

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ANNOUNCES RECRUITING AND RETENTION  
NUMBERS FISCAL YEAR 2024 – THRU DECEMBER 2023**

Today, the Department of Defense (DoD) announced recruiting and retention statistics for the Active and Reserve Components through end of month December 2023.

**Recruiting Market.** The recruiting market remains challenging in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. The Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force Active Components achieved their fiscal-year-to-date (FYTD) recruiting missions through December 2023; Army was short 2,109; Navy 2,924. Of the Reserve Components, only Marine Corps Reserve achieved its FYTD recruiting mission. The Department continues to work collaboratively with the Services to develop new strategies to address recruiting challenges.

- **Active Component.**
  - **Recruiting.** The data below represents the Services' cumulative goals and accessions/gain through end of month December.
    - Army Accessions: Goal: 8,200; Attained 6,091 (74.28 percent/-2,109).
    - Navy Accessions: Goal 8,316; Attained 5,392 (64.84 percent/-2,924).
    - Marine Corps Accession: Goal 2,088; Attained 2,204 (105.56 percent/+116).
    - Air Force Accessions: Goal 6,249 Attained 6,379 (102.08 percent/+130).
    - Space Force Accessions: Goal 110; Attained 110 (100.00 percent/0).
  - **Quality.** Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force were the only Active components to meet or exceeded the DoD quality benchmarks through end of month December 2023.
  - **Retention.** All Services displayed strong retention in the third month of the fiscal year. The Space Force, despite falling short of its goals in the initial and mid-career zones, successfully met its target for careerists. Each Service has specific skill challenges and priorities in different technical specialties, which they are addressing using various monetary and non-monetary incentives.
- **Reserve Component.**
  - **Recruiting.** The data below represents the Reserve Components' cumulative goals and accessions/gains through end of month December.
    - Army NG Gains: Goal 9,167; Attained 8,850 (96.54 percent/-317).
    - Army Reserve Gains: Goal 3,483; Attained 2,452 (70.40 percent/-1,031).
    - Navy Reserve Gains: Goal 1,821; Attained 1,465 (80.45 percent/-356).
    - Marine Corps Reserve Gains: Goal 1,092; Attained 1,807 (165.48 percent/+715)
    - Air NG Gains: Goal 2,058; Attained 1,628 (79.11 percent/-430).
    - Air Force Reserve Gains: Goal 1,407; Attained 1,337 (95.02 percent/-70).
  - **Quality.** Marine Corps Reserve and Air Force Reserve are the only Reserve Components to meet or exceed the DoD quality benchmarks through end of month December 2023.

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.

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