2012 Survey of Active Duty Spouses

Spouse Military Support, Deployment, Reintegration, PCS Moves, Child Well-Being, Education and Employment, and Spouse Well-Being
BRIEFING OVERVIEW

Introduction .................................................................................................................................................. 3
• Spouse Military Support .......................................................................................................................... 8
• Deployment, Reintegration, and PCS Moves ............................................................................................ 11
• Child Well-Being .................................................................................................................................... 27
• Education and Employment ..................................................................................................................... 37
• Spouse Well-Being .................................................................................................................................. 51
• **Survey Population**
  - The target population for the *2012 Survey of Active Duty Spouses* (2012 ADSS) consisted of spouses of active duty members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, excluding spouses of National Guard and Reserve members, who (1) have at least six months of service and (2) are below flag rank.
  - 65K spouses of active duty members were surveyed, with a weighted response rate of 23%.

• **Survey Methodology**
  - The survey was designed to allow comparisons to *2006 ADSS*, *2008 ADSS*, and the *Military Family Life Project* (MFLP).
  - Data were collected both on the Web and paper-and-pen.
  - This was a scientific survey that used stratified sampling and weighting so that the results generalize to the population of military spouses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Administration Dates</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>Response Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>11/19/12-03/11/13</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>03/21/08-04/08</td>
<td>49,368</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>11/21/05-06/01/06²</td>
<td>36,054</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The data in this table include spouses of Coast Guard members for 2006 and 2008, although Coast Guard spouses are not included in this briefing.
2 The initial survey field period closed February 9, 2006. There were 3,091 spouses incorrectly flagged as population ineligible during the original field period. DMDC elected to re-open the field from May 1-June 1, 2006 to give them an opportunity to participate.
## INTRODUCTION
### 2012 Weighted Demographic Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active Duty Member Characteristics</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Paygrade</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1-E4</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E5-E9</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O1-O3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O4-O6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deployment Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Deployed Career</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deployed Career</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployed Multiple Times(^1)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Deployed Past 12 Months</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deployed Past 12 Months</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently Deployed(^2)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active Duty Spouse Characteristics</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Age</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race/Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Minority</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No College</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some College</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-Year Degree</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate/Professional Degree</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Child(ren)</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without Child(ren)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not in Labor Force</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armed Forces</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. “Deployed Multiple Times” is a subset of “Deployed Career.”
2. “Currently Deployed” is a subset of “Deployed Past 12 Months.”
INTRODUCTION
Briefing Includes

• Graphic displays of overall results

Percentages and means are reported with margins of error based on 95% confidence intervals. The range of margins of error is presented for the question or group of questions/subitems.
INTRODUCTION

Briefing Includes

- Trends are shown as estimated percentages or means
- Trends for *2010 Military Family Life Project (2010 MFLP)* are shown when applicable
- Statistical tests used to compare current results with all previous survey administrations
  - Purple cells indicate current survey result is HIGHER
  - Yellow cells indicate current survey result is LOWER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Most recent HIGHER than YYYY</th>
<th>YYYY</th>
<th>Most recent LOWER than YYYY</th>
<th>Current Survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>65</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Army</strong></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>69</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Navy</strong></td>
<td>67</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marine Corps</strong></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Air Force</strong></td>
<td>66</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Indicates most recent survey result is significantly higher than past survey result*

*Indicates most recent survey result is significantly lower than past survey result*
BRIEFING OVERVIEW

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Satisfaction With Military Way of Life
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Overall, how satisfied are you with the military way of life?

- Higher response of **Satisfied** – Air Force (72%); E5-E9 (66%); O4-O6 (78%)
- Higher response of **Dissatisfied** – Army (15%); E1-E4 (18%)

**Satisfied**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Satisfied**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1-E4</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E5-E9</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O1-O3</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O4-O6</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±4%

Note: 2010 MFLP- 62% of spouses were satisfied with the military way of life; 14% dissatisfied
### Support To Stay on Active Duty

**Percent of All Active Duty Spouses**

**Do you think your spouse should stay on or leave active duty?**

- **I strongly favor staying**
- **I have no opinion one way or the other**
- **I strongly favor leaving**

Margins of error do not exceed ±1%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±4%

---

- Higher response of **I strongly favor staying** – Air Force (74%), E5-E9 (73%), O4-O6 (71%)
- Higher response of **I strongly favor leaving** – Army (20%), E1-E4 (24%), O1-O3 (24%)

### Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%

Note: 2010 MFLP- 69% of spouses favor their spouses staying on active duty; 19% favor leaving

ADSS 2012 Q69
BRIEFING OVERVIEW

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- Spouse Well-Being ............................................................................................... 51
Deployed in Career
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Approximately 81% of spouses have experienced a deployment in their husband/wife’s career

- Higher response of *Currently deployed* – Army (19%)
- Higher response of *Deployed in the past 36 months, but not currently* – E5-E9 (47%)
- Higher response of *Deployed in career, but not in the past 36 months* – E5-E9 (26%); O4-O6 (36%)
- Higher response of *Not deployed in career* – Air Force (27%); E1-E4 (38%); O1-O3 (24%)

ADSS 2012 Q73, Q77
Deployed in Past 12 Months
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed for More Than 30 Consecutive Days

Within the past 12 months, has your spouse been on deployment for more than 30 consecutive days?

- Higher response of Yes – Navy (66%); Marine Corps (65%); E1-E4 (68%)

Margins of error do not exceed ±2%
Relocated During Husband/Wife’s Deployment
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 12 Months

- Higher response of Yes – Army (24%); Marine Corps (27%); E1-E4 (35%)

Margins of error do not exceed ±2%
Deployment to a Combat Zone
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed

72% of spouses reported their husband/wife’s most recent deployment was to a combat zone

- Higher response of No – Navy (52%); Air Force (36%); E5-E9 (30%)
- Higher response of Yes, deployed to Iraq/Afghanistan – Army (80%); Marine Corps (66%); E1-E4 (59%)
- Higher response of Yes, deployed to another combat zone – Navy (27%); Air Force (23%)

ADSS 2012 Q79
### Problems During Most Recent Deployment

**Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Large extent</th>
<th>Small/Moderate extent</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loneliness</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being a &quot;single&quot; parent</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealing with issues/decisions alone</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical difficulties communicating with my spouse</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard work</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional problems in the family</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No time for recreation, fitness, or entertainment activities</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing child care/child schedules</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADSS 2012 Q81

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%

June 2014
Problems During Most Recent Deployment (Continued)
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed

A lack of and/or problems with military offered support for myself/my family

My job demands

Managing expenses and bills

Health problems in the family

Marital problems

My education demands

Safety of my family in our community

Other

Note: Other reasons include dealing with grief alone, pregnancy/giving birth alone, worrying about safety of husband/wife, relocating alone, handling problems with neighbors alone, taking several months to get pay benefits, moving children to college alone, and infidelity/trust issues.

ADSS 2012 Q81

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
Higher response of *Large Extent* for:

- **Loneliness** – E1-E4 (50%)
- **Being a “single” parent** – E5-E9 (27%)
- **Dealing with issues/decisions alone** – Navy (27%); E1-E4 (30%)
- **Technical difficulties communicating with my spouse** – Navy (28%); Marine Corps (29%); E1-E4 (36%)
- **Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse** – Army (26%); E1-E4 (32%)
- **Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard work** – Navy (25%); E5-E9 (23%)
- **Emotional problems in the family** – Army (25%); E1-E4 (30%)
- **No time for recreation, fitness, or entertainment activities** – No differences for Service or paygrade
- **Managing child care/child schedules** – Navy (19%); O4-O6 (21%)
- **A lack of and/or problems with military offered support for myself/my family** – E1-E4 (18%)
- **My job demands** – No differences for Service or paygrade
- **Managing expenses and bills** – E1-E4 (23%)
- **Health problems in the family** – No differences for Service or paygrade
- **Marital problems** – Army (16%); E1-E4 (19%)
- **My education demands** – Army (14%); E1-E4 (18%)
- **Safety of my family in our community** – Army (12%); E1-E4 (14%)
- **Other** – No differences for Service or paygrade
Problems During Most Recent Deployment (Continued)
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loneliness</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being a “single” parent</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dealing with issues/decisions alone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical difficulties communicating with my spouse</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home/care repairs/maintenance or yard work</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional problems in the family</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No time for recreation, fitness, or entertainment activities</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing child care/child schedules</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lack of and/or problems with military offered support for myself/my family</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My job demands</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing expenses and bills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health problems in the family</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital problems</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My education demands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety of my family in our community</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** 2010 MFLP-

Loneliness (41%); Being a “single” parent (28%); Technical difficulties communicating with my spouse (22%); Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse (22%); Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard (21%); Emotional problems in the family (22%); No time for recreation, fitness, or entertainment activities (20%); Managing child care/child schedules (18%); My job demands (19%); Managing expenses and bills (11%); Health problems in the family (12%); Marital problems (13%); Safety of my family in our community (8%); and Other (11%)

ADSS 2012 Q81

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
Member’s Return Home From Deployment
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed

Of the 82% of spouses who indicated their husband/wife had been deployed for more than 30 consecutive days in their active duty career, 88% had experienced at least one reunion.

Note: Of spouses whose husband/wife returned from deployment, 73% returned from a combat zone.

- Higher response of Yes, but my spouse has since redeployed – Army (12%)
- Higher response of Yes, and my spouse has not redeployed – Air Force (81%); O4-O6 (85%)
- Higher response of No – E1-E4 (17%)

ADSS 2012 Q88
Changes in Husband/Wife After Return Home
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Large extent</th>
<th>Small/Moderate extent</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appreciate family and friends more</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appreciate life more</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have trouble sleeping</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get angry faster</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More emotionally distant</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show negative personality changes</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have mental health concerns</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Changes in Husband/Wife After Return Home (Continued)

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Behavior</th>
<th>Large Extent</th>
<th>Small/Moderate Extent</th>
<th>Not at All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have more confidence</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have difficulty adjusting</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show positive personality changes</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be different in another way</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drink more alcohol</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take more risks with his/her safety</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have difficulty with day-to-day activities</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: *Be different in another way* includes less talkative, intimacy issues, excessive spending/eating/sleeping, physical injuries, increased use of vulgar language, overly protective/controlling of family, problems with trust/intimacy, became more of a “homebody,” more selfish/self-absorbed, loss of desire to reenlist, helped more/less around the house, more mature, and more helpful to other military families.

ADSS 2012 Q91  
Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
Higher response of *Large Extent for*:  
- Appreciate family and friends more – E1-E4 (31%)  
- Appreciate life more – Army (25%); E1-E4 (28%)  
- Have more confidence – Army (14%); E1-E4 (19%)  
- Show positive personality changes – E1-E4 (14%)  
- Have trouble sleeping – Army (30%); E1-E4 (26%); E5-E9 (23%)  
- Get angry faster – Army (27%); E1-E4 (28%)  
- More emotionally distant – Army (23%); E1-E4 (23%)  
- Show negative personality changes – Army (21%); E1-E4 (21%)  
- Have mental health concerns – Army (20%); E1-E4 (18%); E5-E9 (15%)  
- Have difficulty adjusting – Army (16%); E1-E4 (18%)  
- Be different in another way – Army (16%); E1-E4 (16%)  
- Drink more alcohol – Army (14%); E1-E4 (23%)  
- Take more risks with his/her safety – Army (7%); E1-E4 (8%)  
- Have difficulty with day-to-day activities – Army (6%); E1-E4 (6%)
## Changes in Husband/Wife After Return Home (Continued)

### Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appreciate family and friends more</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appreciate life more</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have more confidence</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show positive personality changes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have trouble sleeping</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get angry faster</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More emotionally distant</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show negative personality changes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have mental health concerns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have difficulty adjusting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drink more alcohol</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take more risks with his/her safety</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have difficulty with day-to-day activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The lists or response options weren't the same across the 2006, 2008, and 2012 survey administrations and this may account for some of the differences across years.

2010 MFLP:

- Appreciate family and friends more (30%);
- Appreciate life more (27%);
- Have more confidence (14%);
- Have trouble sleeping (22%);
- Get angry faster (21%);
- More emotionally distant (18%);
- Be different in another (18%);
- Drink more alcohol (12%); and
- Take more risks with his/her safety (6%)

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%
Spouse's Readjustment to Member's Return From Deployment
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment

- Higher response of **Difficult** – Army (25%)
- Higher response of **Easy** – Navy (54%); Air Force (56%); O4-O6 (56%)

Note: 2010 MFLP- 23% of spouses whose husband/wife returned from deployment indicated their readjustment was difficult; 48% indicated readjustment was easy
24% of spouses experienced a PCS move in the past 12 months

During your spouse’s active duty career, have you experienced a PCS move?

Margins of error do not exceed ±1%

Note: Of spouses who experienced a PCS move, the average amount of time since their last PCS move was 27 months. Those who have had a PCS move reported experiencing an average of 2.8 moves during their spouse’s active duty career.

- Higher response of Yes – Army (81%); Air Force (82%); E5-E9 (83%); O1-O3 (89%); O4-O6 (96%)

Note: 2010 MFLP- 77% of spouses experienced a PCS move during their husband/wife’s active duty career
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✓ Child Well-Being ................................................................................................ 27
- Education and Employment ........................................................................... 37
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Families With Children
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

52% of the selected children were male and 48% were female

The average age of the child selected by spouses was 6.5 years

Note: Spouses were asked to choose a child in their household with the birth month closest to theirs.
Source of Child Care
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Routinely Use Child Care Arrangements

Approximately 33% of spouses use child care so they can work

- Off-base child care: 62%
- On-base child care: 40%

ADSS 2012 Q48
Margins of error do not exceed ±2%
Note: The AQS is used to measure insecurity of children in military families and is applicable across a range of age groups from young toddlers to adolescents. Scores are reported as a single figure, which is the average of the individual scores (range 1 to 5). Higher scores indicate higher levels of insecurity in children. For details, refer to Waters, Vaughn, Posada, & Kondo-Ikemura (1995). Caregiving, Cultural, and Cognitive Perspectives on Secure-Base Behavior and Working Models: New Growing Points of Attachment Theory and Research. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*, 60 (2-3, Serial No. 244).

- More than average levels of *Insecurity* – Deployed Past 12 Months (2.4); Armed Forces (2.4)
"How well has this child..."
Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child Living at Home During Husband/Wife's Most Recent Deployment

- Been able to stay connected to your spouse given deployment separations?
  - Well: 65%
  - Neither well nor poorly: 22%
  - Poorly: 14%

- Coped with your spouse's deployment?
  - Well: 60%
  - Neither well nor poorly: 26%
  - Poorly: 13%

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
"How well has this child... " (Continued)
Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child Living at Home During Husband/Wife's Most Recent Deployment

- Higher response of Well for:
  - Been able to stay connected to your spouse given deployment separations – Air Force (71%); O4-O6 (71%)
  - Coped with your spouse’s deployments – Air Force (64%); O4-O6 (71%)

- Higher response of Poorly for:
  - Been able to stay connected to your spouse given deployment separations – Navy (16%); E1-E4 (18%)
  - Coped with your spouse’s deployments – E5-E9 (14%)
Member's Reconnection With Children After Deployment
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Had Children During the Members Most Recent Deployment and Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment

Which of the following describes your spouse’s reconnection with your child(ren)?

- Higher response of **Difficult** – Army (15%)
- Higher response of **Easy** – Navy (70%); Air Force (70%); O4-O6 (71%)

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%

ADSS 2012 Q92
## Selected Child's Behavior in Past 12 Months

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Closeness to family members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Acceptance of responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Pride in having a military parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Anger about my spouse's military requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Behavior problems at home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Academic problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Behavior problems at school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** A Child Behavior Checklist was created by DMDC to capture the potential problematic behaviors in children during the husband/wife’s deployment, including academic and behavioral problems. Scores are reported as a single figure, which is the sum of the individual scores (range 0 to 7). A higher score indicates a higher incident of problematic behaviors.

Of those with a child identified on the survey living at home, the average score on the Child Behavior Checklist was 1.5. 

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
Higher response of Yes for:

- **Closeness to family members** – E1-E4 (68%)
- **Acceptance of responsibility** – O4-O6 (66%)
- **Pride in having a military parent** – No differences for Service or paygrade
- **Anger about my spouse’s military requirements** – Army (31%)
- **Behavior problems at home** – E5-E9 (25%)
- **Academic problems** – E5-E9 (21%)
- **Behavior problems at school** – E5-E9 (18%)
Impact of Military Life Events on Child Behaviors

Logistic Regression Analysis

- Children with a parent deployed currently or in the past year had increased odds of anger about parent’s military requirements, behavior problems at school and at home, and academic problems, and decreased odds of accepting responsibility.
- Children who experienced a PCS move in the past year had increased odds of anger about parent’s military requirements and behavior problems at home.
- Children who had a parent currently deployed or experienced a PCS move in the past year had increased odds of pride in their military parent.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for service, paygrade, education, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant ($p < .05$) odds ratios are graphically presented. Analyses included spouses who indicated a focal child under 18 living at home.
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- Spouse Well-Being ............................................................. 51
Use of Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Scholarship in Past 12 Months
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

- Higher response of Yes – Army (11%); Marine Corps (12%); E1-E4 (18%)
- Higher response of No, and I was not aware – Navy (61%); Air Force (58%); O1-O3 (61%); and O4-O6 (61%)
- Higher response of No, but I am aware – Army (40%); E5-E9 (41%)
Reasons for Not Using a Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Scholarship

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Did Not Use a MyCAA Scholarship in Past 12 Months But Who Are Aware of the Resource

- Higher response of *Not eligible due to husband/wife’s rank* – Army (34%); E5-E9 (39%); O1-O3 (37%); O4-O6 (41%)
- Higher response of *Not eligible due to education/enrollment level* – E1-E4 (26%)
- Higher response of *Limited time for additional education/training* – E1-E4 (58%)
- Higher response of *Not interested in additional training/education* – Air Force (16%); O4-O6 (18%)
- Higher response of *Education/training is not important for my career* – Navy (6%); O1-O3 (7%); O4-O6 (7%)

49% of spouses were ineligible

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
Enrollment in School/Training
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

- Higher response of Yes – E1-E4 (32%)
- Higher response of No, but I would like to be in school/training – E1-E4 (46%); E5-E9 (46%)
- Higher response of No, and I do not want to be in school/training – O1-O3 (49%); O4-O6 (59%)
Reasons for Not Attending School/Training
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Not Currently Enrolled in School/Training and Who Would Like to be Enrolled in School/Training

Note: Other reasons include language barrier, lack of social security number, no computer/internet, medical reasons (for self, children, and husband/wife), and no in-person programs close to current location that match education goals.

- Higher response of:
  - Cost of education and Hours/location are not convenient – No differences for Service or paygrade
  - Family responsibilities – E5-E9 (67%)
  - Expense of child care – E5-E9 (48%)
  - Conflicts with work schedule – Navy (42%)
  - Deployments make it too difficult – Navy (41%); E5-E9 (38%)
  - I move too often – Army (26%); Marine Corps (30%); O1-O3 (46%); O4-O6 (45%)
  - Other – Army (23%)
  - Transportation problems – Army (14%); Marine Corps (17%); E1-E4 (23%)

ADSS 2012 Q15
Barriers To Education for Spouses Who Would Like To be Enrolled in School/Training

Logistic Regression Analysis

- Significant barriers to enrollment in school/training were having at least one child under age 5, experiencing a PCS move in the past year, and non-military employment.
- Military employment (i.e., being a dual military spouse) and using child care decreased the odds of not being enrolled.
- Having a child age 6-11, having multiple children, experiencing a PCS move outside of the past year, frequency of lifetime PCS moves, not being in the labor force, monthly household income, lifetime recency and past year frequency of deployments, and living off-base were not significant barriers to enrollment.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for service, paygrade, gender, age, education, and race/ethnicity. Only statistically significant ($p < .05$) odds ratios are graphically presented. Analyses included spouses who indicated they were currently enrolled or would like to be enrolled in school/training (Q14).
Employment Status
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

65% of spouses were in the labor force

ADSS 2012 Q17-Q20 and Q103-Q115
Margins of error do not exceed ±1%
Unemployment Rate
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are in the Labor Force

Note: The Unemployment rate excludes spouses of warrant officers and dual military spouses.

- Higher response of Unemployed – Army (28%); E1-E4 (33%); Not Deployed Career (30%); Total Minority (30%); Less Than 26 Years Old (34%); PCS in Past 12 Months (38%); 1 to 5 Years of Marriage (28%); With Children (27%); No College (36%); and Some College (28%)

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±4%

ADSS 2012 Q17-Q20 and Q103-Q115
35% of spouses were not in the labor force

Main Reason for Not Looking for Work
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Not in the Labor Force and Who Selected at Least One Reason for Not Looking for Work

- I want to be able to stay home to care for my children: 40
- Child care is too costly: 12
- I am attending school or other training: 11
- I am not physically prepared to work (e.g., pregnant, sick, disabled): 6
- I am preparing for/recovering from a PCS move: 5
- Other: 5
- I do not want to work: 4
- I stay home to homeschool my children: 3

Note: Other reasons include waiting on VISA/work permit, don’t speak English very well, taking care of injured spouse/elderly parent, volunteer responsibilities, and transportation problems.

ADSS 2012 Q22
Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%
Main Reason for Not Looking for Work (Continued)
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Not in the Labor Force and Who Selected at Least One Reason for Not Looking for Work

- Higher response of *I want to be able to stay home to care for my children* – O1-O3 (53%)
- Higher response of *Child care is too costly* – E5-E9 (15%)
- Higher response of *I am attending school or other training* – E1-E4 (15%)
- Higher response of *I am not physically prepared to work* and *Other* – No differences for Service or paygrade
- Higher response of *I am preparing for/recovering from a PCS move* – O4-O6 (9%)
- Higher response of *I do not want to work* – O4-O6 (10%)
- Higher response of *I stay home to homeschool my children* – Air Force (6%)
Main Reason for Working Part-Time
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Employed Part-Time (Less Than 35 Hours/Week)

- Could only find part-time work: 24%
- Other: 17%
- Want to spend time with children: 17%
- I do not want to work full-time: 11%
- Child care problems: 9%
- I am self-employed: 7%
- Other family/personal obligations: 7%
- Slack work/business conditions: 3%
- Do not have required license or credential in my field: 2%
- Seasonal work: 2%
- Health/medical limitations: 1%

Higher response of Could only find part-time work – E1-E4 (30%)
Higher response of Other – E1-E4 (24%)
Higher response of Want to spend time with children – O4-O6 (33%)
Higher response of I do not want to work full-time – Air Force (16%); O1-O3 (20%); O4-O6 (18%)
Higher response of I am self-employed – O1-O3 (15%)
Higher response of Child care problems, Other family/personal obligations, Slack work/business conditions, Do not have required license/credential in my field, Seasonal work, and Health/medical limitations – No differences for Service or paygrade

ADSS 2012 Q25
Percent Employed Within Area of Education or Training
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Employed

Are you currently employed within the area of your education or training?

Higher response of Yes – O1-O3 (65%); O4-O6 (72%); Graduate/Professional Degree (78%)
Of the 78% of spouses who experienced a PCS move during their husband/wife’s active duty career, approximately 11% acquired a new professional license/credential after their last PCS move.

How long did it take you to acquire a new professional or occupational license or credential?

- 15% less than 1 month
- 36% 1 month to less than 4 months
- 20% 4 months to less than 7 months
- 6% 7 months to less than 10 months
- 24% 10 months or more

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±3%
Impact of Military Life Events on Spouse Unemployment
Logistic Regression Analysis

- Significant predictors of spouse unemployment were experiencing a PCS move in the past year, frequency of lifetime PCS moves, and having to acquire a new professional license/credential to work after a PCS move.
- Current and multiple past year deployments decreased odds of spouse unemployment.
- Experiencing a PCS move outside of the past year, not being currently deployed, and being deployed once in the past year were not significant predictors of spouse unemployment.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for service, paygrade, gender, age, education, and race/ethnicity. Only statistically significant ($p < .05$) odds ratios are graphically presented. Analyses included spouses who were in the labor force.
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- Spouse Well-Being ............................................................................................. 51
Higher response of *Less than Usual* – Not Deployed Career (15%); Not Deployed Past 12 Months (12%); Without Children (17%)

Higher response of *More than Usual* – Army (55%); E1-E4 (55%); Deployed Past 12 Months (60%); Unemployed (59%); With Children (53%)

**More than Usual**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%

Note: 2010 MFLP- 11% of spouses rated the current level of stress in their personal life as less than usual; 52% more than usual
Overall Financial Condition
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Which best describes the financial condition of you and your spouse?

- Comfortable
- Some difficulty
- Not comfortable

Margins of error do not exceed ±1%

- Higher response of Comfortable – Air Force (73%); O1-O3 (87%); O4-O6 (92%)
- Higher response of Not comfortable – Army (16%); E1-E4 (21%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Army</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navy</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Corps</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1-E4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>E5-E9</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>O1-O3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O4-O6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%

Note: 2010 MFLP- 59% of spouses were comfortable with their financial condition; 16% not comfortable
### Financial Problems in Past 12 Months

**Percent of All Active Duty Spouses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any of the listed financial problems (excludes paying overdraft fees)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had to pay overdraft fees to your bank or credit union two or more times</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed to make a payment on credit card, AAFES, NEXCOM account, or Military Star Card account</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was pressured to pay bills by stores, creditors, or bill collectors</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bounced two or more checks</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had telephone, cable, or Internet shut off</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed to make a car payment</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fell behind in paying rent or mortgage</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had water, heat, or electricity shut off</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filed for personal bankruptcy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a car, household appliance, or furniture repossessed</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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ADSS 2012 Q98

Margins of error do not exceed ±1%
### Financial Problems in Past 12 Months (Continued)
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

- Higher response of *Any of the listed financial problems* – Army (27%); E1-E4 (34%)
- Higher response of *Had to pay overdraft fees to bank/credit union two or more times* – Army (20%); E1-E4 (25%)
- Higher response of *Failed to make a payment on credit card/AAFES/NEXCOM/Military Star Card* – Army (14%); E1-E4 (16%)
- Higher response of *Was pressured to pay bills by stores/creditors/bill collectors* – Army (14%); E1-E4 (18%)
- Higher response of *Bounced two or more checks* – E1-E4 (8%)
- Higher response of *Had telephone/cable/Internet shut off* – Army (8%); E1-E4 (11%)
- Higher response of *Failed to make a car payment* – Army (6%); E1-E4 (7%)
- Higher response of *Fell behind in paying rent/mortgage* – Army (5%); E1-E4 (6%)
- Higher response of *Had water/heat/electricity shut off, Filed for personal bankruptcy, and Had a car/household appliance/furniture repossessed* – No differences for Service or paygrade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any of the listed financial problems (excludes paying overdraft fees)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had to pay overdraft fees to your bank or credit union two or more times</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed to make a payment on credit card, AAFES, NEXCOM account, or Military Star Card account</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was pressured to pay bills by stores, creditors, or bill collectors</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bounced two or more checks</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had telephone, cable, or Internet shut off</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failed to make a car payment</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fell behind in paying rent or mortgage</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had water, heat, or electricity shut off</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Filed for personal bankruptcy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had a car, household appliance, or furniture repossessed</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%
Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-4)
Average Summary Score of All Active Duty Spouses

Scores over 3 indicate a higher-than-normal level of mental distress

Note: The timeframe given for response is “over the last two weeks.” Each item on the PHQ-4 is rated on a 0 to 3 scale. Overall PHQ-4 scores are reported as a single figure, which is the sum of the scores across all 4 items (range = 0-12). A higher total score indicates a higher likelihood of mental distress, marked by depression and anxiety. Clinical norms are as follows: 0-2 = normal range, 3-5 = mild distress, 6-8 = moderate distress, and 9-12 = severe distress. [Reference: Kroenke, K., Spitzer, R. L., Williams, J. B. W., & Lowe, B. (2009). An ultra-brief screening scale for anxiety and depression: The PHQ-4. Psychosomatics, 50, 613-621.]

- More than average levels of Distress – Army (2.7); Marine Corps (2.8); E1-E4 (2.9)
Family Crisis Oriented Personal Evaluation Scale (F-COPES)
Average Summary Score of All Active Duty Spouses

Civilian average is approximately 69.0

Note: Each item on the F-COPES is rated on a 1 to 5 scale. Overall F-COPE scores are reported as a single figure, which is the sum of the scores across all 21 items (range = 21-105). A higher total score indicates a better ability to cope with stressful situations. Civilian average is based on Thoma, M. E., Hockenberry-Eaton, M., & Kemp, V. (1993). Life change events and coping behaviors in families of children with cancer. *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing, 10*, 105-111.

- Less than average levels of *Coping* – No differences for Service, paygrade, deployment status, gender, race, age, PCS move status, employment status, years of marriage, family status, and education

ADSS 2012 Q57
General Health Scale
Average of All Active Duty Spouses

Note: The General Health scale is designed to provide a self assessment of overall physical well-being. Scores are reported as a single figure, which is the average of the individual scores (range 1 to 4). Higher scores on this measure indicate more positive perceptions of health. The four scale items were taken from the general health perceptions subscale on the Short-Form Health Survey (SF-36) of the Medical Outcomes Study questionnaire. [Reference: Ware Jr., J. E., & Sherbourne, C. D. (1992). The MOS 36-item short-form health survey (SF-36): I. Conceptual framework and item selection. Medical Care, 30, 473-483.]

- Less than average levels of Perceived health – No differences for Service, paygrade, deployment status, gender, race, age, PCS move status, employment status, years of marriage, family status, and education

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1
Social Support Index (SSI)
Average Summary Score of All Active Duty Spouses

- Civilian average is 44.4

Note: Each item on the SSI is rated on a 0 to 4 scale. Overall SSI scores are reported as a single figure, which is the sum of the scores across 18 items (range = 0-72). A higher total score indicates higher levels of social support. Civilian average is based on Dewey, D., & Crawford, S. G. (2007). Correlates of maternal and paternal adjustment to chronic childhood disease. *Journal of Clinical Psychology in Medical Settings*, 14, 219-226.

- Less than average levels of *Social Support* – No differences for Service, paygrade, deployment status, gender, race, age, PCS move status, employment status, years of marriage, family status, and education.
Marital Satisfaction
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Taking things altogether, how satisfied are you with your marriage right now?

- Higher response of *Satisfied* – Air Force (87%); O1-O3 (90%); O4-O6 (87%)
- Higher response of *Dissatisfied* – No differences for Service or paygrade

Margins of error do not exceed ±1%
Marital Instability Index (MII)
Average of All Active Duty Spouses

Civilian average score is approximately 1.9

Marital Instability Index (MII)

Lower levels of instability

Higher levels of instability

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1

Note: Each item on the MII is scored 0 = No and 1 = Yes (5 items). Overall MII scores are reported as a single figure, which is the sum of the scores across all 5 items (range = 0-5). A higher total score indicates higher levels of instability in the marriage. Civilian average is based on married graduate students (mean = 1.81) and 76 middle class married couples under the age of 55 (mean = 1.89). Civilian average is based on Kardatzke, K. N. (2009). Perceived stress, adult attachment, dyadic coping and marital satisfaction of counseling graduate students (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, NC.; and Conger, R. D., Elder, G. H., Lorenz, F. O., Conger, K. J., Simons, R. L., Whitbeck, L. B. et al. (1990). Linking economic hardship to marital quality and instability. Journal of Marriage and the Family, 52, 643-656.

- More than average levels of Instability – Army (1.7); E1-E4 (1.7); E5-E9 (1.7)
Use of Counseling
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

- Higher response of *Seen Counselor In Husband/Wife’s Active Career* – Army (38%); E5-E9 (42%)
- Higher response of *Seen Counselor In Past Six Months* – Army (18%); E5-E9 (17%)
Counseling Was Beneficial
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

Thinking about your experiences with counseling overall, do you feel it was beneficial?

- Higher response of Yes – O1-O3 (81%); O4-O6 (84%)

Margins of error do not exceed ±2%

ADSS 2012 Q64
Source of Counseling
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

- TRICARE: 50%
- Military OneSource: 35%
- Another non-military source: 30%
- Military chaplain/civilian religious leader: 25%
- Your spouse's installation: 25%
- Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC): 23%
- Another military source: 18%
- Child and Youth Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC): 10%

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±2%

June 2014
Source of Counseling (Continued)
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

- Higher response of TRICARE – No differences for Service or paygrade
- Higher response of Military OneSource – Army (39%); Marine Corps (42%
- Higher response of Another non-military source – O4-O6 (36%)
- Higher response of Military chaplain/civilian religious leader – Army (30%)
- Higher response of Your spouse’s installation – Army (30%)
- Higher response of Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC) – Army (27%)
- Higher response of Another military source – Navy (22%); E1-E4 (22%)
- Higher response of Child and Youth MFLC – Army (11%)

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±18%
### Usefulness of Counseling Source

#### Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Very useful</th>
<th>Somewhat useful</th>
<th>Not useful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Another non-military source</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military OneSource</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRICARE</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military chaplain/civilian religious leader</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another military source</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child and Youth Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your spouse's installation</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±5%
Usefulness of Counseling Source (Continued)
Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

- Higher response of Very Useful for:
  - Another non-military source, Military OneSource, Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC), Another military source, Child and Youth MFLC, and Your spouse’s installation – No differences for Service or paygrade
  - TRICARE – Marine Corps (56%)
  - Military chaplain/civilian religious leader – O4-O6 (56%)

- Higher response of Not Useful for:
  - Another non-military source – Army (15%)
  - Military OneSource, TRICARE, Military chaplain/civilian religious leader, Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC), Another military source, Child and Youth MFLC, and Your spouse’s installation – No differences for Service or paygrade

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±18%
Comfortable Using Military-Provided Counseling Services
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Regardless of your past counseling experiences, do you feel comfortable using military counseling?

- Higher response of Yes – E1-E4 (67%)
Summary of Results

• Spouse Military Support
  – Satisfaction with military way of life (64%) significantly higher than 2006 and 2008
  – Spouse support to stay in the military (68%) significantly higher than 2006 and 2008

• Financial Problems
  – Spouses reporting financial problems (22%) significantly lower than 2006 and 2008

• Child Well-being
  – Deployments and PCS moves increased odds of anger about parent’s military requirements and behavior problems at home; deployments only increased odds of behavior problems at school and academic problems, and decreased odds of accepting responsibility.
  – Current deployments and past year PCS moves increased odds of pride in having a military parent.

• Spouse Education and Employment
  – Young children, PCS moves in the past year, and non-military employment were the largest barriers to education for spouses who would like to be enrolled in school/training; using child care was a facilitator to enrollment in school/training. Deployments, household income, and living off-base were not significant barriers to education.
  – PCS moves in the past year and requiring a new license/credential to work after a PCS move increased odds of spouse unemployment.
Summary of Results (Continued)

• Areas for Improvement
  – Unemployment rate (25%) significantly higher than 2006 and 2008
  – Spouses reporting more stress than usual in personal lives (52%) significantly higher than 2006 and 2008
  – Spouses reporting their financial condition as *Not comfortable* (13%) significantly higher than 2006
QUESTIONS?

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Jacqueline.C.Pflieger.ctr@mail.mil

• DMDC Web site (http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/surveys)
  • Detailed tabulated results (~ 50 demographic groups)
  • More details on topics covered in this briefing
  • Information for items not included in this briefing
Topics Not Covered

- **Education and Employment**—Spouse education level and goals, current career field, spouse engagement in the workplace, professional license/certification, desire/need to work, importance of working, and telework preference.

- **Reunion and Reintegration**—Service member’s wounded status during most recent deployment, member’s wound interference with family participation, spouse’s use of available deployment-related resources, spouse’s expectation of next deployment, and member’s military retention plans.

- **Financial Well-Being**—Saving habits, emergency savings, and total household monthly earnings and spouse’s monthly earnings.

- **The Military Spouse’s Family**—Special medical/educational needs of the family and enrollment in the Exceptional Family Member Program.