# Status of Forces Surveys of Active Duty Members (2013 & 2014 SOFS-A)

Briefing on Leading Indicators, Military OneSource, Financial Health, Family Life, Access to Technology, Impact of Deployments, and Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves

## Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) Research, Surveys, and Statistics Center (RSSC)







# SOFS-A

- 2013 survey fielded Oct Dec 2013; 2014 survey fielded Sep Nov 2014
- 70K Service members surveyed in 2013; 65K surveyed in 2014

Core in

(Module A)

every SOFS-A

– Response rates: 25% in 2013; 21% in 2014 (26% in Jun 2012; 20% in Feb 2012; 23% in 2011 – current DMDC/DoD survey response rates are ~ 20%)

## • 2013 survey included the following topics:

- Leading indicators
- Deployments since 9/11
- Military OneSource
- Financial health
- Adaptability
- Transition assistance\_
- Career opportunities
- Family life
- Access to technology
- Trafficking in Persons program

- Compensation
- Detailed financial health
- Impact of deployments
- Detailed retention
- Detailed PCS moves
- Overseas assignments
- Housing and workplace
- Motorcycles
- Safety



## **\_\_\_\_\_**3

# **Executive Top-Line Results**

- Retention in 2014 significantly <u>lower</u>\* than Jan 2011/Jun 2012/2013 but <u>higher</u> than Jul 2002/Jul 2003 to Aug 2008
- More stress in *work* life in 2014 significantly <u>higher</u> than 2013 but <u>lower</u> than 2003-2008
- Members with *comfortable* financial condition in 2014 <u>higher</u> than 1999-Feb 2012/2013
- Members currently working on financial goals (e.g., no credit card debt, saving for retirement) significantly <u>higher</u> in 2013 than 2006-2012
- Problems in personal relationships are occurring <u>less</u> often than 12 months ago significant <u>improvement</u> in 2013 vs. 2005-2009
- Members reported significant <u>improvements</u> in 2013 in their concerns while away during their most recent deployment vs. 2009-2011
- Significant <u>improvements</u> in children's emotional/behavioral changes in 2013 in response to deployment vs. 2006-2009
- Significant <u>improvements</u> in problems with PCS moves in 2013 vs. 2003-2007 although spouse problems remain consistent (spouse employment and loss/decrease of income)

Bottom Line: Overall *improvements* in financial health and family life, including impact of deployments and PCS moves, compared to previous results, but retention <u>lower</u> and stress in work life <u>higher</u> in 2014 vs. 2013.

<sup>\*</sup> Only statistically significant findings are reported. Statistical tests are used to compare current estimates with other subgroups and previous results based on unrounded estimates.





# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

		Slide
$\checkmark$	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
•	Military OneSource	10
•	Detailed Financial Health	13
•	Family Life	21
•	Access to Technology	26
•	Impact of Deployments	30
•	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	39

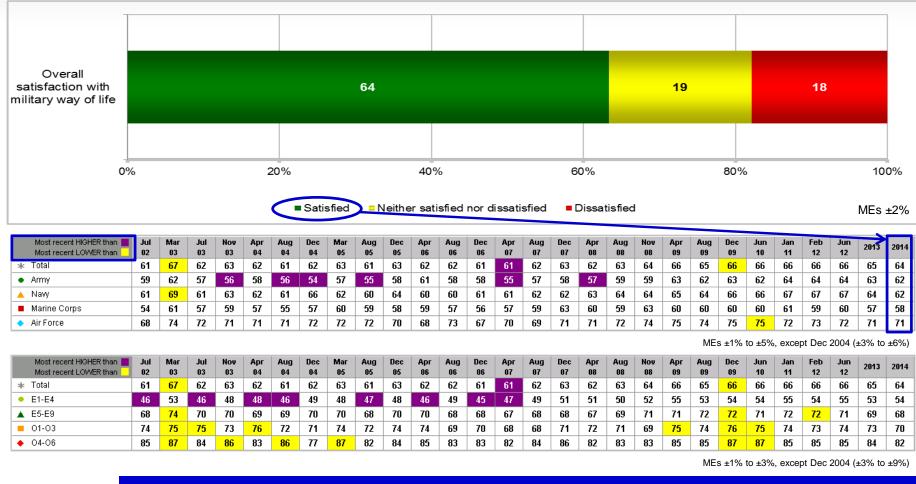
DMDC

SOFS-A 2014 Q25



# Overall Military Way of Life

Percent of All Active Duty Members



- Highest percentages of Air Force members reported being *satisfied* (71%) vs. other Services
  - Highest percentages of Marine Corps members reported being dissatisfied (24%)

Among Enlisted members, Marine Corps (26%) and Navy (21%) were most dissatisfied

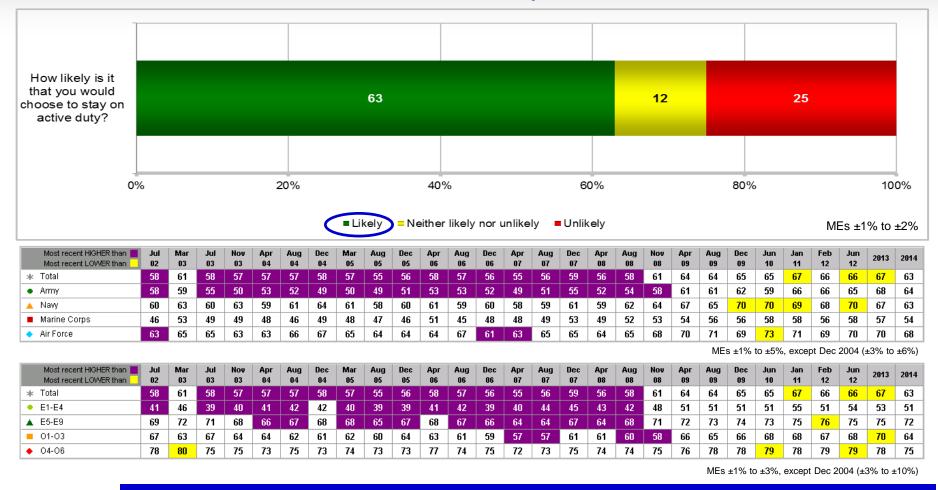


SOFS-A 2014 Q27



# Likelihood To Stay on Active Duty

Percent of All Active Duty Members



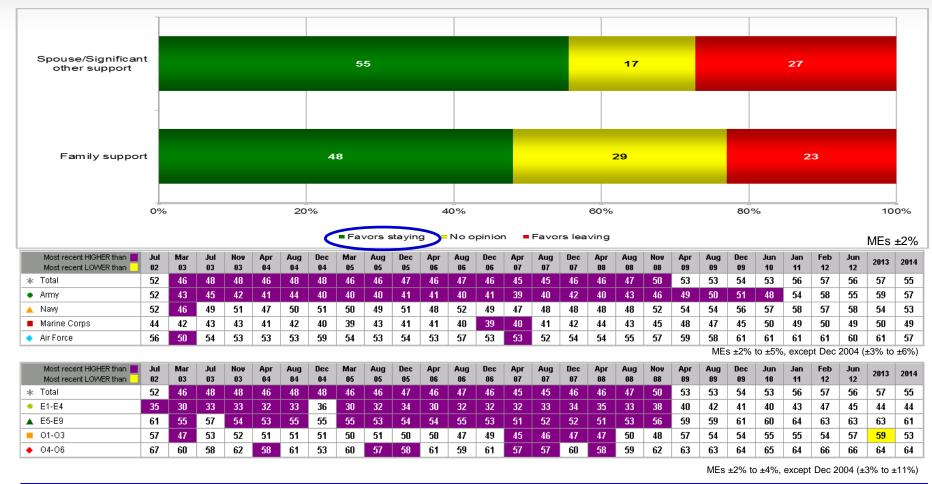
- Highest percentages of Air Force members more likely to stay (68%) vs. other Services
- Highest percentages of Marine Corps members unlikely to stay (35%)

Among Enlisted, highest percentages of Marine Corps members (37%) unlikely to stay



# Support To Stay on Active Duty

**Percent of Applicable Active Duty Members** 



- Marine Corps members have <u>least</u> amount of support to *stay* from spouse/SO (49%) and family (40%)

Highest percentages of junior Enlisted members' spouses/SOs favor them *leaving* (32%)

SOFS-A 2014 Q28, Q29

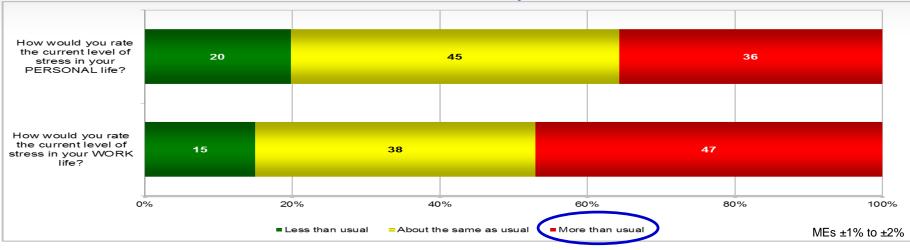
DMDC





## **Current Levels of Work and Personal Stress**

**Percent of All Active Duty Members** 



### More stress than usual in personal life

Most recent HIGHER than	Mar	Jul	Nov	Apr	Aug	Dec	Mar	Aug	Dec	Арг	Aug	Dec	Apr	Aug	Dec	Арг	Aug	Nov	Apr	Aug	Dec	Jun	Jan	Feb	Jun		
Most recent LOWER than	03	03	03	04	04	04	05	05	05	06	06	06	07	07	07	08	08	08	09	09	09	10	11	12	12	2013	2014
∗ Total	42	42	42	41	42	41	42	42	41	41	43	42	43	42	43	43	43	43	40	41	40	39	38	36	36	33	36
Army	46	47	48	44	49	47	46	48	45	47	48	46	49	46	49	49	48	47	43	45	40	40	39	35	37	34	36
🔺 Navy	40	43	40	40	40	39	41	40	40	41	42	42	43	42	43	41	45	43	39	42	42	41	40	38	40	35	39
Marine Corps	44	39	44	42	43	44	45	45	45	43	44	46	44	44	44	42	47	46	42	43	44	44	41	41	40	38	40
🔶 Air Force	39	37	35	35	34	34	35	33	35	34	36	35	34	36	34	35	32	35	33	33	33	33	32	31	30	28	30

MEs ±1% to ±5%, except Dec 2004 (±3% to ±6%)

Stress in 2014 lower than or similar to all previous

years except stress in work life vs. 2013

### More stress than usual in work life

Most recent HIGHER than 📕 Most recent LOVVER than	Mar 03	Jul 03	Nov 03	Apr 04	Aug 04	Dec 04	Mar 05	Aug 05	Dec 05	Apr 06	Aug 06	Dec 06	Apr 07	Aug 07	Dec 07	Apr 08	Aug 08	Nov 08	Apr 09	Aug 09	Dec 09	Jun 10	Jan 11	Feb 12	Jun 12	2013	2014
* Total	52	52	51	51	52	50	52	53	49	51	51	50	51	50	48	50	51	49	48	48	47	47	47	46	45	43	47
Army	55	56	56	52	54	52	55	55	49	54	55	51	56	55	52	55	55	54	50	50	47	48	47	45	46	44	48
🔺 Navy	50	52	51	52	53	49	52	53	49	53	53	51	50	50	47	50	52	47	49	51	50	50	50	47	48	44	49
Marine Corps	50	48	48	51	52	53	50	52	52	48	52	47	50	48	46	51	47	46	47	46	47	49	45	47	46	43	43
♦ Air Force	53	50	47	49	50	44	49	51	46	47	43	47	45	46	44	44	44	46	46	43	45	42	45	43	41	40	44

SOFS-A 2014 Q45, Q46

MEs ±2% to ±5%, except Dec 2004 (±3% to ±7%)





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# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

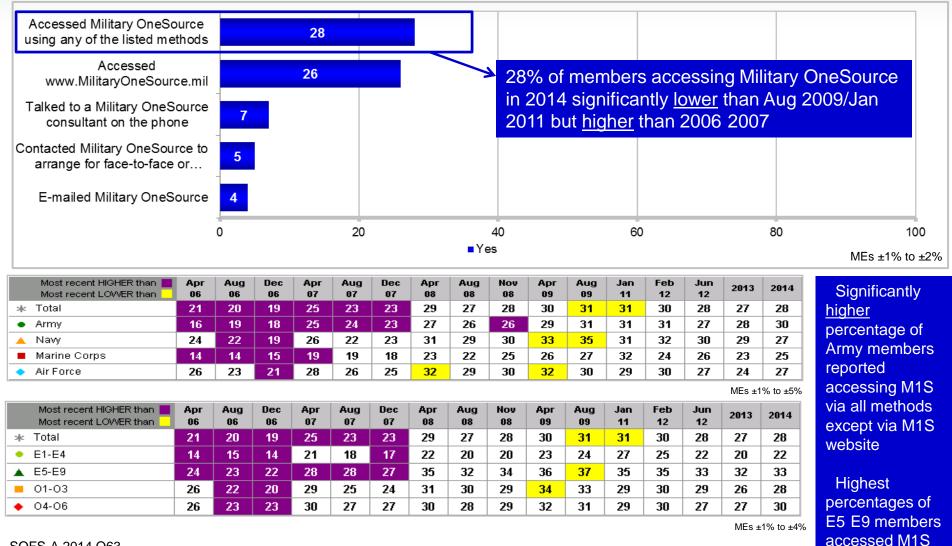
•	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
	Military OneSource	
•	Detailed Financial Health	13
•	Family Life	21
	Access to Technology	
•	Impact of Deployments	
	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	





# Use of Military OneSource in Past 12 Months

**Percent of All Active Duty Members** 



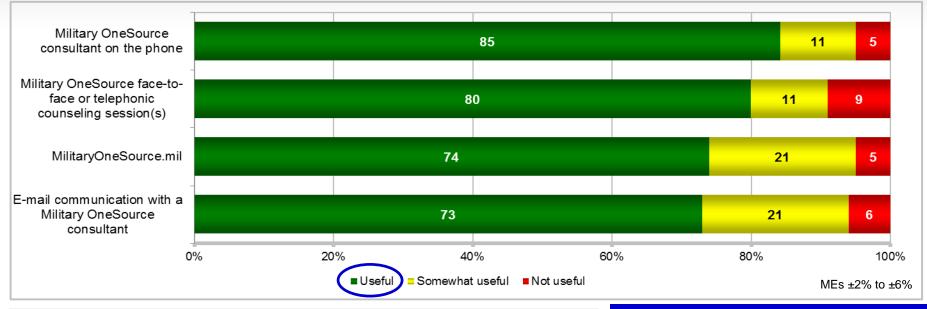
#### SOFS-A 2014 Q63





## **Usefulness of Military OneSource**

### Percent of Active Duty Members Who Used Specified Military OneSource Feature in Past 12 Months



Most recent HIGHER than	Jan	Feb	Jun		
Most recent LOWER than	11	12	12	2013	2014
Military OneSource consultant on the phone	76	78	73	83	85
<ul> <li>Military OneSource face-to-face or telephonic counseling session(s)</li> </ul>	86	87	81	80	80
MilitaryOneSource.mil	75	81	77	72	74
* E-mail communication with a Military OneSource consultant	78	84	78	78	73
			N	IEs ±2%	to ±6%

- <u>No</u> significant differences among the Services in 2014
- Highest percentages of E5 E9 members reported that the M1S website was useful among paygrade groups

- 75% of Enlisted members who indicated website was useful in 2014 was significantly higher than Officers (69%)

 81% of Single members with children said website was useful in 2014 vs. 69% of Single without children and 74 75% of Married with and without children





Slide

# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

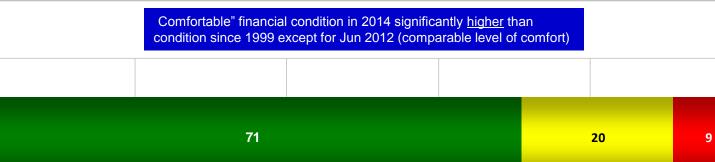
•	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
•	Military OneSource	10
$\checkmark$	Detailed Financial Health	
•	Family Life	21
	Access to Technology	
•	Impact of Deployments	
	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	



100%

# **Financial Condition**

### **Percent of All Active Duty Members**



0%		20	%	Co	mfortab	le <mark>- S</mark> 40%	ome dif	ficulty	Not o	comforta 60%	ble		80	0%			
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	1999	Jul 02	Mar 03	Apr 04	Mar 05	Apr 06	Apr 07	Apr 08	Apr 09	Dec 09	Jun 10	Jan 11	Feb 12	Jun 12	2013	2014	
∗ Total	52	52	62	57	66	63	67	61	67	65	63	68	63	69	67	71	
Army	48	52	59	55	63	60	63	57	64	61	58	63	60	65	64	69	
🔺 Navy	54	50	65	56	66	64	67	62	68	66	66	70	64	69	66	69	
Marine Corps	50	45	57	52	60	57	63	59	64	60	59	65	59	68	64	68	
<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>	55	58	66	63	73	67	73	67	74	74	73	74	72	76	74	77	

MEs ±1% to ±5%

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	1999	Jul 02	Mar 03	Apr 04	Mar 05	Apr 06	Apr 07	Apr 08	Apr 09	Dec 09	Jun 10	Jan 11	Feb 12	Jun 12	2013	2014
∗ Total	52	52	62	57	66	63	67	61	67	65	63	68	63	69	67	71
• E1-E4	44	39	51	46	56	53	58	54	58	56	55	59	57	62	59	65
🔺 E5-E9	50	53	64	57	67	62	66	59	68	65	62	67	60	68	65	68
<b>01-03</b>	77	79	85	83	87	86	88	83	88	86	87	89	85	89	89	90
• 04-06	83	87	91	86	91	89	89	83	89	89	87	89	87	90	88	90

DMDC

Which best describes your (and/or your

> spouse's) financial condition?

> > MEs ±1% to ±3%

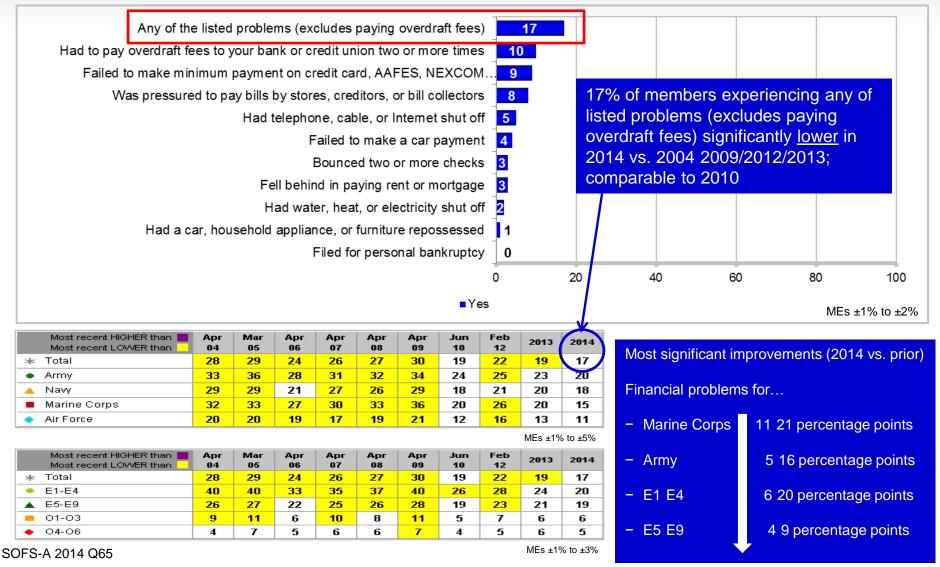






# **Financial Problems in Past 12 Months**

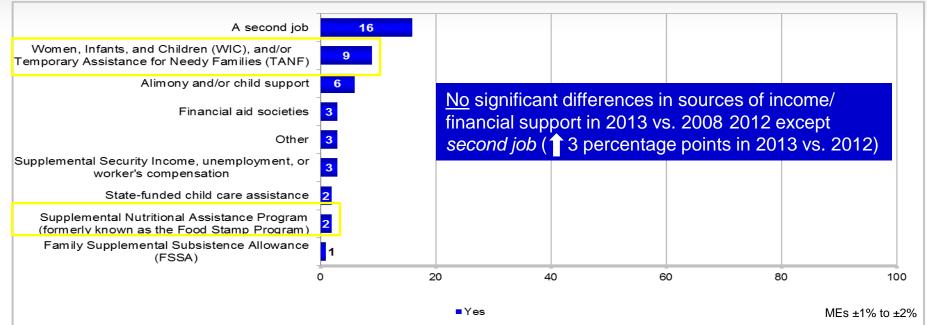
### **Percent of All Active Duty Members**





# Sources of Income/Financial Support Received in Past 12 Months

### **Percent of All Active Duty Members**



Note: "Other" responses include rental properties, VA benefits, family, bank loan, investment income, spouse retirement, financial aid for student loans, a third job, and social security.

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 08	Jun 10	Feb 12	2013	11% repo
A second job	16	14	13	16	Infar
• Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and/or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	9	9	7	9	and/
Alimony and/or child support	6	6	5	6	Need
k Financial aid societies	3	4	3	3	- 13
Supplemental Security Income, unemployment, or worker's compensation	2	3	3	3	- 1
State-funded child care assistance	1	2	1	2	- 99
Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program)	1	2	1	2	- 8
<ul> <li>Family Supplemental Subsistence Allowance (FSSA)</li> </ul>	$\succ$	$\succ$	1	1	

1% of Enlisted members eported receiving Women, nfants, and Children (WIC) and/or Temporary Assistance for leedy Families (TANF) 13% Army enlisted

- 11% Navy enlisted
- 9% Marine Corps enlisted
- 8% Air Force enlisted

SOFS-A 2013 Q128

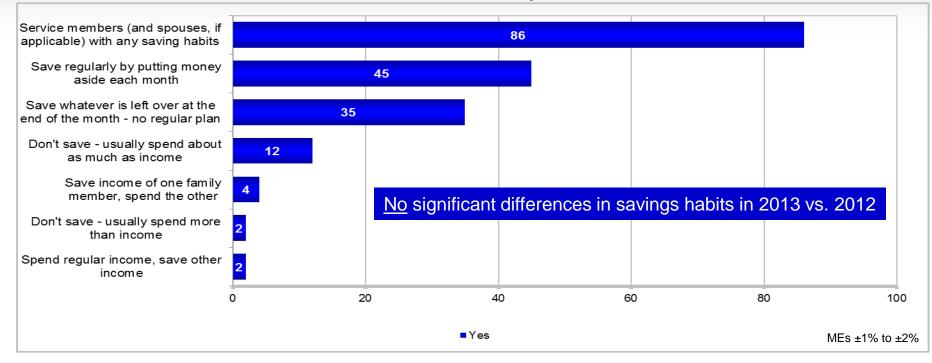
ME ±1% to ±2%





# Saving Habits of Member (and Spouse, if Applicable)

#### **Percent of All Active Duty Members**



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Feb 12	2013
Service members (and spouses, if applicable) with any saving habits	84	86
<ul> <li>Save regularly by putting money aside each month</li> </ul>	42	45
Save whatever is left over at the end of the month - no regular plan	38	35
* Don't save - usually spend about as much as income	13	12
<ul> <li>Save income of one family member, spend the other</li> </ul>	3	4
<ul> <li>Don't save - usually spend more than income</li> </ul>	3	2
Spend regular income, save other income	2	2
Ν	1Es ±1%	to ±2%

# 94% of Officers with any savings habits vs. 84% of Enlisted members

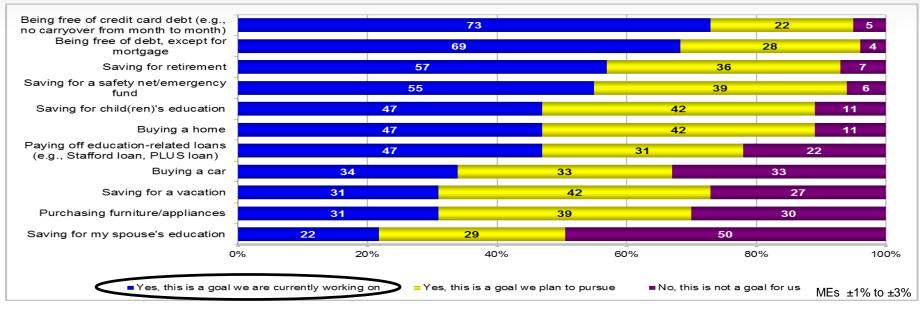
Significantly <u>higher</u> percentage of Air Force members reported having *any savings habits* (89%) and *saving regularly by putting money aside each month* (51%) in 2013 vs. other Services

SOFS-A 2013 Q131



### **OFS** 17

### **Financial Goals** Percent of Applicable Active Duty Members



Most recent HIGHER than	Apr	Apr	Jun	Feb	2013	
Most recent LOWER than	06	80	10	12	2013	
Being free of credit card debt (e.g., no carryover from month to month)	65	70	59	58	73	
<ul> <li>Being free of debt, except for mortgage</li> </ul>	61	65	58	58	69	
Saving for retirement	52	53	52	53	57	
* Saving for a safety net/emergency fund	47	46	50	51	55	
<ul> <li>Saving for child(ren)'s education</li> </ul>	46	45	44	46	47	⋡
<ul> <li>Paying off education-related loans (e.g., Stafford loan, PLUS loan)</li> </ul>	46	43	38	37	47	
Buying a home	47	41	41	42	47	
<ul> <li>Buying a car</li> </ul>	27	29	26	23	34	
Saving for a vacation	25	26	29	29	31	
<ul> <li>Purchasing furniture/appliances</li> </ul>	26	26	24	21	31	
* Saving for my spouse's education	15	15	17	17	22	

- Members indicating these are *current* financial goals significantly <u>higher</u> in 2013 than most previous surveys from 2006 2012 except *saving for child(ren)'s education* (no significant differences)
- Most significant difference in *being* free of credit card debt in 2013 vs. 2010/2012 (14 15 percentage points <u>higher</u> in 2013)

SOFS-A 2013 Q132

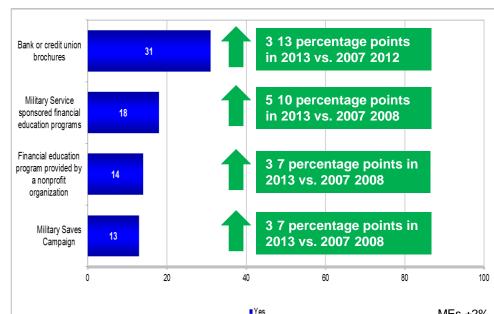
MEs ±2% to ±3%



### 

# Sources of Messages About Reducing **Debt and Increasing Savings**

### **Percent of All Active Duty Members**

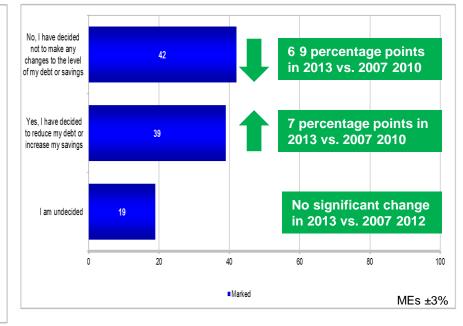


Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 07	Apr 08	Jun 10	Feb 12	2013
Bank or credit union brochures	18	28	26	27	31
<ul> <li>Military Service sponsored financial education programs</li> </ul>	8	13	15	16	18
Financial education program provided by a nonprofit organization	7	11	13	13	14
<ul> <li>Military Saves Campaign</li> </ul>	6	10	12	12	13
				0/ 40	00/

MEs ±1% to ±2%

# Action Taken as a Result of **Receiving Messages**

Percent of AD Members Who Received Messages



Most recent HIGHER than	Apr	Apr	Jun	Feb	2013
Most recent LOWER than	07	08	10	12	2013
No, I have decided not to make any changes to the level of my debt or savings	51	50	48	47	42
<ul> <li>Yes, I have decided to reduce my debt or increase my savings</li> </ul>	32	32	32	37	39
I am undecided	17	18	20	16	19
			MEs	s <b>±</b> 2% t	to ±3%

41% of Enlisted members reported they have decided to reduce their debt or increase their savings, while 21% are undecided

#### SOFS-A 2013 Q133

#### SOFS-A 2013 Q134

March 2016

MEs ±2%

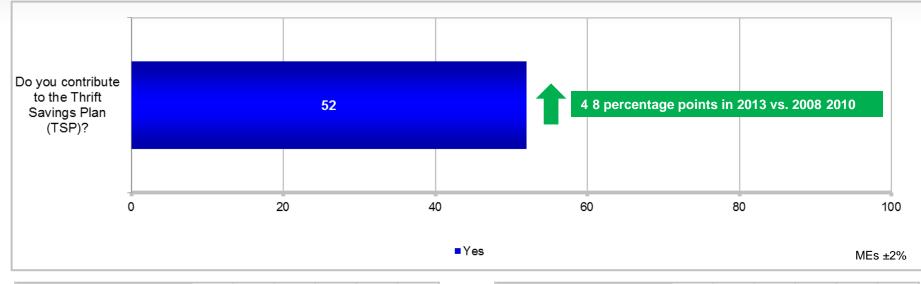
Serving Those Who Serve Our Country





# **Contribute to Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)**

**Percent of All Active Duty Members** 



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 08	Dec 09	Jun 10	Feb 12	Jun 12	2013
* Total	44	46	48	51	51	52
<ul> <li>Army</li> </ul>	34	39	39	45	44	46
🔺 Navy	60	60	66	67	71	68
Marine Corps	47	44	45	47	47	46
<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>	41	45	45	49	46	50

MEs ±2% to ±5%

MEs ±2% to ±4%

Feb

Jun

Army 1 7 12 percentage points in 2013 vs. 2008 2010 E5 E9 7 11 percentage points in 2013 vs. 2008 2010

\* Total

E5-E9

01-03

• 04-06

E1-E4

Most recent HIGHER than

Most recent LOWER than

Apr

Dec

Jun





Slide

# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

•	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
•	Military OneSource	10
•	Detailed Financial Health	13
$\checkmark$	Family Life	21
•	Access to Technology	26
•	Impact of Deployments	
•	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	

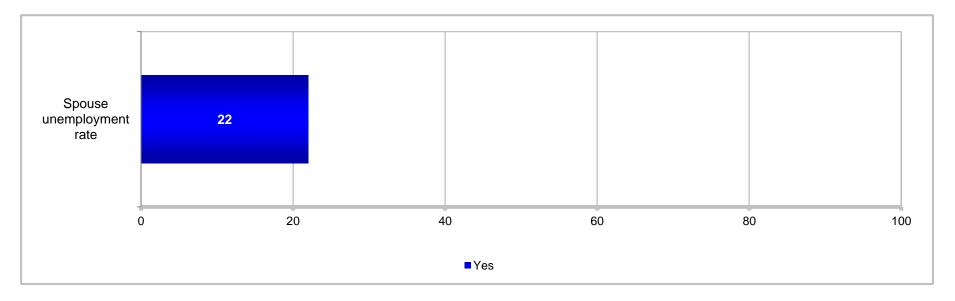
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## **Spouse Unemployment Rate**

Percent of Active Duty Members Who Were Married or Separated and Whose Spouses Were in the Labor Force (<u>Not</u> Including Spouses of Warrant Officers or Dual Service Spouses)



Among the Services, a significantly <u>higher</u> percentage of Army spouses were unemployed (26%), while a significantly <u>lower</u> percentage of Navy members were unemployed (17%).

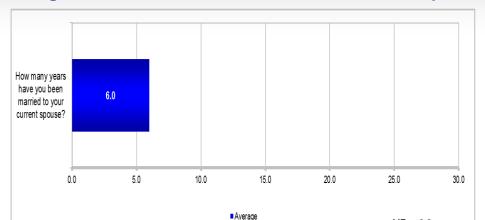
A significantly <u>higher</u> percentage of spouses *with* children were unemployed (24%) compared to spouses *without* children (18%). A significantly <u>higher</u> percentage of Enlisted members' spouses were unemployed (23%) compared to Officers' spouses (18%).

NOTE: Spouse unemployment rate not including spouses of warrant officers or dual Service spouse was not calculated prior to 2014 SOFS-A.



## **Years of Marriage**

Average of AD Members Who Were Married or Separated



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 07	Apr 09	Feb 12	2013
* Total	5.7	5.7	5.8	6.0
Army	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0
🔺 Navy	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.2
Marine Corps	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.0
<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.2

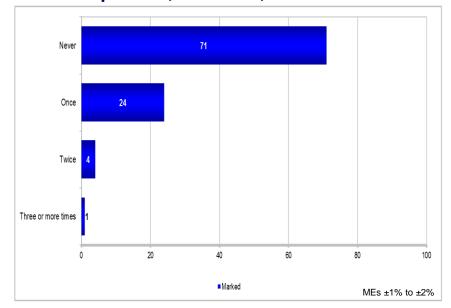
MEs ±0.1 to ±0.4 years	MEs ±	0.1 to	±0.4	years
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MEs ±0.1 to ±0.4 years

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 07	Apr 09	Feb 12	2013
* Total	5.7	5.7	5.8	6.0
E1-E4	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.5
▲ E5-E9	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.6
01-03	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5
• 04-06	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.7

Number of Times Divorced

Percent of AD Members Who Were Married, Separated, Widowed, or Divorced



Most recent HIGHER than	Apr	Apr	Feb	2013
Most recent LOWER than	07	09	12	2013
Never	72	73	69	71
<ul> <li>Once</li> </ul>	24	23	26	24
Twice	4	4	4	4
* Three or more times	1	1	0	1

In 2013, 28% of Army members reported being divorced *once*, while 6% have been divorced *twice* significantly <u>higher</u> than the other Services

MEs  $\pm 1\%$  to  $\pm 2\%$ 

SOFS-A 2013 Q89

March 2016

<u>No</u> significant differences in years of marriage or number of times divorced in 2013 vs. 2007 2012

MEs ±0.2 years

SOFS-A 2013 Q90

22





# **Problems in Personal Relationships Compared to 12 Months Ago**

Percent of Active Duty Members Who Had a Spouse/Significant Other



Most recent HIGHER than	Mar	Apr	Apr	Feb	2013
Most recent LOWER than	05	07	09	12	2013
* Total	24	27	26	36	37
Army	23	27	25	37	39
🔺 Navy	25	26	25	35	36
<ul> <li>Marine Corps</li> </ul>	24	27	28	38	34
<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>	23	27	28	35	34

				IVIES ±	2% to ±6%
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Mar 05	Apr 07	Apr 09	Feb 12	2013
* Total	24	27	26	36	37
E1-E4	22	31	28	41	39
▲ E5-E9	26	27	28	37	39
01-03	19	22	20	27	29
• 04-06	18	17	20	28	25
			-	MEs ±	2% to ±5%

- More than 1/3 of members reported problems in personal relationships are occurring **less often** than 12 months ago
- In 2013, highest percentages of **Army** enlisted members (42%) reported having problems <u>less often</u>, while highest percentages of **Navy** enlisted members (25%) reported having problems <u>more often</u>
- Most significant improvement (problems <u>less often</u>) is among Army members (12 16 percentage points better in 2013 vs. 2005 2009)
- E1 E4 members reported most significant improvement in 2013
   (17 percentage points higher) among paygrade groups vs. 2005
- 2013 results for Total, all Services, and all paygrade groups comparable to 2012 results

SOFS-A 2013 Q91, Q92

#### March 2016

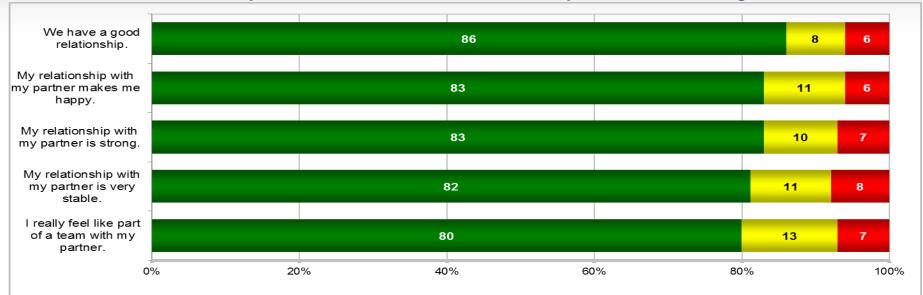
ME - 120/ to 160/





## **Relationship with Spouse/Significant Other**

### Percent of Active Duty Members Who Were Married or Separated or Had a Significant Other



Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree

MEs ±1% to ±2%

					Most recent HK	GHER than 📕	Mar	Apr	Apr	Feb	2013			
					Most recent LC	WER than	05	07	09	12	2013			
					⋆ Total		4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3			
					<ul> <li>Army</li> </ul>		4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3			
Quality of					🔺 Navy		4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3			
Relationship scale		4.3			Marine Corps		4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2			
					<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>		4.3	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4	7		
					MEs ±0.1 to ±0.2	Most	recent H	IGHER th	an 📕	Mar	Apr	Apr	Feb	2013
						Most	recent L	OWER th	an	05	07	09	12	2013
1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0		* Total				4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3
						• E1-E4				4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3
		■ Average		MEs ±0.1		▲ E5-E9				4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2
	No sign	nificant differen	cos in Oual	lity of Polati	onshin for	01-03	3			4.4	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4
OFS-A 2013 Q93		nd Services in				• 04-06	6			4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4
010772010 000			2015 vs. 20	00 2012		I							1	MEs ±0





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# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

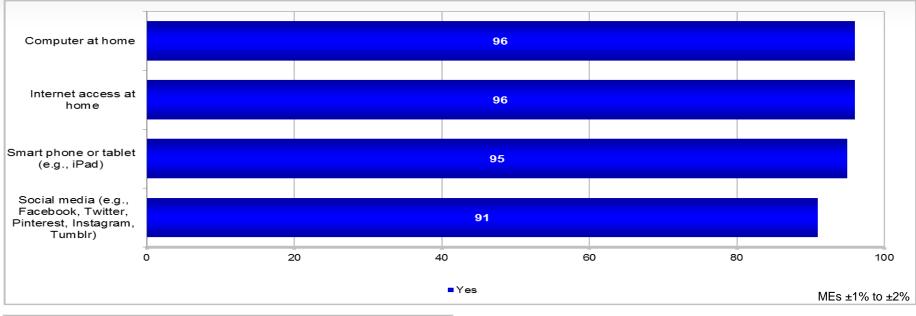
•	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
•	Military OneSource	10
•	Detailed Financial Health	13
•	Family Life	21
$\checkmark$	Access to Technology	26
•	Impact of Deployments	
	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	





# Member's and/or Family's Use of or Access to Technology

**Percent of All Active Duty Members** 



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 06	Aug 08	Jun 10	2013
<ul> <li>Computer at home</li> </ul>	93	96	97	96
<ul> <li>Internet access at home</li> </ul>	89	93	95	96

Note: "Smart phone or tablet" and "Social media" added in 2013.

- 99% of Officers and 96% of Enlisted members reported in 2013 they and/or their family *have or use a computer and Internet* access at home
- <u>No</u> significant differences between Officer and Enlisted member use of smart phone/tablet or social media in 2013

- 96% of members reported in 2013 they and/or their family have or use a **computer at home** significantly <u>higher</u> than 2006
- 96% of members reported in 2013 that they and/or their family have Internet access at home significantly higher than 2006/2008
- <u>Higher percentages of overseas members/families</u> (94%) use social media compared to members/ families in U.S./territories (90%)

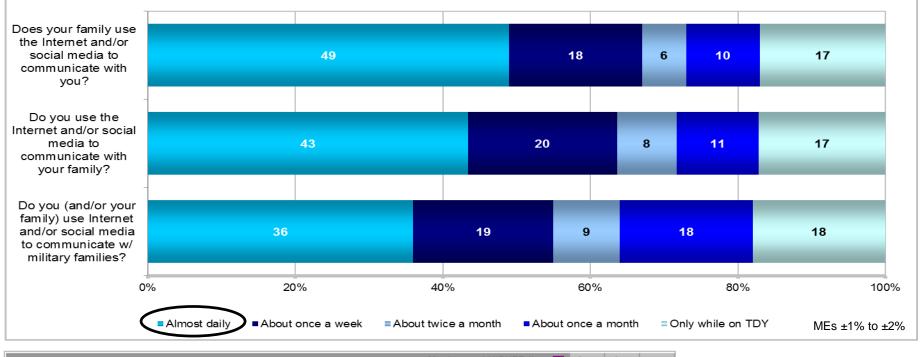
MEs ±1%





# Member's and Their Family's Use of Internet and/or Social Media To Communicate When <u>Not</u> Deployed

**Percent of All Active Duty Members** 



Most recent HIGHER than	Aug	Jun	2013
Most recent LOWER than	08	10	2013
Does your family use the Internet and/or social media to communicate with you?	38	36	49
Do you use the Internet and/or social media to communicate with your family?			43
▲ Do you (and/or your family) use Internet and/or social media to communicate w/ military families?	25	26	36
Note: The item included "and/or social media" beginning with the 2013 SOFS-A.			MEs ±2%

36% 49% of members reported they and/or their family use the Internet and/or social media to communicate *almost daily* when the member is <u>not</u> deployed significantly <u>higher</u> in 2013 than 2008/2010

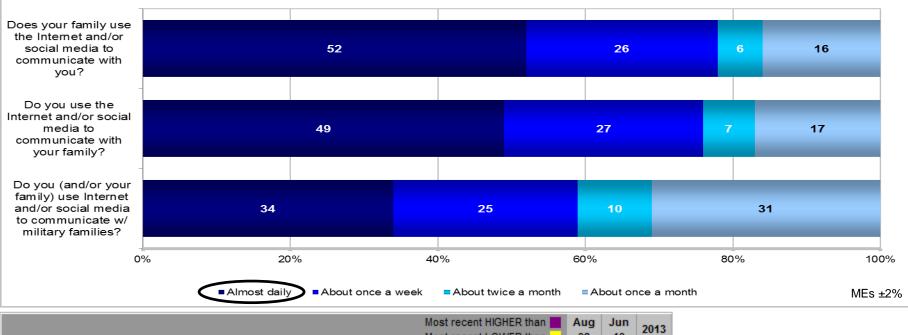
SOFS-A 2013 Q95





# Member's and Their Family's Use of Internet and/or Social Media To **Communicate** When Deployed

Percent of Active Duty Members Deployed Since 9-11-01



MOST RECEIL HIGHER UTAIL	Aug	Juli	2013
Most recent LOWER than	08	10	2013
Does your family use the Internet and/or social media to communicate with you?	58	55	52
Do you use the Internet and/or social media to communicate with your family?			49
▲ Do you (and/or your family) use Internet and/or social media to communicate w/ military families?	32	30	34
Note: The item included "and/or social media" beginning with the 2013 SOFS-A.		N	1Es ±2%

Note: The item included "and/or social media" beginning with the 2013 SOFS-A.

 52% of members whose families used the Internet and/or social media to communicate with them almost daily when deployed is significantly lower in 2013 than 2008

- 49% of members who reported they used the Internet and/or social media to communicate with their family almost daily when deployed is significantly lower in 2013 than 2008/2010

SOFS-A 2013 Q96





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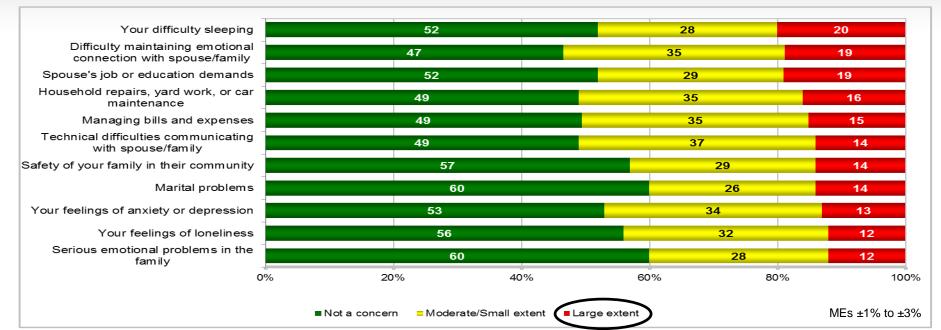
# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

•	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
•	Military OneSource	10
	Detailed Financial Health	
•	Family Life	21
•	Access to Technology	
✓	Impact of Deployments	
•	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	



# **Concerns While Away During Most Recent Deployment (1 of 2)**

Percent of Applicable Active Duty Members Deployed Since 9-11-01



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Dec 09	Jan 11	Feb 12	2013
Your difficulty sleeping	26	27	22	20
<ul> <li>Difficulty maintaining emotional connection with spouse/family</li> </ul>	22	20	19	19
Spouse's job or education demands	23	20	18	19
* Household repairs, yard work, or car maintenance	18	16	15	16
<ul> <li>Managing bills and expenses</li> </ul>	20	17	15	15
<ul> <li>Technical difficulties communicating with spouse/family</li> </ul>	17	17	16	14
Safety of your family in their community	18	15	13	14
<ul> <li>Marital problems</li> </ul>	19	18	15	14
Your feelings of anxiety or depression	16	17	13	13
<ul> <li>Your feelings of loneliness</li> </ul>	18	17	13	12
* Serious emotional problems in the family	17	16	13	12

- Improvements in percentages of members reporting 9 of 11 concerns in 2013 vs. 2009/2011; most significant improvement in *difficulty sleeping* (6 7 percentage points <u>lower</u> in 2013)
- In 2013, Army enlisted members reported <u>higher</u> response of large extent for *difficulty sleeping* (27%), *managing bills and expenses* (18%), *technical difficulties communicating with spouse/family* (18%), and *feelings of anxiety/depression* (17%)

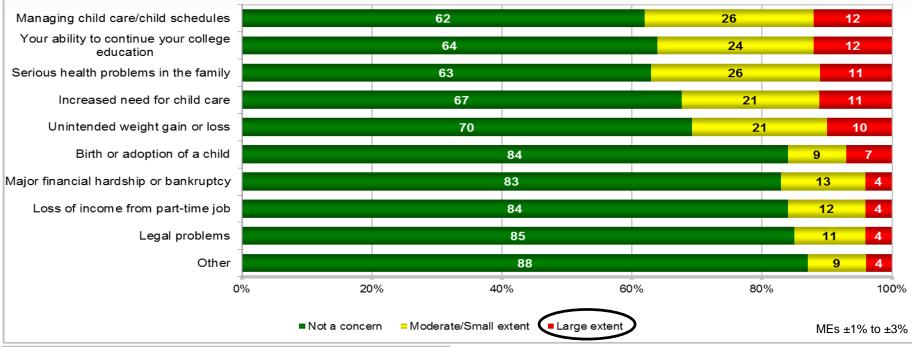
SOFS-A 2013 Q161

MEs ±1% to ±3%



# **Concerns While Away During Most Recent Deployment (2 of 2)**

Percent of Applicable Active Duty Members Deployed Since 9-11-01



Most recent HIGHER than	Dec	Jan	Feb	2013
Most recent LOWER than	09	11	12	2013
Managing child care/child schedules	16	12	10	12
<ul> <li>Your ability to continue your college education</li> </ul>	17	16	14	12
Serious health problems in the family	15	14	11	11
✤ Increased need for child care	15	13	10	11
<ul> <li>Unintended weight gain or loss</li> </ul>	14	14	10	10
<ul> <li>Birth or adoption of a child</li> </ul>	8	6	7	7
Major financial hardship or bankruptcy	5	5	3	4
<ul> <li>Loss of income from part-time job</li> </ul>	4	4	3	4
🔺 Legal problems	$\geq$	$>\!$	4	4
<ul> <li>Other</li> </ul>	5	5	4	4

Improvements in percentages of members reporting 5 of 10 concerns in 2013 vs. 2009/2011; 2013 results comparable to 2012 for five other concerns

 In 2013, Army enlisted members reported <u>higher</u> response of large extent for *ability to continue college education* (15%), serious health problems in family (15%), unintended weight gain or loss (14%), major financial hardship or bankruptcy (6%), and loss of income from part time job (7%)

#### SOFS-A 2013 Q161

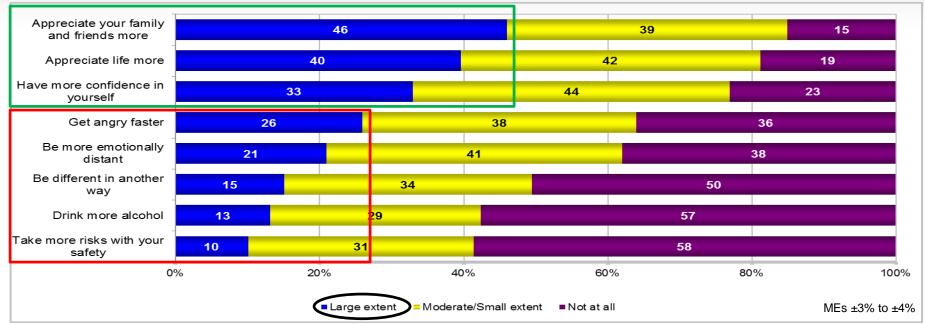
MEs ±1% to ±3%





# **Emotional/Behavioral Changes** <u>After</u> Deployment

Percent of Members Deployed in Past 24 Months but Not Currently Deployed



Note: "Be different in another way" responses include appreciate Service members more, be less social, get too little sleep, focus more on physical fitness, be more social, be tired or have less energy, appreciate things previously taken for granted, and be more stressed or hypervigilant.

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Aug 05	Apr 06	Apr 07	Dec 07	Nov 08	Dec 09	Jan 11	Feb 12	2013
Appreciate your family and friends more	64	54	51	51	47	47	45	44	46
<ul> <li>Appreciate life more</li> </ul>	53	44	41	41	37	37	38	36	40
<ul> <li>Have more confidence in yourself</li> </ul>	34	39	34	36	31	33	32	30	33
★ Get angry faster	29	30	29	30	27	26	26	23	26
<ul> <li>Be more emotionally distant</li> </ul>	28	26	24	25	23	21	22	23	21
<ul> <li>Be different in another way</li> </ul>	21	23	21	21	19	18	18	16	15
Drink more alcohol	19	17	16	17	15	14	13	12	13
<ul> <li>Take more risks with your safety</li> </ul>	16	17	15	16	12	13	12	10	10

- Percent reporting <u>positive</u> emotional/ behavioral changes significantly <u>lower</u> in
   2013 than 2005/2006 but comparable to 2007 2012
- Improvements in 4 of 5 <u>negative</u> emotional/behavioral changes in 2013 vs. 2005 2007

SOFS-A 2013 Q162

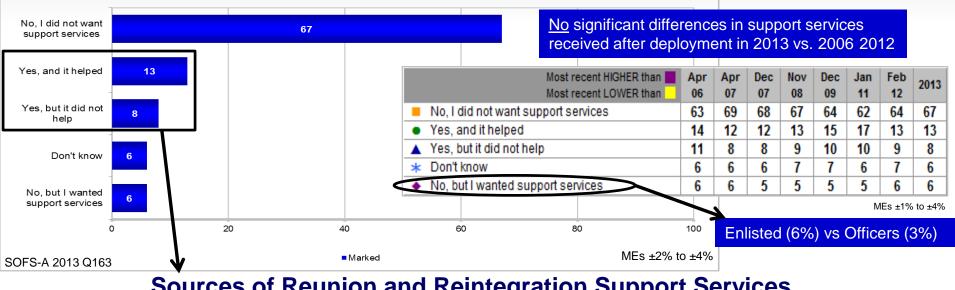
MEs ±2% to ±4%





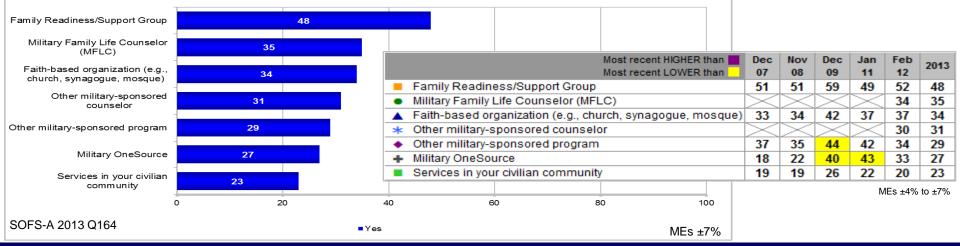
## Support Services Received After Deployment

Percent of Members Deployed in Past 24 Months but Not Currently Deployed



### Sources of Reunion and Reintegration Support Services

Percent of Members Deployed in Past 24 Months Who Received Support Services After Deployment

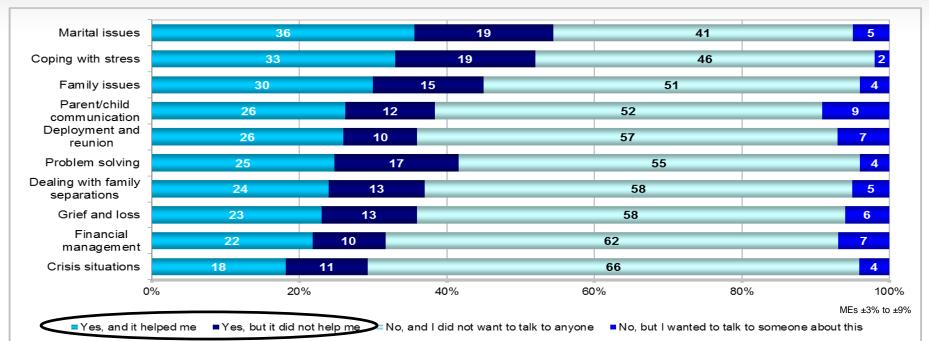




### **JOFS** 34

# Talked to Anyone Regarding Impact of Deployment

Percent of Members Deployed in Past 24 Months Who Received Support Services After Deployment



Dec	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	2013
07	08	09	11	12	2013
50	50	54	45	50	55
55	58	61	57	54	52
50	46	53	43	41	45
43	39	50	38	37	42
46	40	51	36	38	39
41	40	46	35	33	37
46	45	48	43	37	36
37	34	38	31	34	36
37	33	38	30	31	31
37	31	39	30	28	29
	50 55 50 43 46 41 46 37 37	50         50           55         58           50         46           43         39           46         40           41         40           46         45           37         34           37         33	50         50         54           55         58         61           50         46         53           43         39         50           46         40         51           41         40         46           46         45         48           37         34         38           37         33         38	50         50         54         45           55         58         61         57           50         46         53         43           43         39         50         38           46         40         51         36           41         40         46         35           46         45         48         43           37         34         38         31           37         33         38         30	50         50         54         45         50           55         58         61         57         54           50         46         53         43         41           43         39         50         38         37           46         40         51         36         38           41         40         46         35         33           46         45         48         43         37           37         34         38         31         34           37         33         38         30         31

- <u>No</u> significant differences in percentages of members who reported they talked to anyone about the impact of deployment regarding *any* of the 10 issues in 2013 vs. 2007 2012
- 25% of Males indicated they talked to someone about *dealing* with family separations in 2013 and <u>it helped</u> vs. 11% of Females
- 23% of Enlisted members talked to someone about *financial* management in 2013 and <u>it helped</u> vs. 12% of Officers

#### SOFS-A 2013 Q165

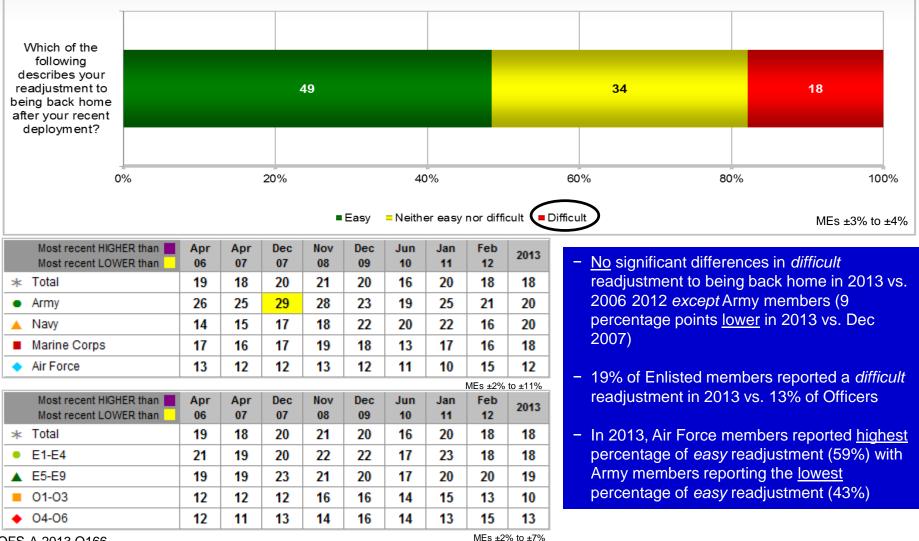
MEs ±4% to ±8%





# Degree of Difficulty in Readjusting to Return Home

Percent of Members Deployed in Past 24 Months but Not Currently Deployed



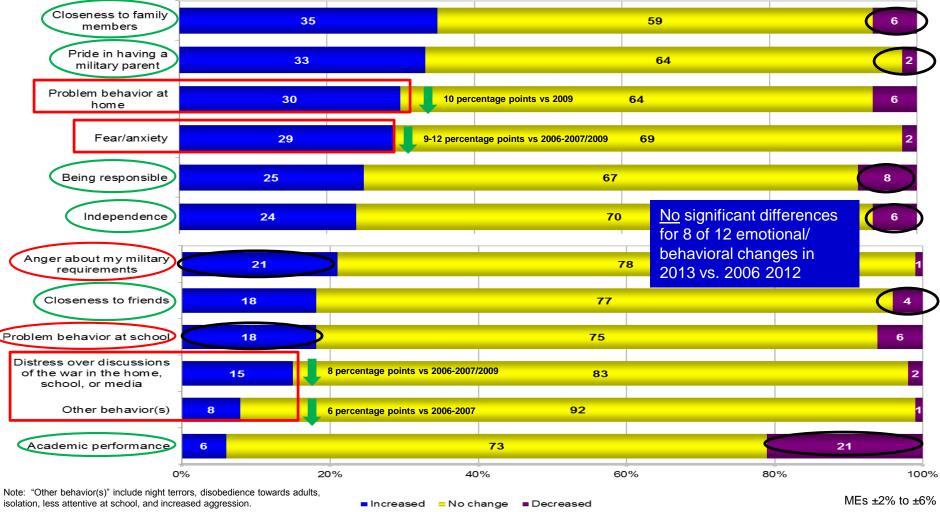
SOFS-A 2013 Q166





# Children's Emotional/Behavioral Changes in Response to Deployment

Percent of Members Deployed in Past 24 Months but Not Currently Deployed and Who Had at Least One Child During Most Recent Deployment



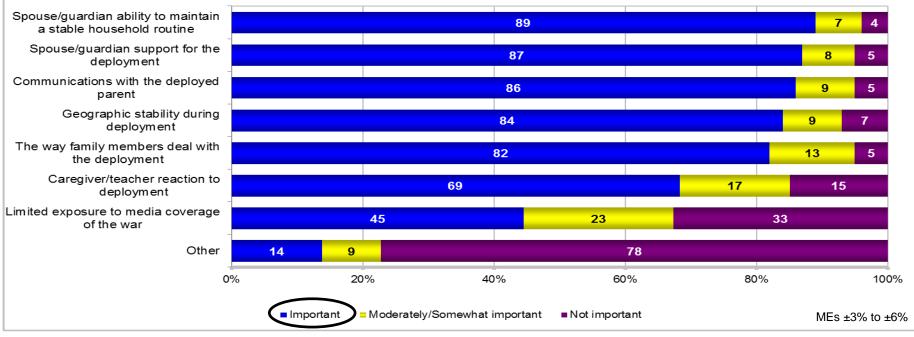
SOFS-A 2013 Q168





# Importance of Factors for Children in Coping With Deployments

Percent of Members Deployed Since 9-11-01 With Children Age 22 or Under and Who Had at Least One Child During Most Recent Deployment



Note: "Other" responses include support from church, involvement in extracurricular activities, spending time with other family members, providing children with member's definite return date, having defined family roles, and member taking mid-tour leave.

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Apr 06	Apr 07	Dec 07	Nov 08	Dec 09	Jan 11	Feb 12	2013
Spouse/guardian ability to maintain a stable household routine	83	84	84	83	88	84	85	89
<ul> <li>Spouse/guardian support for the deployment</li> </ul>	81	82	81	81	86	83	82	87
Communications with the deployed parent	83	83	82	83	87	85	85	86
<ul> <li>Geographic stability during deployment</li> </ul>	77	78	78	78	82	79	78	84
The way family members deal with the deployment	79	80	80	78	83	78	78	82
<ul> <li>Caregiver/teacher reaction to deployment</li> </ul>	63	63	64	63	68	63	64	69
Limited exposure to media coverage of the war	49	50	47	46	48	48	44	45
Other	21	19	19	21	19	21	18	14

 <sup>&</sup>lt;u>No</u> significant differences in importance of factors in 2013 vs. 2006 2012

 Army enlisted members in 2013 reported <u>higher</u> percentages of importance for caregiver/ teacher reaction to deployment (78%) and limited exposure to media coverage of war (55%)

SOFS-A 2013 Q169

MEs ±2% to ±6%





Slide

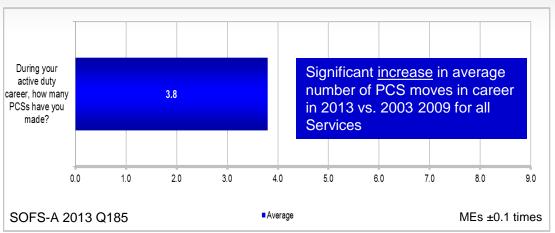
# **BRIEFING OVERVIEW**

•	Leading Indicators (Satisfaction, Retention, Stress)	5
•	Military OneSource	10
•	Detailed Financial Health	13
•	Family Life	21
•	Access to Technology	
•	Impact of Deployments	
✓	Detailed Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Moves	



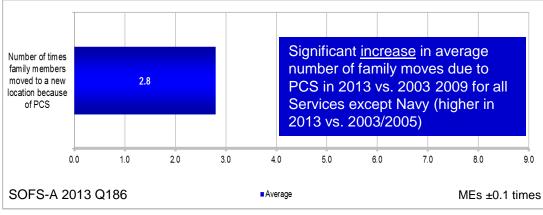
# **PCS Moves Made During Career**

Average of All Active Duty Members



## **Number of Family Moves Because of PCS**

Average of Members Who Were Married/Separated and/or Had Children or Other Legal Dependents and Had PCSed



Only senior Officer families averaged fewer total PCS moves in 2013 vs. 2003

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Nov 03	Dec 05	Nov 07	Nov 09	2013
∗ Total	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	3.8
Army	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	4.0
🔺 Navy	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.9
<ul> <li>Marine Corps</li> </ul>	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.8	3.3
<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	3.7
			MEs	±0.1 to ±0	.2 times
		-			

Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Nov 03	Dec 05	Nov 07	Nov 09	2013
★ Total	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	3.8
E1-E4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.6
▲ E5-E9	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.9
01-03	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.6
<ul> <li>04-06</li> </ul>	8.1	8.0	7.7	7.9	8.1

MEs ±0.1 to ±0.3 times

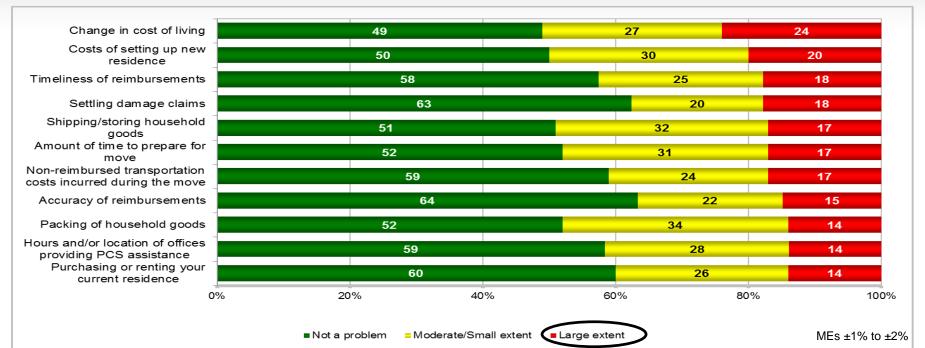
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Nov 03	Dec 05	Dec 07	Nov 09	2013			
* Total	1.9	1.8	2.4	2.3	2.8			
<ul> <li>Army</li> </ul>	2.1	2.0	2.5	2.4	3.0			
🔺 Navy	1.9	1.7	2.4	2.3	2.6			
<ul> <li>Marine Corps</li> </ul>	1.3	1.1	1.9	1.8	2.6			
<ul> <li>Air Force</li> </ul>	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.4	2.8			
Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Nov 03	Dec 05	Dec 07	Nov 09	2013			
* Total	1.9	1.8	2.4	2.3	2.8			
E1-E4	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.6	1.2			
▲ E5-E9	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6			
01-03	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.8			
• 04-06	6.2	5.9	5.8	6.0	5.7			





# Extent of Problems With PCS Moves (1 of 2)

Percent of Active Duty Members Who Had at Least One PCS Move



Most recent HIGHER than Most recent LOWER than	Nov 03	Dec 05	Dec 07	Dec 09	2013
Change in cost of living	31	28	31	25	24
<ul> <li>Costs of setting up new residence</li> </ul>	29	24	26	22	20
<ul> <li>Timeliness of reimbursements</li> </ul>	24	19	21	19	18
* Settling damage claims	22	20	20	17	18
<ul> <li>Shipping/storing household goods</li> </ul>	22	17	18	16	17
<ul> <li>Amount of time to prepare for move</li> </ul>	22	18	19	18	17
Non-reimbursed transportation costs incurred during the move	24	19	21	18	17
<ul> <li>Accuracy of reimbursements</li> </ul>	23	18	19	17	15
Packing of household goods	20	15	16	14	14
<ul> <li>Hours and/or location of offices providing PCS assistance</li> </ul>	13	12	12	11	14
* Purchasing or renting your current residence	20	14	17	15	14

- Significantly <u>lower</u> percentages of members experienced 6 of 11 specified problems with PCS moves to a *large extent* in 2013 vs. 2003 2007
- Army members in 2013 reported <u>higher</u> percentages of large extent for settling damage claims (20%) and non reimbursed transportation costs incurred during move (20%)

SOFS-A 2013 Q187

MEs  $\pm 1\%$  to  $\pm 2\%$ 





# Extent of Problems With PCS Moves (2 of 2)

Percent of Active Duty Members Who Had at Least One PCS Move

	■Not a problem ■Moderate/Small extent	Large extent	MEs ±1% to ±2%
0%	20% 40%	60% 8	0% 100%
Transferability of college credits	81		14 6
Costs of moving pets	75		15 10
Making a reservation for PCS lodging	71		19 <mark>1</mark> 0
Selling or renting out your former residence	76		12 12
Costs of moving vehicles	68	20	12
Availability of on-base temporary lodging or nearby commercial lodging	68	20	12
Costs related to security deposit(s)	68	19	13
Waiting for permanent housing to become available	66	21	13
Temporary lodging expenses	63	23	13
Time off at destination to complete move	64	21	14
Change in PCS orders (report date or destination)	65	21	14

Most recent HIGHER than	Nov	Dec	Dec	Dec	2013
Most recent LOWER than	03	05	07	09	2013
<ul> <li>Change in PCS orders (report date or destination)</li> </ul>	15	12	14	13	14
<ul> <li>Time off at destination to complete move</li> </ul>	19	13	17	16	14
Temporary lodging expenses	21	16	18	15	13
* Waiting for permanent housing to become available	20	16	16	15	13
<ul> <li>Costs related to security deposit(s)</li> </ul>	20	14	15	14	13
<ul> <li>Availability of on-base temporary lodging or nearby commercial lodging</li> </ul>	19	15	14	12	12
Costs of moving vehicles	15	13	14	13	12
<ul> <li>Selling or renting out your former residence</li> </ul>	9	7	11	13	12
Making a reservation for PCS lodging	15	12	13	11	10
<ul> <li>Costs of moving pets</li> </ul>	10	10	11	11	10
* Transferability of college credits	10	6	7	7	6

- Significantly <u>lower</u> percentages of members experienced 4 of 11 specified problems with PCS moves to a *large extent* in 2013 vs. 2003 2007
- In 2013, Army members reported <u>higher</u> percentages of *large extent* for 8 of 11 specified problems with PCS moves in 2013 vs. the other Services

SOFS-A 2013 Q187

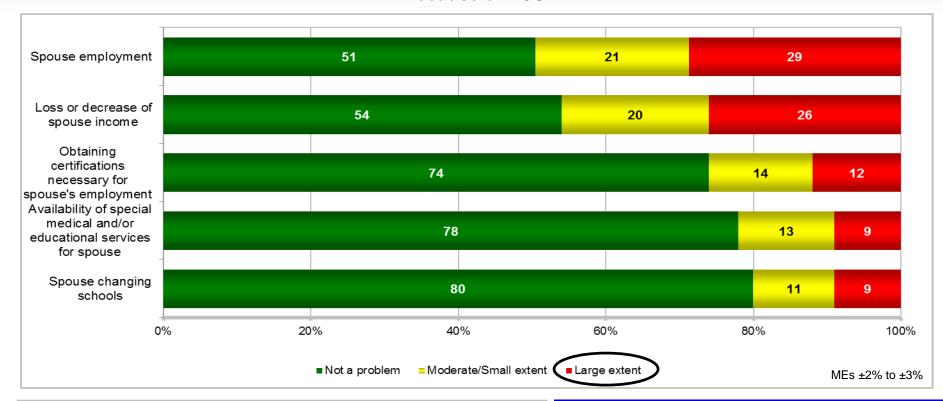
MEs  $\pm 1\%$  to  $\pm 2\%$ 





# Extent of Problems Spouse Experienced Due to PCS Moves

Percent of Active Duty Members Whose Spouse and/or Family Members Moved to a New Location Because of PCS



Nov	Dec	Dec	Dec	)ec 2013	
03	05	07	09	2013	
31	31	31	30	29	
29	30	29	27	26	
14	13	15	13	12	
$\geq$	10	12	11	9	
10	11	11	9	9	
	03 31 29 14	03         05           31         31           29         30           14         13           10	03         05         07           31         31         31           29         30         29           14         13         15           10         12	03         05         07         09           31         31         31         30           29         30         29         27           14         13         15         13           10         12         11	

#### - No significant differences in 2013 vs. 2003 2009

 In 2013, Army enlisted members reported most problems with availability of special medical and/or educational services for spouse (13%) and spouse changing schools (13%) vs. other Services

SOFS-A 2013 Q188

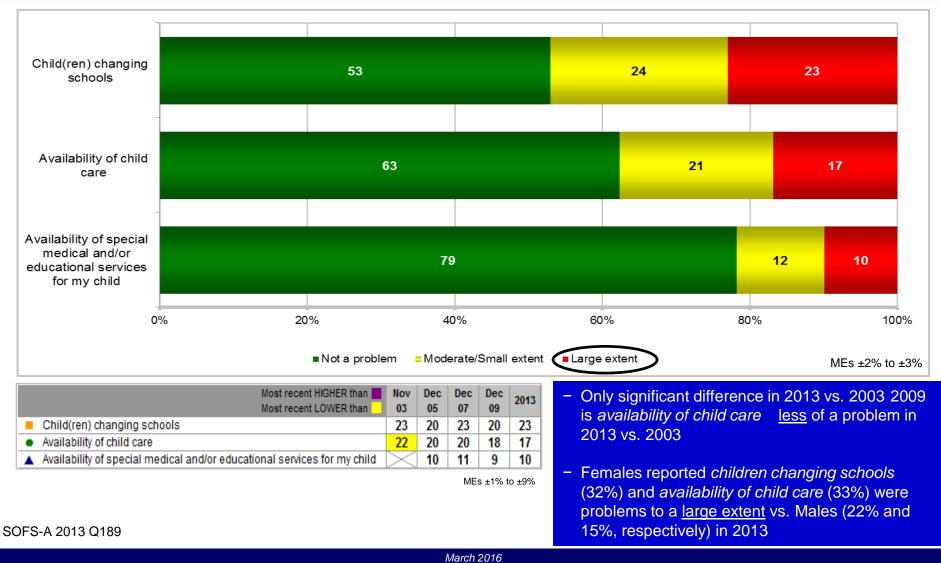
MEs ±1% to ±3%





## **Extent of Child-Related Problems With PCS Moves**

Percent of Members Who Had Children or Other Legal Dependents Age 22 or Under, Who Had at Least One PCS Move, and Whose Family Members Moved to a New Location Because of PCS





# **Summary of Results**

OFS

- Retention in 2014 significantly <u>lower</u>\* than Jan 2011/Jun 2012/2013 but <u>higher</u> than Jul 2002/Jul 2003 to Aug 2008
- More stress in *work* life in 2014 significantly <u>higher</u> than 2013 but <u>lower</u> than 2003-2008
- Members with *comfortable* financial condition in 2014 <u>higher</u> than 1999-Feb 2012/2013
- Members currently working on financial goals (e.g., no credit card debt, saving for retirement) significantly <u>higher</u> in 2013 than 2006-2012
- Problems in personal relationships are occurring <u>less</u> often than 12 months ago significant <u>improvement</u> in 2013 vs. 2005-2009
- Members reported significant <u>improvements</u> in 2013 in their concerns while away during their most recent deployment vs. 2009-2011
- Significant <u>improvements</u> in children's emotional/behavioral changes in 2013 in response to deployment vs. 2006-2009
- Significant <u>improvements</u> in problems with PCS moves in 2013 vs. 2003-2007 although spouse problems remain consistent (spouse employment and loss/decrease of income)

Bottom Line: Overall *improvements* in financial health and family life, including impact of deployments and PCS moves, compared to previous results, but retention <u>lower</u> and stress in work life <u>higher</u> in 2014 vs. 2013.

<sup>\*</sup> Only statistically significant findings are reported. Statistical tests are used to compare current estimates with other subgroups and previous results based on unrounded estimates.

# DMDC Website http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/surveys

