



# Information Sheet

The Veterans Metrics Initiative (TVMI) began in 2016 and was a longitudinal study that gathered comprehensive well-being and program-utilization data from approximately 10,000 newly separated post-9/11 veterans. The study took place over 3 years and included six waves of data collection that examined various life domains for this target population. Researchers found that a key takeaway from these data was that a need existed for the development of a screening tool that could be used to assess risk factors and program-component needs for veterans who are transitioning from the military.

The Veteran Transition Screener (VTS) was created in response to this need, and it measures veterans' risks and can guide veteran-serving providers as they make informed decisions regarding the most effective program and service components they invest in and use to support veterans and their families. The screener items were selected based on their significance to outcomes, and attention was given to minimizing the number of items. The VTS has seven sections: background information, specific experiences, employment, education, finance, health, and social (Table 1). With the exception of the background information and the specific experiences sections, service providers are able to choose the sections they deem important and relevant to their clients. For example, a service provider for an employment program may choose to include the employment and education sections for their clients, while a service provider for a financial program may just choose to include the financial section. The background and specific experiences sections are required for all service providers as they contain items predictive of veteran well-being. In some sections, certain items are only displayed to a client based on their response(s) to prior items. Therefore, the number of items a participant answers may vary depending on how they answer certain questions. The VTS is available at <https://veteranetwork.psu.edu/projects/veteran-transition-screener/>.

**Table 1**  
*Number of Items by Domain*

Section	Basic Items	Program-Utilization Items	Total Screener Items
<b>Required Sections</b>			
<b>Background</b> (~2 minute)	20	–	20
<b>Specific Experiences</b> (~2 minutes)	14	–	14
<b>Optional Sections</b>			
<b>Employment</b> (~4 minutes)	4 to 13	8	4 to 21
<b>Education</b> (~2 minutes)	2 to 5	4	2 to 9
<b>Financial</b> (~4 minutes)	14 to 17	6	20 to 23
<b>Health</b> (~3 minutes)	16	–	16
<b>Social Relationships</b> (~1 minutes)	3	5	8
<b>Total</b> (~5 to ~18 minutes)	73 to 88	23	84 to 111

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