

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

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

Recruiting Market. As fiscal year (FY) 2024 begins, the Military Services continue to face a difficult recruiting market. However, at the end-of-month October 2023, only the Army and Navy Active Components missed their October recruiting goals; Army was short 1,249; Navy 739. Of the Reserve Components, only Army National Guard and Marine Corps Reserve achieved their missions in October. The Department continues to work collaboratively to develop innovative ways to inspire service and mitigate recruiting shortfalls.

- **Active Component.**
 - **Recruiting.** The data below represents the Services' cumulative goals and accessions/gain through end of month October.
 - Army Accessions: Goal: 4,100; Attained 2,851 (69.54 percent/-1,249).
 - Navy Accessions: Goal 2,346; Attained 1,607 (68.50 percent/-739).
 - Marine Corps Accession: Goal 431; 463 Attained (107.42 percent/+32).
 - Air Force Accessions: Goal 1,888 Attained 1,908 (101.06 percent/+20).
 - Space Force Accessions: Goal 3; Attained 3 (100.00 percent/0).
 - **Quality.** Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force met or exceeded the DoD recruit quality benchmarks through end of month October.
- **Retention.** All Services exhibited strong retention during FY23 and exceeded their annual retention targets. All Services have set new retention goals for FY24.
- **Reserve Component.**
 - **Recruiting.** The data below represents the Reserve Components' cumulative goals and accessions/gains through end of month October.
 - Army NG Gains: Goal 3,171; Attained 3,266 (103.00 percent/+95).
 - Army Reserve Gains: Goal 1,141; Attained 711 (62.31 percent/-430).
 - Navy Reserve Gains: Goal 588; Attained 541 (92.01 percent/-47).
 - Marine Corps Reserve Gains: Goal 443; Attained 929 (209.71 percent/+486).
 - Air NG Gains: Goal 660; Attained 485 (73.48 percent/-175).
 - Air Force Reserve Gains: Goal 464; Attained 439 (94.61 percent/-25).
 - **Quality.** Marine Corps Reserve is the only Reserve Component to meet or exceed the DoD quality benchmarks through end of month October 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.