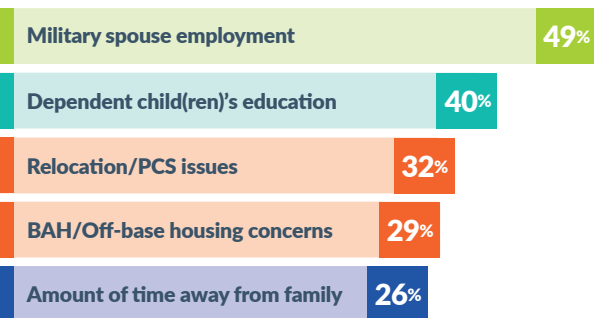


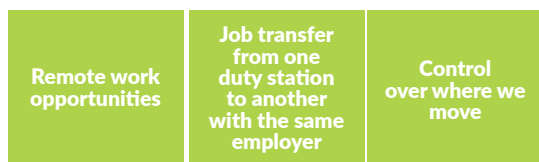


2021
MILITARY
FAMILY
LIFESTYLE
SURVEY

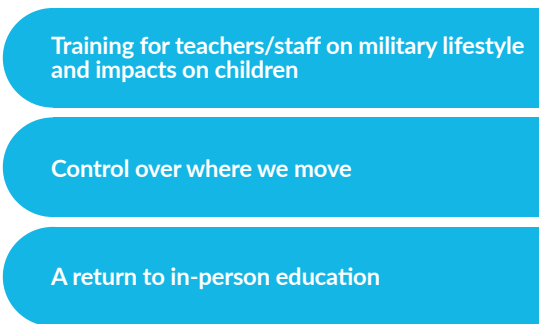
Top 5 issues affecting active-duty families¹ (n=262)



What would best address concerns about military spouse employment?² (n=122)



What would best address concerns about dependent children's education?³ (n=103)



Family Separation

18% have been separated from their family/service member for a total of 6 or more months in the past 18 months. (n=244)

5% are currently geobatching⁵ (n=243)

58% characterize **OPTEMPO**⁴ as stressful or very stressful for healthy work/family life (n=257)

274

respondents

Including active-duty service members and active-duty spouses

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION



This infographic represents a geographic cross-section of 2021 MFLS data that only includes active-duty families. When referencing this data, please consider the following sample demographics:

- 84% are active-duty spouses

Branch affiliation of respondents is:

- 33% Army
- 25% Navy
- 23% Air Force
- 11% Marine Corps
- 4% Coast Guard
- 3% Space Force

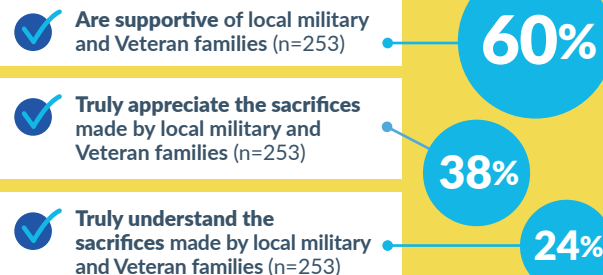
Respondents identify as:

- 82% white
- 11% Hispanic or Latino/a/x or of Spanish origin
- 6% Black/African-American
- 5% Asian
- 3% American Indian/Alaska Native
- 1% Other
- <1% Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Active-duty family members and their civilian communities

42% of active-duty family respondents feel a sense of belonging to their local civilian community (n=257)

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



Spouse Employment⁶ (n=181)

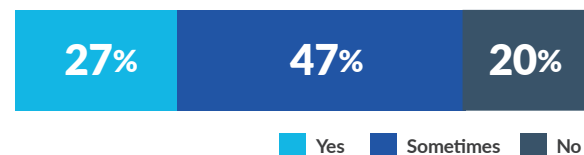


59% of employed military spouses are underemployed in some way⁷ (n=99)

Child Care

"I am able to find child care that works for my current situation."

Active-duty family respondents with a need for child care (n=114)



*Total may not equal 100 due to rounding

In collaboration with



¹Question and answer choice wording changed slightly from previous MFLS surveys
²Active-duty family respondents who indicated military spouse employment was a top issue of concern
³Active-duty family respondents who indicated military children's education was a top issue of concern
⁴Operational Tempo
⁵Choosing to live apart voluntarily, not including times of deployment
⁶Active-duty spouses who are not also active-duty service members
⁷Indicates one or more circumstances of underemployment

Snapshot of the military lifestyle



TAKEAWAYS

>> More than half of National Capital Region respondents report stress related to OPTEMPO.

>> A majority of National Capital Region respondents rate their child(ren)'s school as above average or excellent and agree that their child is thriving in his/her school.

>> Military spouse employment is the top issue for National Capital Region respondents. The majority of employed spouses report some form of underemployment.

>> The majority of National Capital Region respondents have out-of-pocket housing costs in excess of \$200 a month.

\$ Financial Readiness

39%

report their family's current personal financial condition causes them some or a great deal of stress. (n=218)

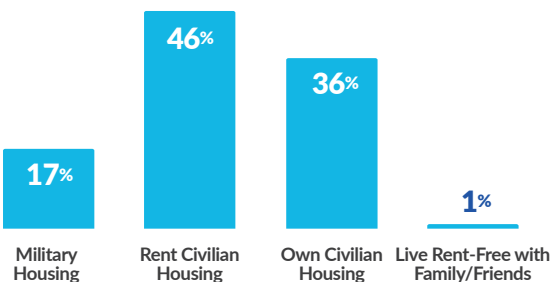
Top Contributors to Their Financial Stress (n=83)

Spouse un/under-employment	Out-of-pocket housing costs	Out-of-pocket relocation costs
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85% have monthly out-of-pocket housing costs of \$200+ above BAH (n=151)

🏠 Housing

Which of the following best describes where you currently live? (n=217)

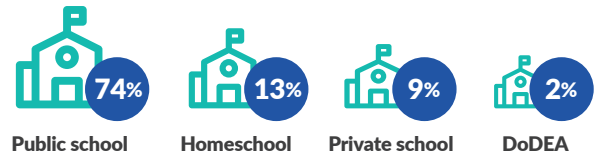


Top Housing Situation Concerns (n=208)

- Local housing market is unaffordable
- Cost of housing rental is too high

🎓 Military Children's Education

Type of School of Oldest Child in K-12 (n=140)



64% rate the overall quality of the school their oldest child attends as above average or excellent. (n=111)

59% agree that their oldest child enrolled in K-12 education is thriving in their school (n=114)

🧠 Health and Mental Health

21% of respondents do not currently receive mental health care but would like to. (n=223)

15% report their child(ren) does not receive mental health care but they would like them to. (n=179)

Top Reasons for Child(ren) Not Receiving Care (n=27)

- I do not believe telehealth would be effective for my child
- Cannot find a provider who will treat my child



Questions about the annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey and how you can offer support? survey@bluestarfam.org

Questions about Blue Star Families' National Capital Region Chapter? dc@bluestarfam.org