

Survey on The Political, Economic, and Social Effects of the United States' Overseas Military Presence Data Users' Manual

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1 Introduction

This document serves as the codebook for the survey portion of the Minerva Research Initiative funded project, “The Political, Economic, and Social Effects of the United States’ Overseas Military Presence.” This survey contains nationally represented online surveys annually from 2018 to 2020 across 14 countries. The aim of the project is to understand how individuals view a variety of subjects in the context of United States military deployments within their country. The project uses two firms for conducting the survey, the Schmiedl group firm did the surveys for the countries of Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, and the United Kingdom; Qualtrics conducted surveys of the Australia, Belgium, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and Turkey. We have approximately 14,091 respondents for approximately nationally representative populations based on gender, age (over 18), and income.

The survey contained 50 questions and was available in each country’s major languages. Wave 1 of the survey started in September 2018 and concluded November 2018.

Wave 2 of the survey included one additional question about government trust. The second wave of surveys ran from July 2019 until August 2019.

2 Data, Questions and Variables

2.1 Demographic and informational variables

These variables represent either data coded automatically by our survey services or questions we asked the respondents.

2.1.1 Respondent Data

1 - UID (unique_id)

Unique identifier of the respondent. Every respondent is unique per year and there is no temporal tracking.

2 - Country Name (country)

Values:

Australia
Belgium
Germany
Italy
Japan
Kuwait
Netherlands
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
South Korea
Spain
Turkey
United Kingdom

3 - Year of Survey (year)

Values:

2018
2019

2.1.2 Survey Questions

4 - Question: Gender (gender)

What is your gender?

Values:

1 - Male
2 - Female

- 3 - Non-binary
- 4 - None of the above

5 - Question: Minority

Do you identify as a racial, ethnic, or religious minority? (minority)

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Decline to Answer

6 - Question: Education (educ)

How many years of formal education have you completed?

Values:

Values: 0-99999

7 - Question: Age (age)

What is your age?

Values:

Values: 0-99999

8 - Question: Country province (province)

Values:Automatically filled text values by Schmiedl. User filled in values for 2018 Qualtrics survey. Drop down values for 2019 Qualtrics survey. Values vary.

9 - Question: Income (income)

What is your total household income during the past 12 months?

In 2018, the Schmiedl categories were sextiles instead of quintiles. This creates some difficulty for comparing the six Schmiedl countries in 2018. In 2019, both surveys used quintiles and we inflated the quintiles by the country's inflation over the previous year to allow for changes in the income brackets.

Values:

- 0-16% Schmiedl 2018 countries only
- 0-20%
- 17-34% Schmiedl 2018 countries only
- 21-40%
- 35-50% Schmiedl 2018 countries only
- 41-60%
- 51-67% Schmiedl 2018 countries only
- 61-80%
- 68-83% Schmiedl 2018 countries only
- 81-100%

- 84-100% Schmiedl 2018 countries only
NA

10 - Question: Religion (relig)

What is your religion, if any?

Values:

- 1 - Christianity (Protestant)
- 2 - Catholicism
- 3 - Islam
- 4 - Agnostic/Atheist
- 5 - Hinduism
- 6 - Buddhism
- 7 - Shinto
- 8 - Judaism
- 9 - Mormonism
- 10 - Local religion
- 11 - Other:
- 12 - Decline to Answer

11 - Question: Religion Other (relig_other)

Open text responses for the Other bracket option in the previous question.

Value Range: Free-form text.

2.2 Survey Questions: Political and Economic Views

12 - Question: Political Views (ideology)

“People often talk about political issues and views in terms of a “left” and “right” spectrum. Using the following scale, where would you place yourself in terms of political views?”

Values:

- 1 - 1 - LEFT
- 2 - 2
- 3 - 3
- 4 - 4
- 5 - 5
- 6 - 6
- 7 - 7
- 8 - 8
- 9 - 9
- 10 - 10 - RIGHT

13 - Question: Favor Democracy (demgov)

“In general, how important is it to you that you live under a democratic government?”

Values:

- 1 - Very important
- 2 - Somewhat important
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Not important
- 5 - Don't know/decline to answer

14 - Question: Security promotion (cooperate)

“In general, how important do you think it is for the countries to work together to promote peace and security?”

Values:

- 1 - Very important
- 2 - Somewhat important
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Not important
- 5 - Don't know/decline to answer

15 - Question: Trust in Government (govetrust)

“In general, my government is trustworthy. Do you...”

Values:

- 1 - Strongly agree
- 2 - Somewhat agree
- 3 - Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 - Somewhat disagree
- 5 - Strongly disagree
- 6 - Don't know/decline to answer

16 - Question: Economic Growth (coop_econ)

“In general, how important do you think it is for the countries to work together to promote economic growth and development?”

Values:

- 1 - Very important
- 2 - Somewhat important
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Not important
- 5 - Don't know/decline to answer

17 - Question: Security reliance (self_sufficient)

“In general, countries are better off depending on their own strength and not relying on other countries for security or economic prosperity. Do you...”

Values:

- 1 - Strongly agree

- 2 - Somewhat agree
- 3 - Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 - Somewhat disagree
- 5 - Strongly disagree
- 6 - Don't know/decline to answer

18 - Question: Neighboring countries (relations_neighbor)

“In general, what is your opinion of relations between (respondent's country) and neighboring countries? Are relations ...”

Values:

- 1 - Very peaceful
- 2 - Somewhat peaceful
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat hostile
- 5 - Very hostile
- 6 - Don't know/decline to answer

19 - Question: American Government (american_gov)

“In general, what is your opinion of the American government?”

Values:

- 1 - Very favorable
- 2 - Somewhat favorable
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unfavorable
- 5 - Very unfavorable
- 6 - Don't know/decline to answer

20 - Question: American People (american_people)

“In general, what is your opinion of the American people?”

Values:

- 1 - Very favorable
- 2 - Somewhat favorable
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unfavorable
- 5 - Very unfavorable
- 6 - Don't know/decline to answer

21 - Question: US Influence (american_inf_1)

“In your opinion, how much influence does the United States have in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - A lot
- 2 - Some

- 3 - A little
- 4 - None
- 5 - Don't know/Decline to answer

22 - Question: US Influence Effect (american_inf_2)

“In your opinion, the influence that the United States has in (respondent's country) is...”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

23 - Question: Democratic Party (party_dems)

“What is your opinion of the Democratic Party in the United States? ”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

24 - Question: Republican Party (party_reps)

“What is your opinion of the Republican Party in the United States? ”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

25 - Question: Chinese Government (chinese_gov)

“In general, what is your opinion of the Chinese government? ”

Values:

- 1 - Very favorable
- 2 - Somewhat favorable
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unfavorable
- 5 - Very unfavorable

6 - Don't know/decline to answer

26 - Question: Chinese People (chinese_people)

“In general, what is your opinion of the Chinese people?”

Values:

- 1 - Very favorable
- 2 - Somewhat favorable
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unfavorable
- 5 - Very unfavorable
- 6 - Don't know/decline to answer

27 - Question: China's Influence (chinese_inf_1)

“In your opinion, how much influence does China have in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - A lot
- 2 - Some
- 3 - A little
- 4 - None
- 5 - Don't know/Decline to answer

28 - Question: China's Influence Effect (chinese_inf_2)

“In your opinion, the influence that China has in (respondent's country) is ...”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

2.3 Survey Questions: Military Presence

29 - Question: US Military Presence (troops.1)

“ In general, what is your opinion of the presence of American military forces in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative

- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

30 - Question: US Military Presence on Economy (troops_econ_nat)

“In your opinion, what sort of influence does the presence of American military forces have on the economy of (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

31 - Question: US Military Presence on Local Economy (troops_econ_local)

“In your opinion, what sort of influence does the presence of American military forces have on the economy of your local area?”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

32 - Question: US Military Presence on Crime (troops_crime)

“In your opinion, how has the presence of American military forces affected crime and public safety in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Positive
- 3 - Neither Positive nor Negative
- 4 - Negative
- 5 - Very Negative
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

33 - Question: US Military Presence on foreign threats (troops_security)

“In your opinion, how has the presence of American military forces in (respondent's country) affected (respondent's country)'s security from foreign threats?”

Values:

- 1 - Very helpful
- 2 - Somewhat helpful

- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unhelpful
- 5 - Very unhelpful
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

34 - Question: US Military Divisive (troops_divisive)

“In your opinion, is the presence of American military forces in (respondent's country) . . .”

Values:

- 1 - Not a divisive issue
- 2 - A somewhat divisive issue
- 3 - A very divisive issue
- 4 - Don't know/Decline to answer

35 - Question: US Military on Quality of Democracy (troops_democ)

“In your opinion, how has the presence of American military forces affected the quality of democracy in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Very helpful
- 2 - Somewhat helpful
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat unhelpful
- 5 - Very unhelpful
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer

36 - Question: US Military on Human Rights (troops_hr)

“In your opinion, how has the presence of American military forces affected your government's respect for human rights?”

Values:

- 1 - The presence of American military forces has greatly improved the government's respect for human rights
- 2 - The presence of American military forces has somewhat improved the government's respect for human rights
- 3 - Neutral / No change
- 4 - The presence of American military forces has somewhat worsened the government's respect for human rights
- 5 - The presence of American military forces has greatly worsened the government's respect for human rights

37 - Question: Direct Contact with US Military (contact_pers)

“Have you personally had direct contact with a member of the American military in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

38 - Question: Family Contact with US Military (contact_nonpers)

“Has a member of your family or close friend had direct contact with a member of the American military stationed in (respondent's country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

39 - Question: Economic benefit US Military (benefit_pers)

“Have you personally received a direct economic benefit from the American military presence in (respondent's country)? Examples include employment by the US military, employment by a contractor that does business with the US military, or ownership/employment at a business that frequently serves US military personnel.”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

40 - Question: Reliance on Economic Benefit (benefit_pers_rely)

“How reliant are you on these economic benefits?”

Values:

- 1 - Very reliant
- 2 - Somewhat reliant
- 3 - Not reliant at all
- 4 - Don't know/Decline to answer

41 - Question: Family Economic Benefit US Military (benefit_nonpers)

“Has a member of your family or close friend received a direct economic benefit from the American military presence in (respondent's country)? Examples include employment by the US military, employment by a contractor that does business with the US military, or ownership/employment at a business that frequently serves US military personnel.”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

42 - Question: Reliance on Economic Benefit (benefit_nonpers_rely)

“How reliant are you on these economic benefits?”

Values:

- 1 - Very reliant
- 2 - Somewhat reliant
- 3 - Not reliant at all
- 4 - Don't know/Decline to answer

43 - Question: Safety (troops_safe)

“Do you feel safer in your daily life because of the presence of US military personnel?”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

44 - Question: Victim of Crime (troops_crime_pers)

“Have you personally been the victim of a crime committed by a member of the US military?”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

45 - Victim of Robbery? (robbery)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the robbery box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

46 - Victim of Theft? (theft)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the theft box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

47 - Victim of Burglary? (burglary)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the burglary box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

48 - Victim of Assault? (assault)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the assault box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

49 - Victim of Sexual Assault? (sexualassault)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the sexual assault box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

50 - Victim of Drug Related crime? (drugrelated)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the drug related box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

51 - Victim of Don't know/Decline to answer? (crimedk)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the don't know/decline to answer box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

52 - Question: Know a Victim (troops_crime_nonpers)

“Do you know someone who has been the victim of a crime committed by a member of the US military?”

Values:

- 1 - Yes
- 2 - No
- 3 - Don't know/Decline to answer

53 - Question: Type of Crime (crimetype_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check any of the boxes?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

54 - Victim of Robbery? (robbery_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the robbery box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

55 - Victim of Theft? (theft_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the theft box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

56 - Victim of Burglary? (burglary_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the burglary box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

57 - Victim of Assault? (assault_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the assault box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

58 - Victim of Sexual Assault? (sexualassault_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the sexual assault box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

59 - Victim of Drug Related crime? (drugrelated_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the drug related box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

60 - Victim of Don't know/Decline to answer? (crimedk_nonpers)

“What type of crime?” Did the respondent check the don't know/decline to answer box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

61 - Question: Troop Presence (troops_estimate)

“To the best of your knowledge, how many American military personnel are currently stationed in (respondent's country):”

Value Range: Any number

62 - Question: Greatest Benefit of Military Presence (troops_benefit)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check any of the boxes?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

63 - Question: Greatest Benefit Reduced threats (benefit_crime)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the reduced crime box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

64 - Question: Greatest Benefit Reduced Crime (benefit_crime)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the reduced crime box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

65 - Question: Greatest Benefit Human Rights (benefit_humanrights)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the human rights box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

66 - Question: Greatest Benefit Economic Activity (benefit_econic)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the increased economic activity box?

Values:

0 - Unchecked

1 - Checked

67 - Question: Greatest Benefit Political Impacts (benefit_political)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check any the political impacts box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

68 - Question: Greatest Benefit Support Democracy (benefit_democracy)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the support for democracy box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

69 - Question: Greatest Benefit Other (benefit_other)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check any of the other box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

70 - Question: Greatest Benefit No benefits (benefit_none)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the no benefits box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

71 - Question: Greatest Benefit Don’t Know / Decline to Answer (benefit_dkda)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the respondent check the Don’t know / Decline to answer box?

Values:

- 0 - Unchecked
- 1 - Checked

72 - Question: Greatest Benefit Other (benefit_extended)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest benefit of hosting American military personnel in (respondent’s country)?” Did the write

Values:

values vary

73 - Greatest Benefit of Military Presence Free-Form cell (troops_benefit_other)

Values:

Other option from previous question, values vary

74 - Question: Greatest Benefit of Military Presence (troops_drawback)

“In your opinion, what is the greatest drawback of hosting American military forces in (respondent’s country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Decreased security
- 2 - Greater problems with public safety at home
- 3 - Negative economic consequences
- 4 - Changing the behavior and/or policies of the government of (respondent’s country)
- 5 - No/lower support for democracy
- 6 - Other:
- 7 - No drawback
- 8 - Don’t know / Decline to answer

75 - Greatest Drawback of Military Presence Free-Form cell (drawback_other)

Values:

Other option from previous question.

76 - Question: Duration of Presence (troops_stay)

“In your opinion, how long should the American military remain in (respondent’s country)?”

Values:

- 1 - 0-6 months
- 2 - 6-12 months
- 3 - 1-3 years
- 4 - Longer than 3 years
- 5 - As long as needed
- 6 - No preference
- 7 - Don’t know/Decline to answer

77 - Question: US Military-Government Relationship (troops_gov)

“What is your opinion of the relationship between the US military and the government of (respondent’s country)?”

Values:

- 1 - Very positive
- 2 - Somewhat positive
- 3 - Neutral
- 4 - Somewhat negative
- 5 - Very negative
- 6 - Don’t know/Decline to answer

78 - Question: Attended Protest (protest)

“Have you ever attended a protest event against a US military base?”

Values:

- 1 - Never

- 2 - One time
- 3 - Two times
- 4 - Three times
- 5 - More than three times
- 6 - Don't know/Decline to answer