

KEY FINDINGS OF FY11 FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (FAP)
DATA ON SPOUSE AND CHILD ABUSE

1. Spouse Abuse:

- Reports of suspected spouse abuse to the FAP increased 2.6 percent from FY10 and 4.8 percent since FY01. The rate of reported spouse abuse per 1,000 couples increased 2.4 percent from FY10 but declined 7.6 percent since FY01. The increase in reports could indicate the effectiveness of military public awareness campaigns and early intervention programs, a willingness of victims to report abuse, the ongoing impact of deployment cycles on military personnel or some combination of these and other factors.
- Spouse abuse reports that met FAP criteria fell slightly by less than 1 percent from FY10 and have declined 23.5 percent since FY01. The rate of incidents that met FAP criteria per 1,000 couples also fell less than 1 percent from FY10, but have declined 32.7 percent since FY01.
- There were 18 domestic abuse fatalities reported to the FAP in FY11. Seven victims and seven alleged abusers were previously known to the FAP. In the domestic abuse fatalities, 67 percent of the alleged abusers were male and 56 percent were on active duty.
- In FY11, alleged abusers who are on active duty in incidents that met FAP criteria represented 62 percent of all alleged abusers in incidents that met FAP criteria.
- Of the active duty alleged abusers in incidents that met FAP criteria, 63 percent are in the E4-6 pay grades. The E4-5 pay grades account for over half, 54 percent, of all alleged abusers.
- In FY11, 49 percent of the victims in incidents that met FAP criteria were not on active duty. Of all adult spouse abuse victims in incidents that met FAP criteria, 46 percent were between the ages of 18 and 24, and 42 percent were between the ages of 25 and 35.

2. Child Abuse:

- Reports of suspected child abuse and/or neglect to the FAP increased less than 1 percent from FY10 and reflect a decrease of 5 percent from FY01. The rate of reported child abuse/neglect per 1,000 children remained stable at 12.9 percent, but indicates a decrease of 8.5 percent from FY01. The cause of this overall decline from FY01 could indicate the effectiveness of prevention programs, the result of family members returning to the home of record during the service member's deployment,

the ongoing impact of deployment cycles on military families, or some combination of these factors.

- The number of incidents of child abuse/neglect that met FAP criteria increased 2.6 percent from FY10, but reflect a decrease of 10 percent since FY01. The rate of incidents that met FAP criteria per 1,000 children increased by 1.7 from FY10, but is down by 15 percent from FY01.
- The slight increase in FY11 reports and incidents that met FAP criteria are evenly divided between child neglect and child physical abuse. There are several possible explanations for these increases. First, they may reflect the cumulative effects of nine years of high rates of deployment cycles on military families' capacity to sustain coping strategies. Or the increase in incidents that met FAP criteria may reflect the impact of rolling out the new FAP incident determination algorithm across more installations. Allegations of child abuse and neglect incidents that may have been diverted from FAP or unsubstantiated using previous criteria are now classified as meeting FAP criteria.
- There were 33 child abuse-related fatalities reported to FAP in FY11. Ten victims and twelve abusers were previously known to the FAP. In the child fatality reports 55 percent of the alleged abusers were male and 61 percent were active duty.
- In FY11, the percentage of active duty alleged abusers in incidents that met FAP criteria has remained relatively stable at 54 percent of all alleged abusers. The largest cluster is in the E4-6 pay grades. This cluster comprises 69.7 percent of all active duty alleged abusers. Within the E4-6 cluster, E4-5 pay grades account for the majority, 56.7 percent, of all active duty alleged abusers.
- In FY11, 53.8 percent of the alleged abusers in incidents that met FAP criteria were male. This ratio of male to female alleged abusers in incidents that met FAP criteria has remained relatively consistent since FY01.