# 141

## **ACTIVE-DUTY FAMILY** RESPONDENTS IN NEW YORK, **NEW JERSEY, AND CONNECTICUT**

Blue Star Families' annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey provides a comprehensive understanding of what it means to serve as a military family.

This infographic represents a geographic crosssection of the results that only includes activeduty families. When referencing this data, please consider the following sample demographics:

- 79% are white, non-Hispanic
- 86% are female
- 78% are active-duty spouses
- 58% are enlisted ranks
- 39% are affiliated with the Army, 17% Coast Guard, 14% Navy, 10% Air Force, and 8% Marine Corps
- The average age of respondents is 38
- 90% have children
- 38% are unpaid caregivers



IN COLLABORATION WITH

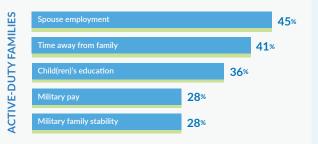
Syracuse University Institute for Veterans & Military Families PMorgan Chase & Co., Founding Partner

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# **2020 NEW YORK TRI-STATE RESULTS**



### **Top Family Issues** (n=129)



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\*Veteran family sample demographics:

**71%** white **56%** male 76% Veteran 24% spouse of a Veteran Average age: 53

within this infographic.

\*Veteran respondents were not included in the statistics calculated

### **FINANCIAL READINESS**



experience stress due to current financial situation (n=104)

**Top contributors to current financial stress** (n=65)



Spouse Un/

Underemployment

Out-of-Pocket **Student Loans** Relocation Costs

### **BELONGING**



feel supported by their local civilian community (n=114)

feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community (n=115)

### MENTAL HEALTH



**HOUSING** 

62%

do not receive mental health care but would like to (n=95)

### Top reasons for not receiving care (n=20)

- Difficult to schedule appointment
- Difficult to find child care
- Available treatment not sensitive to needs

of those who live off base

pay more than \$200 in out-

of-pocket housing costs per

### **TIME AWAY**



**62**% find OPTEMPO stressful for healthy work/family life (n=116)

33% experienced 6+ months of separation in the last 18 months (n=109)

### SPOUSE EMPLOYMENT\*

35%

Are you currently employed? (n=75)



want or need paid employment

No, and I do not

Distance to base/installation

Safety of my family

month (n=50)

Top factors for choosing current

Desirable school district

Pets allowed

housing (n=104)



### **LOCAL CONNECTIONS**



do not know anyone in their local civilian community well enough to ask for a favor (n=100)



have no friends in their local civilian community with whom thev feel at ease (n=93)

n = total responses to each question OPTEMPO = operational tempo \*Active-duty spouses who are not also an active-duty service member



# 2020 COVID-19 IMPACTS IN NEW YORK TRI-STATE AREA

# MILITARY CHILDREN'S EDUCATION Method of delivery for oldest child (n=78) Method of delivery for oldest child (n=78)

### **EMPLOYMENT**

To what degree did COVID-19 impact your employment situation?

Active-duty spouses (n=71)

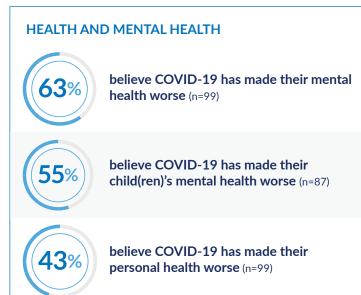


### **FINANCES**

To what degree did COVID-19 impact your personal financial situation?

All respondents (n=99)





### **OVERALL TAKEAWAYS**

The majority of respondents report experiencing financial stress.

Three in five military family respondents in the New York Tri-State Area pay over \$200 each month in out-of-pocket housing costs.

Two-thirds of respondents believe their child(ren)'s education worsened due to COVID-19.

Only a third (35%) of military family respondents agree they feel supported by their local community.



Questions about the annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey and how you can offer support? Contact survey@bluestarfam.org
Questions about Blue Star Families' Craig Newmark New York Tri-State chapter? Contact newyork@bluestarfam.org

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