

ANG Fighter Recapitalization

Air National Guard



NGAUS

Fiscal Year 2025 Requirements for the Air National Guard



The Issue

The Air National Guard fighter fleet continues to deteriorate and requires modernization and recapitalization with new equipment to effectively support and meet the readiness and lethality requirements of the National Defense Strategy.



Lt. Col. Richard "Tac" Turner and Lt. Col. Jacob "Duke" Lindaman deliver the first F-15EX to its new home station, Eglin AFB, Florida.

Background

The Air National Guard combat air forces consist of 25 wings across the US with 19 wings primarily operate aging legacy F-15C/Ds and pre-block F-16s. The age of the legacy fleet coupled with additional wear on airframes due to increased mission requirements result in platforms which are extended past their serviceable life. Without replacement, 12 Air National Guard fighter squadrons are at risk of losing their airframes and flying missions in the next five years. The remaining seven wings are slated to transition to post-block F-16s transferred to the Air National Guard from the active component. Each of these units are at risk of divestment as the total Air Force continues to divest legacy aircraft.

The Air National Guard has a unique dual mission, serving as the primary combat reserve for the Air Force and performing the vital mission of defending the homeland. Over the last 30 years, the Nation has relied on the Air National Guard to shift from a strategic reserve to an operational force meeting the high operational tempo of continuous redeployments abroad. Air National Guard fighter units represent 21% of the total Air Force, 30% of USAF combat power, and 94% of homeland defense. Despite the increased operational tempo ANG fighter units only take up 7% of the total Air Force's budget.

The Air Force has not provided a reliable recapitalization plan to replace Air National Guard legacy aircraft, risking divestment of these wings and losing combat power of the total Air Force. Loss of critical fighter capacity significantly decreases the Nation's ability to deter strategic attacks and aggression against the United States, Allies, and Partners. The total Air

Recommendation

Air National Guard



- FY24, language requiring SECDEF provide a roadmap for recapitalization before the closure of Air National Guard units and prevent loss of any ANG fighter force structure.
- FY24, request plan and design MILCON funding to modernize ANG facilities to accommodate recapitalized platforms.
- FY25, language requiring recapitalization of Air National Guard units at a one-for-one rate as units divest legacy combat aircraft to ensure no gaps in mission.
- FY25, funding for 40 fighter aircraft (F-35A and F-15EX) annually for the next ten years to fully recapitalize legacy-equipped Air National Guard units.

Continued



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Force will lose highly skilled and experienced pilots and sustainment personnel with the permanent loss of Air National Guard fighter units, impacting our nation's surge-to-war capabilities.

To maintain combat capacity and retention of highly experienced pilots and sustainment personnel, there must be accelerated recapitalization of all ANG Fighter units with new-build fighters. NGAUS recommends including language in the FY24 NDAA to prohibit the divestiture of ANG fighter aircraft with subsequent language and defense appropriations requests in FY25 seeking one-for-one platform replacement.

Air National Guard F-15C/D, F-16, F-22, F-35A, A-10 States & Units

F-15C/D

- CA: 144th FW, Fresno
- FL: 125th FW, Jacksonville
- LA: 159th FW, New Orleans
- MA: 104th FW, Westfield
- OR: 142nd FW, Portland
172nd FW, Klamath Falls

F-16

- AZ: 162nd FW, Tucson
- CO: 140th FW, Aurora
- DC: 113th FW, Joint Base Andrews
- IN: 122nd FW, Fort Wayne
- MN: 148th FW, Duluth
- NJ: 177th FW, Atlantic City
- OH: 180th FW, Toledo
- OK: 138th FW, Tulsa
- SC: 169th FW, Eastover
- SD: 114th FW, Sioux Falls
- TX: 149th FW, San Antonio

F-22

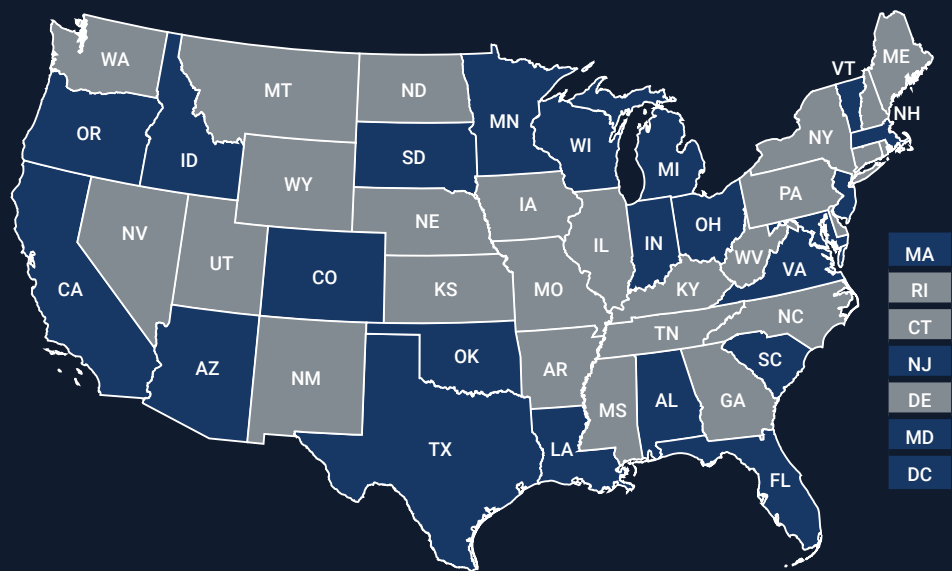
- HI: 154th FW, Honolulu
- VA: 192nd FW, Hampton

F-35A

- AL: 187th FW, Montgomery
- VT: 158th FW, South Burlington
- WI: 115th FW, Truax Field

A-10

- ID: 124th FW, Boise
- MD: 175th W, Baltimore
- MI: 127th W, Selfridge



States Impacted



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