Deployment Health Assessments

U.S. Armed Forces

March 2012

(Data through February 2012)

Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

Report Date: March 08, 2012

Update: Deployment Health Assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2012

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 December 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 8-10% 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 Marine Corps 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 Air Forcet 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 (Table 2).

At the time of return from deployment, soldiers serving in the active component of the Army were the most likely of all deployers to receive mental health referrals; however, three to six months after returning, reservists in the Navy and Marine Corps were more likely than their active component counterparts 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, March 2011-February 2012

	Pre-deplo assessr DD27	ment	Post-deplo assessn DD279	nent	Post-deployment reassessment DD2900			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	373,053	100	377,487	100	293,003	100		
2011								
March	37,956	10.2	33,083	8.8	29,145	9.9		
April	39,366	10.6	35,054	9.3	24,929	8.5		
May	34,351	9.2	30,509	8.1	21,532	7.3		
June	33,501	9.0	26,731	7.1	21,982	7.5		
July	26,877	7.2	27,149	7.2	23,741	8.1		
August	33,298	8.9	30,824	8.2	26,209	8.9		
September	31,362	8.4	33,844	9.0	24,209	8.3		
October	29,649	7.9	35,192	9.3	27,312	9.3		
November	24,543	6.6	37,827	10.0	22,976	7.8		
December	21,810	5.8	41,145	10.9	21,240	7.2		
2012								
January	31,324	8.4	27,648	7.3	26,599	9.1		
February	29,016	7.8	18,481	4.9	23,129	7.9		

Figure 2. Proportion of deployment health assessment forms with self-assessed health status as "fair" or "poor", U.S. Armed Forces, March 2011-February 2012

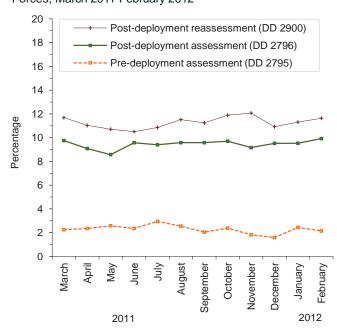
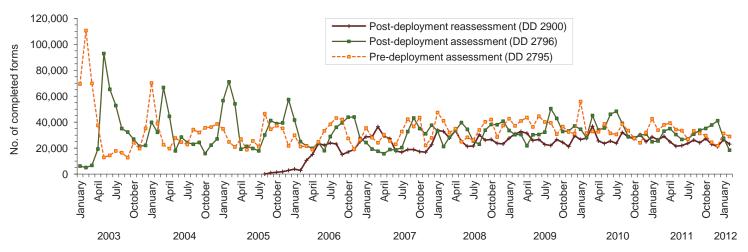


Figure 1. Total deployment health assessment and reassessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003-February 2012



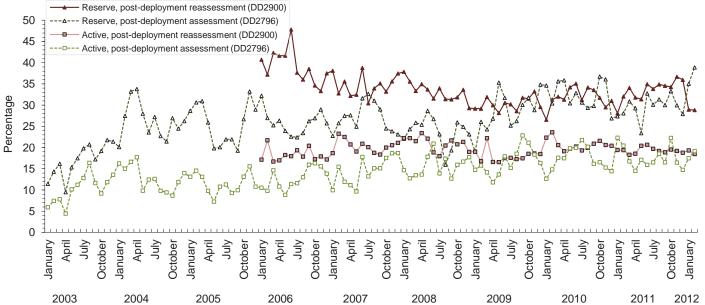
Data Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System

Table 2. Percentage of service members who endorsed selected questions/received referrals on health assessment forms, U.S. Armed Forces, March 2011-February 2012

O.O. 7 timed 1 ordes, ividie	2011														
		Army			Navy	'		Air For	ce		/larine C	orps		ervice m	embers
	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	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessm DD2900
Active component	n= 138 512	n= 134,099	n= 117,868	n= 16,802	n= 18,997	n= 18,910	n= 60,397	n= 55,259	n= 47,781	n= 38,209	n= 37,187	n= 33,185	n= 253 920	n= 245,542	n= 217,744
Tours component	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
General health "fair" or "poor"	3.9	11.0	13.8	1.3	4.6	6.0	0.7	3.3	3.9	1.4	8.1	10.3	2.6	8.4	10.3
Health concerns, not wound or injury	15.5	25.5	24.1	3.3	11.8	14.9	2.7	7.2	11.2	3.0	13.6	21.5	9.8	18.6	19.9
Health worse now than before deployed	0.0	23.7	26.3	na	10.7	13.4	na	8.9	9.0	na	18.5	21.6	na	18.7	20.4
Exposure concerns	0.0	17.3	17.7	na	15.8	23.0	na	16.0	14.7	na	17.1	29.1	na	16.9	19.2
PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	0.0	11.9	13.3	na	5.1	8.4	na	2.8	3.0	na	8.2	13.1	na	8.8	10.5
Depression symptoms (any)	0.0	29.4	30.7	na	20.3	26.7	na	12.1	13.5	na	27.9	33.4	na	24.7	26.8
Referral indicated by provider (any)	5.5	39.6	26.0	3.3	19.3	17.9	2.1	18.5	9.6	2.5	24.9	23.6	4.1	31.2	21.1
Mental health referral indicated ^a	1.8	10.5	10.1	0.5	2.4	6.0	0.5	2.3	3.0	0.2	2.8	7.0	1.2	6.9	7.6
Medical visit following referral ^b	98.5	99.6	98.1	92.8	85.6	90.9	98.5	98.7	99.9	59.7	81.6	90.1	94.7	96.8	96.2
		Army			Navy			Air For	ce	٨	/larine C	orps	All s	ervice m	embers
	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	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessm DD2900
	deploy DD2795 n=	deploy DD2796 n=	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795 n=	deploy DD2796 n=	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795 n=	deploy DD2796 n=	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795 n=	deploy DD2796 n=	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795 n=	deploy DD2796 n=	DD2900 n=
Reserve component	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158	DD2900 n= 51,276	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069	DD2900 n= 7,046	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559	DD2900 n= 13,870	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709	DD2900 n= 2,663	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495	DD2900 n= 74,855
·	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691 %	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 %	DD2900 n= 51,276 %	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 %	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 %	DD2900 n= 7,046 %	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 %	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 %	DD2900 n= 13,870 %	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 %	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 %	DD2900 n= 2,663 %	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 %	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 %	DD2900 n= 74,855 %
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158	DD2900 n= 51,276	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069	DD2900 n= 7,046	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559	DD2900 n= 13,870	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709	DD2900 n= 2,663	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495	DD2900 n= 74,855
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691 % 0.9	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 % 11.8	DD2900 n= 51,276 % 16.3	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 % 0.2	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 % 6.9	n= 7,046 % 9.2	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 % 0.3	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 % 5.5	n= 13,870 % 5.7	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 % 0.7	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 % 14.2	n= 2,663 % 13.5	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 % 0.8	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 % 10.6	DD2900 n= 74,855 % 13.5
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691 % 0.9 11.9	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 % 11.8 35.9	DD2900 n= 51,276 % 16.3 42.7	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 % 0.2 1.5	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 % 6.9 29.0	DD2900 n= 7,046 % 9.2 34.6	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 % 0.3 0.8	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 % 5.5 9.5	DD2900 n= 13,870 % 5.7 18.1	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 % 0.7 3.0	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 % 14.2 31.0	n= 2,663 % 13.5 42.6	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 % 0.8 8.8	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 % 10.6 30.9	n= 74,855 % 13.5 37.4
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691 % 0.9 11.9 0.0	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 % 11.8 35.9 26.6	DD2900 n= 51,276 % 16.3 42.7 32.0	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 % 0.2 1.5	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 % 6.9 29.0	DD2900 n= 7,046 % 9.2 34.6 22.6	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 % 0.3 0.8 na	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 % 5.5 9.5	DD2900 n= 13,870 % 5.7 18.1 12.7	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 % 0.7 3.0	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 % 14.2 31.0	DD2900 n= 2,663 % 13.5 42.6 31.5	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 % 0.8 8.8 na	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 % 10.6 30.9 24.3	DD2900 n= 74,855 % 13.5 37.4 27.5
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= 56,691 % 0.9 11.9 0.0	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 % 11.8 35.9 26.6 32.0	DD2900 n= 51,276 % 16.3 42.7 32.0 35.2	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 % 0.2 1.5 na	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 % 6.9 29.0 19.0	DD2900 n= 7,046 % 9.2 34.6 22.6 39.8	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 % 0.3 0.8 na	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 % 5.5 9.5 13.7 22.4	DD2900 n= 13,870 % 5.7 18.1 12.7 22.1	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 % 0.7 3.0 na	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 % 14.2 31.0 31.9	DD2900 n= 2,663 % 13.5 42.6 31.5 36.0	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 % 0.8 8.8 na	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 % 10.6 30.9 24.3 30.4	DD2900 n= 74,855 % 13.5 37.4 27.5 33.3
Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more) Depression symptoms (any) Referral indicated by provider	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691 % 0.9 11.9 0.0 0.0	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 % 11.8 35.9 26.6 32.0 10.4	DD2900 n= 51,276 % 16.3 42.7 32.0 35.2 19.3	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 % 0.2 1.5 na na	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 % 6.9 29.0 19.0 33.8 6.8	n= 7,046 % 9.2 34.6 22.6 39.8 13.6	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 % 0.3 0.8 na na	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 % 5.5 9.5 13.7 22.4 3.5	DD2900 n= 13,870 % 5.7 18.1 12.7 22.1 3.7	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 % 0.7 3.0 na na	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 % 14.2 31.0 31.9 30.0 12.1	n= 2,663 % 13.5 42.6 31.5 36.0 21.9	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 % 0.8 8.8 na na	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 % 10.6 30.9 24.3 30.4 9.1	n= 74,855 % 13.5 37.4 27.5 33.3 16.0
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed	deploy DD2795 n= 56,691 % 0.9 11.9 0.0 0.0	deploy DD2796 n= 58,158 % 11.8 35.9 26.6 32.0 10.4 27.9	DD2900 n= 51,276 % 16.3 42.7 32.0 35.2 19.3 33.4	deploy DD2795 n= 3,830 % 0.2 1.5 na na na	deploy DD2796 n= 5,069 % 6.9 29.0 19.0 33.8 6.8 23.9	DD2900 n= 7,046 % 9.2 34.6 22.6 39.8 13.6 29.9	deploy DD2795 n= 15,046 % 0.3 0.8 na na na	deploy DD2796 n= 12,559 % 5.5 9.5 13.7 22.4 3.5 13.9	DD2900 n= 13,870 % 5.7 18.1 12.7 22.1 3.7 15.5	deploy DD2795 n= 2,428 % 0.7 3.0 na na na	deploy DD2796 n= 3,709 % 14.2 31.0 31.9 30.0 12.1 35.1	DD2900 n= 2,663 % 13.5 42.6 31.5 36.0 21.9 37.8	deploy DD2795 n= 77,995 % 0.8 8.8 na na na	deploy DD2796 n= 79,495 % 10.6 30.9 24.3 30.4 9.1 25.7	n= 74,855 % 13.5 37.4 27.5 33.3 16.0 29.9

^aIncludes 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-February 2012



bRecord of inpatient or outpatient visit within 6 months after referral.