

10,926

RESPONDENTS INCLUDING ACTIVE-DUTY, NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS

Military families are assets to national defense and their local communities. They are central to the health and capability of the All-Volunteer Force and are good neighbors actively engaged in making their civilian communities great places to live.

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.



IN COLLABORATION WITH



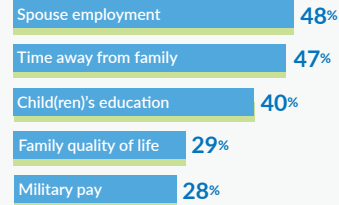
FUNDING FOR THE 2020 MILITARY FAMILY LIFESTYLE SURVEY IS PROVIDED THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF OUR PRESENTING SPONSOR USAA AND FROM SUPPORTING SPONSORS LOCKHEED MARTIN, AARP, CSX, HUNT COMPANIES, BAE SYSTEMS, THE BARRY ROBINSON CENTER, COMCAST, NORTHROP GRUMMAN, WALMART FOUNDATION, AND THE BOEING COMPANY.

2020 TOP 5 ISSUES

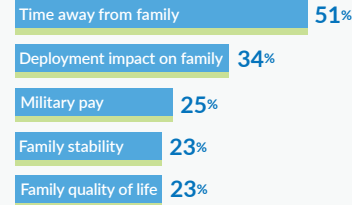


2020 MILITARY FAMILY LIFESTYLE SURVEY

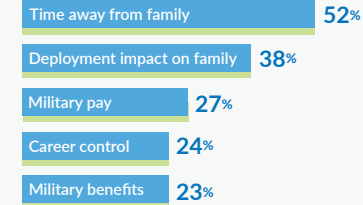
ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILIES



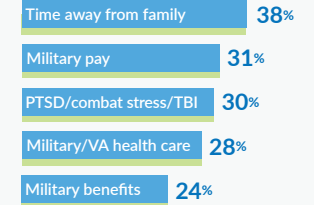
RESERVE FAMILIES



NATIONAL GUARD FAMILIES



VETERAN FAMILIES



Service Members Experience Military-Connected Discrimination

EXPERIENCES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
Service members of color¹ reported experiencing racial discrimination:



in their unit/command



in promotion/career advancement opportunities

IMPACTS OF DISCRIMINATION



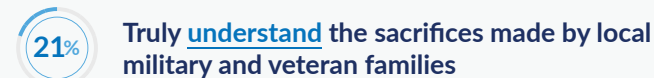
of veterans of color left military service due to racial discrimination²



of female veterans left military service due to gender discrimination²

Active-Duty Family Respondents Feel Support and Appreciation, but Not Belonging

Active-duty family respondents feel civilians in their local community:



BELONGING



¹Includes Hispanic/Latino/a, Black/African American, Bi-racial/multi-racial, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaska Native active-duty respondents

²Excluding those who left due to retirement

Limited Child Care And Education Options During Covid-19 Exacerbate Existing Active-Duty Family Concerns

SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT



80% Employed (in labor force)



20% Unemployed (in labor force and actively seeking work)



41% Not in labor force

Underemployment³



67% of employed military spouses are underemployed

Top Reasons for Not Working

Active-duty Spouse Respondents Who Need or Want to Work

I homeschool/supervise virtual education for my child(ren)	35%
Child care is too expensive	34%
My service member's daily work schedule is too unpredictable	33%

MILITARY CHILDREN



23% of active-duty family respondents can find child care that works for their situation



39% can find care "sometimes"

Top solution to alleviate schooling/child care concerns for active-duty service member respondents



51% Permission to work remotely

Unemployment is higher for spouses of color⁴



Spouses of color

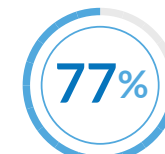


White, non-Hispanic spouses

1 in 5

Active-duty service member respondents reported "concerns about spouse employment" as a reason they would leave military service

Excessive Out-Of-Pocket Housing Costs and Food Insecurity are Financial Concerns



77% Pay more than \$200 in out-of-pocket housing costs per month⁵

Enlisted active-duty families who reported food insecurity⁶

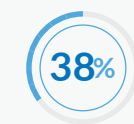


Food insecurity is higher for spouses who are not employed but need/want to work

Enlisted spouses who need/want to work: 20% food insecure

Enlisted spouses employed full or part time: 10% food insecure

Active-Duty Families Struggle with Sleep and Anxiety



38% of active-duty family respondents get enough good quality sleep to function effectively



Active-Duty Service Member Respondents	Active-Duty Spouse Respondents	Reported a Current Diagnosis of
16%	23%	Generalized anxiety disorder
15%	6%	Sleep disorder

³Indicated one or more circumstances of underemployment

⁴Includes Hispanic/Latino/a, Black/African American, Bi-racial/multi-racial, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or American Indian/Alaska Native active-duty spouses

⁵Includes active-duty family respondents who live off the installation who reported out-of-pocket costs

⁶Defined as low or very low food security