

## Section I: Summary statistics

Fiscal year (FY) 2009 saw a continuation of significant U.S. military involvement in Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom) and Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom) and modest growth in both the AC and RC of the U.S. armed forces to support that involvement. During the year, troops were shifted from Iraq to Afghanistan as U.S. involvement in the one theater of operations began to wind down and involvement in the other intensified.

After the November 2008 election, President George W. Bush approved the deployment of an additional Army Brigade Combat Team (BCT) of approximately 9,000 troops to Afghanistan. In February 2009, 1 month after taking office, President Barack Obama approved plans to boost Afghanistan force levels by another 21,000 troops. A comprehensive Afghanistan strategy review that summer and fall by the Obama Administration resulted in a decision to deploy 30,000 more troops.<sup>1</sup> By the end of the fiscal year, troop levels in Afghanistan were approaching those in Iraq, where U.S. military involvement was drawing down from a 2007 peak of 172,000 troops.<sup>2</sup> U.S. troop levels in the Afghanistan and Iraq theaters together averaged 186,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines over the course of the year. Those troops were deployed from an FY 2009 endstrength base of 1.4 million active-duty troops and 850,000 reservists.

An FY 2009 snapshot of the AC and RC is provided in Table 1. It displays the by-service breakouts for endstrength (those currently serving) and accessions (those who were added to the ranks) during the fiscal year.

The FY 2009 AC endstrength for the U.S. armed forces totaled 1.405 million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines. That figure represented a slight increase from the DoD active-component total of 1.388 million that was contained in the FY 2008 PopRep report.<sup>3</sup> The largest of the military services in FY 2009 was the Army, which had an active-duty endstrength (enlisted plus officers plus warrant officers) of 549,015. That endstrength level for the Army represents growth of just under 10,000 soldiers from the service's endstrength of 539,675 in the FY 2008 PopRep report, and it reflects continued expansion toward an authorized endstrength of 569,000.<sup>4</sup> The Marine Corps also grew from FY 2008 to FY 2009, while the Navy and Air Force decreased in size. The growth in the Army and Marine Corps slightly more than offset the reduction in the Navy and Air Force, leading to the DoD-wide growth of roughly 2,000 troops.

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<sup>1</sup> The decision was announced by President Obama in a speech at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point on December 1, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Troop figures are taken from [1].

<sup>3</sup> The FY 2008 PopRep report is available for download at the following DoD website <http://prhome.defense.gov/MPP/ACCESSION%20POLICY/PopRep2008/index.html>.

<sup>4</sup> Secretary of Defense Robert Gates announced the decision to boost Army endstrength on July 20, 2009.

**Table 1: Endstrength and accessions for AC and RC of the U.S. military and U.S. Coast Guard, FY 2009**

Component	Enlisted personnel <sup>1</sup>		Officers		Warrant officers	
	End-strength	Accessions	End-strength	Accessions	End-strength	Accessions
<b>Active duty</b>						
Army	458,220	70,044	75,619	7,875	15,176	1,464
Navy	272,208	35,519	50,385	4,068	1,646	146
Marine Corps	182,366	31,407	18,733	1,678	1,976	265
Air Force	263,351	31,983	65,496	4,711	0	0
<b>DoD total</b>	<b>1,176,145</b>	<b>168,953</b>	<b>210,233</b>	<b>18,332</b>	<b>18,798</b>	<b>1,875</b>
<b>Reserves<sup>2</sup></b>						
ARNG	317,725	57,997	33,140	4,310	7,526	1,088
USAR	169,317	36,673	33,010	3,828	2,970	413
USNR	51,999	12,100	14,387	1,896	122	19
USMCR	34,814	9,358	3,363	942	333	60
ANG	94,870	10,006	14,326	1,198	0	0
USAFR	53,233	9,027	14,753	1,619	0	0
<b>DoD total</b>	<b>721,958</b>	<b>135,161</b>	<b>112,979</b>	<b>13,793</b>	<b>10,951</b>	<b>1,580</b>
<b>Coast Guard</b>						
Active duty	34,062	3,861	6,722	530	1,642	228
Reserves	6,301	950	1,222	151	170	22

Notes:

1. Enlisted accessions for all components include non-prior service (NPS) and prior-service (PS) accessions. The numbers reported here may differ slightly from numbers previously reported because they were compiled after the Services had completed data reconciliation.

2. The RC consists of the Army National Guard (ARNG), Army Reserve (USAR), Navy Reserve (USNR), Marine Corps Reserve (USMCR), Air National Guard (ANG), and Air Force Reserve (USAFR).

The RC also grew from FY 2008 to FY 2009. RC endstrength in FY 2009 totaled 845,888 soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines; the corresponding figure for FY 2008 (from the FY 2008 PopRep) was 838,278. The Army National Guard (ARNG) was the largest component of the reserve force. It decreased in size from FY 2008 to FY 2009, by approximately 2,000 soldiers. That reduction was more than offset by growth in the second-largest component of the reserve force, the Army Reserve (USAR), which grew by roughly 8,000 troops. None of the other four elements of the reserve force changed in size by more than 2,000 troops from FY 2008 to FY 2009.

For the Coast Guard, FY 2009 saw slight growth in the AC and a slight decrease in the size of the RC from FY 2008. The AC added 1,062 and the RC shed 277.