

Support for Veterans: Attitudes of the General Public and Veterans

* TOPLINE RESULTS *

Interviews for this study were conducted on the SSRS Opinion Panel Omnibus, **October 3 – 5, 2025**, among a nationally representative sample of **1,144 adults, including an oversample of veterans**. The margin of error for total respondents is +/- 3.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The design effect is 1.39.

Characteristics of Population Subgroups

	Number of Interviews (unweighted)	Margin of Error at the 95% confidence level (percentage points)	Weighted % of total sample
Total adults	1144	+/-3.4	100
By veteran status			
Veteran	208	+/-8.6	6.4
Non-veterans	936	+/-3.6	93.6

The SSRS Opinion Panel Omnibus is a multi-client probability-based survey that fields twice a month. It delivers a nationally representative sample of 1000+ adults age 18 or older in English with a Spanish-language option. Data collection is conducted online and via phone (for non-internet and web-reluctant respondents) using the SSRS Opinion Panel. More information about SSRS is available at www.ssrs.com.

SPOT3. How well do you think the U.S. takes care of its veterans after they leave military service?

	Responses (in percent) of		
	Total adults	Veterans	Non-veterans
Very/somewhat well (NET)	42	66	41
Very well	7	21	7
Somewhat well	35	45	34
Not too/not at all well (NET)	58	34	59
Not too well	37	25	38
Not at all well	20	9	21
Don't know/refused/web blank	*	-	*

SPOT4. In your view, how important is it for the federal government to provide support to veterans, such as health care, job training, or housing assistance?

	Responses (in percent) of		
	Total adults	Veterans	Non-veterans
Extremely/very important (NET)	90	96	89
Extremely important	62	69	61
Very important	28	27	28
Somewhat important	7	4	7
Not too/not at all important (NET)	3	*	3
Not too important	1	*	1
Not at all important	2	-	2
Don't know/refused/web blank	-	-	-

SPOT5. When it comes to supporting veterans, which ONE of the following do you believe should be the federal government's highest priority?

	Responses (in percent) of		
	Total adults	Veterans	Non-veterans
Access to quality health care	35	48	34
Mental health support	31	19	32
Financial benefits (such as pensions or disability pay)	16	14	16
Job and career training	8	11	8
Housing assistance	6	4	6
Other (specify)	4	4	4
Don't know/refused/web blank	-	-	-

SPOT6. How do you think individuals and communities can support veterans beyond thanking them for their service?

(Open-ended, top responses for veterans and non-veterans)

Veterans	Non-Veterans
Providing Practical Support and Services , such as housing, healthcare, food, job opportunities, job training, and mental health care.	Recognition and Appreciation Beyond Words , such as holding parades, awareness events, or simply recognizing veterans more in the community.
Advocacy and Political Action , highlighting the importance of voicing veteran concerns to Congress, supporting legislators who fund veteran programs, and lobbying for better veteran assistance.	Personal Interaction and Social Support , such as offering a hand, socializing, communicating, or lending an ear to veterans.
Respect and Compassion , including treating veterans with respect, compassion, and understanding	Treating veterans with kindness, respect, and as equals , without singling them out or treating them differently from others
Community Involvement and Volunteering , such as volunteering at VA hospitals or clinics, contributing to veteran support organizations, and organizing community events or support groups.	Support Through Community Resources , such as supporting veteran-owned businesses, or having resources available in the community.
Facilitating Civilian Transition , such as support for education, scholarships, job training, and affordable housing.	Advocacy and Government Responsibility , expressing that supporting veterans is primarily the government's responsibility, rather than communities.

Demographics

ACTIVEDUTY. Have you or anyone in your household ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard?

	%
Veteran household, self or someone else in household is veteran (NET)	24
<i>Yes, myself (subnet)</i>	6
Yes, myself (only)	6
Yes, both myself and someone else in household	1
<i>Yes, someone else in household (only)</i>	17
No	76
Don't know/refused/web blank	-

SPOT2. Do you personally know a close friend or family member who has served in the U.S. military?

Based on those who said neither they nor anyone in their household ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard (n=751)

	%
Yes	74
No	26
Don't know/refused/web blank	-