

ARLINGTON National Cemetery

HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ EXPLORE



Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery

Honor Subcommittee

30 January 2018

Overall Classification
UNCLASSIFIED

ARLINGTON National Cemetery

HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ EXPLORE



Arlington National Cemetery

National Dialogue and Survey Update

30 January 2018

High demand and the eligible population (past, current, & future)

Capacity & available space

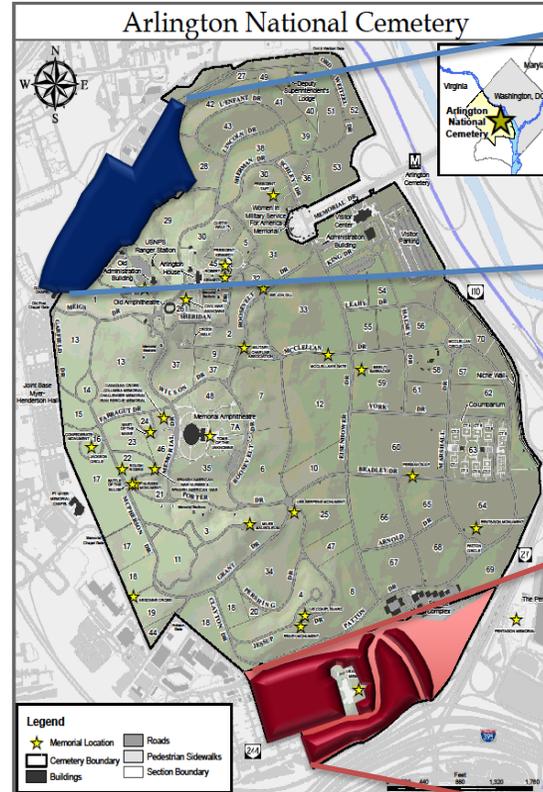
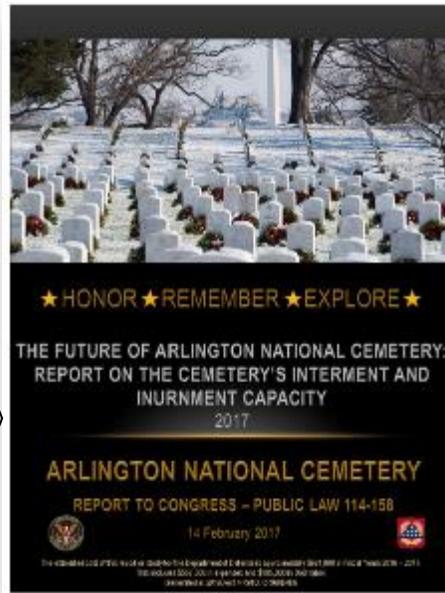
- Millennium
- Southern Expansion
- Other adjacent areas?

100% capacity in 25 years

Feasible, acceptable, and suitable options and/or actions

A National Dialogue

Eligibility and Expansion



- 27,782 burial opportunities
- Extends capacity to early 2040s
- 27 acres
- Complete 2017



- 40k – 60k burial opportunities
- Extends capacity to mid-2050s
- 37 acres
- In planning

“...well into the future.”

“...for generations to come.”

ANC will continue to:

- ❑ Invite stakeholders to join the national dialogue; increase the public’s awareness of ANC’s needs continue to far outweigh capability and capacity; and maintain long-term, positive innovative communications
- ❑ **Solicit/collect public opinion regarding the future of ANC via a second, refined survey**
- ❑ Conduct targeted outreach events
- ❑ Assist stakeholders with accurate information and queries to the website and call center

Stakeholders include:

- ❑ Active Duty, Veterans, military family members
- ❑ Public
- ❑ Congress/Advisory Committee
- ❑ Military and Veterans service organizations



NCOA

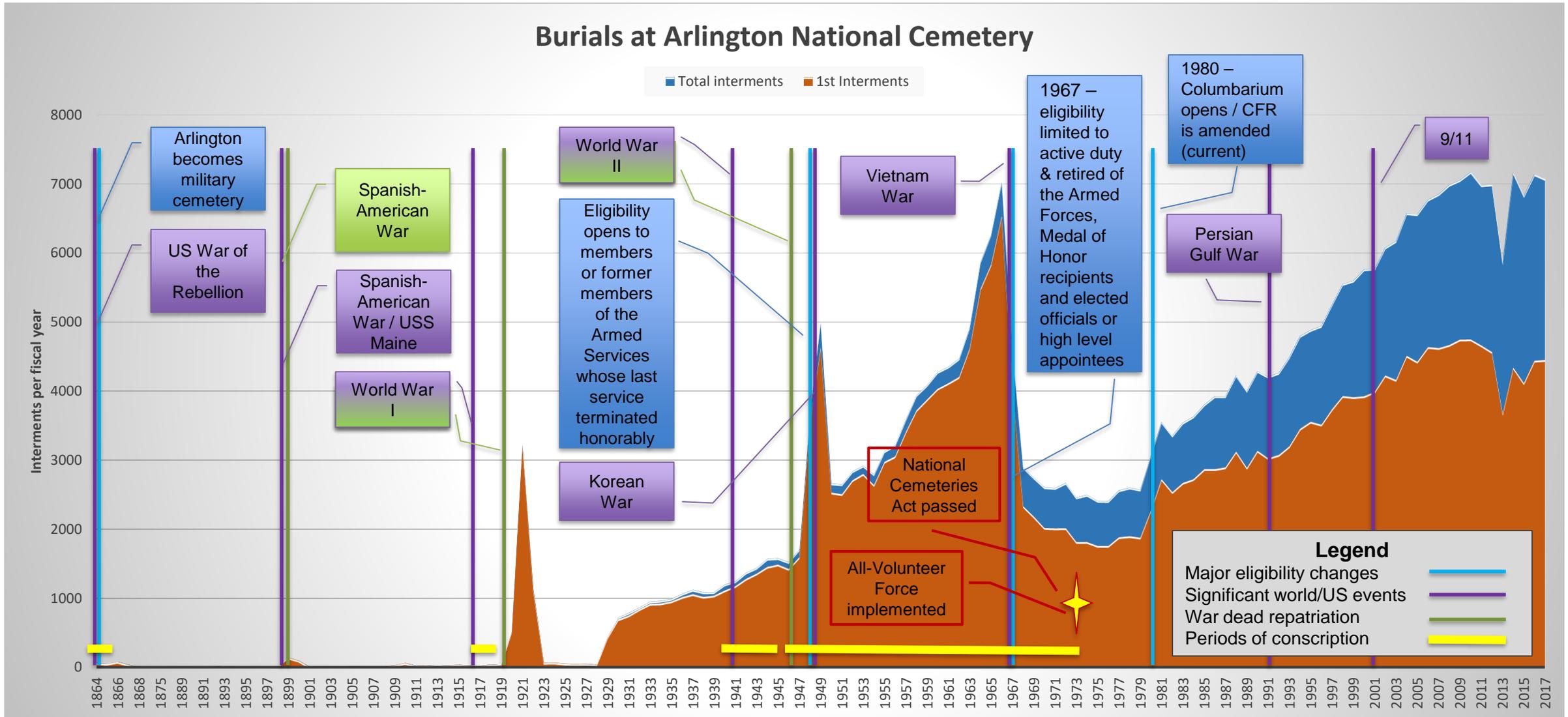


For more information on the report to Congress and FAQs visit:

National dialogue begins at Arlington National Cemetery

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/News/Post/4178/National-dialogue-begins-at-Arlington-National-Cemetery>

*Total survey respondents:
28,475 as of 27NOV2017*



Collection Overview

Start of Data Collection:

- July 20, 2017

Survey Distribution:

- Static link that is accessible from Arlingtoncemetery.mil
- Distributed to Service Member and Veteran organizations who sent links out to their members
- Attached to digital pay-stubs of people with .mil e-mail addresses

Reporting Period:

- July 20, 2017 – November 2, 2017

Surveys Completed:

- 28,260

Completion Percentage:

- 28%

Survey Structure

Section 1:

- ANC Quiz
Questions with right and wrong answers about ANC

Section 2:

- ANC History
Questions in this section are designed to educate respondents

Section 3:

- National Dialogue Questions
Would you like to see ANC remain open, etc.

Section 4:

- Demographics
Age group, veteran status, etc.

How many total **Medal of Honor recipients** have been laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery? **(14%)**

What year did Arlington become a military cemetery? **(56%)**

Arlington House was built as a living memorial to which historic U.S. figure? **(50%)**

Who is eligible to **receive military honors funerals** at Arlington National Cemetery? (Please select all that apply)

Who is currently eligible for burial at Arlington National Cemetery? (Please select all that apply)

Did you know that any veteran eligible for Arlington National Cemetery may also be eligible for burial at one of the other 135 National Cemeteries operated by the Veterans Administration? **(78% knew this)**

Our Nation has laid to rest casualties of every U.S. war at Arlington National Cemetery. Did you know that to be true prior to this survey? **(22% did not know)**

Were you aware that Arlington National Cemetery is still active as a cemetery? **(97% were aware)**

Were you aware that Arlington National Cemetery will run out of space for new graves in about 25 years from now under current eligibility policy and with the current demand? **(31% did not know; 17% were somewhat aware)**

Did you know that Arlington National Cemetery almost closed for burials in the 1960's? **(75% did not know)**

Would you like to see Arlington National Cemetery remain open for new burials well into the future (Say, the year 2100)?

If ANC will reach capacity for new burials in about 25 years under current rules, should anything be done to extend its life as an active cemetery?

Few options for expansion exist around Arlington National Cemetery. To expand the cemetery would you be willing to support any of the following options? (Please select all that apply)

The southern expansion will add 40-60,000 burial plots to the cemetery at a cost of approximately \$4,500-\$6,800 per plot. As a taxpayer, do you believe this cost is reasonable?

Millennium added 7 years of life to the cemetery (\$0.25B for 7 years). Do you think Arlington National Cemetery should be expanded at similar cost? **(65% say yes)**

If no further geographic expansion were possible, do you think action should be taken with respect to restricting eligibility to keep the cemetery active for new burials?

Have you ever visited ANC, in person? **(77% have visited)**

What does ANC represent to you & your family? **(69% a place to honor sacrifice)**

Do you plan to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery? **(23% yes, 32% unsure)**

Are you a current member of the military? Are you a Veteran of the U.S. military? Do you have a family member affiliated with the military?

Personas...who took the survey?

Veteran



65+

- Oldest



53%



- Least likely to have visited online.

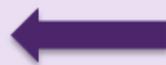


85%

- Highly likely to have visited in person



81%



- Most familiar with the history of ANC



61%

- ANC represents a place to honor the sacrifice of our service members

Service Member



25-34

- Youngest



72%



- Highly likely to have visited online.



71%

- Least likely to have visited in person



57%



- Least familiar with the history of ANC



75%

- ANC represents a place to honor the sacrifice of our service members

Military Family



35-44

- Average Age



71%

- Highly likely to have visited online.



87%



- Most likely to have visited in person



75%

- Moderately familiar with the history of ANC



59%

- ANC represents a place to honor the sacrifice of our service members

Unaffiliated



45-54

- Average Age



68%

- Highly likely to have visited online.



86%

- Highly likely to have visited in person



72%

- Moderately familiar with the history of ANC



56%

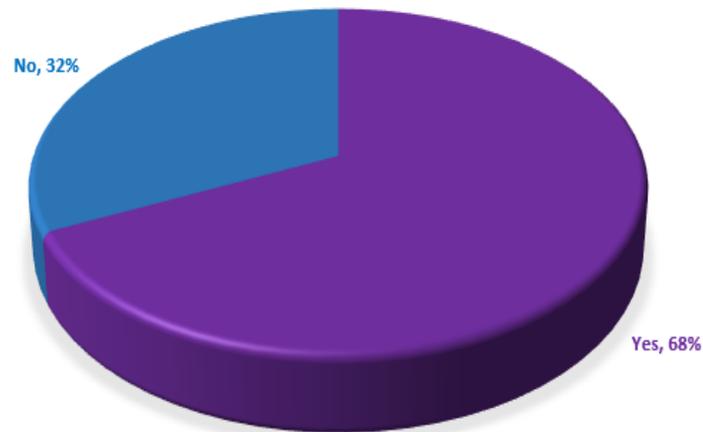
- ANC represents a place to honor the sacrifice of our service members

Traditions of service and sacrifice...

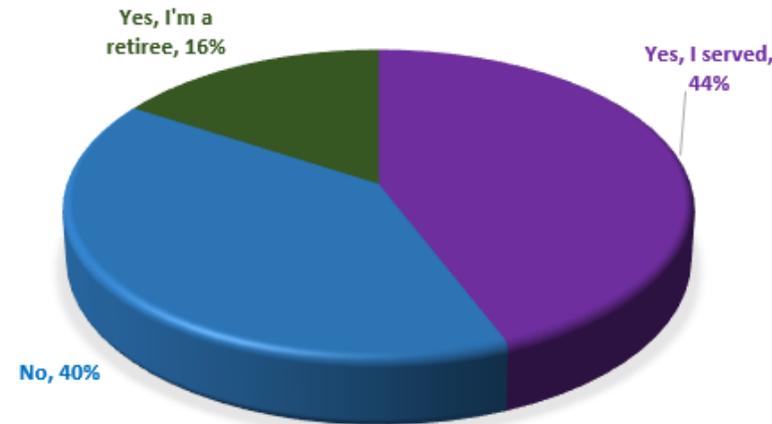
12,542 total Veterans...21,742 family members...19,405 current military responded

This tells us that many have a robust connection to the military...serving in many ways

Current member of the military



Veteran

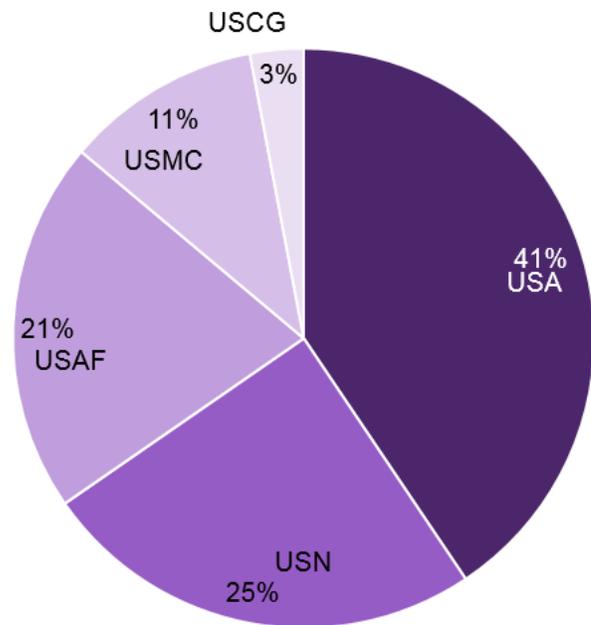


Family member



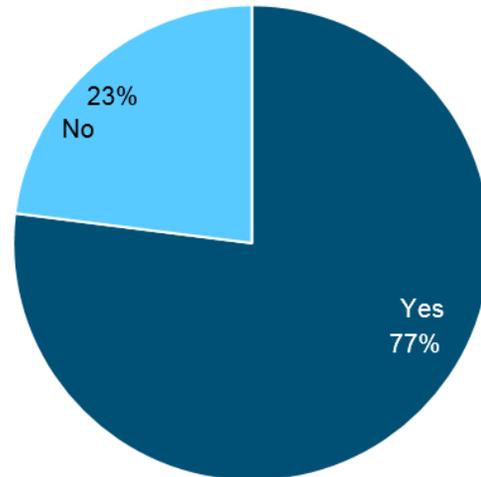
Veterans and service members from all branches of service are represented proportionally.

Veterans



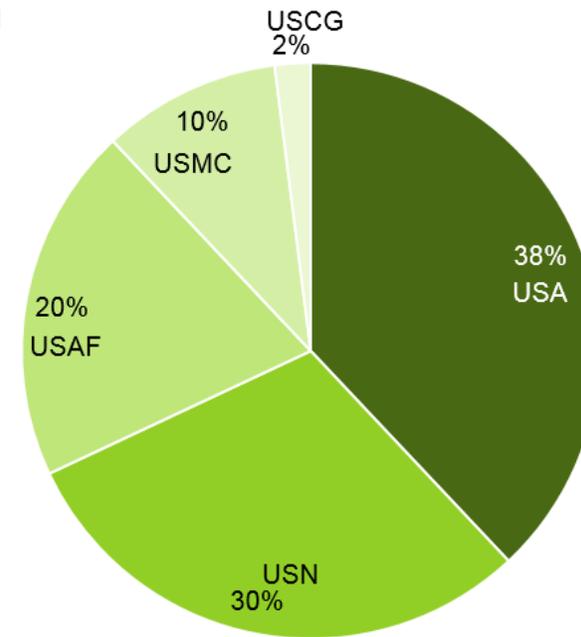
"other" not shown <1%

Did you serve in the Armed Forces during a U.S. conflict?



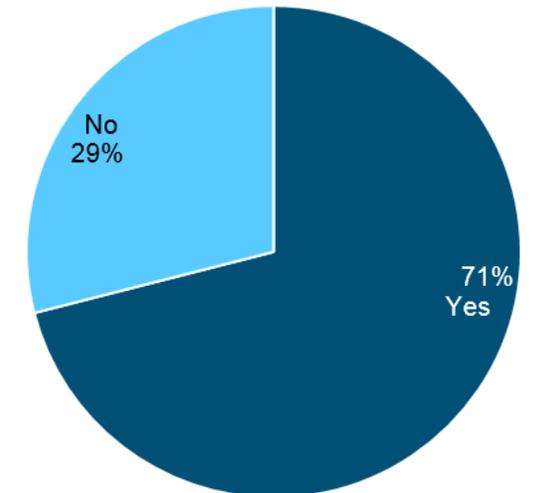
■ Yes ■ No

Service members



"other" not shown <1%

Did you serve in the Armed Forces during a U.S. conflict?

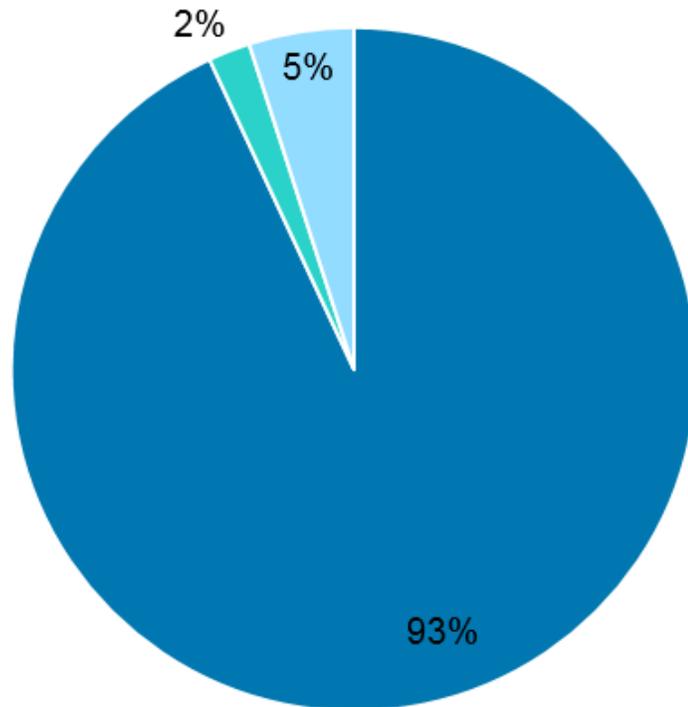


■ Yes ■ No

Respondents overwhelmingly want Arlington National Cemetery to remain active.

Would you like to see Arlington National Cemetery remain open for new burials well into the future (Say, the year 2100)?

Overall n= 28,260



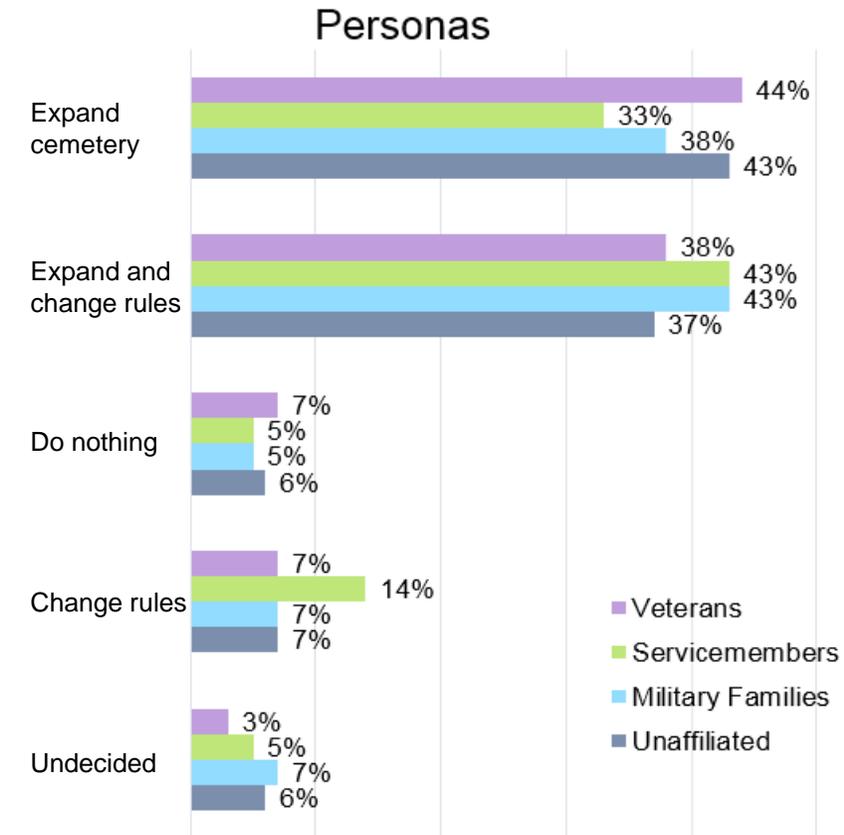
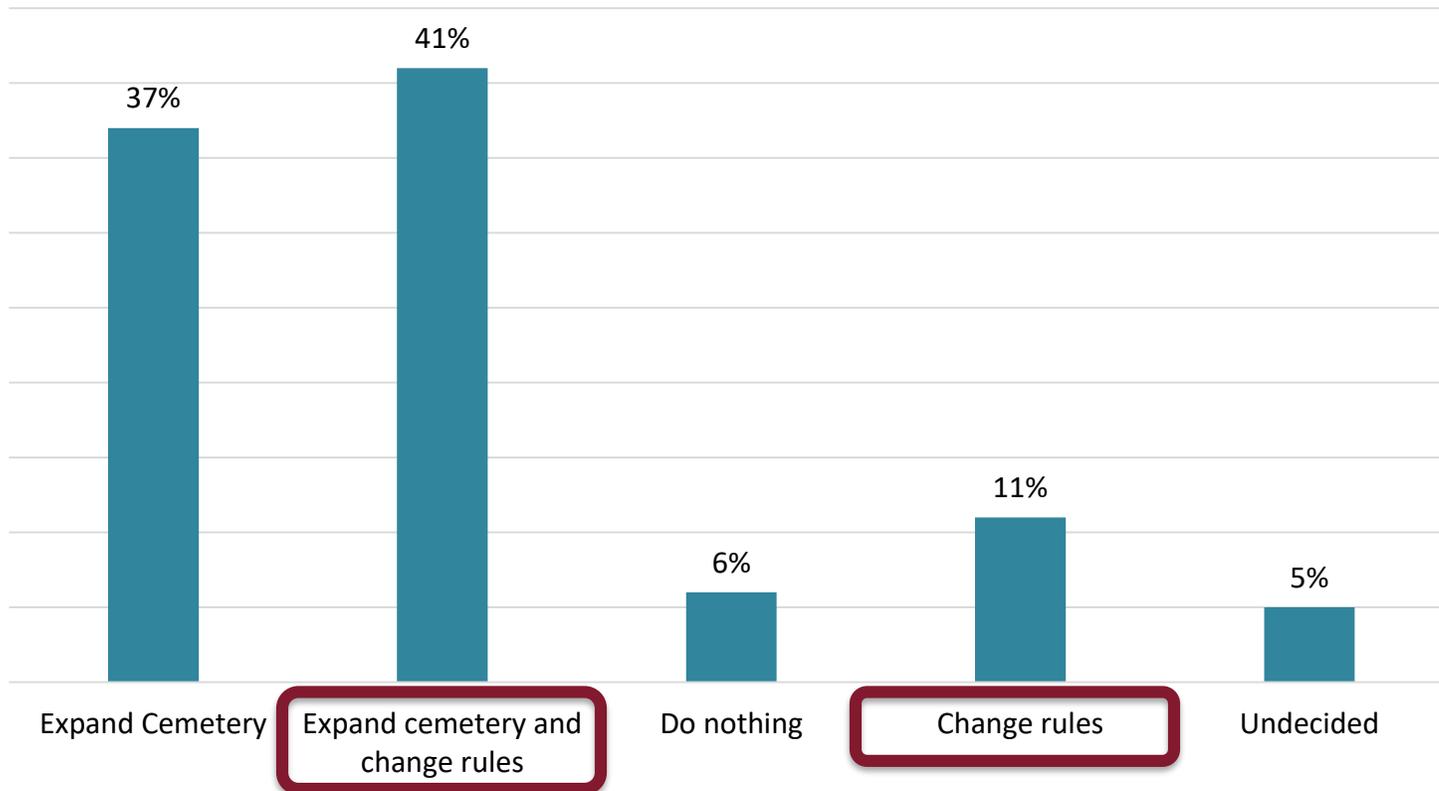
■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided

Personas

	Veterans <i>n=6,203</i>	Service Members <i>n=8,595</i>	Military Families <i>n=2,431</i>	Unaffiliated <i>n=311</i>
Yes <i>n=19,588</i>	95%	92%	95%	93%
No <i>n=537</i>	2%	2%	<1%	3%
Undecided <i>n=1,356</i>	4%	6%	5%	4%

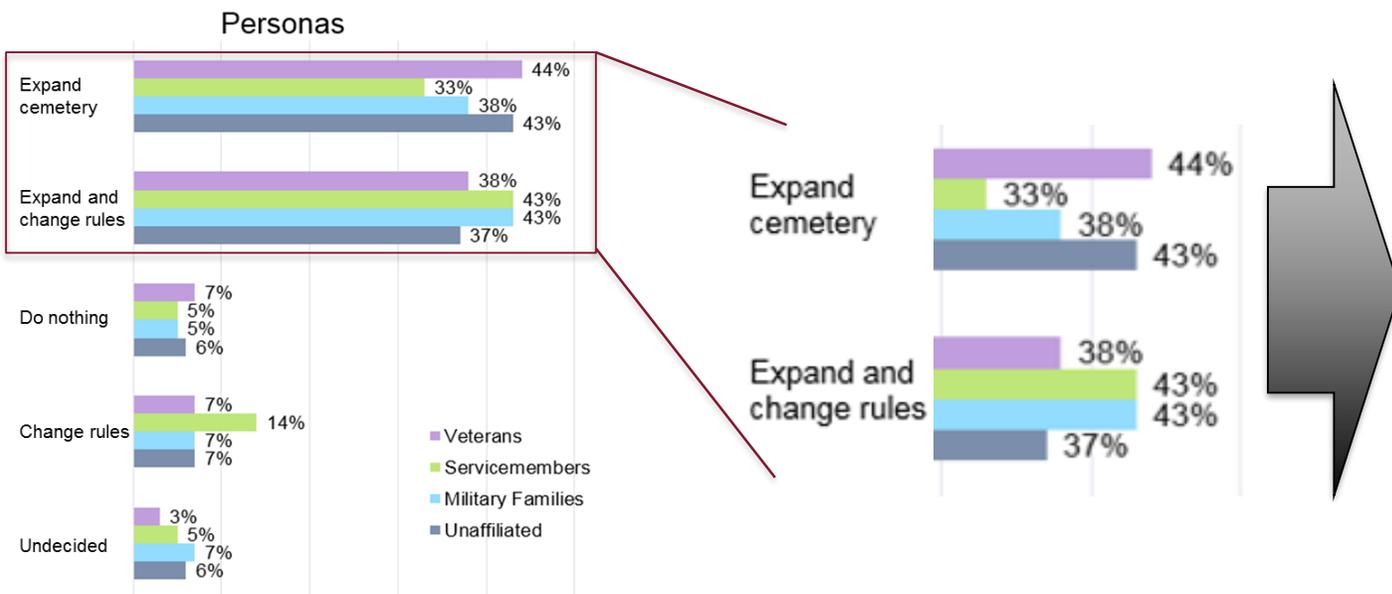
More than half of respondents believe that expansion alone is not the solution to saving Arlington National Cemetery.

Should anything be done to extend ANC's life as an active cemetery?



Of those that believed expansion should continue, about two-thirds of respondents are in favor of relocating support functions in order to expand the cemetery.

To expand the cemetery would you be willing to support any of the following options? (Please select all that apply.)

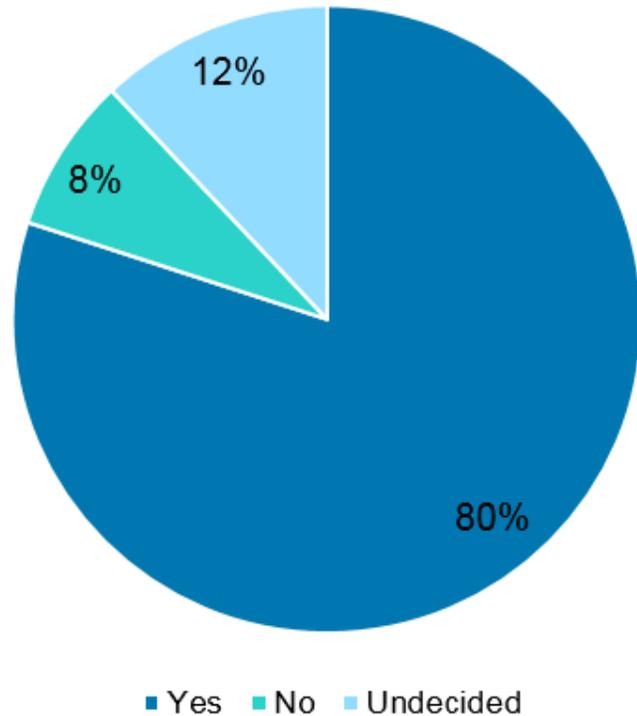


Overall	Location X ↓ Persona →	Veterans n=5,120	Service Members n=6,564	Military Families n=1,962	Unaffiliated n=294
62%	Relocate Support n=13,823	64%	61%	52%	50%
51%	Annex Pentagon n=11,391	49%	54%	53%	54%
50%	Reroute Highways n=11,206	47%	51%	45%	47%
43%	Marine Corps Memorial n=9,627	46%	41%	46%	44%
5%	Other n=1,010	4%	5%	3%	3%
4%	None of These n=829	5%	3%	4%	5%

To each of you, how many are feasible, acceptable, suitable?

Over three-quarters of respondents in each group believe that \$4,500-\$6,800 per plot is a reasonable cost of expansion.

As a taxpayer, do you believe \$4,500-\$6,800 per plot is a reasonable cost of expansion?



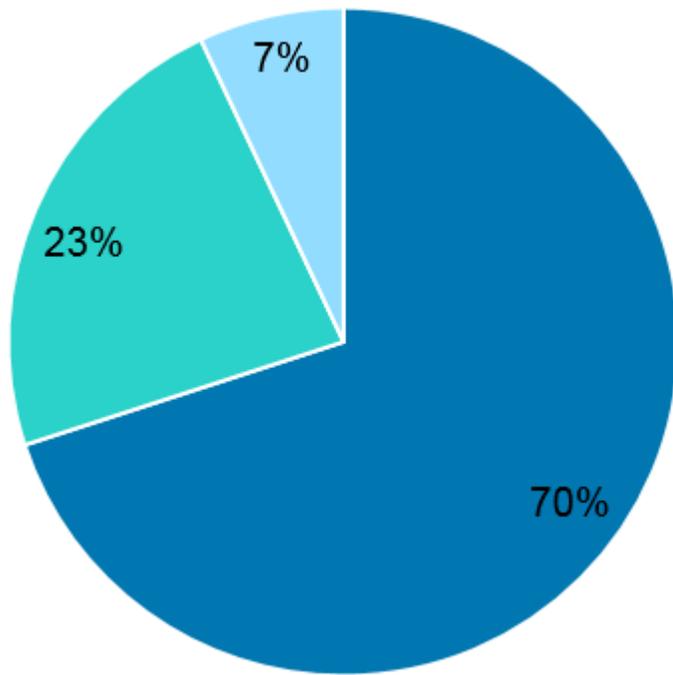
Personas

	Veterans <i>n=5,190</i>	Service Members <i>n=6,594</i>	Military Families <i>n=1,993</i>	Unaffiliated <i>n=251</i>
Yes <i>n=17,943</i>	84%	77%	76%	81%
No <i>n=1,725</i>	6%	8%	7%	5%
Undecided <i>n=2,668</i>	9%	14%	17%	14%

Restricting eligibility has support if expansion is not possible.

If no further geographic expansion were possible, do you think action should be taken with respect to restricting eligibility to keep the cemetery active for new burials?

Overall



■ Yes, restrict eligibility
 ■ No, continue policies
 ■ Don't know

Personas

	Veterans <i>n=6,203</i>	Service Members <i>n=8,595</i>	Military Families <i>n=2,431</i>	Unaffiliated <i>n=311</i>
Restrict Eligibility <i>n=14,676</i>	63%	73%	66%	69%
Continue Policies <i>n=4,786</i>	30%	20%	22%	22%
Don't Know <i>n=1,472</i>	7%	7%	13%	9%

Who remains eligible if we change policy?

Respondents feel strongly that those Killed in Action and Medal of Honor Recipients should remain eligible.

If you believe rules should change, is there a group(s) of Veterans that you feel strongly should remain eligible?

	Killed in Action n=13,600	MoH Recipients n=13,533	High Award Recipients n=11,128	Former POWs n=10,574	Perish on Active Duty n=8,073	Retirees n=5,298	Honorable Discharge n=2,024	Other n=1,087	Politicians n=308
Overall n=14,991	91%	90%	74%	71%	54%	35%	13%	7%	2%
	Approximately 2500 AD		Approx. 2200 AD		(2500 AD)	2054	2041		
Veterans n=2,828	88%	86%	68%	65%	53%	47%	15%	11%	2%
	Approximately 2500 AD		2054			2041			
Service Members n=4,889	93%	93%	78%	73%	53%	31%	11%	6%	2%
	Approximately 2500 AD		Approximately 2200 AD		(2500 AD)	2054	2041		
Military Families n=1,075	83%	79%	72%	59%	56%	23%	21%	13%	3%
	Approximately 2200 AD					2041			
Unaffiliated n=138	83%	76%	67%	57%	54%	13%	20%	10%	6%
	Approximately 2200 AD					2041			

Most support from respondent groups Least support from respondent groups

- **ANC has nearly unanimous support for remaining active well in to the future.**
 - 94% of all respondents would like to see ANC remain active well in to the future.
- **>50% of those in favor of expansion also recognize the need to modify eligibility policy at the same time.**
- **If expansion were not possible...**
 - 70% of respondents support restricting eligibility criteria in some manner if expansion is not possible
 - 90% of respondents who would support restricting eligibility criteria feel strongly that those **Killed in Action** and **recipients of the Medal of Honor** should remain eligible.
- **Expansion alone will not allow ANC to be an active cemetery...**
 - Southern Expansion was given to the Army in the NDAA of 2000 – still in the planning stages
 - Millennium – which will open this year – was started during the Clinton presidency
 - ANC will have no remaining 1st interment spaces in 23 years
 - ANC is 4.25 miles inside of the DC beltway – expansion is expensive
 - Expansion will get us 3 months of cemetery life for each acre of expansion
 - Quantico National Cemetery was created to support the DC area population



Refine the options

- Approved refinements by the end of February
- Refinement digs deeper into the options and provides possible positive outcomes along with risks



2nd survey

- Prior to 2nd survey
 - conduct engagements to share outcome(s) of 1st survey
 - Honor Subcommittee of ACANC hosts round table with PSMs/MSOs/VSOs who assisted with 1st survey (today)
- March or April timeframe
- Gather public opinion on the refined options and courses of action
- ACANC reviews results of the 2nd survey in June



ANC will communicate the challenges of expansion

- Real net gain to further expansion efforts
- Must move ahead with any available expansion. Where and what are the assumptions?



ANMC and NCA collaboration

- Tell the story of the National Cemeteries enterprise to the Nation
- Share the story of other military cemeteries located throughout the country – more than 100 state military cemeteries
- Ensure families are aware of options and honors at other cemeteries

