

# C-130 Modernization

Air National Guard



# NGAUS

Fiscal Year 2026 Requirements for the Air National Guard



## The Issue

The Air National Guard C-130 Hercules fleet requires continued funding for modernization and recapitalization to ensure its aircraft can successfully engage in overseas contingency operations and respond to homeland emergencies well into the future.

▶ A C-130H Hercules aircraft of the 153rd Airlift Wing, Wyoming Air National Guard, recently modernized with NP2000 eight bladed propellers.

## Background

Currently, the Air National Guard operates nearly 50% of the Total Air Force C-130 tactical airlift mission, which are airlift missions within a combat zone. Most Air National Guard C-130 wings operate C-130H Hercules aircraft which are over 30 years old while some operate new C-130J Super Hercules aircraft.

Because the Air Force plans to continue utilizing the C-130 aircraft beyond 2040, it is critical to modernize the Air National Guard C-130 fleet by continuing to simultaneously upgrade some C-130H aircraft with modern technology and replacing others with new C-130J aircraft. Funding critical modernization efforts will ensure the safety, reliability and effectiveness of the Air National Guard C-130 fleet, both at home and abroad.

Thanks to Congress, funding has been included in defense appropriations each year since Fiscal Year 2017 to designate 16 total C-130J aircraft to the Air National Guard. Once these aircraft have been fielded to their units, the Air National Guard will operate 4 total C-130J Super Hercules wings.

▶ A C-130H Hercules aircrew assigned to the 182nd Airlift Wing, Illinois Air National Guard, flies a training sortie over Peoria, IL

## Recommendation

### Defense Appropriations



- The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) strongly urges Congress to designate at least 8 new C-130J aircraft to the Air National Guard
- Continue funding C-130H modernization efforts



Learn more at  
[nga.us.org](https://nga.us.org)

NGAUS Contact **Julian Plamann**  
DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, JOINT & PERSONNEL  
[julian.plamann@nga.us.org](mailto:julian.plamann@nga.us.org)



Additionally, thanks to Congress modernization funding has been provided to ensure upgrades of older C-130H aircraft. This funding is primarily for C-130H Avionics Modernization Program (AMP) Increments 1 and 2, as well as upgrading the C-130H T-56 engine with a Series 3.5 upgrade and replacing aging C-130H propellers with the NP-2000 8-bladed propeller.

Continuing to provide new C-130J aircraft to the Air National Guard and funding modernization of legacy Air National Guard C-130H aircraft will ensure its C-130 fleet continues to meet its dual mission of deploying in support of overseas contingency operations and providing rapid domestic emergency response.

## Air National Guard C-130 States & Units

AR: 189th AW, Jacksonville

CA: 146th AW, Oxnard

CT: 103rd AW, Windsor Locks

DE: 166th AW, New Castle

GA: 165th AW, Savannah

IL: 182nd AW, Peoria

KY: 123rd AW, Louisville

MN: 133rd AW, Minneapolis-St. Paul

MO: 139th AW, St. Joseph

MT: 120th AW, Great Falls

NM: 150th SOW, Kirtland

NV: 152nd AW, Reno

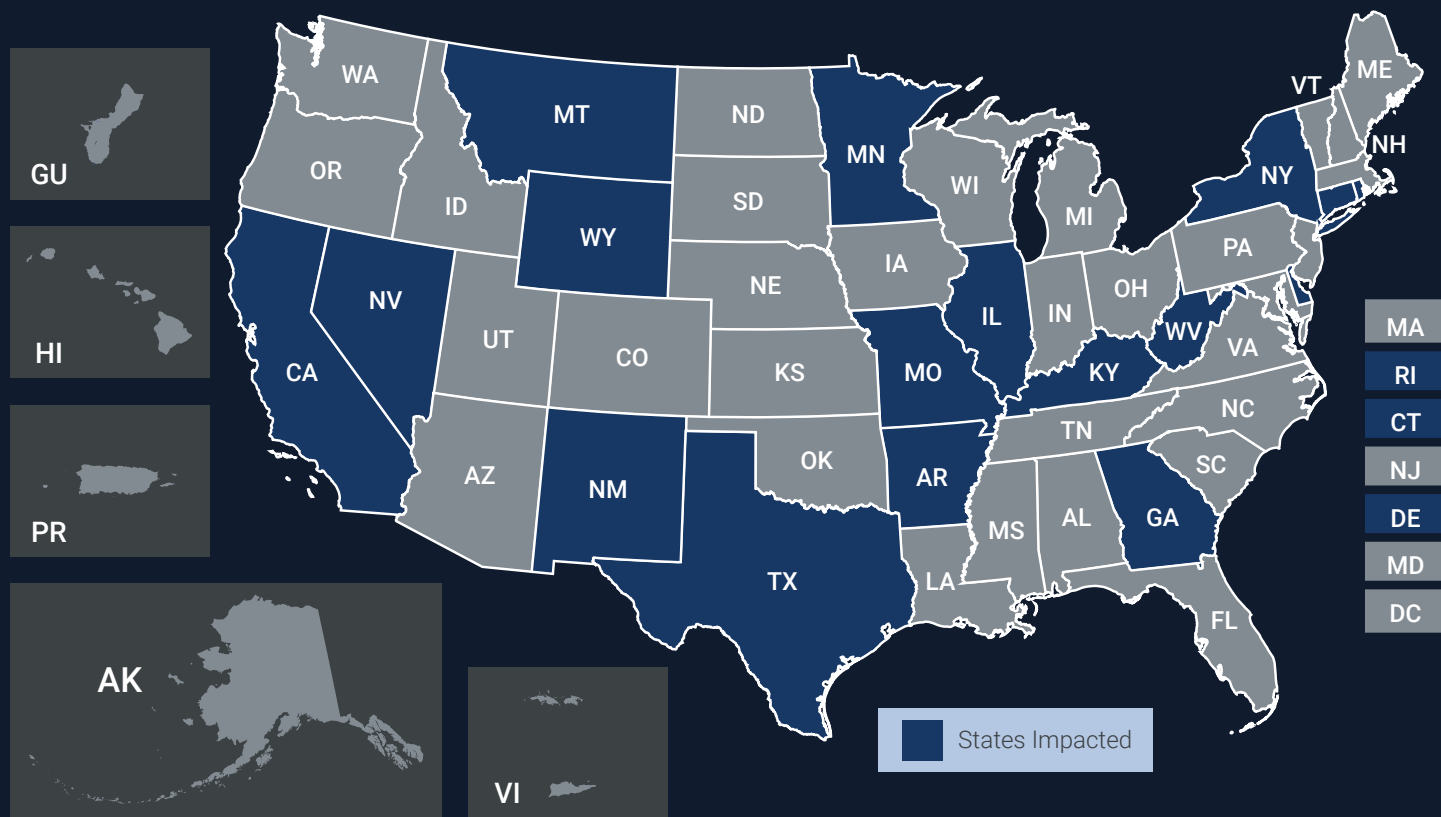
NY: 109th AW, Schenectady

RI: 143rd AW, North Kingstown

TX: 136th AW, Fort Worth

WV: 130th AW, Charleston

WY: 153rd AW, Cheyenne



Learn more at  
[nga.us.org](https://nga.us.org)

NGAUS Contact **Julian Plamann**  
DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR, JOINT & PERSONNEL  
[julian.plamann@nga.us.org](mailto:julian.plamann@nga.us.org)

