DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ANNOUNCES RECRUITING AND RETENTION NUMBERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

The Department of Defense (DoD) today announced recruiting and retention statistics for the Active and Reserve Components through the sixth month of fiscal year 2020 [March 31, 2020].

- Pandemic’s Impact.
  - Data through March shows the Services’ recruiting efforts were beginning to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These impacts are expected to become more pronounced as the pandemic continues. The Department and the Services continue to make adjustments in response to the rapidly changing recruiting environment. Foremost, in making these adjustments is the safety and well-being of Service members, their families, and potential recruits. Collectively, these efforts ensure we man the force while maintaining the right balance of protecting our people and protecting America.

- Active Component.
  - Recruiting. The data below represents the Services’ cumulative monthly goals and monthly accessions/gains for fiscal year 2020, through March 2020.
    - Army Accessions: Goal 26,940; Attained 27,346 (101.51 percent/+406).
    - Navy Accessions: Goal 19,233; Attained 18,333 (95.32 percent/-900).
    - Marine Corps Accessions: Goal 12,986; Attained 12,994 (100.06 percent/+8).
    - Air Force Accessions: Goal 14,858; Attained 14,301 (96.25 percent/-557).
  - Quality. All Active Components met or exceeded the DoD quality benchmarks.
  - Retention. All Services exhibited strong retention in the month of March.

- Reserve Component.
  - Recruiting. The Service data below represents the Reserve Components’ cumulative monthly goals and monthly accessions/gains through the sixth month of fiscal year 2020, March 2020.
    - Army NG Gains: Goal 23,150; Attained 21,741 (93.91 percent/-1409).
    - Army Reserve Gains: Goal 7,497; Attained 7,732 (103.13 percent/+235).
    - Navy Reserve Gains: Goal 3,088; Attained 3,006 (97.34 percent/-82).
    - Marine Corps Reserve Gains: Goal 3,781; Attained 4,331 (114.55 percent/+550).
    - Air NG Gains: Goal 4,947; Attained 4,654 (94.08 percent/-293).
    - Air Force Reserve Gains: Goal 3,581; Attained 3,581 (100.00 percent/+0).
  - Quality. All Reserve Components except Army NG met or exceeded the DoD quality benchmarks.
  - Attrition. The Reserve Components year-to-date attrition percentages were at or slightly above planned target levels for February fiscal year 2020. The Reserve Components project to meet annual attrition targets in fiscal year 2020 (data lags by one month).
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, 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.