, Online Data Analysis System, www.ipums.org