

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Demographics Report, which was prepared for the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), presents a synthesis of demographic information describing members and families in the military community in fiscal year 2006¹. Active Duty service branches include DoD's Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force; and the Reserve Components include DoD's Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Coast Guard Reserve.

Overview of Military Personnel

The total number of military personnel is over 3.5 million strong, including Active Duty military personnel (1,372,669); DHS's Active Duty Coast Guard members (39,980); DoD Ready Reserve and DHS Coast Guard Reserve members (1,101,565); and DoD appropriated and non-appropriated-fund civilian personnel (810,703). DoD's Active Duty and DHS's Coast Guard Active Duty members comprise the largest portion of the military force (39.8%), supplemented by Ready Reserve members (31.1%) and DoD civilian personnel (22.9%).

Active Duty: Member and Family Highlights

Service Branches. The Army has the largest number of Active Duty members (502,790) followed by the Navy (345,098), the Air Force (344,529) and the Marine Corps (180,252). There are also 39,980 Active Duty members of the DHS's Coast Guard. At a total of 1,372,669 DoD Active Duty service members, the military force of 2006 is 32.4 percent smaller than it was in 1990 (when there were 2,029,300 Active Duty members). In the past sixteen years, the number of DoD Active Duty members in each service branch has declined by as little as 8.2 percent in the Marine Corps to as much as 39.9 percent in the Navy. The Active Duty decline from 1990 to 2006 in the Army and Air Force is 31.0 percent and 35.1 percent, respectively.

Ratio of Ranks. The Active Duty force has one officer for every 5.1 enlisted personnel. In comparison, the Air Force has one officer for every 3.9 enlisted personnel, the Army has one officer for every 5.1 enlisted personnel, the Navy has one officer for every 5.6 enlisted personnel, and the Marine Corps has one officer for every 8.5 personnel.

Women. Women comprise 199,545 or 14.5 percent of the DoD Active Duty force. The percent of women in the Active Duty population is greater in 2006 than it was in 1990 (from 11.5% of officers and 10.9% of enlisted in 1990, to 15.3% of officers and 14.4% of enlisted members in 2006). Overall, the number and ratio of female officers (34,200) to female enlisted (165,345) is one female officer for every 4.8 female enlisted members. This ratio varies across the military Services with the Air Force having one female officer for every 4.3 female enlisted personnel, the Army having one female officer for every 4.6 female enlisted personnel, the Navy having one female officer for every 5.5 female enlisted personnel, and the Marine Corps having one female officer for every 9.2 female enlisted personnel.

Racial Minorities. Over one-third (36.6%) or 502,650 of Active Duty members identify themselves as a minority (i.e., African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Alaska Native, Asian American, Pacific Islander, or multi-racial). Similar to the trend with women, the percent of Active Duty members who identify themselves as a minority is greater in 2006 than it was in 1990 (from 9.1% of officers and 28.2% of enlisted in 1990, to 23.4% of officers and 39.2% of enlisted members in 2006). The overall ratio of minority officers (52,395) to minority

¹ Where available, the Demographics Report also provides data for fiscal years 1990, 1995, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005 to denote trends.

enlisted personnel (450,255) is one minority officer for every 8.6 minority enlisted personnel. This ratio varies across the military Services with the Air Force having one minority officer for every 6.0 minority enlisted personnel, the Army having one minority officer for every 7.4 minority enlisted personnel, the Navy having one minority officer for every 12.6 minority enlisted personnel, and the Marine Corps having one minority officer for every 12.7 minority enlisted personnel.

Geographic Location. While the Active Duty population is located throughout the world, the three primary areas in which Active Duty members are assigned are the United States and its territories (84.8%), Europe (7.0%) and East Asia (5.8%). The ten states with the highest Active Duty military populations are California (150,411), Virginia (135,261), Texas (120,988), North Carolina (96,294), Georgia (68,700), Florida (62,575), Washington (54,542), Hawaii (43,828), Kentucky (38,714), and South Carolina (38,263).

Age. Almost one fourth (23.9%) of Active Duty officers are 41 years of age or older, with the next largest age group being 26- to 30-year-olds (21.4%), followed by 31- to 35-year-olds (21.2%), 36- to 40-year-olds (19.8%), and those 25 years old or younger (13.8%). More than one half (52.9%) of Active Duty enlisted personnel are 25 years old or younger, with the next largest age group being 26- to 30-year-olds (19.4%), followed by 31- to 35-year-olds (12.3%), 36- to 40-year-olds (9.7%) and those 41 years old or older (5.8%). Overall, the average age of the Active Duty force is 28.3. The average age for Active Duty officers is 34.6, and the average age for enlisted personnel is 27.1.

Education Level. The majority (86.0%) of officers have a Bachelor's or higher degree. Few (3.8%) enlisted members have a Bachelor's or higher degree, while most (93.7%) have a high school diploma and/or some college experience. In the past sixteen years, the percent of Active Duty members who have a Bachelor's and/or an advanced degree has decreased for officers (from 89.6% in 1990, to 86.0% in 2006) but has increased for enlisted (from 2.5% in 1990, to 3.8% in 2006).

Marital Status. Just over half (55.0%) of Active Duty military members are married, which is lower than the percent that were married in 1990 (57.2%). A majority (70.6%) of officers and over half (51.9%) of enlisted personnel report themselves as married. In addition, 6.8 percent of DoD's Active Duty members are in dual-military marriages². The Air Force has 12.8 percent of military members in dual-military marriages, the Navy has 5.5 percent, the Army has 4.8 percent, and the Marine Corps has 3.8 percent of military members in dual-military marriages. A small percentage of officer (1.9%) and enlisted personnel (3.7%) report that they received a divorce during the 2006 fiscal year.

Spouses, Children and Adult Dependents. There are fewer Active Duty members (1,372,669) than their associated family members (1,865,147). Over one-third (37.8%) of Active Duty members are married with children and 5.2 percent are single parents. The largest group of children is between birth and 5 years old (473,703). The next largest groups are between the ages of 6 and 11 years old (371,916) and between the ages of 12 and 18 years old (283,869). Substantially fewer children are between the ages of 19 and 23 years old (45,967). There are 8,270 adult dependents ages 23 and older among the families of Active Duty members.

² Dual military marriages refer to a military member in one Service being married to a military member in the same or different Service.

Reserve and Guard: (Selected Reserve) Member and Family Highlights

Reserve Component. The data pertaining to Reserve and Guard members depicts the Selected Reserve only, unless otherwise specified. The introduction to Section IV describes the composition of the Reserve forces of the United States, and explains why most data displays are limited to Selected Reserve personnel. The Reserve and Guard Force consists of 833,930 members and seven components. The Army National Guard (346,288) and Army Reserve (189,975) have the largest number of Selected Reserve members, followed by the Air National Guard (105,658), the Air Force Reserve (74,075), the Navy Reserve (70,500), the Marine Corps Reserve (39,489) and the DHS's Coast Guard Reserve (7,945). As the number of members in the Active Duty force has declined in the past sixteen years, the overall number of members in the Selected Reserve—when compared to 1990—has also decreased. The Reserve force is 28.4 percent smaller than it was in 1990 (when there were 1,165,336 Reservists).

Ratio of Ranks. The Selected Reserve is composed of 14.9 percent officer (124,420) and 85.1 percent enlisted personnel (709,510). Overall, there is one officer for every 5.7 enlisted personnel. This ratio varies across the Selected Reserve, with the Air Force Reserve and Navy Reserve having one officer for every 3.4 enlisted personnel, the Army Reserve having one officer for every 4.2 enlisted personnel, the Coast Guard Reserve having one officer for every 5.1 enlisted personnel, the Air National Guard having one officer for every 6.7 enlisted personnel, the Army National Guard having one officer for every 8.4 enlisted personnel, and the Marine Corps Reserve having one officer for every 11.1 enlisted personnel.

Women. Women comprise 144,828 or 17.4 percent of the Selected Reserve force. The percent of women in the Selected Reserve has continuously increased over the past sixteen years (from 14.4% of officers and 12.8% of enlisted in 1990, to 17.8% of officers and 17.3% of enlisted in 2006). Overall, the ratio of female officers (22,193) to female enlisted (122,635) is one female officer for every 5.5 female enlisted members. This ratio varies widely across the Selected Reserve with the Air Force Reserve having one female officer for every 3.1 female enlisted personnel, the Coast Guard Reserve having one female officer for every 3.7 female enlisted personnel, the Army Reserve having one female officer for every 4.1 female enlisted personnel, the Navy Reserve having one female officer for every 4.6 female enlisted personnel, the Air National Guard having one female officer for every 7.5 female enlisted personnel, the Marine Corps Reserve having one female officer for every 8.9 female enlisted personnel, and the Army National Guard having one female officer for every 10.5 female enlisted personnel.

Racial Minorities. Almost one-third (30.3% or 252,623) of the Selected Reserve identifies themselves as a minority (i.e., African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Alaska Native, Asian American, Pacific Islander, or multi-racial). The Selected Reserve is composed of 26,201 minority officers and 226,422 minority enlisted personnel, with one minority officer for every 8.6 minority enlisted personnel. This ratio varies widely across the Reserve Components, with the Coast Guard Reserve having one minority officer for every 4.9 minority enlisted personnel, the Navy Reserve having one minority officer for every 5.7 minority enlisted personnel, the Army Reserve having one minority officer for every 6.4 minority enlisted personnel, the Air Force Reserve having one minority officer for every 7.1 minority enlisted personnel, the Air National Guard having one minority officer for every 10.6 minority enlisted personnel, the Army National Guard having one minority officer for every 13.7 minority enlisted personnel, and the Marine Corps Reserve having one minority officer for every 18.4 minority enlisted personnel. The overall minority representation in the Selected Reserve has increased from 12.3 percent officers and 24.0 percent enlisted personnel in 1990 to 21.1 percent officers and 31.9 percent enlisted personnel in 2006.

Geographic Location. The majority (826,030 or 99.1%) of the Selected Reserve is located throughout the United States and its territories. The ten states with the highest Selected Reserve population are California (57,066), Texas (50,852), Pennsylvania (35,863), Florida (34,408), New York (29,852), Ohio (27,949), Georgia (27,935), Alabama (26,170), Virginia (24,466), and Illinois (24,273), respectively.

Age. Almost half (49.5%) of Selected Reserve officers are 41 years of age or older, with the next largest age group being 36- to 40-year-olds (24.2%), followed by 31- to 35-year-olds (14.8%), 26- to 30-year-olds (8.0%), and those 25 years old or younger (3.6%). More than one third (37.9%) of Active Duty enlisted personnel are 25 years old or younger, with the next largest age group being 41 years old or older (21.1%), followed by 26- to 30-year-olds (15.4%), 36- to 40-year-olds (13.4%), and those 31 to 35 years old (12.2%).

Education Level. The majority (85.7%) of Selected Reserve officers have a Bachelor's or higher degree. Most enlisted members (86.0%) have a high school diploma and/or some college experience, and 7.6 percent of enlisted members have a Bachelor's degree or higher. In the past sixteen years, the percentage of Selected Reserve who have a Bachelor's and/or advanced degree has increased for both officers (from 72.0% in 1990 to 85.7% in 2006) and enlisted personnel (from 6.7% in 1990 to 7.6% in 2006).

Marital Status. Just under half (49.8%) of the Selected Reserve is married as compared to 53.0 percent in 1990 who were married. For 2006, 37.8 percent of Selected Reserve females and 52.3 percent of Selected Reserve males are married. About three-fourths (73.0%) of Selected Reserve officers and 45.7 percent of Selected Reserve enlisted personnel report themselves as married. In addition, 2.6 percent of the Selected Reserve report that they are in a dual-military marriage. A small percentage of Selected Reserve officers (2.4%) and enlisted personnel (2.4%) report that they received a divorce sometime during the 2006 fiscal year.

Spouses, Children and Adult Dependents. There are fewer Selected Reserve members (833,930) than their associated family members (1,123,389). Just over one-third of the Selected Reserve (34.0%) is married with children and 8.2 percent are single parents. The largest group of children is between the ages of 6 and 14 years (332,353), and the next largest groups are between birth and 5 years (174,648), and 15 through 18 years (127,011). The smallest group of children is between the ages of 19 and 22 years (79,284). In addition, there are 3,722 adult dependents 22 years and older claimed as dependents by Selected Reserve members.

Active Duty and Reserve and Guard Summary Table

As a summary, the table below presents information for the Active Duty and the Reserve and Guard on a number of key demographic variables.

Demographic Variable	Active Duty	Reserve and Guard (Selected Reserve)
MEMBERS		
Total Number	1,372,669	833,930
Ratio of officers to enlisted	1 to 5.1	1 to 5.7
% women	14.5%	17.4%
% minorities	36.6%	30.3%
% located in U.S.	84.8%	99.1%
% 25 years old or younger	46.5%	32.8%
% with bachelor's degree or higher	17.2%	19.2%
% married	55.0%	49.8%
% in dual-military marriages	6.8%	2.6%
Number of separations	201,494	151,878
Retired personnel	1,529,397	637,262
FAMILIES		
Number of family members	1,865,147	1,123,398
Number of spouses	681,422	407,164
% with children	43.0%	42.2%
Average age at birth of 1 st child	24.8	27.4
Number of adult dependents	8,270	3,722
% of children age 0 to 5	40.3%	24.5%
% single parents	5.2%	8.2%