

Supplement to:

Fomby, Paula, Patricia van Hissenhoven Flórez. 2026.  
“Fathers’ Military Service and Children’s College At-  
tainment” Sociological Science 13: 441-475.

Online Supplement (Appendix) to "Fathers' Military Service and Children's College Attainment," *Sociological Science*

Paula Fomby, *University of Pennsylvania*

Patricia van Hissenhoven-Flórez, *University of Pennsylvania*

March 2026

Contents: Appendix Tables A1, A2, and A3.

Table A1. Conditional average marginal effect of father's military service on children's college completion moderated by family background characteristics, US Panel Study of Income Dynamics, 1968-2023

	<b>Black father-child pairs</b>	<b>White father-child pairs</b>
<b>Father's background</b>		
Raised in rural area		
No	0.128+ (0.051)	-0.013 (0.025)
Yes	0.081 (0.081)	0.003 (0.036)
Raised in US South		
No	0.113 (0.070)	-0.003 (0.024)
Yes	0.119+ (0.054)	-0.023 (0.036)
Either parent finished high school		
No	0.217* (0.082)	0.029 (0.035)
Yes	0.067 (0.055)	-0.029 (0.025)
Raised in poor family		
No	0.164+ (0.071)	-0.013 (0.026)
Yes	0.057 (0.047)	-0.004 (0.030)
Joint Wald test for all moderators	$F=1.32$ ( $p=0.26$ )	$F=0.65$ ( $p=0.629$ )
N	2,653	5,155

Notes: Model covariates include control variables, father's military service, father's background, state-year characteristics at age 16, and interactions between father's background and military service.

\*  $p < 0.01$ , +  $p < 0.05$

Table A2. Average predicted probability of adult children's college attainment and average marginal effect of father's active-duty military service, US Panel Study of Income Dynamics, 1968-2023

	Black father-child pairs		White father-child pairs	
	Baseline	Full	Baseline	Full <sup>a</sup>
<b>Active-duty service</b>				
Father never in active-duty service	0.225 (0.020)	0.234 (0.018)	0.485 (0.014)	0.486 (0.013)
Father ever in active-duty service	0.357 (0.051)	0.331 (0.037)	0.486 (0.017)	0.485 (0.015)
Average marginal effect (AME)	0.132+ (0.054)	0.098+ (0.040)	0.001 (0.024)	-0.001 (0.022)
N	1,840	1,840	4,260	4,260
AME, children with father ever in service	0.125+ (0.052)	0.094+ (0.037)	0.001 (0.024)	-0.001 (0.023)
N (father ever in active-duty service)	528	528	1,683	1,683
<b>Broad definition of military service</b>				
Father never in service	0.229 (0.022)	0.242 (0.019)	0.487 (0.015)	0.483 (0.014)
Father ever in service	0.330 (0.048)	0.299 (0.034)	0.484 (0.016)	0.489 (0.014)
Average marginal effect (AME)	0.102 (0.054)	0.057 (0.039)	-0.004 (0.024)	0.006 (0.022)
N	1,840	1,840	4,260	4,260
AME, children with father ever in service	0.097 (0.051)	0.056 (0.038)	-0.004 (0.024)	0.006 (0.023)
N (father ever in service, broad definition)	589	589	1,836	1,836

Notes: Baseline model covariates include control variables, father's background, and state-year characteristics at age 16. Full model adds mediators shown in Table 4. Predicted probabilities are averaged over the observed covariate distribution within race.

<sup>a</sup> "No spouse or partner" combined with "Spouse or partner present, no college degree" due to perfect prediction (N=10).

\*  $p < 0.01$ , +  $p < 0.05$

Table A3. Average predicted probability of adult children's college attainment and average marginal effect of father's military service entry before, during, or after misnormed AFQT period, fathers born after 1945, US Panel Study of Income Dynamics, 1968-2023

	Black father-child pairs		White father-child pairs	
	Baseline	Full	Baseline	Full <sup>a</sup>
<b>Average predicted probability</b>				
Father never in service	0.258 (0.026)	0.261 (0.022)	0.538 (0.014)	0.537 (0.013)
Father enlisted before 1977	0.360 (0.055)	0.336 (0.049)	0.501 (0.033)	0.506 (0.030)
Father enlisted 1977-80	0.417 (0.109)	0.470 (0.095)	0.519 (0.078)	0.571 (0.070)
Father enlisted after 1980	0.410 (0.102)	0.404 (0.078)	0.563 (0.091)	0.530 (0.093)
<b>Average marginal effect (vs. enlisted 1977-80)</b>				
Father never in service	-0.160 (0.110)	-0.209+ (0.095)	0.019 (0.079)	-0.035 (0.070)
Father enlisted before 1977	-0.057 (0.122)	-0.134 (0.105)	-0.018 (0.087)	-0.065 (0.078)
Father enlisted after 1980	-0.007 (0.146)	-0.066 (0.121)	0.044 (0.119)	-0.041 (0.116)
N	1,104	1,104	2,376	2,376

Notes: Baseline model includes covariates for control variables and father's background, and state-year characteristics at age 16. Full model adds mediators shown in Table 4. Predicted probabilities are averaged over the observed covariate distribution within race.

<sup>a</sup> "No spouse or partner" combined with "Spouse or partner present, no college degree" due to perfect prediction (N=2).

\*  $p < 0.01$ , +  $p < 0.05$