



CONCERNED VETERANS FOR AMERICA

2021 NATIONAL ONLINE SURVEY

2021 SURVEY

Dec 22, 2020 – Jan 6, 2021

N = 800 US general population

N = 800 military veterans

N = 800 military families

2020 SURVEY

Apr 7-10, 2020

N = 707 military veterans

*N = 803 military family
members*

2019 SURVEY

Apr 5-14, 2019

N = 800 military veterans

*N = 800 military family
members*

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- *Note the survey was not identical between the 2019, 2020, and 2021 editions. Some questions were removed, some question language was updated to be relevant, and the order of questions was changed. All changes are noted as far as possible.*
 - *An asterisk (*) in a response category means that less than 0.5% of respondents chose that response category, and a dash (-) represents no response or no data collected for that year for that question.*
 - *“GenPop” denotes U.S. general population respondents. “VETs” denotes military veteran respondents. “HHs” denotes military households including those with active service members.*
 - *Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.*
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1. From the list of issues below, please select the one you believe to be the **most important** issue facing the country today, and the one you believe to be the **least important** issue facing the country today.
(RANDOMIZED)

<i>MOST IMPORTANT</i>	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Healthcare	26%	19%	25%	27%	32%	17%	16%
Immigration and border security	12%	15%	12%	19%	14%	30%	22%
Spending and our national debt	13%	17%	14%	18%	11%	13%	9%
National security/military issues	8%	11%	10%	9%	10%	9%	12%
Energy and the environment	10%	6%	10%	7%	8%	5%	6%
Veterans issues	3%	4%	3%	7%	4%	4%	4%
Education	6%	5%	4%	3%	6%	2%	6%
Race Relations/Racism	9%	8%	10%	3%	5%	5%	7%
Taxes	6%	5%	4%	3%	4%	3%	4%
Other (please specify)	7%	9%	8%	4%	5%	2%	2%
Don't know	-	-	-	*	*	1%	1%

<i>LEAST IMPORTANT</i>	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Race relations/Racism	19%	27%	22%	24%	23%	26%	18%
Immigration and border security	17%	16%	19%	15%	14%	13%	14%
Energy and the environment	14%	17%	19%	15%	13%	15%	12%
Taxes	9%	9%	9%	11%	10%	8%	12%
Spending and our national debt	15%	10%	14%	7%	9%	7%	9%
Education	5%	6%	5%	7%	6%	7%	7%
National security/military issues	7%	5%	5%	3%	5%	2%	4%
Veterans issues	7%	4%	3%	3%	4%	3%	4%
Health care	3%	5%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Other (please specify)	3%	3%	3%	1%	2%	1%	*
Don't know	-	-	-	11%	12%	10%	12%

2. Should the United States be more or less militarily engaged in conflicts around the world, or stay about the same?

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
More	6%	8%	6%	7%	11%	6%	13%
Less	43%	56%	49%	57%	43%	48%	41%
Stay about the same	37%	31%	36%	34%	39%	43%	41%
Don't know	14%	6%	9%	3%	7%	3%	5%

3. If the President were to authorize that all U.S. troops be removed from Afghanistan, would you support or oppose that decision? (ROTATED)

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Strongly support	29%	42%	31%	37%	31%	28%	28%
Somewhat support	25%	25%	28%	36%	37%	31%	32%
Somewhat oppose	17%	18%	21%	15%	14%	23%	19%
Strongly oppose	7%	8%	6%	5%	5%	10%	11%
Don't know	22%	7%	13%	7%	12%	8%	10%

4. If the President were to authorize that all U.S. troops be removed from Iraq, would you support or oppose that decision? (ROTATED)

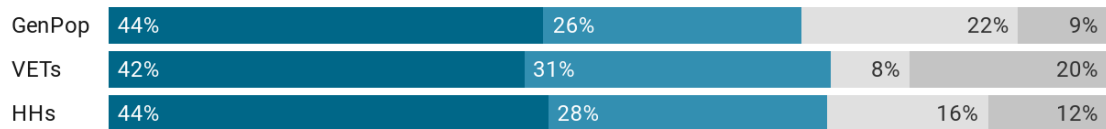
	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Strongly support	27%	40%	32%	35%	32%	-	-
Somewhat support	26%	28%	29%	36%	37%	-	-
Somewhat oppose	20%	18%	21%	16%	15%	-	-
Strongly oppose	6%	8%	6%	7%	5%	-	-
Don't know	20%	6%	13%	7%	11%	-	-

5. Do you favor the United States opting for more diplomacy or more military action on our relations with Iran?

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
More diplomacy	44%	42%	44%	-	-	-	-
More military action	9%	20%	12%	-	-	-	-
Keep the current amount of military action and diplomacy	26%	31%	28%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	22%	8%	16%	-	-	-	-

Do you favor opting for more diplomacy or more military action in our relations with Iran?

■ More diplomacy
 ■ Keep the current amount of military action and diplomacy
 ■ Not sure
 ■ More military action



6. NATO, or the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, is a military alliance of European and North American countries founded after World War II to defend against the Soviet Union. Do you think NATO is more or less relevant to today's world than it was 70 years ago?

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
More relevant	19%	25%	22%	-	-	-	-
Less relevant	32%	46%	40%	-	-	-	-
The same amount of relevance	28%	24%	26%	-	-	-	-
Not sure	20%	5%	11%	-	-	-	-

7. Which of the following should the United States do when it comes to spending on aid to foreign countries?

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Increase spending	10%	8%	9%	6%	9%	-	-
Decrease spending	47%	69%	58%	67%	56%	-	-
Keep spending levels about the same	24%	17%	23%	22%	24%	-	-
Don't know	20%	7%	10%	4%	11%	-	-

8. **2020 & 2019:** Which of the following should the United States do when it comes to spending on the military by the Pentagon? (ROTATED)

2021: Which of the following should the United States do when it comes to military spending? (ROTATED)

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Increase spending	24%	36%	30%	34%	26%	32%	31%
Decrease spending	29%	22%	31%	17%	23%	15%	24%
Keep spending levels about the same	31%	39%	33%	46%	41%	50%	38%
Don't know	16%	4%	6%	3%	10%	3%	7%

9. **2019:** As you might know, the U.S. national debt is more than \$22 trillion. How much of a threat do you believe the national debt is to our national security? (ROTATED)

2020: As you might know, the U.S. national debt is more than \$22 trillion and is likely to rise above \$25 trillion in the coming months. How much of a threat do you believe the national debt is to our national security? (ROTATED)

2021: As you might know, the U.S. national debt is more than \$27 trillion and likely to rise above \$30 trillion in the coming months. How much of a threat do you believe the national debt is to our national security? (ROTATED)

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Extreme threat	25%	37%	29%	29%	22%	31%	27%
Somewhat of a threat	35%	34%	38%	42%	45%	44%	45%
Very little threat	15%	19%	17%	19%	18%	18%	16%
No threat at all	7%	5%	5%	6%	6%	3%	5%
Don't know	19%	5%	11%	5%	8%	4%	8%

Thinking now about the Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA...

10. From what you know, how would you rate the overall quality of the benefits and services military veterans receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA? (ROTATED)

	GenPop	2021		2020		2019	
		VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Excellent	6%	11%	7%	11%	7%	8%	7%
Good	23%	38%	26%	33%	31%	31%	26%
Fair	27%	30%	32%	35%	33%	35%	34%
Poor	22%	16%	24%	18%	23%	23%	30%
Don't know	21%	6%	11%	4%	6%	2%	4%

11. And what about health care, specifically...how would you rate the quality of health care military veterans receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA? (ROTATED)

	GenPop	2021		2020		2019	
		VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Excellent	9%	13%	7%	11%	9%	8%	7%
Good	22%	35%	27%	33%	29%	31%	25%
Fair	27%	28%	32%	33%	31%	35%	35%
Poor	21%	16%	23%	17%	25%	22%	28%
Don't know	21%	9%	11%	6%	8%	3%	5%

12. Do you think the health care that U.S. veterans receive from VA medical facilities is generally better than, generally worse than, or about the same as health care that most Americans receive? (ROTATED)

	GenPop	2021		2020		2019	
		VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Generally better	13%	21%	15%	19%	18%	20%	17%
Generally worse	31%	35%	39%	38%	40%	42%	46%
About the same	30%	34%	31%	35%	29%	31%	28%
Don't know	25%	10%	15%	8%	12%	7%	9%

13. [Split sample | n = 400 for each group] Do you favor or oppose giving veterans the choice to use their VA health care benefits at medical facilities or health care providers outside of the VA's existing medical system? (ROTATED)

	GenPop	2021		2020		2019	
		VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Strongly favor	48%	58%	56%	56%	53%	53%	50%
Somewhat favor	24%	29%	31%	33%	35%	37%	36%
Somewhat oppose	6%	4%	3%	5%	5%	5%	6%
Strongly oppose	2%	3%	2%	2%	*	2%	2%
Don't know	20%	6%	8%	4%	7%	3%	5%

14. [Split sample | n = 400 for each group] Do you favor or oppose giving veterans the choice to use their VA health care benefits at medical facilities or health care providers outside of the VA's existing medical system, even if it means they could pay a little more out of pocket? (ROTATED)

	GenPop	2021		2020		2019	
		VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Strongly favor	36%	50%	51%	39%	39%	38%	36%
Somewhat favor	32%	36%	27%	40%	40%	41%	42%
Somewhat oppose	6%	7%	7%	12%	10%	11%	12%
Strongly oppose	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	6%	3%
Don't know	24%	4%	12%	5%	8%	4%	7%

15. Based on what you know, do you believe the VA has enough funding to take care of the needs of our nation's veterans? (ROTATED)

	GenPop	2021		2020		2019	
		VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Yes	17%	22%	16%	22%	21%	21%	26%
No	50%	54%	59%	58%	54%	58%	57%
Don't know	33%	25%	26%	20%	25%	20%	18%

Thinking now about your personal experience...

16. Regardless of whether or not you have accessed medical care through the VA, in your opinion, how easy or difficult is it to access medical care through the VA? Would you say it is...? (ROTATED)

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Very easy	4%	12%	5%	12%	5%	11%	7%
Somewhat easy	16%	29%	18%	24%	23%	24%	25%
Somewhat difficult	32%	35%	40%	41%	41%	38%	41%
Very difficult	10%	11%	13%	12%	14%	15%	16%
Don't know	38%	13%	24%	12%	18%	11%	12%

17. Regardless of whether or not you have accessed medical care through the VA, in your opinion, do you think the wait times to receive medical care at VA facilities are reasonable or unreasonable? Would you say they are...? (ROTATED)

	2021			2020		2019	
	GenPop	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs	VETs	HHs
Very reasonable	4%	10%	5%	9%	6%	8%	6%
Somewhat reasonable	16%	27%	18%	25%	27%	27%	23%
Somewhat unreasonable	29%	30%	34%	39%	35%	36%	38%
Very unreasonable	16%	17%	21%	16%	17%	21%	22%
Don't know	35%	16%	22%	11%	15%	8%	11%

METHODOLOGY

Data for 2021 was gathered by YouGov between December 22, 2020 and January 6, 2021. YouGov interviewed 862 respondents of the US general population, 922 active military and military veterans, and 930 respondents with a family member in the military. Each group was then matched down to a sample of 800 for an overall total of 2400 to produce the final dataset. The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The frame for the general population and veterans groups were constructed by stratified sampling from the full 2018 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year sample with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file). The frame for the family member group was created based on characteristics of respondents from the 2018 Cooperative Congressional Election Study who have family members in the military.

Data for 2019 and 2020 was gathered by Dynata. Interviews were conducted online April 7-10, 2020 among N=707 Veterans and N=803 Military Households using the Dynata Online Research Panel. The estimated margin of error for both samples is +/- 3.5 percentage points. Sampling frames and quotas were utilized to ensure appropriate sampling of the country's Veteran and Military Family populations. Research was conducted by Concerned Veterans for America.

Two additional questions, coming at the end of the survey, are omitted from reporting. The questions omitted pertain to name recognition and favorability toward organizations that serve the needs of veterans.
