2021 Status of the Forces Survey of Reserve Component Members (SOFS-R)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Have you served on active duty, not as a member of the Reserve components, for a cumulative 24 months or more?

X Yes

X No

For the next questions, the definition of "child, children, or other legal dependents" includes anyone in your family, except your spouse, who has, or is eligible to have, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (also called a military ID card) or is eligible for military health care benefits, and is enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

2. Do you have a child, children, or other legal dependents based on the definition above?

X Yes

X No

3. [Ask if Q6 = "Yes"] How many children or other legal dependents do you have in each age group specified below? To indicate none, select "0." To indicate nine or more, select "9."

13 years and younger

14-22 years old

23 years and older

ACTIVATION/DEPLOYMENT STATUS

Please read the following definitions carefully. In this survey, the term "activation" refers to the involuntary or voluntary call to active duty in support of a declared national emergency (DNE) of a Reserve component or National Guard member under provision of 10 USC §12301(a) (Full Mobilization), 10 USC §12301(d) (Voluntary Active Duty if in support of a DNE), 10USC §12302 (Partial Mobilization), or 10 USC §12304 (Presidential Reserve Call-up), or 10 USC §12304a. It also applies to National Guard members who perform duties under 32 USC 502(f) for the purposes of supporting a DNE. It does NOT apply to members on full-time active duty or members serving on full-time National Guard Duty in an AGR/FTS/AR status, active duty for operational support, active duty for training, or members serving on State Active Duty.

4. Have you been activated in the past 24 months? This includes activations that started more than 24 months ago and continued into the past 24 months. If you have been an AGR/FTS/AR for the past 24 months, select "No."

🔀 Yes

X No

5. [Ask if Q10 = "Yes"] Was at least one of your activations in the past 24 months longer than 30 consecutive days?

X Yes

X No

6. [Ask if Q11 = "Yes"] In the past 24 months, has (have) your activation(s) of more than 30 consecutive days been voluntary, involuntary, or both?

✓ Voluntary

🔀 Involuntary

X Both

7. [Ask if Q10 = "Yes"] Are you currently activated?

X Yes

X No

In the survey, the term "deployment" refers to the performance of duties supporting a DNE that is at a location that would be considered outside normal commuting distance or time from the member's permanent work site (i.e., an armory or reserve center). Deployments can be to a location within the contiguous 48 states (CONUS) or to a location outside the contiguous 48 states (OCONUS).

8. [Ask if Q11 = "Yes"] Did any of your activations of more than 30 consecutive days in the past 24 months result in deployment?

X Yes

No.

9. [Ask if Q14 = "Yes"] In the past 24 months, after processing in the mobilization station, were you deployed within the contiguous 48 states (CONUS), outside the contiguous 48 states (OCONUS), or both?

X CONUS

X OCONUS

X Both

10. [Ask if Q13 = "Yes" AND Q14 = "Yes"]
Are you currently deployed?

X Yes

X No

EMPLOYMENT/STUDENT STATUS

11. [Ask if MTFLAG = 2 AND (Q10 = "No" OR Q13 = "No")] Are you <u>currently</u> a military technician?

X Yes

X No

12. [Ask if MTFLAG = 2 AND Q13 = "Yes"]
In the week prior to your current
activation, were you a military
technician?

🔀 Yes

X No

13. [Ask if (RPROGCIV = "IMA" OR
 (AGRFLAG = 2 AND (RORG_CD =
 "Navy Reserve" OR RORG_CD =
 "Marine Corps Reserve" OR Q17 =
 "No"))) AND (Q10 = "No" OR Q13 =
 "No")] Last week, did you do any work
 for pay or profit? Mark "Yes" even if
 you worked only one hour, or helped
 without pay in a family business or
 farm for 15 hours or more.

X Yes

X No

14. [Ask if (RPROGCIV = "IMA" OR (AGRFLAG = 2 AND (RORG_CD = "Navy Reserve" OR RORG_CD = "Marine Corps Reserve" OR Q18 = "No"))) AND Q13 = "Yes"] In the week prior to your most recent activation, did you do any work for pay or profit?

Mark "Yes" even if you worked only one hour, or helped without pay in a family business or farm for 15 hours or more.

X Yes

X No

15. [Ask if Q19 = "No"] <u>Last week</u>, were you <u>temporarily</u> absent from a job or business?

Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc.

X No

16. [Ask if Q20 = "No"] In the week prior to your most recent activation, were you temporarily absent from a job or business?

Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc.

No

17. [Ask if Q21 = "No"] Have you been looking for work during the last 4 weeks?

X Yes

X No

18. [Ask if Q22 = "No"] Were you looking for work during the 4 weeks prior to your most recent activation?

X Yes

X No

19. [Ask if Q23 = "Yes"] <u>Last week</u>, could you have started a job if offered one, or returned to work if recalled?

X Yes, could have gone to work

No, because of my temporary illness

No, because of other reasons (in school, etc.)

20. [Ask if Q24 = "Yes"] In the week prior to your most recent activation, could you have started a job if offered one, or returned to work if recalled?

Yes, could have gone to work

No, because of my temporary illness

No, because of other reasons (in school, etc.)

21. [Ask if Q20 = "Yes" OR Q22 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc."] In the week prior to your most recent activation, did you have a full-time civilian job (of 35 hours or more per week) that included benefits, as well as pay or salary?

X Yes

X No

22. [Ask if Q19 = "Yes" OR Q21 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc."] What is your current principal civilian employment? By principal civilian employment, we mean the job at which you work the most hours.

An employee of a PRIVATE/PUBLIC company, business or individual, working for wages, salary, or commission

An employee of a NOT-FOR-PROFIT, taxexempt, or charitable organization

A FEDERAL government employee

A STATE government employee

A LOCAL government employee (e.g., county, city, town)

Self-employed in OWN business, professional practice, or farm

Working WITHOUT PAY in a family business or farm

Working WITH PAY in a family business or farm

- 23. [Ask if (Q29 = "An employee of a PRIVATE/PUBLIC company, business or individual, working for wages, salary, or commission" OR Q29 = "An employee of a NOT-FOR-PROFIT, taxexempt, or charitable organization" OR Q29 = "A FEDERAL government employee" OR Q29 = "A STATE government employee" OR O29 = "A LOCAL government employee (e.g., county, city, town)" OR Q29 = "Selfemployed in OWN business, professional practice, or farm" OR O29 = "Working WITHOUT PAY in a family business or farm" OR Q29 = "Working" WITH PAY in a family business or farm")] Counting all locations where your current principal employer operates in the United States, what is the total number of persons who work for this employer?
 - X 1 to 9
 - X 10 to 24
 - 25 to 49
 - X 50 to 99
 - X 100 to 499
 - X 500 to 999
 - 1,000 or more

- 24. [Ask if Q20 = "Yes" OR Q22 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc." OR Q31 = "No"] In the week prior to your most recent activation, what was your principal civilian employment? By principal civilian employment, we mean the job at which you worked the most hours.
 - An employee of a PRIVATE/PUBLIC company, business or individual, working for wages, salary, or commission
 - An employee of a NOT-FOR-PROFIT, taxexempt, or charitable organization
 - A FEDERAL government employee
 - A STATE government employee
 - A LOCAL government employee (e.g., county, city, town)
 - Self-employed in OWN business, professional practice, or farm
 - Working WITHOUT PAY in a family business or farm
 - Working WITH PAY in a family business or farm

25.	[Ask if (Q32 = "An employee of a PRIVATE/PUBLIC company, business or individual, working for wages, salary, or commission" OR Q32 = "An employee of a NOT-FOR-PROFIT, tax-exempt, or charitable organization" OR Q32 = "A FEDERAL government employee" OR Q32 = "A STATE government employee" OR Q32 = "A LOCAL government employee (e.g., county, city, town)" OR Q32 = "Self-employed in OWN business, professional practice, or farm" OR Q32 = "Working WITHOUT PAY in a family business or farm" OR Q32 = "Working WITH PAY in a family business or farm")] Counting all locations where your principal employer operated in the United States, what is the total number of persons who worked for this employer? ☑ 1 to 9 ☑ 10 to 24 ☑ 25 to 49 ☑ 50 to 99 ☑ 100 to 499	29.	[Ask if Q34 = "Yes"] Are you currently a full-time student or part-time student? Full-time is considered an equivalent of 12 credit hours or more per semester. Part-time is considered an equivalent of less than 12 credit hours per semester. Full-time Part-time [Ask if Q35 = "Yes"] At the time of your most recent activation, were you a full-time student or part-time student? Full-time is considered an equivalent of 12 credit hours or more per semester. Part-time is considered an equivalent of less than 12 credit hours per semester. Full-time Part-time [Ask if Q27 = "No"] What is the main reason you do not currently have a full-time civilian job? Unable to find a job Full-time homemaker, parent, and/or care
	500 to 999		giver
	1,000 or more		Full-time student Retired, other than Guard/Reserve
26.	[Ask if AGRFLAG = 2 AND (Q10 = "No" OR Q13 = "No")] Are you <u>currently</u> enrolled in a civilian school? <i>Mark</i> "Yes" if you were enrolled in the most recent academic semester or if you are		requirements Disabled Prefer not to have a full-time job Other
	enrolled for the next semester.		FALL IS COOL HOUSE HIS DIVERS AND IN
	Yes No No		[Ask if Q38 = "Other"] Please specify the <u>main</u> reason you do not currently have a full-time civilian job. Please do not include any personally identifiable
27.	[Ask if AGRFLAG = 2 AND Q13 = "Yes"] At the time of your most recent activation, were you enrolled in a civilian school? Mark "Yes" if you were enrolled in the most recent		information (e.g., names, addresses).
	academic semester or if you were		SATISFACTION
	enrolled for the next semester.		

- 31. Overall, how satisfied are you with the military way of life?
 - X Very satisfied
 - **X** Satisfied
 - Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 - Dissatisfied
 - Very dissatisfied

RETENTION

- 32. How many years have you spent in military service? Do not count partial years. To indicate less than 1 year, enter "0". To indicate 35 years or more, enter "35". Include in military service years:
 - Time spent as an active duty Service member
 - Time spent as a National Guard/ Reserve component member, to include:
 - Time spent as a Drilling unit Reservist/ Traditional Guardsman/Troop Program Unit (TPU) Reservist
 - Time spent mobilized/activated on active duty
 - Time spent in a full-time, active duty program
 - Time spent in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR)
 - Time spent as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA)
 - Time spent in the Standby Reserve

	Years
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- 33. Suppose that you have to decide whether to continue to participate in the National Guard/Reserve. Assuming you could stay, how likely is it that you would choose to do so?
 - X Very likely
 - X Likely
 - Neither likely nor unlikely
 - **Unlikely**
 - X Very unlikely

- 34. [Ask if Q4 = "Married" OR Q4 =
 "Separated" OR Q5 = "Less than 1
 year" OR Q5 = "1 year to less than 6
 years" OR Q5 = "6 years to less than 10
 years" OR Q5 = "10 years or more"] In
 your opinion, how does your spouse/
 significant other view your
 participation in the National Guard/
 Reserve?
 - X Very favorably
 - Somewhat favorably
 - Neither favorably nor unfavorably
 - Somewhat unfavorably
 - X Very unfavorably
- 35. In your opinion, how does your family view your participation in the National Guard/Reserve?
 - Very favorably
 - Somewhat favorably
 - Neither favorably nor unfavorably
 - Somewhat unfavorably
 - X Very unfavorably
- 36. [Ask if Q19 = "Yes" OR Q20 = "Yes" OR Q21 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc." OR Q22 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc."] In your opinion, how does your supervisor at your principal civilian job view your participation in the National Guard/ Reserve?
 - Does not apply; I do not have a supervisor at my principal civilian job
 - Very favorably
 - Somewhat favorably
 - Neither favorably nor unfavorably
 - Somewhat unfavorably
 - X Very unfavorably

37.	[Ask if Q19 = "Yes" OR Q20 = "Yes" OR Q21 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc." OR Q22 = "Yes, on vacation, temporary illness, labor dispute, etc."] In your opinion, how do your coworkers at your principal civilian job view your participation in the National Guard/ Reserve? Does not apply; I do not work with others at my principal civilian job	 41. In the past 12 months, have you spent more or less time away from your home than you expected when you first entered the National Guard/Reserve? ✓ Much more than expected ✓ More than expected ✓ Neither more nor less than expected ✓ Less than expected ✓ Much less than expected
	 ✓ Very favorably ✓ Somewhat favorably ✓ Neither favorably nor unfavorably ✓ Somewhat unfavorably ✓ Very unfavorably 	42. What impact has time away (or lack thereof) from your home in the past 12 months had on your military career intentions? ☑ Greatly increased your desire to stay ☑ Increased your desire to stay ☑ Neither increased nor decreased your desire to stay
38.	TEMPO [Ask if AGRFLAG = 2] In the past 12 months, how many days (full days, not	Decreased your desire to stay Greatly decreased your desire to stay
	drill periods) did you spend in a compensated (pay or points) National Guard/Reserve status?	READINESS
	Days	
39.	[Ask if AGRFLAG = 2] In an average month when not activated, how many unpaid hours, off duty, do you spend on your unit's business? For none,	43. How well has your training prepared you to perform your wartime job? Very well Well
40.	enter "0". Hours In the past 12 months, how many nights did you spend away from your	Neither well nor poorly Poorly Very poorly
40.	In the past 12 months, how many nights did you spend away from your home because of your military duties?	Poorly
40.	In the past 12 months, how many nights did you spend away from your	Poorly Very poorly

45.	Overall, how would you rate the current
	level of stress in your <u>personal</u> life?

Much less than usual

X Less than usual

About the same as usual

More than usual

Much more than usual

DEPLOYMENTS IN PAST 5 YEARS

46. [Ask if Q10 = "No"] Have you been activated in the past 5 years?

X Yes

X No

- Operation Noble Eagle officially began 11 Sep 2001 and is currently on-going.
- Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR) officially began 15 Jun 2014 and includes military intervention against extremists in Iraq and Syria.
- Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS), a follow-on mission to OEF, officially began 1 Jan 2015 and includes missions to train Afghan soldiers and conduct counterterrorism operations against extremists in Afghanistan.
- 47. [Ask if Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes"] In the <u>past 5 years</u>, for which of the following operations/contingencies have you been deployed to support (either directly or indirectly)? *Mark all that apply*.

 $\boxed{\mathsf{X}}$ I have not deployed in the past 5 years

Operation Noble Eagle

Operation Inherent Resolve

Operation Freedom's Sentinel

X COVID-19 Response

Southwest Border Operation

X Other

[Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes") AND Q58 g = "Marked"] Please specify the other operation/contingency for which you have been deployed to support (either directly or indirectly) in the past 5 years. Please do not include any personally identifiable information (e.g., names, addresses).

48. [Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes")
AND (Q58 b = "Marked" OR Q58 c =
"Marked" OR Q58 d = "Marked" OR Q58
e = "Marked" OR Q58 f = "Marked" OR
Q58 g = "Marked")] In the past 5 years,
how many times have you been
deployed?

Times

49. [Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes")
AND (Q58 b = "Marked" OR Q58 c =
"Marked" OR Q58 d = "Marked" OR Q58
e = "Marked" OR Q58 f = "Marked" OR
Q58 g = "Marked")] In the past 5 years,
have you been deployed to a combat
zone or an area where you drew
imminent danger pay or hostile fire
pay?

X Yes

X No

50. [Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes")
AND Q60 = "Yes" AND Q16 = "Yes"
AND (Q58 b = "Marked" OR Q58 c =
"Marked" OR Q58 d = "Marked" OR Q58
e = "Marked" OR Q58 f = "Marked" OR
Q58 g = "Marked")] For your most
recent deployment, how many months
have you been or were you deployed to
a combat zone or an area where you
drew imminent danger pay or hostile
fire pay? Include partial months. For
example, even if you were deployed to
a combat zone for 2 days, but those
days were in different months, enter
"2".

Months

51.	[Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes")
	AND (Q58 b = "Marked" OR Q58 c =
	"Marked" OR Q58 d = "Marked" OR Q58
	e = "Marked" OR Q58 f = "Marked" OR
	Q58 g = "Marked")] Were you involved
	in combat operations?
	-

X Yes

X No

52. [Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes")

AND Q60 = "Yes" AND Q16 = "Yes"

AND (Q58 b = "Marked" OR Q58 c =
"Marked" OR Q58 d = "Marked" OR Q58

e = "Marked" OR Q58 f = "Marked" OR

Q58 g = "Marked" OR Q58 h =
"Marked")] Are you currently deployed

to a combat zone or an area where you

are drawing imminent danger pay or

hostile fire pay?

X Yes
No

53. [Ask if (Q10 = "Yes" OR Q57 = "Yes")
AND (Q58 b = "Marked" OR Q58 c =
"Marked" OR Q58 d = "Marked" OR Q58
e = "Marked" OR Q58 f = "Marked" OR
Q58 g = "Marked")] Were any of your
deployments in the past 5 years longer
than you expected?

X Yes

X No

FINANCIAL WELL-BEING AND EDUCATION

54. Which of the following <u>best</u> describes your (and/or your spouse's) financial condition?

Very comfortable and secure

Able to make ends meet without much difficulty

Occasionally have some difficulty making ends meet

Tough to make ends meet but keeping your head above water

In over your head

55. Compared to 12 months ago, is your financial situation better, worse, or has it stayed the same?

Much better

Somewhat better

X Stayed the same

Somewhat worse

Much worse

56. [Ask if Q66 = "Much better" OR Q66 = "Somewhat better"] Which of the following are reasons why your financial situation is <u>better</u> than it was 12 months ago? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

			No
		Yes	
a.	Change related to your employment (e.g., new job, promotion)		
b.	Change related to your spouse's employment (e.g., new job, promotion)		
C.	Change in your family situation (e.g., got married or divorced, fewer children living at home)		
d.	Reduction in debt (e.g., paid off credit card debt, student loan debt, other loans)		
e.	Better financial management (e.g., received financial education, increased savings, followed budget)		

57. [Ask if Q66 = "Much worse" OR Q66=
"Somewhat worse"] Which of the
following are reasons why your
financial situation is worse than it was
12 months ago? Mark "Yes" or "No"
for each item.

			No
		Yes	
a.	Change related to your employment (e.g., lost job, between jobs, could not find job)		
b.	Change related to your spouse's employment (e.g., lost job, between jobs, could not find job)		
C.	Change in your family situation (e.g., got married or divorced, had a baby, provided financial support for family)		
d.	Increased debt (e.g., unplanned expenses, student loan deferment ended)		\boxtimes
e.	Financial management problems (e.g., used savings, no budget)		X

58. Which of the following activities do you do <u>routinely</u> in order to manage your finances? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.*

			No
		Yes	
a.	Make short-term financial plans (e.g., renting a house, purchasing a vehicle, saving for vacation, medical/dental/vision expenses)		
b.	Make and/or monitor long-term financial plans (e.g., home ownership, retirement, insurance, children's college education)		
C.	Follow a monthly budget or spending plan		
d.	Contribute to a savings account for emergency savings or other savings goal		
e.	Review your LES	\mathbb{X}	$ \times $
f.	Contribute to a retirement account (e.g., the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), IRA, 401(k))		
g.	Monitor your credit score/rating		\times

59. From which of the following resources have you received information, training, or counseling on any financial topic? Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.

			No
		Yes	
a.	Military financial training, class, or seminar (online or classroom)		
b.	Military financial counseling (in- person, by telephone, or virtually)		
C.	Unit leadership or financial specialist within your unit (e.g., Command Financial Specialist, Corporal for Financial Fitness, Command Financial NCO)		
d.	Military aid society (e.g., Army Emergency Relief, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Air Force Aid Society, Coast Guard Mutual Assistance)		
e.	On-base financial institution (e.g., bank or credit union)		
f.	Online military resource(s) (e.g., Office of Financial Readiness, Sen\$e app, Military OneSource, Service or installation financial readiness		
g.	program) Off-base financial institution (e.g., bank or credit union)		
h.	Professional/certified financial counselor, planner, or advisor outside of the military		
i.	Family/friends/peers		\boxtimes
j.	Online non-military resources (e.g., online search, blogs, articles)		\boxtimes

- 60. Which of the following statements <u>best</u> describes your (and your spouse's, if applicable) saving or investment habits?
 - Unable to save or invest—usually spend more than income
 - Unable to save or invest—usually spend about as much as income
 - Save or invest whatever is left over at the end of the month—no regular plan
 - Save or invest regularly by putting money aside each month

61. Please indicate whether the following are financial goals for you (and your spouse, if applicable). If a goal does not apply to you, please select "No, this is not a goal for me/us." Mark one answer for each item.

I/we have met this goal				
	No, this is not a goal for me/us			
	Yes, this is a goal for me/us			
a.	Saving for retirement	X		
b.	Saving for child(ren)'s education	X		
C.	Saving for a safety net/ emergency fund	\boxtimes		
d.	Paying off your education-related loans (e.g., federal or private student loans)	X		
e.	Being free of debt, except for mortgage	X		
f.	Buying a home	X		
g.	Saving for a major purchase (e.g., vehicle, vacation, household items).			

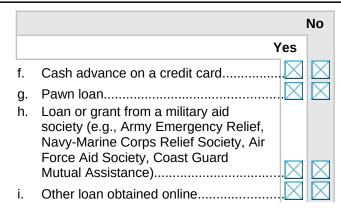
- 62. Which of the following options <u>best</u> describes how you routinely pay credit card debt?
 - Pay credit card balance in full each month
 - Pay more than minimum payment but not full balance
 - Pay only minimum payment
 - X I do not use credit cards
- 63. How much do you (and your spouse, if applicable) have in an emergency savings fund, in terms of your <u>average</u> monthly expenses?
 - X Less than 1 month
 - \boxtimes Between 1 and 3 months
 - Between 3 and 6 months
 - More than 6 months
 - I do not have an emergency savings fund

64. In the <u>past 12 months</u>, did any of the following happen to you (and/or your spouse)? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item*.

			No
		Yes	
a.	Failed to make a monthly/minimum payment on your credit card, including the Military Star Card		\boxtimes
b.	Failed to make a rent or mortgage payment		\boxtimes
C.	Had one or more debts referred to a collection agency		\boxtimes
d.	Had telephone, cable, or Internet shut off		
e.	Had water, heat, or electricity shut off		X
f.	Failed to make a car payment		
g.	Had a car repossessed		
h.	Filed for personal bankruptcy		X
i.	Had to pay overdraft fees to your bank or credit union two or more times		\boxtimes
j.	Borrowed money from family and/or friends to pay bills		\boxtimes
k.	Took money out of a retirement fund or investment to pay living expenses		\boxtimes
l.	Had personal relationship problems with your partner due to finances		\boxtimes
m.	Had your security clearance affected due to your financial condition		\boxtimes
n.	Used a charitable organization's food pantry or food bank		\boxtimes
0.	Had adverse personnel action due to financial condition		\boxtimes
p.	Provided unplanned financial support to a family member who did <u>not</u> live		
	with you		X

65. In the <u>past 12 months</u>, have you (and your spouse, if applicable) used any of the following financial products or services to cover *routine* expenses? *Mark* "Yes" or "No" for each item.

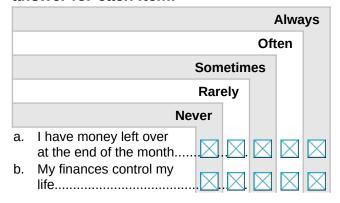
			No
		Yes	
a. b.	Overdraft loan or line of credit Overdraft protection from savings, credit card, or another account		
c.	Direct deposit advance loan		\boxtimes
d.	Payday loan		\boxtimes
e.	Vehicle title loan (a loan where you obtain money by providing a vehicle title as collateral)		



66. How well does each statement describe you or your situation? *Mark one answer for each item.*

				Com	plet	ely
			Ve	ery w	⁄ell	
		Sor	newl	nat		
		Very li	ttle			
	Not	t at all				
a.	Because of my money situation, I feel like I will never have the things I want in life					
b.	I am just getting by financially				\times	
C.	I am concerned that the money I have, or will save, won't last					

67. How often does each of the following statements apply to you? *Mark one answer for each item.*



The Department of Defense is interested in assessing the overall financial literacy and preparedness of military members. By completing the next set of items, you will help the Department determine how well military members understand a variety of financial-related topics. For each question or statement, please select the BEST response. If you are not sure about an answer, please select "Don't know."

68. Suppose you had \$100 in a savings account and the interest rate was 2% per year. After five years, how much do you think you would have in the account if you left the money to grow?

\times	More than \$102
\times	Exactly \$102
\times	Less than \$102

Non't know

69. Imagine that the interest rate on your savings account was 1% per year and inflation was 2% per year. After 1 year, how much would you be able to buy with the money in this account?

	•
\times	More than today
\times	Exactly the same
\times	Less than today
\times	Don't know

70. Is the following statement true or false? A 15-year mortgage typically requires higher monthly payments than a 30-year mortgage, but the total interest paid over the life of the loan will be less.

\times	True
\times	False
X	Don't know

71. Is the following statement true or false? Buying a single company's stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.

\times	True
\times	False
\times	Don't know

	Is the following statement true or false? insurance deductible is an amount you are responsible for paying before the insurance company will pay on your insurance claim. True False Don't know	76. Is the following statement true or false? In making a decision whether or not to receive a lump sum payment from the Blended Retirement System (BRS) or another qualified retirement plan, one important factor to consider would be the potential taxes one may have to pay on the lump sum payment received.
73.	The Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) is a monthly annuity paid following death to the beneficiaries of	✓ False✓ Don't know
74.	A retiree who signs up to participate and pays a monthly premium from their retired pay A Reserve or National Guard member who dies in the line of duty on federal active or inactive service Both Don't know Which of the following does not impact your credit score? Paying bills on time	 77. In managing your personal budget, what is discretionary income? ☑ Special pays, allowances, and bonuses outside of military base pay The money used to make your rent or mortgage payment or other such fixed expenses The money remaining after taxes and fixed expenses (such as rent/mortgage, utilities, insurance) are paid ☑ Don't know
	Checking your own credit score The percentage of available credit used	SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS AND TRAINING
75.	 ☑ Applying for new credit ☑ Don't know Under the Blended Retirement System (BRS), the government will contribute 1% of your base pay to your Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) account and match up to an additional percent based on your TSP contribution after you are vested in TSP. ☑ 4% for a total of 5% ☑ 5% for a total of 6% ☑ There is no government match ☑ Don't know 	78. The next several questions ask about a time period in your life when you may have faced some challenges. We understand these are sensitive issues, but the Department wants to know more about members' experiences so they can help others who face similar challenges. Responses to these items are completely voluntary and confidential. Your responses will only be reported in aggregate form. Your individual data will not be reported.

79.	Have you	actually ha	d any the	oughts of
	killing yourself during the following			
	periods?	Mark "Yes"	or "No"	for each
	item.			

			No
		Yes	
a.	Ever in your life		\boxtimes
b.	Before joining the military		$ \times $
C.	Since joining the military	×	X
d.	Within the past 12 months		$ \times $
e.	Within 6 months before leaving for a deployment or another mission		\boxtimes
f.	During a deployment or another mission		\boxtimes
g.	Within 6 months after returning from a deployment or another mission		\boxtimes

80.	[Ask if Q90 a = "Yes" OR Q90 b = "Yes"
	OR Q90 c = "Yes" OR Q90 d = "Yes" OR
	Q90 e = "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR
	Q90 g = "Yes"] Have you thought about
	how you might kill yourself during the
	following periods? Mark "Yes" or "No"
	for each item.

			No
		Yes	
a.	Ever in your life		\boxtimes
b.	Before joining the military		\boxtimes
C.	Since joining the military		
d.	Within the past 12 months		X
e.	Within 6 months before leaving for a deployment or another mission		
f.	During a deployment or another mission		
g.	Within 6 months after returning from a deployment or another mission		

81. [Ask if Q90 a = "Yes" OR Q90 b = "Yes" OR Q90 c = "Yes" OR Q90 d = "Yes" OR Q90 e = "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR Q90 g = "Yes"] Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them during the following periods? Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.

			No
	Y	es	
a.	Ever in your life	\times	\boxtimes

		No
	Yes	
b.	Before joining the military	
c.	Since joining the military	
d.	Within the past 12 months	
e.	Within 6 months before leaving for a deployment or another mission	
f.	During a deployment or another mission	
g.	Within 6 months after returning from a deployment or another mission	

82. [Ask if Q90 a = "Yes" OR Q90 b = "Yes" OR Q90 c = "Yes" OR Q90 d = "Yes" OR Q90 e = "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR Q90 g = "Yes"] Have you worked out a plan of how to kill yourself during the following periods? Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.

		No
	Yes	
a.	Ever in your life	
b.	Before joining the military	$ \times $
c.	Since joining the military	\boxtimes
d.	Within the past 12 months	\boxtimes
e.	Within 6 months before leaving for a deployment or another mission	
f.	During a deployment or another mission	
g.	Within 6 months after returning from a deployment or another mission	

83. Did you make a suicide attempt during the following periods? *Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item*.

			No
		Yes	
a.	Ever in your life		\boxtimes
b.	Before joining the military		
c.	Since joining the military		
d.	Within the past 12 months		\boxtimes
e.	Within 6 months before leaving for a deployment or another mission		
f.	During a deployment or another mission		
g.	Within 6 months after returning from a deployment or another mission		

- 84. [Ask if Q90 c = "Yes" OR Q90 d = "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR Q90 g = "Yes" OR Q94 c = "Yes" OR Q94 d = "Yes" OR Q94 f = "Yes" OR Q94 g = "Yes"] Since joining the military, have you ever talked to anyone about your thoughts or attempts to kill yourself?
 - X Yes
 - No, but I considered talking to someone
 - No, and I never considered talking to anyone
- 85. [Ask if (Q90 c = "Yes" OR Q90 d =
 "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR Q90 g =
 "Yes" OR Q94 c = "Yes" OR Q94 d =
 "Yes" OR Q94 f = "Yes" OR Q94 g =
 "Yes") AND Q95= "Yes"] Who did you
 talk to about these thoughts or
 actions? Mark all that apply.
 - Spouse or significant other
 - Parent or parental figure, sibling, or other family member
 - Friend who is not in the military
 - Military friend not in my chain of command
 - Someone in my chain of command
 - Mental health professional at a military facility (e.g., psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, other mental health counselor)
 - Civilian mental health professional at a civilian medical facility (e.g., psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, other mental health counselor)
 - General medical doctor at a military facility
 - General medical doctor at a civilian facility
 - Chaplain, pastor, rabbi, or other spiritual counselor
 - Someone at a suicide helpline (e.g., Veterans Crisis Line/Military Crisis Line, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline)
 - Some other individual/resource not listed above

- 86. [Ask if (Q90 c = "Yes" OR Q90 d =
 "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR Q90 g =
 "Yes" OR Q94 c = "Yes" OR Q94 d =
 "Yes" OR Q94 f = "Yes" OR Q94 g =
 "Yes") AND Q95= "No, but I considered talking to someone"] If you were to talk with someone about these thoughts or actions, who would you talk to? Mark all that apply.
 - Spouse or significant other
 - Parent or parental figure, sibling, or other family member
 - Friend who is not in the military
 - Military friend not in my chain of command
 - Someone in my chain of command
 - Mental health professional at a military facility (e.g., psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, other mental health counselor)
 - Civilian mental health professional at a civilian medical facility (e.g., psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, other mental health counselor)
 - General medical doctor at a military facility
 - General medical doctor at a civilian facility
 - Chaplain, pastor, rabbi, or other spiritual counselor
 - Someone at a suicide helpline (e.g., Veterans Crisis Line/Military Crisis Line, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline)
 - Some other individual/resource not listed above

- 87. [Ask if (O90 c = "Yes" OR O90 d = "Yes" OR Q90 f = "Yes" OR Q90 g = "Yes" OR O94 c = "Yes" OR O94 d = "Yes" OR Q94 f = "Yes" OR Q94 g = "Yes") AND Q95 = "No, and I never considered talking to anyone"] You indicated that you did not talk to someone about your thoughts or attempts to kill yourself. Why did you choose not to talk to anyone? Mark all that apply.
 - I did not know where to get help.
 - I did not trust mental health professionals.
 - It was difficult to arrange the time to talk to someone (e.g., child care issues, could not get time off from work).
 - I was concerned it would cost too much money.
 - I was embarrassed.
 - I was concerned it might impact my security clearance (now or in the future).
 - I thought my coworkers and/or superiors would have less confidence in me if they found out.
 - I was concerned it would negatively affect my career.
 - I thought my friends and family would have less respect for me if they found out.
 - I did not think my treatment would be kept confidential.
 - I was concerned that any prescribed medications would have too many side effects.
 - I would think less of myself if I could not handle it on my own.
 - I received treatment or therapy previously and did not think it was effective.
 - I did not want anyone to interfere.

- 88. What assurances do you think Service members *need* in order to seek help for their thoughts or attempts to kill themselves? Mark all that apply.
 - Confidentiality
 - Support from their peers
 - Support from their chain of command
 - Reassurance of no impact or limited potential impact on member's career
 - Helping services with flexible or off-duty hours
 - Other
- 89. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? Individuals who need help with personal problems (e.g., relationship, financial) would <u>not</u> seek help because of... Mark one answer for each item.

		St	rong	ly di	sagı	Æ
				sagı		
Neither agree nor disagree						
		Agı	ree			
	Strongly ag	ree				
Э.	A negative impact to their career		\times	\boxtimes	\times	
o.	Loss of privacy/ confidentiality		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	X	
С.	Fear of being perceived as "broken" by chain of command or peers				\times	
d.	A situation that cannot be helped with the resources available				\boxtimes	
Э.	Not knowing who to turn to		\times	\boxtimes	X	
f.	Other		\times	X	X	

90. Suppose you felt trapped or stuck in a stressful situation. How likely or unlikely is it that you would use each of the following ways to deal with or cope with the situation? Mark one answer for each item.

	Very unlikely					ely
	Unlikely					
	Neither likely r	nor u	ınlik	ely		
		Lik	ely			
	Very like	ely				
a.	Ignore the situation		X	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes
b.	Avoid the situation		X	\times	\times	\times
c.	Deal with the situation					
	on your own to try and		\vee		∇	
d.	fix it Ask someone to help					
u.	you try and fix the					
	situation	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes
e.	Seek out self-help					
	resources via the Internet or books	\boxtimes	X	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes
f.	Use alcohol or another					
••	harmful substance to					
	cope with the situation	\times	\times	\times	\times	X

- 91. How often do you receive suicide prevention training?
 - More than once a year
 - Once a year
 - Once every 2 years
 - Only at a professional military school
 - I do <u>not</u> receive suicide prevention training

92. [Ask if Q102 = "More than once a year" OR Q102= "Once a year" OR Q102= "Once every 2 years" OR Q102= "Only at a professional military school"] How helpful was the suicide prevention training you received most recently in helping you recognize the following? Mark one answer for each item.

Not at all help							
Slightly helpful							
Somewhat helpful							
Very helpful							
Extremely	/ helpful						
Suicidal behavior in yourself		\times		\times	\boxtimes		
Suicidal behavior in others		\times	\boxtimes	\times			
	Extremely Suicidal behavior in yourself Suicidal behavior in	Slig Somewhat Very help Extremely helpful Suicidal behavior in yourself	Slightly Somewhat help Very helpful Extremely helpful Suicidal behavior in yourself	Slightly help Somewhat helpful Very helpful Extremely helpful Suicidal behavior in yourself	Somewhat helpful Very helpful Extremely helpful Suicidal behavior in yourself. Suicidal behavior in		

- 93. The suicide prevention training that would be most effective in preparing me to handle a possible suicide prevention situation is...
 - Listening to a respected leader talk about an experience seeking help for suicidal thoughts or behavior
 - Listening to a fellow Service member talk about an experience seeking help for suicidal thoughts or behavior
 - Skills training on coping or problem-solving
 - A lecture on suicide awareness (e.g., warning signs)
 - PowerPoint presentation on suicide prevention
 - Online webinar on suicide prevention
 - Small group discussion
- 94. What is your level of knowledge of each of the following support services? Mark one answer for each item.

	I have never heard of	this s	ervi	ce.				
I have heard of this service, but I do not really know what it is.								
I have heard of this service, but I only superficially understand it.								
	I know a lot about this service.							
a.	Military Crisis Line (MCL)/ Veterans Crisis Line (VCL)		\times	\boxtimes				
b.	National Suicide Prevention			X				

ikely
,

95. Suppose you found yourself in a situation where you thought you needed help with personal problems (e.g., relationship, financial). How likely or unlikely is it that you would use each of the following support services? Mark one answer for each item.

96. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? *Mark one answer for each item.*

Strongly disagree								
Disagree								
	Agre	е						
Strongly agree								
a.	Suicide is impulsive	X	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes			
b.	Suicidal behavior is not hereditary	X.	\boxtimes	\times	\boxtimes			
C.	The majority of Service members who died by							
	suicide did not have a mental illness	Χ.		\times	\boxtimes			

Strongly disagree Disagree Neither agree nor disagree **Agree** Strongly agree d. Talking about suicide with someone you are concerned about will not lead to or encourage his/her suicide..... e. Anyone can help individuals who are at risk for suicide, not only mental health professionals.....

	Disagree
	Neither agree nor disagree
	Agree
	Strongly agree
f.	The military suicide rate
	is comparable to the US
	general population,
	after accounting for
	differences in sex and age between the two
	populations
g.	Deployment does not
	increase suicide risk for
_	Service members
h.	If you remove access to one lethal method of
	suicide, someone at risk
	for suicide will not
	replace it with another
i.	Most military firearm
	deaths are a result of
	suicide as compared to combat, accident, or
	homicide
j.	Storing a loaded firearm
-	at home increases risk
	for dying by suicide four
	to six times

		No
	Yes	
c.	Casualty Assistance Officer	X
d.	Long-Term Casualty Support Coordinator	
e.	First Responder	$ \times $
f.	Military Investigator	\times
g.	Non-Clinical Provider (e.g., Military OneSource Counselor, MFLC)	\boxtimes
h.	Suicide Prevention Program Manager	\times
	sk if Q108= "Yes" AND Q109a =	

99. [Ask if Q108= "Yes" AND Q109a =
"Yes"] How useful was the support or
counseling you received from the...
Mark one answer for each item.

			Not	use	fı
	Some	ewhat	use	ful	
		Use	ful		
	Very us	eful			
a.	Unit Commander or Leader?		\boxtimes	X	
b.	Chaplain?		\times	\times	
c.	Casualty Assistance Officer?			\times	
d.	Long-Term Casualty Support Coordinator?			\times	
e.	First Responder?		\boxtimes	\times	
f.	Military Investigator?	X	\times	X	
g.	Non-Clinical Provider (e.g.,				
	Military OneSource Counselor, MFLC)?		\boxtimes	\times	
h.	Suicide Prevention Program Manager?			\boxtimes	

98. [Ask if Q108= "Yes"] Did you receive suicide postvention support or counseling to help you with this loss from any of the following sources?

Mark "Yes" or "No" for each item.

		No
	Yes	
a.	Unit Commander or Leader	X
b.	Chaplain	X

100. Have you *ever* intentionally hurt yourself (e.g., cut or hit yourself) to relieve stress, feel better, get

X Yes

FOOD ASSISTANCE

The following are statements that people have made about their food situation.

101. How often were each of the following statements true for you and your household in the past 12 months—that is, since last [name of current month]? *Mark one answer for each item*.

Don't know					
Often true					
	Sometimes true				
	Never true				
a.	The food that I/we bought just didn't last, and I/we				
	didn't have money to get more			X	\boxtimes
b.	I/We couldn't afford to eat balanced meals			X	

- 102. In the past 12 months, since last [name of current month], did you or other adults in your household ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there was <u>not</u> enough money for food?
 - X Yes
 - X No
 - Don't know
- 103. [Ask if Q113 = "Yes"] In the past 12 months, how often did you or other adults in your household cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there was not enough money for food?
 - Almost every month
 - Some months but not every month
 - Only 1 or 2 months
 - Non't know
- 104. In the past 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there was <u>not</u> enough <u>mo</u>ney for food?
 - X Yes

X

■ Don't know

105. In the past 12 months, were you ever hungry but did not eat because there was <u>not</u> enough money for

sympathy, or get something else to happen <u>without</u> any intention of killing yourself?

food?

X Yes

X No

🔀 Don't know

TAKING THE SURVEY

A "military survey" is defined as a survey regarding military topics (e.g., readiness, programs/services, tempo, benefits).

106. Excluding this survey, how many military surveys have you been <u>asked</u> to complete in the past 12 months? To indicate none, select "0." To indicate 10 or more, select "10."

107. Thank you for participating in the survey. There are no more questions on this survey. If you have comments or concerns that you were not able to express in answering this survey. please enter them in the space provided. Your comments will be viewed and considered as policy deliberations take place. Do not include any personally identifiable information (PII) in your comments. If **OPA** or its data collection contractor perceives comments as a direct threat to yourself or others, out of concern for your welfare, OPA may contact an office in your area for appropriate action. Your feedback is useful and appreciated.

ľ	[Ask if Q1 = "No, I separated or etired"] Based on your answer to the revious question, you are ineligible to
ta e c	ake this survey. If you feel you have ncountered this message in error, lick the back arrow button and check
a h	our answer(s). To submit your nswers, click <i>Submit.</i> For further elp, please call our Survey Processing Center toll-free at 1-800-881-5307, e-
n	nail RC-Survey@mail.mil, or send a fax o 1-763-268-3002.