

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

No.  
703-697-5131/5132 (media)  
703-571-3343 (public inquiry)

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ANNOUNCES RECRUITING AND RETENTION NUMBERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2017**

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced today recruiting and retention statistics for the Active and Reserve Components for fiscal year (FY) 2017 through March 2017.

- **Active Component.**

- **Recruiting.** Three of the four active Services met or exceeded its fiscal year-to-date (FYTD) 2017 accession goals through March 2017. Army was short of its FYTD 2017 goal by 743.
  - Army – 27,171 accessions, with a goal of 27,914; 97.3 percent.
  - Navy – 15,028 accessions, with a goal of 15,028; 100.0 percent.
  - Marine Corps – 13,414 accessions, with a goal of 13,383; 100.2 percent.
  - Air Force – 15,105 accessions, with a goal of 15,094; 100.1 percent.
- **Quality.** The Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force met their quality goals; Army was within 1.7 percent of achieving its quality goal.
- **Retention.** The Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force exhibited strong retention numbers, meeting, or exceeding 101 percent in each category for March 2017. The Army is experiencing lower retention in the Initial (94 percent) and the Career (93 percent) categories due to challenges faced from recent increases in FY 2017 retention targets.

- **Reserve Component.**

- **Recruiting.** Four of the six Reserve Components met or exceeded its FYTD accession goals. Army National Guard and Air National Guard were short of their FYTD 2017 goal by 1,562 and 505, respectively.
  - Army National Guard – 21,014 accessions, with a goal of 22,576; 93.1 percent.
  - Army Reserve – 12,594 accessions, with a goal of 11,650; 108.1 percent.
  - Navy Reserve – 3,290 accessions, with a goal of 3,284; 100.2 percent.
  - Marine Corps Reserve – 4,029 accessions, with a goal of 3,933; 102.4 percent.
  - Air National Guard – 4,076 accessions, with a goal of 4,581; 89.0 percent.
  - Air Force Reserve – 3,506 accessions, with a goal of 3,506; 100.0 percent.
- **Quality.** The six Reserve Components met or exceeded the DoD quality benchmarks.
- **Attrition** – All six Reserve Components met their fiscal year-to-date attrition goals through January 2017. Currently, DoD allows for a 2 percent increase from the component established ceiling to be considered acceptable. (Note: This indicator lags by 1 month due to data availability).

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.