



How often six symptom terms appeared in published granted Board decisions from RateMyVSO’s PTSD stressor-proof research sample.

RESEARCH SCAN

172,640

Published decisions matching the PTSD stressor-proof research criteria

CHART DENOMINATOR

27,653

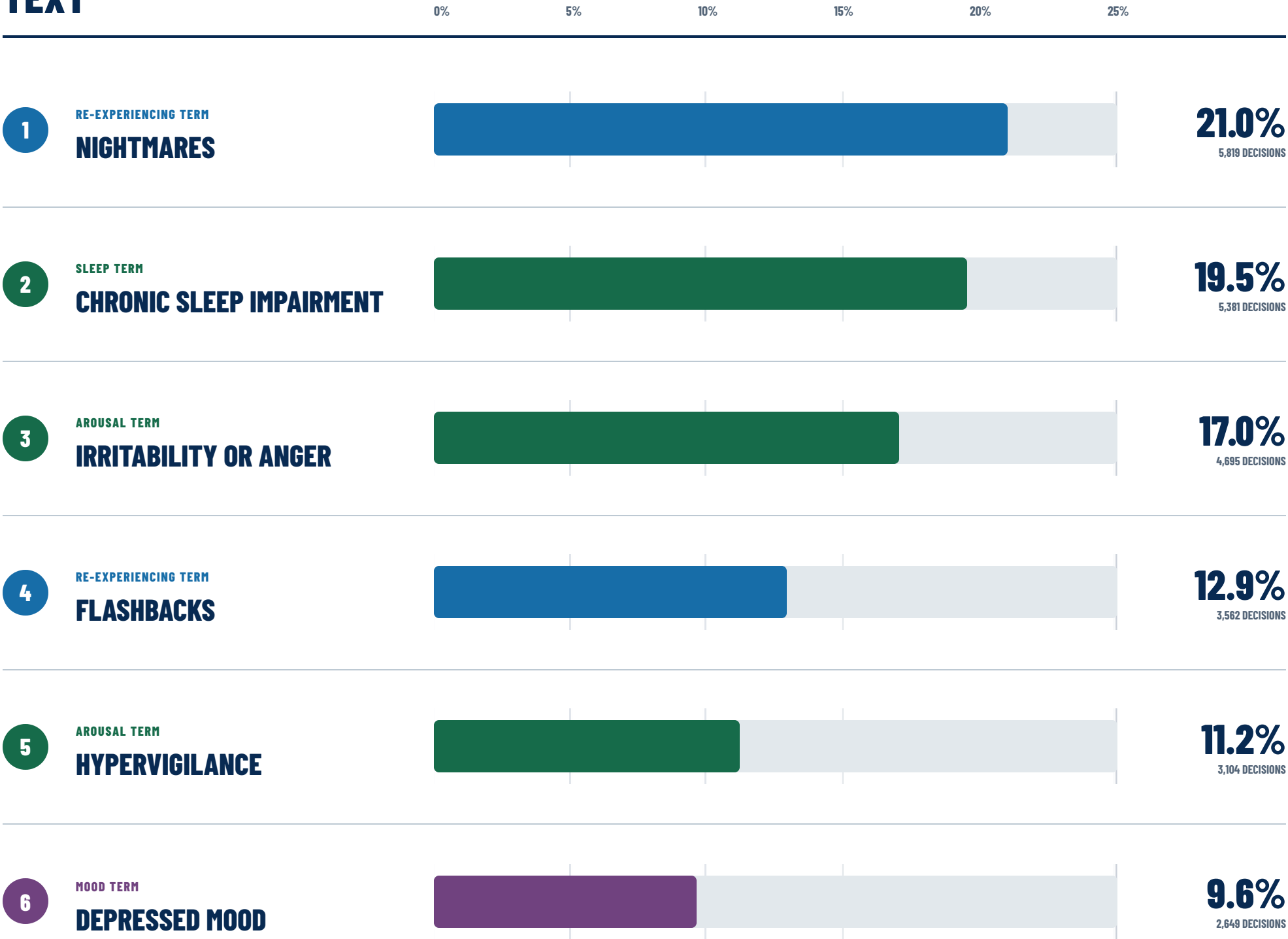
Granted decisions searched for the six displayed terms

FREQUENCY

TERM MENTIONS ÷ 27,653 GRANTED DECISIONS

DOCUMENTATION FREQUENCY

TERMS FOUND IN DECISION TEXT



TRANSLATE THE METRIC CORRECTLY

21.0% DOES NOT MEAN ONLY 21.0% HAD NIGHTMARES

IT MEANS

The nightmares term was detected in 5,819 of the 27,653 granted decision texts searched.

IT DOES NOT MEAN

Only 21.0% of the Veterans experienced nightmares or that nightmares were required for the grant.

CATEGORIES OVERLAP

ONE DECISION MAY MENTION SEVERAL SYMPTOMS

These percentages should not be added together. Each term was counted independently within the same granted-decision sample.

RESEARCH BOUNDARIES

DECISION TEXT IS A SELECTIVE RECORD

Not prevalence: Board decisions do not list every symptom each Veteran experienced.

Not causation: A term appearing in a granted decision does not show that it caused the grant.

Not rating criteria: The six displayed terms are not a checklist for any evaluation percentage.

Not all claims: Published Board decisions are appeals, not the full initial-claim population.

REPORT SYMPTOMS ACCURATELY. Do not copy terms from a chart into a claim. Describe the symptoms and functional effects that are genuinely present in the individual record.

