



2022 Status of Forces Survey of Reserve Component Members

Welcome

You have been selected to take a survey about your attitudes and perceptions of personnel policies for Reserve component members. When you click the *Continue* button below, you will be asked to:

- Create a Personal Identification Number (PIN)
- Read the Privacy Advisory
- Take the survey

Thank you for your time and participation.

Read the [FAQ](#) for additional information.

[How do I know this is an official, approved DoD survey?](#)

- All multi-component data collections in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) or an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number and expiration date. The license for this survey is 0704-0616, expiring {OMB_DATE}.

[Security Protection Advisory](#)

WEBSITE PRIVACY: Neither the Department of Defense (DoD) nor Data Recognition Corporation will collect personal information about you when you visit this website unless you choose to provide it yourself. If you provide personal information, it will be treated as private.

In addition, our system does not enable "cookies," which are files placed on your computer's hard drive in order to monitor your use of the site or the web. For more information about your privacy rights, please read the Privacy Advisory at the beginning of the survey.

This website collects information from your visit to assist the DoD and our survey contractor improve the website and the performance of our web-based surveys. This non-personal information helps us make the site more useful by recognizing the types of technology being used. The data collected are listed below:

1. The Internet Protocol (IP) address for the computer and the server being used on the Internet (for example, www.verizon.com, www.comcast.com, 122.3.55.34). Depending on your Internet service provider, IP addresses may identify your computer; in other cases, they identify no more than your Internet service provider (such as Verizon or Comcast).
2. The device used to access the survey (e.g., PC, tablet, or mobile phone).
3. The type and version of the browser and operating system used to access our site.
4. The date and time this site was accessed.
5. Number of bytes sent and received.
6. The pages visited.

This information is stored permanently for troubleshooting technical problems and for future capacity planning. DoD and its survey contractor use this information to improve the performance of the OPA survey website. None of this information will be revealed publicly or used to identify you or your responses.

[Section 508 Compliance](#)

The U.S. Department of Defense is committed to making electronic and information technologies accessible to individuals with disabilities in accordance with [Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act \(29 U.S.C. §794d\), as amended in 1999](#)

Send feedback or concerns related to the accessibility of this website to: DoDSection508@osd.mil

For more information about Section 508, please visit the [DoD Section 508 website](#)

Last Updated: 03/31/2021

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[Frequently Asked Questions / How to Contact Us](#)



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Create Your PIN

A **4-digit PIN** must be created to protect the privacy of your survey responses.

Write down your PIN. If you *forget* your PIN, we will **NOT be able to give it to you**, and you will **NOT be able to create a new one**.

Please enter your 4-digit PIN

Please re-enter your 4-digit PIN
and write down your PIN

To proceed with the survey, please click the *Continue* button below.

Continue



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Session cookies are needed for this site to operate properly. A session cookie is only contained in memory and is not saved permanently on your computer. Session cookies are destroyed when the browser is closed.

If cookies are disabled please enable them and return to the log on page by clicking the *Log on* button.



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Agency Disclosure Notice (ADN)

The public reporting burden for this collection of information, OMB Control Number: 0704-0616, is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or burden reduction suggestions to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, at whs.mc-alex.esd.mbx.dd-dod-information-collections@mail.mil (OMB Control Number: 0704-0616). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

Privacy Advisory

Your name and contact information have been used only for the distribution of this survey. Your responses to the demographic questions will allow DoD to better analyze all responses among varying demographic groups. Responding to this survey is voluntary. Most people can complete the survey in 20 minutes. There is no penalty to you if you choose not to respond. However, maximum participation is encouraged so the data will be complete and representative.

Additional Information

10 United States Code (USC), Sections 136, 2358, and 1782, and National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2016, Section 661, authorize the Department of Defense to conduct this survey. Information collected in this survey will be used to research a variety of topics, including activations/deployments and financial well-being. This information will assist in the formulation of policies which may be needed to improve programs and services for military members and their families. Reports will be provided to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, each Military Department, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Some findings may be published by the Office of People Analytics (OPA) or in professional journals, or presented at scientific conferences. Your responses could be used in future research. Results from these surveys will be posted on the web: <https://www.opa.mil>

OPA uses well-established, scientific procedures to randomly select a sample representing the Defense community based on combinations of demographic characteristics (for example, gender, race and ethnicity, and paygrade). Your responses will be kept private to the extent permitted by law. This is your chance to be heard on issues that directly affect you. While there is no direct benefit for your individual participation, your responses on this survey *make a difference*.

Identifying information will be used only by government and contractor staff engaged in, and for purposes of, survey research. For example, the research oversight office of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) and representatives of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) are eligible to review research records as a part of their responsibility to protect human subjects in research. In no case will individual identifiable survey responses be reported.

The data collection procedures are not expected to involve any risk or discomfort to you. The only risk to you is accidental or unintentional disclosure of the data you provide. However, the government and its contractors have a number of policies and procedures to ensure the survey data are safe and protected. For example, no identifying information (name, address, Social Security Number) is ever stored in the same file as survey responses.

Survey data may be shared with DoD researchers or organizations outside the DoD who are conducting research on DoD personnel. In many cases, these researchers will be provided with a dataset containing limited demographic information (for example, Reserve component, paygrade groups, gender). OPA performs a disclosure avoidance analysis to reduce the risk of there being a combination of demographic variables which can single out an individual. In some instances and only with sponsor approval, OPA may make available datasets with additional demographic variables to a small number of approved researchers. There is some risk individuals might be identified on these datasets; however, OPA implements several procedures to protect the data. Statistical analyses can only be performed after review and approval to ensure identifying information is not released. Access to these datasets will only be allowed on a need-to-know basis with an approved data sharing agreement in place. Researchers approved for access to these datasets must adhere to strict procedures, including - but not limited to - data sharing agreements, secure transfers of data, destruction of files upon completion of research, and authorization to reuse data. In addition, receipt and use of these datasets must adhere to all DoD information assurance, security, and other data use policies.

If you answer any items in such a way that you indicate distress or being upset, etc., you will not be contacted for follow-up purposes. However, if you indicate a direct threat to harm yourself or others within responses or communications about the survey, because of concern for your welfare, OPA may notify an office in your area for appropriate action.

Please read the following information listing available resources if you would like to discuss experiences that may have caused you discomfort while completing the survey.

- If you would like to talk to someone about issues related to suicide, please refer to the resources listed below.
 - Military Crisis Line—1-800-273-TALK (8255)
 - Veterans Crisis Line—1-800-273-TALK (8255)
 - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline—1-800-273-TALK (8255)
 - Military OneSource—1-800-342-9647
 - Military & Family Life Counseling (MFLC)—information available at installation level
 - DISTRESS Line (Marine Corps)—1-877-476-7734
 - CG SUPRT Line (Coast Guard)—1-855-247-8778
- If you are a victim of sexual harassment, or a person who wishes to prevent or respond to it, you may want to contact your Service's local sexual harassment or equal opportunity office.
 - To reach a hotline for your Service, call:

Army:	1-800-267-9964	Air Force:	1-800-616-3775
Navy:	1-800-253-0931	Coast Guard:	1-888-992-7387
Marine Corps:	703-784-9371		

If you experience any difficulties while taking the survey, please contact the Survey Processing Center by sending an e-mail to RC-Survey@mail.mil or calling, 1-800-881-5307. If you have concerns about your rights as a research participant, please contact the OUSD(P&R) Research Regulatory Oversight Office at 703-681-1568/703-681-6665 or e-mail DHA.R2O2.PR@mail.mil.

Once you start answering the survey, if you desire to withdraw your answers, please notify the Survey Processing Center prior to {CLOSE_DATE}. Please include in the e-mail or phone message your name, Ticket Number, and the PIN that you selected when you started this survey. Unless withdrawn, partially completed survey data may be used after that date.

Click *Continue* if you agree to take the survey.





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How to Contact Us

If you have questions or concerns about this survey, you have two ways to contact the Survey Operations Center:

- **Call:** 1-800-881-5307
- **E-mail:** RC-Survey@mail.mil

Frequently Asked Questions

[What is the Status of Forces Survey \(SOFS\) Program?](#)

- Status of Forces Survey (SOFS) is a DoD personnel program that features web-based surveys sponsored by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD[P&R]).
- These surveys enable DoD to regularly assess the attitudes and opinions of the DoD community, including active duty and Reserve component members on the full range of personnel issues.

[How do I know this is an official, approved DoD survey?](#)

- All multi-component data collection in the Department must be licensed and show that license as a Report Control Symbol (RCS) or an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number and expiration date. The license for this survey is 0704-0616, expiring {OMB_DATE}.

[How did you pick me?](#)

- OPA uses well-established, scientific procedures to randomly select a sample that represents the Defense community based on combinations of demographic characteristics (e.g., location, paygrade).

[Why should I participate?](#)

- This is your chance to be heard on issues that directly affect you, including activations/deployments and financial well-being.
- Your responses on this survey *make a difference*.

[What is RC-Survey@mail.mil?](#)

- The official e-mail address for communicating with Reserve component members about Status of Forces Survey (SOFS). "RC-Survey@mail.mil" is short for Reserve Component Survey

[Why am I being asked to use the web?](#)

- Web administration enables us to get survey results to senior Defense leaders faster.

[Why are you using a .net instead of a .mil domain to field your survey?](#)

- The survey is administered by our contractor, Data Recognition Corporation, an experienced survey operations company. The survey collection tool starts on a .mil site within OPA. Once you enter your ticket number, you are redirected to our contractor's site which uses a .net domain. This allows everyone to access the survey, even from a non-government computer.

[Do I have to answer all questions?](#)

- No, it is not necessary to answer every question. Within the survey screen, you have three control buttons: *Next Page* (→), *Previous Page* (←), and *Save and Return Later*. Use these buttons to navigate through the survey or skip questions. Use *Save and Return Later* to give yourself flexibility to complete the survey at a convenient time. When you return to the survey website, enter your Ticket Number to get to the place in the survey where you had stopped.

[Why does the survey ask personal questions?](#)

- OPA reports overall results, as well as by other characteristics, such as location and gender. To complete these analyses, we must ask respondents for these types of demographic information.
- Analyzing results in this way provides Defense leaders information about the attitudes and concerns of all subgroups of personnel so that no groups are overlooked.
- Sometimes sensitive questions are asked in order to improve personnel policies, programs, and practices.

[Will my answers be kept private?](#)

- Your response will be kept private to the extent permitted by law.
- If you answer any items in such a way that you indicate distress or being upset, you will not be contacted for follow-up purposes. However, if you indicate a direct threat to harm yourself or others within responses or communications about the survey, because of concern for your welfare, OPA may notify an office in your area for appropriate action.
- All data will be reported in the aggregate and no individual data will be reported.
- We encourage you to safeguard your Ticket Number to prevent unauthorized access to your survey. In addition, to ensure your privacy, be aware of the environment in which you take the survey (e.g., take the survey when no one else is home, take care to not leave the survey unattended).

[Can I withdraw my answers once I have started the survey?](#)

- If you wish to withdraw your answers, please notify the Survey Processing Center prior to {CLOSE_DATE} by sending an e-mail to RC-Survey@mail.mil or calling, toll-free 1-800-881-5307. Include your name and Ticket Number.

[Will I ever see the results of the survey?](#)

- OPA posts survey results on the following website: <https://www.opa.mil>

