The Military Spouse at a Glance

2019 DOD Survey of Active Duty Spouses

Demographics

- **88%** are female
- **12%** are male
- **79%** are White
- **15%** are Black/African American
- **9%** are Asian
- **3%** are American Indian/Alaska Native
- **2%** are Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- **16%** are Hispanic/Latino

AGE

- **14%** are 41+
- **17%** are 36-40
- **24%** are 31-35
- **24%** are 26-30
- **24%** are 21-25
- **18%** are < 21

BY RACE

- **76%** are married to enlisted members
- **24%** are married to officers
- **13%** are in a dual-military marriage

SPOUSE’S BRANCH OF SERVICE

- **38%** Army
- **25%** Navy
- **11%** Marine Corps
- **27%** Air Force

CHILD STATUS

- **67%** have children under age 18 living at home, part-time or full-time

WHERE THEY LIVE

- **67%** are in civilian housing
- **25%** are in on-base military housing
- **8%** are in off-base military housing

Note: Respondents were able to select more than one race category.

67% have children age 5 or younger
25% have a child with a special need

The average number of children is 2 per household.
**Physical and Emotional Well-Being**

**GENERAL HEALTH RATING**
67% of active duty spouses said that their general health is excellent or very good.

**LEVEL OF PERSONAL STRESS**
54% of active duty spouses rated their current level of stress as greater than usual.

**FINANCIAL WELL-BEING**
70% feel financially comfortable.

**MARITAL QUALITY**
83% are satisfied/very satisfied with their marriage.

**COUNSELOR SUPPORT**
17% have seen a counselor in the past 6 months.
75% found counseling to be beneficial.

**DEPLOYMENT AND PCS MOVES**
28% had a spouse deployed in the past 12 months.
81% of spouses have experienced a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) move in the past 5 years.

**MILITARY LIFE SATISFACTION**
56% are satisfied with the military way of life.

**EDUCATION LEVEL**

- Doctoral or Professional Degree: 3%
- Master’s Degree: 14%
- Bachelor’s Degree: 33%
- Associate Degree/Some College: 5%
- Vocational or Technical Diploma: 36%
- High School Diploma or Equivalent: 9%
- 12 Years or Less (No Diploma): 1%

**School/Training Enrollment**

- Not currently enrolled in school/training but would like to be: 41%
- Not currently enrolled in school/training and don’t want or need to be: 36%
- Currently enrolled in school/training: 23%

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**Employment**

- 22% are unemployed.
- Unemployed spouses had been looking for work for an average of 20 weeks.
- 56% of spouses are employed within the area of their education/training.
- 32% of employed spouses work part-time.

**TOP REASONS FOR WORKING PART-TIME**

- Attend school/training: 11%
- Want to spend time with children: 23%
- Lack child care options: 12%
- Could only find part-time work: 16%

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*Sponsored by Military Community and Family Policy. Conducted by the Office of People Analytics.*
[https://www.militaryonesource.mil/data-research-and-statistics/survey-findings/]