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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 (64%), veteran (30%), National Guard (3%), 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 81% represent the Army. The average age of respondents here is 38, 84% are female, and 33% report they are unpaid caregivers.



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



2019 MILITARY FAMILY LIFESTYLE SURVEY

TENNESSEE RESULTS



TOP 5 ISSUES RANKED

ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILIES	1	Amount of time away from family
	2	Military family stability
	3	Military spouse employment [tie]
	3	Lack of control over military career [tie]
	5	Dependent children's education

(n=112)

TOP LIFESTYLE STRESSORS

1	Financial issues/stress
2	Separation
3	Deployments
4	Relocation issues
5	Isolation from family/friends

(n=126)

BOLSTERING BELONGING

LOCAL CULTURAL COMPETENCE



feel **local civilians support** military families
25% have no opinion
(n=188)



feel local civilians are **aware** that military and veteran families' **experiences may differ from their own**
14% have no opinion (n=189)



feel **local civilians appreciate sacrifices** local military families make
19% have no opinion
(n=188)



feel **local civilians understand sacrifices** local military families make
19% have no opinion
(n=187)

SENSE OF BELONGING



feel **welcome** in their local civilian community
32% have no opinion
(n=182)



feel **military affiliation prevents forming close relationships** with local civilians
21% have no opinion (n=178)



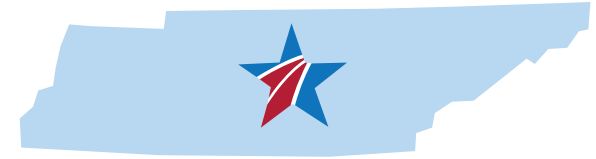
feel they **do not have a voice** in local civilian community
31% have no opinion*
(n=180)



do not feel a **sense of belonging** to their local civilian community
27% have no opinion*
(n=179)

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

SNAPSHOT OF MILITARY FAMILIES IN TENNESSEE



MILITARY FAMILY STABILITY

FAMILY FINANCIAL READINESS



experience stress due to current financial situation (n=149)

TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO CURRENT FINANCIAL STRESS (n=103)

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

EMPLOYMENT



are “not at all likely” to identify military affiliation in interview
24% say it depends on the employer² (n=120)



feel local employers are eager to hire military-connected employees
24% have no opinion and 21% don't know (n=189)

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

HOUSING



say all in local civilian community **do not** have access to **safe and affordable housing** (n=146)

MILITARY COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIRING THE MOST IMPROVEMENT¹ (n=112)



base housing

COMMUNITY SERVICES



feel local civilian support agencies **aren't effectively addressing needs of active duty families**¹
31% have no opinion and 16% don't know (n=104)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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Questions about Blue Star Families' Tennessee Chapter?

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