

# VFW Acknowledges Pride Month

## The VFW takes the opportunity to recognize LGBTQI+ veterans for their service to the nation

Jun 01, 2023

**WASHINGTON** — June is Pride Month, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) joins the nation in recognizing LGBTQI+ veterans and service members.

It is estimated that there are a little more than 1 million LGBTQI+ veterans in the United States. Since the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010, surveys have found that more than 5% of active-duty service members identify as part of the LGBTQI+ community. They are counted among the less than 1% who serve or have served in the U.S. military.

Beginning in 1999, four U.S. presidents officially declared June as Pride Month – President Bill Clinton, President Barack Obama, President Donald Trump and President Joe Biden. The 2023 White House proclamation for Pride Month can be found [here](#).

The 1.5 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary salute all LGBTQI+ veterans, past, present and future, and say “thank you” for your service to our great nation.

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