



Mr John Smith Flat 1 1 Any Street Anyarea Anytown AN17 0WN

If you need a large print, or Braille letter, phone us free on [phone number] or email [email address]

#### Veterans' Survey



#### Dear Mr John Smith

Thank you for your interest in the Veterans' Survey.

The Office for Veterans´ Affairs (OVA) and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) are carrying out this important survey. It covers a range of topics related to the circumstances and lifestyles of people who have left the UK Armed Forces. These people are commonly known as Veterans.

By taking part in this survey, you will help us to produce statistics about the lives of the Armed Forces community, veterans, and their families. This is your unique opportunity to tell us about your experiences. Your responses will provide information not available from any other sources. Do not miss your chance to have your say.

- Your answers are protected by law and will be kept confidential.
- The survey should take around 30 minutes to complete.
- Please complete the survey and return it in the pre-addressed envelope provided by Friday 17 February 2023. If you need assistance, please contact us on the freephone number below.

Thank you

Professor Sir Ian Diamond National Statistician



www.ons.gov.uk/surveys

Freephone: [phone number]

ONS, D015, Cardiff Road, Newport, NP10 8XG

Text Relay Service: [phone number]

# **Veterans' Survey 2022 - 2023**

## Before you start

#### Who is this questionnaire for?

This questionnaire is for those who have previously served in the UK Armed Forces.

To take part, you should be:

- 18 years or over, and
- · living in the United Kingdom, and
- not a current serving member of the regular or reserve UK Armed Forces

#### How should I complete the questionnaire correctly?

You should:

- use black or blue ink to answer
- tick your answers within the box, like this:
- print in capital letters within the boxes, like this:
- correct any mistakes by filling in the box, like this: or this: SM ITH
- continue onto the next line (if possible) when a word will not fit, like this:

   *NUMBER 6, PADDIN GTON STREET*
- follow the —> GO TO instructions and leave any questions or pages you do not need to answer completely blank; any marks or lines can be mistaken for answers

### How do I return my completed questionnaire?

Put your completed questionnaire into the prepaid envelope provided.

Then put it in the post.

If you are in prison, hand your completed questionnaire back to your coordinator. They will return it on your behalf.









Page 4 What was your rank upon leaving the 7 What was your rank upon leaving the Army? **Royal Marines?** Field Marshal General General Lieutenant General Lieutenant General Major General Major General Brigadier Brigadier Colonel Colonel Lieutenant Colonel Lieutenant Colonel Major Major Captain Captain Lieutenant/2nd Lieutenant • до то 9 Lieutenant/2nd Lieutenant GO TO 9 Officer Designate Warrant Officer Class 1 Warrant Officer Class 1 Warrant Officer Class 2 Warrant Officer Class 2 Colour Sergeant Staff Sergeant Sergeant Sergeant Corporal Corporal Lance Corporal Lance Corporal Marine Private (Classes 1 to 3) Other, write in Private (Class 4)/Junior Other, write in

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Page 5 Were you a UK citizen throughout your service What was your rank upon leaving the in the UK Armed Forces? **Royal Air Force?** Yes ▶ GO TO 11 Marshal of the RAF No, but I got UK citizenship — GO TO 11 during my service No, I was a non-UK citizen Air Chief Marshal throughout my service Do you have UK citizenship now? Air Marshal Yes No Air Vice-Marshal How many years did you serve in the Air Commodore **UK Armed Forces?** Less than 4 years **Group Captain** 4 to 6 years Wing Commander 7 to 12 years Squadron Leader 13 to 24 years Flight Lieutenant 25 to 48 years Flying Officer/Pilot Officer 49 years or more Officer Designate 12 For what reason did you leave the UK Armed Forces? Master Aircrew/Warrant Officer By choice Flight Sergeant/Chief Technician Medical discharge Sergeant Made redundant Corporal Compulsory discharge Lance Corporal Prefer not to say Junior Technician/Leading Aircraftman/Senior Aircraftman End of contract or retirement Aircraftman What year did you leave the UK Armed Forces? Other, write in Year

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14	What is your name?	18	What is your ethnic group?
Firs	st name		Choose <b>one</b> section from A to F, then <b>tick one box</b> to best describe your ethnic group or background
Las	t name		A White  English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British  Irish
			Roma
15	What is your sex?  A question about gender identity will follow later on in the questionnaire		Any other White background, write in
	Female		B Irish Traveller Irish Traveller
	Male		C Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups
	Prefer not to say		White and Black Caribbean  White and Black African
4.0			White and Asian  Any other Mixed or Multiple background,
16	What is your date of birth?		write in
	Day Month Year		D Asian or Asian British
			Indian
17	How would you describe your national identity? Tick all that apply		Pakistani Bangladeshi
	English		Chinese
	Liigiisii		Any other Asian background, write in
	Welsh		
	Scottish		E Black, Black British, Caribbean or African  Caribbean
	Northern Irish		African
	British		Any other Black, Black British or Caribbean background, write in
	Irish		F Other ethnic group
	Other, write in		Arab  Any other ethnic group, write in



Г Page 7 19 What is your religion? What type of dentist are you registered with? Tick all that apply No religion I am registered with an Christian (including Church of England, NHS (or HSC in Northern GO TO 26 Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian Ireland) dentist denominations) I am registered with a GO TO 26 **Buddhist** private dentist Hindu **Jewish** For what reason(s) are you not registered with a dentist? Muslim Tick all that apply Sikh No home address Any other religion, write in Not had time to register Did not feel it was important I do not visit the dentist Are you registered with a GP? I have lack of trust in dentists or the health service Yes Because I found registering too difficult No **GO TO 22** Other What type of GP are you registered with? 26 Do you have any physical or mental health Tick all that apply conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more? I am registered with a GP in the NHS (or HSC in -GO TO 23 Yes Northern Ireland) No ▶ GO TO 28 I have private healthcare — GO TO 23 Don't know GO TO 28 Prefer not to say GO TO 28 22 For what reason(s) are you not registered with a GP? Tick all that apply Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities? No home address Yes, a lot Not had time to register Yes, a little Did not feel it was important Not at all I do not visit the GP I have lack of trust in GPs or the health service Do you have complex and long-term healthcare Because I found registering too difficult needs that require a personalised care plan to support your health and wellbeing? Other Yes No 23 Are you registered with a dentist? Don't know Yes Prefer not to say GO TO 25



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Г Page 9 For what reason(s) are you homeless or rough 42 Which of the following loans or other types of credit have you received since leaving service? sleeping? Tick all that apply Tick all that apply Left military with no home to go to A personal loan A credit card Left prison with no home to go to A mortgage Lack of money Other types of loans Lack of affordable housing In the last month, were you claiming Universal Credit, a Personal Independence Payment Relationship breakdown (if you live in England or Wales) or Adult Disability Payment (if you live in Scotland)? Loss of job or employment Yes No Mental health Addiction How would you best describe where you are living now? Other Tick one box only Owner-occupied or shared — GO TO 51 Have you received support from government ownership house or flat services, such as Veterans UK or your local council, to help with housing? Private rented house or flat — GO TO 51 or room Yes **— GO TO 49** Social rented house or flat — GO TO 51 No Living long term with family — GO TO 51 or friends Homeless (including sofa For what reason(s) have you not received surfing) support from government services to help with your housing? Rough sleeping Tick all that apply Refuge for domestic abuse — GO TO 52 Other I was not aware of this support GO TO 52 I am not eligible The support offered to me was not what I needed How long have you been homeless or rough sleeping? I do not need any support Less than one month I do not trust the government 1 to 6 months Other 7 to 12 months 1 to 2 years Have you received support from charities, such as Citizens Advice, Shelter or SPACES, to help 3 to 4 years with housing? 5 years or more Yes — **GO TO 52** Don't know Prefer not to say No



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Г Page 11 58 Have you made use of any of your skills from How prepared or unprepared did you feel for life after service in the Armed Forces? the Armed Forces in any civilian roles? Yes Very prepared No Prepared Don't know I have not worked in a civilian role since Neither prepared or unprepared leaving service Unprepared 59 How often have you taken a job which you feel Very unprepared has a lower experience or skill level than your last role in the Armed Forces? Prefer not to say Happened more than once in the past 62 What information, advice or guidance, if any, would have improved your transition to Happened once in the past civilian life? Tick all that apply I have not experienced GO ТО 61 this so far Training or additional training Not applicable GO TO 61 Learning new skills or a trade 60 Why did you take a job which you felt was at a Information on support services lower experience or skill level? Tick all that apply Confirmed employment The employer did not recognise the transferable military skills Confirmed housing I did not want to have as much responsibility Qualifications It provided a better work-life balance Alcohol support services There were no other jobs available Mental health services Due to my health condition or disability Medical care or support Change of personal circumstances Family counsellor (for example family, pregnancy) A transition team or worker Location **OR** none of the above Other



Page 12 Where do you get information about Which of the following veteran support services veteran-related issues, services or benefits? are you aware of? Tick all that apply Tick all that apply Overall advice and support Word of mouth from friends or family Overall advice and support via Veterans' Veteran charities Gateway (UK) Veterans UK Overall advice and support via Veterans UK (UK) Veterans' Gateway Overall advice and support via Northern Regimental Associations Ireland Veterans Support Office (Northern Non-military charities Ireland) Health and wellbeing National or local government channels (for example, websites or newsletters) Op Courage (England) Social media (for example, Facebook, Veterans First Point (Scotland) Twitter) Veterans NHS Wales (Wales) TV news or Radio Veterans Trauma Network (England and National or regional newspapers Wales) OR none of the above — GO TO 65 Health support via Northern Ireland Veterans Support Office (NI) **Employment, education and skills** 64 Where do you mainly get information about veteran-related issues, services or benefits? Great Place to Work for Civil Service (England & Wales) Tick one box only Going Forward into Employment for Civil Service (England, Scotland and Wales) Word of mouth from friends or family Career Transition Partnership (UK) Veteran charities Skills Development Scotland (Scotland) Advance into Justice (UK) Veterans UK Careers Wales (Wales) **Business Wales (Wales)** Veterans' Gateway Employment, education and skills support via Northern Ireland Veterans Support Office (Northern Ireland) Regimental Associations Making a home in civilian society Housing support via Veterans UK (UK) Non-military charities Housing support via your local council (England, Scotland and Wales) National or local government channels Housing support via Northern Ireland (for example, websites or newsletters) Veterans Support Office (Northern Ireland) Social media (for example, Facebook, Other government or government Twitter) commissioned services that you are aware of but are missing from the list above, write in TV news or Radio National or regional newspapers OR none of the above — GO TO 67

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Page 13

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Overall advice and support	Used	1	2	3	4	
Overall advice and support via Veterans' Gateway (UK)						[
Overall advice and support via Veterans UK (UK)						[
Overall advice and support via Northern Ireland						
Veterans Support Office (Northern Ireland)						
Health and wellbeing						
Op Courage (England)						[
Veterans First Point (Scotland)						[
Veterans NHS Wales (Wales)						[
Veterans Trauma Network (England and Wales)						[
Health support via Northern Ireland Veterans Support Office (NI)						[
Employment, education and skills						
Great Place to Work for Civil Service (England & Wales)						[
Going Forward into Employment for Civil Service (England, Scotland and Wales)						
Career Transition Partnership (UK)						
Skills Development Scotland (Scotland)						
Advance into Justice (UK)						[
Careers Wales (Wales)						
Business Wales (Wales)						
Employment, education and skills support via Northern Ireland Veterans Support Office (Northern Ireland)						
Making a home in civilian society						
Housing support via Veterans UK (UK)						
Housing support via your local council (England, Scotland and Wales)						
Housing support via Northern Ireland Veterans Support Office (Northern Ireland)						[
Other government or government commissioned services that you are aware of but are missing from the list above, write in						



Page 14 Is the gender you identify with the same as 67 The last question asked about government funded services. The next question asks about your sex registered at birth? help from charities. Yes Have you ever looked for help from veteran or service charities? No, write in gender identity Yes No **→ GO TO 69** Prefer not to say 68 When did you seek help? The next four questions are about relationships with others. For each one, Tick all that apply please say how often (if at all) you feel that way. Within two years of leaving the UK Armed Forces How often do you feel that you lack companionship? After two years of leaving the UK Armed Forces Hardly ever or never Some of the time Can you tell us what service and support would be helpful for you but is currently lacking? Often Prefer not to say 76 How often do you feel left out? Hardly ever or never Some of the time 70 Before moving onto the next section, can you tell us if you are filling in the survey for Often yourself or for someone else? Prefer not to say I am filling it in for myself I am filling it in for — GO TO 96 77 How often do you feel isolated from others? someone else Hardly ever or never Some of the time The next set of questions will ask about your Often time in service. You may find some of the questions to be of a sensitive nature. For each Prefer not to say question there is a 'prefer not to say' option. Please remember that all your answers will be 78 How often do you feel lonely? kept confidential and any data we publish will never identify you. Often or Always Which of the following best describes your Some of the time sexual orientation? Straight or Heterosexual Occasionally Gay or Lesbian **Bisexual** Hardly ever Other sexual orientation, write in Never Prefer not to say Prefer not to say



	Pa	age 15
79	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement:	83 Have you ever served a prison sentence?
	"In the last month, I have had money worries."	Yes
	Strongly agree	No <b>→ GO TO 87</b>
	Agree	Prefer not to say — GO TO 87
	Neither agree nor disagree	
	Disagree	84 Are you currently serving a prison sentence?
	Strongly disagree	Yes No
80	What was your total personal income from all sources over the last 12 months? This is your own gross income - before	
	anything like tax is taken off.	85 Did you use any of the support available to help
	Less than £200 a week / less than £870 a month / less than £10,400 a year	veterans in prison?
	£200 to £399 a week / £870 to £1,729 a	Yes
	month / £10,400 to £20,799 a year	No <b>→ GO TO 87</b>
	£400 to £599 a week / £1,730 to £2,599 a month / £20,800 to £31,099 a year	06 Militar annitaria (1) di la comuna 0
	£600 to £799 a week / £2,600 to £3,459 a	86 Which service(s) did you use?
	month / £31,100 to £41,499 a year	
	£800 to £999 a week / £3,460 to £4,329 a month / £41,500 to £51,949 a year	
	£1000 to £1,499 a week / £4,330 to £6,499 a month / £51,950 to £77,949 a year	
	£1,500 to £1,899 a week / £6,500 to £8,229 a month / £77,950 to £99,999 a year	87 Did you use any specialised support available for veterans on probation, released on licence or serving a community sentence?
	£1,900 or more a week / £8,330 or more a month / £100,000 a year or more	Yes
	Don't know	No <b>→ GO ТО 89</b>
	Prefer not to say	20 144:1
	,	88 Which service(s) did you use?
81	Have you ever been convicted of a criminal	
	offence (excluding speeding offences)?  Yes	
	— No — Go το 89	89 During your service did you deploy on an
	Prefer not to say — GO TO 89	Operational Deployment (named operations)?
		Yes
82	When were you convicted?	No → GO TO 92
	If convicted of multiple offences, tick all that apply	Prefer not to say — GO TO 92
	Before Service	_ , , 55.552
		90 In total, how many times were you deployed?
	During Service	If you do not know the exact number, please give a rough estimate
	After Service	

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	Page 16				
91	Did you witness or take part in operations against enemy forces?	97 How important were the survey topics to you?			
	Yes No Prefer not to say	Very important Important Moderately important Slightly important			
92	The next set of questions will ask about bullying, discrimination, and harassment, during active service. Your responses will help us understand how many people are affected.	98 What did you think about the length of the survey?			
		Too short			
93	Do you believe you were subject to bullying during service?	About right Too long			
	Yes				
	No Prefer not to say	99 The Office for National Statistics and Office for Veterans' Affairs may like to contact you in the future to take part in research.			
94	Do you believe you were subject to discrimination during service?	Please tick from the options below that you are happy with			
	Yes No Prefer not to say	I am happy to be contacted by the Office for National Statistics for future research  I am happy for my contact details to be shared with the Office for Veterans' Affairs for future research  OR none of the above — GO TO 102			
95	Do you believe you were subject to				
	harassment or sexual harassment during service?	100 How would you like to be contacted?  Tick all that apply			
	Yes	Text, write in mobile number — Go To 102			
	No				
	Prefer not to say	☐ By post <b>→ GO TO 101</b>			
96	Thank you for your views.  How did you hear about this survey?  Tick all that apply	101 What is your address?			
	Newsletter or email				
	Magazine				
	Poster				
	Social media				
	Newspaper or news media				
	Family member or friend	Postcode			
	Other				

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102 There are no more questions.

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Thank you for taking the time to fill in the survey. Your feedback is very important for the government.

We would be grateful if you could also ask your family members or friends to take part in this survey. The more people who take part in the survey, the better data we will have to inform government decisions.

We welcome any feedback you may have about the survey. You may call free on [phone number], or send us a letter to:

[office address]

If you would like information or support, the Veterans' Gateway is for any ex-service personnel and their families – whatever they are dealing with. They provide the first point of contact to a network of military and non-military partner organisations to help you find exactly what you need, when you need it - whether you're in the UK or overseas. For 24-hour support, call 0808 802 1212.

Or if you are in prison, please speak to your local Veterans in Custody Officer (ViCSO).

#### How do I return my completed questionnaire?

Put your completed questionnaire into the prepaid envelope provided.

Then put it in the post.

If you are in prison, hand your completed questionnaire back to your coordinator. They will return it on your behalf.



Page 18

103	Thank you. From the responses provided, it looks like you are not eligible to take part in this survey.					
	To take part as a veteran:					
		this time, you must be a UK resident, as this survey is adding to information from the census to improve veterans' services in the UK				
		you must not be currently serving in the UK Armed Forces (Regular or Reserve)				
	To take part as a family member:					
		this time, you must be a UK resident, as this survey is adding to information from the census to improve veterans' services in the UK				
		there must be someone in your immediate family who has previously served in the UK Armed Forces				
	If yo	ou feel you are eligible to take part, please call free on [phone number] or send us a letter to:				
	[office address] Thank you for your interest in the survey.					

## How do I return my questionnaire?

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