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RESPONDENTS INCLUDING MILITARY, VETERAN, NATIONAL GUARD, AND RESERVE FAMILIES

Blue Star Families' annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey provides a comprehensive understanding of what it means to serve as a military family. For that reason, it is a blueprint for strengthening America, identifying how we can continue to enhance military family life.

This infographic represents a geographic cross-section of the results that includes active-duty (68%), veteran (27%), National Guard (2%), and Reserve (3%) family respondents. **Unless otherwise stated, all statistics reflect the full sample who selected "self" or "spouse" when asked about their relationship to the service member.** When referencing this data, please consider that the majority of respondents reported here are White / non-Hispanic, military spouses, representing senior enlisted ranks, and represent the Army. The average age of respondents here is 38, 79% are female, and 26% report they are unpaid caregivers.



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



2019 MILITARY FAMILY LIFESTYLE SURVEY

MISSOURI RESULTS



ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILIES	TOP 5 ISSUES RANKED		TOP LIFESTYLE STRESSORS	
	1	Dependent children's education	1	Financial issues/stress
	2	Military spouse employment [tie]	2	Isolation from family/friends
	2	Current housing / BAH conditions [tie]	3	Relocation issues
	3	Amount of time away from family	4	Deployments
	4	Lack of control over military career	5	Separation
	(n=133)		(n=145)	

BOLSTERING BELONGING

LOCAL CULTURAL COMPETENCE



feel **local civilians support** military families
31% have no opinion
(n=199)



feel local civilians are **aware** that military and veteran families' **experiences** may **differ from their own**
16% have no opinion (n=199)



feel local civilians **appreciate sacrifices** local military families make
21% have no opinion
(n=199)



feel local civilians **understand sacrifices** local military families make
20% have no opinion
(n=198)

SENSE OF BELONGING



feel **welcome** in their local civilian community
33% have no opinion
(n=199)



feel **military affiliation prevents forming close relationships** with local civilians
19% have no opinion (n=195)



feel they **do not have a voice** in local civilian community
40% have no opinion*
(n=194)



do not feel a **sense of belonging** to their local civilian community
31% have no opinion*
(n=199)

n = total responses to each question
* Question asked differently in 2018

SNAPSHOT OF MILITARY FAMILIES IN MISSOURI



MILITARY FAMILY STABILITY

FAMILY FINANCIAL READINESS



experience stress due to current financial situation (n=171)

TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO CURRENT FINANCIAL STRESS (n=110)

1. Excessive credit card debt
2. Un/underemployment
3. Out-of-pocket housing costs

EMPLOYMENT



are “not at all likely” to identify military affiliation in interview
16% say it depends on the employer² (n=120)



feel local employers are eager to hire military-connected employees
22% have no opinion and 22% don't know (n=197)

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

HOUSING



say all in local civilian community **do not have** access to **safe and affordable housing** (n=169)

MILITARY COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIRING THE MOST IMPROVEMENT¹ (n=127)



base housing

COMMUNITY SERVICES



feel local civilian support agencies **aren't effectively addressing needs**
36% have no opinion and 30% don't know (n=121)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about the annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey or ways to support?

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Questions about Blue Star Families' Missouri Chapter?

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