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 and identifying how we can continue to enhance military life.

This infographic offers a snapshot of military life experiences among active-duty family respondents who identify as Black/African-American. When referencing this data, please consider that many respondents reported multiple racial identities. Within this sample, 18% also identify as white, non-Hispanic, 9% as Hispanic/Latinx, and 8% as American Indian/Alaska Native. Furthermore, 87% of respondents are female, 78% are military spouses, and 63% are senior enlisted service members (or are married to one). Many of these issues could be affected by gender, rank, socioeconomic status, etc.

**TOP ISSUES, RANKED**

- **Military Spouse Employment**
  - 55%

- **Amount of Time Away From Family**
  - 43%

- **Military Pay (Tied)**
  - 40%

- **Dependent Children’s Education (Tied)**
  - 40%

- **Military Family Stability/Quality of Life (Tied)**
  - 40%

**FINANCIAL READINESS**

- **#1 Military life stressor**
  - 55%

- **7 in 10 experience stress due to current financial situation**
  - 70%

- **50% report un/underemployment is a top 3 contributor to financial stress**
  - 15%

**SERVICE EXPERIENCE**

- **27% plan to leave service within 3 years**
  - 32%

- **Top Reasons for Potentially Leaving Service**
  - Concerns about impact of service on family
  - Military lifestyle did not allow sufficient time with family
  - Lost faith or trust in military leadership
  - 14%

**CHILD CARE**

- “Military child care” #2 most cited DoD resource in need of improvement
  - 36%

- **67% not always able to find child care for their current situation**
  - 119

- **31% report out-of-pocket child care costs are a top 3 contributor to financial stress**
  - 155
**731 RESPONDENTS INCLUDING SERVICE MEMBERS AND MILITARY SPOUSES**

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This infographic offers a snapshot of military life experiences among active-duty family respondents who identify as Hispanic/Latinx. When referencing this data, please consider that many respondents reported multiple racial identities. Within this sample, 15% also identify as white, non-Hispanic. Furthermore, 88% of respondents are female, 86% are military spouses, and 62% are senior enlisted service members (or are married to one). Many of these issues could be affected by gender, rank, socioeconomic status, etc.

**TOP ISSUES, RANKED (n=622)**

- **AMOUNT OF TIME AWAY FROM FAMILY** 46%
- **MILITARY SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT** 45%
- **DEPENDENT CHILDREN’S EDUCATION** 44%
- **MILITARY FAMILY STABILITY/QUALITY OF LIFE** 38%
- **MILITARY PAY** 35%

**SERVICE EXPERIENCE**

**Top Reasons for Potentially Leaving Service***

- Military lifestyle did not allow sufficient time with family
- Concerns about impact of service on family
- Lost faith or trust in military leadership

*Among those who have currently served 10 years or less (n=292)

1 in 4 are unsure when they will leave service (n=698, 24%)**

**SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT**

**#2 most cited PCS concern**

- 2 in 3 report having two incomes is vital to family’s well-being (n=455, 67%)
- 40% report un/underemployment is a top 3 contributor to financial stress (n=329)

**CHILD CARE**

“Military child care” #2 most cited DoD resource in need of improvement (n=545, 37%)

- 72% not always able to find child care for their current situation (n=247)
- 62% say child care affordability impacted education or employment pursuits (n=194)

**SPOTLIGHT ON HISPANIC/LATINX MILITARY FAMILIES**

Funding for the racial equity research series is provided through the generosity of our presenting sponsor USAA and from supporting sponsor CSX Corporation.

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This infographic offers a snapshot of military life experiences among active-duty family respondents who identify as Asian. When referencing this data, please consider that many respondents reported multiple racial identities. Within this sample, 34% also identify as white, non-Hispanic, 7% as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 6% as Hispanic/Latinx. Furthermore, 89% of respondents are female, 87% are military spouses, and 54% are senior enlisted service members (or are married to one). Many of these issues could be affected by gender, rank, socioeconomic status, etc.

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