

Military Department

Wyoming Quality of Life Results:

The agency currently contributes to ensuring: Wyoming families and individuals live in a stable, safe environment (Result #1), students are successful in preparing for life's opportunities (Result #5), an effective response is provided when the state calls upon agency personnel and resources (Result #6), and a quality workforce will allow Wyoming communities to thrive (Result #10).

Department/Division/Program:

Wyoming Military Department

Contribution to Wyoming Quality of Life:

The Wyoming Military Department, through its family support program and the Wyoming Military Assistance Fund ensures Wyoming's military families can avail themselves of a strong support network that includes the ability to seek financial aid, if needed, while family members are deployed. Taking care of Wyoming's military families falls within Wyoming Quality of Life Result #1.

The 100 percent tuition reimbursement for Wyoming's colleges and the university, provided by the Wyoming Legislature, ensures our Soldiers and Airmen can continue their education while serving the state and nation. The program helps the department meet Result #5 which measures successful opportunities for students.

The dual mission of the Wyoming National Guard – to protect the nation and the state – ensures our Soldiers and Airmen meet Result #6. We continually respond to the needs of our state's residents, whether it's to fight summer wild fires or provide a community meeting place in a local armory. And we meet that result with very little cost to the state; only four percent of the agency's operating budget comes from state funds.

We assist the state in meeting Result #10 by providing state-of-the-art training opportunities to the more than 2,700 Soldiers and Airmen who belong to the organization. Those military skills are, in many cases, easily transferred to civilian lives and employment opportunities helping Wyoming's communities and businesses adapt and thrive.

Basic Facts:

The agency has 3,063 employees. This includes 1,713 Army and 1,043 Air National Guard personnel, 253 state employees, 17 federal employees and 37 contract employees. Of the 253 state employees, two work for the Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery and five work with the Veterans Commission.

Total Budget

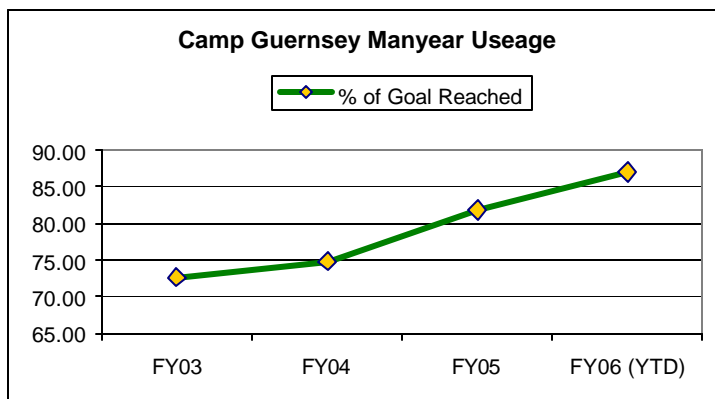
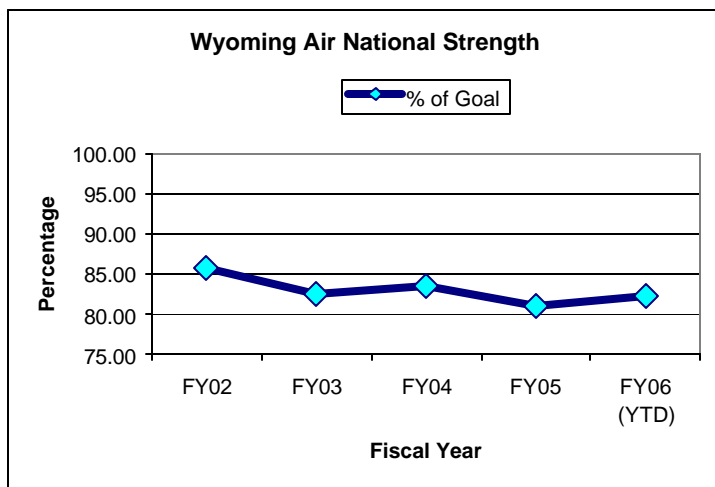
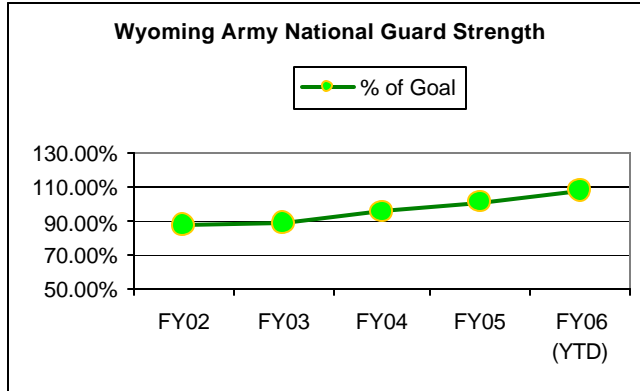
\$96,212,230.00

	\$97,546,069.00
State Funds	\$ 3,375,198.00

Our five most important programs and the number we serve are:

- Units and Troops 2,756
- Families 650/monthly
- Employers more than 1,000
- Communities 18 (Facilities are located in: Afton, Evanston, Lander, Rock Springs, Laramie, Cheyenne (3), Wheatland, Torrington, Guernsey, Douglas, Casper, Evansville, Gillette, Sheridan, Worland, Lovell, Powell and Cody.)
 - The Wyoming Air National Guard is based in Cheyenne.
 - The Camp Guernsey Joint Training Center is located in Guernsey.
 - The Oregon Trail Veterans Cemetery is in Evansville.
 - The Veterans Commission is in Casper.
- Veterans 57,860

Performance:



Story Behind the Last Year of Performance:

The organization continues to grow thanks in a large part to the support of the state and its residents. Growth in the Wyoming Army National Guard has been climbing steadily so that, currently, it is at 108 percent strength. Growth in the Wyoming Air National Guard is also improving. Currently that organization is at 82 percent strength, up almost two percent from last year. Camp Guernsey Joint Training Center usage continues to escalate. Usage, measured in mandays is just over 83,000, up 10,000 from last year. A manday is equal to one person using the camp for one day. The agency is sure

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performance measures will continue to rise with the support of the Wyoming Legislature, elected officials and Wyoming residents.

What has been Accomplished?

During the last year the Wyoming Military Department successfully supported individual and unit mobilizations; deploying more than 900 Soldiers and Airmen overseas and around the state and nation for missions like Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Joint Forge, fire fighting, and hurricane relief efforts, among others.

The agency continued to strengthen its ability to respond to the state's needs by validating the Quick Reaction Force. The QRF is designed to respond within four hours to protect Wyoming's critical infrastructure, by providing site security, patrols, check points, security and other duties as situations warrant.

The first Wyoming National Guard Youth ChalleNge Program graduation was held in June. The five-month residency program, followed by a one-year mentoring program, is designed for Wyoming's 16- to 18-year-olds who are at risk. The program can host up to 100 students a year.

The agency is transforming the force to meet the changing needs of the state and nation.

The Wyoming Air National Guard became the first unit to host an active duty squadron for U.S. Air Force Air Mobility Command. The 30th Airlift Squadron's 130 active duty Airmen operate under the control of the Wyoming Air National Guard and fly its eight C-130s. As part of the arrangement, the Wyoming Air National Guard will get four additional C-130s.

The Wyoming Army National Guard received word its force structure and weapons systems will change next year. Plans currently are being developed to stage the new units, which include a fires brigade, signal company and High Mobility Artillery Rocket System battalion, around the state.

Supplemental Budget Implications:

Since the Wyoming Legislature's 2006 budget session, the Wyoming Military Department has identified the following supplemental budget requests. All the requests listed below tie into one or more of the Wyoming Quality of Life Results.

Capital Requests

\$9.5 million to upgrade the airfield at Guernsey (Result #7). Upgrading the airfield, which is shared by Camp Guernsey and the town of Guernsey, to accommodate larger aircraft, including C-17s, would allow more people to utilize Camp Guernsey's training environment, as well as provide more utilization for aircraft serving the Goshen and Platte County population centers.

\$1,247,000 for environmental studies and recovery of fires on state land at Camp Guernsey (Results #8 and #9). June's fires at Camp Guernsey, which burned 15,000 acres of state-owned land, is home to a number of wildlife, riparian and cultural resources. This one-time money would assist the Wyoming Military Department in ensuring the land and its resources are properly recovered over a five-year period. Funding to secure additional land by the department to expand the mission capabilities for the Wyoming Air National Guard (Result #6). Securing additional land from the Cheyenne Airport will allow the ANG to more effectively and efficiently perform its current mission, as well as ensure it can meet its expanded future C-130 mission.

Operating Budget

\$70,000 for two additional water buckets and five 50-foot slings for the UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters to assist in wild land fire fighting efforts (Results #1 and #6). Currently the Wyoming Army National Guard has three water buckets and three 25-foot slings. An additional two buckets would ensure three buckets are operational at all times to assist in wild land fire fighting efforts. Recent revamped regulations have increased the acceptable sling length from 25 to 50 feet.

\$335,000 to establish historian/curator and Camp Guernsey marketing specialist positions within the Public Affairs Office and finish archiving the numerous military holdings at the Pershing Armory (Result #2 and #9). It's important to safeguard and showcase our current and future historical holdings, but to also capture our current and future accomplishments for generations of Wyoming residents. We also need to invest in informing the public about Camp Guernsey to ensure its continued growth as a major economic contributor to the state.

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\$55,500 for Civil Air Patrol operating budget and cadet/pilot training (Results #1 and #5). New technology installed in the CAP planes requires an increase in the amount of in-flight training necessary to ensure members can properly assist state and local agencies with search and rescue and aerial reconnaissance. Acquisition of a fifth aircraft has increased the cost of hangar and maintenance fees, as well.