

# 462

## RESPONDENTS INCLUDING SERVICE MEMBERS AND MILITARY SPOUSES

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 **only includes active-duty families**. When referencing this data, please consider that the majority of respondents reported here are White/Non-Hispanic, military spouses (88%), representing senior enlisted ranks, and most are affiliated with the Navy (58%). The average age of respondents here is 34, 91% are female, and 28% report they are unpaid caregivers.



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



# SAN DIEGO RESULTS



## 2019 MILITARY FAMILY LIFESTYLE SURVEY

### TOP 5 ISSUES RANKED (n=413)

Amount of time away from family	52%
Military spouse employment	47%
Military family stability	44%
Dependent children's education	39%
Military pay	37%

### TOP LIFESTYLE STRESSORS (n=448)

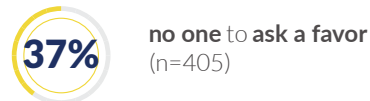
Financial issues/stress	58%
Deployments	45%
Relocation issues	44%
Isolation from family/friends	40%
Lack of childcare	37%

## MILITARY FAMILY STABILITY

### FAMILY SEPARATION



**MOST HELPFUL DURING SEPARATION** (n=314):  
local friends • extended family • non-local friends



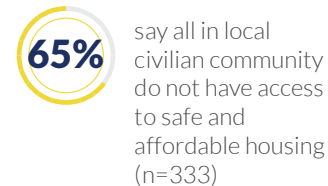
### RELOCATION

**MOST CONCERNING PART OF RELOCATION** (n=94)

Finding and enrolling in **schools** and **childcare**



### FINANCIAL READINESS



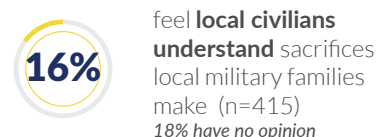
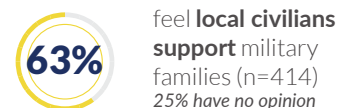
**TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO CURRENT FINANCIAL STRESS** (n=253)

- Un/under-employment
- Out-of-pocket relocation costs
- Out-of-pocket housing costs

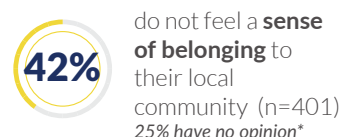


## LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT

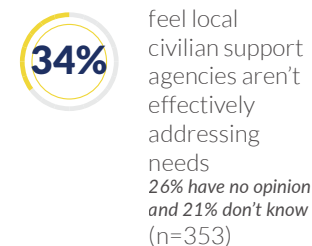
### LOCAL CULTURAL COMPETENCE



### SENSE OF BELONGING



### COMMUNITY SERVICES



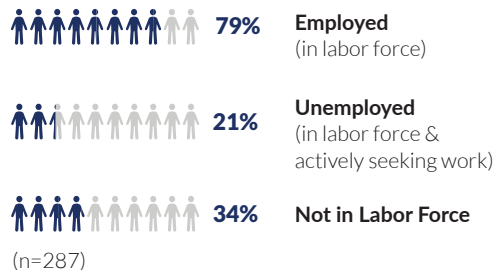
### MILITARY COMMUNITY SERVICES REQUIRING THE MOST IMPROVEMENT



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

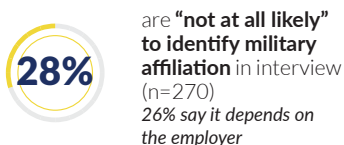
# SNAPSHOT OF MILITARY FAMILIES IN SAN DIEGO

## SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT\*



**Top reason for not working for those not employed, but want or need to work**  
(n=103)

\$\$\$ Childcare too expensive



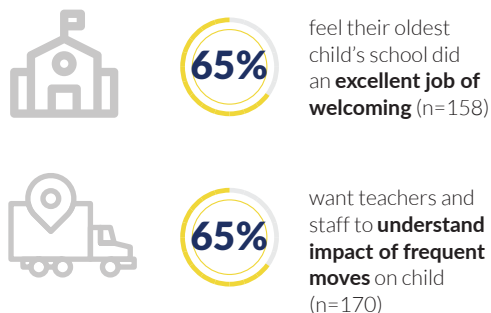
\* Military spouse respondents only

## CONTACT INFORMATION

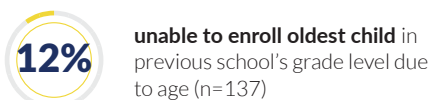
Questions about the annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey or ways to support?  
[survey@bluestarfam.org](mailto:survey@bluestarfam.org)

Questions about Blue Star Families' San Diego Chapter?  
[sandiego@bluestarfam.org](mailto:sandiego@bluestarfam.org)

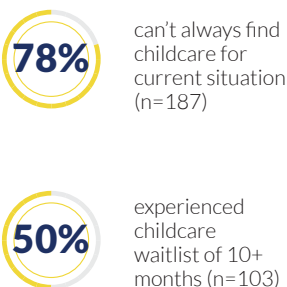
## MILITARY CHILDREN'S EDUCATION



**Spotlight on Interstate Compact Implementation:**



## CHILDCARE



Funding for the 2019 Military Family Lifestyle Survey is provided through the generosity of our presenting sponsor USAA and from supporting sponsors Lockheed Martin Corporation, Craig Newmark Philanthropies, CSX Corporation, Hunt Companies, OptumServe, AARP, BAE Systems, Booz Allen Hamilton, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Walmart, and Army & Air Force Exchange Service.

## OVERALL TAKEAWAYS

Three-quarters of San Diego respondents (the majority of whom are senior enlisted or officers) report they are financially stressed.

Childcare and housing difficulties negatively impact relocation experiences, spouse employment, and overall financial well-being.

Most respondents believe civilians in San Diego support military families, but also perceive a lack of overall military family lifestyle cultural competence (awareness, appreciation, understanding, support, and respect).

There is an opportunity for civilian employers in San Diego to proactively signal to military spouses that they are eager to hire them.

