

2017 Survey of Active Duty Spouses (2017 ADSS)

Spouse Military Support & Benefits
Education & Employment
Deployment & Reintegration
Spouse Well-Being
Child Well-Being

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BRIEFING OVERVIEW

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INTRODUCTION

Survey Population

The target population for the 2017 Survey of Active Duty Spouses (2017 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.

Survey Methodology

- The survey was designed to allow comparisons to 2006, 2008, 2012, and 2015 Active Duty Spouse Surveys.
- This was a scientific survey that used stratified sampling and weighting so that the results generalize to the population of military spouses.

Survey	Administration Dates	Sample Size	Response Rate
2017	06/22/17-11/13/17	45,077	17%

2017 ADSS Top-Line Results:

Spouse Military Support

- 60% satisfied w/ military way of life
 - ➤ Higher than 2008, but lower than 2012 and 2015
- 61% favored their husband/wife staying in the military
 - **➤ Lower than 2012 and 2015**

Spouse Well-Being

- 71% reporting *Comfortable* financial condition
 - > Higher than 2006-2012
- Majority of financial problems in the past year significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2006, 2008, and 2012
- 51% rated the current level of stress in their personal life as more than usual
 - ➤ Higher than 2006, 2008, and 2015

Spouse Unemployment Rate

- 24% Unemployment Rate
 - ➤ Steady since 2012, but higher than 2006 and 2008

Deployment & Reintegration

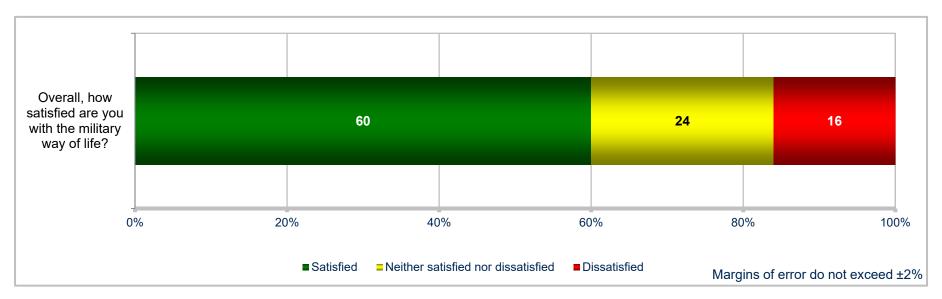
- Majority of problems during most recent deployment were significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2015
- 19% indicated excellent/very good military support during member's most recent deployment
 - ➤ Lower than 2015
- Majority of both positive and negative changes in members after deployment were significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2006, 2008, and 2012
- 23% indicated difficult readjustment to member's return from deployment
 - ➤ Higher than 2015

Bottom Line: Results generally improved or steady compared to previous results; however, spouse military support & excellent/very good military support during deployment were significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2015. Problems during deployment & stress were significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2015.

^{*} Only statistically significant findings are reported. Statistical tests are used to compare current estimates with previous results.

Satisfaction With Military Way of Life

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



- Higher response of *Satisfied* Air Force (67%); E5-E9 (62%); O4-O6 (71%); Not in Labor Force (66%)
- Higher response of *Dissatisfied* E1-E4 (21%)

Satisfied

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	60	56	64	64	60
Army	55	50	61	62	60
▲ Navy	57	56	62	64	56
Marine Corps	59	59	63	60	58
Air Force	68	64	72	68	67

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

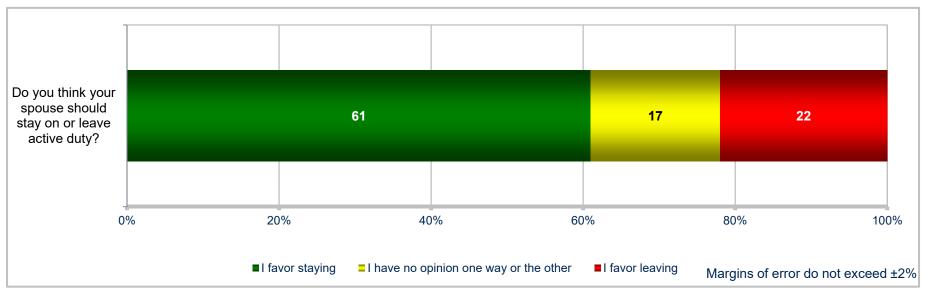
Satisfied

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	60	56	64	64	60
• E1-E4	45	45	55	53	49
▲ E5-E9	61	56	66	65	62
01-03	65	63	65	67	60
◆ 04-06	78	77	78	76	71

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

Support To Stay on Active Duty

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



- Higher response of *I favor staying* E5-E9 (65%); Not in Labor Force (65%)
- Higher response of I favor leaving E1-E4 (27%); O1-O3 (27%); Dual Military (27%)

Favor Staying

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	61	59	68	66	61
Army	56	54	65	65	61
▲ Navy	62	60	68	68	60
Marine Corps	60	60	67	62	58
◆ Air Force	66	63	74	68	64

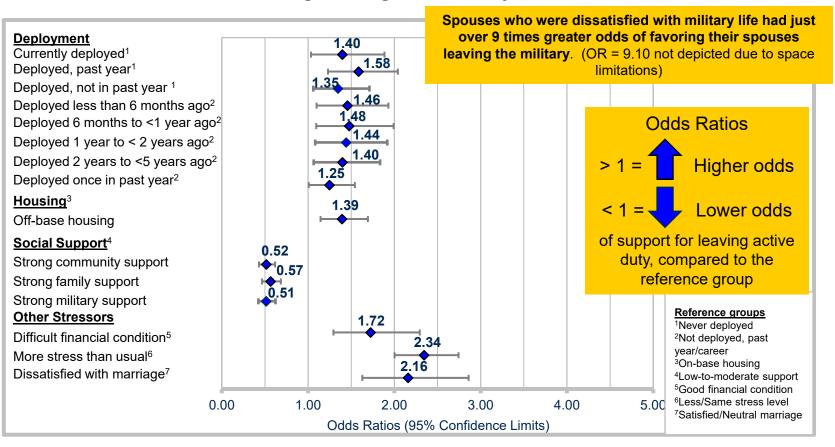
Margins of error range from ±1% to ±4%

Favor Staying

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
* Total	61	59	68	66	61
• E1-E4	50	52	59	56	52
▲ E5-E9	64	62	73	70	65
01-03	64	57	65	64	60
◆ 04-06	65	64	71	70	60

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

Impact of Military Life Events/Factors on Support for Leaving Logistic Regression Analysis

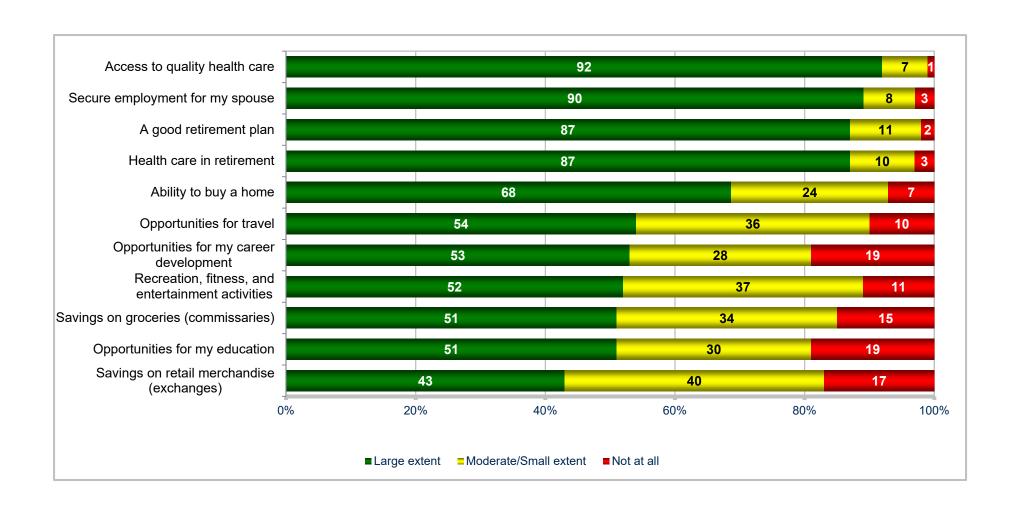


- Spouses who experienced deployment in some form, lived in off-base housing, and experienced stressors such as difficult financial conditions, stress generally, and /or marital dissatisfaction had higher odds to support their member leaving than their reference categories
- Spouses who reported strong social support from the community, their family, and/or the military had lower odds to support their member leaving.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for Service, paygrade, education level, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant (p < .05) odds ratios are graphically presented.

Importance of Benefits to Spouses and Families

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



Importance of Benefits to Spouses and Families (Continued)

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

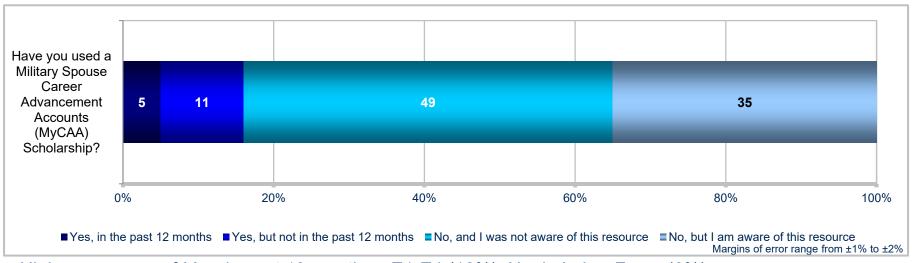
Large Extent

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2015	2017
Access to quality health care	91	92
Secure employment for my spouse	90	90
A good retirement plan	87	87
Health care in retirement	86	87
Ability to buy a home	71	68
Opportunities for travel	49	54
Opportunities for my career development	55	53
Recreation, fitness, and entertainment activities	53	52
Savings on groceries (commissaries)	57	51
Opportunities for my education	53	51
Savings on retail merchandise (exchanges)	46	43

- Higher response of Large Extent for:
 - A good retirement plan E5-E9 (90%); O4-O6 (93%)
 - Health care in retirement E5-E9 (90%); O4-O6 (91%)
 - Ability to buy a home Navy (73%); E5-E9 (72%)
 - Opportunities for travel Dual Military (61%)
 - Opportunities for my career development E1-E4 (63%); Unemployed (60%); Dual Military (77%)
 - Recreation, fitness, and entertainment activities E1-E4 (57%); Dual Military (64%)
 - Savings on groceries (commissaries) Marine Corps (56%); E1-E4 (59%); Unemployed (59%)
 - Opportunities for my education E1-E4 (65%); Unemployed (58%); Dual Military (75%)
 - Savings on retail merchandise (exchanges) Navy (47%); E1-E4 (52%)

Use of Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Scholarship

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



- Higher response of Yes, in past 12 months E1-E4 (12%); Not in Labor Force (6%)
- Higher response of Yes, but not in past 12 months Army (13%); E5-E9 (15%); Unemployed (18%)
- Higher response of No, and I was not aware Navy (59%); Air Force (53%); O1-O3 (59%); O4-O6 (65%);
 Dual Military (76%)
- Higher response of No, but I am aware Army (38%); Marine Corps (40%)

Yes,	In	Pas	t 12	M	onf	hs
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Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2015	2017
ォ Total	5	5
Army	6	5
▲ Navy	4	3
Marine Corps	9	6
◆ Air Force	4	4

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

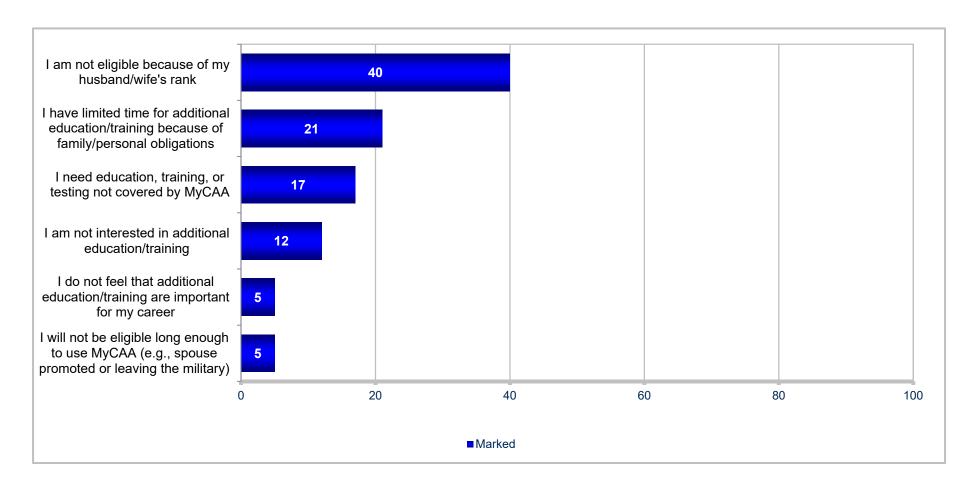
Yes, In Past 12 Months

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2015	2017
≭ Total	5	5
• E1-E4	13	12
▲ E5-E9	4	3
01-03	2	2
◆ 04-06	0	0

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

Main Reason for Not Using a Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Scholarship

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



Main Reason for Not Using a Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Scholarship (Continued)

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

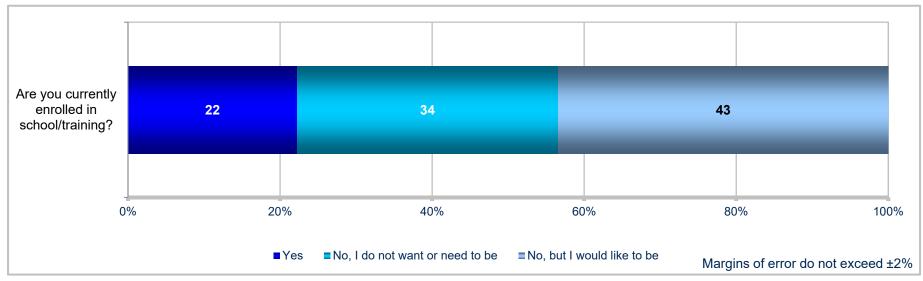
Marked

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2015	2017
Not eligible because of my husband/wife's rank	38	40
Limited time for additional education/training because of family/personal obligations	24	21
Need education, training, or testing not covered by MyCAA	17	17
Not interested in additional education/training	11	12
Not be eligible long enough to use MyCAA	5	5
Do not feel that additional education/training are important for my career	4	5

- Higher response of Not eligible due to husband/wife's rank E5-E9 (49%); O1-O3 (51%); O4-O6 (67%)
- Higher response of *Limited time for education/training* E1-E4 (39%); Not in Labor Force (26%)
- Higher response of Need education/training/testing not covered by MyCAA E1-E4 (34%)

Enrollment in School/Training

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



- Higher response of Yes E1-E4 (31%); Dual Military (38%)
- Higher response of *No, I do not want/need to be* O1-O3 (52%); O4-O6 (64%); Employed (39%); Not in Labor Force (37%)
- Higher response of *No, but I would like to be* E1-E4 (48%); E5-E9 (47%); Unemployed (54%)

No, But I Would Like to Be

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	43	43	43
Army	44	44	44
▲ Navy	45	44	45
Marine Corps	43	44	45
Air Force	40	40	41

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

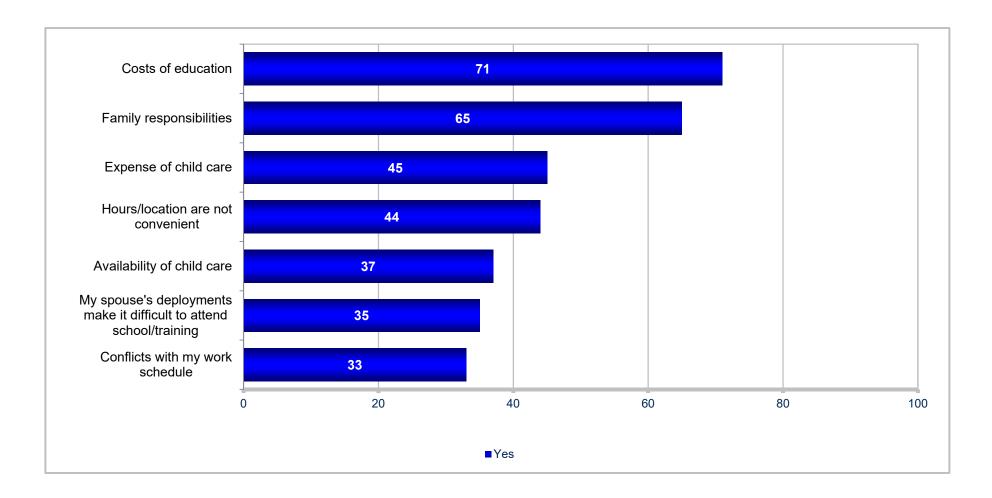
No, But I Would Like to Be

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	43	43	43
• E1-E4	46	49	48
▲ E5-E9	46	45	47
01-03	32	32	31
♦ 04-06	31	30	27

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

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



Reasons for Not Attending School/Training (Continued)

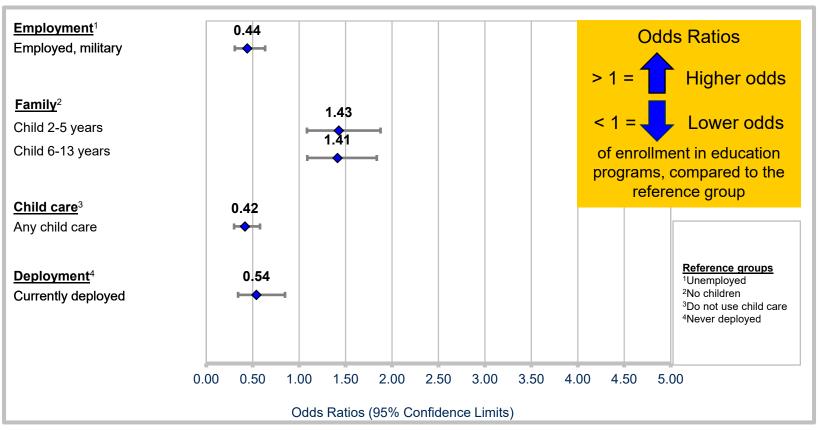
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Not Currently Enrolled in School/Training and Who Would Like to be Enrolled in School/Training

Yes

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Costs of education	71	76	71
Family responsibilities	65	65	65
Expense of childcare	45	45	45
Hours/locations are not convenient	40	44	44
Availability of child care	X	X	37
My spouse's deployments make it difficult to attend school/training	36	32	35
Conflicts with work schedule	39	36	33

- Higher response of Yes for:
 - Costs of education Employed (81%)
 - Family responsibilities E5-E9 (68%); Not in Labor Force (79%)
 - Expense of child care Not in Labor Force (62%)
 - Availability of child care Not in Labor Force (52%)
 - Deployments make it too difficult Navy (41%); E5-E9 (36%); Not in Labor Force (40%)
 - Conflicts with work schedule O1-O3 (40%); Employed (54%); Dual Military (71%)

Barriers to Spouse Education for Those Who Would like To be Enrolled Logistic Regression Analysis

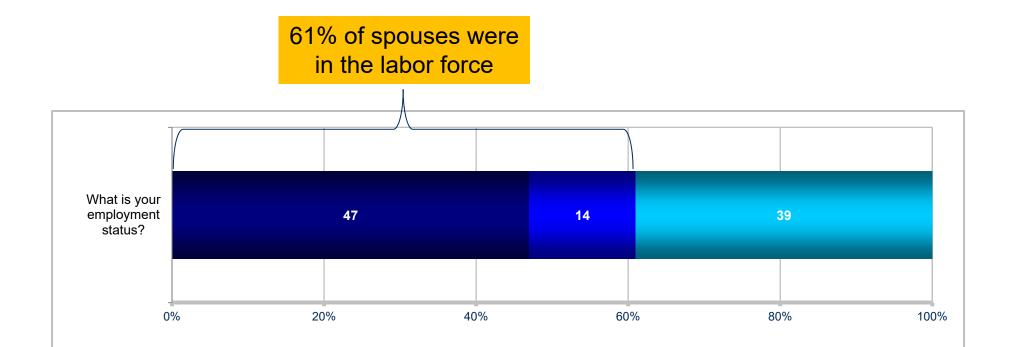


- Spouses who reported being dual military, using child care, and their spouse being currently deployed had lower odds than those in the reference categories of being enrolled in education.
- Spouses who have children between the ages of 2 and 13 had higher odds than those without children of being enrolled in education.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for Service, paygrade, education level, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant (p < .05) odds ratios are graphically presented.

Employment Status (Civilian)

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses (Excluding Dual Military Spouses)



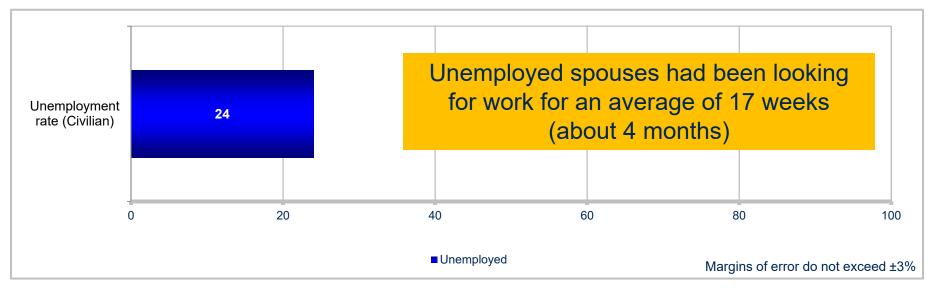
■ Not in labor force

Note: Civilian Employment Status excludes spouses of warrant officers and dual military spouses.

■Employed ■Unemployed

Unemployment Rate (Civilian)

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are in the Labor Force (Excluding Dual Military Spouses)



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

■ Higher response of *Unemployed* – Army (28%); E1-E4 (29%); Minority (31%); PCS in Past 12 Months (40%); With Children (27%); Some College/Vocational Diploma (27%)

Unemployed

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	14	17	25	23	24
Army	16	20	28	29	28
▲ Nawy	12	14	23	19	21
■ Marine Corps	13	19	29	22	25
Air Force	13	13	20	19	19

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±4%

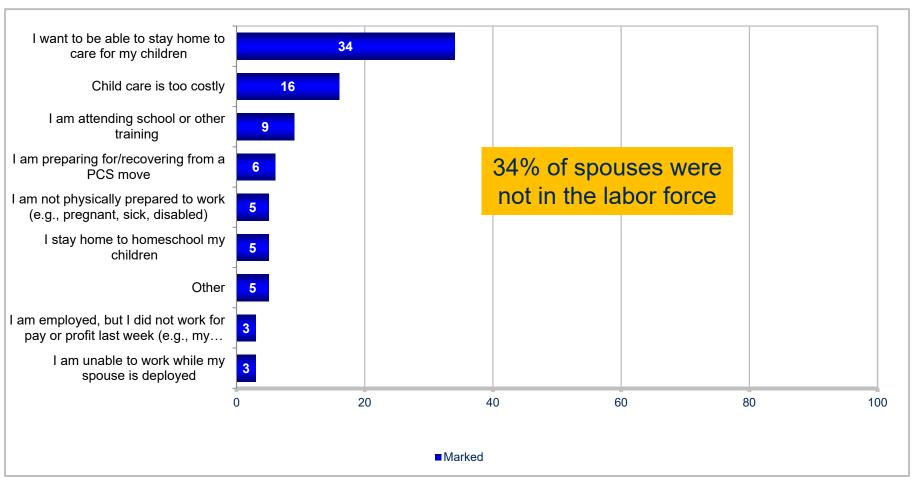
Unemployed

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
* Total	14	17	25	23	24
• E1-E4	18	26	33	31	29
▲ E5-E9	12	14	23	22	23
01-03	10	16	23	17	18
◆ 04-06	12	10	14	18	19

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±5%

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



Note: Other reasons include VISA/work permit, don't speak English very well, volunteer responsibilities, waiting for start date on a new job, spouse works long hours/shift work, extended family visits overseas, and transportation problems.

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

Marked

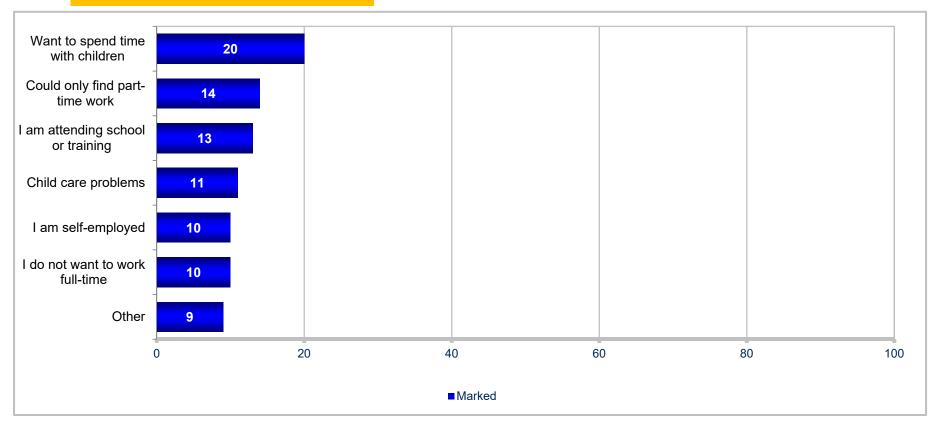
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
I want to be able to stay home to care for my children	40	39	34
Child care is too costly	12	11	16
I am attending school or other training	11	11	9
I am preparing for/recovering from a PCS move	5	6	6
I am not physically prepared to work (e.g., pregnant, sick, disabled)	6	5	5
I stay home to homeschool my children	3	5	5
I am employed, but I did not work for pay or profit last week (e.g., my schedule isn't typical)	1	1	3
I am unable to work while my spouse is deployed	2	3	3

- Higher response of *I want to be able to stay home to care for my children* O1-O3 (47%); O4-O6 (48%)
- Higher response of Child care is too costly E5-E9 (23%)
- Higher response of I am attending school/training E1-E4 (18%)
- Higher response of I am preparing for/recovering from a PCS move; I am not physically prepared to work; I stay home to homeschool my children; I am employed, but I did not work for pay/profit last week; and I am unable to work while my spouse is deployed – No differences for Service, paygrade, or employment status

Main Reason for Working Part-Time

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Employed Part-Time (Less Than 35 Hours/Week)

32% of employed spouses worked part-time



Main Reason for Working Part-Time (Continued)

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Employed Part-Time (Less Than 35 Hours/Week)

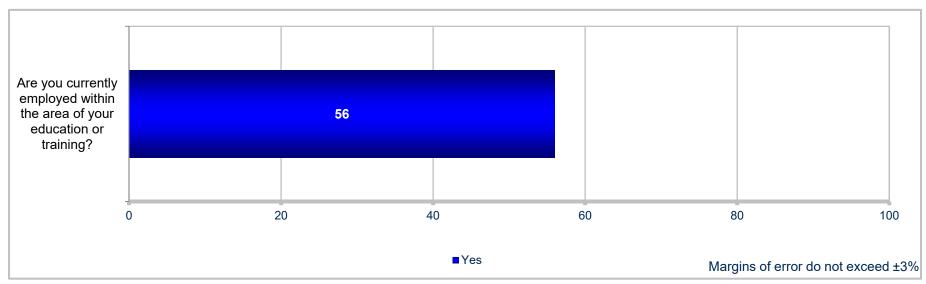
Marked

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Want to spend time with children	17	23	20
Could only find part-time work	24	17	14
I am attending school or other training	X	12	13
Child care problems	9	8	11
I am self-employed	7	8	10
I do not want to work full-time	11	8	10

- Higher response of *Want to spend time with children* O4-O6 (35%)
- Higher response of I am attending school/training E1-E4 (21%)

Percent Employed Within Area of Education or Training

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Employed or Currently Serving in the Military



■ Higher response of *Yes* – O1-O3 (68%); O4-O6 (68%)

Yes

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	57	56	56
Army	55	53	54
▲ Navy	59	59	59
Marine Corps	52	51	50
Air Force	59	59	57

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±5%

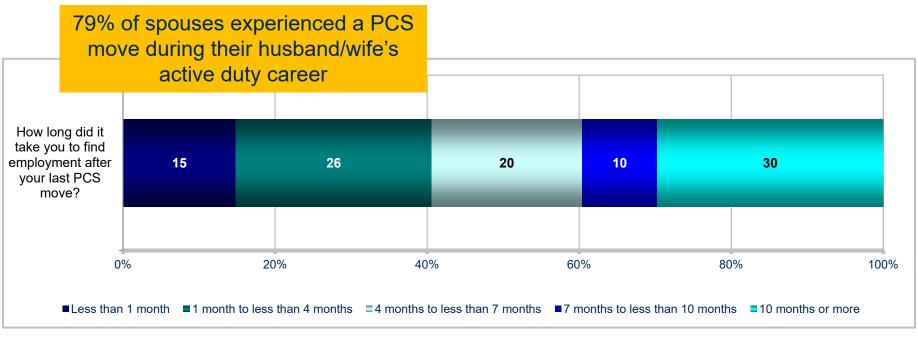
Yes

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	57	56	56
• E1-E4	44	44	44
▲ E5-E9	58	57	56
01-03	65	66	68
♦ 04-06	72	68	68

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±5%

Time Taken To Find Employment After Last Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Move

Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Experienced a PCS Move

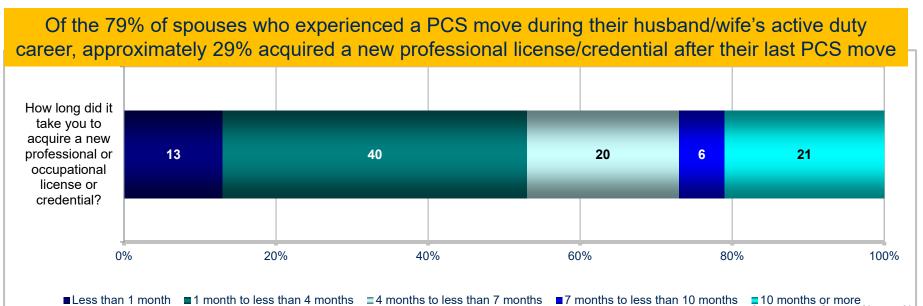


- Higher response of Less than 1 month O1-O3 (21%); and Employed (17%)
- Higher response of 10 months or more Unemployed (49%)

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Less than 1 month	14	11	15
1 month to less than 4 months	27	27	26
4 months to less than 7 months	21	23	20
7 months to less than 10 months	9	11	10
10 months or more	28	27	30

Time Taken to Acquire New Professional License/Credential After PCS

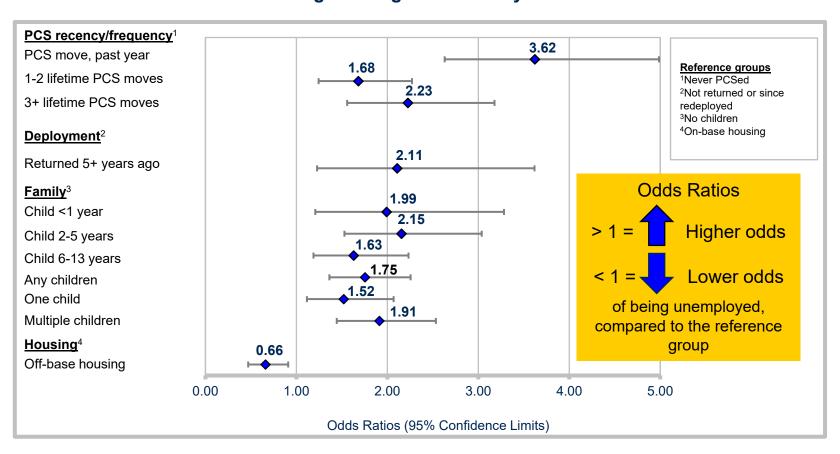
Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Experienced a PCS Move and Who Acquired a New Professional License/Credential



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Less than 1 month	15	14	13
1 month to less than 4 months	36	36	40
4 months to less than 7 months	20	20	20
7 months to less than 10 months	6	8	6
10 months or more	24	22	21

Margins of error range from ±3% to ±5%

Impact of Military and Family Factors on Spouse Unemployment Logistic Regression Analysis



- Spouses who experienced a PCS move, had their member return from deployment 5+ years ago, and/or have children all had higher odds of being unemployed than those who had not experienced these factors.
- Spouses who lived off-base had lower odds of being unemployed compared to those who lived on base.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for Service, paygrade, education level, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant (p < .05) odds ratios are graphically presented.

Deployed in Career Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Approximately 77% of spouses have experienced a deployment in their husband/wife's career



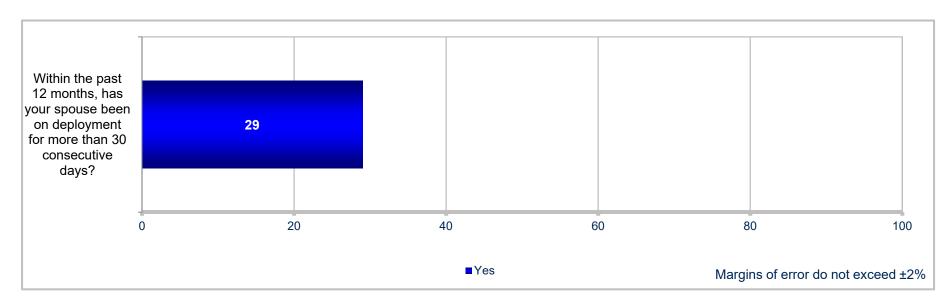
Deployed in Career (Continued) Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Currently deployed	16	12	14
Deployed in the past 36 months, but not currently		38	32
Deployed in career, but not in the past 36 months		28	31
Not deployed in career	19	22	24

- Higher response of Currently deployed Navy (19%); Employed (15%)
- Higher response of Deployed in the past 36 months, but not currently Navy (37%); E5-E9 (34%)
- Higher response of Deployed in career, but not in the past 36 months Army (35%); E5-E9 (38%); O4-O6 (52%)
- Higher response of *Not deployed in career* Air Force (31%); E1-E4 (52%); O1-O3 (30%); Dual Military (36%)

Deployed in Past 12 Months

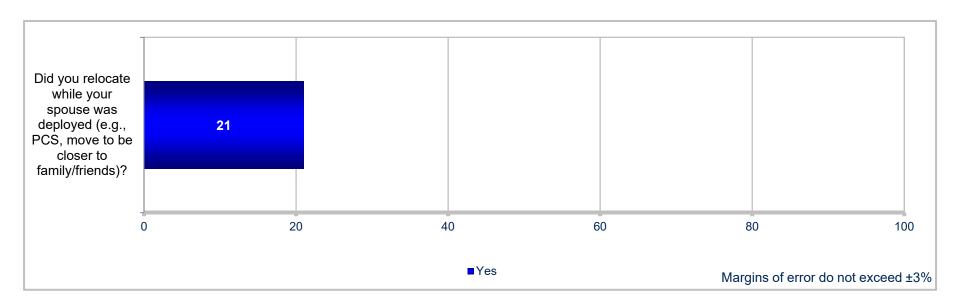
Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



■ Higher response of *Yes* – Navy (36%); E1-E4 (32%); Employed (32%)

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 – E1-E4 (36%); Unemployed (41%)

Y	es		
Most recent HIGHER th Most recent LOVVER th	2012	2015	2017
* Total	21	18	21
 Army 	24	19	25
▲ Navy	17	15	18
■ Marine Corps	27	25	25
Air Force	17	17	16

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±6%



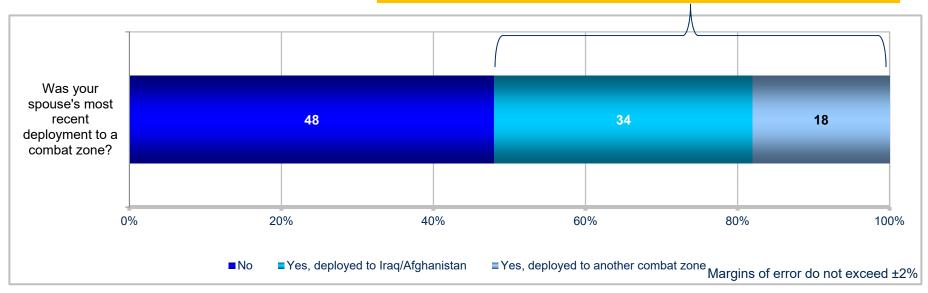
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	21	18	21
• E1-E4	35	31	36
▲ E5-E9	16	14	16
01-03	20	19	17
◆ 04-06	13	11	11

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±6%

Deployment to a Combat Zone

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

52% of spouses reported their husband/wife's most recent deployment was to a combat zone

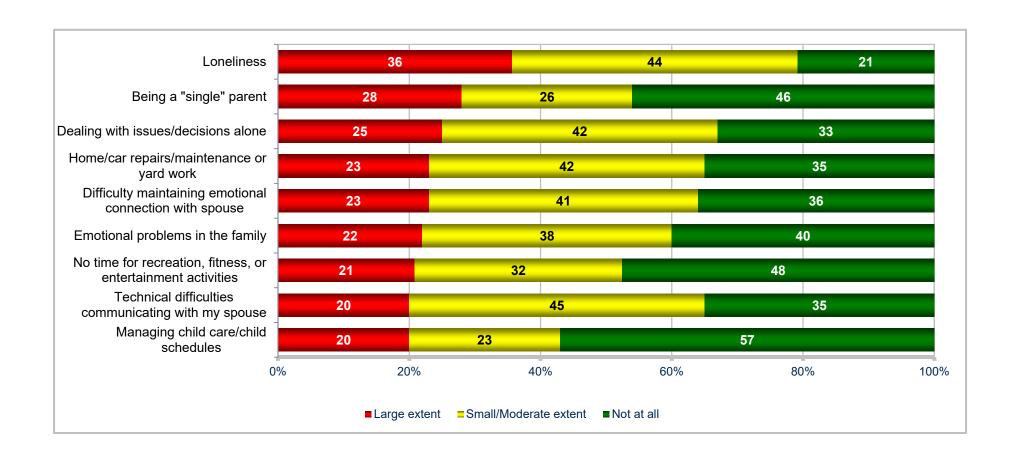


- Higher response of *No* Navy (67%); Marine Corps (54%); E1-E4 (63%)
- Higher response of Yes, deployed to Iraq/Afghanistan Army (53%); O4-O6 (47%)
- Higher response of Yes, deployed to another combat zone Navy (23%)

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
No	28	36	48
Yes, deployed to Iraq/Afghanistan	57	48	34
Yes, deployed to another combat zone	15	16	18

Problems During Most Recent Deployment

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



Problems During Most Recent Deployment (Continued)

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

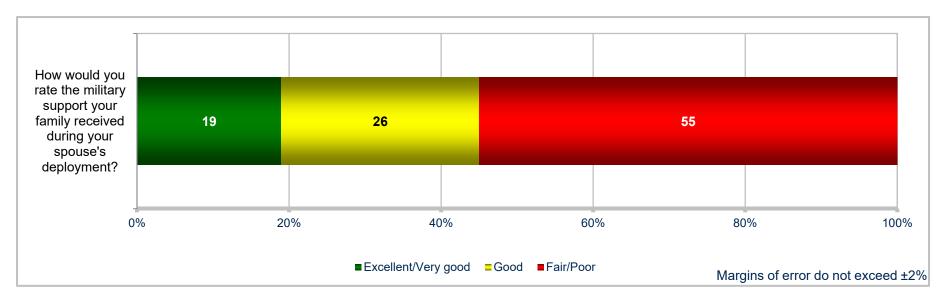
Large Extent

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
Loneliness	54	47	38	31	36
Being a "single" parent	X	32	26	23	28
Dealing with issues/decisions alone	X	X	24	20	25
Home/care repairs/maintenance or yard work	34	29	22	18	23
Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse	X	25	24	19	23
Emotional problems in the family	20	18	22	18	22
No time for recreation, fitness, or entertainment activities	X	23	20	15	21
Technical difficulties communicating with myspouse		22	24	19	20
Managing child care/child schedules	28	23	17	15	20

- Higher response of Large Extent for:
 - Loneliness E1-E4 (47%)
 - Being a "single" parent E5-E9 (29%)
 - Dealing with issues/decisions alone Navy (30%); E1-E4 (36%)
 - Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard work Employed (26%)
 - Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse Navy (27%); E1-E4 (31%)
 - Emotional problems in the family E1-E4 (30%)
 - Technical difficulties communicating with my spouse Navy (27%); E1-E4 (30%); Employed (23%)

Military Support During Husband/Wife's Most Recent Deployment

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



- Higher response of Excellent/Very good O4-O6 (27%)
- Higher response of Fair/Poor Army (59%); E1-E4 (62%)

Excellent/Very good

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2015	2017
⋆ Total	23	19
Army	21	19
▲ Navy	23	20
Marine Corps	22	22
Air Force	25	19

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±4%

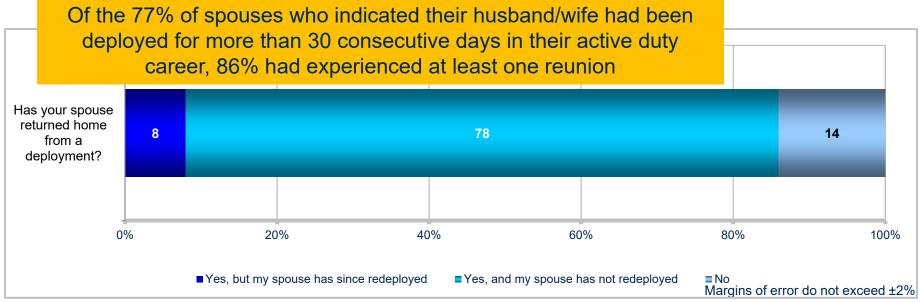
Excellent/Very good

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2015	2017
* Total	23	19
• E1-E4	18	16
▲ E5-E9	22	18
01-03	27	23
◆ 04-06	31	27

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±4%

Member's Return Home From Deployment

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



Note: Of spouses whose husband/wife returned from deployment, the average amount of time since their return was 37 months, and 53% returned from a combat zone.

- Higher response of *Yes, and my spouse has not redeployed* Air Force (83%); E5-E9 (80%); O4-O6 (84%)
- Higher response of *No* Navy (17%); E1-E4 (28%)

Yes, And My Spouse Hasn't Redeployed

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	78	81	78
Army	75	82	78
▲ Navy	78	77	74
Marine Corps	80	81	80
 Air Force 	81	84	83

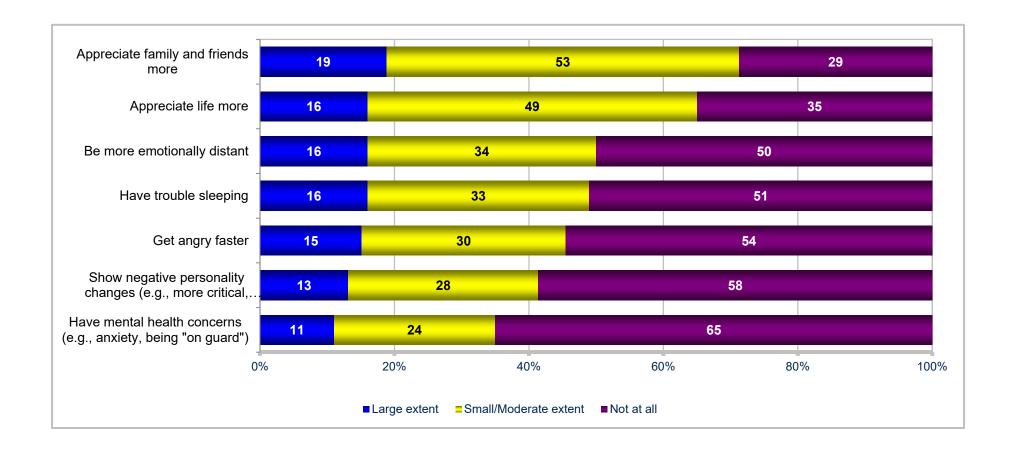
Margins of error range from ±1% to ±4%

Yes, And My Spouse Hasn't Redeployed

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
⋆ Total	78	81	78
• E1-E4	72	73	63
▲ E5-E9	79	82	80
01-03	78	81	77
◆ 04-06	85	87	84

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±5%

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



Changes in Husband/Wife After Return Home (Continued)

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

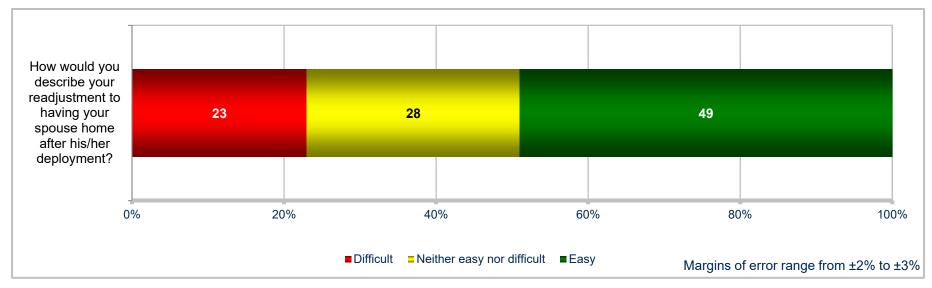
Large Extent

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
Appreciate family and friends more	47	43	25	22	19
Appreciate life more	43	38	23	20	16
More emotionally distant	24	25	18	15	16
Have trouble sleeping	X	28	21	17	16
Get angry faster	26	29	20	15	15
Show negative personality changes	\times	X	15	13	13
Have mental health concerns	X	X	14	12	11

- Higher response of *Large Extent* for:
 - Appreciate family and friends more Navy (25%); E1-E4 (25%); Not in Labor Force (22%)
 - Appreciate life more Navy (22%)
 - *More emotionally distant* Army (20%)
 - Have trouble sleeping Army (20%); E5-E9 (18%); Employed (19%)
 - Get angry faster Army (20%); E1-E4 (21%); Employed (18%)
 - Show negative personality changes Army (17%); Employed (16%)
 - Have mental health concerns Army (15%); E5-E9 (13%); Employed (14%)

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 (27%)

Difficult

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
* Total	23	28	21	19	23
 Army 	29	33	25	22	27
▲ Navy	20	24	18	18	22
Marine Corps	25	28	18	17	21
 Air Force 	15	24	17	15	18

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±6%

Difficult

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
* Total	23	28	21	19	23
• E1-E4	30	33	23	18	23
▲ E5-E9	22	28	22	19	23
01-03	21	22	17	18	20
◆ 04-06	15	18	17	19	19

Margins of error range from ±1% to ±5%

Overall Financial Condition

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



- Higher response of Comfortable Air Force (78%); O1-O3 (89%); O4-O6 (93%); Employed (75%); Dual Military (85%)
- Higher response of Not comfortable Marine Corps (14%); E1-E4 (16%); Unemployed (20%)

Comfortable

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
⋆ Total	63	62	64	72	71
Army	62	58	60	69	69
▲ Nawy	61	60	65	71	72
Marine Corps	57	59	61	69	65
◆ Air Force	66	70	73	78	78

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

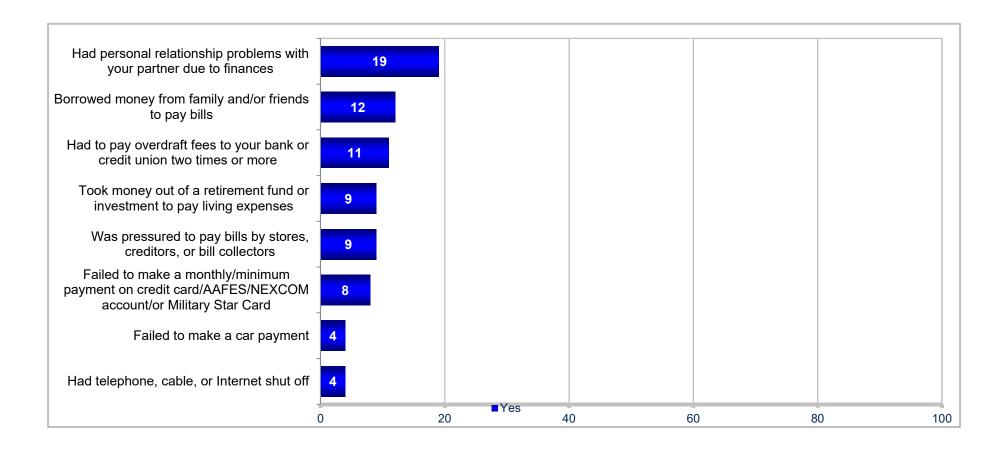
Comfortable

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	63	62	64	72	71
• E1-E4	45	45	48	59	57
▲ E5-E9	61	61	63	69	70
01-03	83	83	87	90	89
♦ 04-06	89	89	92	92	93

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

Financial Problems in Past 12 Months

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



Financial Problems in Past 12 Months (Continued)

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

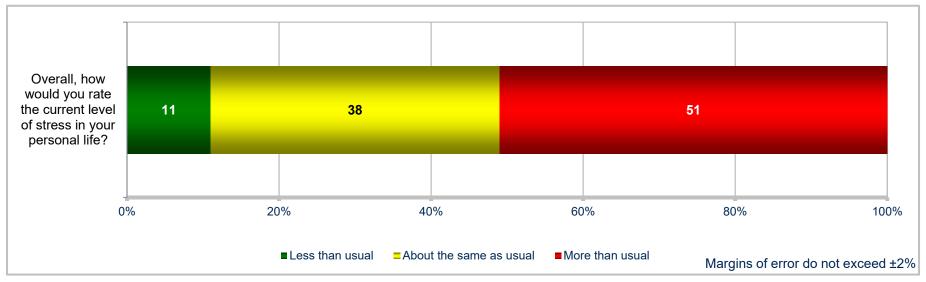


Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
Had personal relationship problems with your partner due to finances	X				19
Borrowed money from family and/or friends to pay bills		X	X	X	12
Had to pay overdraft fees to your bank or credit union two times or more	X	25	16	14	11
Took money out of a retirement fund or investment to pay living expenses	X	\times	\times	\times	9
Was pressured to pay bills by stores, creditors, or bill collectors	13	13	11	8	9
Failed to make a monthly/minimum payment on credit card/AAFES/NEXCOM account/or Military Star Card	15	15	11	9	8
Failed to make a car payment	5	5	4	3	4
Had telephone, cable, or Internet shut off	7	6	6	4	4

- Higher response of Had personal relationship problems with your partner due to finances Marine Corps (23%);
 E1-E4 (29%); Unemployed (30%)
- Higher response of *Borrowed money from family and/or friends to pay bills* Marine Corps (17%); E1-E4 (23%); Unemployed (22%)
- Higher response of Had to pay overdraft fees to bank/credit union two or more times E1-E4 (17%);
 Unemployed (18%)
- Higher response of Was pressured to pay bills by stores/creditors/bill collectors E1-E4 (15%); Unemployed (13%)
- Higher response of Failed to make monthly/minimum payment on credit card/AAFES/NEXCOM account/or Military Star Card – E1-E4 (12%); Unemployed (14%)
- Higher response of *Failed to make a car payment* E1-E4 (8%)
- Higher response of Had telephone/cable/Internet shut off Army (5%); E1-E4 (7%)

Level of Personal Stress

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



■ Higher response of *More than Usual* – E1-E4 (56%)

More than Usual

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	41	47	52	45	51
Army	46	53	55	46	52
▲ Navy	40	44	52	44	53
Marine Corps	46	49	55	51	55
Air Force	35	39	44	42	47

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

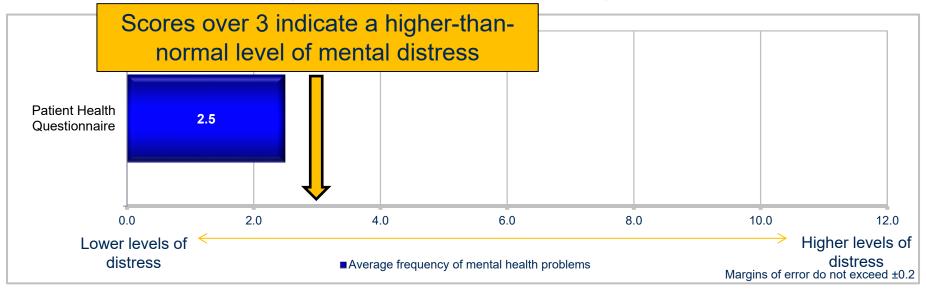
More than Usual

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
* Total	41	47	52	45	51
• E1-E4	51	53	55	49	56
▲ E5-E9	39	46	52	45	52
01-03	37	42	49	42	46
◆ 04-06	34	39	43	42	45

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

Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-4)

Average Summary Score of All Active Duty Spouses



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 – Navy (2.7); Marine Corps (2.8); E1-E4 (3.0); Unemployed (3.2)

ISTRASS.

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	2.4	2.2	2.5
Army	2.7	2.3	2.6
▲ Navy	2.5	2.3	2.7
Marine Corps	2.8	2.5	2.8
Air Force	1.8	1.7	1.9

Distress

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	2.4	2.2	2.5
• E1-E4	2.9	2.7	3.0
▲ E5-E9	2.4	2.1	2.5
01-03	1.9	1.7	1.9
♦ 04-06	1.6	1.6	1.7

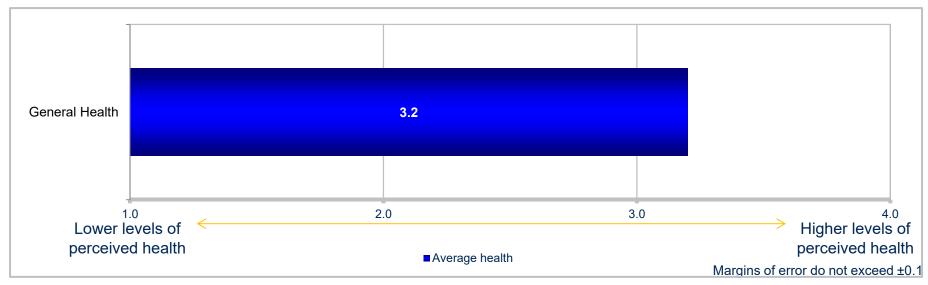
Margins of error range from ±0.1% to ±0.3%

ADSS 2017 Q71

Margins of error range from ±0.1% to ±0.3%

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 – E5-E9 (3.2)

Perceived Health

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	3.2	3.3	3.2
Army	3.2	3.2	3.2
▲ Navy	3.2	3.3	3.2
Marine Corps	3.2	3.3	3.3
Air Force	3.2	3.3	3.3

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1%

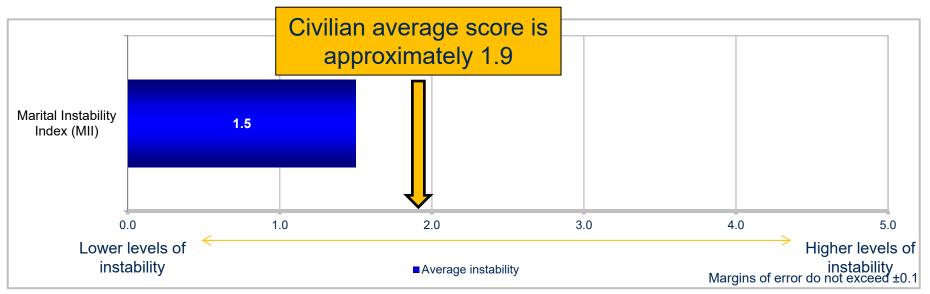
Perceived Health

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	3.2	3.3	3.2
• E1-E4	3.2	3.2	3.3
▲ E5-E9	3.2	3.2	3.2
01-03	3.3	3.4	3.4
◆ 04-06	3.3	3.3	3.3

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1%

Marital Instability Index (MII)

Average of All Active Duty Spouses



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) in 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. [Reference: 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); E5-E9 (1.6); Employed (1.6); Unemployed (1.8)

Instabili	ty		
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
★ Total	1.6	1.4	1.5
Army	1.7	1.5	1.7
▲ Navy	1.5	1.2	1.4
Marine Corps	1.6	1.4	1.4
◆ Air Force	1.4	1.2	1.2

Margins of error range from ±0.1% to ±0.2%

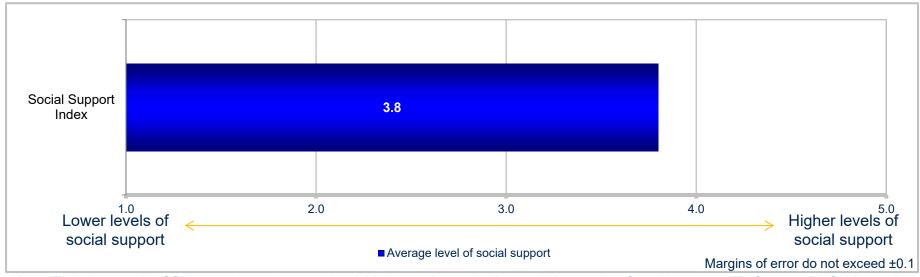
Instability

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	1.6	1.4	1.5
• E1-E4	1.7	1.3	1.5
▲ E5-E9	1.7	1.5	1.6
01-03	1.1	1.0	0.9
◆ 04-06	1.1	1.1	1.1

Margins of error range from ±0.1% to ±0.2%

Social Support Index (SSI)

Average of All Active Duty Spouses



Note: Each item on the SSI is rated on a 1 to 5 scale. A higher total score indicates higher levels of social support. [Reference: McCubbin, H.I., Patterson, J.M., & Glynn, T. (1996). Social Support Index (SSI; 1982). In H.I. McCubbin, A.I. Thompson, & M.A. McCubbin (Eds.), *Family assessment: Resiliency, coping, and adaptation–inventories for research and practice.* (pp. 357–389). Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Publishers.]

Less than average levels of Social Support – Army (3.7); E1-E4 (3.7); E5-E9 (3.8); Unemployed (3.6)

Social Support

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
* Total	3.7	3.8	3.8
Army	3.7	3.7	3.7
▲ Navy	3.7	3.9	3.8
Marine Corps	3.7	3.8	3.8
 Air Force 	3.8	3.9	3.9

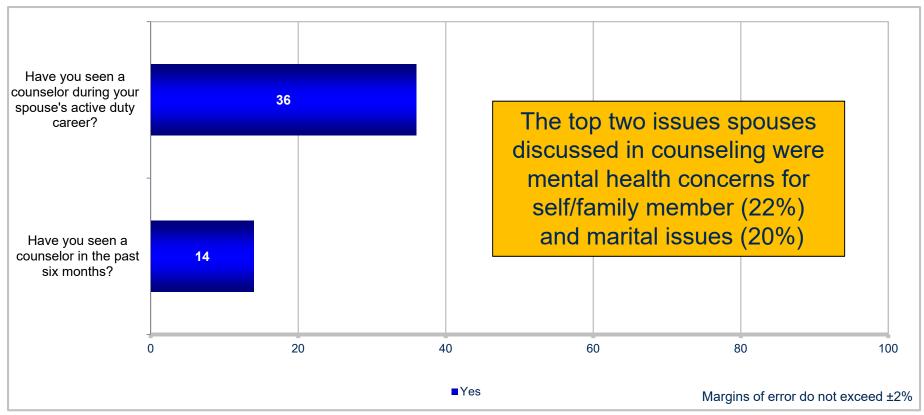
Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1%

Social Support

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
⋆ Total	3.7	3.8	3.8
• E1-E4	3.6	3.7	3.7
▲ E5-E9	3.7	3.8	3.8
01-03	3.9	4.0	4.0
◆ 04-06	3.9	4.0	4.0

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1%

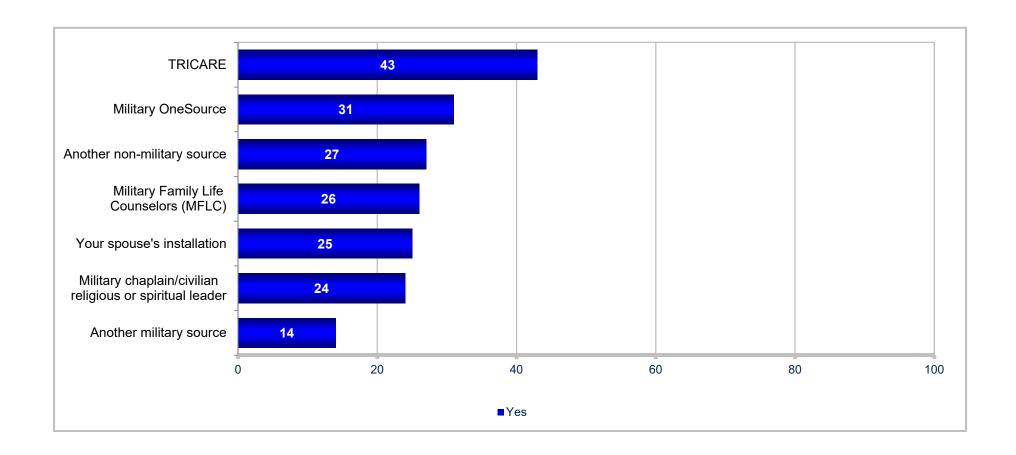
Use of Counseling Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



- Higher response of Seen counselor in husband/wife's active career Army (39%); E5-E9 (42%); Employed (40%)
- Higher response of Seen counselor in past six months Marine Corps (18%)

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Seen a counselor during your spouse's active duty career	37	35	36
Seen a counselor in the past six months	16	14	14

Source of Counseling Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling



Source of Counseling (Continued)

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

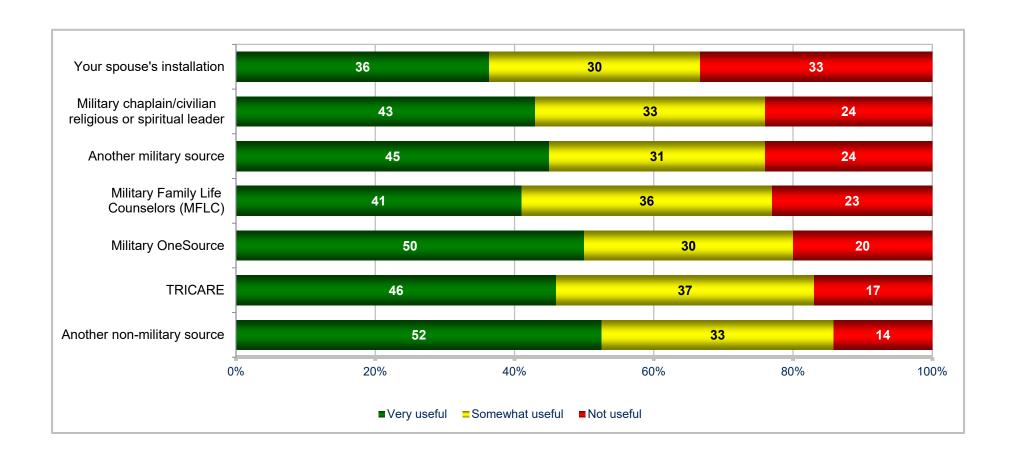
Yes

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
TRICARE	50	47	43
Military One Source	35	32	31
Another non-military source	30	29	27
Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)	23	26	26
Your spouse's installation	25	25	25
Military chaplain/civilian religious or spiritual leader	25	25	24
Another military source	18	16	14

- Higher response of *Military OneSource* E5-E9 (34%)
- Higher response of Another non-military source Employed (31%)
- Higher response of Another military source E1-E4 (22%)

Usefulness of Counseling Source

Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling



Usefulness of Counseling Source (Continued)

Percent of Applicable Active Duty Spouses Who Received Counseling

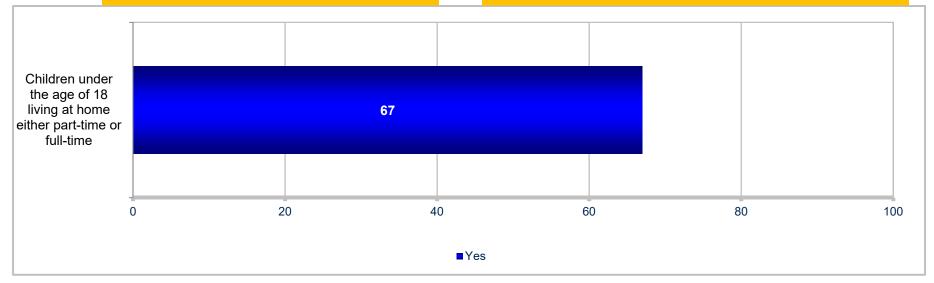
Not Useful

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Your spouse's installation	30	32	33
Military chaplain/civilian religious or spiritual leader	19	21	24
Another military source	23	25	24
Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)	24	23	23
Military OneSource	16	16	20
TRICARE	14	15	17
Another non-military source	11	13	14

Families With Children Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

Spouses reported an average of 2 children per household

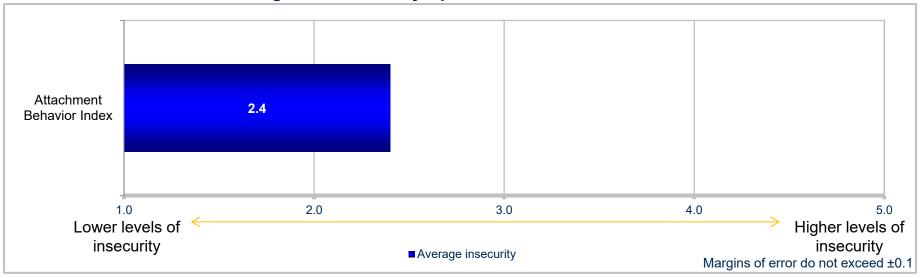
The average age of the child selected by spouses was 6.5 years old



Note: Spouses were asked to choose a child in their household with the birth month closest to theirs.

Attachment Behavior Index (AQS)

Average of Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child



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. [Reference: 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* – O1-O3 (2.5); Unemployed (2.6)

insecurity				
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017	
* Total	2.3	2.2	2.4	
Army	2.3	2.3	2.4	
▲ Navy	2.3	2.2	2.4	
Marine Corps	2.3	2.3	2.4	
◆ Air Force	2.2	2.2	2.3	

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1%

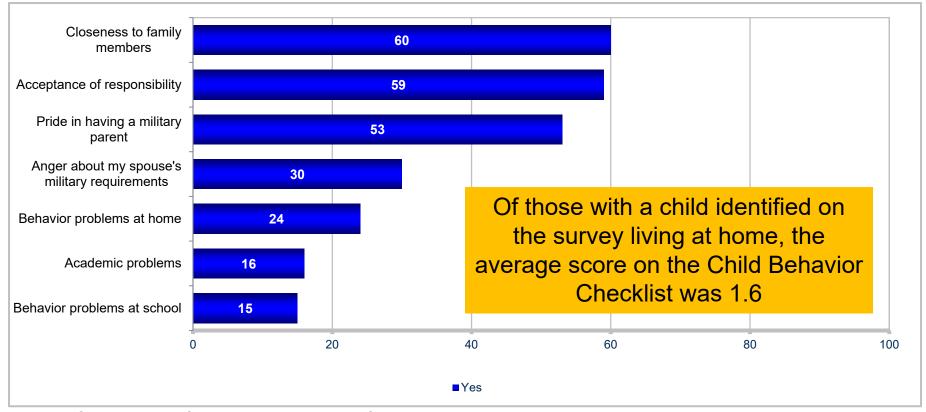
Insecurity

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
⋆ Total	2.3	2.2	2.4
• E1-E4	2.3	2.2	2.3
▲ E5-E9	2.3	2.3	2.4
01-03	2.4	2.3	2.5
◆ 04-06	2.2	2.2	2.4

Margins of error do not exceed ±0.1%

Selected Child's Behavior in Past 12 Months

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child



Note: A Child Behavior Checklist was created by OPA 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 incidence of problematic behaviors.

Selected Child's Behavior in Past 12 Months (Continued)

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child

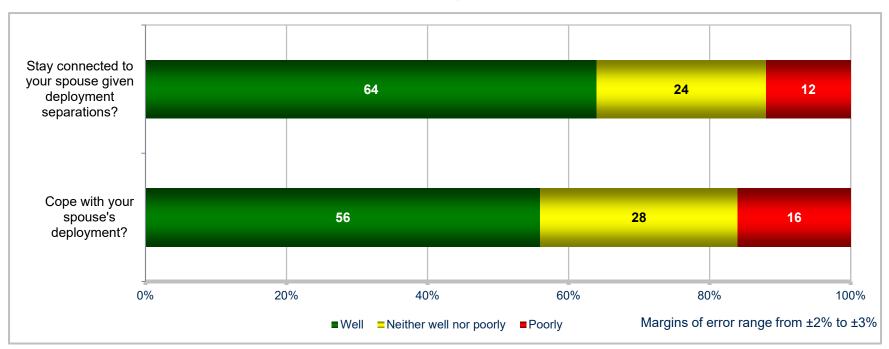
Yes

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Closeness to family members	63	57	60
Acceptance of responsibility	62	60	59
Pride in having a military parent	59	54	53
Anger about my spouse's military requirements	28	24	30
Behavior problems at home	24	22	24
Academic problems	19	20	16
Behavior problems at school	16	15	15

- Higher response of Yes for:
 - Closeness to family members O1-O3 (67%)
 - Acceptance of responsibility O1-O3 (68%)
 - Anger about my spouse's military requirements Employed (34%)
 - Behavior problems at home E5-E9 (27%)
 - Academic problems E5-E9 (19%)
 - Behavior problems at school E5-E9 (17%); Dual Military (26%)

"How well did this child..."

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Selected a Child Living at Home During Husband/Wife's Most Recent Deployment



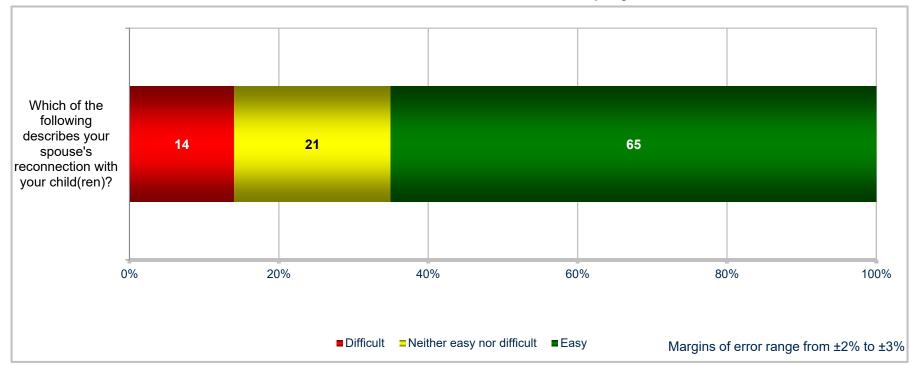
- Higher response of Well for:
 - Coped with your spouse's deployment Employed (61%)

Well			
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
Stay connected to your spouse given deployment separations	65	68	64
Cope with your spouse's deployment	60	58	56

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±3%

Member's Reconnection With Child(ren) After Deployment

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Had Child(ren) During the Member's Most Recent Deployment and Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment



Easy

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2012	2015	2017
⋆ Total	65	68	65
Army	60	63	63
▲ Navy	70	70	65
Marine Corps	68	70	68
Air Force	70	77	67

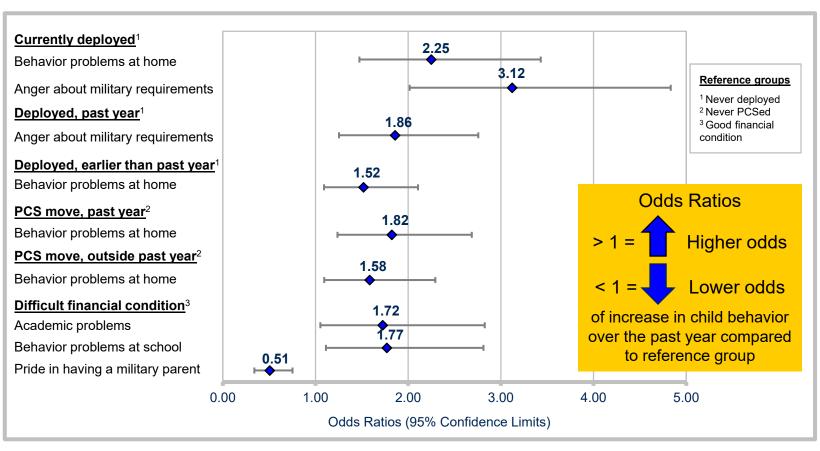
Margins of error range from ±2% to ±5%

Easy

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2015	2017
*	Total	65	68	65
•	E1-E4	62	70	65
A	E5-E9	64	68	63
	01-03	69	69	69
•	04-06	71	70	67

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±9%

Impact of Military Life Events/Factors on Child Behaviors Logistic Regression Analysis

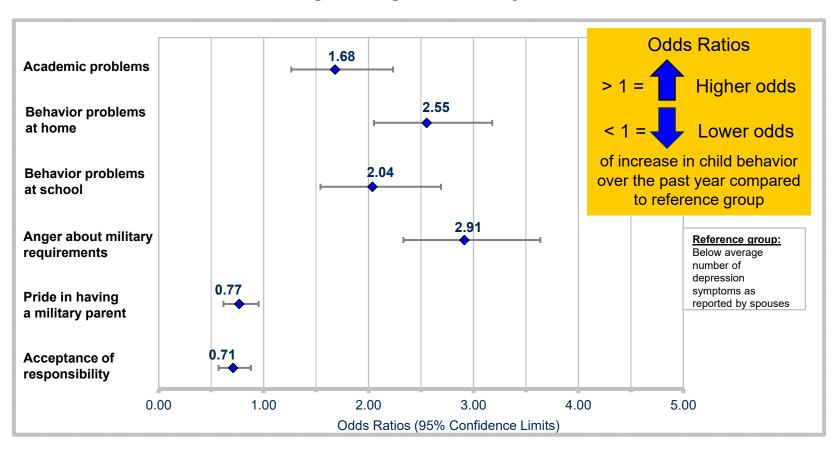


- Children of active duty spouses who reported currently experiencing a deployment, has experienced a deployment, has experienced a PCS move, and/or reported a difficult financial condition had higher odds of exhibiting negative behaviors than their peers in the reference categories.
- Children of active duty spouses who experienced difficult financial conditions had lower odds of exhibiting pride in having a military parent.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for Service, paygrade, education level, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant (p < .05) odds ratios are graphically presented.

Impact of Parent Mental Health on Child Behaviors

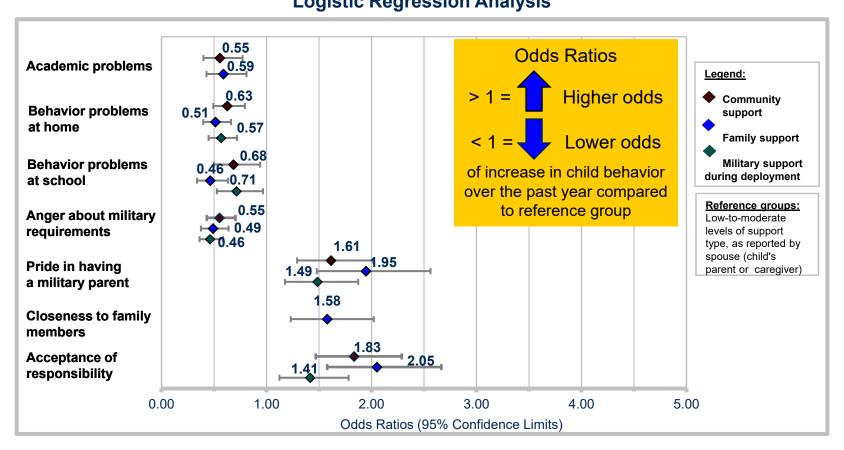
Logistic Regression Analysis



- Children of active duty spouses who reported a higher than average number of depression symptoms had higher odds of academic problems, behavior problems both at home and school, and anger about their parent's military requirements.
- Children of active duty spouses who reported a higher than average number of depression symptoms had lower odds of having pride in having a military parent and acceptance of responsibility.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for Service, paygrade, education level, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant (p < .05) odds ratios are graphically presented.

Impact of Social and Military Support on Child Behaviors Logistic Regression Analysis



- Children of active duty spouses who reported high social support generally had lower odds of exhibiting negative behaviors such as academic problems, behavior problems, and anger about military requirements than their less-supported peers.
- Children of active duty spouses who reported high social support generally had higher odds of exhibiting positive behaviors such as pride in having a military parent, closeness to family members (only family support), and acceptance of responsibilities than their less-supported peers.

Note: All logistic regression analyses controlled for Service, paygrade, education level, race/ethnicity, years married, number of children, and spouse/child gender and age. Only statistically significant (*p* < .05) odds ratios are graphically presented.

Summary of Results

Spouse Military Support

- Satisfaction with military way of life significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2008, but lower than 2012 and 2015
- Spouse support to stay in the military significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2012 and 2015

Spouse Unemployment Rate

- Unemployment rate significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2006 and 2008

Deployment & Reintegration

- Majority of problems during most recent deployment were significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2015
- Excellent/Very good military support during member's most recent deployment significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2015
- Majority of both positive and negative changes in members after deployment were significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2006, 2008, and 2012
- Spouses reporting difficult readjustment to member's return from deployment significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2015

Spouse Well-Being

- Spouses reporting their financial condition as Comfortable significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2006, 2008, and 2012
- Majority of financial problems in the past year significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2006, 2008, and 2012
- Spouses reporting more stress than usual in personal lives significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2006,
 2008, and 2015

Bottom Line: Results generally improved or steady compared to previous results; however, spouse military support & excellent/very good military support during deployment were significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2015. Problems during deployment & stress were significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2015.

Questions?



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OPA Survey Results Website: http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/surveys

Military OneSource: http://www.militaryonesource.mil/web/mos/reports-and-surveys



BACKUP SLIDES

INTRODUCTION

2017 Weighted Demographic Data

Active Duty Member Characteristics	Percent
Service	
Army	38
Navy	24
Marine Corps	12
Air Force	26
Paygrade	
E1-E4	24
E5-E9	53
01-03	10
O4-O6	10
Deployment Status	
Not Deployed Career	23
Deployed Career	75
Not Deployed Past 12 Months	69
Deployed Past 12 Months	28
Currently Deployed	10
Deployed Multiple Times ¹	9

Active Duty Spouse Characteristics	Percent
Gender	
Male	12
Female	88
Age	
Average Age	32
Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	61
Total Minority	38
Education	
No College	10
Some College/Vocational Diploma	44
4-Year Degree	30
Graduate/Professional Degree	15
Family Status	
With Child(ren)	67
Without Child(ren)	33
Employment	
Employed	40
Unemployed	13
Not in Labor Force	34
Armed Forces ²	13

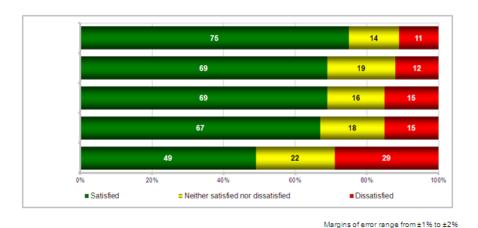
¹ "Deployed Multiple Times" is a subset of "Deployed Past 12 Months."

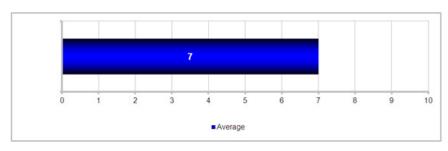
² "Armed Forces" refers to dual-military spouses (i.e., both spouse and member in the Armed Forces). The term "Dual Military" will be used in lieu of "Armed Forces" in this briefing.

INTRODUCTION

Briefing Includes

Graphic displays of overall results





Margins of error do not exceed ±1%

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

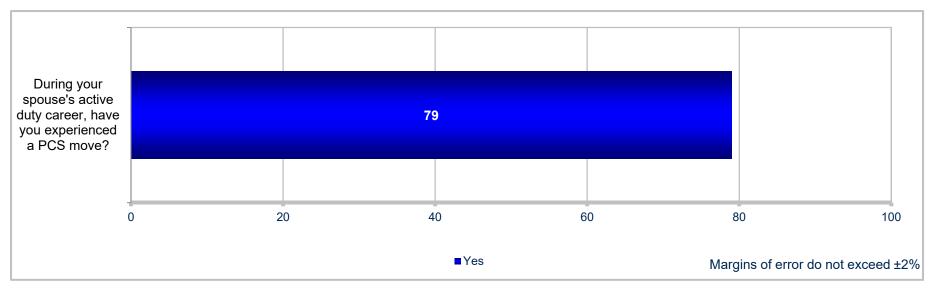
- Trends are shown as estimated percentages or means
- Statistical tests used to compare current results with all previous survey administrations
 - Purple cells indicate current survey result is HIGHER
 - Yellow cells indicate current survey result is LOWER

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

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	YY / Y	YYYY	Current Survey	
* Total	65	68	68	
• Army	63	64	69	
▲ Navy	67	69	70	
■ Marine Corps	63	71	63	
♦ Air Force	66	 	68	

Indicates most recent survey result is significantly lower than past survey result

Experienced a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Move Percent of All Active Duty Spouses



Note: Of spouses who experienced a PCS move, the average amount of time since their last PCS move was 24 months. Those who have had a PCS move reported experiencing an average of 2.9 moves during their spouse's active duty career.

Higher response of Yes – Army (82%); E5-E9 (84%); O1-O3 (90%); O4-O6 (97%); Not in Labor Force (83%)

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOVVER than	2006	2008	2012	2015	2017
* Total	73	75	78	79	79
Army	76	76	81	82	82
▲ Navy	69	73	75	75	77
Marine Corps	66	67	65	70	68
 Air Force 	76	80	82	80	81

Yes

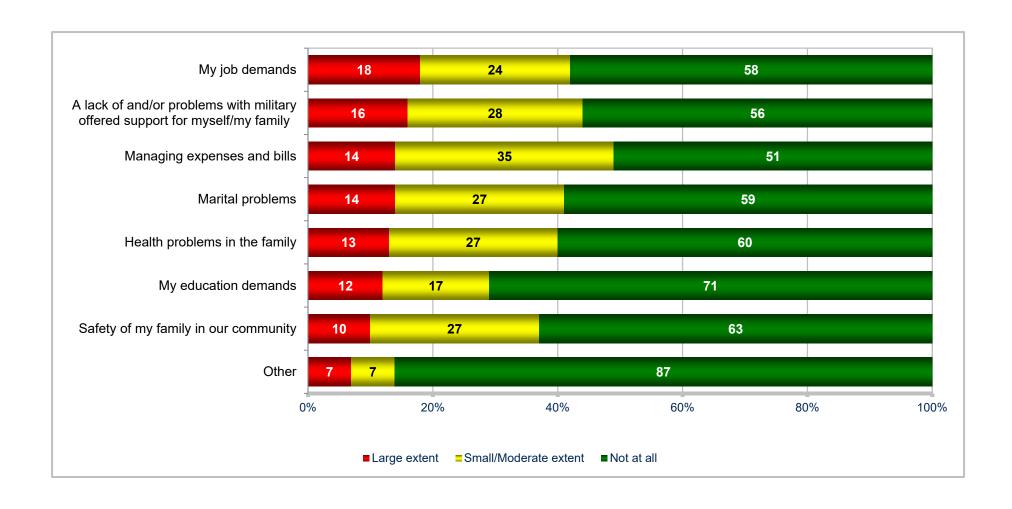
Margins of error range from ±1% to ±3%

Yes Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than ⋆ Total E1-E4 ▲ E5-E9 01-03 04-06

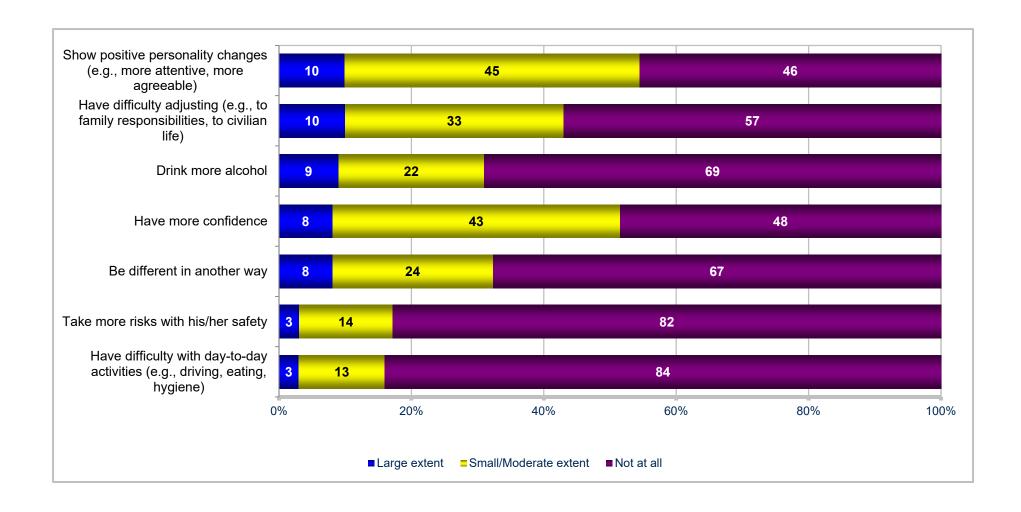
Margins of error range from ±1% to ±4%

Problems During Most Recent Deployment

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

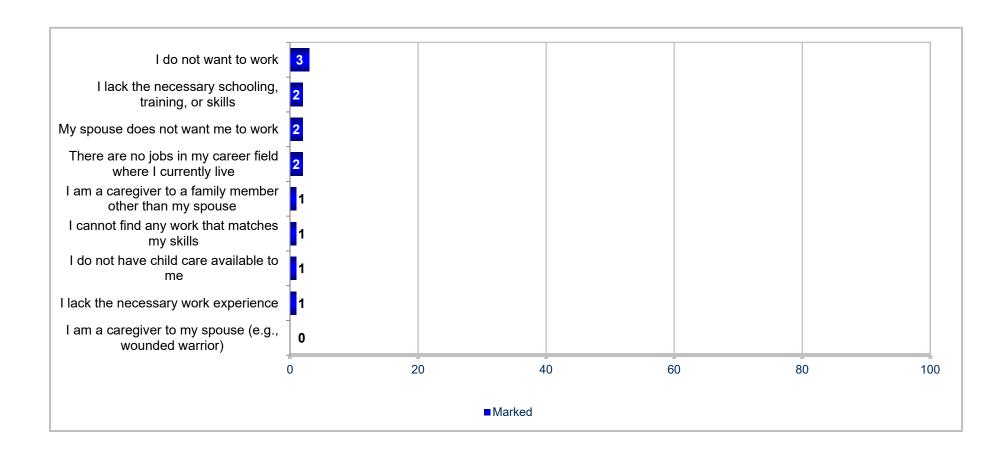


Changes in Husband/Wife After Return Home Percent of Active Duty Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Returned From Deployment



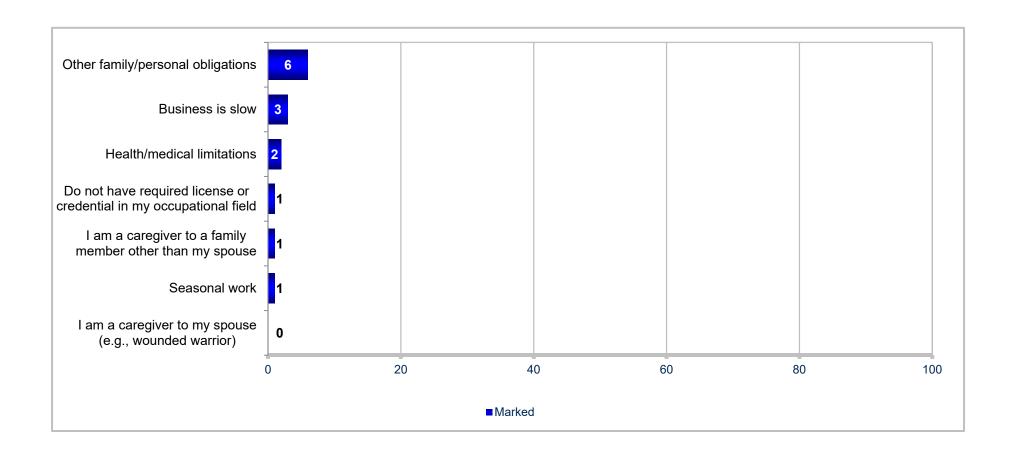
Main Reason for Not Looking for Work

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



Main Reason for Working Part-Time

Percent of Active Duty Spouses Who Are Employed Part-Time (Less Than 35 Hours/Week)



Financial Problems in Past 12 Months

Percent of All Active Duty Spouses

