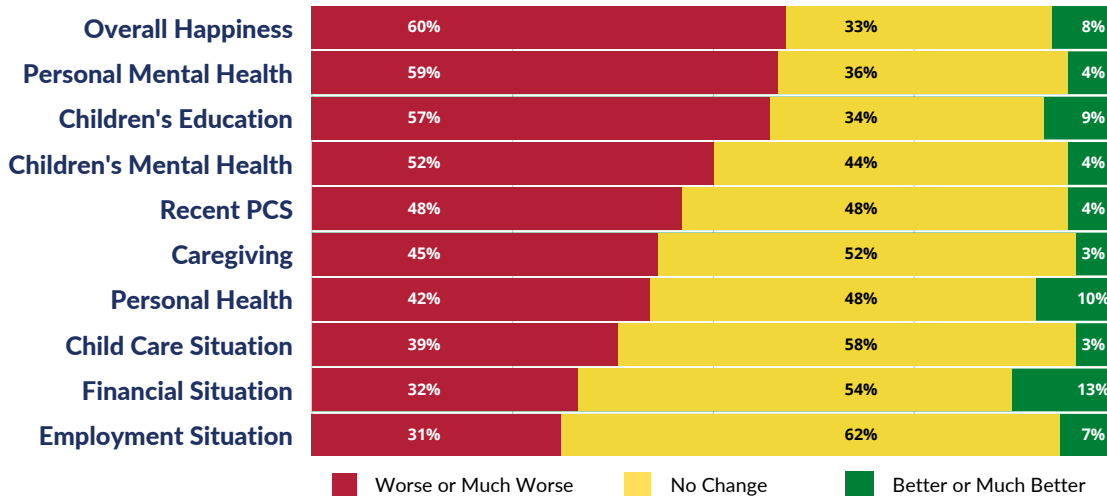


# COVID-19 IMPACTS SNAPSHOT

*Degree to which COVID-19 has changed the following areas:*



## 4,861 ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILY RESPONDENTS

Blue Star Families' annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey, fielded from September 8 to October 16, 2020, 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 family life.

This infographic represents a cross-section of the results that includes only active-duty family respondents. Unless otherwise stated, all statistics reflect the sample of respondents who reported their primary relationship to the military was "active-duty service member" or "spouse/domestic partner of an active-duty service member." This sample is representative of service branch but not of all demographic groups: 73% are White / Non-Hispanic, 82% are spouses of service members, 51% represent senior enlisted ranks. The average age of these respondents is 36, 90% are female, and 85% have at least one child.

## MENTAL HEALTH

**21%**

do not currently receive mental health care but would like to receive it

## MILITARY CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

**52%**

virtual schooling

**28%**

traditional schooling

**15%**

hybrid schooling  
(traditional/virtual mix)

**5%**

other

**13%\*** homeschooling their oldest child  
8% in 2019\*

## TOP 3 CHALLENGES PCSING TO NEW SCHOOLS DURING COVID-19

- Enrollment issues
- Concern for COVID-19 exposure
- Education gaps

## CHILD CARE

**74%\*** can't always find child care for their current situation  
*68% in 2019\**

“

*“Restrictive guidelines for children at daycare (I.e. child had a fever, ALL children in the house must stay home until 48 hours after the sick kid is fever- and symptom-free - this is for any/all illnesses, not just COVID). In the COVID era, my kids are banned from daycare (that I have to pay for) for about a week for a runny nose, at some point my command won't tolerate my repeated absences.”*

*-- Female Army service member*

”



### Top 2 challenges searching for child care

- Availability issues
- Concern for COVID-19 exposure

## SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT

**42%** of those working before COVID-19 stopped working since COVID-19 began; **32%** of those found new employment  
*Top Reason: Laid Off/Furloughed*



**49%** of those working before COVID-19 reduced work hours due to COVID-19  
*Top Reason: Inability to juggle work and child(ren)'s educational support*

**58%** with children under 18 in the home used an alternative work arrangement due to lack of child care during COVID-19

**41%** Telework | **13%** Shifted work hours | **4%** Other

\*Differences were not tested for significance and may be attributable to sample and item variance

## CAREGIVING

**10%** of caregiver respondents could not provide care at all



## FINANCIAL READINESS

**60%** experience stress due to financial situation



## PCS

**25%** of families PCSed during COVID-19



## DEPLOYMENT

**24%** report they/their service member deployed  
**35%** of those deployments were extended



## SPECIAL EDUCATION CONCERNS

**39%** of parents with a child in K-12 special education who receives support services were not able to retain services during school closures

**39%** of those who retained some or all support services were satisfied with them

