



# U.S. Coast Guard Snapshot

A summary of facts and figures about America's Coast Guard

The United States Coast Guard is a proud 218-year-old military, multimission, maritime service and a member of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

**DHS Vision:** Preserving our freedoms, protecting America...we secure our homeland.

**DHS Mission:** We will lead the unified national effort to secure America. We will prevent and deter terrorist attacks and protect against and respond to threats and hazards to the nation. We will ensure safe and secure borders, welcome lawful immigrants and visitors, and promote the free flow of commerce.

**DHS Strategic Goals:** Awareness, Prevention, Protection, Response, Recovery, Service, and Organizational Excellence.

## "The Guardian Ethos"

I am America's Maritime Guardian.  
I serve the citizens of the United States.  
I will protect them.  
I will defend them.  
I will save them.  
I am their Shield.  
For them I am Semper Paratus.  
I live the Coast Guard Core Values.  
I am a Guardian.  
We are the United States Coast Guard.

## Coast Guard Assets, 2008

- **Cutters:** 12 HECs, 28 MECs, 3 Polar Ice Breakers 252
- **Shore Units:** 2 Areas, 9 Districts, 35 Sectors, 23 Air Stations, 2 MLCs 945
- **Aircraft:** 95 HH-65s, 41 HH-60s, 32 C-130s, 4 C-144As, 20 HU-25s, 2 Command and Control 194
- **Boats:** 1,660

## Key Leaders

**Department of Homeland Security Secretary:** Hon. Michael Chertoff

**Coast Guard Commandant:** Adm. Thad W. Allen

**Coast Guard Vice Commandant:** Vice Adm. Vivien S. Crea

**Coast Guard Chief of Staff:** Vice Adm. Clifford Pearson

**Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard:** MCPOCG Charles W. Bowen

## Coast Guard History

"A few armed vessels, judiciously stationed at the entrances of our ports, might at small expense be made useful sentinels of the laws." *Federalist Paper 12*

- **1790:** "Revenue Marine" created within the Treasury Department
- **1863:** "Revenue Cutter Service" established
- **1915:** Revenue Cutter Service combines with the U.S. Lifesaving Service (1848) to create the Coast Guard
- **1939:** U.S. Lighthouse Service (1789) added
- **1946:** Steamboat Inspection Service (1838) added
- **1967:** Coast Guard transferred to Department of Transportation
- **2003:** Coast Guard transferred to Department of Homeland Security

## Coast Guard Demographics, 2007

Workforce Totals	Race/Ethnicity	Average Age (Yrs.)
• Civilian 7,396	• American Indian/Alaskan Native 2.6%	• Officers 37
• Officers 8,051	• Asian 0.6%	• Enlisted 29
• Enlisted 32,647	• Black 6.1%	<b>Average Time in Service (Yrs.)</b>
• Reserve 10,787	• Hispanic/Latino 10.2%	• Officers 14.6
– Select Reserves 7,992	• Multiple Race 6.4%	• Enlisted 7.8
– Indiv. Ready Res. 2,795	• Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 0.5%	<b>Commissioning Sources (%)</b>
• Auxiliary 28,443	• White 78.4%	• Academy 45%
<b>Active Duty Workforce</b>		• CWO to LT 5%
<b>Gender (%)</b>	<b>Married (%)</b>	• OCS Prior Enlisted 13%
• Men 87.8%	• Officers 37	• Direct Commission 14%
• Women 12.2%	• Enlisted 29	• OCS Reserve 20%
		• EAD 3%

## Every day, the Coast Guard ...

### Safety

- Saves 14 lives and assists 98 people in distress.
- Conducts 74 search and rescue cases.
- Completes 31 Port State Control safety and environmental exams on foreign vessels.
- Performs 18 safety examinations on commercial fishing vessels.
- Conducts 24 marine casualty investigations.
- Issues 102 Certificates of Inspection to U.S. commercial vessels.
- Services 135 aids-to-navigation and corrects 23 aids-to-navigation discrepancies.
- Issues 375 credentials to qualified merchant mariners ensuring the safe, secure, and efficient navigation of ships carrying \$5.5B worth of commerce.

### Security

- Interdicts 17 illegal migrants at sea.
- Seizes or removes over 1,000 pounds of illegal drugs (\$12.9M value).
- Administers 25 International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code vessel exams.
- Escorts over 20 larger passenger vessels, military outload vessels, High Interest Vessels (HIVs) or vessels carrying especially hazardous cargo.
- Boards 193 ships and boats.
- Boards 17 vessels at sea to enforce domestic fisheries and marine protected species regulations.

### Stewardship

- Facilitates safe and efficient marine transportation on the Nation's 15,000 miles of inland waterways.
- Inspects 53 HAZMAT containers.
- Responds to 12 Oil Pollution/Hazardous Chemical Material spills.

## Coast Guard Budget, FY 2008 Enacted (\$ Thousands)

• <b>FY08 Budget</b>	\$9,044,417
• <b>Operating Expenses (includes pay)</b>	\$5,811,463
• <b>Acquisition, Construction &amp; Improvement</b>	\$892,019
• <b>Reserve Training</b>	\$126,883
• <b>Research Development, Testing &amp; Evaluation</b>	\$25,000
• <b>Mandated Spending</b>	\$1,464,993

**Coast Guard Budget, FY 2009 Requested** \$9,346,022

## Contact Information

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<http://www.uscg.mil>



**United States Coast Guard**  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

## Key Messages

The U.S. Coast Guard is one of the five Armed Forces of the United States and the only military organization within the Department of Homeland Security. As the principle Federal agency responsible for maritime safety, security, and stewardship, the Coast Guard protects vital economic and security interests of the United States including the safety and security of the maritime public, our natural and economic resources, the global transportation system, and the integrity of our maritime borders.

The Coast Guard's *safety*, *security*, and *stewardship* missions are integrated like a tightly-knit fabric; valued for its protective durability and light weight. The Service's operational model is flexible, efficient and effective across a wide range of complex maritime scenarios. The Coast Guard's ability to field versatile platforms and personnel with broad authorities is the U.S. Government's most important strength in the maritime environment, adjacent coastal areas, and inland waterways.

**Maritime Safety:** The Coast Guard's maritime safety activities save lives, protect property and prevent environmental damage while preserving the U.S. economy. Our nation's prosperity relies on the balanced and sustainable use of inland, coastal, and ocean waters and resources. An efficient and resilient Marine Transportation System (MTS) forms the foundation for this prosperity and must be maintained in order to facilitate maritime mobility and protect the nation's economy. The MTS consists of 25,000 miles of inland, intra-coastal, and coastal waterways; encompasses 240 locks, 355 ports, 1,000 harbor channels, and 1,941 cargo terminals, and includes 18,000 bridges. In 2007, the Coast Guard responded to 27,090 search and rescue cases, saving over 5,000 lives.

**Maritime Security:** The Coast Guard protects the nation's citizens from terrorism and illegal activity in the maritime domain through the establishment and maintenance of a secure maritime border. This means exerting and safeguarding sovereignty in the nation's internal waters, ports and waterways, and coastal regions, as well as protecting vital national interests on the high seas. In 2007, the Coast Guard seized or removed a record 355,755 pounds of cocaine valued at \$4.7 billion. In addition, the Coast Guard interdicted 6,336 migrants attempting to enter the United States via maritime means.

**Maritime Stewardship:** The nation's marine environment must be protected from the threats of pollution, environmental degradation, the spread of harmful invasive species, and the illegal harvesting of marine resources. In 2007, the Coast Guard conducted 6,366 fisheries boardings to ensure compliance with federal regulations and responded to 162 significant spills.

America's security, resilience, and economic prosperity are intrinsically linked to the oceans. Our maritime domain is vulnerable to a wide range of threats and challenges. The Coast Guard must be prepared to meet these challenges today and in the future.

- The Coast Guard looks beyond our borders to defeat threats far from our shorelines through the continual maturation of maritime security regimes, awareness, and operational capabilities.
- The Coast Guard's capabilities and authorities ensure the continued safety, security, and efficiency of the rapidly-growing global Marine Transportation System.
- The Coast Guard's broad authorities and adaptable multi-mission capabilities allow it to defeat transnational terrorists and criminals in the maritime domain.
- The Coast Guard protects America's interests in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).
- The Coast Guard provides immediately-deployable and adaptive force packages to mitigate the safety, security, and environmental impacts of incidents and catastrophic events.

In the near term, the Coast Guard will defeat these threats by recapitalizing operating assets and sustaining aging infrastructure; enhancing the Coast Guard's marine safety program; improving command and control capabilities; and establishing comprehensive intelligence and awareness regimes. Moreover, the Coast Guard's strategic modernization effort will make the service more capable of addressing these challenges through improved training, resource allocation, financial management, risk management, and unity of effort both within the Department of Homeland Security and throughout the government. Coast Guard Modernization will improve readiness management and greatly enhance mission execution.

## FY09 Budget

President Bush requested \$9.3B for the Coast Guard to sustain service delivery and continue critical recapitalization efforts. The budget request focuses resources in four key strategic areas: recapitalizing operating assets and sustaining aging infrastructure, enhancing marine safety, improving command and control capabilities, and establishing comprehensive intelligence and awareness regimes.

## Coast Guard Mission Breakout

(by % of FY08, enacted, operating expenses)

• Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security	22.9
• Drug Interdiction	13.9
• Aids to Navigation	14.7
• Search and Rescue	10.3
• Living Marine Resources	8.9
• Marine Safety	8.7
• Defense Readiness	7.5
• Migrant Interdiction	5.9
• Marine Environmental Protection	4.3
• Ice Operations	1.7
• Other Law Enforcement	1.2

## Career Opportunities

**Officer (recruiting 284 in FY08, including the following fields):**

- Law
- Environmental
- Aviation
- Engineering
- Command, control, communications, computer & information technologies
- Intelligence

**Enlisted (recruiting 3,850 active and 992 Reserve in FY08 in the following fields):**

- **Deck and Ordinance Group** – Jobs relating to the operation of the Coast Guard vessels.
- **Hull and Engineering Group** – Jobs related to the upkeep and operation of Coast Guard vessels.
- **Aviation Group** – Jobs, with the exception of pilots, related to the maintenance and operation of Coast Guard fixed-wing and rotary aircraft.
- **Administrative Group** – Jobs that provide operations support and take care of Coast Guard personnel.
- **Scientific Group** – Jobs related to environmental inspections.
- **Reserve Only** – Jobs related to providing support to law enforcement and intelligence missions and port security.

## Coast Guard Information on the Web

DHS:	<a href="http://www.dhs.gov">www.dhs.gov</a>
CG Web site:	<a href="http://www.uscg.mil">www.uscg.mil</a>
CG Recruiting:	<a href="http://www.gocoastguard.com">www.gocoastguard.com</a>
CG Academy:	<a href="http://www.CGA.edu">www.CGA.edu</a>
Civilian Careers:	<a href="http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgpc/cpm/jobs/vacancy.htm">www.uscg.mil/hq/cgpc/cpm/jobs/vacancy.htm</a>
Boating Safety:	<a href="http://www.uscgboating.org">www.uscgboating.org</a>
CG Volunteers:	<a href="http://www.cgaux.org">www.cgaux.org</a>
In Your Community:	<a href="http://www.uscg.mil/community">www.uscg.mil/community</a>

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