

ANG Fighter Recapitalization

Air National Guard



NGAUS

Fiscal Year 2026 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.

Recommendation

Air National Guard



The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) strongly urges Congress to:

- Preserve current USAF Fighter Force Structure
- Fund 24 F-15EX fighter aircraft until all Air National Guard Squadrons are fully recapitalized
- 3:1 Recapitalization Prioritization of Service-Retained Fighters



Learn more at
nga.us.org

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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-22

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

F-35A

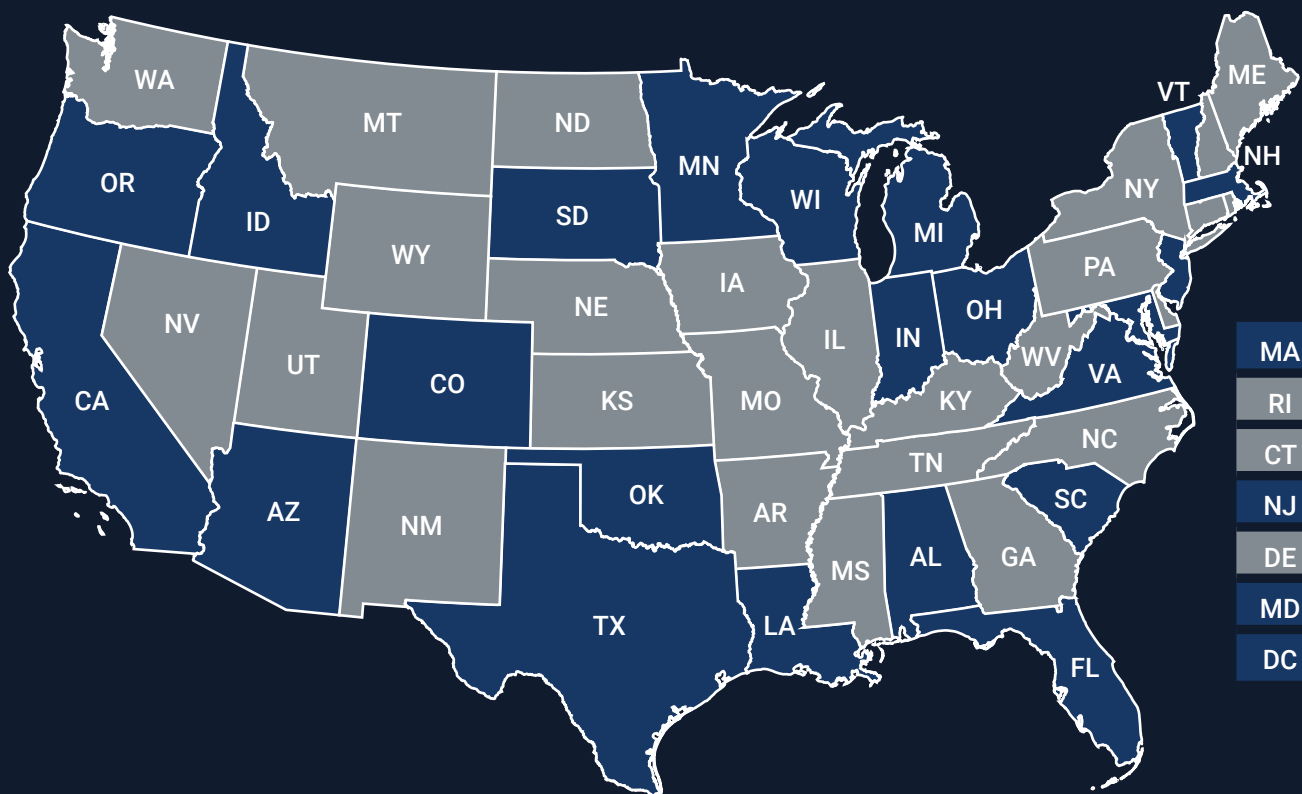
AL: 187th FW, Montgomery
VT: 158th FW, South Burlington
WI: 115th FW, Truax Field

F-16

AZ: 162nd FW, Tucson
CO: 140th FW, Aurora
DC: 113th FW, Joint Base Andrews
ID: 124th FW, Boise
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

A-10

MD: 175th W, Baltimore
MI: 127th W, Selfridge



States Impacted



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