

Deployment Health Assessments

U.S. Armed Forces

August 2014

(Data through July 2014)

Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

Update: Deployment Health Assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, August 2014

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 July 2014, the number of post-deployment reassessment (PDHRA) forms per month ranged from 15,114 to 45,768 (Table 1, Figure 1).

During the past 12 months, the proportions of returned deployers who rated their health as “fair” or “poor” were 6–10% on post-deployment health assessment questionnaires and 8–12% on PDHRA questionnaires (Figure 2). The proportion of pre-deployment service members who rated their health as “fair” or “poor” ranged from approximately 3–5% during the past 12 months.

In general, on post-deployment assessments and reassessments, deployers in reserve components were more likely than their respective counterparts to report health and exposure-related concerns (Table 2, Figure 3). Service members in the active and reserve component Marine Corps, active component Navy, and reserve component Army 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 and reserve component of the Army were the most likely of all deployers to receive mental health referrals; three to six months after returning, reservists in all services 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 post-deployment assessments (Figure 3).

Table 1. Deployment-related health assessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, August 2013–July 2014

	Pre-deployment assessment DD2795		Post-deployment assessment DD2796		Post-deployment assessment DD2900	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	270,432	100	213,056	100	255,170	100
2013						
August	26,760	9.9	20,395	9.6	19,358	7.6
September	26,562	9.8	22,125	10.4	19,916	7.8
October	21,410	7.9	24,638	11.6	22,051	8.6
November	21,130	7.8	20,747	9.7	18,620	7.3
December	20,856	7.7	21,401	10.0	21,154	8.3
2014						
January	23,569	8.7	16,798	7.9	25,405	10.0
February	22,519	8.3	14,772	6.9	22,404	8.8
March	21,056	7.8	16,340	7.7	25,828	10.1
April	24,091	8.9	14,345	6.7	22,088	8.7
May	20,978	7.8	12,913	6.1	20,082	7.9
June	22,920	8.5	12,593	5.9	21,081	8.3
July	18,581	6.9	15,989	7.5	17,183	6.7

Figure 2. Proportion of deployment health assessment forms with self-assessed health status as “fair” or “poor,” U.S. Armed Forces, August 2013–July 2014

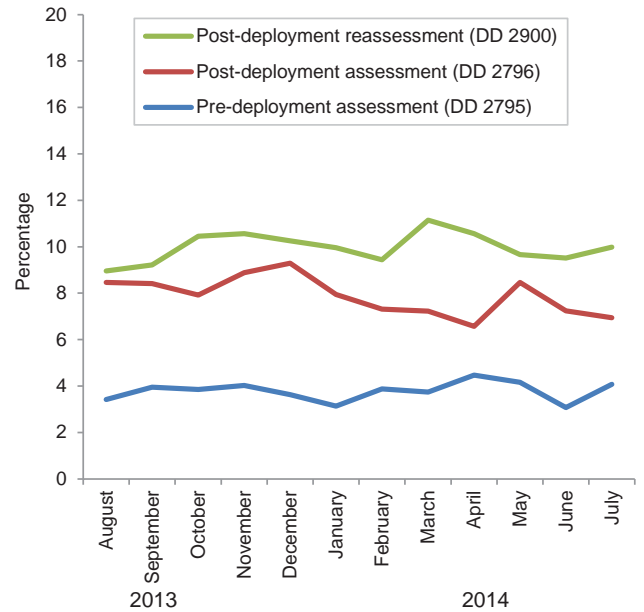


Figure 1. Total deployment health assessment and reassessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003–July 2014

