

# 112

## 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 (38%), veteran (25%), National Guard (29%), and Reserve (8%) family respondents who live within a 50 mile radius of Salt Lake City. 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 sample is not representative of all demographic groups: 88% are White / Non-Hispanic, 53% are spouses of service members or veterans, 63% represent senior enlisted ranks, and 31% are affiliated with the Air Force. The average age of respondents here is 41, 67% are female, and 27% report they are unpaid caregivers. Additionally, the distribution of this sample is not comparable to other Blue Star Families Chapters or to the national sample.



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



2019 MILITARY FAMILY  
LIFESTYLE SURVEY

# UTAH RESULTS



### TOP 5 ISSUES RANKED

- 1 Amount of time away from family
- 2 Access to VA health care
- 3 Military pay
- 4 Lack of control over military career
- 5 Military family stability

(n=105)

### TOP LIFESTYLE STRESSORS

- 1 Financial issues/stress
- 2 Separations
- 3 Lack of child care
- 4 Issues related to children
- 5 Deployments

(n=112)

## BOLSTERING BELONGING

### LOCAL CULTURAL COMPETENCE



feel **local civilians**  
**support** military families  
20% have no opinion  
(n=109)



feel local civilians are **aware**  
that military and veteran  
families' **experiences** may  
**differ from their own**  
12% have no opinion (n=109)



feel **local civilians**  
**appreciate the sacrifices**  
**local** military families make  
22% have no opinion  
(n=109)



feel **local civilians**  
**understand the sacrifices**  
**local** military families make  
16% have no opinion  
(n=109)

### SENSE OF BELONGING



feel **welcome** in their  
local civilian community  
29% have no opinion  
(n=103)



feel **military affiliation**  
**prevents forming close**  
**relationships** with local  
civilians  
21% have no opinion (n=101)



feel they **do not have**  
**a voice** in local civilian  
community  
36% have no opinion\*  
(n=102)



do not feel a **sense of**  
**belonging** to their local  
civilian community  
30% have no opinion\*  
(n=104)

n = total responses to each question

\* Question asked differently in 2018

# SNAPSHOT OF MILITARY FAMILIES IN UTAH



## MILITARY FAMILY STABILITY

### FAMILY FINANCIAL READINESS



experience stress due to current financial situation (n=98)

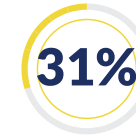
#### TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO CURRENT FINANCIAL STRESS (n=54)

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

### EMPLOYMENT



are “not at all likely” to identify military affiliation in interview  
23% say it depends on the employer<sup>2</sup> (n=73)



feel local employers are eager to hire military-connected employees  
21% have no opinion and 20% don't know (n=108)

## HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

### HOUSING



say all in local civilian community **do not** have access to **safe and affordable housing** (n=95)

#### HOW TO BE A GOOD BLUE STAR NEIGHBOR

*“Learn more about what we deal with, so we can actually talk about life together instead of it just being a teaching opportunity when we talk with civilians.”*

- NATIONAL GUARD SERVICE MEMBER IN UTAH

## 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' Utah Chapter?

[utah@bluestarfam.org](mailto:utah@bluestarfam.org)

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.

n = total responses to each question  
1 active-duty families only  
2 excludes active-duty service members

