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February 2, 2009

Congressional Research Service

Report RS20151

*National Guard and Reserve Funding, FY1990-2001*

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Updated July 27, 2000

**Abstract.** This report provides data on trends in funding for the National Guard and Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces from FY1990-FY2000. The percentage of National Guard and Reserve (NG&R) funding has held fairly steady over this period at 7-8 percent of the Department of Defense (DOD) budget. The NG&R budgets range from a high of \$27.5 billion in FY1992 to a low of \$22.1 billion in FY1997, as measured in constant FY2000 dollars. The 20 percent decline from FY1992-1997 in NG&R funding is comparable to the 16 percent decline in the overall DOD budget, in the same period. Personnel end-strength for the NG&R has decreased from a high of 1,154,570 service members in FY1991 to a low of 881,491 in FY1998. This is a 24 percent decline over that period.

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# CRS Report for Congress

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## National Guard and Reserve Funding, FY1990-2001

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### Summary

This report provides data on trends in funding for the National Guard and Reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces from FY1990-FY2001. The percentage of National Guard and Reserve (NG&R) funding has held fairly steady over this period at 7-8% of the Department of Defense (DOD) budget. The NG&R budgets range from a high of \$28.2 billion in FY1992 to a low of \$22.7 billion in FY1997, as measured in constant FY2001 dollars. Personnel end-strength for the NG&R has decreased from a high of 1,154,570 service members in FY1991 to a low of 870,917 in FY1999. This is a 33% decline over that period. This report will be updated as new data is available.

This report provides data on trends in funding for National Guard & Reserve components and end-strength levels<sup>1</sup> for Fiscal Years (FY) 1990-2000 and the budget request for FY2001.<sup>2</sup> The reserve components include the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, and Air Force Reserve. The National Guard and Reserve units of the U.S. military have somewhat different heritages. The National Guard descends from the British and colonial American militia traditions, in which armed citizens would drill and be ready to defend their localities and homes. The National Guard is thus a dual state-federal force, functioning both as the militia of the states under the control of state authorities and as a federal military reserve force. In contrast, the Reserves of each service are purely federal forces, created in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>1</sup> End-strength level is defined as number of military personnel on duty as of the last day of the fiscal year (September 30th).

<sup>2</sup> FY2000 data in Tables 1-3 represent a DOD estimate and include Administration-proposed supplemental appropriations and rescissions. The FY2001 data in Table 1 represents the Administration's February 2000 request and does not include changes due to congressional action. FY1990-1999 data in Tables 1-3 represent actual figures.

## Trends

In recent years, Congress has perennially debated whether the Pentagon adequately funds Guard and Reserve components. Each year in the 1990s, Congress has added money to the Pentagon's Guard and Reserve budget. **Table 1** shows National Guard and Reserve funding for FY1990-2000 and the FY2001 budget request, by appropriations title. Appropriations titles are the most general category in the annual DOD appropriations bills approved by Congress. The major titles for National Guard and Reserve funding are military personnel, operation and maintenance (O&M), procurement, and military construction. The last column of **Table 1** shows end-strength levels for FY1990-1999. Personnel end-strength for the NG&R has decreased from a high of 1,154,570 service members in FY1991 to a low of 870,917 in FY1999. This is a 33% decline over that period.

New equipment for National Guard and Reserve forces is normally procured in regular appropriations procurement accounts for each of the services. This account category is shown in Table 1 as the "Service Procurement Accounts." In addition, Congress has sometimes set aside funds in a separate NG&R procurement account for additional equipment not requested by DOD in the active service accounts.<sup>3</sup> This account category is shown in Table 1 as "NG&R Procurement." It is important to remember that most Guard and Reserve equipment is funded in the active component accounts. The NG&R procurement account is for additional equipment over and above equipment in the active component accounts.

**Table 1** shows National Guard and Reserve funding in budget authority<sup>4</sup> in current year dollars. **Tables 2 and 3** show the same data for FY1990-2000 by appropriations title and component (respectively) in constant FY2001 dollars. Constant dollars measure the cost of goods and services in terms of prices in a given (constant) year. Fixing the purchasing power of the dollar to a given year eliminates changes in prices due to inflation in comparing budgets from year to year.

As **Figures 1 and 2** show, measured in constant FY2001 dollars, National Guard and Reserve (NG&R) funding has held relatively steady as a percentage of the DOD budget from FY1990-1999. The total has varied between 7-8% of the Department of Defense (DOD) budget and ranges from a high of \$28.2 billion in FY1992 to a low of \$22.7 billion in FY1997, as measured in constant FY2001 dollars.

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<sup>3</sup> The NG&R procurement account is not the only, or even the primary source for Guard and Reserve equipment. Guard and Reserve units get "cascaded" used equipment from the Active Forces, which are not accounted for in these totals.

<sup>4</sup> Budget authority (BA) is the authority provided by Congress via law to the DOD to enter into obligations for the provision of goods and services. Current dollars are the dollar value of goods and services in terms of prices current at the time of purchase.

**Table 1: National Guard & Reserve Funding by Appropriations Title  
and End-Strength Levels, FY1990-2000**

(budget authority in millions of current year dollars)

	Military Personnel	Operation & Maintenance	NG&R Procurement	Service Procurement Accounts	Military Construction <sup>1</sup>	Total	End-Strength <sup>2</sup>
<b>FY1990</b>							
Army National Guard	3,297.0	1,868.0	331.8	1,916.2	230.0	7,643.0	444,224
Air National Guard	1,067.0	2,030.0	238.7	906.9	236.0	4,478.6	117,786
Army Reserve	2,204.0	872.0	88.9	577.8	99.0	3,841.7	310,071
Naval Reserve	1,572.0	923.0	148.8	246.5	54.0	2,944.3	152,789
Marine Reserve	314.0	78.0	118.6	40.9	NA	551.5	44,530
Air Force Reserve	663.0	1,020.0	64.0	234.6	46.0	2,027.6	83,813
Total	9,117.0	6,791.0	990.8	3,922.9	665.0	21,486.7	1,153,213
<b>FY1991</b>							
Army National Guard	3,320.0	2,026.0	805.7	860.2	313.0	7,324.9	446,121
Air National Guard	1,106.0	2,327.0	647.5	426.5	181.0	4,688.0	117,786
Army Reserve	2,243.0	946.0	71.1	224.5	77.0	3,561.6	309,681
Naval Reserve	1,620.0	1,022.0	658.8	301.4	80.0	3,682.2	151,510
Marine Reserve	291.0	85.0	160.0	42.6	NA	578.6	44,933
Air Force Reserve	629.0	1,086.0	155.1	126.2	39.0	2,035.3	84,539
Total	9,209.0	7,492.0	2,498.2	1,981.4	690.0	21,870.6	1,154,570
<b>FY1992</b>							
Army National Guard	3,734.0	2,382.0	344.2	626.2	246.0	7,332.4	426,528
Air National Guard	1,286.0	2,532.0	558.0	501.9	236.0	5,113.9	119,083
Army Reserve	2,516.0	1,099.0	103.7	196.4	117.0	4,032.1	302,850
Naval Reserve	1,864.0	941.0	383.9	114.6	53.0	3,356.5	142,314
Marine Reserve	380.0	101.0	158.0	32.6	NA	671.6	42,256
Air Force Reserve	797.0	1,255.0	362.0	151.8	11.0	2,576.8	81,874
Total	10,577.0	8,310.0	1,909.8	1,623.5	663.0	23,083.3	1,114,905
<b>FY1993</b>							
Army National Guard	3,466.0	2,418.0	399.2	686.0	227.0	7,196.2	409,919
Air National Guard	1,244.0	2,667.0	413.8	518.5	323.0	5,166.3	117,162
Army Reserve	2,255.0	1,083.0	32.2	131.5	45.0	3,546.7	275,900
Naval Reserve	1,709.0	910.0	131.2	115.6	16.0	2,881.8	132,395
Marine Reserve	358.0	84.0	205.0	19.5	NA	666.5	41,738
Air Force Reserve	732.0	1,283.0	125.0	54.4	32.0	2,226.4	80,562
Total	9,764.0	8,445.0	1,306.4	1,525.5	643.0	21,683.9	1,057,676
<b>FY1994</b>							
Army National Guard	3,449.0	2,236.0	193.4	979.4	295.0	7,152.8	396,928
Air National Guard	1,259.0	2,665.0	339.9	256.8	241.0	4,761.7	113,587
Army Reserve	2,155.0	1,073.0	126.3	424.0	99.0	3,877.3	259,856
Naval Reserve	1,594.0	761.0	146.7	62.8	24.0	2,588.5	107,627
Marine Reserve	347.0	91.0	120.3	30.2	NA	588.5	40,711
Air Force Reserve	788.0	1,363.0	241.7	96.3	73.0	2,562.0	79,621
Total	9,592.0	8,189.0	1,168.3	1,849.5	732.0	21,530.8	998,330
<b>FY1995</b>							
Army National Guard	3,462.0	2,442.0	120.9	594.4	189.0	6,808.3	374,930
Air National Guard	1,280.0	2,782.0	245.0	187.1	249.0	4,743.1	109,825
Army Reserve	2,177.0	1,240.0	133.0	149.0	56.0	3,755.0	241,300
Naval Reserve	1,415.0	848.0	107.9	72.6	(2.0)	2,441.5	100,597
Marine Reserve	353.0	85.0	75.7	44.4	NA	558.1	40,933
Air Force Reserve	777.0	1,473.0	90.9	55.2	57.0	2,453.1	78,267
Total	9,464.0	8,870.0	773.4	1,102.7	549.0	20,759.1	945,852

	Military Personnel	Operation & Maintenance	NG&R Procurement	Service Procurement Accounts	Military Construction <sup>1</sup>	Total	End-Strength <sup>2</sup>
<b>FY1996</b>							
Army National Guard	3,353.0	2,448.0	100.9	780.2	137.0	6,819.1	369,975
Air National Guard	1,313.0	2,774.0	260.4	296.9	165.0	4,809.3	110,484
Army Reserve	2,129.0	1,118.0	90.0	190.5	73.0	3,600.5	226,211
Naval Reserve	1,385.0	839.0	40.0	16.5	19.0	2,299.5	97,956
Marine Reserve	385.0	103.0	100.0	59.4	NA	647.4	42,077
Air Force Reserve	790.0	1,517.0	176.2	181.7	36.0	2,700.9	73,668
Total	9,355.0	8,799.0	767.5	1,525.2	430.0	20,876.7	920,371
<b>FY1997</b>							
Army National Guard	3,405.0	2,298.0	100.8	859.0	78.0	6,740.8	370,044
Air National Guard	1,348.0	2,742.0	224.3	286.9	185.0	4,786.2	110,022
Army Reserve	2,060.0	1,141.0	113.7	91.3	56.0	3,462.0	212,850
Naval Reserve	1,420.0	890.0	199.7	29.5	38.0	2,577.2	95,317
Marine Reserve	394.0	110.0	102.8	29.0	NA	635.8	41,997
Air Force Reserve	787.0	1,505.0	39.6	130.4	53.0	2,515.0	71,986
NG&RE, Other			3.7			3.7	
Total	9,414.0	8,686.0	784.6	1,426.1	410.0	20,720.7	902,216
<b>FY1998</b>							
Army National Guard	3,459.0	2,447.0	68.8	524.0	122.1	6,620.8	362,444
Air National Guard	1,382.9	3,081.8	302.9	318.6	190.4	5,276.7	108,096
Army Reserve	2,040.0	1,211.1	73.7	84.4	74.2	3,483.3	204,968
Naval Reserve	1,394.0	924.0	78.7	76.2	47.3	2,520.2	93,171
Marine Reserve	394.7	116.4	73.7	26.2		611.1	40,842
Air Force Reserve	802.9	1,653.3	49.2	262.3	30.2	2,797.9	71,970
Defense-wide				10.0		10.0	
Total	9,473.5	9,433.6	647.0	1,301.7	464.2	21,320.0	881,491
<b>FY1999</b>							
Army National Guard	3,636.2	2,805.6	20.0	1,017.1	151.3	7,630.2	357,469
Air National Guard	1,452.0	3,216.1	212.0	355.6	185.7	5,421.4	105,715
Army Reserve	2,182.9	1,258.5	20.0	143.4	102.1	3,706.9	206,836
Naval Reserve	1,450.6	982.0	60.0	107.0	31.6	2,631.2	89,172
Marine Reserve	401.3	127.0	20.0			548.3	39,953
Air Force Reserve	856.7	1,790.2	20.0	199.4	34.4	2,900.7	71,772
Total	9,979.7	10,179.4	352.0	1,822.5	505.1	22,838.7	870,917
<b>FY2000 (Est.)</b>							
Army National Guard	3,605.2	3145	29.8	951.4	236.2	7,967.6	
Air National Guard	1,529.0	3224.3	29.8	560.8	262.4	5,606.3	
Army Reserve	2,292.0	1461.6	29.8	222.6	110.8	4,116.8	
Naval Reserve	1,473.4	954.0	19.9	204.8	28.3	2,680.4	
Marine Reserve	412.7	138.2	19.9			570.8	
Air Force Reserve	892.6	1,773.3	19.9	190.2	64.1	2,940.1	
Total	10,204.9	10,696.4	149.1	2,129.8	701.8	23,882.0	
<b>FY2001 (Request)</b>							
Army National Guard	3,747.6	3182.3		1,049.5	59.1	8,038.5	
Air National Guard	1,627.2	3446.4		362.3	50.2	5,486.1	
Army Reserve	2,433.9	1,521.4		182.7	81.7	4,219.7	
Naval Reserve	1,528.4	960.9		91.7	16.1	2,597.1	
Marine Reserve	436.4	134.0				570.4	
Air Force Reserve	981.7	1,885.9		142.9	14.9	3,025.4	

	Military Personnel	Operation & Maintenance	NG&R Procurement	Service Procurement Accounts	Military Construction <sup>1</sup>	Total	End-Strength <sup>2</sup>
Total	10,755.2	11,130.9		1,829.1	222.0	23,937.2	

**Sources:** Military personnel, operation & maintenance, and military construction data from DOD Comptroller, *National Defense Budget Estimates*, various years; procurement data from *DOD Procurement Programs (PI-R)*, various years; end-strength data from Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs).

**Notes:** NA = not available. Totals may not add due to rounding errors.

1. Marine Corps Reserve military construction included in Naval Reserve figures.

2. End-strength level is defined as number of military personnel on duty as of the last day of the fiscal year (September 30<sup>th</sup>).

**Table 2: National Guard and Reserve Funding by Appropriations Title: Fiscal Years 1990-2000**

(budget authority in millions of constant FY2001 dollars)

FY	Military Personnel	O&M	NG&R Procurement	Service Procurement Accounts	Military Constr.	NGR Total	DOD Total	NGR % of DOD Total
1990	11,903.6	8,866.7	1,293.6	5,121.9	868.3	28,054.2	379,900	7.38%
1991	11,519.9	9,372.0	3,125.1	2,478.6	863.1	27,358.8	354,700	7.71%
1992	12,957.2	10,180.1	2,339.6	1,988.9	812.2	28,278.0	336,600	8.40%
1993	11,626.6	10,056.0	1,555.6	1,816.5	765.7	25,820.3	318,200	8.11%
1994	11,171.7	9,537.6	1,360.7	2,154.1	852.6	25,076.6	292,800	8.56%
1995	10,807.4	10,129.0	883.2	1,259.2	626.9	23,705.7	291,900	8.12%
1996	10,460.7	9,839.0	858.2	1,705.5	480.8	23,344.2	284,500	8.21%
1997	10,305.4	9,508.5	858.9	1,561.1	448.8	22,682.8	282,400	8.03%
1998	10,157.0	10,114.2	693.7	1,395.6	497.7	22,858.3	277,200	8.25%
1999	10,487.3	10,697.1	369.9	1,915.2	530.8	24,000.3	292,600	8.20%
2000	10,494.5	11,000.0	153.3	2,190.3	721.7	24,559.9	287,900	8.53%

Notes: Totals may not add due to rounding errors. CRS calculations based on deflators from the DOD Comptroller.

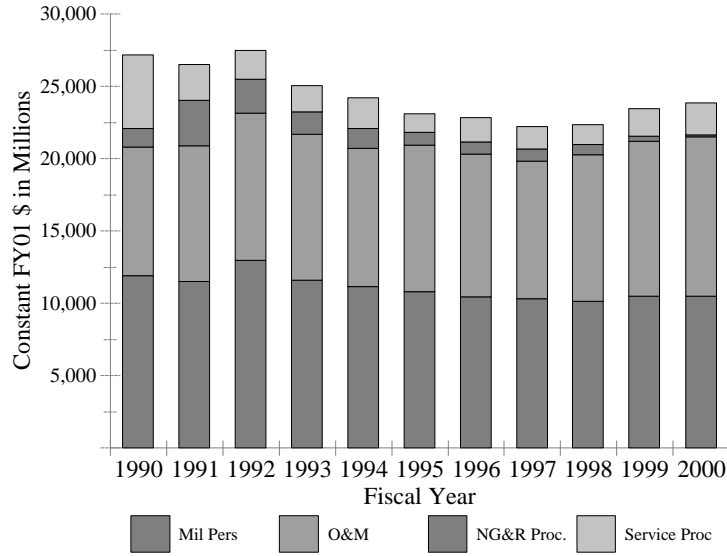
**Table 3: National Guard and Reserve Funding by Component Fiscal Years 1990-2000**

(budget authority in millions of constant FY2001 dollars)

FY	Army Nat'l Guard	Air Nat'l Guard	Army Res.	Naval Res.	Marine Corps Res.	Air Force Res.	Total
1990	9,979.1	5,847.5	5,015.9	3,844.2	720.1	2,647.3	28,054.2
1991	9,163.0	5,864.4	4,455.3	4,606.2	723.8	2,546.0	27,358.8
1992	8,982.5	6,264.7	4,939.5	4,111.8	822.7	3,156.7	28,278.0
1993	8,568.9	6,151.8	4,223.3	3,431.5	793.6	2,651.1	25,820.3
1994	8,330.8	5,545.9	4,515.8	3,014.8	685.4	2,983.9	25,076.6
1995	7,774.7	5,416.4	4,288.0	2,788.1	637.3	2,801.3	23,705.7
1996	7,625.1	5,377.7	4,026.1	2,571.3	723.9	3,020.1	23,344.2
1997	7,379.1	5,239.4	3,789.8	2,821.2	696.0	2,753.1	22,682.8
1998	7,098.6	5,657.4	3,734.6	2,702.1	655.2	2,999.8	22,858.3
1999	8,018.3	5,697.1	3,895.4	2,765.0	576.2	3,048.2	24,000.3
2000	8,193.7	5,765.4	4,233.6	2,756.5	587.0	3,023.5	24,559.9

**Notes:** Totals may not add due to rounding errors. CRS calculations based on deflators from DOD Comptroller.

**Figure 1. National Guard And Reserve Funding by Appropriations Title**  
(budget authority in constant FY2001 dollars)



**Figure 2. National Guard and Reserve Funding by Component**  
(budget authority in constant FY2001 dollars)

