

**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. THE QUESTIONS PRESENTED BELOW ARE PART OF LARGER SURVEYS. THE OTHER QUESTIONS ON THESE SURVEYS 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% points
U.S. veterans	1,284	+/- 3.9% points

**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPCMD Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his duties as commander-in-chief of the military?

**ASK IF NOT REFUSED (TRUMPCMD=1,2) [GP n=1,067; U.S. veterans n=1,262]:**

TRUMPCMD2 Do you [IF TRUMPCMD=1: approve; IF TRUMPCMD=2: disapprove] of the way Donald Trump is handling his duties as commander-in-chief of the military...

<u>General public</u>	<u>U.S. veterans</u>	
41	57	Net Approve
33	49	Very strongly
9	8	Not so strongly
*	1	No answer to TRUMPCMD2
57	41	Net Disapprove
37	33	Very strongly
19	8	Not so strongly
*	*	No answer to TRUMPCMD2
2	2	No answer to TRUMPCMD

**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPVET How much, if at all, do you think Donald Trump respects this country's military veterans?

<u>General public</u>	<u>U.S. veterans</u>	
30	48	A great deal
20	14	A fair amount
27	20	Not much
22	18	Not at all
1	*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

MILBUDGET

Given all the competing demands on the federal budget, do you think spending on the military should... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
31	39	Be increased
23	18	Be decreased
45	43	Stay about the same
2	*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPMIL

So far, do you think the policies of the Trump administration have made the U.S. military... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
31	48	Stronger
27	23	Weaker
40	28	Not made much of a difference
2	1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPTRST

In general, how much, if at all, do you trust Donald Trump to make the right decisions about... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

a. The use of military force

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
22	34	A great deal
20	24	A fair amount
21	15	Not much
35	26	Not at all
2	*	No answer

b. The use of nuclear weapons

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
21	36	A great deal
20	22	A fair amount
19	12	Not much
38	30	Not at all
2	*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPRELY

In making important national security decisions, do you think that Donald Trump relies on military leaders... **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
6	4	Too much
51	45	Too little
40	50	About the right amount
3	1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

TRUMPAPPROV

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is dealing with... **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

a. Russia

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
18	30	Strongly approve
21	24	Somewhat approve
19	14	Somewhat disapprove
38	32	Strongly disapprove
3	1	No answer

b. North Korea

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
20	35	Strongly approve
24	25	Somewhat approve
21	16	Somewhat disapprove
32	23	Strongly disapprove
3	1	No answer

c. Our NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) allies

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
20	34	Strongly approve
22	22	Somewhat approve
20	13	Somewhat disapprove
35	29	Strongly disapprove
4	1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**  
MILPOLICYDo you approve or disapprove of each of the following? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

- a. Banning transgender people from serving in the military

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
18	35	Strongly approve
15	17	Somewhat approve
24	17	Somewhat disapprove
40	29	Strongly disapprove
4	1	No answer

- b. Creating a new branch of the military called the Space Force

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
10	15	Strongly approve
26	30	Somewhat approve
27	22	Somewhat disapprove
33	31	Strongly disapprove
4	2	No answer

- c. Withdrawing the United States from the Iran nuclear weapons agreement

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
19	38	Strongly approve
21	15	Somewhat approve
29	18	Somewhat disapprove
26	28	Strongly disapprove
5	1	No answer

- d. Sending troops to the U.S.-Mexican border to deal with migrants coming to the U.S.

General <u>public</u>	U.S. <u>veterans</u>	
28	42	Strongly approve
20	16	Somewhat approve
17	10	Somewhat disapprove
33	30	Strongly disapprove
2	1	No answer