



2017 Survey of Reserve Component Spouses (2017 RCSS)

Spouse Military Support and Military OneSource
Financial Condition and Spouse Unemployment Rate
Activation/Deployment
Reunion and Reintegration
Effects of Deployment on Children

BRIEFING OVERVIEW

	Slide
• Introduction	3
• Spouse Military Support and Military OneSource	5
• Financial Condition and Spouse Unemployment Rate	9
• Activation/Deployment	12
• Reunion and Reintegration	26
• Effects of Deployment on Children	28
• Summary of Results	32

INTRODUCTION

- **Survey Population**

- The target population for the *2017 Survey of Reserve Component Spouses (2017 RCSS)* consisted of spouses of Reserve Component members from the Selected Reserve in Reserve Unit, Active Guard/Reserve (AGR/FTS/AR; Title 10 and Title 32), or Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA)¹ programs from the Army National Guard (ARNG), U.S. Army Reserve (USAR), U.S. Navy Reserve (USNR), U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR), Air National Guard (ANG), and U.S. Air Force Reserve (USAFR) 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 the *2006, 2008, 2009, 2012, and 2014 Reserve Component Spouse Surveys*
- This was a scientific survey that used stratified sampling and weighting procedures so that the results can be generalized to the population of Reserve spouses

Survey	Administration Dates	Sample Size	Response Rate
2017	02/28/17-07/07/17	55,413	18%

2017 RCSS Top-Line Results:

Spouse Military Support

- 61% satisfied w/ National Guard/ Reserve way of life
 - Steady since 2006
- 81% favorable attitude towards National Guard/Reserve
 - Steady since 2009, but higher than 2006 and 2008

Financial Condition & Spouse Unemployment Rate

- 68% reporting *Comfortable* financial condition
 - Higher than 2009-2014
- 8% Unemployment Rate
 - Steady since 2012

Reunion & Reintegration

- Use of reunion/reintegration support through Yellow Ribbon Program (35%) and Family Readiness/Support Groups (19%)
 - Steady since 2014, but lower than 2012

Effects of Deployment on Children

- Both positive and negative behavioral/emotional changes due to deployments in 2017 stable since 2009

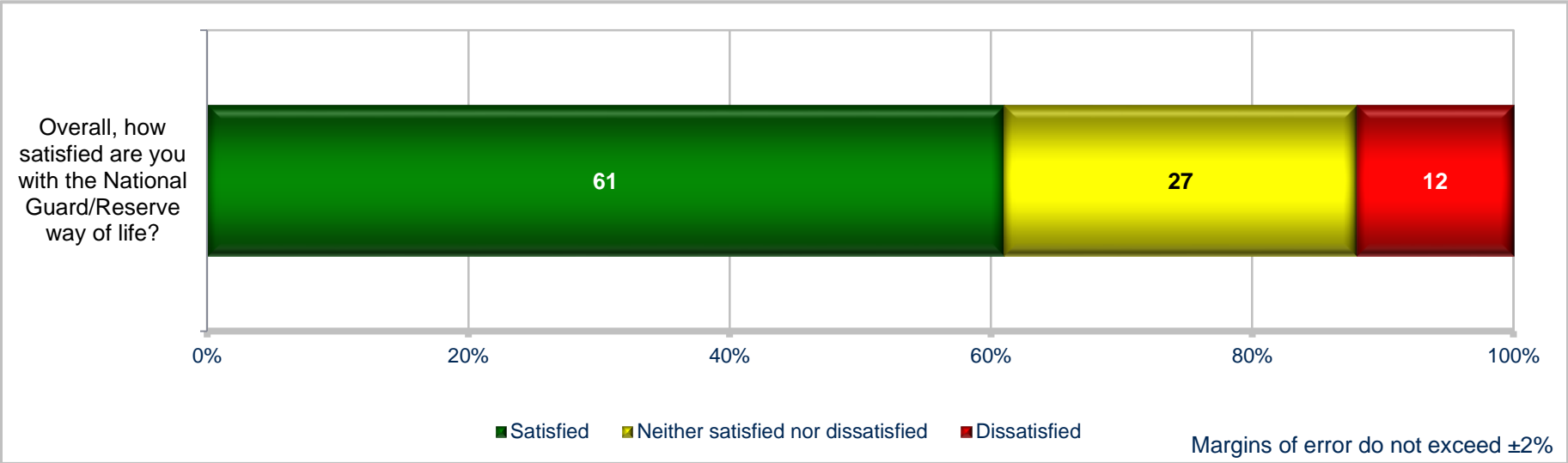
Activation/Deployment

- 18% recently activated and 32% recently deployed
 - Lower than 2012-2014
- 77% employed during activation/deployment
 - Steady since 2014, but higher than 2012
- 39% reporting *New or increased need for child care* due to the member's deployment
 - Steady since 2014, but higher than 2012
- 28% reporting *Increased phone bills due to more calls to family/friends and/or deployed spouse* due to the member's deployment
 - Steady since 2014, but lower than 2012

Bottom Line: Results in 2017 are comparable to 2014.

Overall Satisfaction With National Guard/Reserve Way of Life

Percent of All Reserve Spouses



- Significantly higher response of *Satisfied* was reported by ANG (73%); USAFR (68%); O4-O6 (71%)
- Significantly higher response of *Dissatisfied* was reported by USAR (17%); USMCR (20%); E1-E4 (18%)

Satisfied

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2009	2012	2014	2017
Total	59	59	61	63	63	61
ARNG	56	56	58	61	61	58
USAR	49	50	54	54	53	55
USNR	61	59	61	64	63	62
USMCR	50	49	52	57	56	51
ANG	74	74	75	77	75	73
USAFR	70	65	71	71	74	68

Margins of error range from $\pm 1\%$ to $\pm 6\%$

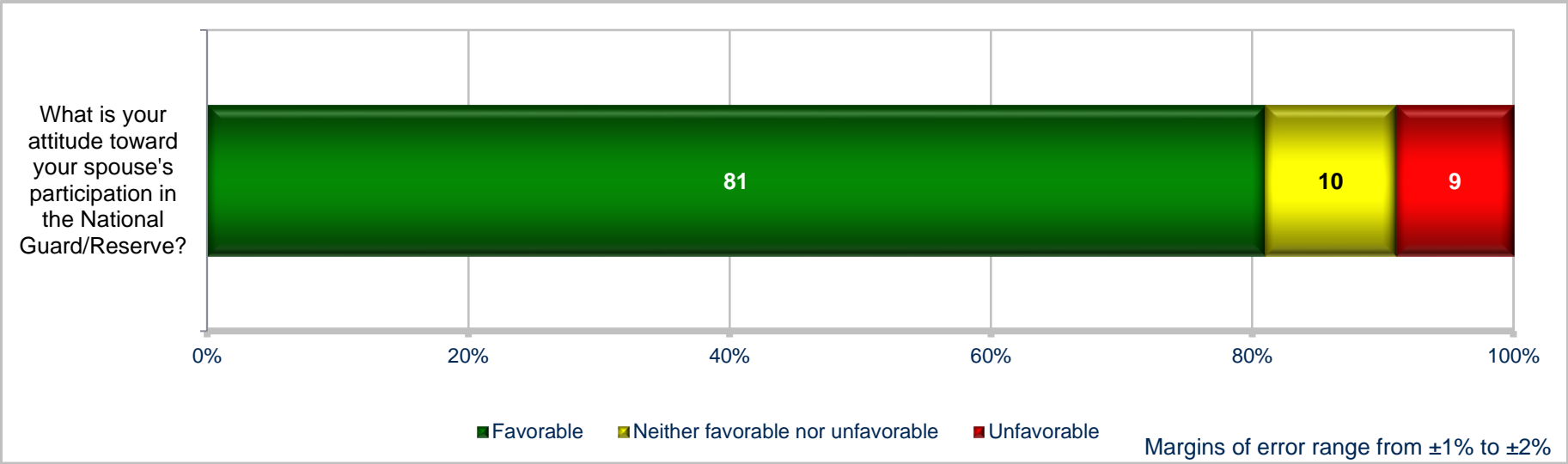
Satisfied

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2009	2012	2014	2017
Total	59	59	61	63	63	61
E1-E4	46	47	50	52	52	56
E5-E9	61	60	63	65	64	60
O1-O3	55	57	60	59	64	61
O4-O6	71	68	72	74	75	71

Margins of error range from $\pm 1\%$ to $\pm 5\%$

Overall Attitude Toward Husband/Wife's Participation in National Guard/Reserve

Percent of All Reserve Spouses



- Significantly higher response of *Favorable* was reported by ANG (86%); O4-O6 (86%)

Favorable

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2009	2012	2014	2017
Total	75	78	79	81	82	81
ARNG	73	76	78	79	79	80
USAR	69	72	74	77	78	77
USNR	77	79	80	83	83	81
USMCR	74	75	78	77	82	80
ANG	82	87	86	89	88	86
USAFR	84	82	85	85	87	84

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

Favorable

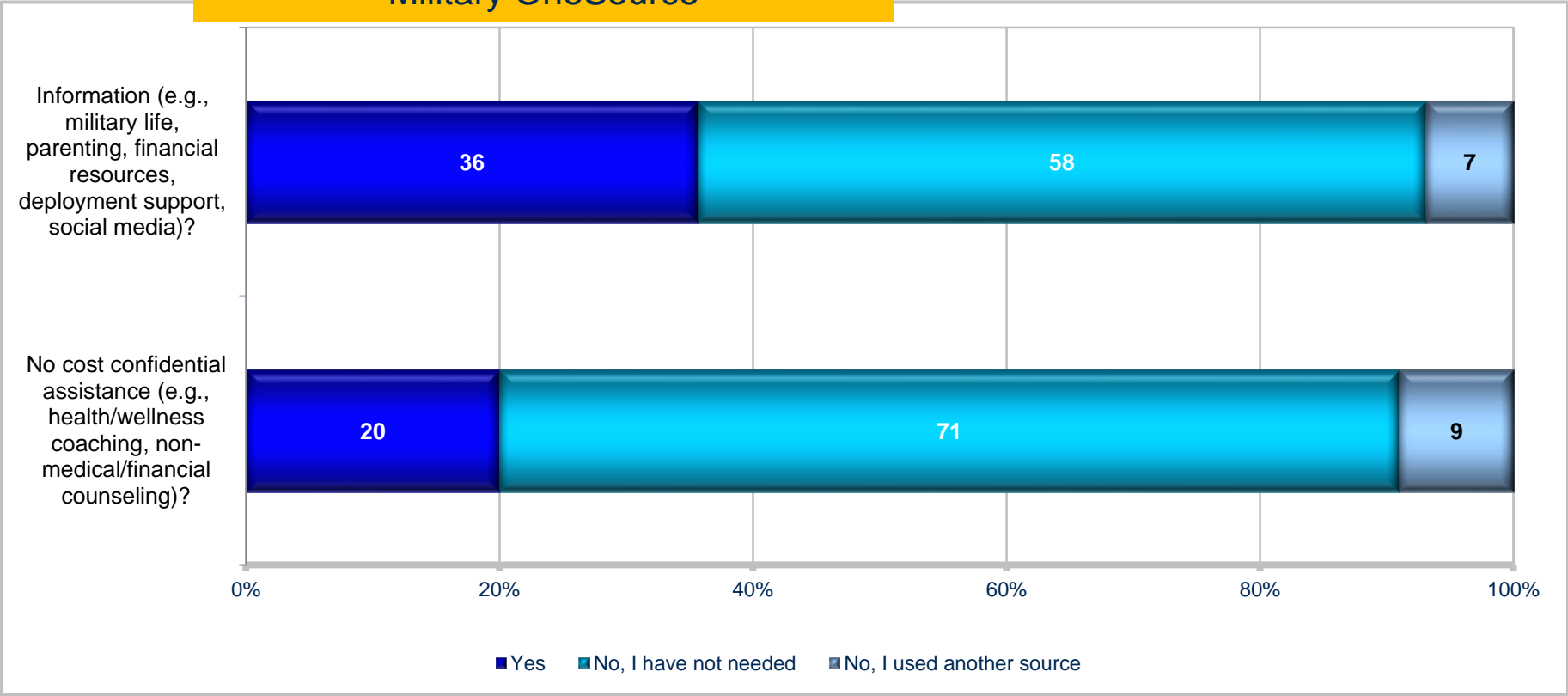
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2006	2008	2009	2012	2014	2017
Total	75	78	79	81	82	81
E1-E4	66	72	73	75	76	76
E5-E9	76	79	80	83	82	81
O1-O3	73	77	79	77	81	80
O4-O6	84	83	85	87	88	86

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

Use of Military OneSource

Percent of Reserve Spouses Who Were Aware of Military OneSource

60% of spouses who were aware of Military OneSource



Use of Military OneSource (Continued)

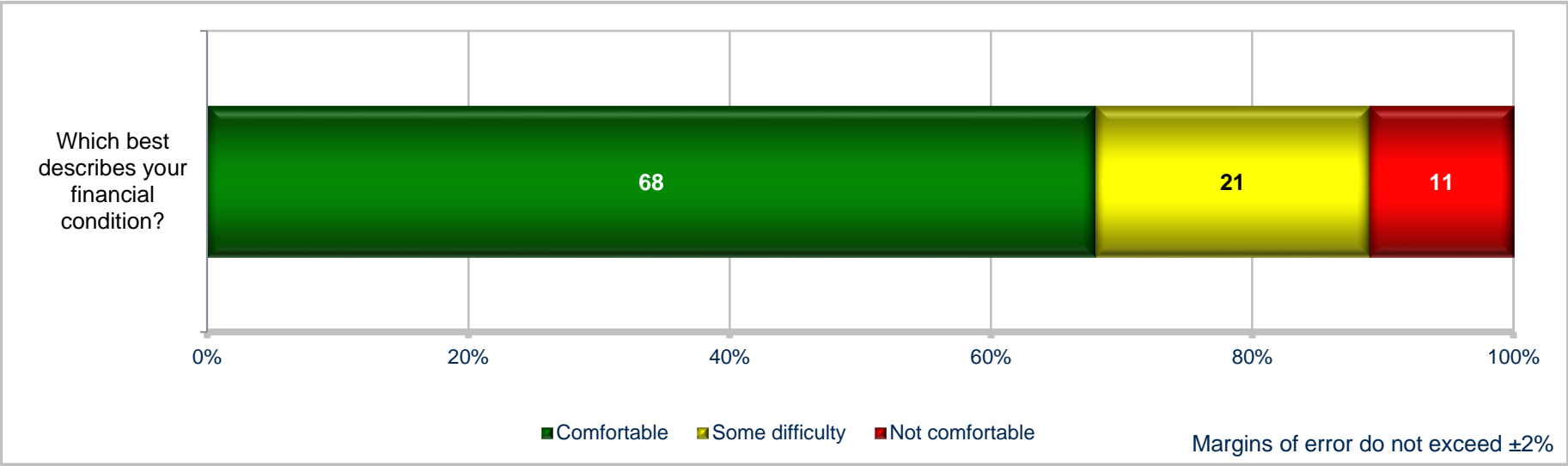
Percent of Reserve Spouses Who Were Aware of Military OneSource

Yes		
	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	20142017
Information (e.g., military life, parenting, financial resources, deployment support, social media blogs)		3636
No cost confidential assistance (e.g., health and wellness coaching, non-medical counseling, financial and tax counseling)		2020

- Significantly higher response of *Yes* was reported for:
 - Information (e.g., military life, parenting, financial resources, deployment support, social media blogs) by USMCR (26%) and O4-O6 (29%)
 - No cost confidential assistance (e.g., health and wellness coaching, non-medical counseling, financial and tax counseling) by USNR (14%) and O4-O6 (14%)

Assessment of Financial Condition

Percent of All Reserve Spouses



- Significantly higher response of *Comfortable*: Air Force (78%); O1-O3 (90%); O4-O6 (92%); Dual Military (89%)
- Significantly higher response of *Not comfortable*: Army (11%); E1-E4 (14%); Unemployed (15%)

Comfortable

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2009	2012	2014	2017
Total		60	58	61	68
ARNG		56	54	57	64
USAR		58	55	58	64
USNR		63	63	63	69
USMCR		58	57	56	66
ANG		67	67	68	75
USAFR		69	68	70	77

Margins of error range from $\pm 1\%$ to $\pm 4\%$

Comfortable

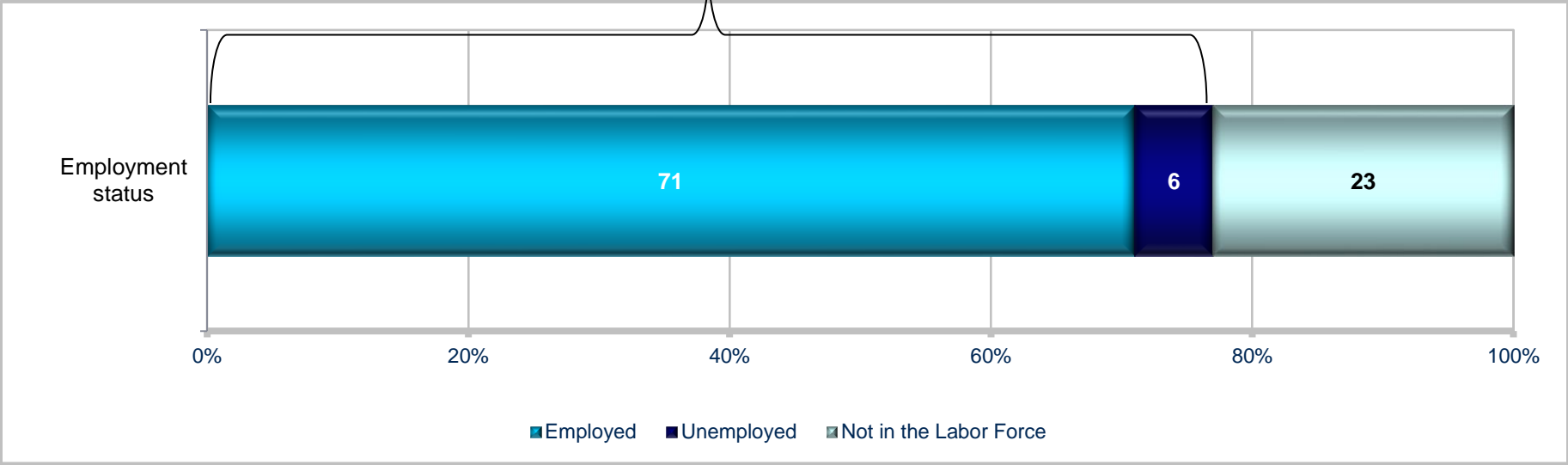
	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2009	2012	2014	2017
Total		60	58	61	68
E1-E4		39	40	39	49
E5-E9		60	58	60	66
O1-O3		76	73	76	81
O4-O6		83	83	84	88

Margins of error range from $\pm 1\%$ to $\pm 5\%$

Employment Status (Civilian)

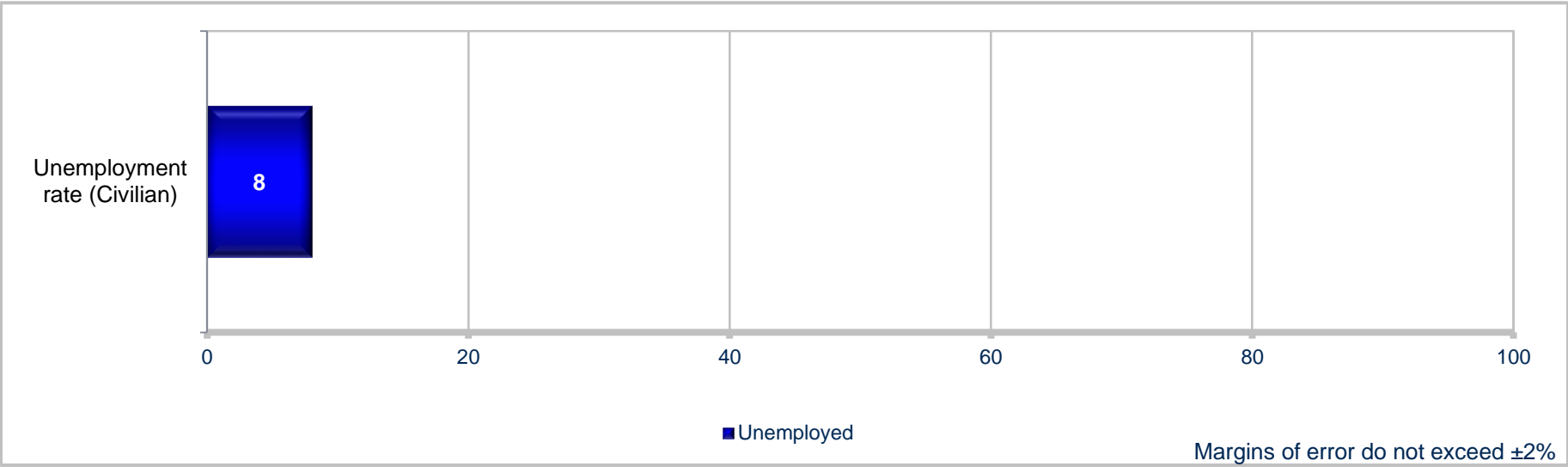
Percent of All Reserve Spouses (Excluding Dual Military Spouses)

Approximately 77% of spouses were in the labor force



Unemployment Rate (Civilian)

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



- Significantly higher response of *Unemployed*: USAR (11%); E1-E4 (13%); Minority (15%); No College\Some College (10%)

Unemployed

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Total	9	9	8
ARNG	9	8	7
USAR	12	11	11
USNR	11	9	8
USMCR	9	12	10
ANG	4	7	5
USAFR	10	9	8

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

Unemployed

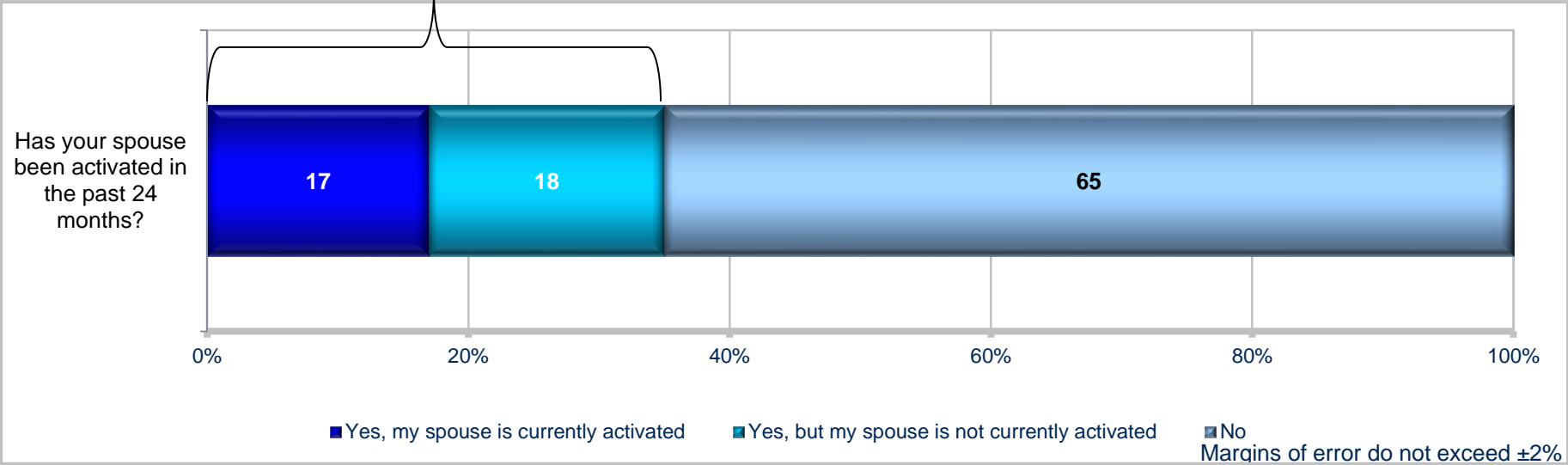
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Total	9	9	8
E1-E4	17	11	13
E5-E9	8	9	7
O1-O3	6	6	4
O4-O6	4	6	6

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

Activated in Past 24 Months

Percent of All Reserve Spouses

35% of spouses have experienced an activation in the past 24 months



Note: The deployment measure changed in 2012; therefore, trends in the Activation/Deployment section only include 2012, 2014 and 2017 results.. Trend comparisons will not be provided for 2006, 2008, or 2009.

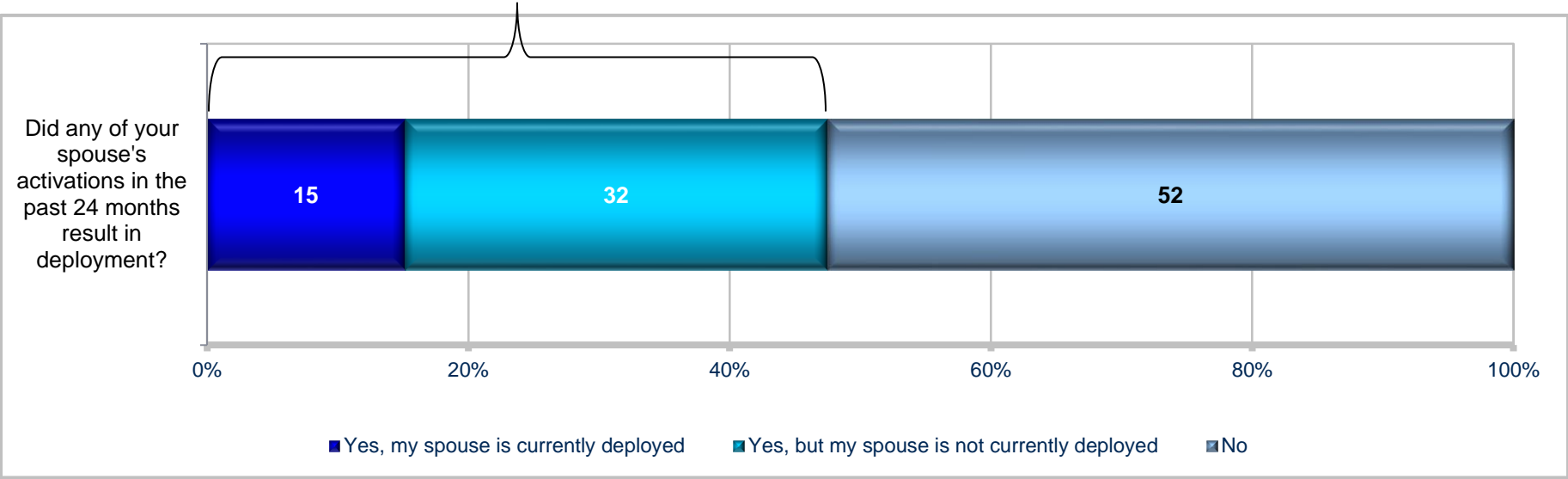
- Significantly higher response of *Yes, but my spouse is not currently activated*: ANG (28%)
- Significantly higher response of *No*: USAR (70%) and USMCR (72%)

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than		
	2012	2014	2017
Yes, my spouse is currently activated	20	15	17
Yes, but my spouse is not currently activated	29	23	18
No	51	62	65

Deployed in Past 24 Months

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Activated in Past 24 Months

Of the 35% of spouses who had been activated, approximately 47% experienced a deployment in the past 24 months



Deployed in Past 24 Months (Continued)

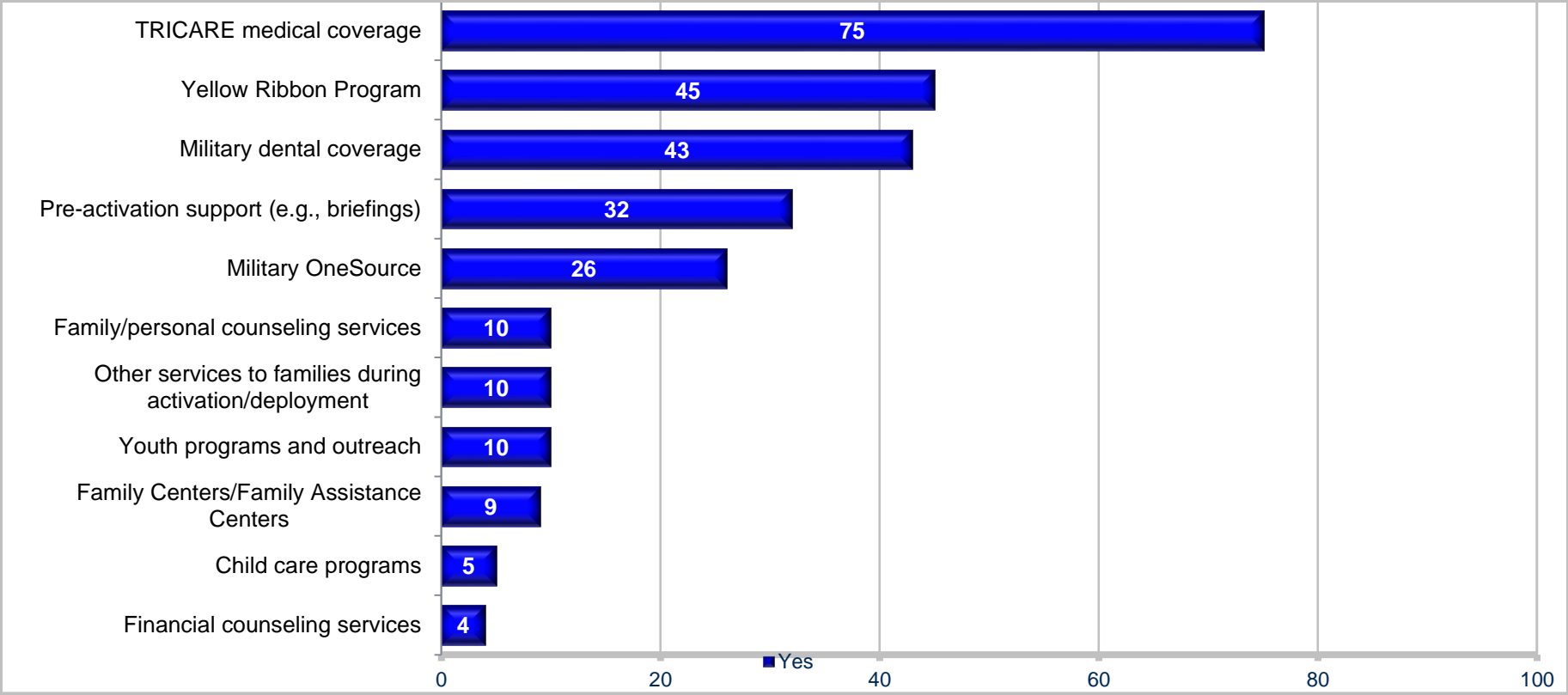
Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Activated in Past 24 Months

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Yes, my spouse is currently deployed	19	14	15
Yes, but my spouse is not currently deployed	46	40	32
No	35	46	52

- Significantly higher response of *Yes, but my spouse is not currently deployed*: ANG (47%) and E5-E9 (35%)
- Significantly higher response of *No*: ARNG (60%) and E1-E4 (64%)

Use of Military-Provided Programs/Services

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months



Note: Other services provided to families during activation/deployment included discounted child care, MWR programs/services, Key spouse calls, and access to chaplains.

Use of Military-Provided Programs/Services (Continued)

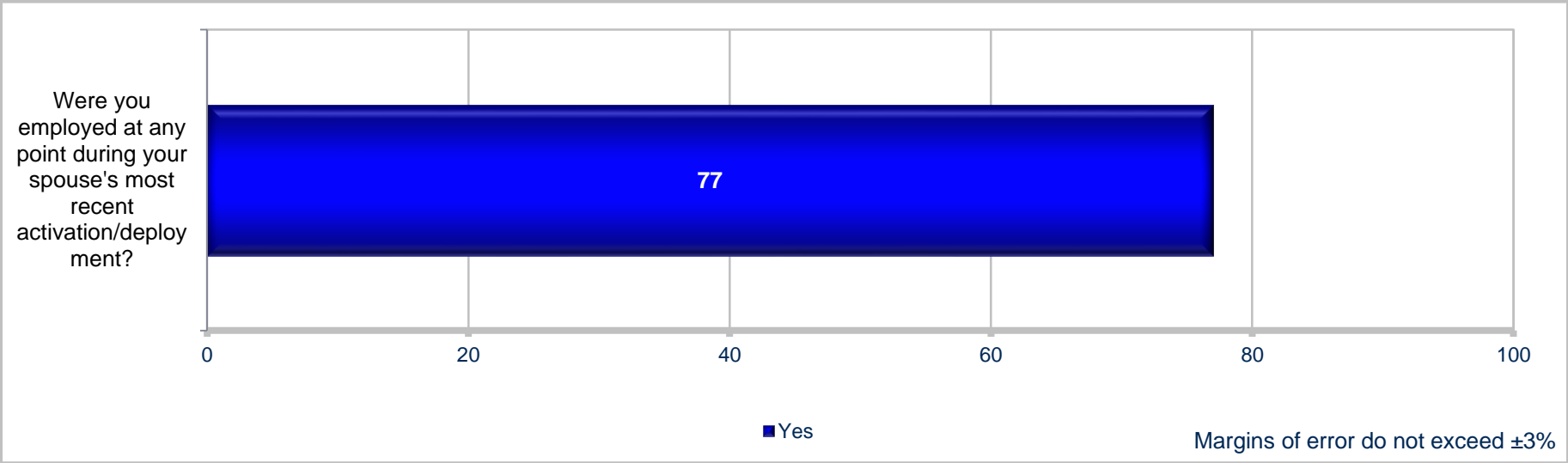
Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
TRICARE medical coverage		77	80	75
Yellow Ribbon Program				45
Military dental coverage		44	46	43
Pre-activation support (e.g., briefings)		40	38	32
Military Onesource		38	33	26
Family/personal counseling services				10
Other services to families during activation/deployment				10
Youth programs and outreach				10
Family Centers/Family Assistance Centers		9	13	9
Child care programs				5
Financial counseling services				4

- Significantly higher response of *Yellow Ribbon Program*: ARNG (56%)
- Significantly higher response of *Pre-activation support (e.g., briefings)*: ARNG (42%) and O1-O3 (42%)
- Significantly higher response of *Youth programs and outreach*: ARNG (16%)

Spouse Employment During Activation/Deployment

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months



	<div>Most recent HIGHER than</div> <div>Most recent LOWER than</div>	2012	2014	2017
Total		71	72	77
ARNG		71	72	79
USAR		68	68	77
USNR		70	67	71
USMCR		71	76	62
ANG		75	80	78
USAFR		75	69	77

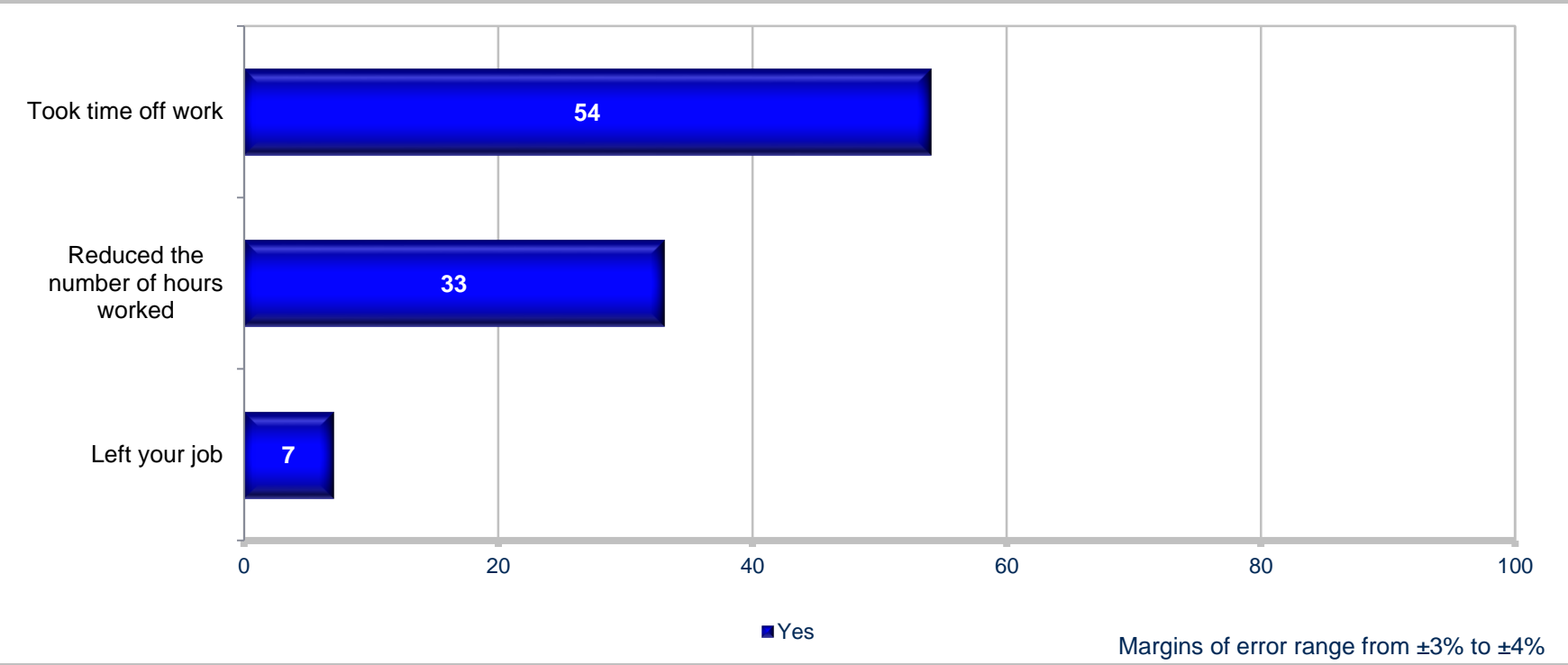
Margins of error range from ±2% to ±17%

	<div>Most recent HIGHER than</div> <div>Most recent LOWER than</div>	2012	2014	2017
Total		71	72	77
E1-E4		68	66	81
E5-E9		73	74	79
O1-O3		71	72	75
O4-O6		67	70	67

Margins of error range from ±2% to ±12%

Impact of Spouse's Deployment on Employment

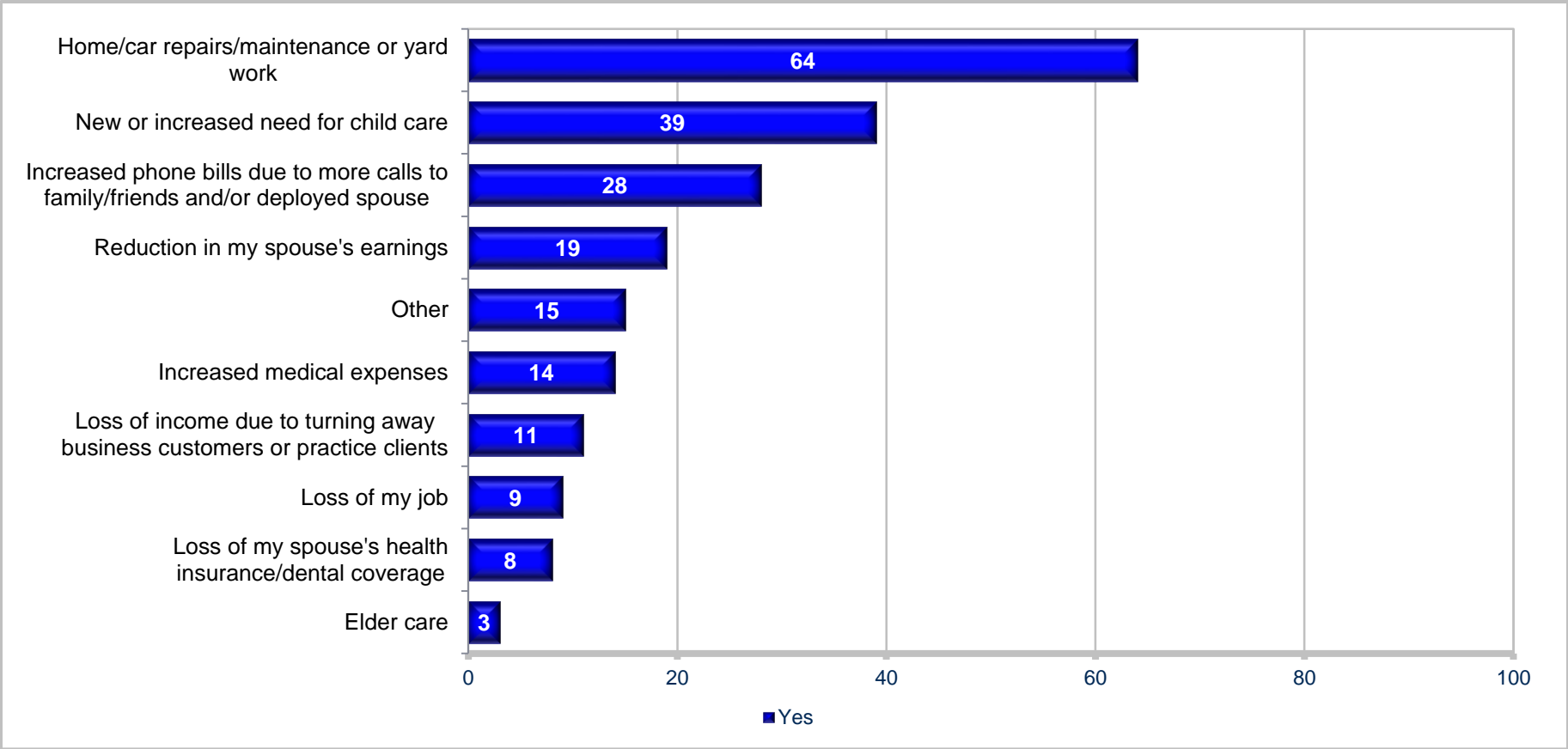
Percent of Reserve Spouses Who Held a Job During Their Husband/Wife's Most Recent Deployment



	Most recent HIGHER than		
	Most recent LOWER than		
	2012	2014	2017
Took time off work	52	55	54
Reduced the number of hours worked	27	30	33
Left your job	7	7	7

Additional Expenses During Deployment

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months and Who Had the Specified Expense



Note: Other additional expenses during deployment included increased travel costs to see family/friends/deployed husband/wife, moving costs because spouse chose to follow deployed husband/wife, meal/housekeeping/dog walking services, and postage to mail packages to deployed husband/wife.

Additional Expenses During Deployment (Continued)

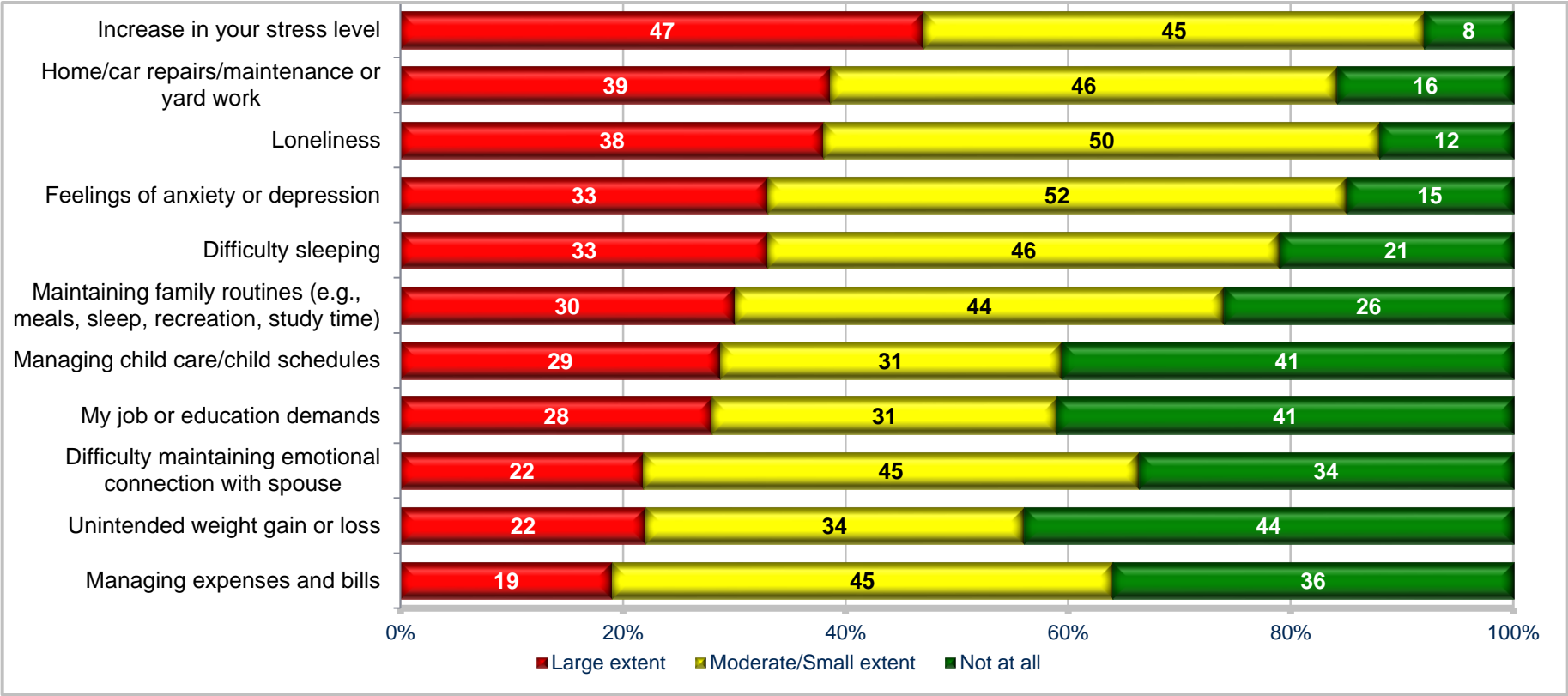
Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months and Who Had the Specified Expense

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard work		61	62	64
New or increased need for child care		31	36	39
Increased phone bills due to more calls to family/friends and/or deployed spouse		37	28	28
Reduction in my spouse's earnings		14	14	19
Increased medical expenses		17	16	14
Loss of income due to turning away business customers or practice clients		9	12	11
Loss of my job		11	8	9
Loss of my spouse's health insurance/dental coverage		9	9	8
Elder care		3	4	3

- Significantly higher response of *Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard work* was reported by O1-O3 (72%)

Extent of Problems During Deployment

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months



Extent of Problems During Deployment (Continued)

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months

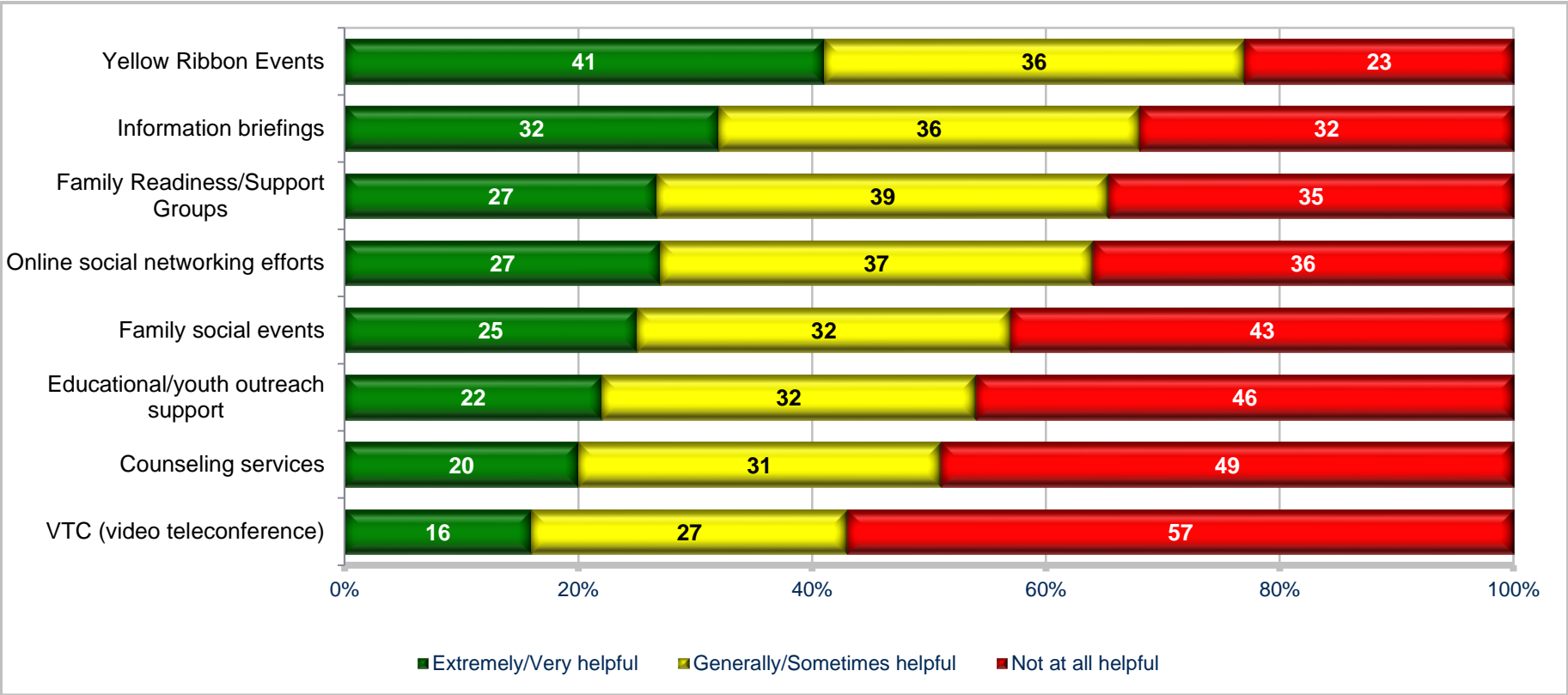
Large Extent

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Increase in your stress level		49	45	47
Home/car repairs/maintenance or yard work		36	37	39
Loneliness		40	37	38
Feelings of anxiety or depression		36	35	33
Difficulty sleeping		37	35	33
Maintaining family routines (e.g., meals, sleep, recreation, study time)			27	30
Managing child care/child schedules		24	23	29
My job or education demands		25	27	28
Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse		25	23	22
Unintended weight gain or loss		24	21	22
Managing expenses and bills		20	20	19

- Higher response of *Large Extent* for:
 - Increase in your stress level – E1-E4 (60%)
 - Loneliness – ARNG (48%) and E1-E4 (56%)
 - Feelings of anxiety or depression – ARNG (39%) and E1-E4 (44%)
 - Difficulty sleeping – E1-E4 (46%)
 - My job or education demands – E1-E4 (39%)
 - Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse – ARNG (28%) and E1-E4 (31%)
 - Unintended weight gain or loss – E1-E4 (31%)
 - Managing expenses and bills – E1-E4 (32%)

Helpfulness of Unit-Provided Support Activities




Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months and Who Used the Specified Resource



Helpfulness of Unit-Provided Support Activities (Continued)

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months and Who Used the Specified Resource

Extremely/Very helpful

Most recent HIGHER than 	2014	2017
Most recent LOWER than 		
Yellow Ribbon Events	41	41
Information briefings	35	32
Family Readiness/Support Groups	29	27
Online social networking efforts	34	27
Family social events	27	25
Educational/youth outreach support		22
Counseling services	27	20
VTC (video teleconference)	29	16

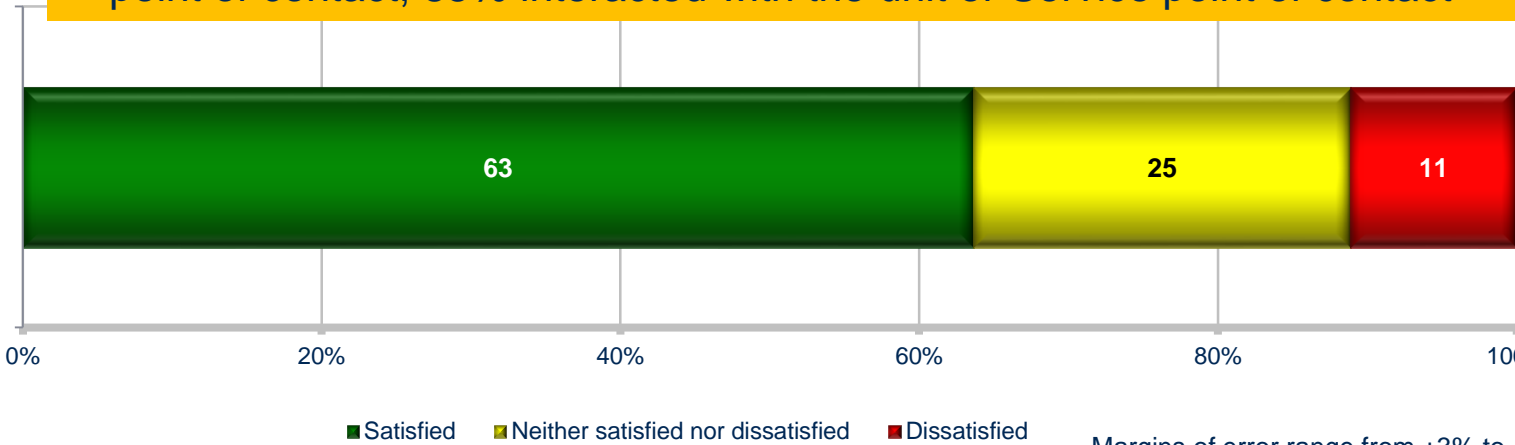
- Significantly higher response of *Extremely/Very helpful* for:
 - Yellow Ribbon Events – USAFR (61%)

Satisfaction With Unit or Service Point of Contact (POC)

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months and Who Interacted With Their Unit or Service POC

Of the 8% of spouses deployed in the past 24 months with a unit or Service point of contact, 85% interacted with the unit or Service point of contact

How satisfied are you with the assistance you received from the unit or Service POC?



Margins of error range from ±3% to ±4%

Satisfied

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Total	65	62	63
ARNG	65	59	65
USAR	58	58	52
USNR	61	60	59
USMCR	60	55	30
ANG	75	75	66
USAFR	69	69	71

Margins of error range from ±3% to ±24%

Satisfied

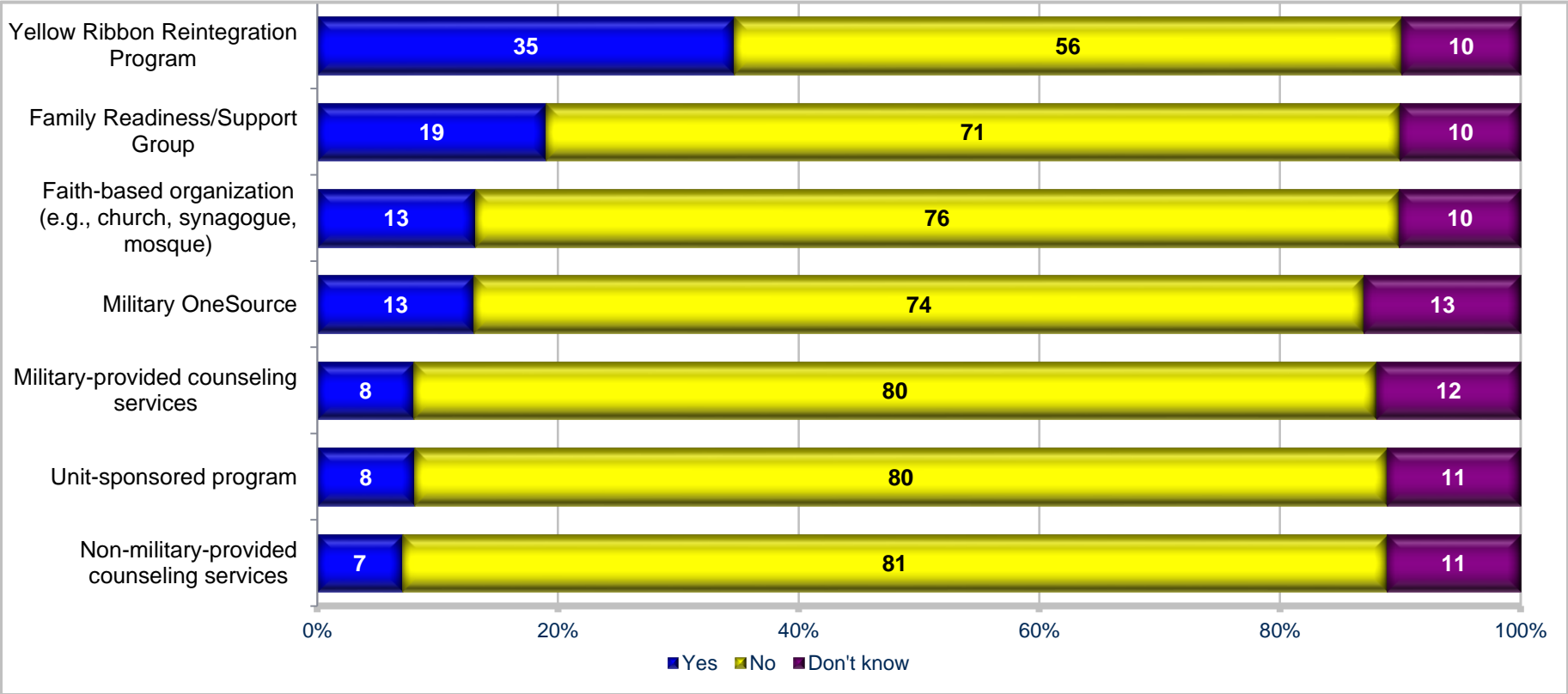
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Total	65	62	63
E1-E4	61	67	65
E5-E9	66	61	64
O1-O3	64	66	65
O4-O6	70	64	60

Margins of error range from ±3% to ±17%

Spouse Received Support Services After Deployed Member Returned Home

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Returned Home From a Deployment in Past 24 Months

Of the approximately 17% of spouses who experienced an activation/deployment in the past 24 months, 71% experienced at least one reunion



Spouse Received Support Services After Deployed Member Returned Home (Continued)

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Returned Home From a Deployment in Past 24 Months

Yes

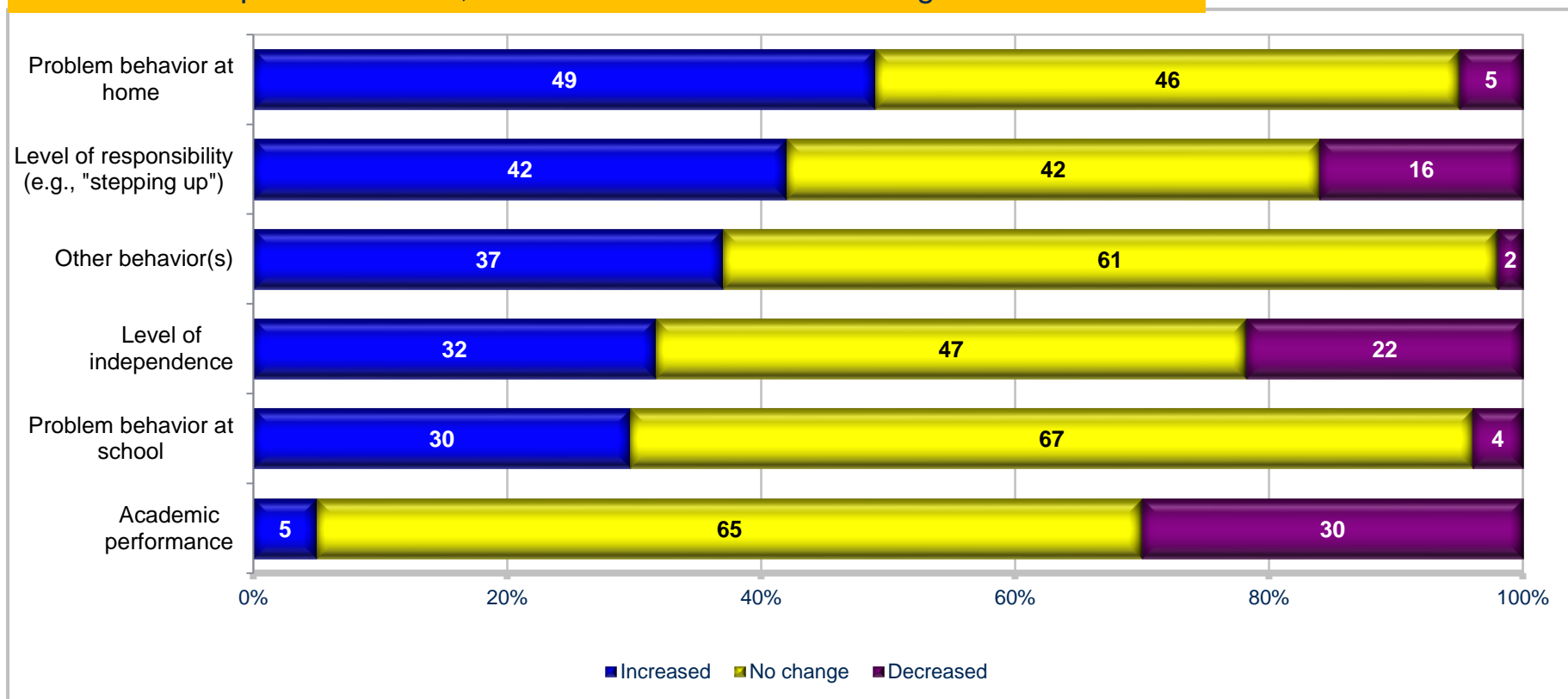
	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program		41	40	35
Family Readiness/Support Group		26	22	19
Faith-based organization (e.g., church, synagogue, mosque)		17	18	13
Military OneSource		17	16	13
Military-provided counseling services			8	8
Unit-sponsored program		10	9	8
Non-military-provided counseling services			9	7

- Significantly higher response of Yes for:
 - Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program – ARNG (50%)
 - Family Readiness/Support Groups – ARNG (29%) and E5-E9 (21%)
 - Faith-based organization (e.g., church, synagogue, mosque) – O1-O3 (23%)
 - Military OneSource – ARNG (20%)
 - Military-provided counseling services – ARNG (14%)
 - Unit-sponsored program – ARNG (15%)
 - Non-military-provided counseling services – No differences for Component or paygrade

Behavioral Changes Most Impacted Child Experienced in Response to Deployment

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months, Who Had a Child at Home During Deployment, and Who Specified Behavior Applied to Child

Of the approximately 17% of spouses who experienced an activation/deployment in the past 24 months, 71% had at least one child living at home



Behavioral Changes Most Impacted Child Experienced in Response to Deployment (Continued)

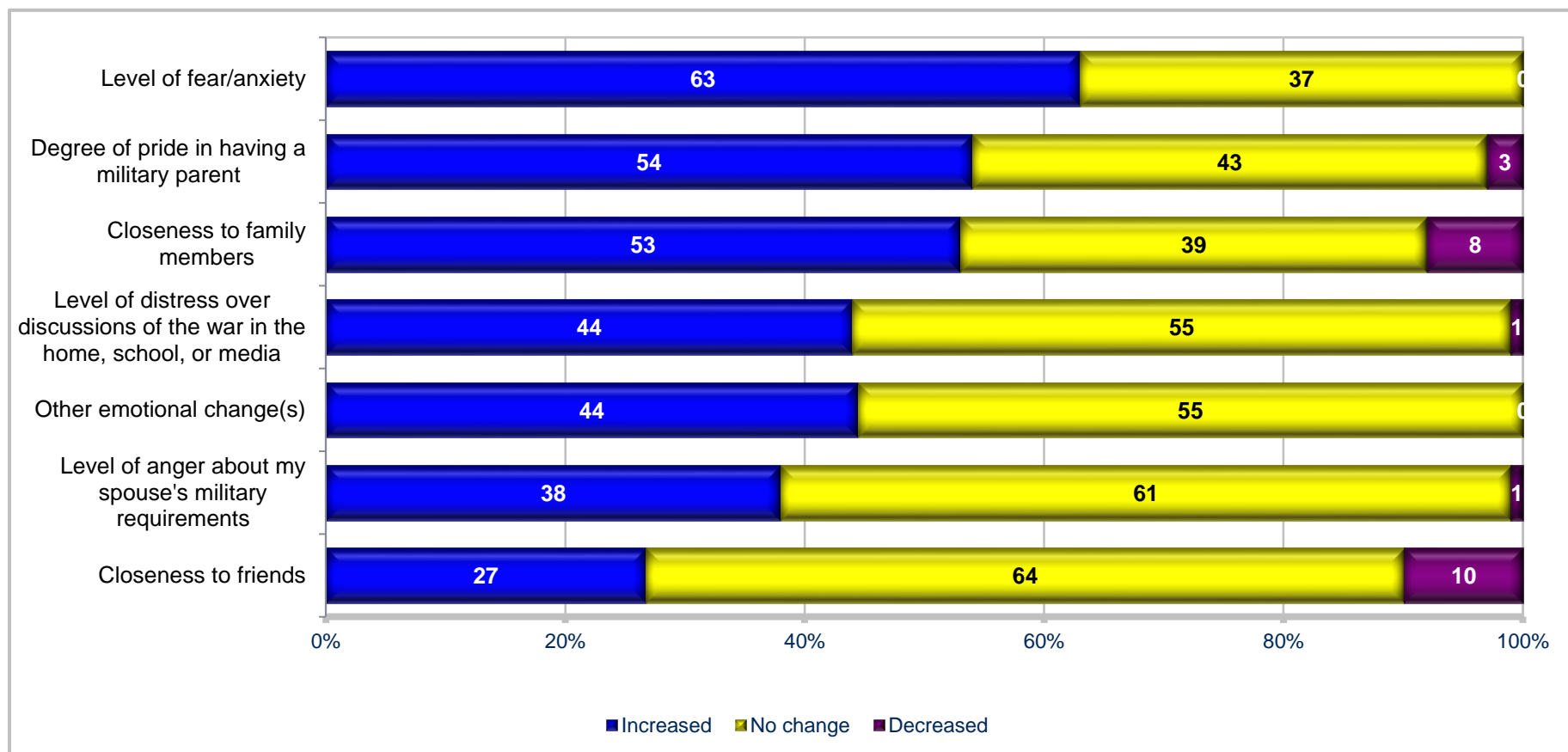
Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months, Who Had a Child at Home During Deployment, and Who Specified Behavior Applied to Child

Increased				
	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	2012	2014	2017
Problem behavior at home		44	44	49
Level of responsibility (e.g., "stepping up")		38	39	42
Level of independence		28	29	32
Problem behavior at school		27	25	30
Academic performance		5	6	5

- Significantly higher response of *Increased* for:
 - Problem behavior at school* – ARNG (38%)

Emotional Changes Most Impacted Child Experienced in Response to Deployment

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months, Who Had a Child at Home During Deployment, and Who Specified Emotion Applied to Child



Emotional Changes Most Impacted Child Experienced in Response to Deployment (Continued)

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months, Who Had a Child at Home During Deployment, and Who Specified Emotion Applied to Child

Increased

	Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than			2012	2014	2017
Level of fear/anxiety				62	63	63
Degree of pride in having a military parent				59	55	54
Closeness to family members				53	48	53
Level of distress over discussions of the war in the home, school, or media				47	41	44
Level of anger about my spouse's military requirements				38	42	38
Closeness to friends				31	28	27

- Significantly higher response of *Increased* for:
 - Level of distress over discussions of the war in the home, school, or media – ARNG (53%)

Summary of Results

- **Spouse Military Support**
 - Spouses with a favorable attitude toward husband/wife's participation in National Guard/Reserve significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2006 and 2008
- **Financial Condition and Spouse Unemployment Rate**
 - Spouses reporting their financial condition as *Comfortable* significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2009, 2012, and 2014
 - Unemployment rate in 2017 stable since 2012
- **Activation/Deployment**
 - Current activations significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2012
 - Recent activations and recent deployments significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2012 and 2014
 - Spouse employed during activation/deployment significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2012
 - Spouses reporting they reduced the number of hours worked during the member's deployment significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2012
 - Spouses reporting *New or increased need for child care* due to the member's deployment significantly higher in 2017 compared to 2012
 - Spouses reporting *Increased phone bills due to more calls to family/friends and/or deployed spouse* due to the member's deployment significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2012
- **Reunion and Reintegration**
 - Use of reunion/reintegration support through Yellow Ribbon Program and Family Readiness/Support Groups significantly lower in 2017 compared to 2012
- **Effects of Deployment on Children**
 - Both positive and negative behavioral/emotional changes due to deployments in 2017 stable since 2009

QUESTIONS?

OPA Survey Results Website:

<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/surveys>

Military OneSource:

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/web/mos/reports-and-surveys>



BACKUP SLIDES

Topics Not Covered In Briefing

- **Minutes/Hours Away From Military Base/Installation**
- **Activation/Deployment Expectations**
- **TRICARE & Military Dental Coverage and Satisfaction**
- **Spouse Health & Well-Being**
- **Military Survey Participation**

INTRODUCTION

2017 Weighted Demographic Data

National Guard/Reserve Member Characteristics	Percent
Service	
ARNG	37
USAR	25
USNR	8
USMCR	3
ANG	17
USAFR	11
Paygrade	
E1-E4	18
E5-E9	57
O1-O3	10
O4-O6	13
Activation/Deployment Status	
Not Activated Past 24 Months	64
Activated Past 24 Months	36
Not Deployed Past 24 Months	82
Deployed Past 24 Months	17

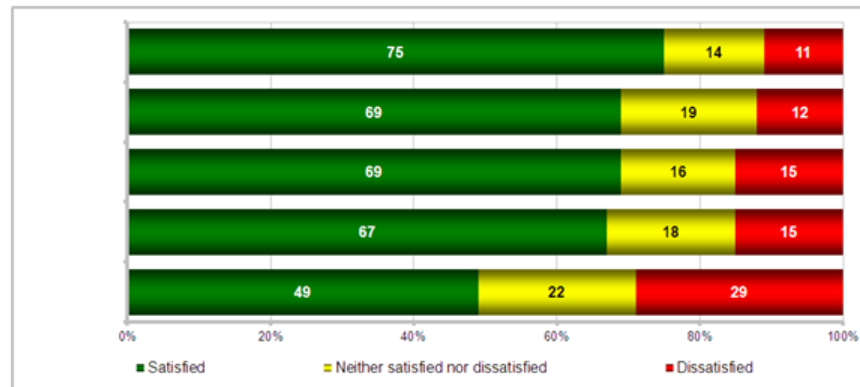
National Guard/Reserve Spouse Characteristics	Percent
Gender	
Male	14
Female	86
Age	
Average Age	37
Race/Ethnicity	
Non-Hispanic White	71
Total Minority	29
Education	
No College/Some College	46
4-Year Degree	33
Graduate/Professional Degree	21
Family Status	
With Child(ren) ¹	74
Without Child(ren)	26

¹ "With Child(ren)" includes children ages 18 and younger.

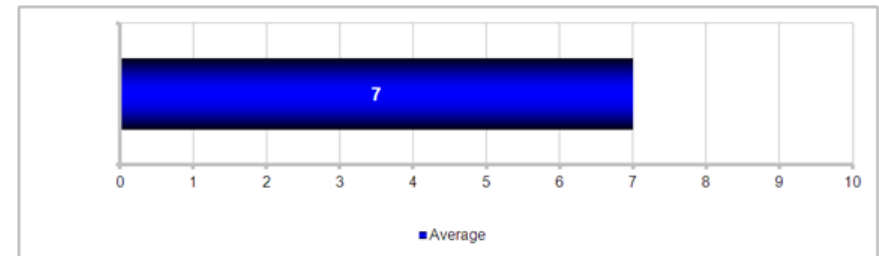
INTRODUCTION

Briefing Includes

- Graphic displays of overall results



Margins of error range from $\pm 1\%$ to $\pm 2\%$



Margins of error do not exceed $\pm 1\%$

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 (when available) 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

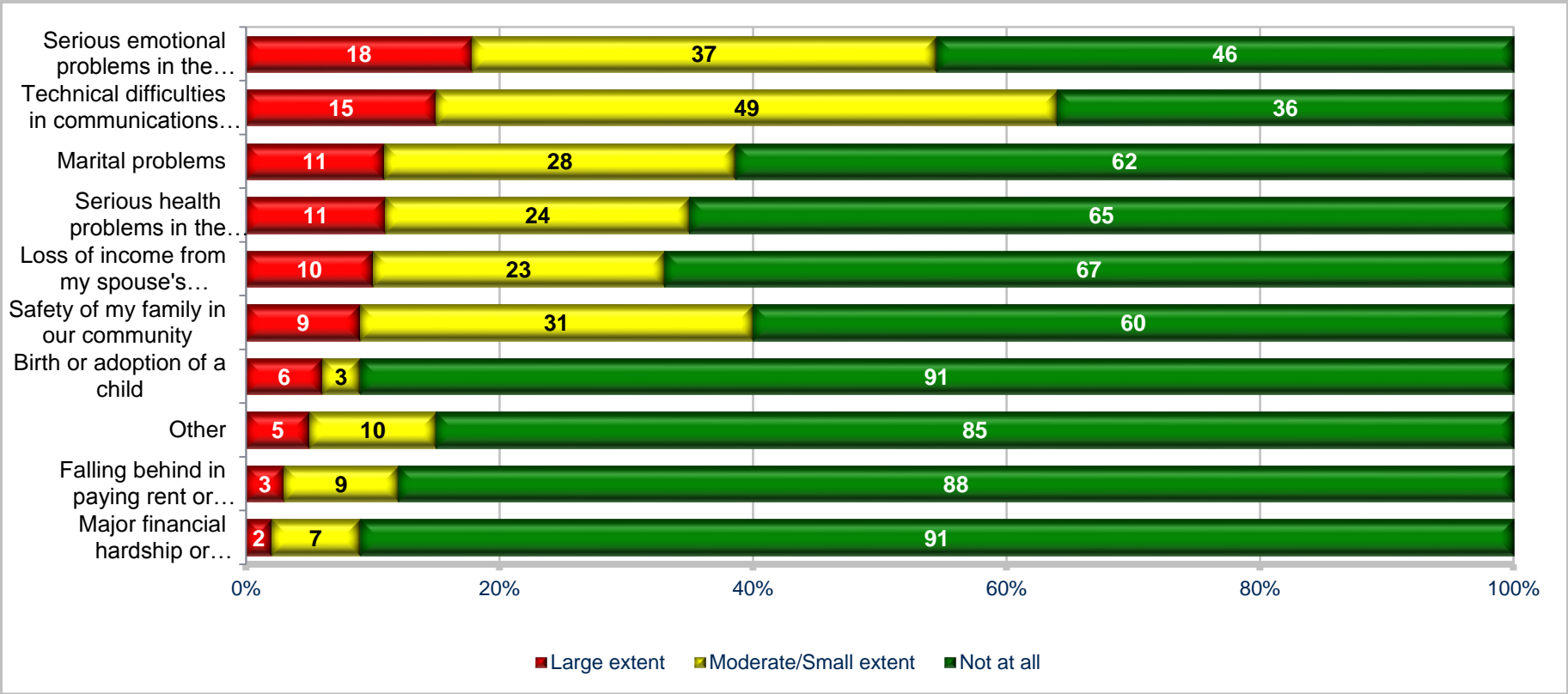
Indicates most recent survey result is significantly higher than past survey result

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than		YY	YYYY	Current Survey
* Total		75	78	81
● ARNG		73	76	78
● USAR		69	72	74
▲ USNR		77	79	80
■ USMCR		74	75	70
◆ ANG		82	87	86
◆ USAFR		84	82	85

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

Extent of Problems During Deployment

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Been Deployed in Past 24 Months



Spouse Received Support Services After Deployed Member Returned Home

Percent of Reserve Spouses Whose Husband/Wife Had Returned Home From a Deployment in Past 24 Months

