

U.S.ARMY



# US Army Soldier Recruitment, Assessment, and Selection Processes

Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1



## History of the All-Volunteer Army--1973-2017

## **Hard Lessons Learned**

Post-Vietnam Era 1973 – Conscription Ends – Volunteer Army:

- Requires public and political support
- Investment in a quality force = combat success
- Education completion = less attrition rates
- Quality Soldiers = cost effective, disciplined force & better performance
- Comparable pay/benefits = maintains force
- Marketing Slogan = "Be all you can be"

**Quality Soldier = Army's most valuable resource** 

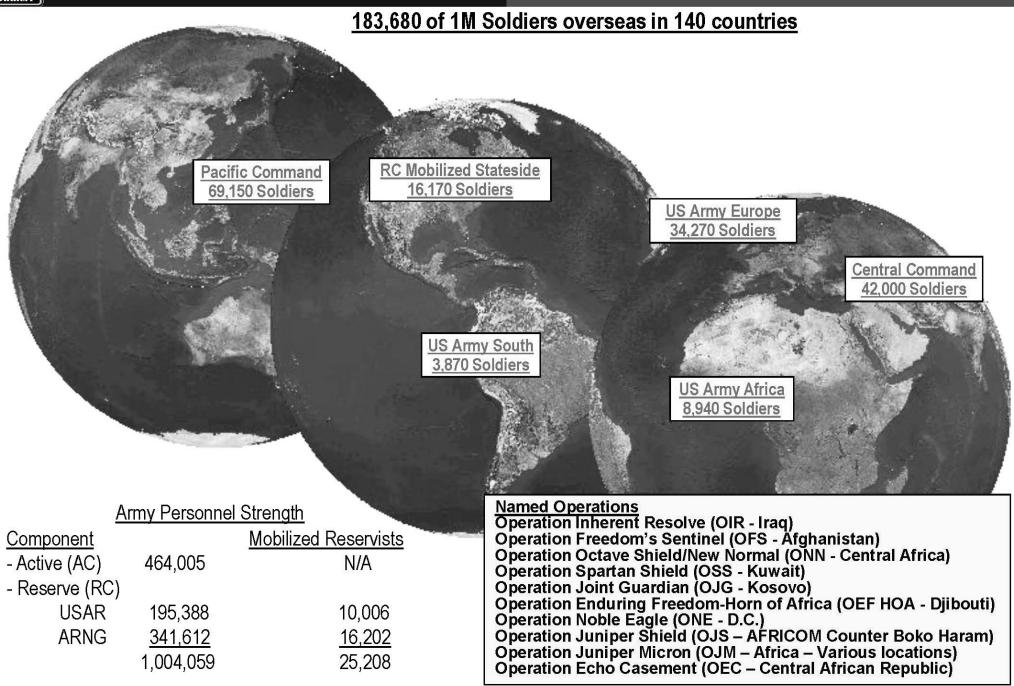




Selective Service Act: Nearly 17 Million Men 18 to 25 years old are registered (93%)



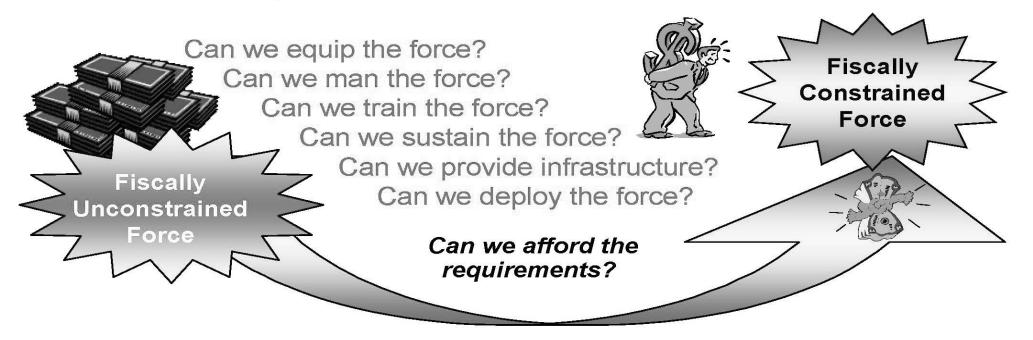
# U.S. Army Global Commitments





# Force Feasibility

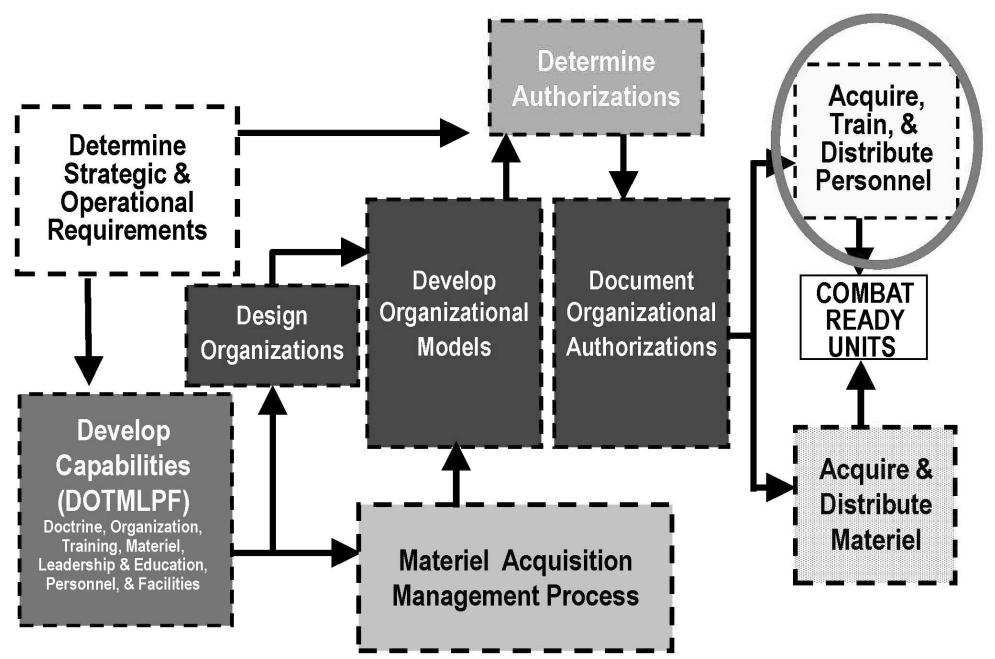
- > Design and Review of a Fiscally Unconstrained Force.
- Examine capabilities to accomplish missions by <u>determining the</u> <u>executability</u>, <u>supportability</u>, <u>and affordability</u> of the Force by answering such questions as -



**ACCEPT RISK** 



# **Army Force Management**





# **Accessions Goals**

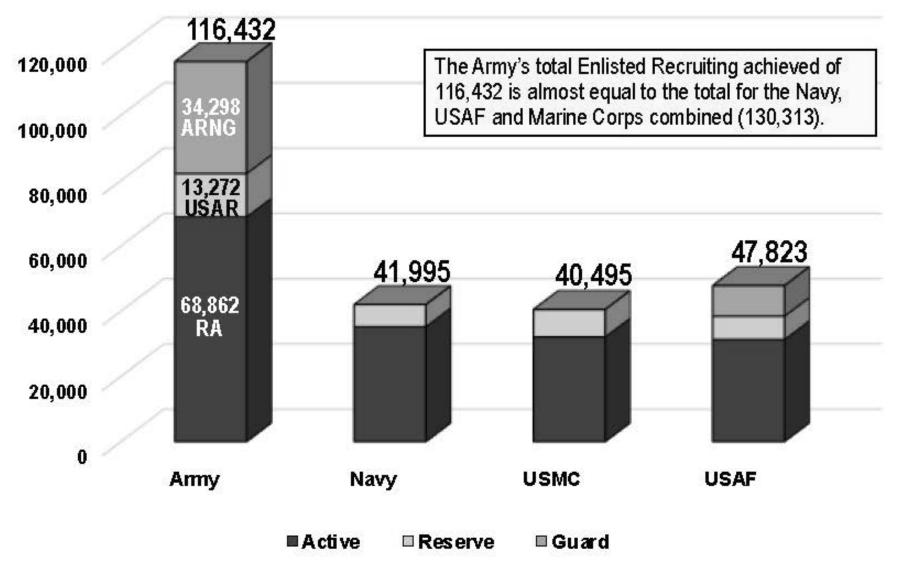
- Recruit and develop the talent, both physically and intellectually, in the quality and quantity that will support the leader base of the future force, informed by U.S. long-term demographics and trends\*
- Maintain Army End-Strength but only in the enlisted and officer specialties needed
- Resource the Army ... Build a balanced, competitive, and mission capable bench for each branch

Only about 1 in 3 new Active officers reach 20-year retirement

@1 of every 150 new Active officers reaches General Officer Rank

@70% of new Enlisted Soldiers do not go beyond their initial term









## Rank



Colonel--3,469



Lieutenant Colonel—7,690



Major—13,351



Captain--23,463



Lieutenant--11,244

TOTAL: 59,583



Sergeant Major--3,235



Master Sergeant—10,090



Sergeant First Class—34,176



Staff Sergeant—53,264



Sergeant—64,146

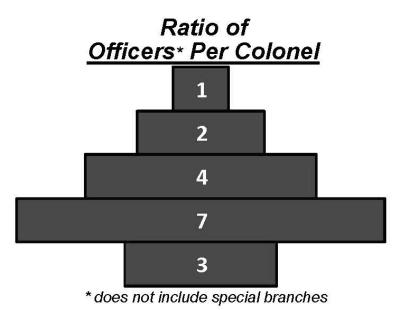


Specialist/Corporal—93,525

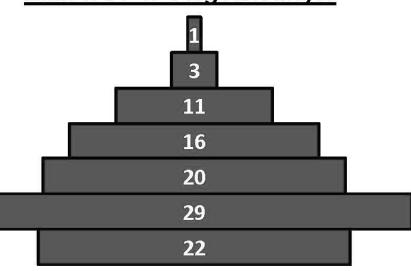


Private—69,961

TOTAL: 328,397







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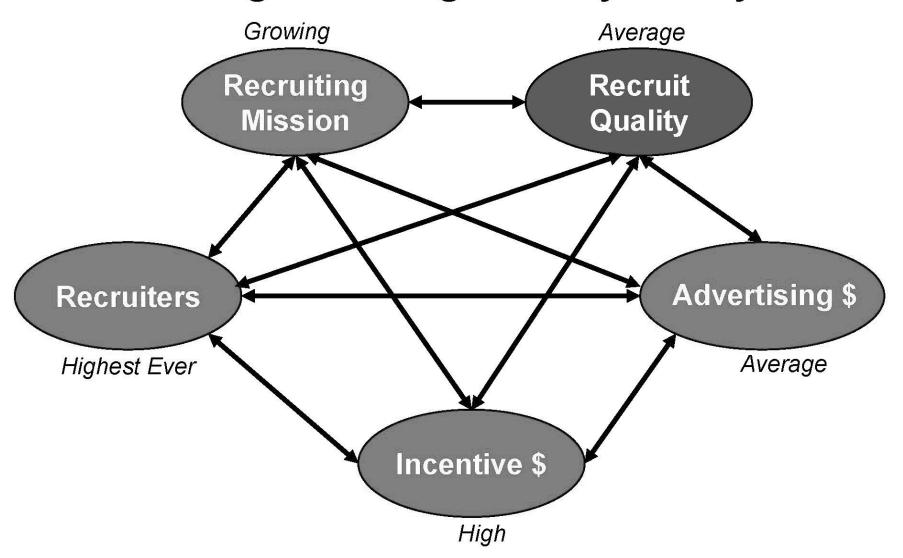


- Eligibility criteria and standards
- Age eligibility 17 to 35
- Citizenship eligibility
- Dependency eligibility
- Aptitude eligibility Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) - 60% above 50 percentile
- Education requirements over 90% must be high school graduate
- Medical eligibility weight, drug & alcohol, physical
- Conduct eligibility legal problems in past
- Other gangs, tattoos, appearance

Only two out of ten 17 to 24 year olds meet academic, physical, and conduct qualifications to serve



# **Balancing Recruiting Quantity Quality and Cost**

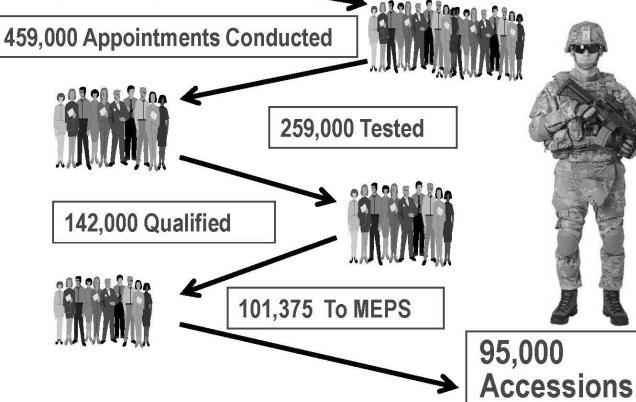








- 652,000 Appointments Made
- ➤ Recruited from 30,000 Zip Codes
- ➤ By over 8,100 Recruiters working from 1,519 Stations



Less than 2 of 10 youth are qualified to serve!

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**Current Army Accessions Footprint** Over 6,000 points of presence - Shopping Centers - College Campuses - Public Buildings - Small Towns - High Schools - Military Installations **National Guard Armories & Centers** US Military Academy (Over 4,400 Cadets) ◆ USAREC Recruiting Stations (1,300+) SROTC Host Campus (273) -**३**(Over 33K Contracted Cadets) SROTC Partners (1,243) -★ JROTC High Schools (1,645 Campuses , 280,000 Cadets)

SROTC = Senior ROTC JROTC = Junior ROTC

(Not shown: 2,500+ Army National Guard Armories & Readiness Centers)



# Market Analysis: Demographics

For every 4 Americans between the ages of 17 – 24, due to disqualifying conditions, less than 1 (23.4%) is eligible to serve in the military.



2012 US Population 17-24 year olds: 33.1 Million

Ineligible due to medical condition, criminal history or dependency (too many or single parent)

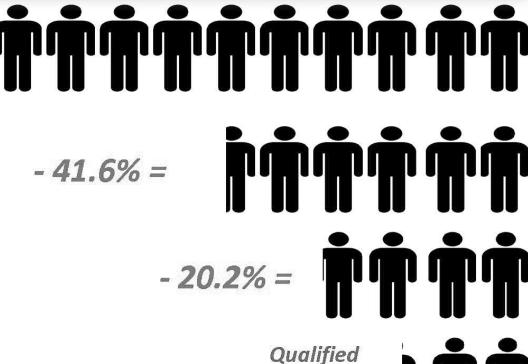


Ineligible due to lack of education credential and/or extremely low scores on ASVAB



Overweight and/or Exceed Body Fat Standards

0.4% of the population is less qualified in 2017 (mainly to overweight) compared to 2012



-14.8% = 23.4%
(7.7 Million)



- Of this fully qualified pool, 54% (4.2M) are HS Diploma Graduates who score 50 or higher on the ASVAB.
- The remainder are HS Diploma Graduates who score between 31 and 49 on the ASVAB, or non-HS Diploma Graduates who score 50 or higher on the ASVAB. Congressional statutes limit enlistments from this portion of the eligible pool.



# **Next Generation of Soldiers & Leaders**

- They were born around 1998.
- There have always been DVDs, cell phones, PCs & the Internet.
- · Few know how to write in cursive.
- Email is just too slow and they seldom if ever use regular mail.
- •The Soviet Union has never existed.
- There has always only been one Germany.
- They are wireless yet always connected.
- Smoking was never permitted on airplanes.
- DNA fingerprinting has always been admissible evidence in court.
- · Google has always been a verb.
- Text messaging is their email.
- · The Simpsons has always been on TV.

- Reality shows have always been on TV.
- They have always known that "In the criminal justice system the people have been represented by two separate yet equally important groups."
- Young women's fashions have never been concerned with where the waist is.
- The Post Office has always been going broke.
- Affluent troubled teens have always been subjects of television series.
- The US, Canada, and Mexico have always agreed to trade freely.
- Russians and Americans have always been living together in space.
- American companies have always done business in Vietnam.
- Disposable contact lenses have always been available.

Only two out of ten 17 to 24 year olds meet academic, physical, and conduct qualifications to serve



#### **APPLICATION**

## **Recruiting Process-ENLISTMENT PROCESS**

Pre Qualification Age, Physical, Prior Service, Law Violations, Education, Marital Status, Dependents

Schedule & Transport

#### **PROCESSING**

## APPLICANT TESTING

- ASVAB
- Language
- Flight Test
- Special

#### ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY (ASVAB)

#### EIGHT (8) SUBTESTS

- General Science
- · Arithmetic Reasoning
- Word Knowledge
- Paragraph Comprehension
- Auto and Shop Information
- Mathematical Knowledge
- Mechanical Comprehension
- Electronic Information

= Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) Score Eligible to Apply AFQT Ranges

From

1-99

50+ is

BEST

31-49

Is Limited

26-30 Very Limited

#### ARMY LINE SCORES

- CL Clerical
- CO Combat
- EL Electronics
- FA Field Artillery
- GM General Maintenance
- GT General Technical
- MM Mechanical Maintenance
- OF Operations and Food
- SC- Surveillance & Communication
- ST Skilled Technical

Military Occupation Specialty Qualification

#### **MEDICAL PROCESSING**

FULL PHYSICAL EXAM

Height Weight Hearing / Vision Test Urine / Blood Tests Drug / Alcohol Test Muscle / Joint Movement

Medical Officer Interview

Consults If Required



# **Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)**

## **Subtests**

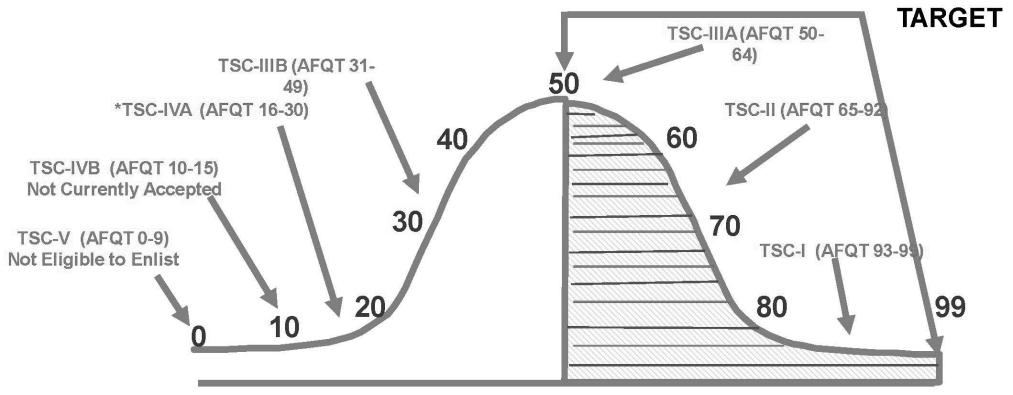
Subtest	Min- utes	Ques- tions	Description	
General Science	11	25	Measures knowledge of physical and biological sciences	
Arithmetic Reasoning	36	30	Measures ability to solve arithmetic word problems	
Word Knowledge	11	25	Measures ability to select the correct meaning of words presented in context, and identify synonyms	
Paragraph Comprehension	13	15	Measures ability to obtain information from written material	
Auto and Shop Information	11	25	Measures knowledge of automobiles, tools, and shop terminology and practices	
Mathematics Knowledge	11	35	Measures knowledge of high school mathematics principles	
Mechanical Comprehension	19	25	Measures knowledge of mechanical and physical principles, and ability to visualize how illustrated objects work	
Electronics Information	9	20	Tests knowledge of electricity and electronics	

Total number of items: 200



# Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT)

## Nationally normed against 1980 test of sample population

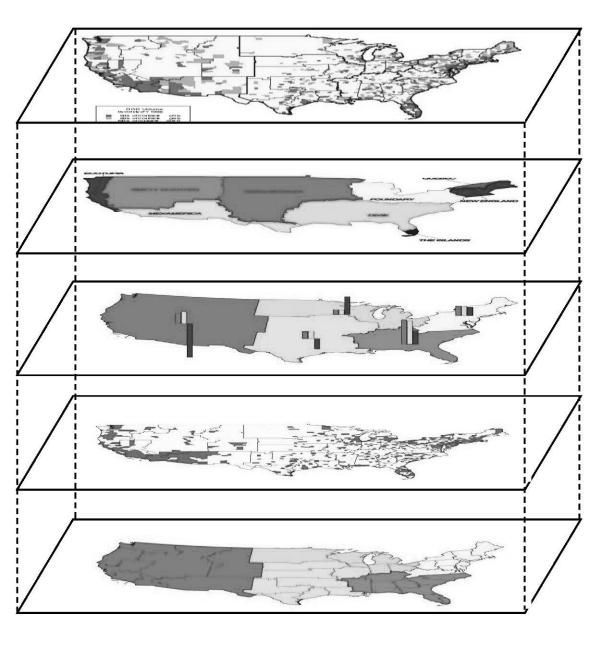


\*MINIMUM CURRENT ENLISTMENT REQUIREMENT TSC-IVA (AFQT 26-30)

**Armed Forces Qualification Test = 2VE+MK+AR** 



# **Market Analysis**



- Demographic Analysis
  - Population
  - Qualified Military Available
- Production History
  - How have the services recruited in these areas
  - Indicates future potential
- Socio-Political Analysis
  - Cultural attitudes
  - Attitudes toward military
- Economic Analysis
  - Competition from local economy
  - Opportunities to do something different

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# **Recruiting Process**

#### PRIMARY RECRUITING METHODS

GMail

#### TELEPHONE



#### VIRTUAL



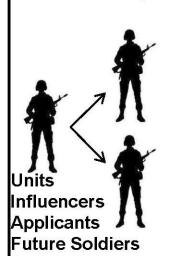
#### **FACE-TO-FACE**



School, Community, Events

#### LEAD GENERATION SUPPORT

#### REFERRALS



#### AREA CANVASSING

"Community Relationships"

- -Influencer Development
- -Business Owners
- -Massing Locations

#### EVENTS



State Fair - Chicago Auto Show All American Bowl - NASCAR **Educator Tour – Influencer Events** 

#### **ADVERTISEMENT**

**Television** Radio Print



# Messaging Targeted To Primary Segments On Multiple Platforms

- TV
- Print
- Radio
- Online
- Social Networking
- Direct Mail/E-mail







# Target Audiences

- Prospects: Youth Ages 17-24 with emphasis on segments that emerge from on-going research
- Influencers: Adults 35-54 (with emphasis on parents) who are the primary influencers of the target youth
- External Audience (other influencers): Community and organization members who also influence our target youth
- Internal Audience: Those presently serving in the Army with emphasis on recruiters



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# Why Are Enlistment Waivers Necessary?

## Changes in society

- 14% increase in prime market arrests
- Law changes such as raising drinking age to 21 and lowering the DUI alcohol thresholds led to more arrests
- Increased rates of drug use
- Increased rates of diagnosis for conditions like asthma

## Changes in procedures

- New diagnosis criteria for conditions like Attention Deficit Disorder and new treatments like Ritalin, LASIK, and orthopedic hardware
- Improved waiver processes with automation increased the viability of timely waiver success led Recruiters to submit more requests
- Improved detection of illicit drug use
- Accuracy of electronic background checks
- Systems updates eliminated under-reporting of multiple waivers



# Occupational Physical Assessment Test (OPAT)

OPAT E	vents	Physical Domain	Representative Tasks
Standing Long Jump	ELE TE	Lower Body Power	<ul><li>Move under direct fire</li><li>Repetitive lift and carry</li></ul>
Seated Power Throw		Upper Body Strength	<ul> <li>Dragging casualty to safety</li> <li>Loading main gun</li> <li>Repetitive lift and carry</li> </ul>
Strength Deadlift		Lower Body Strength	<ul><li>Evacuate a casualty from a vehicle</li><li>Loading ammunition</li></ul>
Interval Aerobic Run		Aerobic Capacity	<ul><li>Move under direct fire</li><li>Foot march</li></ul>



# Tailored Adaptive Personality Assessment System (TAPAS) Historically screened out @8% of low-motivated Tier 2 and Tier 1-Cat IV applicants

## • 21 dimensions including:

Achievement

Order

Dominance

Physical conditioning

Even tempered

- Selflessness
- Intellectual efficiency
- Sociability

Optimism

- Tolerance
- Paired forced-choice self-descriptors
- Computer-adaptive test delivered at Military Entrance Processing Stations
- TAPAS provides three scores for each applicant
- 6- Month Attrition

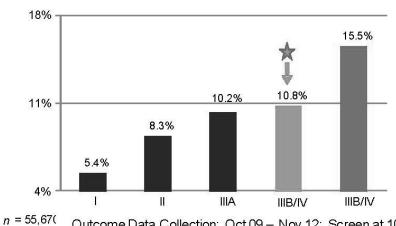
- "Can do" technical proficiency § predicts job knowledge, AİT grades training graduation rates
- "Will do" motivation § predicts APFT scores, job effort, disciplinary incidents
- "Persistence" continuance § predicts attrition



#### Which of these statements is most like you?

- I am not one to volunteer to be group leader, but would serve if asked.
- My life has had about an equal share of ups and downs.

Note: Forced choice measures provide no obvious best/worst answer options.



Outcome Data Collection: Oct 09 - Nov 12: Screen at 10th Percentile \* Lowest scoring CATIIIB/IV applicants screened out





# Officer Accession to First Unit (Active Army)

## **Basic Officer Leader** Course (BOLC)

#### **BOLC A** Source of Commission

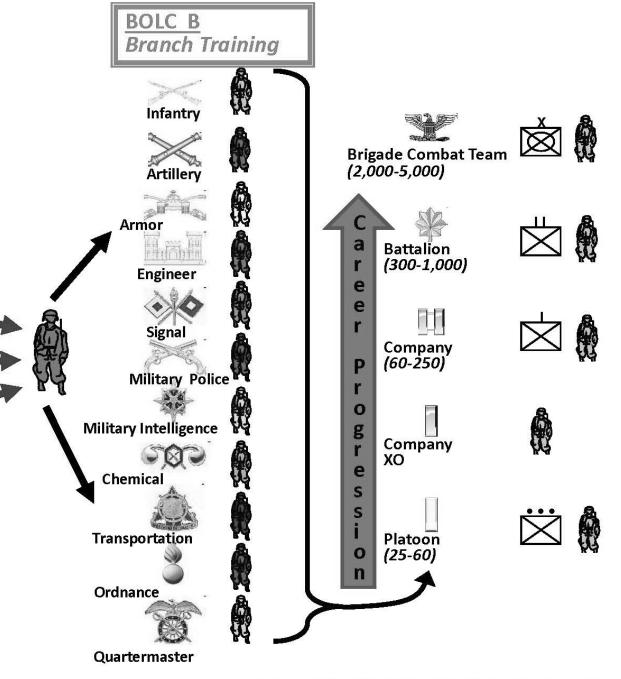
US Military Academy (USMA)

Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC)

Officer Candidate School (OCS)

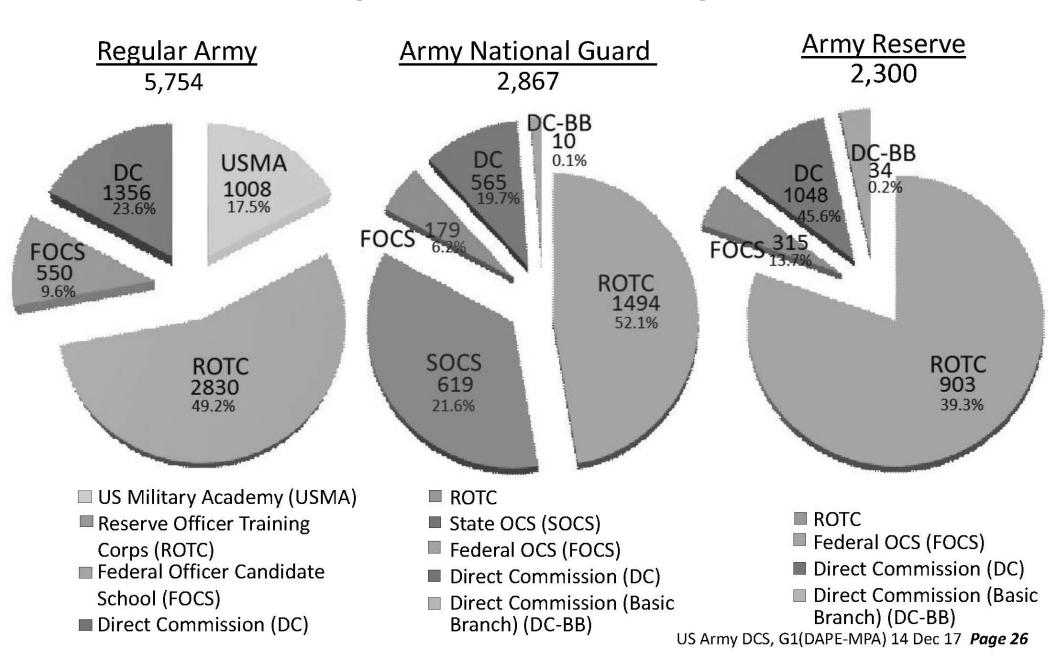
## Average 5500 New **Lieutenants Annually:**

- USMA (4 Years) (~19%)ROTC (~4 Years) (~46%)
- OCS (12 Weeks) (~36%)
- Direct (~2%)





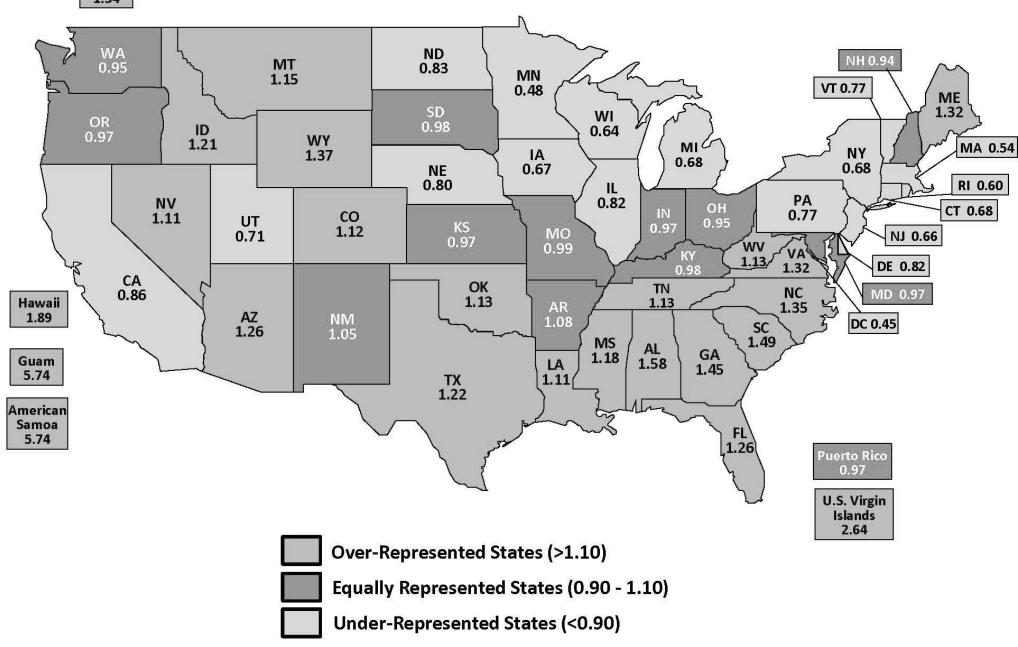
## **FY16 US Army Officer Accessions by Source**





## Who Enlisted in Your Regular Army in 2016

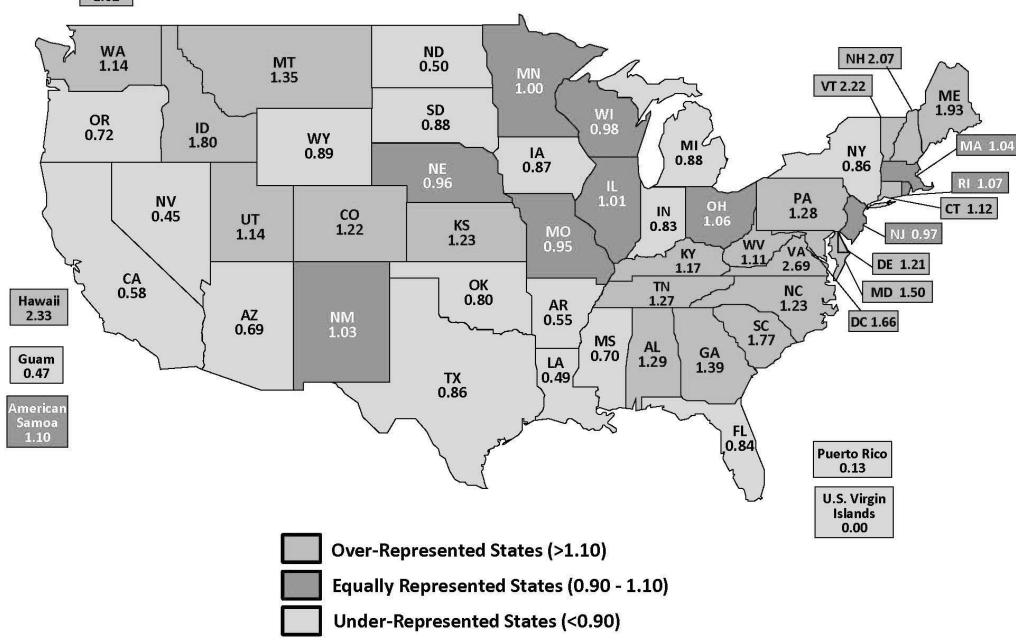
Alaska 1.34 Ratio: Percent of RA Enlisted By State vs. Percent of Eligible Population By State





# Who Commissioned in Your Regular Army in 2016

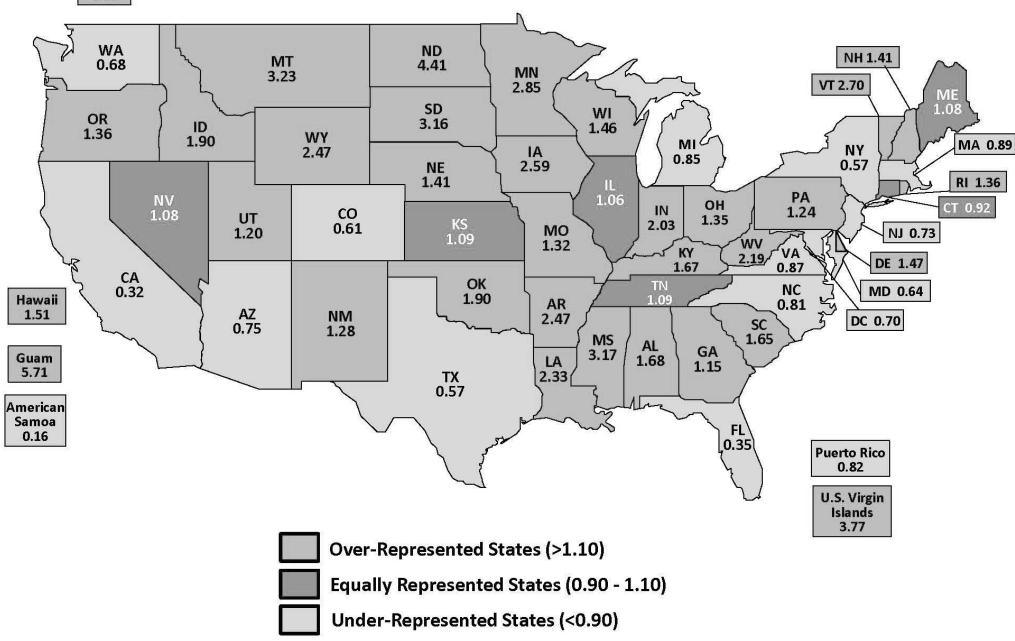
Alaska 1.62 Ratio: Percent of RA Commissioned By State vs. Percent of Eligible Population By State





## Who Enlisted in Your Army National Guard in 2016

Alaska 1.86 Ratio: Percent of ARNG Enlisted By State vs. Percent of Eligible Population By State

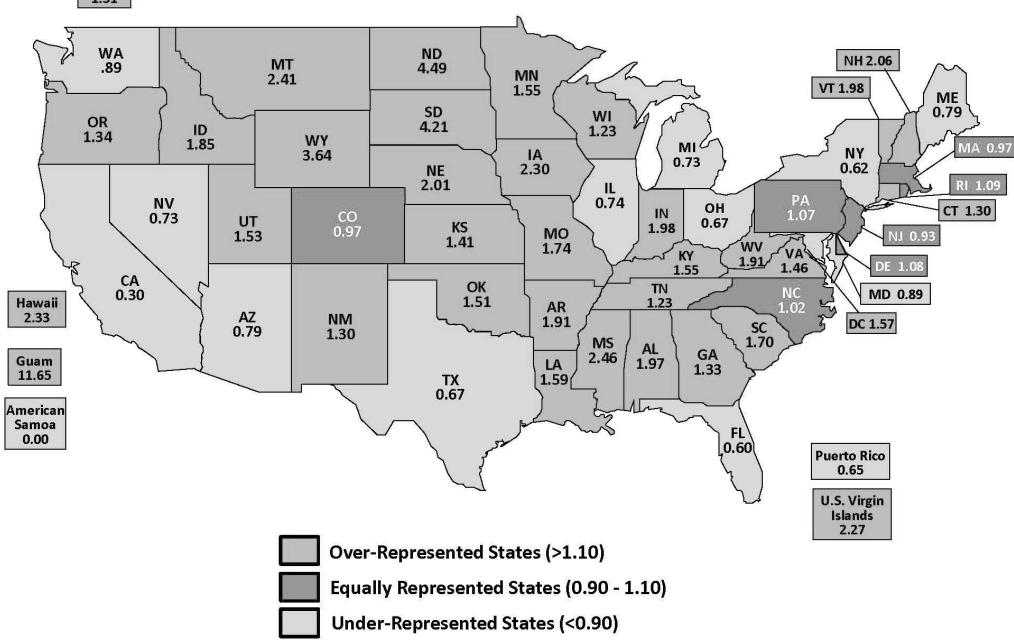




## Who Commissioned in Your ARNG in 2016

Alaska 1.31

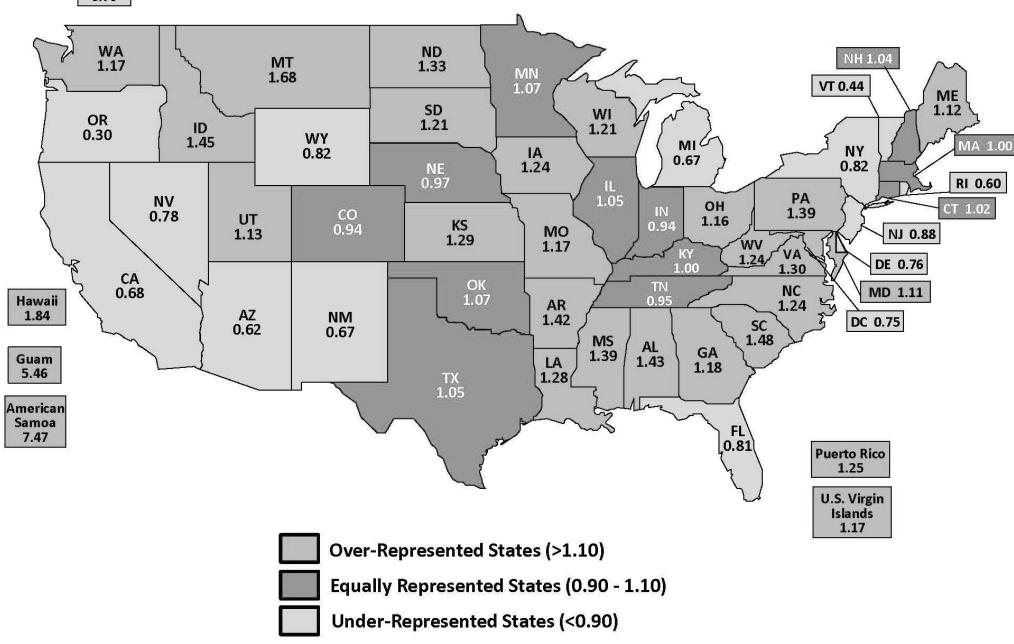
Ratio: Percent of ARNG Commissioned By State vs. Percent of Eligible Population By State



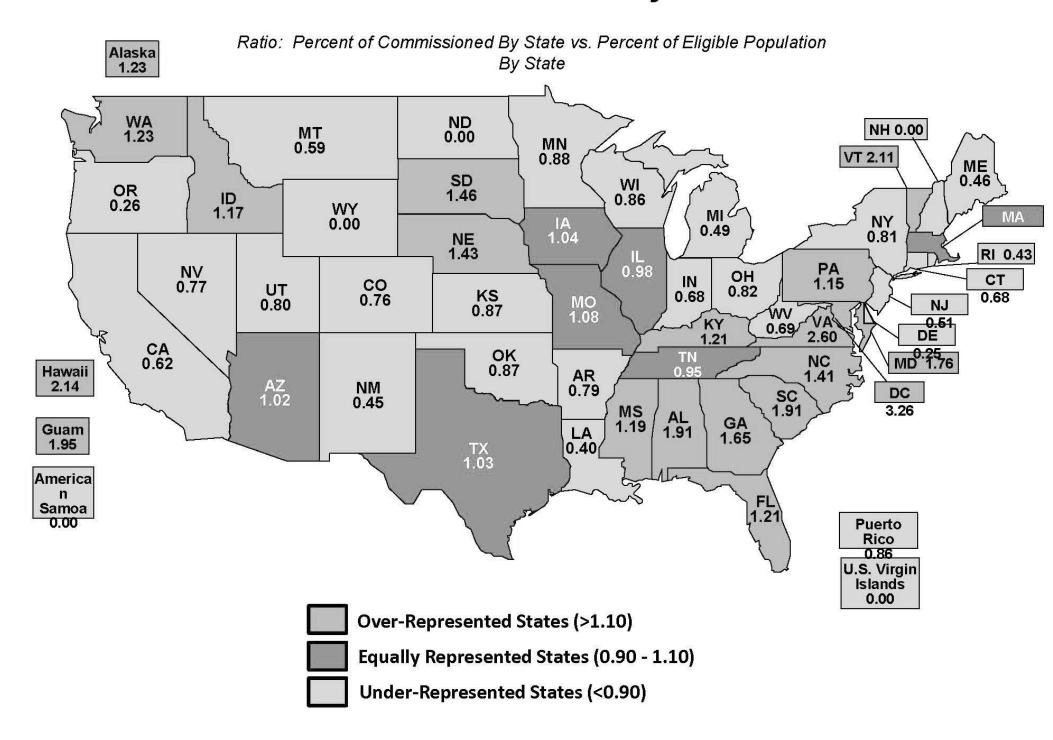


# Who Enlisted in Your Army Reserve in 2016

Alaska 0.79 Ratio: Percent of USAR Enlisted By State vs. Percent of Eligible Population By State

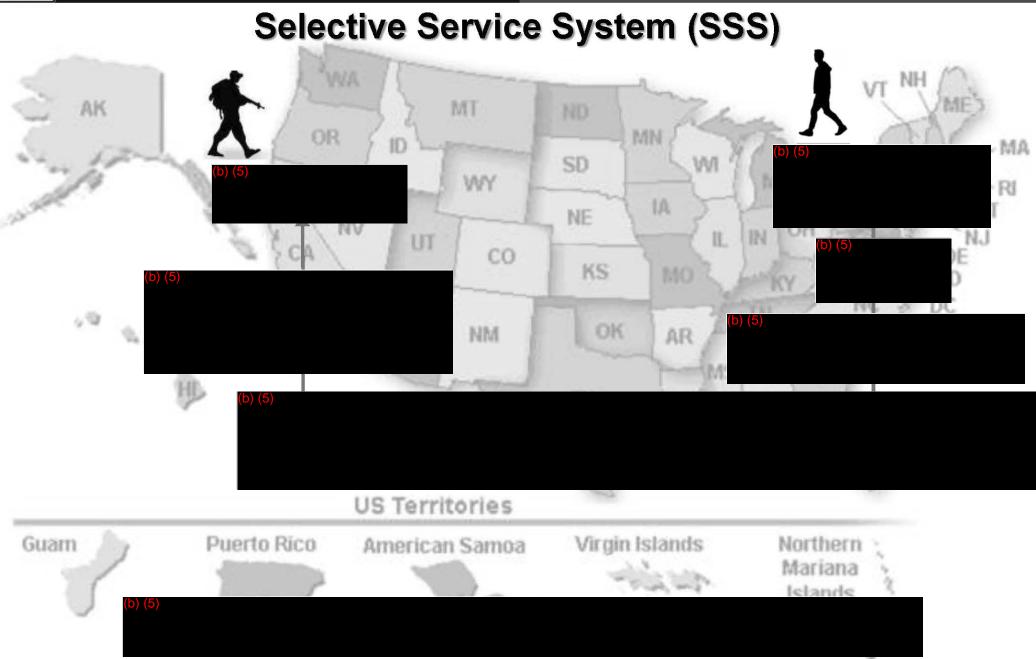


## Who Commissioned in Your Army Reserve in 2016





# **Executing a Draft**

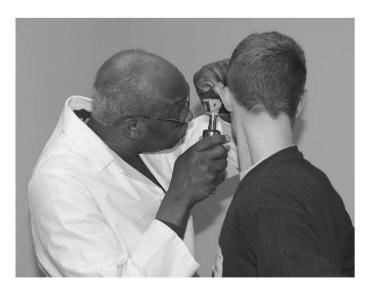




# **MEPS Processing**



**Testing** 



Medical



**Background Screening** 



Support Service Counselors



**Enlistment** 



# **MEPS LOCATIONS**

# **US Military Entrance Processing Command**













Military Installations (19)

Federal Buildings (15)

Commercially Leased (32)

- By Executive Order, must consider downtown business district
- Leased Space (1.7M sq. ft.)
- The Federal Protective Service provides force protection and physical security in federal buildings and commercially leased facilities.



# Recommendations for an All-Volunteer Army

- Soundly Analyze the Force—Determine who makes the best Soldiers & recruit/retain those kind of recruits
- Establish High Recruiter Standards—minimizes misconduct and abuse
- Carefully Target Incentives—Offer to the fewest possible hard-to-fill specialties & review constantly
- Recruit Noncitizens—Offer path to citizenship
- Market the Force to Recruits & Influencers alike—Stay
   Connected to the Nation
- Offer Competitive Pay