

Purpose

A quick look at the increase of women in the military branches from the period of 1970 through 2008.

Includes which branches had the most and least increases in their active duty component during this period. Looking at both the Officers and Enlisted, as a total overall percent and as percent of Accessions. A brief timeline of major changes to how women served during this period is included.

Source

U.S. Department of Defense. *Population Representation in the Military Services – Appendix D (2008)*

https://prhome.defense.gov/Portals/52/Documents/MRA_Docs/MPP/AP/poprep/2008/appendixd.pdf

Definitions

Accessions: In the context of the Department of Defense (DoD), **accessions** refers to the **act of joining the military**.

It encompasses the process of individuals entering or re-entering military service, whether active duty, Reserve components, or even Air Force civilian status. This doesn't include reenlistment.

NPS: No prior Service

Process

Downloaded the PDF

Utilized Python to convert the tables to Excel

Cleaned data in Excel as needed

Connected Power BI to Excel for modeling and visualization

FEMALE ACTIVE DUTY COMPONET 1970s through 2008

% Active Growth

Officer 1973 - 2008

Max

AIR FORCE: 346.3% From 4.1% to 18.3%

Min

NAVY: 196.2% From 5.2% to 15.4%

Branch	% Change 1973-2008
Air Force	346.3% From 4.1% to 18.3%
Army	302.4% From 4.2% to 16.9%
DOD	281.0% From 4.2% to 16.0%
Navy	196.2% From 5.2% to 15.4%
USMC	247.1% From 1.7% to 5.9%

% Accessions Growth

Officer 1973 - 2008

Max

AIR FORCE: 267.1% From 7.5% to 27.7%

Min

NAVY: 77.5% From 12.0% to 21.4%

Branch	% Change 1973-2008
Air Force	267.1% From 7.5% to 27.7%
Army	211.2% From 6.5% to 20.3%
DOD	165.5% From 7.9% to 21.0%
Navy	77.5% From 12.0% to 21.4%
USMC	130.2% From 3.3% to 7.6%

Enlisted 1970 - 2008

Max

NAVY: 1,566.7% From 0.9% to 15.0%

Min

USMC: 588.9% From 0.9% to 6.2%

Branch	% Change 1970-2008
Air Force	1,321.4% From 1.4% to 19.9%
Army	1,220.0% From 1.0% to 13.2%
DOD	1,172.7% From 1.1% to 14.0%
Navy	1,566.7% From 0.9% to 15.0%
USMC	588.9% From 0.9% to 6.2%

Enlisted NPS 1970 - 2008

Max

NAVY: 530.0% From 3.0% to 18.9%

Min

USMC: 235.0% From 2.0% to 6.7%

Branch	% Change 1970-2008
Air Force	276.7% From 6.0% to 22.6%
Army	307.5% From 4.0% to 16.3%
DOD	305.1% From 3.9% to 15.8%
Navy	530.0% From 3.0% to 18.9%
USMC	235.0% From 2.0% to 6.7%

To Details

To Details

PERCENT ACTIVE COMPONENT FEMALE - 1970 through 2008

Select all

Air Force

Army

DOD

Navy

USMC

Milestones Over the Years

1948 – June 12: Women's Armed Services Integration Act passed. Women's components continued to operate until integration was complete.

1973 – Army allowed women to train as pilots. Navy selected its first 8 women for naval aviator training.

1975 – October 7: Public Law 94-106 passed. Allowed women to attend West Point, Annapolis, and the Air Force Academy starting in 1976.

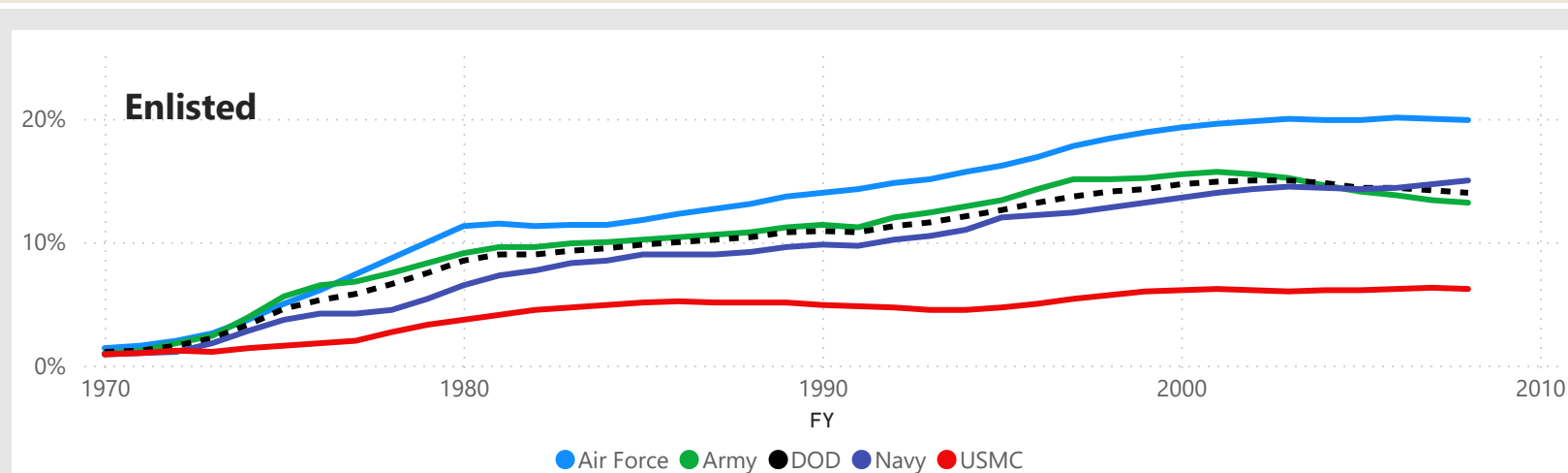
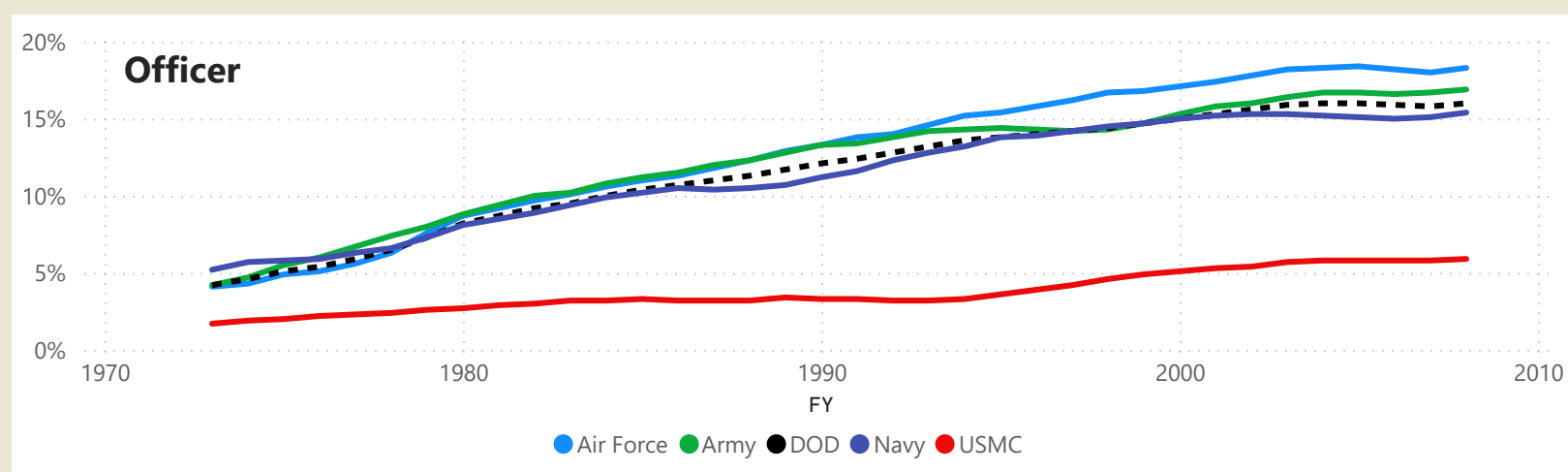
1976–1978 – Phase-out of women-only branches:

- 1976 – Women's Air Force (WAF) disbanded
- 1977 – Women Marines program disbanded
- 1978 – October 20: Women's Army Corps (WAC) disbanded

1978 – Navy began assigning women to non-combat ships.

1993 – Air Force allowed women to fly combat aircraft.

1994 – Navy opened combat ships and squadrons to women.



FEMALE ACTIVE COMPONENT ACCESSIONS - 1970s through 2008

Select all

Air Force

Army

DOD

Navy

USMC

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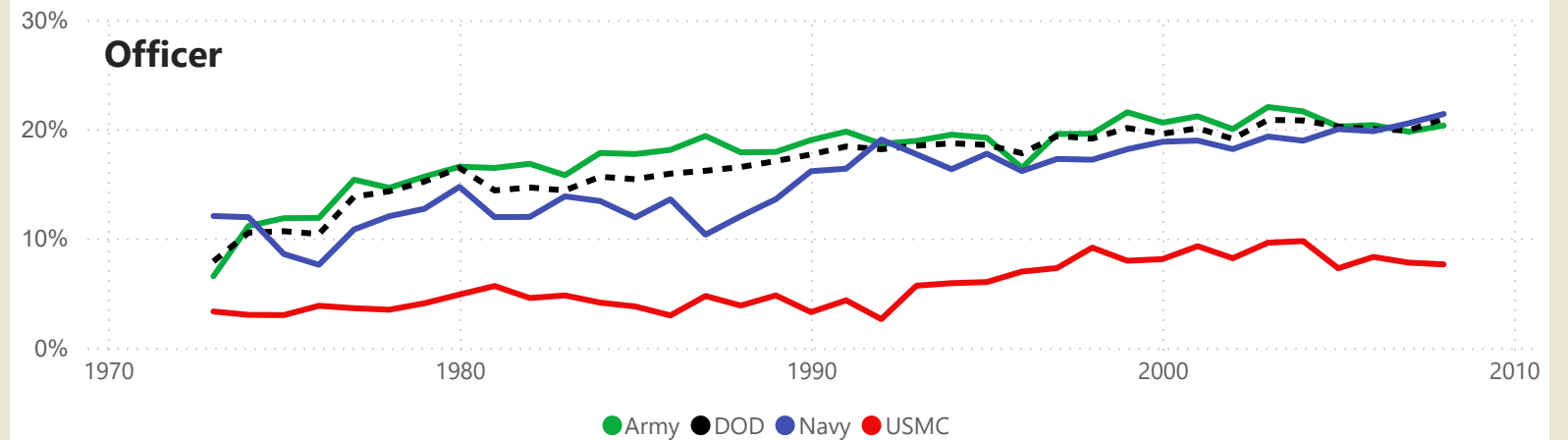
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Officer



Enlisted

