



June Convening Factsheet: Growing a Military Family

Did You Know

- According to a 2015 study conducted by the U.S. DoD, 6.2% of married active duty members are in a dual-military marriage, meaning both spouses are members of the military ⁽¹⁾
- About 8 percent of all military members are single parents. ⁽¹⁾
- Military members began their families at an average age of 25 years old, whereas civilians begin theirs at an average age of 28. ⁽²⁾
- According to the American Community Survey conducted in 2010, less than 2% of couples in the military are same sex couples. ⁽²⁾
- Military families relocate 10 times more often than civilian families, on average every 2-3 years ⁽³⁾
- Active Duty spouses who become pregnant receive 12 weeks of maternal leave.
- Active Duty spouses are non-deployable for 6 months after giving birth.
- In San Diego County, E-1 to E-4 service members with dependents are given \$2,535 for their Basic Housing Allowance. ⁽⁴⁾

5.24 ■ Average Age of Active Duty Members at Birth of First Child by Service Branch

This table presents the average age of Active Duty members at the birth of their first child by Service branch. The average age of Active Duty members at the birth of their first child varies across the Service branches, with the Air Force having the highest average age (26.7 years) and the Marine Corps having the lowest average age (24.1 years).

Service Branch	Average Age
Army	25.4
Navy	26.3
Marine Corps	24.1
Air Force	26.7
Total DoD	25.8

Source: DMDC Active Duty Military Family File (September 2015)

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Things to Consider

- Military OneSource offers peer to peer support and specialized consultations for military families who are considering adoption
- The Department of Defense has an adoption reimbursement program for qualified military families. These reimbursements can cover medical expenses and other adoption fees, however they do not cover travel expenses ⁽⁵⁾
- 2019 BAH for California service members <https://militarybenefits.info/bah-rates-state/california/>

Available Resources for Military Families

1. San Diego Military Outreach Ministries (SDMOM) <http://www.sandiegomom.org>
2. SAY San Diego Dads Corps <https://www.saysandiego.org/program/healthy-start-military-family-source-center/dads-corps/>
3. SAY San Diego First 5, First Steps <https://www.saysandiego.org/program/first-5-first-steps/>
4. Operation Doula (San Diego, CA) <https://www.militarybirthresourcenetwork.org/operation-doula>
4. Military Birth Resource Network <https://www.militarybirthresourcenetwork.org/san-diego#san-diegobalboa-chapter>
5. MilitaryOneSource.com



- 1) <https://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/2015-Demographics-Report.pdf>
- 2) <https://www.aasa.org/content.aspx?id=8998>
- 3) <https://www.thebalancecareers.com/what-about-the-children-3332640>
- 4) <https://militarybenefits.info/bah-rates-state/california/>
- 5) <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/family-relationships/parenting-and-children/adoption/considering-military-adoption-eight-things-service-families-should-know>

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