

The War List: OEF/OIF Statistics

Compiled by Ilona Meagher, editor of [PTSD Combat: Winning the War Within](#)
Statistics current through March 2007 [[updated figures](#) available online]

GWOT=Global War on Terror | **OEF**=Operation Enduring Freedom/ Afghanistan War | **OIF**=Operation Iraqi Freedom/ Iraq War | **WWII**=World War Two | **VA**=Veterans Administration
KIA=Killed In Action | **WIA**=Wounded In Action | **IED**=Improvised Explosive Device | **PTSD**=Post-traumatic Stress Disorder | **TBI**=Traumatic Brain Injury | **DoD**=Department of Defense

Global War on Terror (GWOT)

Troops who have served in OEF/OIF since 2001: [~1.4 million](#)
Portion of U.S. population that fought in WWII: [12%](#)
Portion of U.S. population that fought in Vietnam War: [2%](#)
Portion of U.S. population fighting in OEF/OIF: [0.5%](#)
Active-duty armed forces, end of Cold War (early '90s): [2.2 million](#)
Active-duty armed forces today: [1.4 million](#)
OEF/OIF troops, separated from service, through summer 2006: [588,923](#)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Medals

Purple Hearts awarded since 1932: [1.7 million](#)
OEF/OIF Purple Hearts awarded: [13,944](#) (as of July 31, 2006)
WWII Medals of Honor (the highest military citation) awarded: [464](#)
Vietnam War Medals of Honor awarded: [245](#)
OIF Medals of Honor awarded: [2](#) (both posthumously)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Afghanistan/OEF

Duration, as of March 2007: [5 1/2 years](#) (started October 7, 2001)
OEF KIA, all branches: [271](#) (as of Mar. 7, 2007)
Taliban attacks on U.S./allied forces, 2005: [1,558](#)
Taliban attacks on U.S./allied forces, 2006: [4,542](#)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF

Duration, as of March 2007: [4 years](#) (started March 19, 2003)
Troops in Iraq, as of Jan. 10, 2007 (pre-surge): [152,000](#)
2007 official surge amount: [21,500](#)

Time to recruit/train/equip 10,000 new troops, Gen. Peter Pace: [2 years](#)
Estimated strength of insurgency, November 2003: [~5,000](#)
Estimated strength of insurgency, October, 2006: [20-30,000](#) (including militias)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF, Attacks

Daily attacks by insurgents/militias, July 2003: [16](#)
Daily attacks by insurgents/militias, November 2006: [185](#)
Multiple fatality bombings, through Feb. 2007: [1,247](#)
...suicide bombings portion of above figure: at least [426](#) (34.2%)
Successful improvised explosive device (IED) attacks, June 2006: [1,481](#)
...additional IEDs found and neutralized: [903](#)
Successful IED attacks, January 2006: [834](#)
...additional IEDs found and neutralized: [620](#)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF, Human Costs

OIF KIA, all branches: [3,190](#) (as of Mar. 10, 2007)
OIF KIA, non-hostile portion of above count (as of Mar. 10, 2007): [596](#)
OIF KIA age breakdown as of end of Feb. 2007, younger than 22: [932](#)
...22-24: [732](#)
...25-30: [745](#)
...31-35: [316](#)
...>35: [366](#)
Journalists killed: [93](#) (168 including drivers/interpreters)
U.S.-trained military and police force killed, through Feb. 25, 2007: [6,158](#)
Post-invasion Iraqi civilian deaths: [58,476](#) to [655,000](#)
Internally displaced Iraqis, March 2003-November 2006: [~650,000](#)
Iraqi physicians killed since invasion: [~2,000](#)
Iraqi refugees living abroad: [1.8 million](#)
Portion of professional class that has left since 2003: [40%](#)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Iraq/OIF, Monetary Costs

2002 Bush administration prediction of overall OIF cost: **\$100-200 billion**
Congressional budget estimate of OIF cost, through 2006: **\$500 billion**
Conservative estimate of ultimate cost of OIF to taxpayer: **\$2,000 billion**

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Coalition

Total non-U.S. troops, Jan. 2004: **25,600**
Total non-U.S. troops, as of Feb. 2007: **14,010**
Britain...KIA: 134
...estimated cases of anxiety, depression: **~20,000**
...receiving mental health treatment from the MoD, through Oct. 2006: **2,123**
...diagnosed with PTSD: **328**
...year-on-year jump in troops seeking help: **20%**
...believed to be homeless: **>1,000**

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Contracts

Private security contractor firms in Iraq, 2003: **at least 60**
OIF Erinys (Brit private security firm) contract for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers protection, annually (from 2005 report): **\$50 million**
OIF Kellogg, Brown & Root (a Halliburton subsidiary) contracts: **~\$20 billion**
Potential Halliburton overcharges flagged by a top Army procurement official, 2005: **\$1 billion**

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Contractors

OIF contractors killed, as of end of 2006: almost **768**
...if added, would increase U.S. KIA count by: **25%**
OIF contractors wounded, as of end of 2006: **3,367**
Military personnel-to-contractor ratio, Gulf War (1991): **50-to-1**
Military personnel-to-contractor ratio, Iraq War (2003): **10-to-1**
Contractors in Iraq, 2007: **120,000**
...support/logistics contractors, 2005: **50,000**
...non-Iraqi security contractors, 2005: **20,000**
...Iraqi security contractors, 2005: **15,000**
...reconstruction contractors, 2005: **40-70,000**
KBR workers in Middle East: **~50,000**
Erinys private security guard pay: **\$400-1,000 per day**
Overall annual pay: varies, some making **\$100,000** or more
Contractor pay vs. new Army private pay: at least **6X** higher, mostly tax-free

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Equipment

According to secret Pentagon study, Marines KIA from upper body wounds that might have survived with extra armor, 2003-2005: **80%**
Factories supplying armor for principal transport trucks, Jan. 2006: **1**
Marine uparmored Humvee shortfall, Jan. 2006: **~2,000**
Unaccounted Army parts/tools shipped to contractors, 2004: **\$68 million** (15%)
...unreconcilable misc. parts shipped for repair, 2004: **\$481.7 million** (42%)
...classified parts/tools accounting discrepancies: **\$8.1 million** (37%)
Helicopters downed, through Feb. 2007: **59** (at least 29 by enemy fire)

Global War on Terror (GWOT) - Wounded in Action (WIA)

Vietnam War, receive other-continent, state-of-the-art critical care: **15 days**
OEF/OIF, receive other-continent, state-of-the-art critical care: **13 hours**
WWII, WIA-to-KIA ratio: **2-to-1**
Korea/Vietnam, WIA-to-KIA ratio: **3-to-1**
OIF, WIA-to-KIA ratio: **7-to-1**
OIF, wounded/ill casualty-to-KIA ratio: **16-to-1**
Vietnam War rate of initial injury survival: **7.5-in-10**
OIF rate of initial injury survival: **9-in-10**
OEF WIA, all branches: **1,062** (as of Dec. 2, 2006)
OEF non-hostile WIA, medical transport required: **5,565** (as of Dec. 2, 2006)
OIF WIA, all branches: **23,417** (as of Feb. 3, 2007)
OIF non-hostile WIA, medical transport required: **32,544** (as of Feb. 3, 2007)
OIF total casualties (as of Feb 3, 2007): **55,961**
OEF/OIF WIA not returned to service, through Feb. 10, 2007: **11,116**
OEF/OIF official WIA count on DoD website, Jan. 9, 2007: **50,508**
OEF/OIF official WIA count on DoD website, Jan. 10, 2007 (after figure was used by Harvard researcher Linda Blimes in a professional paper): **21,649**

DoD - Disability

Government assigned value for prime age male: **\$6.1 million**
Permanent and temporary disability benefits payments, 2004: **\$1.2 billion**
Army soldiers approved for permanent retirement disability, 2001: **642**
...portion of total going through medical retirement process: **10%**
Army soldiers approved for permanent retirement disability, 2005: **209**
...portion of total going through medical retirement process: **3%**
Army soldiers placed on temporary disability leave, 2001: **165**
Army soldiers placed on temporary disability leave, 2005: **837**
Army soldiers given lump-sum severance pay vs. disability retirement: **11,174**

DoD - Disability, Amputations

Amputations as Jan. 16, 2007: **500**
Does loss of fingers/toes count in above figure? **No**
Amputations performed in 2004: **156** (fewer up-armored Humvees)
Amputations performed in 2006: **128**
Multiple amputees (more than one limb) in 2006: **~25%**
Multiple amputees in first full year of OIF, 2003-2004: **13%**
OIF rate of amputations compared to previous wars: **2X**
Amputations, overall WIA count: **2.2**
Amputations, overall WIA/not able to return to service: **5%**

DoD - Disability, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Combat troops exposed to bomb blasts, may suffer at least mild TBI: **11-28%**
Overall portion of WIA: **20%**
OEF/OIF troops diagnosed with mild/moderate/severe TBI at Walter Reed: **30%**
Portion of total OIF bomb blast victims with TBI: **60%**
OIF cases treated: **1, 882**
Projected lifetime TBI treatment costs: **\$35 billion**
Initial 2006 Republican Senate/House allotment of requested TBI research funding: **50%**
...requested TBI research funding provided after USA Today story: **100%** (\$14 million)
Increased funds for TBI research, cz evaluation forms, Mar 2007: **\$14 million**

DoD - Disability, Claims Process

Forms the typical wounded soldier is required to file: **22**
...various commands these forms need to go to: **8**
Information systems used to process the forms: **16**
Army personnel databases: **3** (which cannot read each others' files)
Nationwide average waiting on claims processing: **~5,000**
Physical Evaluation Board caseload, 2001: **7,218**
Physical Evaluation Board caseload, 2005: **13,748**
PEBs in 1972 processing 19,000 cases: **6, with 260 employees**
PEBs in 2004 processing 15,000 cases: **3, with 70 employees**

DoD - General and Mental Health

Troops receiving pre-deployment mental health assessment by professional (DoD is mandated by congress to assess all deploying troops): **1-in-300**
Army/Air Force required pre/post-deployment health assessment failure rate, GAO: **38-98%** (depending upon base)
Army/Air Force required immunization failure rate, GAO: **14-46%**
Troops seeking help for emotional issues returned back to units: **98%**
Troops referred for follow-up care after flagging by DoD for PTSD: **22%**
Troops kept on duty despite showing significant psychological distress pre-suicide, 2004-2005:

at least 11

DoD - Mental Health, Caregivers

Navy psychologist positions filled: **72%** (85% including trainees)
Navy psychiatrist positions filled: **62%** (91% including trainees)
Army psychiatrist/psychologist positions filled: **80-85%**
Portion of mental healthcare professionals not trained/supervised in four PTSD therapies recommended by the Pentagon and VA: **90%**
Deployed Army mental health providers, reporting high burnout/low motivation or morale, 2005: **1-in-3**
Behavioral-health workers (counselors/psychiatrists), high/very high burnout: **33%**
...primary-care specialists (doctors and nurses): **45%**
...chaplains: **27%**

DoD - Discharge, Personality Disorder

Troops discharged with PD since 2003, Army: **4,092**
Troops discharged with PD since 2003, non-Army: **11,296**
Briefest Fort Carson PD diagnosis evaluation length: **10-20 mins.**
Military psychologist signatures required for PD discharge: **1** (PTSD needs medical review board)
Processing of paperwork duration: **a couple of days** (PTSD, several months)
VA disability benefits PD-diagnosed combat vet eligible for: **0%**

Walter Reed

Year Walter Reed Army Medical Center opened: **1909**
Portion of wounded OEF/OIF troops treated at Walter Reed: **1-in-4**
BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) scheduled for Walter Reed: **2011**
Rate at which outpatient troops in limbo outnumber hospital patients: **17-to-1**
Average outpatient soldier stay: **10 months** (some stuck as long as 2 yrs.)
Walter Reed troops saying their outpatient experience was "stressful": **75%**
...saying that Army literature on navigating outpatient process is helpful: **12%**
Current outpatient soldiers waiting on Medical Evaluation Board processing (1st stage of process; 2nd stage is the Physical Evaluation Board): **704**
...highest level of waiting outpatients, summer of 2005: **nearly 900**
Time MEB process should take, start-to-finish: **120 days**
...average at Walter Reed: **270 days**
Time to wade through both MEB and PEB processes: **9 to 15 1/2 months**
Federal employees providing facilities management services, pre-2007: **300**
...providing above services day before outsourcing went into effect: **60**
...private workers replacing above workers on February 3, 2007: **50**

Women

Female troops, Vietnam: 7,500
Female troops, Gulf War: 41,000
Female troops, OEF/OIF to date: 160,500
Female-to-male ratio: 1-in10
Portion of female troops in military: 15%
OIF WIA: at least 450
OIF KIA: 75 (as of Mar. 7, 2007)
OIF females KIA as a percentage of total count: 2.18%

National Guard/Reserves

Reserve OIF KIA, as of end of Feb. 2007: 263
National Guard OIF KIA, as of end of Feb. 2007: 408
Combined reserve component, end of Cold War (early '90's): 1.2 million
Combined selected reserve strength today: 830,000
Portion of total overall military force: >1/3
Portion of forces serving in OIF, 2004: 40%
Portion of overall DoD budget: 8%
Personnel deploying ANG units borrowed from other units in 2006: 1/3
...equipment they needed to borrow: 60% (from a dozen other units)
Of 170 guard troops required for deployment by the California National Guard's 756th in 2005, number available from the company: 7
...units tapped to arrive at needed 170 troops (called cross-leveling): 65
...locations individually tapped troops came from: 49
U.S. reservist days of service, 2001: 12.7 million
U.S. reservist days of service, 2006: 63 million
Approved reservist permanent retirement disability claims, 2001: 16%
Approved reservist permanent retirement disability claims, 2005: 5%

National Guard/Reserves - Equipment

Portion of total military equipment funding allocated to reserves: 3%
Guard units rated 'not ready' in U.S. due to equipment shortfalls: ~90%
Current level of authorized stock of dual-use equipment: 50%
Value of equipment needed to bring Guard units to full readiness: \$38 billion
Budgeted by Army to augment Guard equipment, through 2011: \$21 billion
Humvee shortage: 22,000
Medium truck shortage: 42,000
Rifle, machine gun, other small arm shortage: 53,000
Night vision device shortage: 264,000
Tactical radio shortage: 50,000
Black Hawk helicopters available to fight forest fires in Montana, out of 12: 2

Recruitment

Former active-duty service members joining the reserves, 1997: 61%
Former active-duty service members joining the reserves, 2006: 38%
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2005 (males): 21%
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2006 (males): 14%
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2005 (males/females): 15%
"Youth propensity to enlist," 2006 (males/females): 10%
2006 Air National Guard recruitment shortfall: 14%
2006 Army recruitment shortfall: 8% (highest since 1979)
Maximum recruitment age raised to: 39 (from 35)
2005 recruits admitted under waivers (of criminal records): 21,880 (17%)
...increase of above over 2000 waivers: 42%
Recruits 'washed out' during basic trng/1st 6 months service, May 2005: 18.1%
Recruits 'washed out' during basic trng/1st 6 months service, current: 7.6%

Multiple Deployments

Troops under acute stress, first tour of Iraq: 12%
Troops under acute stress, second+ tour of Iraq: 18%
Increased risk of acute combat stress in those serving multiple tours: 50%

Veterans Administration (VA)

VA networks: ~20
VA hospitals (VAMCs): >150
VA outpatient clinics: >800
Inpatient PTSD programs: 27
New readjustment counseling service centers expected in two years: 23
VA employees: 235,000
VA employees working at demobilization centers overseas: 100
Proposed VA budget for 2008: \$87 billion
OEF/OIF vets seeking services from walk-in vet centers, Oct. 2005: 4,467
OEF/OIF vets seeking services from walk-in vet centers, June 2006: 9,103
OEF/OIF vets seen by Milwaukee's Zablocki VAMC since wars' start: 2,300
Projected OEF/OIF veterans expected to flood VA system: 750,000
Lifetime projected cost for OEF/OIF veterans: \$300-600 billion

Veterans Administration (VA) - Disability

Polytrauma Centers nationwide providing specialized TBI care: 4
...total beds: 48
...treated at Polytrauma Centers to date: 425

Veterans Administration (VA) - Disability, Claims

OEF/OIF VA disability claims filed: ~150,000
OEF/OIF VA disability claims granted: ~100,000
OEF/OIF VA disability claims pending review: 30,000+
Overall new claims backlog (any war) at VA awaiting processing, 2006: 400,000
Average wait for VA claim processing: 6 months - 2 years
Average 100% disability rating payment: \$2,400/month
...50% disability rating payment: \$700/month

Veterans Administration (VA) - Appointments

People seen by the VA annually (all wars): ~5 million
OEF/OIF vets treated at VA medical facilities since 2002: 205,097
...above amount greater than VA's projection by: 3X
Mental healthcare appointment length, high: 75-80 minutes
Mental healthcare appointment length, low: 20-30 minutes
National rate at which 20-30 mins. appointments were given: 51%
...rate Artesia, NM, received 20-30 mins. appointments: 99%
...rate Amarillo, TX, received 20-30 mins. appointments: 87%
...rate Butler, PA, received 20-30 mins. appointments: 6%
Average wait for new mental healthcare patient appointment:
...at Loma Linda, CA: 39% received appointment within 30 days
VA staff contemplating limiting services, adding waiting lists: 15-of-60
...sent patients to group therapy when individual treatment needed: 40%
...said they needed more staff: 30%
Veterans receiving all mental health care outside of VA system: 22%
Annual visits provided by VA for psychiatric care, 1995: 11.7
Annual visits provided by VA for psychiatric care, 2006: 8.1
...in Hudson Valley, NY: 22
...in Fargo, ND: 3.1

Veterans Administration (VA) - Budget

Healthcare expenses increase, 2008 Bush budget: 9%
Healthcare expenses cut, 2009 (projected): ~\$1.9 billion
Healthcare expenses cut, 2010 (projected): ~\$1.9 billion

Veterans Administration (VA) - Mental Healthcare, Expenditures

Unspent of \$300 million VA told Congress it was setting aside for PTSD/mental health care programs in 2005/2006: \$54 million
Inconsistent VA outlay of outpatient mental health care: \$500 to \$2000 per veteran, depending upon facility/region
Montana, ranked by amount of troops sent to war: 4th
Montana, ranked by % of delivered 2005 VA mental health services: 50th

VA mental health expenditures, 1995: \$2.01 billion
VA mental health expenditures, 2004: \$2.19 billion
VA expenditures on mental health ailments per veteran, 1995: \$3,560
VA expenditures on mental health ailments per veteran, 2004: \$2,581
...in Connecticut: \$2,317
...in Saginaw, MI: \$468

Veterans Administration (VA) - Mental Healthcare, Treatment

OEF/OIF vets treated at VA for mental health conditions: 73,157
OEF/OIF vets coming to VA for any type of counseling, September 2005: 43,682
OEF/OIF vets coming to VA for any type of counseling, June 2006: 144,227
Troops who sought mental healthcare in first year home: 35% (2006 study)
...received a mental health diagnosis: 12% (2006 study)
VA clinics that provided no mental healthcare in 2005: 100 (out of ~800)
Specialist sessions returning troops receive vs. 10 years ago: 1/3 fewer

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

U.S. PTSD incidence in the general population: 7.7 million
OEF/OIF troops who have/may acquire PTSD, Nat'l Center on PTSD: 40%
OEF/OIF vets being treated for PTSD, Sep. 2005: 20,394
OEF/OIF vets being treated for PTSD, through end of 2006: 39,331
...of above figure, receiving hospital care: 29,041
...of above figure, receiving counseling center care: 9,103
Of those treated for PTSD, enrolled in VA specialized care program: 27%
...in Wisconsin: 13%
...in Ohio: 45%

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) - Evolution

OIF troops wishing for a 2006 exit of Iraq, Zogby early 2006 survey: 72%
OIF troops wishing to "stay as long as needed": 1-in-5
OIF troops who indicated "felt in great danger of being killed" on DoD demob form: over 50%
...had thoughts of killing themselves while deployed: 2,411
Returning vets who had PTSD one month after returning home: 4%
...four months after returning home: 9%
...seven months after returning home: 12%
Seven-month vets showing no signs of PTSD/depression at one month: 78%
Troops meeting DoD criteria for PTSD, stigmatized from seeking help: 2/3
PTSD rate common to Army/Marine ground units vs. other units: nearly 4X
Non-OEF/OIF troops reporting mental health concerns: 8.5% (2004)
OEF troops reporting mental health concerns: 11% (2004)
OIF troops reporting mental health concerns: 19% (2004)

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) - History

Hospitalized Civil War troops diagnosed with insanity/"nostalgia": 7,800
Post-war mental/"nervous" disease ("irritable heart") vets, Civil War: 44%
Portion of troops aged 9-18, Civil War: 15%
...increased likelihood of above group of getting "irritable heart": 93%
Civil War vets losing at least 5% of company, increase in risk for cardiac, gastrointestinal, or nervous disease: 51%

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) - Women

Vietnam-era veterans developing PTSD: 1/4
Gulf War-era veterans w/PTSD, 2 years after deployment: 16%
Rate of female-to-male combat PTSD: 2-to-1
VA-treated females noting rape/attempted rape while in service: 1/4
...raped multiple times: 37%
...gang-raped: 14%
Military sexual assaults reported, 2005: 2,374
Military sexual assault investigations, 2004-2005: 3,038
...of above, resulting in court-martial of perpetrator: 329 (10%)
OEF/OIF vets diagnosed with possible PTSD: ~3,800
Inpatient PTSD programs serving women exclusively: 2

OEF/OIF Suicides

Portion of veterans making up total U.S. suicide population: 25%
Army soldier suicides in Iraq and Kuwait, 2005: 22
...above rate compared to national average: nearly 2X
Rate of OIF Army combat zone suicide increase, 2004 to 2005: 2X
MN active-duty/discharged service member suicides, Jan. 2003-Oct. 2006: 13
...extrapolation of above rate to 50 states: 650

Homelessness

Total homeless veterans (from all wars): 194,000
Beds available in VA-funded shelters or hospitals, nationwide: 15,000
Estimated OEF/OIF veterans currently homeless: 500-1,000
OEF/OIF troops receiving shelter from VA, 2004-2006: 300
OEF/OIF vets assisted by IAVA in New York City alone since 2004: 60

Family

Rate civilian families move across county lines annually: 1-in-12
Rate military families move across county lines annually: 1-in-4
Estimated kids with a mom or dad in uniform: 1.9 million

Calls to 24-hour helpline Military OneSource, 1st 10 months of 2005: 100,000
...above figure, increase over year before: 20%
Antidepressant prescriptions written for military families/service members, 14 mo. period 2005-2006: 200,000