

The Air National Guard: Best Value for America

“Given the...looming fiscal challenges the nation confronts, the projected demands for forces, the unique capabilities resident in the reserve components, and their cost effectiveness, the Commission sees no reasonable alternative to an increased use of and reliance on the reserve components”

- Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, 2008

Our People: 106,700 Americans on call in 50 states, three territories, and the District of Columbia

<p>Air National Guard members provide <i>full-time</i> readiness at a <i>part-time</i> cost; minimal burden on taxpayer unless called for duty</p>	<p>Cost-effective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35% of USAF capabilities for 6% of budget • Reserve component retirement costs 10% of active duty • Reserve component pay averages 25% of an active duty member 	<p>Available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past year, 18,366 Air Guardsmen have deployed to 62 countries and every continent, including Antarctica • An average of over 30% of all deployed Air Force aircraft needs filled by ANG units 	<p>Dedicated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 70% of all deployments filled with volunteers • With over 146,000 deployments since 9/11, the ANG maintains the highest retention of any service (active or reserve)
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Our Infrastructure: Cost effective capabilities across the nation and in your community

<p>Locally-based facilities across America means reduced cost to the taxpayer and increased regional support</p>	<p>Community Contributor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of facilities “dual use” with civilian airfields • Strengthens communities with capabilities such as air traffic control and fire fighting 	<p>Efficient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community basing allows use of existing civilian infrastructure • \$4 million in taxpayer money gains \$12 billion in airfield facilities 	<p>Homeland Defenders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Air National Guard operates 90% of the US air defense alert sites • Dispersed bases aid in domestic response
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"In fiscal year 2006, it cost the federal government more than \$126,000, on average, to provide annual compensation to active duty service members...Most reservists are part-time, and their per capita compensation was \$19,100 in FY 2006."

- Government Accountability Office, "Military Personnel"

"...we find that the total amount budgeted is approximately \$51,000 for each reserve component service member and \$223,000 for each active component service member."

-Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)

"When...personnel appropriations are compared, it is striking to note that Air Reserve Component members use about 14 percent of appropriated personnel funds, but perform over half of all Air Force missions."

- The Heritage Foundation

"Our analysis found that reservists are the best buy for the taxpayer...by any metric they are a cost-effective source of trained manpower, particularly as the cost of active-duty manpower has grown exponentially in recent years. We consulted CBO, GAO, the DOD comptroller, and outside think tanks. There are many studies and lots of data, but they all come to the same conclusion..."

- Commission on the National Guard and Reserves, 2008

References

- Commission on the National Guard and Reserves (CNGR), Final Report to Congress, 2008
- GAO Report 07-828, June 2007
- Congressional Research Service, RL30802 (10 Feb 2009) and RL32965 (30 Nov 2009)
- The Heritage Foundation, Web Memo #1942 (2 Jun 2008)
- Statement for the CNGR concerning final report, testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee