The Chart Page

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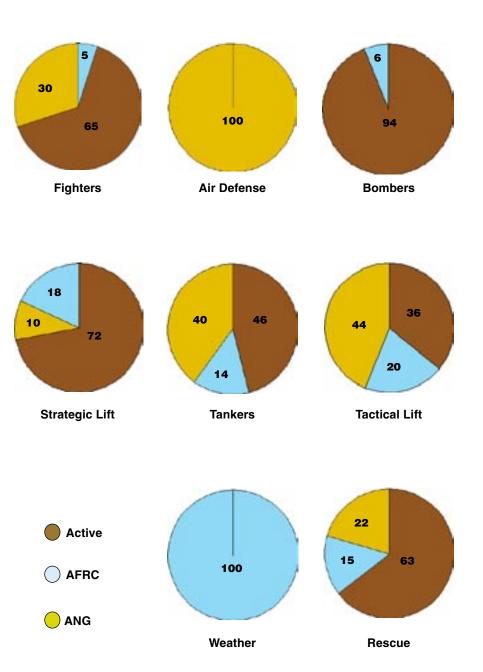
The Total Force Iron List

For many decades, a significant portion of the Total Air Force's aircraft have been flown and maintained by the two air reserve components–Air Force Reserve Command and the Air National Guard. They are big components. In fact, AFRC, with 74,000 members, and ANG, with 107,000 members, are themselves among the largest air forces in the world. The active duty Air Force has 357,400 members.

These graphics prepared by the Defense Department depict how the aircraft on the Air Force "iron list" are apportioned among the three parts of the Total Air Force.

In two categories– stateside air defense and air weather operations–ANG and AFRC, respectively, provide 100 percent of the iron. They also have control of large portions of Total Air Force tanker, tactical airlift, and fighter assets. Only in the cases of heavy bombers and long range airlifters does the active force far surpass the holdings of the reserve components.

The graphics, however, do not show the contribution of AFRC and ANG to the air and ground crews that fly and maintain active force aircraft. In the strategic airlift category, because of the use of associate units, reserve components provide 53 percent of the aircrews. As new technologies expand mission areas such as space, information warfare, command and control, and UAVs, the Guard and Reserve contribution could well increase.



Source: DOD