Top Issues for New England Military-Connected Family Respondents
(n=222)

Amount of time away from family 41%
Impact of deployment on family 35%
Access to military/VA health care systems 32%
Understanding of military/Veteran issues among civilians 32%
Military pay 30%

Active-Duty Families

Resource Access
Top military resources used by active-duty family respondents (n=31)
- Social support resources 42%
- Health care 23%
Top civilian resources used by active-duty family respondents (n=31)
- Social support resources 32%
- Sports/recreation for children and/or family members 39%

Children’s Mental Health
22% of active-duty family respondents with at least one child enrolled in grades K-12 (n=27) reported that their child(ren) did not currently receive mental health care, but they would like them to receive it.

Financial Security
Military-connected respondents’ family financial situation (n=149)
- We are finding it difficult to get by 11%
- We are just getting by 21%
- We are doing okay 36%
- We are living comfortably 32%

Top contributors to financial stress among military-connected respondents with financial stress (n=115)
- Housing costs 58%
- Student loans 30%
- Major home repairs 27%

Cyber Fraud and Identity Theft
In the 12 months preceding survey fielding
- 15% have been the victim of cyber fraud (n=147)
- 9% have been the victim of identity theft (n=149)
Outdoor Activities

84% of military-connected respondents (n=149) participate in some kind of outdoor activity.

Among those who participate in outdoor activities (n=125), the most common are:

- Hiking, walking, and/or running (87%)
- Water-based activities (45%)
- Camping (32%)

Mental Health

14% of military-connected respondents (n=152) do not currently receive mental health care but would like to receive it.

Food Support Program Usage

28% of military-connected respondents (n=145) utilized a food support program during the 12 months preceding survey fielding.

Most commonly providing care for (n=35)

- Spouse/partner who is a Veteran (46%)
- Parent or grandparent (31%)
- Child under 18 years of age (26%)
- Adult child over age 18 (20%)

Recommendation of Military Service

Military-connected respondents (n=223)

- Unlikely to recommend (0-3) (20%)
- Neutral (4-6) (25%)
- Likely to recommend (7-10) (55%)

GI Bill Use

Has anyone in your family used GI Bill Benefits? (n=145)

- Yes, me (34%)
- Yes, my spouse (17%)
- Yes, my child(ren) (12%)
- No (45%)

GI Bill Use

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 family life.

Military Affiliation (n=266) Active-Duty Service Member (2%), Spouse (23%); National Guard Service Member (3%), Spouse (5%); Reserve Service Member (2%), Spouse(3%); Veteran/Retired Service Member (46%), Spouse (17%)

Racial/Ethnic Identity (n=260) American Indian/Alaska Native (4%), Asian (3%), Black/African American (4%), Hispanic or Latino/a/x or of Spanish origin (6%), Middle Eastern or North African (<1%), Some other race or ethnicity (4%), White (87%)

GI Bill Use

GI Bill Use is based on many factors including discharge status, time and length of service, time since separation from service, etc. GI Bill And Other Education Benefit Eligibility | Veterans Affairs (va.gov).