

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
2019 SURVEY OF VETERANS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
MAY 14 – JUNE 3, 2019  
TOTAL N=1,284<sup>1</sup>**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.**

	<b>Sample size</b>	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b>
U.S. veterans	1,284	+/- 3.9 percentage points
<i>Pre-9/11</i> <sup>2</sup>	797	+/- 4.6 percentage points
<i>Post-9/11</i>	487	+/- 6.5 percentage points

**ASK ALL:**

ERAACS

When did you serve on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces?

Please choose EACH period in which you served, even if just for part of the period.

**[SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

U.S. veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
19	September 2001 or later	-	100
24	August 1990 to August 2001 (including Persian Gulf War)	20	41
30	May 1975 to July 1990	33	14
40	Vietnam era (August 1964 to April 1975)	48	2
13	February 1955 to July 1964	16	*
4	Korean War (July 1950 to January 1955)	5	0
0	January 1947 to June 1950	0	0
*	World War II (December 1941 to December 1946)	*	0
0	November 1941 or earlier	0	0
0	No answer	0	0

<sup>1</sup> This survey includes 313 responses from members of Ipsos' KnowledgePanel who participated in this survey in addition to 971 respondents from the ATP. Respondents were identified as veterans by their answer to a question on a previous survey and their status was confirmed in this survey. In order to analyze the opinions and experiences by period of service, the survey includes an [oversample](#) of post-9/11 veterans. The data are weighted to be representative of the population of U.S. veterans as a whole. See [Methodology](#) for details.

<sup>2</sup> Throughout this topline, all references to "pre-9/11" veterans refer to those who served only before September 11, 2001. Any veterans who served both before and after that date are included in the post-9/11 population.

**ASK ALL:**

BRANCH

In which branch or branches did you serve on active duty?

Please choose EACH branch in which you served.

**[SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
40	Army	40	40
26	Navy	27	20
19	Air Force	19	19
12	Marines	12	13
*	Coast Guard	*	1
6	Army National Guard	5	14
4	Army Reserves	3	5
4	Navy Reserves	5	2
2	Air Force Reserves	1	4
1	Marine Reserves	1	2
*	Coast Guard Reserves	*	*
1	Air National Guard	1	4
0	Other, specify	0	0
1	No answer	1	0

**ASK ALL:**

E2MOD

Are you now enrolled in school, either full or part-time, or not?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
3	Yes, full-time student	1	12
1	Yes, part-time	1	4
96	No	98	84
*	No answer	*	0

**ASK ALL:**

E3MOD

**[IF E2MOD=1,2: Some students also do some type of work for pay.]** Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
33	Full-time	26	66
11	Part-time	12	9
56	Not employed	63	25
*	No answer	*	*

**SATLIFE HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****TRUMPCMD TO SYRIAWRTH PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL<sup>3</sup>:**

MILCIV

Do you think each of the following words and phrases [**RANDOMIZE:** (better describe those who have served in the military), or (better describe those who have NOT served in the military)]? [**RANDOMIZE ITEMS; SHOW ON THREE PAGES WITH THREE ITEMS PER PAGE; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS STEM, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST**]

## a. Disciplined

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
84	Better describes those who have served in the military	82	88
3	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	3	2
12	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	13	8
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

## b. Hard-working

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
54	Better describes those who have served in the military	54	52
2	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	2	2
42	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	42	43
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

## c. Patriotic

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
71	Better describes those who have served in the military	71	69
2	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	1	3
26	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	26	26
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	2

<sup>3</sup> Due to a programming error, n=118 respondents received an incorrect version of MILCIV. A total of n=103 responded to a recontact survey with the correct version of MILCIV and are included. The n=15 respondents who received the incorrect version of MILCIV and did not respond to the recontact survey are set to missing. A total of n=1,166 respondents received the correct version of the MILCIV initially.

**MILCIV CONTINUED ...**

## d. Prone to violence

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
9	Better describes those who have served in the military	8	12
21	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	21	19
68	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	68	68
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

## e. Rigid and inflexible

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
24	Better describes those who have served in the military	23	26
19	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	19	23
55	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	56	49
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

## f. Emotionally unstable

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
13	Better describes those who have served in the military	12	16
20	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	20	21
65	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	66	61
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

## g. Loyal

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
68	Better describes those who have served in the military	68	68
1	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	1	1
29	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	29	29
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	2

**MILCIV CONTINUED ...**

h. Tolerant and open to all groups of people

<u>U.S veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
47	Better describes those who have served in the military	46	51
8	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	8	10
43	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	45	37
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

i. Independent thinker

<u>U.S veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
32	Better describes those who have served in the military	33	30
12	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military	11	16
54	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this	54	52
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	1

**MILPOLICY PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****ASK ALL:**

JOIN Would you advise a young person close to you to join the military?

<u>U.S veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
79	Yes, would advise joining	78	81
20	No, would not advise joining	21	17
1	No answer	1	2

**SHOW ALL:** The remainder of this survey is going to ask about your experiences in the military and in transitioning to civilian life. You're always free to skip a question if you're not comfortable answering it, and you can exit the survey at any time.**ASK ALL:**

YEARSERV Altogether, how many years did you serve on active duty?

<u>U.S veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
24	2 years or less	26	16
44	3-4 years	48	27
16	5-9 years	13	30
4	10-19 years	3	8
11	20 years or more	9	20
*	No answer	*	0

**ASK ALL:**

RANK

At the time of your **[IF MORE THAN ONE ITEM SELECTED IN BRANCH: most recent]** discharge or retirement, were you a...

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
10	Commissioned officer	9	12
33	Non-commissioned officer	32	37
1	A warrant officer	1	2
54	An enlisted person	56	46
1	Not discharged—In National Guard/ Reserves	*	3
1	No answer	1	*

**ASK IF SERVED AFTER 9/11 OR SKIPPED (ERAACS=1,99) [n=487]:**

SERVIRAQ Did you serve in Iraq, off the coast of Iraq, or did you fly missions over Iraq at any time since March 2003?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
41	Yes, have done at least one of these	-	41
58	No, have not done any of these	-	58
1	No answer	-	1

**ASK IF SERVED AFTER 9/11 OR SKIPPED (ERAACS=1,99) [n=487]:**

SERVAFGHAN Did you serve in Afghanistan, or did you fly missions over Afghanistan at any time since October 2001?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
21	Yes, have done at least one of these	-	21
78	No, have not done any of these	-	78
1	No answer	-	1

**ASK ALL:**

MARRACTIV Were you married at any point when you were on active duty?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
47	Yes, married at some point while on active duty	45	57
52	No, never married while on active duty	55	42
*	No answer	*	1

**ASK ALL:**

PARACTIV Were you the parent of a child younger than 18 when you were on active duty?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
31	Yes, parent of a child younger than 18 while on active duty	29	41
68	No, not a parent of a child younger than 18 while on active duty	71	58
1	No answer	1	1

**FAMNEEDS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

DEPLOY During your military service, how many times, if any, were you deployed away from your permanent duty station?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
38	None	41	22
32	1-2 times	29	44
21	3-7 times	21	23
8	8 or more times	8	10
1	No answer	1	*

**ASK IF EVER DEPLOYED (DEPLOY=2-4) [n=848]<sup>4</sup>:**

IMPCTDEPLOY Overall, did your [**IF (DEPLOY=2)**: deployment; **IF (DEPLOY=3-4)**: deployments] have a [**RANDOMIZE**: (positive impact), a (negative impact)] or no impact on each of the following? [**RANDOMIZE ITEMS; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS STEM, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST**]

## a. Your financial situation

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
38	Positive impact	30	67
13	Negative impact	13	12
47	No impact	55	21
1	Missing	1	1
*	No answer	1	*

## b. Your chances for promotion and advancement within the military

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
51	Positive impact	50	57
6	Negative impact	5	9
41	No impact	43	33
1	Missing	1	1
*	No answer	1	0

## c. Your physical health

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
28	Positive impact	25	38
23	Negative impact	21	31
47	No impact	52	30
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	1	0

## d. Your mental health

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
27	Positive impact	28	22
23	Negative impact	17	42
48	No impact	52	35
1	Missing	1	1
1	No answer	2	0

<sup>4</sup> Due to a programming error, n=80 respondents received an incorrect version of IMPCTDEPLOY. A total of n=70 responded to a recontact survey with the correct version of IMPCTDEPLOY and are included. The n=10 respondents who received the incorrect version of IMPCTDEPLOY and did not respond to the recontact survey are set to missing. A total of n=768 respondents received the correct version of IMPCTDEPLOY initially.



**ASK ALL:**

COMBAT Did you ever serve in a combat or war zone?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
36	Yes, served in combat or war zone	31	58
63	No, did not serve in combat or war zone	68	41
1	No answer	1	*

**ASK IF EVER SERVED IN COMBAT ZONE (COMBAT=1) [n=540]:**COMBATEXP The next questions ask about some things you may or may not have experienced while serving in a combat or war zone. **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

a. Did you ever go on combat patrols or missions?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
55	Yes	51	66
43	No	48	32
1	No answer	1	2

b. Were you ever exposed to hostile fire or did you ever come under attack?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
65	Yes	63	69
35	No	37	30
*	No answer	*	1

c. Did you ever fire your weapon at the enemy?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
41	Yes	41	39
58	No	58	59
1	No answer	1	2

d. Did you ever personally witness someone from your unit or an ally unit being seriously wounded or killed?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
45	Yes	45	43
54	No	54	56
1	No answer	1	1

**ASK IF SAID YES TO ANY COMBAT EXPERIENCE (ANSWERS 1 TO ANY COMBATEXPa-d)**  
**[n=423]:**

COMBATRSLT Overall, would you say your experiences in combat... *Please select one choice from each group. [RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]*

a.

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
56	Changed your priorities about what is important in your life	55	58
16	Didn't change your priorities about what is important in your life	17	12
27	Didn't make much difference	26	27
2	No answer	1	3

b.

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
69	Made you feel closer to those who were in combat with you	65	77
4	Made you feel more distant from those who were in combat with you	5	1
25	Didn't make much difference	28	19
2	No answer	1	3

c.

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
67	Showed you that you were stronger than you thought you were	68	63
8	Showed you that you were not as strong as you thought you were	9	6
24	Didn't make much difference	21	29
2	No answer	2	2

d.

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
40	Strengthened your religious faith	43	33
10	Weakened your religious faith	7	16
48	Didn't make much difference	48	48
3	No answer	2	4

**ASK ALL:**

INJURED

Were you ever seriously injured while performing your duties in the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
3	Yes, in combat	3	3
15	Yes, but NOT in combat	14	19
2	Yes, both in combat and not in combat	1	3
79	No	80	74
1	No answer	1	1

**ASK ALL:**

KNOWINJURED Was anyone you knew and served with seriously injured while performing their duties in the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
35	Yes, some or all in combat	32	48
16	Yes, but NONE in combat	16	13
48	No	51	39
1	No answer	1	*

**ASK ALL:**

KNOWKILLED Was anyone you knew and served with killed while performing their duties in the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
30	Yes, some or all in combat	27	43
10	Yes, but NONE in combat	10	11
59	No	62	46
1	No answer	2	1

**ASK ALL:**

MILTRAIN

Thinking back to when you first entered the military, how well did the training you received prepare you for life in the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
52	Very well	53	46
39	Somewhat well	38	45
6	Not too well	6	6
2	Not well at all	2	2
1	No answer	*	1

**ASK ALL:**  
MILTOCIV

How well did the military prepare you for the transition to CIVILIAN life?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
16	Very well	17	15
36	Somewhat well	36	36
30	Not too well	30	32
15	Not well at all	15	15
2	No answer	2	1

**ASK ALL:**  
CIVADJAfter your military service, would you say your re-adjustment to civilian life was...  
**[REVERSE RESPONSE OPTIONS FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE]**

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
34	Very easy	38	19
38	Somewhat easy	40	32
20	Somewhat difficult	17	32
6	Very difficult	4	16
1	No answer	1	1

**ASK ALL:**  
VAJOB

How would you rate the job the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is doing today to meet the needs of military veterans?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
9	Excellent	8	10
37	Good	38	31
37	Only fair	37	38
15	Poor	14	21
2	No answer	2	*

**ASK ALL:**  
VABENEFITS

Have you received any benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)? These would include educational or medical benefits, job training, a home loan, pension or other kinds of benefits.

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
73	Yes	71	81
27	No	29	19
*	No answer	*	*

**ASK ALL:**  
GOVHELP

Overall, thinking about the help the government has given you as a veteran, do you think the government has given you... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2 WITH 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
3	More help than it should have		2	7
30	Less help than it should have		27	43
64	About as much help as it should have		68	49
2	No answer		2	2

**ASK ALL:**  
CIVADJPROB

In the first few years after you left the military, did you ever... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

a. Have trouble paying bills

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
35	Yes, I have		33	45
64	No, I haven't		67	53
1	No answer		*	2

b. Receive food benefits (such as WIC or SNAP) from the government

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
12	Yes, I have		10	21
88	No, I haven't		90	78
1	No answer		*	1

c. Have trouble getting medical care when you or your family needed it

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
16	Yes, I have		13	29
83	No, I haven't		86	69
1	No answer		1	2

d. Receive unemployment compensation

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
28	Yes, I have		28	28
72	No, I haven't		72	71
*	No answer		*	2

e. Struggle with alcohol or substance abuse **(ANCHOR AS LAST ITEM)**

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
20	Yes, I have		19	24
80	No, I haven't		81	75
1	No answer		*	2

**ASK ALL:**  
CIVADJISS

In the first few years after you left the military, how often, if ever, did you...  
[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

## a. Feel disconnected from family or friends

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
8	Frequently		5	19
24	Sometimes		21	36
21	Seldom		21	20
47	Never		52	23
1	No answer		*	2

## b. Feel you did not get the respect you deserved as a military veteran

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
15	Frequently		16	13
29	Sometimes		29	30
23	Seldom		23	21
32	Never		32	35
1	No answer		1	2

## c. Feel optimistic about your future

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
47	Frequently		50	33
38	Sometimes		37	43
9	Seldom		7	19
6	Never		6	4
*	No answer		*	2

## d. Feel proud of your military service

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
68	Frequently		70	58
22	Sometimes		20	28
8	Seldom		7	10
1	Never		1	2
1	No answer		1	2

## e. Have difficulty dealing with the lack of structure in civilian life

U.S			<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
<u>veterans</u>				
9	Frequently		6	23
23	Sometimes		21	33
24	Seldom		25	18
43	Never		48	24
1	No answer		*	2

**ASK ALL:**  
UPDOWN

In general, do you think that most Americans... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
61	Look UP to people who served in the military	60	62
9	Look DOWN on people who served in the military	9	12
30	Neither	31	25
*	No answer	*	2

**ASK IF EMPLOYED (E3MOD=1,2) [n=641]:**

WORKUPDOWN Thinking about the people you interact with at work, do you think that people who know about your military service generally... **[SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS UPDOWN, WITH OPTIONS 3 AND 4 ALWAYS LAST]**

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
43	Look UP to you because you served in the military	41	46
2	Look DOWN on you because you served in the military	1	5
26	Neither	25	29
28	The people I interact with at work mostly don't know about my military service	32	18
1	No answer	0	2

**ASK ALL:**  
HADJOB

When you left the military, did you have a civilian job lined up?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
25	Yes, had a job lined up	24	28
74	No, did not have a job lined up	75	70
1	No answer	1	2

**ASK IF DID NOT HAVE JOB LINED UP AFTER LEAVING MILITARY (HADJOB=2) [n=889]:**

LOOKJOB After you left the military, did you look for a civilian job?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
65	Yes, right away	68	54
28	Yes, but not right away	27	32
6	No, did not look for a job/retired from working	5	14
*	No answer	*	0

**ASK ALL:**

SCHOOL After you left the military, did you enroll in school?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
26	Yes, full-time	24	36
21	Yes, part-time	22	15
52	No, did not enroll in school	53	47
1	No answer	*	2

**ASK IF ALREADY HAD JOB OR LOOKED FOR JOB WHEN LEFT MILITARY (HADJOB=1 OR LOOKJOB=1,2) [n=1,201]:**

MILJOBSKILLS How useful was your military service in giving you the skills and training you needed for a job outside the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
29	Very useful	29	32
29	Fairly useful	28	31
26	Not too useful	27	23
16	Not at all useful	16	14
*	No answer	*	0

**ASK IF SERVED AFTER 9/11 AND LOOKED FOR JOB AFTER LEAVING MILITARY (ERAACS=1 AND LOOKJOB=1,2) [n=267]:**

FINDJOB How long did it take you to find a job when you started looking for a job after leaving the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
57	Less than six months	-	57
21	Six months to a year	-	21
16	More than a year	-	16
6	I didn't find one	-	6
0	No answer	-	0

**ASK IF SERVED AFTER 9/11 AND ALREADY HAD OR GOT A JOB AFTER LEAVING MILITARY (ERAACS=1 AND (HADJOB=1 OR FINDJOB=1-3)) [n=418]:**

JOBQUAL Thinking about your first job after you left the military...

Based on your experience, skills and training, did you feel you were... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
42	Overqualified for the job	-	42
12	Underqualified for the job	-	12
46	About right for the job	-	46
1	No answer	-	1



**ASK IF SERVED AFTER 9/11 AND ALREADY HAD OR GOT A JOB AFTER LEAVING MILITARY (ERAACS=1 AND (HADJOB=1 OR FINDJOB=1-3)) [n=418]:**

FIRSTJOB How long did you stay at the first job you got after leaving the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
20	Less than six months	-	20
24	Six months to a year	-	24
56	More than a year	-	56
-	No answer	-	0

**ASK IF SERVED AFTER 9/11 AND ALREADY HAD OR GOT A JOB AFTER LEAVING MILITARY (ERAACS=1 AND (HADJOB=1 OR FINDJOB=1-3)) [n=418]<sup>5</sup>:**

MILHELPJOB As far as you know, did the fact that you served in the military [help or hurt/hurt or help] your ability to get your first job after you left the military? [**REVERSE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4 FOR RANDOM HALF OF SAMPLE, WITH OPTION 5 ALWAYS LAST, ROTATE STEM TO MATCH RESPONSE OPTIONS**]

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
35	Helped a lot	-	35
26	Helped a little	-	26
4	Hurt a little	-	4
5	Hurt a lot	-	5
30	Neither helped nor hurt	-	30
*	Missing	-	*
0	No answer	-	0

**ASK ALL:**

TRAUMA1 Were there any specific experiences related to your military service that you found to be emotionally traumatic or distressing?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
30	Yes, have experienced this	25	47
69	No, have not experienced this	74	50
1	No answer	1	3

**ASK ALL:**

TRAUMA2 Have you ever sought help from a doctor, counselor or other health care professional for emotional issues resulting from your experiences in the military?

U.S veterans		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
15	Yes, have done this	10	35
84	No, have not done this	89	62
1	No answer	1	3

<sup>5</sup> Due to a programming error, n=23 respondents received an incorrect version of MILHELPJOB. A total of n=21 responded to a recontact survey with the correct version of MILHELPJOB and are included. The n=2 respondents who received the incorrect version of MILHELPJOB and did not respond to the recontact survey are set to missing. A total of n=395 respondents received the correct version of MILHELPJOB initially.

**ASK ALL:**  
TRAUMA3

Regardless of whether you have sought help, do you think you ever suffered from Post-Traumatic Stress as a result of your experiences in the military?

<u>U.S</u> <u>veterans</u>		<u>Pre-9/11</u>	<u>Post-9/11</u>
18	Yes, have experienced this	14	36
81	No, have not experienced this	85	61
1	No answer	1	3

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
2019 SURVEY OF VETERANS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
GENERAL PUBLIC: MAY 14 – 24, 2019  
U.S. VETERANS: MAY 14 – JUNE 3, 2019**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING. FOR THE SAMPLE OF U.S. VETERANS, THE QUESTIONS PRESENTED BELOW ARE PART OF A LARGER SURVEY. THE OTHER QUESTIONS ON THIS SURVEY HAVE EITHER BEEN PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE.**

	<b>Sample size</b>	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b>
General public	1,087	+/- 3.1 percentage points
U.S. veterans	1,284	+/- 3.9 percentage points

**ASK ALL<sup>6</sup>:**

MILCIV

Do you think each of the following words and phrases [**RANDOMIZE:** (better describe those who have served in the military), or (better describe those who have NOT served in the military)]? [**RANDOMIZE ITEMS; SHOW ON THREE PAGES WITH THREE ITEMS PER PAGE; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SAME ORDER AS STEM, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST**]

## a. Disciplined

<u>General public</u>	<u>U.S. veterans</u>	
67	84	Better describes those who have served in the military
3	3	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
26	12	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

## b. Hard-working

<u>General public</u>	<u>U.S. veterans</u>	
36	54	Better describes those who have served in the military
4	2	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
56	42	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

<sup>6</sup> Due to a programming error, several respondents across both samples received an incorrect version of MILCIV. These respondents were invited to a recontact survey. Those who completed the recontact survey are included in the data; those who did not are set to missing. The table below summarizes the disposition of both samples.

<u>General public</u>	<u>U.S. veterans</u>	
1,019	1,166	Received correct version
68	118	Received incorrect version
56	103	Responded to recontact survey; included in data
12	15	Did not respond to recontact survey; set to missing

**MILCIV CONTINUED ...**

## c. Patriotic

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
59	71	Better describes those who have served in the military
4	2	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
34	26	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
2	1	No answer

## d. Prone to violence

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
21	9	Better describes those who have served in the military
14	21	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
61	68	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

## e. Rigid and inflexible

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
29	24	Better describes those who have served in the military
11	19	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
55	55	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

## f. Emotionally unstable

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
25	13	Better describes those who have served in the military
10	20	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
60	65	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

## g. Loyal

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
48	68	Better describes those who have served in the military
3	1	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
45	29	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

**MILCIV CONTINUED ...**

h. Tolerant and open to all groups of people

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
19	47	Better describes those who have served in the military
17	8	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
59	43	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

i. Independent thinker

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
19	32	Better describes those who have served in the military
21	12	Better describes those who have NOT served in the military
56	54	Serving in the military doesn't have much to do with this
1	1	Missing
3	1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

JOIN

Would you advise a young person close to you to join the military?

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
45	79	Yes, would advise joining
50	20	No, would not advise joining
4	1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

UPDOWN

In general, do you think that most Americans... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
64	61	Look UP to people who served in the military
5	9	Look DOWN on people who served in the military
30	30	Neither
1	*	No answer