

**Concerned Veterans for America**

Veterans Health Care Choice Survey – Interview Schedule

N=1,000 Registered Voters, with Oversample to reach N=260 Veterans

July 10-14, 2017

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Which of the following best describes your military service? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u>RVs</u>	<u>VETs</u>	
--	--	I am currently serving in the military on active duty
1%	--	I am currently serving in the military on reserve duty or in the National Guard
12%	100%	I am a military veteran
87%	--	I have not served in the military

Is anyone in your household currently serving in the military or a military veteran? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u>RVs</u>	<u>VETs</u>	
2%	3%	A member of my household is currently serving in the military on active duty
2%	1%	A member of my household is currently serving in the military on reserve duty or in the National Guard
19%	63%	A member of my household is a military veteran
78%	34%	No one in my household is currently serving or a military veteran

**ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAID THEY ARE CURRENTLY SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY, IN THE RESERVES, IN THE NATIONAL GUARD, OR A VETERAN:**

Which of the following best describes your military rank? **(ROTATED 1-3)**

52%	Enlisted member
37%	Non-commissioned officer
11%	Officer

Are any of your extended family members or close friends a military veteran? **(ROTATED 1-2)**

<u>RVs</u>	<u>VETs</u>	
69%	85%	Yes
31%	15%	No

**ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAID THEY ARE A VETERAN:**

Regardless of whether or not you have accessed medical care through the VA, in your opinion, how **(ROTATED)** easy or difficult **(END ROTATION)** is it to access medical care through the VA? Would you say it is... **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<b>40%</b>	<b>TOTAL EASY</b>
<b>61%</b>	<b>TOTAL DIFFICULT</b>
12%	Very easy
28%	Somewhat easy
43%	Somewhat difficult
18%	Very difficult

**ASKED ONLY OF THOSE WHO SAID THEY ARE A VETERAN:**

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 **(ROTATED)** reasonable or unreasonable? Would you say they are... **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<b>37%</b>	<b>TOTAL REASONABLE</b>
<b>64%</b>	<b>TOTAL UNREASONABLE</b>
12%	Very reasonable
25%	Somewhat reasonable
42%	Somewhat unreasonable
22%	Very unreasonable

Moving on...

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 1-4)**

<b><u>RVs</u></b>	<b><u>VETs</u></b>	
<b>31%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD</b>
<b>69%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAIR/POOR</b>
4%	14%	Excellent
27%	33%	Good
43%	37%	Fair
26%	16%	Poor

And what about health care, specifically...from what you know, how would you rate the quality of **health care** military veterans receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
<b>46%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>TOTAL GOOD</b>
<b>54%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>TOTAL NOT GOOD</b>
6%	17%	Very good
40%	43%	Somewhat good
41%	31%	Not too good
13%	8%	Not good at all

Do you think the health care provided to veterans from the VA has **(ROTATED)** gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same **(END ROTATION)** over the last five years? **(ROTATED 1-3)**

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
16%	28%	Gotten better
36%	32%	Gotten worse
49%	40%	Stayed about the same

Do you think the health care that U.S. veterans receive from VA medical facilities is **(ROTATED)** generally better than, generally worse than, or about the same as **(END ROTATION)** health care that most Americans receive? **(ROTATED 1-3)**

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
9%	12%	Generally better
52%	54%	Generally worse
39%	35%	About the same

How important is it to you that lawmakers in Washington improve the way in which health care services are provided to U.S. veterans? Is it... **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
<b>85%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>TOTAL EXTREMELY/VERY IMPORTANT</b>
<b>99%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>TOTAL EXTREMELY/VERY/SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT</b>
<b>15%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>TOTAL SOMEWHAT/NOT IMPORTANT</b>
49%	62%	Extremely important
36%	30%	Very important
14%	7%	Somewhat important
1%	1%	Not important

How much have you seen, read, or heard in the last few years about problems at the VA? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u>RVs</u>	<u>VETs</u>	
78%	95%	<b>TOTAL A LOT/SOME</b>
96%	99%	<b>TOTAL A LOT/SOME/NOT TOO MUCH</b>
22%	5%	<b>TOTAL NOT TOO MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL</b>

31%	55%	A lot
47%	40%	Some
18%	4%	Not too much
4%	1%	Nothing at all

Even if you haven't seen, read, or heard anything in the last few years about health care problems at the VA, would you **(ROTATED)** support or oppose **(END ROTATION)** efforts to reform the health care veterans receive in this country? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u>RVs</u>	<u>VETs</u>	
96%	98%	<b>TOTAL SUPPORT</b>
4%	2%	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>

65%	78%	Strongly support
31%	20%	Somewhat support
3%	2%	Somewhat oppose
1%	*	Strongly oppose

And, do you think problems at VA medical facilities are mostly due to: **(ROTATED 1-2)**

<u>RVs</u>	<u>VETs</u>	
7%	3%	Insufficient funding and resources
37%	49%	Bureaucracy and mismanagement of current funding and resources
56%	47%	A little of both
1%	1%	Something else (please specify)

Thinking some more about this...

Do you favor or oppose giving veterans more choices in their health care by allowing them to receive health care services from medical facilities or health care providers outside of the VA's existing medical system?

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
<b>95%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>
<b>5%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>

62%	73%	Strongly favor
33%	25%	Somewhat favor
4%	2%	Somewhat oppose
1%	1%	Strongly oppose

Do you favor or oppose giving veterans more choices in their health care by allowing them to receive health care services from 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?

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
<b>84%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>
<b>16%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>

39%	45%	Strongly favor
45%	35%	Somewhat favor
12%	14%	Somewhat oppose
4%	7%	Strongly oppose

Just so everyone is on the same page, below is a description of a current program designed to help improve the health care veterans receive.

In 2014, President Obama and Congress enacted the VA Choice Act to give veterans the ability to seek care outside of VA medical facilities. This legislation was intended to help alleviate delayed care that came to public view as a result of an enormous scandal involving wait time cover-ups—and potentially thousands of subsequent veteran deaths—at more than 100 VA facilities around the country.

Under this bill, veterans can seek health care outside the VA if they live more than 40 miles away from the nearest VA medical facility or if they cannot get an appointment from their local VA facility within 30 days.

Additionally, medical facilities outside the VA must be approved by the VA to give care, and the VA is responsible for scheduling all appointments for veterans at outside facilities.

With a few slight modifications, President Trump re-signed this legislation into law and eliminated the expiration date that would have ended the program later this year.

Knowing this, do you have a **(ROTATED)** favorable or unfavorable **(END ROTATION)** opinion of this program? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<u><b>RVs</b></u>	<u><b>VETs</b></u>	
<b>87%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVORABLE</b>
<b>12%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>TOTAL UNFAVORABLE</b>
36%	40%	Strongly favorable
51%	42%	Somewhat favorable
10%	12%	Somewhat unfavorable
2%	6%	Strongly unfavorable

Now, several elected officials have proposed enacting new legislation to reform the VA Choice Act in order to give veterans the option to use their health care benefits at either a VA health care facility or at a private medical provider of their choosing, without the limitations or restrictions of this current program.

Based on what you know, would you **(ROTATED)** support or oppose **(END ROTATION)** this new legislation? **(ROTATED 1-4)**

<b><u>RVs</u></b>	<b><u>VETs</u></b>	
<b>91%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>TOTAL SUPPORT</b>
<b>9%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>
50%	57%	Strongly support
41%	35%	Somewhat support
8%	7%	Somewhat oppose
1%	1%	Strongly oppose