



Moving and Financial Stress

Military families typically move every two to three years and each move can set the average military family back about \$5,000.

MFAN's data over four years has shown financial stress is a primary burden during the permanent change of station (PCS) process. Current data shows that families pay for some of their own moving expenses, absorb the costs of loss and damage to belongings, and struggle with finding spouse employment to replace lost incomes. Adding to this year's strain are the unknown effects of the PCS halt, and existing financial strife due to COVID-19.



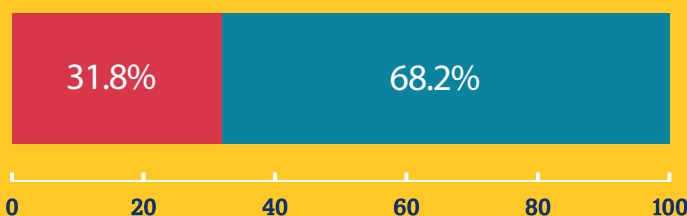
Graphic Data

84%

of active duty family respondents had moved within the past two years.

Survey respondents reported:

68.2% experienced loss or damage during their most recent moves (31.8% did not)



Recent Active Duty Moves



| | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------------|------|
| Less than 1 year | 36.7% | 3 years | 7.5% |
| 1 to 2 years | 31% | 4 years | 3% |
| 2 years | 16.3% | 5 or more years | 5.5% |



\$1,913

Average unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses during a move

\$2,920

Average financial loss over and above claims for lost and damaged items during the move

Most families reported not only having to pay excessive costs, but the financial impacts remain by incurring debt and making it difficult to build savings.

| Effect on Finances | Excessive out-of-pocket costs | Long-term negative impact | Reimbursements not enough, delayed | Spouses employment losses | Minimal financial effects |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Manifest Effect Sizes | 69.2% | 59% | 21% | 11.6% | 10.2% |

