Spring 2019 Propensity Update
Youth Poll: Propensity
FPP9: In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in the Military?
Response options: Definitely, Probably, Probably Not, Definitely Not

- Youth general military propensity has stayed consistent at an aggregate level and across males and females from Fall 2018 to Spring 2019.

Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.

Source: DoD Youth Poll
General Military Propensity
By Age

**FPP9: In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in the Military?**
Response options: Definitely, Probably, Probably Not, Definitely Not

Note: Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.
Source: DoD Youth Poll (Spring 2019)
FPP9: In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in the Military?

Response options: Definitely, Probably, Probably Not, Definitely Not

Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.

Source: DoD Youth Poll

Note: Estimates for Black and Asian youth should be interpreted with caution because of relatively large margins of error.
Active Duty Propensity by Service

FPP10A_Q–FPP10E_Q: In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in each of the following Military Services?
Response options: Definitely, Probably, Probably Not, Definitely Not

Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.
Source: DoD Youth Poll

One year earlier

- Army
- Navy
- Air Force
- Marine Corps
- Coast Guard

= Significant change from previous poll
Youth Poll: Economic Conditions
As unemployment rates continue to decline, youth are more confident in their ability to find full-time employment.

How difficult is it for someone your age to get a full-time job in your community?

Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.

Source: DoD Youth Poll

EMP5: “How difficult is it for someone your age to get a full-time job in your community?”
The proportion of youth reporting difficulty finding a full-time job remained relatively consistent across racial/ethnicity groups in Spring 2019. However, this proportion has continued to trend down over the past decade.

Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.

Source: DoD Youth Poll

Note: Estimates for Black and Asian youth should be interpreted with caution because of relatively large margins of error.

EMP5: “How difficult is it for someone your age to get a full-time job in your community?”
Backup
Youth Poll Methodology and Sample

- Mail-based survey fielded from January 2, 2019 to June 28, 2019.
  - A series of five mailings were sent to eight different cohorts semimonthly that invited recipients to participate.

- Final Youth Poll Sample: 4,731 youth aged 16 through 24
  - 3,754 (79%) youth aged 16 through 21 – the metrics presented herein focus on this age group.
  - 977 (21%) youth aged 22 through 24

- Weighted to reflect general population on several dimensions:
  - Gender
  - Age
  - Race/Ethnicity
  - Educational Attainment
  - Region

- Stratified Random Sample

- **Note:** Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.

- **Note:** Certain slides provide estimates by race/ethnicity.
  - The December 2010 effort was the first Youth Poll with a sufficiently large sample size to report estimates for Asian youth. Asian youth estimates are included only at the overall level and not by gender because of sample size restrictions. The effective sample size for Asian youth is small and results should be interpreted cautiously.
Historical General Military Propensity
By Gender

FPP9: In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in the Military?
Response options: Definitely, Probably, Probably Not, Definitely Not

Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.
Source: DoD YATS and Youth Poll

Questions: YATS (Q503)–Jun-10 (FPP9): “Now, I’d like to ask you how likely it is that you will be serving in the Military in the next few years?”
Dec-10–Onwards (FPP9): “In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in the Military?”
**General Military Propensity**

**FPP9: How likely is it that you will be serving in the Military in the next few years?**

Response options: Definitely, Probably, Probably Not, Definitely Not

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Note: Youth ages 16–21. Estimates are charted to precise values. Labels are rounded to the nearest whole percent.

Source: DoD Youth Poll

**FPP9_Q:** “In the next few years, how likely is it that you will be serving in the Military?”
RTJ: if you were to consider joining the U.S. Military, what would be the main reason(s)?
Response options: Yes, multiple response

Top 10 Reasons

- Pay/money: 50%
- To pay for future education: 50%
- Travel: 50%
- To help others: 44%
- Gain experience/work skills: 39%
- Health and medical benefits: 38%
- Experience adventure: 35%
- Pension and retirement benefits: 33%
- Make a positive difference in my community: 32%
- Provides future job opportunities: 31%

Note: Youth ages 16–21.
Source: DoD Youth Poll (Spring 2019)
RNTJ: What would be the main reason(s) why you would NOT consider joining the U.S. Military?
Response options: Yes, multiple response