## Deployment Health Assessments

U.S. Armed Forces

October 2011

(Data through September 2011)

Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

Report Date: October 08, 2011

## Update: Deployment Health Assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, September 2011

Since January 2003, peaks and troughs in the numbers of pre- and post-deployment health assessment forms transmitted to the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center generally corresponded to times of departure and return of large numbers of deployers. Between April 2006 and August 2011, the number of post-deployment reassessment (PDHRA) forms per month ranged from 15,309 to 36,845 (Table 1, Figure 1).

During the past 12 months, the proportions of returned deployers who rated their health as "fair" or "poor" were 8-11% on post-deployment health assessment questionnaires and 10-13% on PDHRA questionnaires (Figure 2).

In general, on post-deployment assessments and reassessments, deployers in the Army and in reserve components were more likely than their respective counterparts to report health and exposure-related concerns (Table 2, Figure 3). With the exception of Navy reserve component members, both active and reserve component members were more likely to report exposure concerns three to six months after, compared to the time of return from deployment (Figure 3).

At the time of return from deployment, soldiers serving in the active component were the most likely of all deployers to receive mental health referrals; however, three to six months after returning, Army reservists were more likely than active component soldiers to receive mental health referrals (Table 2).

Finally, during the past three years, reserve component members have been more likely than active component service members to report "exposure concerns" on postdeployment assessments and reassessments (Figure 3).

**Table 1.** Deployment-related health assessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, October 2010-September 2011

	Pre-deplo assessr DD279	nent	Post-deple assessi DD27	ment	Post-deployment reassessment DD2900			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	392,674	100	352,698	100	303,392	100		
2010								
October	27,607	7.0	27,990	7.9	27,191	9.0		
November	24,094	6.1	29,955	8.5	30,376	10.0		
December	31,930	8.1	30,739	8.7	24,860	8.2		
2011								
January	42,493	10.8	24,893	7.1	28,535	9.4		
February	33,755	8.6	25,561	7.2	26,276	8.7		
March	37,606	9.6	33,050	9.4	28,826	9.5		
April	39,290	10.0	34,732	9.8	24,557	8.1		
May	33,984	8.7	30,135	8.5	21,124	7.0		
June	33,212	8.5	27,666	7.8	21,555	7.1		
July	27,655	7.0	28,920	8.2	23,173	7.6		
August	32,606	8.3	29,507	8.4	25,006	8.2		
September	28,442	7.2	29,550	8.4	21,913	7.2		

**Figure 2.** Proportion of deployment health assessment forms with self-assessed health status as "fair" or "poor", U.S. Armed Forces, August 2010-September2011

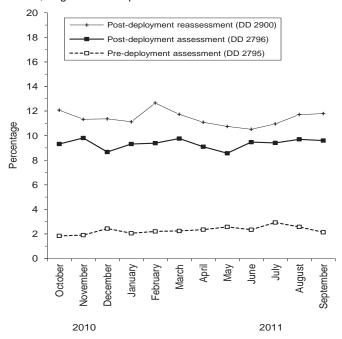
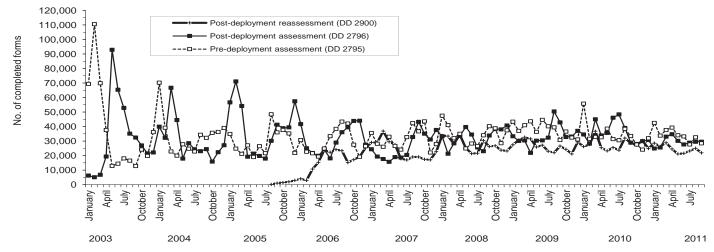


Figure 1. Total deployment health assessment and reassessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003-September 2011



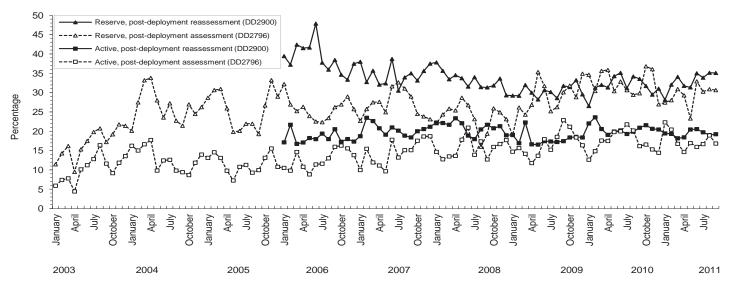
**Data Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System** 

**Table 2.** Percentage of service members who endorsed selected questions/received referrals on health assessment forms, U.S. Armed Forces, October 2010-September 2011

	Army			Navy			Air Force			Marine Corps			All service members		
	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	aepioy	Reassessmt DD2900
Active component	n= 140,398	n= 119,070	n= 126,008	n= 15,768	n= 19,700	n= 15,957	n= 62,296	n= 53,005	n= 49,191	n= 34,831	n= 34,796	n= 32,804	n= 253,293	n= 226,571	n= 223,960
Active component	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
General health "fair" or "poor"	3.9	10.9	13.2	1.2	4.5	6.2	0.6	3.4	4.0	1.4	8.1	10.8	2.6	8.2	10.3
Health concerns, not wound or injury	12.9	25.5	23.6	3.2	11.2	15.5	2.4	6.5	11.2	2.5	13.7	22.5	8.3	18.0	20.1
Health worse now than before deployed	0.0	23.7	23.6	0.0	10.9	13.8	0.0	8.8	8.8	0.0	18.8	22.6	0.0	18.3	19.5
Exposure concerns	0.0	18.1	18.6	0.0	18.8	24.7	0.0	13.4	14.3	0.0	19.0	30.2	0.0	17.2	19.8
PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	0.0	11.8	11.7	0.0	5.1	8.8	0.0	2.6	2.9	0.0	8.8	13.5	0.0	8.6	9.8
Depression symptoms (any)	0.0	30.5	30.6	0.0	21.0	26.8	0.0	12.9	13.8	0.0	26.9	34.0	0.0	25.0	27.1
Referral indicated by provider (any)	5.4	37.5	28.6	3.3	19.0	17.8	2.0	16.7	8.5	2.2	24.0	27.0	4.0	29.0	23.2
Mental health referral indicated*	1.7	9.8	14.7	0.4	2.4	6.6	0.6	1.9	2.8	0.2	2.6	7.0	1.2	6.2	10.4
Medical visit following referral†	99.1	99.4	97.5	92.5	89.9	92.5	90.8	98.6	99.2	62.2	81.6	91.9	93.9	95.8	96.4
		Army			Navy			Air For	rce		Marine Co	orps	Alls	ervice m	embers
	Pre- deploy DD2795	Army Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Navy Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post-	Reassessmt DD2900
Reserve component	deploy	Post- deploy		deploy	Post- deploy		deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt	Pre- deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt	Pre- deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt
Reserve component  General health "fair" or "poor"	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 57,080	DD2900 n= 52,234	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 5,152	DD2900 n= 5,825	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 12,264	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,948	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 3,029	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 2,856	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,903	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 77,352	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 75,984
	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 %	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 57,080	DD2900 n= 52,234 %	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 %	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 %	DD2900 n= 5,825 %	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 %	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 %	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,948 %	Predeploy DD2795 n= 3,029 %	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 %	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 2,977 %	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,903 %	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 %	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 75,984 %
General health "fair" or "poor"	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 %	Post-deploy DD2796  n= 57,080 %	n= 52,234 %	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 %	DD2900  n= 5,825 %  9.2	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 %	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 14,948 % 5.9	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 3,029 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 %	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977 %  12.2	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,903 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 %	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 75,984 % 13.9
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 % 0.9	Post-deploy DD2796  n= 57,080 %  11.9 37.5	DD2900  n= 52,234 %  16.8 42.8	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 % 0.3	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 % 8.9 27.6	DD2900  n= 5,825 %  9.2 34.4	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 % 0.3	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 % 5.4 9.2	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 14,948  %  5.9  17.7	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 3,029 % 0.8 3.1	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 % 12.6 37.8	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977 %  12.2  42.1	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 81,903 % 0.8 10.1	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 % 10.7 32.3	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 75,984  %  13.9  37.2
General health "fair" or "poor"  Health concerns, not wound or injury  Health worse now than before deployed	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 % 0.9 13.3 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 57,080 % 11.9 37.5 27.1	DD2900  n= 52,234 %  16.8 42.8 31.9	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 % 0.3 1.8 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 % 8.9 27.6	DD2900  n= 5,825 %  9.2  34.4  22.3	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 % 0.3 0.8 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 % 5.4 9.2 14.2	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 14,948 % 5.9 17.7 12.7	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 3,029 % 0.8 3.1 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 % 12.6 37.8	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977 %  12.2  42.1  31.2	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 81,903 % 0.8 10.1 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 % 10.7 32.3 24.8	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 75,984 %  13.9  37.2  27.3
General health "fair" or "poor"  Health concerns, not wound or injury  Health worse now than before deployed  Exposure concerns	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 % 0.9 13.3 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 57,080 % 11.9 37.5 27.1	DD2900  n= 52,234 %  16.8 42.8 31.9 34.0	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 % 0.3 1.8 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 % 8.9 27.6 22.2 42.1	DD2900  n= 5,825 %  9.2  34.4  22.3  39.7	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 % 0.3 0.8 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 % 5.4 9.2 14.2 16.9	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 14,948 %  5.9  17.7  12.7  22.2	Predeploy DD2795 n= 3,029 % 0.8 3.1 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 % 12.6 37.8 30.2 29.7	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977 %  12.2  42.1  31.2  36.3	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 81,903 % 0.8 10.1 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 % 10.7 32.3 24.8 30.3	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 75,984 %  13.9 37.2 27.3 32.2
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 % 0.9 13.3 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 57,080 % 11.9 37.5 27.1 32.2	DD2900  n= 52,234 %  16.8 42.8 31.9 34.0 19.7	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 % 0.3 1.8 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 % 8.9 27.6 22.2 42.1 7.3	DD2900  n= 5,825 %  9.2  34.4  22.3  39.7  13.6	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 % 0.3 0.8 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 % 5.4 9.2 14.2 16.9 3.3	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 14,948 % 5.9 17.7 12.7 22.2 3.9	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 3,029 % 0.8 3.1 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 % 12.6 37.8 30.2 29.7	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977 %  12.2 42.1 31.2 36.3 22.5	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 81,903 % 0.8 10.1 0.0 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 % 10.7 32.3 24.8 30.3 9.7	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 75,984 %  13.9 37.2 27.3 32.2 16.3
General health "fair" or "poor"  Health concerns, not wound or injury  Health worse now than before deployed  Exposure concerns  PTSD symptoms (2 or more)  Depression symptoms (any)	deploy DD2795 n= 60,241 % 0.9 13.3 0.0 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 57,080 % 11.9 37.5 27.1 32.2 11.2 29.3	DD2900  n= 52,234 %  16.8 42.8 31.9 34.0 19.7 33.1	deploy DD2795 n= 3,826 % 0.3 1.8 0.0 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,152 % 8.9 27.6 22.2 42.1 7.3 27.7	DD2900  n= 5,825 %  9.2  34.4  22.3  39.7  13.6  27.8	deploy DD2795 n= 14,807 % 0.3 0.8 0.0 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,264 % 5.4 9.2 14.2 16.9 3.3 14.8	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 14,948 % 5.9 17.7 12.7 22.2 3.9 15.6	Predeploy DD2795 n= 3,029 % 0.8 3.1 0.0 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,856 % 12.6 37.8 30.2 29.7 11.1 36.3	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 2,977 %  12.2  42.1  31.2  36.3  22.5  32.8	Predeploy DD2795 n=81,903 % 0.8 10.1 0.0 0.0 0.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 77,352 % 10.7 32.3 24.8 30.3 9.7 27.2	Reassessmt DD2900  n= 75,984 %  13.9  37.2  27.3  32.2  16.3  29.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Includes behavioral health, combat stress and substance abuse referrals.

**Figure 3.** Proportion of service members who endorsed exposure concerns on post-deployment health assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003-September 2011



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Record of inpatient or outpatient visit within 6 months after referral.