



U.S. Department of Defense

Working With State Policymakers to Support Military Families



2024 State Policy Priorities

- Military Spouse Employment and Economic Opportunities
- Defining Armed Forces in State Policy
- Military Community Representation on State Boards and Councils
- State Support for Military Families With Special Education Needs
- Open Enrollment Flexibility
- Military Access to Quality Family Child Care
- Child Abuse Identification and Reporting
- Military Family Anti-Discrimination Status
- State Response to Military Interpersonal Violence
- Concurrent Juvenile Jurisdiction

Background

The Defense-State Liaison Office works with state policymakers to change laws and policies to improve military family well-being. Each year, the DSLO focuses on 10 key priorities. For each priority, the Military State Policy Source website provides background information, official Defense Department data and status updates on relevant information across states.

Purpose

Many priorities impacting the well-being of service members and their families are best addressed by state governments. In 2004, the undersecretary of defense for Personnel and Readiness established an outreach program through the DSLO to educate state policymakers on unintended barriers created by state policies and other priorities important to military families.

What We Do

The DSLO has eight regional liaisons who live and work in regions of the United States. The liaisons assist state policymakers by providing educational information, identifying “best practice” legislation, and presenting testimony when requested.

Track Record

DSLO has assisted state policymakers in enacting more than 1,150 bills since 2008 covering occupational licensure, employment protection, consumer protection, family law, child care, child protection, voting, education, health care and state judicial systems.

Explore Military State Policy Source

Visit our website to access information on state policy priorities, track the status of legislation on these priorities across states and connect to official data from the Defense Department. Learn more at statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil.

Selection Criteria

Use the filters below to select desired member selection criteria

Download PDF

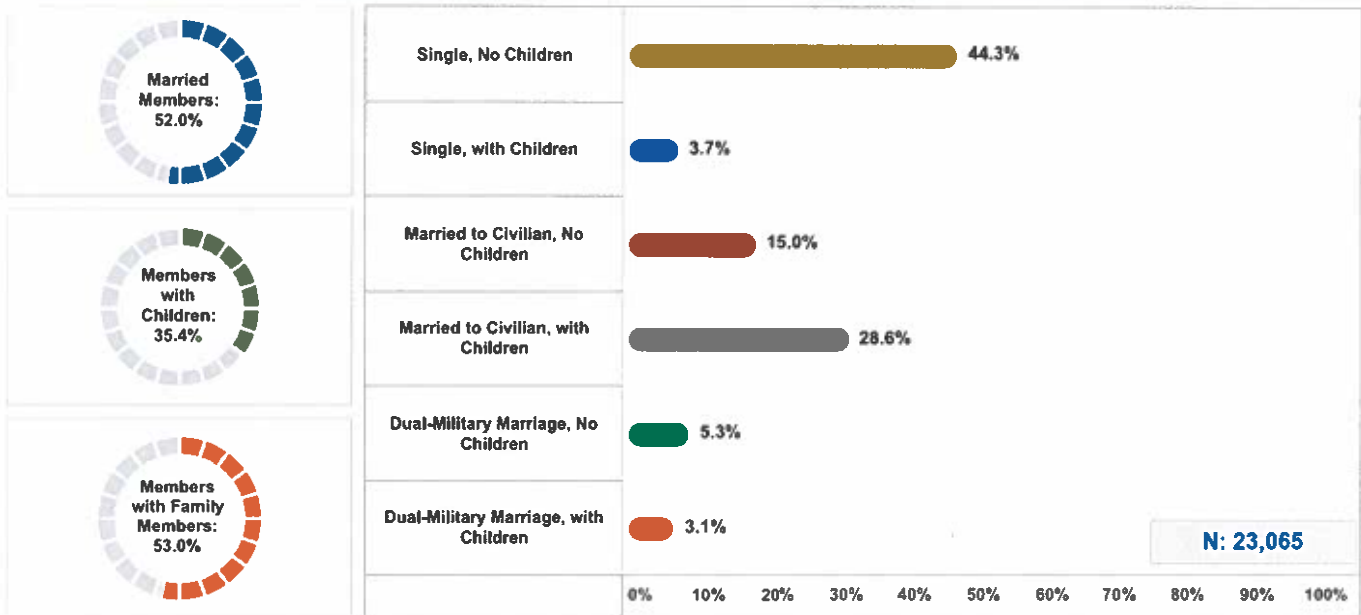
Service Branch/Component: All Enlisted/Officer: All Pay Grade: All Gender: All U.S. State: Alaska

RESET FILTERS

Total Force Families: Total DOD Force Family Status

Of the 23,065 total DOD force members in the selected criteria, 44.3% are single with no children and 28.6% are married to a civilian with children.

Total DOD Force Members



N: 51,297



You have applied the filters below:
 Service Branch/Component: All
 Enlisted/Officer: All
 Pay Grade: All
 Gender: All
 U.S. State: Alaska

Note: Not all DOD force members who are reported as married have a spouse listed as a dependent in DEERS.
Note: Single includes annulled, divorced, and widowed. Children include dependents age 20 or younger and dependents age 22 or younger enrolled as full-time students.
Note: Family members include spouses, children, adult dependents, and other dependents (under age 21 who are not spouses or children) who are registered in DEERS.
Note: Displayed percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.
Note: The Air Force, Space Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve do not have warrant officers.
Source: DMDC Active-Duty Military Family File (September 2022); DMDC Reserve Components Family File (September 2022).



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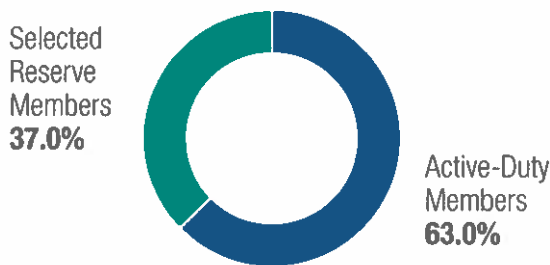
2022 DEMOGRAPHICS PROFILE

TOTAL DEFENSE DEPARTMENT MILITARY COMMUNITY

There are over 4.5 million individuals who make up the Total DOD Force community, including 2,071,451 (45.5%) DOD military personnel and 2,482,499 (54.5%) DOD force family members.

Total DOD Force Military Personnel

Of the 2,071,451 Total DOD Force military personnel, nearly two-thirds are active-duty members.



Total DOD Force



82.0% enlisted



18.0% officers



80.9% male



19.1% female

29.7% identify with racial minority groups*

17.3% are Hispanic or Latino

Average age is 28.8 years old

Active-Duty Members (N=1,304,720)

81.5% enlisted | 18.2% officers

82.5% male | 17.5% female

31.2% identify with racial minority groups*

18.4% are Hispanic or Latino

Average age is 28.5

Selected Reserve Members (N=766,731)

82.4% enlisted | 17.6% officers

78.4% male | 21.6% female

27.1% identify with racial minority groups*

15.5% are Hispanic or Latino

Average age is 31.9

Total DOD Force Family Members

Across the Total DOD Force, 50.9% of military personnel have family members enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).



Of the 2,482,499 Total DOD Force family members...

60.7% are active-duty family members



and 39.3% are selected reserve family members

Total DOD Force Family Members



37.0% Spouses



62.6% Children



0.3% Adult/Other Dependents**

Active-Duty Family Members (N=1,507,987)

38.4% Spouses (N=578,952)

61.2% Children (N=922,685)

0.4% Adult/Other Dependents** (N=6,350)

Selected Reserve Family Members (N=974,512)

35.0% Spouses (N=340,753)

64.8% Children (N=631,960)

0.2% Adult/Other Dependents** (N=1,799)

*Racial minority includes Black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Multi-racial, or Unknown

**Adult/other dependent refers to a parent, grandparent, former spouse, sibling, disabled older adult, or any other individual over the age of 22 claimed as a dependent in DEERS, as well as dependents under age 21 who are not spouses or children.



Military Spouses Fact Sheet

Our Goal

- Collaborate with government, private, non-profit, educational, and labor partners to support growing employment opportunities for military spouses.

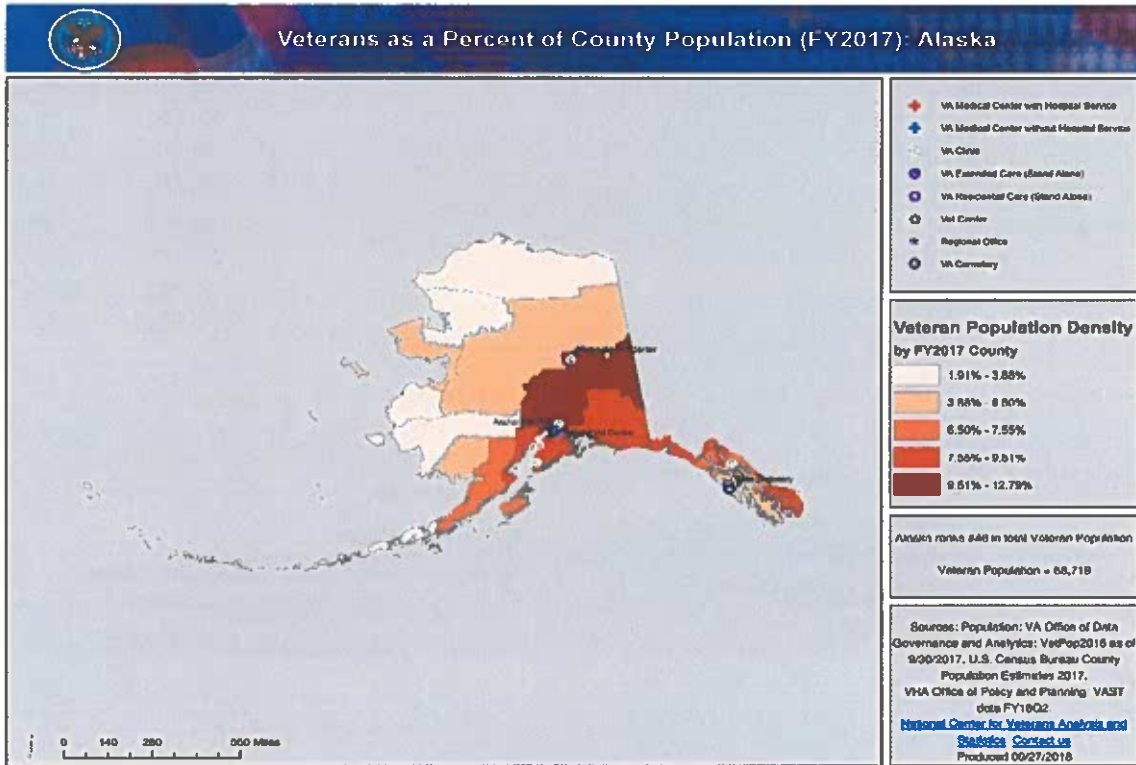


Fast Facts

- 92% of military spouses are women.
- 53% participated in the labor market, compared to 76% of the general population.
- 13% unemployed—about three times the national rate (May 2017).
- 89% have some college education. 30% have a four-year degree, while 15% have an advanced degree.
- Underemployment: 31.6% of military spouses are employed part-time, but may prefer full-time work.
- Occupational licenses: 34% of employed spouses work in occupations that require licenses.
 - ✓ Typically, military families move frequently and military spouses find it difficult to transfer licenses from state to state, delaying their return to the workforce.
- Concern about limited number of years they can commit to any job, due to their service member's reassignment.
 - ✓ The truth is, military spouse employment tenure is largely in-line with the general population.
 - ✓ Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows that the average tenure for an employee in the general workforce is 4.2 years. For the 25-34 age group, the median tenure is 2.8 years.

Women's Bureau Work in Action

- The Women's Bureau held a series of listening sessions across the country to hear directly from the military spouse community and better understand the employment challenges facing them.
- The Women's Bureau has established a partnership with the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) team. Last year, VETS launched a dedicated online portal for military spouses, featuring a range of employment resources including information on transferring occupational licenses (<https://www.veterans.gov/milspouses>).
 - ✓ The Women's Bureau collaborated with VETS to launch the Military Spouse Interstate License Recognition Options interactive map as part of this portal, providing a centralized platform for the patchwork of interstate recognition options to assist military spouses with planning their next career step when relocating.
- The Women's Bureau is also working with other departmental and federal partners to support growing employment and career opportunities for military spouses.



VA Facilities (as of 9/30/2017)	Alaska	National
Number of Inpatient Care Sites	0	154
Number of Outpatient Care Sites	6	1,029
Number of Vet Centers	3	300
Number of VBA Regional Offices	1	56
Number of National and State Cemeteries	2	246

VA Expenditures FY 2017 (in thousands)	Alaska	National
Compensation & Pension	\$ 281,733	\$ 84,138,460
Construction	\$ 51	\$ 1,467,395
Education & Voc Rehab/Employment	\$ 69,531	\$ 13,182,263
General Operating Expenses	\$ 28,269	\$ 9,222,998
Insurance & Indemnities	\$ 2,426	\$ 1,700,374
Medical Care	\$ 310,359	\$ 69,709,570



Population Change	Alaska	National
Veteran Population 2015	68K	20.8M
Veteran Population 2045	69K	12M
Annual Percentage Change	0.03%	-1.82%

Alaska	9/30/2015	9/30/2020	9/30/2025	9/30/2030	9/30/2035	9/30/2040	9/30/2045
Age	Less than 40	15,438	19,149	20,344	20,715	21,027	21,255
	40-64	32,325	28,975	28,023	28,787	30,275	33,310
	65+	20,245	20,760	20,567	19,293	17,337	13,993

Alaska	9/30/2015	9/30/2020	9/30/2025	9/30/2030	9/30/2035	9/30/2040	9/30/2045
Gender	Male	58,978	58,937	58,187	57,327	56,554	55,907
	Female	9,030	9,946	10,747	11,468	12,085	12,961

Alaska	9/30/2015	9/30/2020	9/30/2025	9/30/2030	9/30/2035	9/30/2040	9/30/2045
Period of Service	WWII	582	162	29	3	0	0
	Korea	2,479	1,276	494	129	22	0
	Vietnam	20,922	16,414	12,320	8,495	5,144	1,006
	Gulf War	33,771	42,179	46,454	45,775	43,372	39,930

Note: The total for Period of Service does not equal the total Veteran Population because peace time veterans were excluded

Alaska	9/30/2015	9/30/2020	9/30/2025	9/30/2030	9/30/2035	9/30/2040	9/30/2045
Race	White, Not Hispanic	50,862	50,087	49,475	49,394	49,840	52,172
	Minority	17,146	18,796	19,459	19,400	18,799	16,387

Note: Minorities are all races/ethnicities except non-Hispanic White Veterans

