



Paid Duty Days for Guardsmen and Reservists

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This report examines how the number of paid duty days for Army guardsmen and reservists has changed over the past several years, compared with before 9/11. Excluding most of those serving on extended active duty, median paid duty days in FYs 2010–2013 were only slightly higher than the numbers from FY 2000. In all years, median paid duty days approximated the required statutory minimum of 39 days for guardsmen and 38 for reservists.



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How has the number of paid duty days for Army guardsmen and reservists changed over the past several years, compared with before 9/11?



KEY FINDINGS

Excluding Most of Those Serving on Extended Active Duty, the Median Guardsman or Reservist Has Served Only a Few Days More in Recent Years than in FY 2000

- In FY 2000, the median guardsman included in the analysis was paid for 39 duty days, and the median reservist for 38 duty days—numbers that matched the respective statutory minimum training requirements for each component—although some served more and some less; to focus on those most likely to serve the statutory minimums, the analysis focused on those assigned to Selected Reserve units who were not mobilized, Active Guard and Reserve, or in the training pipeline (e.g., conducting initial entry training).
- In FYs 2010–2013, fewer soldiers met the above criteria in a given year, largely because many more were mobilized in a given year than in FY 2000. Nonetheless, for those who met the criteria, the medians increased by only two to six days, depending on the year—ranging from 41 to 45 days for guardsmen and from 40 to 42 days for reservists; again, many served more days than the median, and many served fewer days.

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- The historical data suggest that, in the future, the typical part-time Army guardsman or reservist who is not preparing to mobilize or serving on some other form of extended active duty will continue to serve somewhere around 38 to 39 days per year.



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