**General Characteristics**

**Primary Function:** Aerial refueling and airlift

**Prime Contractor:** The Boeing Company

**Power Plant:** CFM International CFM-56 turbofan engines

**Thrust:** 21,634 pounds each engine

**Wingspan:** 130 feet, 10 inches (39.88 meters)

**Length:** 136 feet, 3 inches (41.53 meters)

**Height:** 41 feet, 8 inches (12.7 meters)

**Speed:** 530 miles per hour at 30,000 feet (9,144 meters)

**Ceiling:** 50,000 feet (15,240 meters)

**Range:**1,500 miles (2,419 kilometers) with 150,000 pounds (68,039 kilograms) of transfer fuel; ferry mission, up to 11,015 miles (17,766 kilometers)

**Maximum Takeoff Weight:** 322,500 pounds (146,285 kilograms)

**Maximum Transfer Fuel Load:** 200,000 pounds (90,719 kilograms)

**Maximum Cargo Capability:** 83,000 pounds (37,648 kilograms), 37 passengers

**Pallet Positions:** 6

**Crew:** Three: pilot, co-pilot and boom operator. Some KC-135 missions require the addition of a navigator. The Air Force has a limited number of navigator suites that can be installed for unique missions.

**Aeromedical Evacuation Crew:**A basic crew of five (two flight nurses and three medical technicians) is added for aeromedical evacuation missions. Medical crew may be altered as required by the needs of patients.

**Unit Cost:** $39.6 million (fiscal 98 constant dollars)

**Date Deployed:**August 1956

**Inventory:** Active duty, 153; Air National Guard, 171; Air Force Reserve, 72.