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DEPARTMENT OF WAR ANNOUNCES RECRUITING AND RETENTION NUMBERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 – THRU MAY 2026

Today, the Department of War (DoW) announced recruiting and retention statistics for the Active and Reserve Components through end of May 2026.

The Military Services are postured to meet their FY 2026 active component accession goals at the end of the third quarter.

- **Active Components.**

- **Recruiting.** The Services data below represents cumulative fiscal year to date (FYTD) goals and accessions/gains through end of month (EOM) May 2026.

- Army Accessions: Goal 40,350; Attained: 41,770 (103.52 percent/+1,420)
 - Navy Accessions: Goal 28,203; Attained: 27,723 (98.30 percent/-480).
 - Marine Corps Accessions: Goal 12,151; Attained: 12,367 (101.78 percent/+216).
 - Air Force Accessions: Goal 20,926; Attained: 20,930 (100.02 percent/+4).
 - Space Force Accessions: Goal 491; Attained: 508 (103.46 percent/+17).

- **Quality.** All the Services' Active Components except Army met their DoW AFQT benchmarks through EOM May 2026.

- **Retention.** The Department's Active Component retention zones continue to improve each month, particularly across the mid-career and career zones. To further enhance retention in the initial zones and beyond, the Services have taken necessary steps to promote continued service. The Army is focusing on filling critical specialties and hard-to-fill positions through force structure rebalancing and by reskilling qualified Soldiers from over-strength career fields into those with critical shortages. The Navy and Marine Corps continue to exceed their Mission Year-To-Date goals, with the Marine Corps on track to surpass their overall goal early this FY. The Air Force and Space Force are pursuing aggressive growth and have set ambitious retention goals. The Air Force is maintaining retention rates between 85% (initial) and 90% (mid-career). The Space Force anticipates an increase in Guardian reenlistments over the next four months following the release of its Selective Retention Bonus.

- **Reserve Components.**

- **Recruiting.** The data below represents the Reserve Components' cumulative FYTD goals and accessions/gains through EOM May 2026.

- Army Reserve Gains: Goal 9,576; Attained: 9,264 (96.74 percent/-312)
 - Army National Guard: Goal 27,354; Attained: 27,963 (102.23 percent/+609)
 - Navy Reserve Gains: Goal 4,153; Attained: 4,430 (106.67 percent/+277).
 - Marine Corps Reserve Gains: Goal 4,471; Attained: 4,803 (107.43 percent/+332).
 - Air National Guard Gains: Goal 6,519; Attained: 6,098 (93.54 percent/-421).
 - Air Force Reserve Gains: Goal 4,404; Attained: 3,831 (86.99 percent/-573).

- **Quality.** All the Reserve Components met DoW quality benchmarks except Army Reserve and Army National Guard through EOM May 2026.

Detailed information on specific recruiting data can be obtained by contacting the individual military recruiting commands at 502-626-0164 for Army, 210-565-4678 for Air Force and Space Force, 703-784-9454 for Marine Corps, and 901-874-9048 for Navy. The Reserve Components can be reached at the following numbers: National Guard Bureau 703-607-2586, Army Reserve 910-570-8330, Air Force Reserve 703-697-1761, Navy Reserve 757-322-5652, and Marine Corps Reserve 504-678-6535.

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