

HASC Committee Defense Review Report

Figure 4.1 U.S. Force Structure at Low Risk

Force Structure Element	GWOT + 2 Surge Requirement	Current Structure or QDR Recommended	Operationally Available ¹³	Additional Minimum Structure Needed ¹⁴	CDR Structure at Low Risk ¹⁵	Notes
Army Brigade Combat Teams	45-58	70	50 (70-20)	8	78	20 BCTs unavailable due to recent rotation from GWOT; provides force depth.
USMC Infantry Battalions	33	33	23 (33-10)	10	43	10 battalions unavailable due to recent rotation from GWOT; provides force depth
USMC Preposition Squads	4	3	2 (3-1)	1	4	
Amphibious Ships	36	34	22 (34-12)	21	55	Assumes 65 percent of amphibious ships are available at any given time
Navy Carrier Strike Groups	10	11	7 (11-4)	4	15	Assumes 65 percent of ships are available at any given time
Carrier Air Wings	10	11	7 (11-4)	4	15	
Attack Submarines	30	48	34 (48-14)	7-20	55-68	Structure reflects GWOT+2 requirements <u>and</u> increased forward presence capability to better meet combatant commander requirements. Total submarines available drops to 52 in 2007, 50 in 2012 and 40 in 2028. Operationally available subs will be approximately 70 percent of total.
Air Expeditionary Forces	14.5	10	9.5 (10-.5)	5	15	

¹³ Operationally available number reflects the current forces less the force structure most recently rotated from GWOT deployment or not available due to maintenance/overhaul.

¹⁴ “Additional Minimum Structure Needed” is the number of units required above the current structure/QDR recommended structure to achieve a U.S. force structure at low risk.

¹⁵ Minimum CDR structure requirement is to 1) Wage a long duration irregular campaign like the current OIF/OEF; 2) Conduct two simultaneous conventional campaigns, with one campaign to remove a hostile regime, destroy its military capacity and set conditions to, or for restoration of civil society, and a second campaign to achieve objectives short of regime change; and, 3) Provide depth to the force in order to deter opportunistic acts of aggression, or to provide homeland defense resources, or to maintain a minimal rotation capability, or to cushion the effect of unanticipated losses.