Deployment Health Assessments

U.S. Armed Forces

March 2011

(Data through February 2011)

Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

Report Date: March 29, 2011

Update: Deployment Health Assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, March 2011

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 February 2011, the number of post-deployment reassessment (PDHRA) forms per month ranged from 15,600 to 46,900 (Table 1, Figure 1).

During the past 12 months, the proportions of returned deployers who rated their health as "fair" or "poor" were 8-10% on post-deployment health assessment questionnaires and 11-14% on PDHRA questionnaires (Figure 2).

In general, on post-deployment assessments and reassessments, deployers in the Army and in reserve components were more likely than their respective counterparts to report health and exposure-related concerns (Table 2, Figure 3). Both active and reserve component members were more likely to report exposure concerns three to six months after, compared to the time of return from deployment (Figure 3).

At the time of return from deployment, soldiers serving in the active component were the most likely of all deployers to receive mental health referrals; however, three to six months after returning, active component soldiers were less likely than Army Reservists 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 postdeployment assessments and reassessments (Figure 3).

Table 1. Deployment-related health assessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, March 2010-February 2011

	Pre-deployment assessment DD2795		Post-deplo assessn DD279	nent	Post-deployment reassessment DD2900			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	385,060	100	403,231	100	325,079	100		
2010								
March	32,708	8.5	44,851	11.1	36,015	11.1		
April	32,499	8.4	33,633	8.3	25,035	7.7		
May	38,500	10.0	35,482	8.8	22,881	7.0		
June	31,305	8.1	45,401	11.3	24,802	7.6		
July	30,488	7.9	46,914	11.6	23,094	7.1		
August	38,205	9.9	37,464	9.3	31,713	9.8		
September	33,215	8.6	27,920	6.9	28,243	8.7		
October	27,506	7.1	27,726	6.9	26,909	8.3		
November	23,969	6.2	29,590	7.3	29,816	9.2		
December	31,750	8.2	30,259	7.5	24,524	7.5		
2011								
January	40,734	10.6	24,002	6.0	27,787	8.5		
February	24,181	6.3	19,989	5.0	24,260	7.5		

Figure 2. Proportion of deployment health assessment forms with self-assessed health status as "fair" or "poor", U.S. Armed Forces, March 2010-February 2011

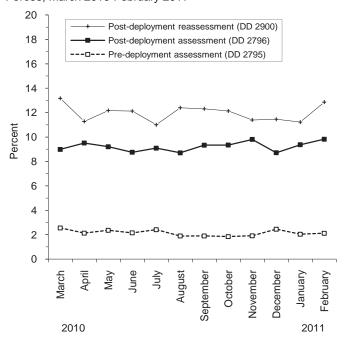
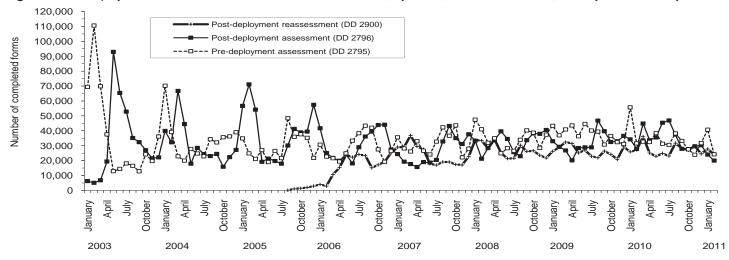


Figure 1. Total deployment health assessment and reassessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003-February 2011



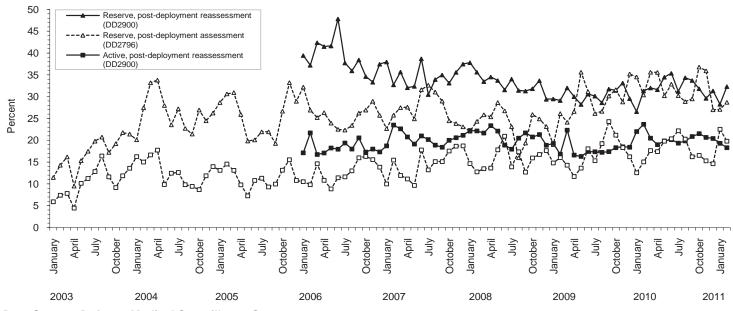
Data Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System

Table 2. Percentage of service members who endorsed selected questions/received referrals on health assessment forms, U.S. Armed Forces, March 2010-February 2011

	Army		Navy		Air Force			Marine Corps			All service members				
	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900
Active component	n= 143,500	n= 133,533	n= 130,033	n= 15,416	n= 16,124	n= 14,742	n= 59,509	n= 53,034	n= 51,146	n= 31,131	n= 32,204	n= 30,780	n= 249,556	n= 234,895	n= 226,701
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
General health "fair" or "poor"	3.6	9.9	13.8	1.0	4.6	6.1	0.4	3.4	4.1	1.4	7.9	10.8	2.4	7.8	10.7
Health concerns, not wound or injury	11.4	26.0	25.0	3.0	12.2	15.2	1.5	5.6	11.1	2.3	12.7	20.3	7.4	18.6	20.6
Health worse now than before deployed	na	21.7	23.3	na	11.8	13.8	na	8.4	8.7	na	18.0	21.4	na	17.5	19.1
Exposure concerns	na	21.7	20.5	na	20.2	22.2	na	10.0	14.3	na	17.9	26.9	na	18.4	20.1
PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	na	9.3	11.3	na	6.2	8.7	na	2.5	2.9	na	8.4	11.7	na	7.5	9.3
Depression symptoms (any)	na	30.6	32.2	na	22.7	25.5	na	13.2	13.6	na	26.3	32.5	na	25.5	27.6
Referral indicated by provider (any)	4.9	34.6	29.9	3.4	21.9	18.6	2.0	12.9	7.3	1.9	22.4	32.1	3.8	27.1	24.4
Mental health referral indicated ^a	1.4	7.6	17.1	0.4	3.2	6.3	0.6	1.5	2.3	0.2	2.3	6.7	1.0	5.2	11.6
Medical visit following referral ^b	99.3	99.6	98.6	89.4	90.8	91.8	85.7	96.5	98.1	53.3	79.2	93.8	93.4	97.0	97.2
	Army		Navy		Air Force		Marine Corps			All service members					
		Army			Navy			Air Forc	е	N	larine Co	rps	All s	ervice mei	mbers
	Pre- deploy DD2795	Army Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Navy Post-deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900
Reserve component	deploy	Post- deploy		deploy	Post- deploy		deploy	Post- deploy	Reassess	Pre- deploy	Post- deploy	Reassess	Pre- deploy	Post- deploy	Reassess
Reserve component	deploy DD2795 n=	Post- deploy DD2796	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795 n=	Post- deploy DD2796	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassess DD2900
Reserve component General health "fair" or "poor"	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 70,636	DD2900 n= 68,230	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 4,807	DD2900 n= 5,324	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 14,216	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 2,264	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 1,814	Reassess DD2900	Predeploy DD2795 n= 78,152	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 91,473	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761
	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636	DD2900 n= 68,230 %	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807	DD2900 n= 5,324 %	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,264	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 %	Predeploy DD2795 n= 78,152 %	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 91,473	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 %
General health "fair" or "poor"	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543 % 0.9	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636 % 11.9	DD2900 n= 68,230 % 16.6	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788 % 0.4	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807 % 10.6	DD2900 n= 5,324 % 10.7	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557 % 0.3	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216 % 5.3	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288 % 5.6	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,264 % 1.1	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814 % 9.6	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 % 10.0	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 78,152 % 0.8	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 91,473 %	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 %
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543 % 0.9 18.1	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636 % 11.9 36.2	n= 68,230 % 16.6 43.2	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788 % 0.4 1.7	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807 % 10.6 32.2	DD2900 n= 5,324 % 10.7 32.1	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557 % 0.3 0.6	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216 % 5.3 9.5	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288 % 5.6 16.5	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 2,264 % 1.1 2.2	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814 % 9.6 20.9	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 % 10.0 36.2	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 78,152 % 0.8 13.1	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 91,473 % 10.8 31.5	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 % 14.1 37.8
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543 % 0.9 18.1 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636 % 11.9 36.2 26.4	n= 68,230 % 16.6 43.2 31.8	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788 % 0.4 1.7	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807 % 10.6 32.2 23.2	n= 5,324 % 10.7 32.1 21.3	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557 % 0.3 0.6 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216 % 5.3 9.5	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288 % 5.6 16.5 11.9	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 2,264 % 1.1 2.2 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814 % 9.6 20.9 28.9	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 % 10.0 36.2 25.9	Predeploy DD2795 n= 78,152 % 0.8 13.1 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 91,473 % 10.8 31.5 24.3	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 % 14.1 37.8 27.6
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543 % 0.9 18.1 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636 % 11.9 36.2 26.4 33.0	DD2900 n= 68,230 % 16.6 43.2 31.8 34.4	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788 % 0.4 1.7 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807 % 10.6 32.2 23.2 52.0	DD2900 n= 5,324 % 10.7 32.1 21.3 36.4	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557 % 0.3 0.6 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216 % 5.3 9.5 13.8 16.7	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288 % 5.6 16.5 11.9 21.9	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 2,264 % 1.1 2.2 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814 % 9.6 20.9 28.9	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 % 10.0 36.2 25.9 32.5	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 78,152 % 0.8 13.1 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 91,473 % 10.8 31.5 24.3 31.3	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 % 14.1 37.8 27.6 32.4
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543 % 0.9 18.1 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636 % 11.9 36.2 26.4 33.0 9.9	DD2900 n= 68,230 % 16.6 43.2 31.8 34.4 18.9	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788 % 0.4 1.7 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807 % 10.6 32.2 23.2 52.0 6.8	DD2900 n= 5,324 % 10.7 32.1 21.3 36.4 13.0	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557 % 0.3 0.6 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216 % 5.3 9.5 13.8 16.7 3.1	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288 % 5.6 16.5 11.9 21.9 3.6	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 2,264 % 1.1 2.2 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814 % 9.6 20.9 28.9 24.6 10.3	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 % 10.0 36.2 25.9 32.5 14.3	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 78,152 % 0.8 13.1 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 91,473 % 10.8 31.5 24.3 31.3 8.7	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 % 14.1 37.8 27.6 32.4 15.8
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more) Depression symptoms (any)	deploy DD2795 n= 55,543 % 0.9 18.1 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 70,636 % 11.9 36.2 26.4 33.0 9.9 30.3	DD2900 n= 68,230 % 16.6 43.2 31.8 34.4 18.9 34.1	deploy DD2795 n= 4,788 % 0.4 1.7 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 4,807 % 10.6 32.2 23.2 52.0 6.8 28.4	DD2900 n= 5,324 % 10.7 32.1 21.3 36.4 13.0 25.6	deploy DD2795 n= 15,557 % 0.3 0.6 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 14,216 % 5.3 9.5 13.8 16.7 3.1 15.6	Reassess DD2900 n= 15,288 % 5.6 16.5 11.9 21.9 3.6 14.8	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,264 % 1.1 2.2 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 1,814 % 9.6 20.9 28.9 24.6 10.3 35.1	Reassess DD2900 n= 5,919 % 10.0 36.2 25.9 32.5 14.3 28.0	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 78,152 % 0.8 13.1 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 91,473 % 10.8 31.5 24.3 31.3 8.7 28.0	Reassess DD2900 n= 94,761 % 14.1 37.8 27.6 32.4 15.8 30.1

^aIncludes behavioral health, combat stress and substance abuse referrals.

Figure 3. Proportion of service members who endorsed exposure concerns on post-deployment health assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2004-February 2011



Data Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System

^bRecord of inpatient or outpatient visit within 6 months after referral.