American Directions Research Group

Questionnaire for the Online/Telephone¹ Survey of Non-Academic Audiences

INTRODUCTION FOR ONLINE RESPONDENTS

Welcome and thank you for responding to our survey. Your responses will help the National Cemetery Administration (Department of Veterans Affairs) design an NCA Educational Program that will make many of its historical resources available to organizations like yours and the people you serve. This survey should take about 15 minutes to complete. Your responses are private. They will be combined with those of other respondents and used for research purposes only. Your name will never be connected with your responses. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact (NAMES AND EMAILS OF DESIGNATED CONTACTS).

INTRODUCTION FOR TELEPHONE RESPONDENTS

(FOR RESPONDENTS WHO RECEIVE REMINDER PHONE CALLS AND WISH TO BE INTERVIEWED BY TELEPHONE RATHER THAN TAKING THE SURVEY ONLINE. THEY WILL HAVE RECEIVED THE EMAIL INVITATION, HAVE DISCUSSED THE SURVEY WITH THE INTERVIEWER, AND WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY.) Thank you for agreeing to participate in the survey. It should take about 15 minutes to complete. Your responses are private. They will be combined with those of other respondents and used for research purposes only. Your name will never be connected with your responses. IF NECESSARY: If you have any questions about the survey, please contact (NAMES AND EMAILS OF DESIGNATED CONTACTS).

THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 requires us to notify you that this information collected is in accordance with the clearance requirements of section 3507 of this Act. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. No person will be penalized for failing to furnish this information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. This collection of information is intended to fulfill the need identified by the Department of Veterans Affairs in their call for the development of needed improvements to the current National Cemetery Administration program. Your obligation to respond to this survey is voluntary and failure to furnish this information will have no effect on any current benefits.

¹ ADRG interviewers will call non-respondents to remind them to take the survey. In some cases, respondents will say they would prefer to be interviewed by telephone. For some questions, wording is different for the online and telephone versions. These differences are indicated throughout the questionnaire.



SCREENING QUESTION

А	Do you make or share in decisions about programs and other activities for your organization?		
0	Yes	SKIP TO Q1	
0	No	ASK QB	
0	Not Sure	ASK QB	

B We would appreciate it very much if you would provide the name and contact information of the person who is most involved in these types of decisions for your organization. *Please enter the name, email address and telephone number.* SUBMIT. Thank you for providing this important information and helping to make our study a success.

PERCEPTIONS ABOUT NATIONAL CEMETERIES

1	When you think of National Cemeteries, which ones – if any – come to mind?	
	OPEN END	

2	In what state are you located?	
	DROP DOWN MENU OR LISTS OF ALL STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	

3	To the best of your knowledge, is there a National Cemetery in your state?	
0	Yes	
0	No	
0	Not sure	

NATIONAL CEMETERIES AS A PLACE FOR LEARNING

4	Aside from funerals and burial services, what do you think are the main reasons people	
	might visit a National Cemetery? Please give up to five reasons.	
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.	

- 5 What do you think a person might learn by visiting a National Cemetery? *Please give up to five examples.* OPEN ENDED QUESTION.
- 6 Could you envision National Cemeteries as an educational tool with historic resources of interest to...?



RANDOMIZE ORDER.			
	Yes	No	Not Sure
Elementary school teachers and students	0	0	0
Middle school teachers and students	0	0	0
University students and professors	0	0	0
Genealogists and historical societies	0	0	0
Veterans groups	0	0	0
Scouts and volunteer groups	0	0	0
Veterans and their relatives and descendants	0	0	0
The general public	0	0	0

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE VISITING NATIONAL CEMETERIES

7	Have you ever visited a National Cemetery?	
0	Yes	
0	No	SKIP TO Q11
0	Not sure	SKIP TO Q11

8	What are the most memorable National Cemeteries you have visited? (ONLINE: <i>Please</i>		
	enter the names of up to 5 cemeteries.) (PHONE: PROBE FOR MULTIPLE RESPONSES.		
	ACCEPT UP TO 5. CHECK SPELLING IF NECESSARY.)		
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.		

9	About how many different National Cemeteries would you say you have visited? <i>Please</i> estimate if you are not sure.	
0	1	
0	2-4	
0	5-9	
0	10-19	
0	20 or more	
0	Not sure	

10	What were the reasons for your visit(s)? (ONLINE: <i>Please select all that apply.</i>) (PHONE:	
	Was it for READ?	
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.	
	A funeral or burial service	
	A walking tour of the grounds	
	Historical research	
	Genealogical research	
	Volunteer activities	
	An event commemorating the service of veterans, like Memorial or Veterans Day	



	An event commemorating the service of women or an ethnic group	
	Educational purposes	
	To visit monuments	
	To visit the graves of notable or interesting Americans	
	To visit the grave of an ancestor or family member	
	To visit the grave of a friend	
	To enjoy the beauty of the grounds or monuments	
	Historical touring	
	To visit a National Cemetery	
0	None of these reasons	

10A	Please describe any other reasons for your visit(s) to National Cemeteries?		
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.		

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

11	How often do you get requests for historical information and resources related to veterans or National Cemeteries from (INSERT FROM BELOW)? (PHONE, ADD: Is it very often, often,						
	sometimes, seldom or never	?)					
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.						
		Very Often	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Not Sure
1	Elementary teachers or students	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Middle school teachers or students	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	High school teachers or students	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	University professors or students	0	0	0	0	0	0

11A	(ASK ONLY IF Q11.2 IS AT LEAST "SOMETIMES.") What are the most common types of	
	requests that you receive from middle school teachers or students?	
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.	

11B	(ASK ONLY IF Q11.3 IS AT LEAST "SOMETIMES.") What are the most common types of	
	requests that you receive from high school teachers or students?	
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.	



11C			•			mon type	es of
	requests that you receive from university students or professors?						
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.						
12	How often do you get requests fo						
	or National Cemeteries from (INS	ERT FROM	BELOW)	? (PHONE, /	ADD: Is it v	ery ofter	, often,
	sometimes, seldom or never?)						
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.						
		Very	Often	Some-	Seldom	Never	Not
		Often		times	-		Sure
1	Veterans or their families	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Genealogists or descendants of	0	0	0	0	0	0
	veterans						
3	Tourists						
4	The general public	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Scouts or volunteer groups	0	0	0	0	0	0
12A	(ASK ONLY IF Q12.1 IS AT LEAST	SOMETIN	VES.") W	hat are the	most com	mon type	es of
	requests that you receive from	veterans o	r their fa	milies?			
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.						
12B	(ASK ONLY IF Q12.2 IS AT LEAST	"SOMETIN	∕IES.") W	hat are the	most com	mon type	es of
	requests that you receive from genealogists or descendants of veterans?						
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.	<u> </u>					
12C	(ASK ONLY IF Q12.3 IS AT LEAST	"SOMETIN	MES.") W	hat are the	most com	mon type	es of
	requests that you receive from		,			/1-	

OPEN ENDED QUESTION.

12D	(ASK ONLY IF Q12.4 IS AT LEAST "SOMETIMES.") What are the most common types of		
	requests that you receive from the public?		
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.		

12E	(ASK ONLY IF Q12.5 IS AT LEAST "SOMETIMES.") What are the most common types of	
	requests that you receive from Scouts or volunteer groups?	
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.	

13	How often do you get requests for historical information related to veterans or National		
	Cemeteries from community groups or organizations? (PHONE, ADD: Is it very often,		
	often, sometimes, seldom or never?)		
0	Very often		
0	Often		



0	Sometimes	
0	Seldom	
0	Never	SKIP TO BOX BEFORE Q17
0	Not Sure	SKIP TO BOX BEFORE Q17

13A	(ASK ONLY IF Q13 IS AT LEAST "SOMETIMES.") What are the most common types of		
	requests that you receive from community groups or organizations?		
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.		

14	What types of organizations make these types of requests? Please select all that apply.	
	RANDOMIZE ORDER	
	Veterans' organizations	
	Major museums	
	Libraries	
	Military museums	
	Organizations or websites serving amateur genealogists	
	Historical associations	
	Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts	
	Amateur preservation societies	
	National Association of Interpreters (NAI)	
	Smaller local or county museums	
	YMCA-YWCA	
	Associations that study grave stones	
	The National Park Service	
	War museums or museums about prisoners of war	
	Tourist boards	
	Other volunteer groups	
0	None of these	

14A	From what other types of organizations – if any – do you receive requests for historical
	information or resources?
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.

15	Generally speaking, how often are you or your organization able to provide the types of		
	resources that people and organizations request about veterans and National		
	Cemeteries? (PHONE, ADD: Is it very often, often, sometimes, seldom or never?)		
0	Very often		
0	Often		
0	Sometimes		
0	Seldom		



0	Never	
0	Not Sure	

16	What types of historical resources would you like to have that you don't have now?	
	OPEN ENDED QUESTION.	

WHAT TYPES OF INFORMATION AND RESOURCES WOULD THEY USE?

SHOW	National Cemeteries were established during and soon after the Civil War. The	
(READ)	Department of Veterans Affairs operates most of them, but some, such as Gettysburg	
	and Arlington, are operated by other federal agencies. The Department of Veterans	
	Affairs operates 131 National Cemeteries in the United States, with at least one in	
	most states. An important part of their mission is to preserve historical resources that	
	memorialize veterans and shed light on our nation's history. The goal of the NCA	
	Educational Program is to inform people and organizations about these resources and	
	make them more accessible to the public.	

Interest in Types of Resources

17	(ONLINE: Listed below are some of the types of historical resources that have been	
	preserved at National Cemeteries operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs.	
	Please select all of those that you or others in your organization might be interested in	
	knowing more about.)	
	(PHONE: I'll read a list of types of historical resources that have been preserved at	
	National Cemeteries operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs. As I read each one,	
	please tell me whether or not you or others in your organization would be interested in	
	knowing more about it.)	
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.	
	Maps, architectural drawings or plans	
	Headstones and markers – styles, symbolism	
	Monuments, memorials, and sculpture	
	Interpretive plaques, markers or displays	
	Plaques with poetry or speeches	
	Lodges, walls or gates	
	Rostra, shelters, columbaria	
	Postcards, prints, drawings, stereoscopes or other images	
	Documents, including forms, policies, correspondence, deeds, journals, reports	
	Burial ledgers and records	
	Videos, tapes, CDs, recordings of notable events	
	Oral histories	
	Music or information about music used at events	
	Events at the cemetery – programs, flyers, articles	
	Volunteer efforts at the cemetery	



0	None of these			
SHOV (READ				
designed mainly for people who visit National Cemeteries, while others will be				
	designed so that they can be used by people in any location.			
18	(ONLINE: The following programs could be designed mainly for visitors to National			
	Cemeteries. Please select all those that you or others in your organization are likely to			
	use.)			
	(PHONE: I'll read a list of programs that could be designed mainly for visitors to National			
	Cemeteries. As I read each one, please tell me whether or not you or others in your			
	organization would be likely to use it. READ)			
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.			
	Templates for a presentation for public events like Veterans' Day or Memorial Day			
	Templates for creating a visitors' guide to a National Cemetery			
	symbols)			
	Guides for analyzing cemetery landscapes (layout, architecture, design)			
	Suggested projects using biographies from National Cemeteries			
	Ideas for volunteer projects in a National Cemetery			
	Ready-to-use 40-60 minute presentations that highlight the history of National Cemeteries using			
	stories of veterans buried there			
	Templates for wreath laying ceremonies or other events			
	Templates for speeches, PowerPoint presentations or tours of a National Cemetery			
	Resource Guides listing the highlights of each National Cemetery			
	Information on traditions and services for honoring deceased veterans			
0	None of these			
19	(ONLINE) People in any location could use the following programs. Please select all those			
	that you or others in your organization are likely to use.			
	(PHONE: Now, I'll read a list of programs that could be designed mainly for visitors to			
	National Cemeteries. As I read each one, please tell me whether or not you or others in			
	your organization would be likely to use it. READ)			
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.			
	Virtual Cemetery Landscapes or Interactive maps of National Cemeteries			
	Template for creating digital guides or webpages about National Cemeteries			
	Illustrated guide to major monuments in National Cemeteries			

- UWebpage offering information on National Cemetery resources
- □ Virtual Tours (short videos on particular cemeteries & themes)
- Guidelines for designing period appropriate digital monuments for important events and individuals in American military history



	Background overview of the history of the National Cemeteries	
	Pinterest, Instagram, or Facebook pages with resources for individual cemeteries	
	Downloadable application for a guide to the National Cemeteries	
	Guide to creating oral histories through interviewing veterans	
	A group of speakers with expertise in cemetery history available to speak at events	
	Social media projects, e.g., Pinterest Boards, Facebook, Instagram, Genealogy Sites	
	Links to information about notable Americans (e.g., Medal of Honor recipients, Members of	
	Congress, spies, code breakers) buried in National Cemeteries	
	Biographies of veterans buried in National Cemeteries	
0	None of these	

20	(ONLINE: Teachers and students in middle schools and high schools or university		
_	students and their professors could use the following programs. Please select all those		
	that you or others in your organization are likely to use.) (PHONE: Now, I'll read a list of		
	programs that could be designed for teachers and students in middle schools and high		
	schools or for university students and their professors. As I read each one, please tell me		
	whether or not you or others in your organization would be likely to use it. READ)		
	RANDOMIZE ORDER.		
	Teachers' guides and templates, including background information, lesson plans and other		
	resources for educating students about National Cemeteries and their history		
	Lesson plans designed for Memorial Day or Veterans' Day		
	Web-based interactive projects for students, teachers or Scouts		
	Ideas for class projects using historical resources in National Cemeteries		
	Webpage offering information on National Cemetery resources for students and teachers		
	Geographic information systems or virtual landscapes for use by universities		
	Virtual landscapes for use by universities		
	Archival research for undergraduate and graduate university students		
	Digital projects designed for use by universities		
	Materials for the continuing education of adults		
	Opportunities for extended periods of research in cemeteries for professors		
	Summer seminars for teachers		
	Activities for analyzing historic illustrations or documents, including worksheets with questions		
	for each source		
0	None of these		

PROGRAM PREFERENCES

21	How important is it to you that the educational programs have a local or regional	
	connection? (PHONE: ADD: Is itREAD?)	
0	Extremely important	
0	Very important	
0	Somewhat important	



0	Not very important	
0	Not important at all	
0	Not Sure	

22	(ONLINE: Please select all of the formats that you believe would be effective for			
	educating middle school, high school or university students and, then, select the formats			
	that would be most effective for educating adults generally	<i>ı</i> .)		
	(PHONE: Now I will ask your opinion about the effectivenes	s of different fo	rmats for	
	presenting educational information.			
	A. As I read each format, please tell me whether or no	t you believe it v	would be	
	effective for educating middle school, high school, o	or university stu	dents.	
	B. (READ IMMEDIATELY AFTER RESPONSE TO A) Would	d that be effectiv	ve for	
	educating adults generally?)			
	RANDOMIZE ORDER Students Adults			
	Websites			
	Streaming video			
	DVDs			
	Educational or commemorative events			
	Printed materials (pamphlets, booklets, books, etc.)			
	PowerPoint presentations			
	Webinars \Box			
	Pinterest, Instagram, or Facebook pages			
	Streaming audio recordings			
	Not Sure O O			

OVERALL LEVEL OF INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM

23	Considering everything, how interested are you in using programs developed for the NCA	
	Educational Program? (PHONE: ADD: Is itREAD?)	
0	Extremely interested	
0	Very interested	
0	Somewhat interested	
0	Not very interested	
0	Not interested at all	
0	Not Sure	

24	Have you worked with any other federal, state or local government agencies on similar	
	educational efforts?	
0	Yes	
0	No	
0	Not Sure	





DEMOGRAPHICS

25	What is your current age?
0	18-24
0	25-34
0	45-54
0	55-64
0	65+
0	Decline to Answer

26	Are you of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin?	
0	Yes	
0	No	
0	Decline to Answer	

27	What is your primary racial heritage?
0	American Indian or Alaska Native
0	Asian, Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian
0	Black or African American
0	White or Caucasian
0	Another race: please specify
0	Decline to Answer

28	(ONLINE: Please enter your job title). (PHONE: Please tell me your job title.)
	ENTER TITLE

29	(ONLINE: What is your gender?). (PHONE: OBSERVE GENDER. ASK ONLY IF NECESSARY.)		
	Male		
	Female		

30	Finally, may we re-contact you for follow-up research at a later date?	
0	Yes	
0	No	
0	Not Sure	

Thank you very much for taking time to complete this survey. Your responses will help the National Cemetery Administration design an Educational Program that will make many of its historical resources available to organizations like yours and the people you serve.