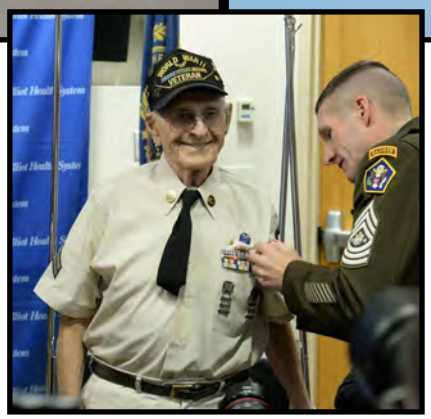
Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services
New Hampshire National Guard

2018-2019
Biennial Report

FIGHT & WIN OUR NATION'S WARS

SECURE THE HOMELAND



BUILD ENDURING PARTNERSHIPS

For the biennium ending June 30, 2019

Biennial Report of the New Hampshire Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019

This report is submitted to:

Governor Christopher T. Sununu

Councilor Michael J. Cryans, District 1

Councilor Andru Volinsky, District 2

Councilor Russell E. Prescott, District 3

Councilor Theodore L. Gatsas, District 4

Councilor Debora B. Pignatelli, District 5

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AND VETERANS SERVICES
STATE MILITARY RESERVATION, 1 MINUTEMAN WAY
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-5607

Dear Governor and Legislators,

MILITARY SUPPORT TO OUR NATION, OUR STATE AND OUR COMMUNITIES

I am honored to be your Adjutant General. Being a National Guardsman is a choice. The 2,700 men and women who choose to be New Hampshire's citizen Soldiers and Airmen train to be *always ready* and *always there*.

OUR NATION:

Many of our Army and Air units have completed intensive annual training (AT) events that resemble mini deployments. The customary two-week summer AT is a relic of the past. ATs have included moving equipment by rail and sea to Eastern Europe for live fire exercises, hosting our Medevac Company's sister detachments from two other states in preparation for a fall deployment to the Middle East, training with our active duty counterparts in Germany with a focus on foreign airfield operations, and both the Field Artillery Brigade and Medical Detachment's (MEDDET) AT events in Germany supporting European Command (EUCOM).

Our engineering squadron helped relocate a remote Alaskan village to higher ground. We have Soldiers and Airmen deployed overseas, in the National Capital Region supporting a global cyber mission, and several Soldiers/Airmen providing support to the Arizona National Guard. The NHARNG hosted Cyber Yankee 2019. This realistic cyber exercise challenged Cyber Defenders from the six New England States and Alabama, while incorporating the exercise into a larger all hazards response exercise with the New Hampshire National Guard and the New Hampshire state government.

The 157th Air Refueling Wing fielded their first two KC-46A aircraft. The two new aircraft will serve mostly as ground trainers until the remaining ten aircrafts arrive in the spring of 2020. Once the remaining aircraft arrive, routine flight operations will resume.

OUR STATE:

Renaming The Adjutant General's Department to the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services consolidates veteran services from across the state to include the Division of Veterans Services, the Division of Community Based Military Programs and the State Veterans Cemetery. This past year, the Division of Veterans Services' monthly average of appointments to help veterans was 284 per month. An expansion project just completed at the State Veterans Cemetery will increase the estimated lifespan of the cemetery for several decades. The State Veterans Cemetery continues to provide and maintain a dignified resting place to honor all veterans and eligible dependents.

It is with quiet precision that the NH Army and Air National Guard funeral honors teams have embodied our organization's highest standards. With an average of more than five (5) funerals a day, this team performs a sacred duty with care and grace, leaving countless families and loved ones with an indelible memory.

The NHNG Commendation Medal was awarded to two (2) Airmen for their heroic acts while off duty.

OUR COMMUNITIES:

NH Guardsmen volunteered their time to help with Operation Santa Claus to assemble toys, load and deliver them across the state to children in need. The Concord Readiness Center hosted the Capital Region Food Program's holiday food basket project for the 36th consecutive year.

Our Army aviators and crews assisted in multiple search and rescue missions with NH Fish and Game. The Counter Drug Task Force hosted its first open house to law enforcement agencies and assisted state law enforcement agencies in the seizure of millions of dollars' worth of illegal drugs.

State employee firefighters from the Pease Fire Department provided mutual aid to surrounding seacoast communities, responding recently to the Somersworth mill fire. The 12th Civil Support Team provided a Communications and Joint Hazard Assessment Team to local and state law enforcement, responding to real world events in Kingston and Rochester as well as recurring events such as bike week.

'PUTTING ON THAT UNIFORM REPRESENTS A SENSE OF HONOR AND DUTY THAT ALL FELLOW GUARDSMEN FEEL PASSIONATE ABOUT'

Sincerely,

David J. Mikolaities
Major General, NH National Guard
The Adjutant General

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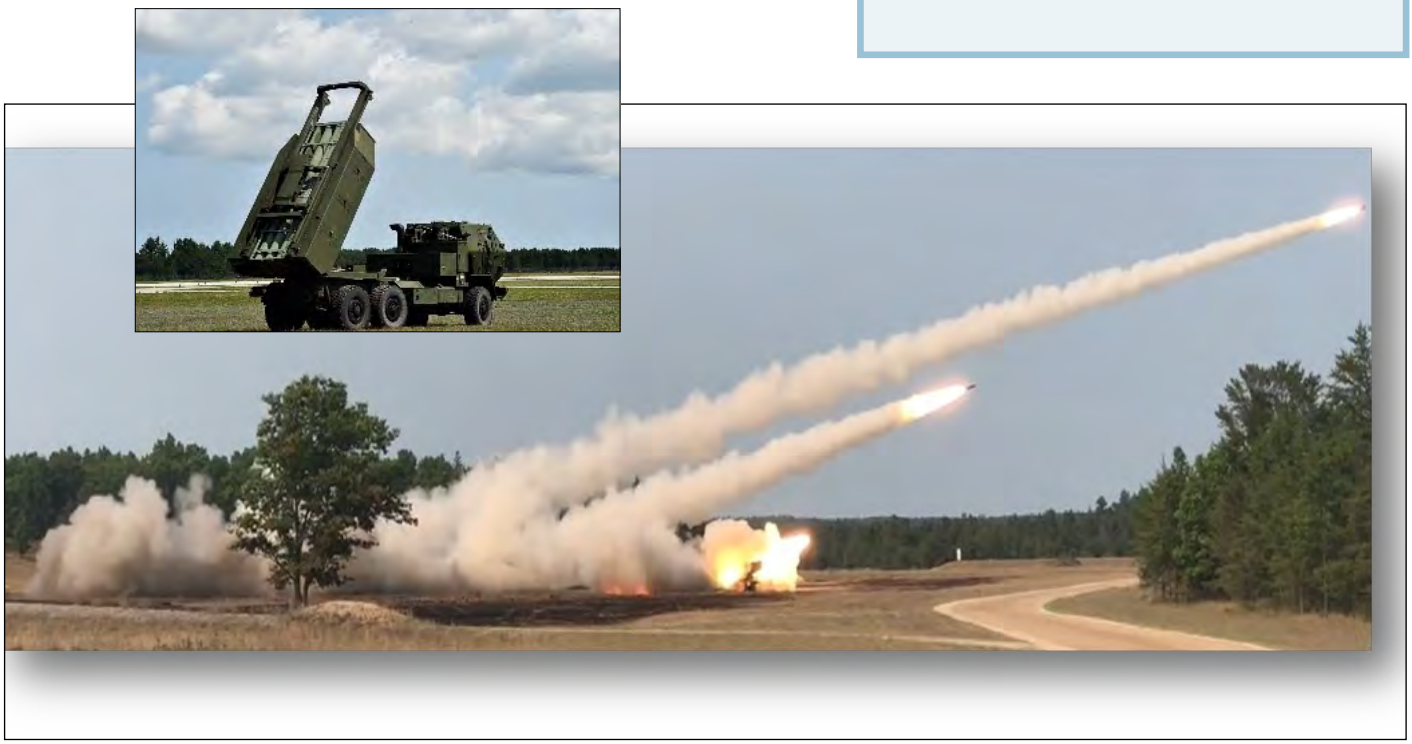
The NH Guard—Big Bang for Your Buck!

The NH National Guard provides approximately **1000** full-time and **2000** part-time jobs.

For a modest investment of **$10.7 million** in state dollars, more than **$134 million** was received from the federal government to support NHNG activities.

That's more than **$12** for every **$1** invested by the State.



The High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS), operated by 4-person crews from A Battery, 3rd Battalion, 197th Field Artillery, fires rockets during an annual training exercise at Camp Grayling, MI in August 2018.

Mission Triad

Fight & Win Our Nation's Wars

Providing the Departments of the Army and Air Force with operationally ready units and personnel in support of the total force, and for conflicts or national emergencies as ordered by the President; upon declaration of war by the Congress; or as otherwise specified by federal law.

Secure the Homeland

Providing the State and its counties, cities, and towns with operationally ready units and personnel to protect life and property, and to preserve the internal security of the State when ordered by the Governor.

Build Enduring Partnerships

As a community-based organization, members of the National Guard provide support to local organizations, community groups, and civic action projects, whenever possible.

A KC-135 Stratotanker from the 157th Air Refueling Wing refuels an F-16 Fighting Falcon from the 158th Fighter Wing (VTANG) during a March 5, 2019 training mission over New York.

Our Readiness Centers and Facilities

Readiness Centers (RC): 16
-Center Strafford, Concord (2), Franklin, Hillsborough, Lancaster, Lebanon, Littleton, Manchester, Milford, Nashua, Pembroke, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester, and Somersworth

Aviation Facilities:
-Pease Air National Guard Base, Newington

-Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF), Concord

Maintenance Facilities:
-Field Maintenance Shops: Concord, Hooksett, Rochester, and Littleton

Training Areas:

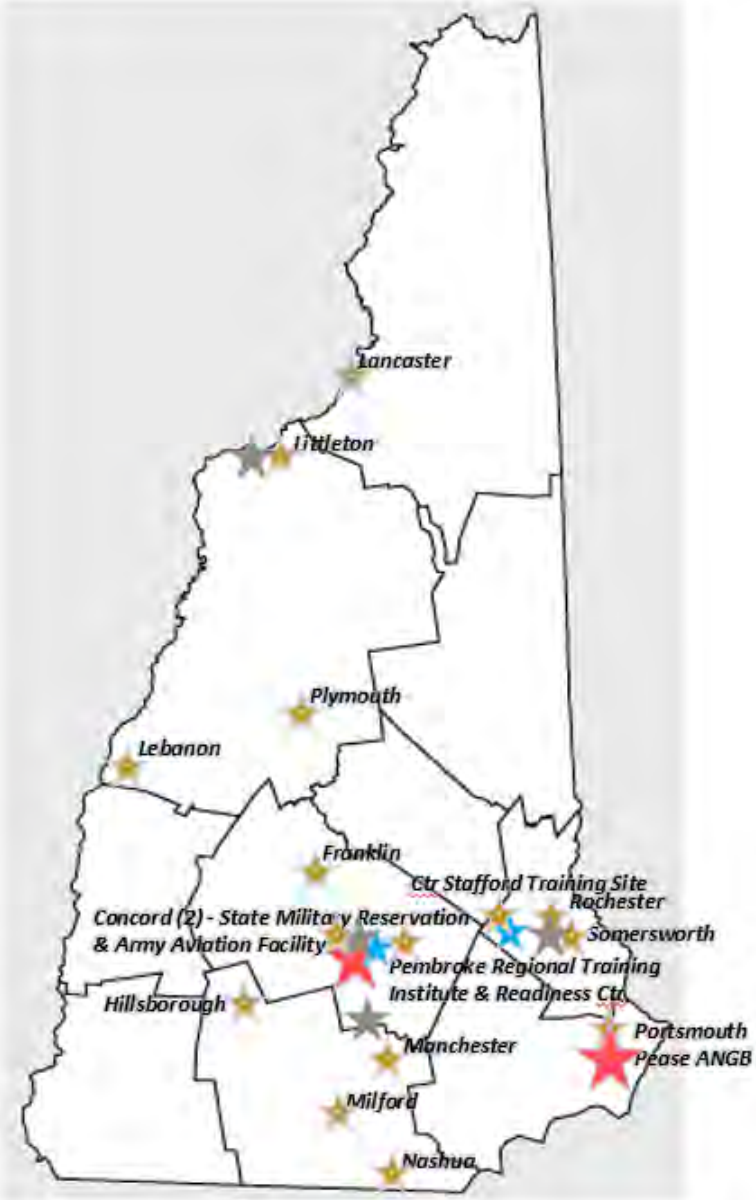
-Edward Cross Training Complex (ECTC), Pembroke

-NH National Guard Training Site, Center Strafford

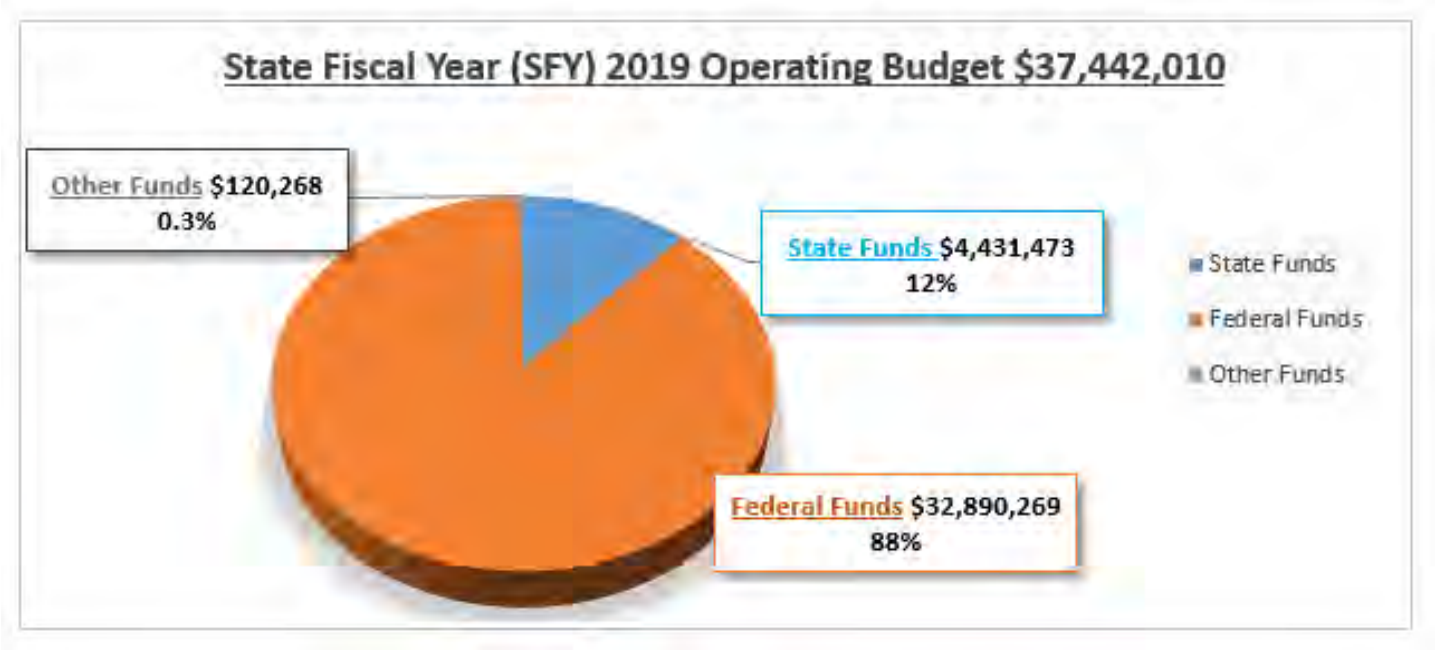
Renovations underway on Hangar 254 and Hangar 253 at Pease ANGB.

Center Strafford Air Assault Obstacle Course, NHNG Training Site.

Pembroke Edward Cross Training Complex (ECTC).



Annual Operating Budget

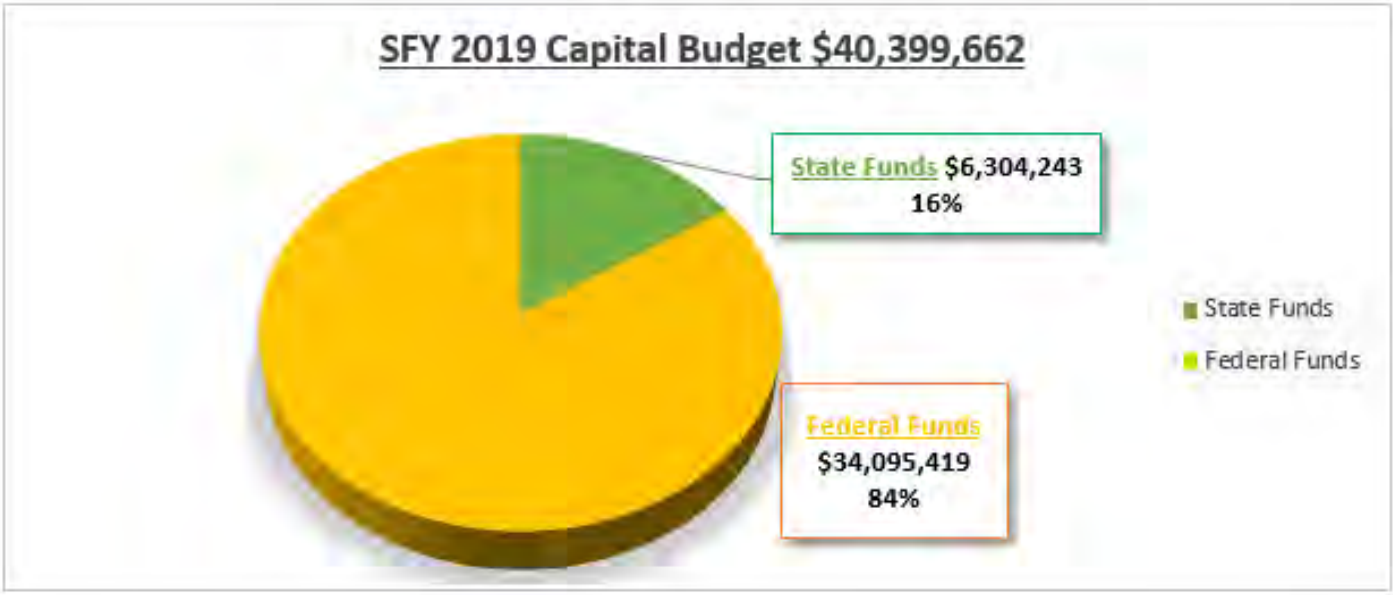


In SFY18-19, the NH National Guard managed approximately $40 million of Federal Master Cooperative Agreement funds. The state operating budget includes management of 58 agency-owned buildings in 19 locations.

	Facility Operating Expenses	Permanent Position Personnel Costs		Total
		Position #	Amount	
Army	$22,595,201	59	$4,383,876	$26,979,077
Air	$1,811,431	22	$1,911,555	$3,722,986
Veterans Cemetery	$142,142	9	$724,559	$866,701
Pease Fire Dept	$298,391	41	$4,379,266	$4,677,657
Business Office	$0	12	$1,195,589	$1,195,589
Div of Veterans Services (DVS)*	$148,813	10	$690,470	$839,283
Community-Based Military Programs (CBMP)*	$0	2	$143,294	143,294
TOTAL	**$24,995,978**	**155**	**$13,428,609**	**$38,424,587**

**Executive Order 2018-01 led to the passing of Senate Bill 208 that aligned DVS and CBMP under the Adjutant General's Dept.*

Capital Appropriations



Capital Construction Projects (2010-2019)

Federal Funds received from Army Military Construction Cooperative Agreement (MCCA)		Federal Funds received for Air Construction Projects	
Project	Cost	Project	Cost
Regional Training Institute	$37,062,599	Air Traffic Control	$2,600,000
Portsmouth RC Add/Alt	$1,997,421	Temporary Mission Planning Cell	$1,000,000
Milford RC Add/Alt	$2,056,387	Building 262 Repairs	$2,700,000
Hooksett Field Maintenance Shop	$11,827,758	Building 252 Repairs	$5,900,000
Rochester Field Maintenance Shop	$8,562,559	Squadron Ops Bldg Renovation	$6,500,000
Pembroke RC Add/Alt	$12,447,299	Construct Engine Run-up	$6,000,000
Littleton RC Design	$1,854,951	Building 253 Repairs & Addition	$15,800,000
Civil Support Team (CST) Bldg Addition	$2,987,215	Petroleum Ops Parking	$1,500,000
Concord RC Design	$510,582	Building 254 Repairs	$7,100,000
Concord Army Aviation Support Facility	$22,817,605	Aircraft Support Equipment Facility Construction	$8,000,000
TOTAL	**$102,124,376**	**TOTAL**	**$57,100,000**

NH Army National Guard

Facilities Improvements & Construction Projects

Since July 2017, the NH National Guard has completed 25 facility renovation and construction projects totaling over $50 million, with approximately $1.15 million in state funds. There were two major construction projects for Field Maintenance Shops in Hooksett and Rochester totaling nearly $20 million of 100% federally reimbursed funds.

At our Center Strafford Training Site, renovations and new construction of a track, obstacle course, and range were completed in order to enhance Soldier readiness. The Cooper House project, a renovated operations facility, is a net zero energy project nearing completion.

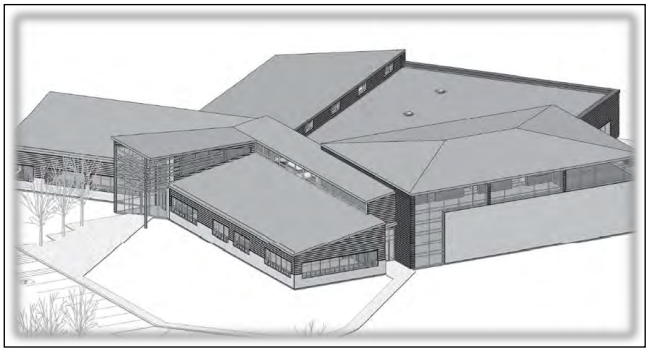
Center Strafford Track.

Readiness Centers in Littleton, Plymouth, Nashua, Rochester, and Milford each benefited from facility projects enhancing infrastructure or site improvements. Statewide intrusion detection systems were replaced in all existing arms room vaults, and kitchen projects were completed in Hillsborough, Somersworth, Franklin, and Portsmouth.

Concord Bldg L Fitness Center.

At the Concord State Military Reservation (SMR), projects were completed to improve the fence line and renovate the supply and services facility. The Civil Support Team (CST) building addition and SMR entry control point upgrade projects began in early 2019 and will be completed by the end of the year. All hangar doors at the Concord Army Aviation Support Facility were replaced.

Concord AASF Overhead Doors.



Rendering of Pembroke Readiness Center.

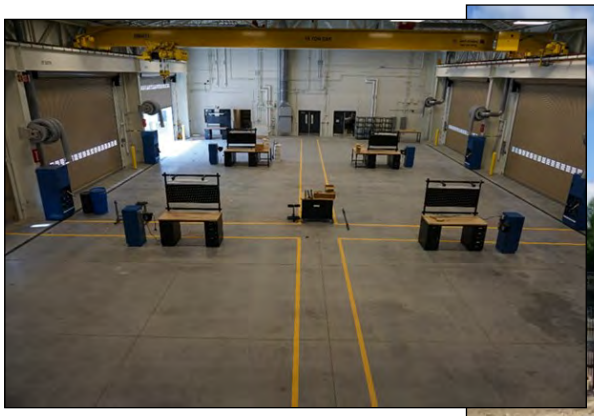
At the Manchester Readiness Center, all roof areas and fire escapes were replaced.

Construction started on the new 28,000 SF Pembroke Readiness Center and is slated for completion in Summer 2020.

State Capital Construction Projects

PROJECT	TOTAL COST	STATE/FEDERAL %	COMPLETION DATE
Milford Readiness Center Exterior Lighting Upgrades	$34,500	50% Federal reimbursement	Dec 2018
Plymouth Readiness Center Parking Lot Improvements	$175,000	50% Federal reimbursement	May 2019
Littleton Readiness Center Site Improvements	$335,000	50% Federal reimbursement	May 2019
Rochester Readiness Center Site Improvements	$600,000	50% Federal reimbursement	Jun 2019
Manchester Readiness Center Roof Replacement	$1.15 million	50% Federal reimbursement	Jun 2019

$11 million, 100% federally reimbursed, 29,000 SF field maintenance shop in Hooksett completed in 2018.



$8.5 million, 100% federally reimbursed, 22,000 SF field maintenance shop in Rochester completed in 2019. Three work bays, one drive-thru wash bay provides NHARNG with a modern fully-functional facility.

NH Air National Guard

Facilities Improvements & Construction Projects

The transition of the 157th Air Refueling Wing from the legacy KC-135 air refueling tanker to the all-new KC-46 has driven 27 facility renovations and new construction at Pease Air National Guard Base. Initially estimated to cost $49 million, emergent requirements not foreseen during the base selection process have added an additional $65 million in required projects. These projects include, but are not limited to, extensive changes to the base's four hangars, aircraft simulator building, and aircraft parking ramp. Major projects include:

Hangar 254 renovations underway.

Renovation of Hangar 253 commenced in 2015 and is scheduled for completion in February 2020. This extensive project converts an existing KC-135 hangar facility into a larger KC-46 fuel cell facility. The changes underway will add 21,000 SF and cost $16.7 million.

Hangar 253—admin, training & aircraft maintenance.

Hangar 254 renovation began in 2019 and is slated for completion in October 2020. This is a 1950's legacy hangar from Pease Air Force Base and also housed the offices and industrial shops for the 157th Maintenance Group. The modifications underway will transform the structure into a state-of-the-art KC-46 repair facility, add 21,000 SF, and cost $16.6 million.

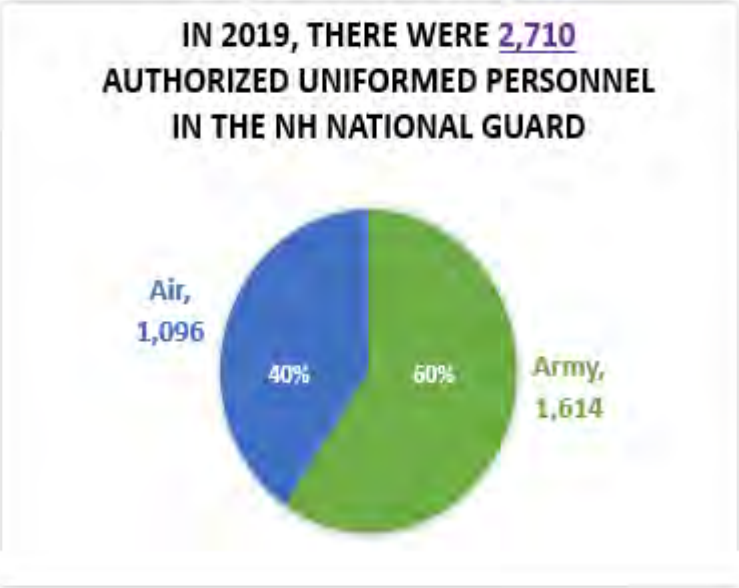
Building 251 underwent renovation in 2017 and was completed in May 2019. It was converted from a KC-135 wash facility into a KC-46 Fuselage Training Facility. The Fuselage Trainer (FuT) is multi-functional, enabling training in three areas: cargo loading, aeromedical evacuation, and aircraft maintenance. The facility also houses a pallet racking system capable of storing 72 aircraft pallets for rapid mobilization. Total project cost $2.1 million.

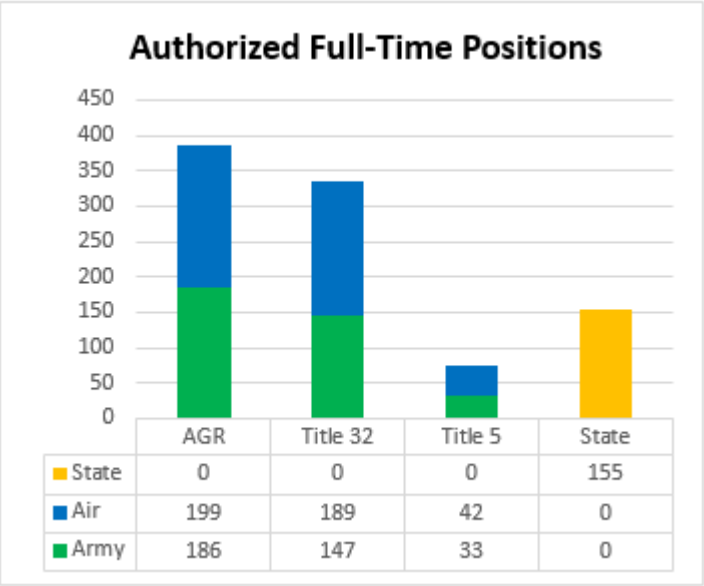
Fuselage Training Facility.

KC-46 Pegasus tanker arrives at Pease ANG Base.

Building 252 begins construction in October 2019 and is projected to be completed in January 2021. This project will convert another legacy 1950's hangar into the premier Small Air Terminal and Mobilization Facility in the Air National Guard. The KC-46 Small Air Terminal will provide air cargo operations, aeromedical movement capabilities, and passenger/troop movement support that are critical to both domestic and overseas contingency operations. This restoration and conversion is projected to cost $7.6 million.

Snapshot of the NHNG





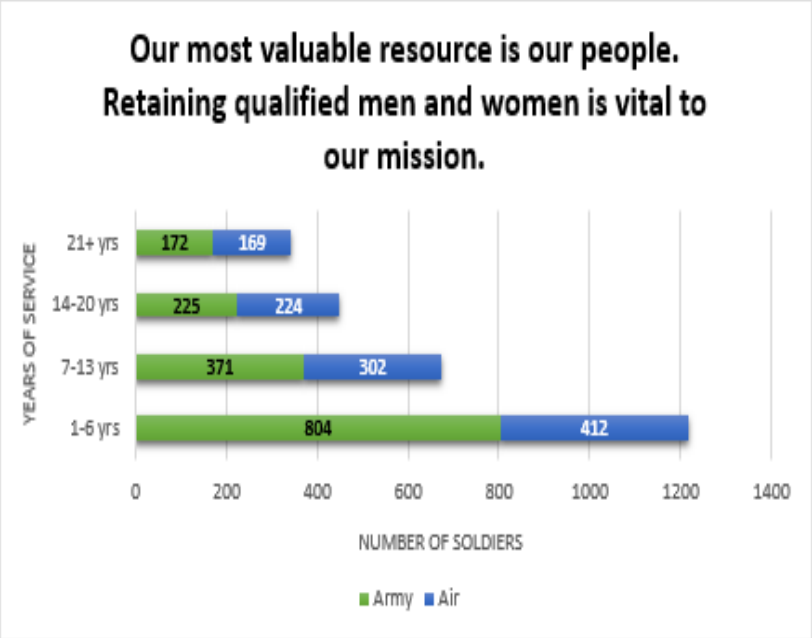
More than half of the NHNG Army and Air personnel are less than 30 years of age.

About 1,200 Soldiers and Airmen (44%) are in their initial enlistment contract (1-6 years).

Approximately 12% of the NH National Guard force has served more than 20 years.

Uniformed Personnel By County

County	Army	Air	Total	%
Belknap	90	30	120	4%
Carroll	26	14	40	1%
Cheshire	46	4	50	2%
Coos	47	4	51	2%
Grafton	108	10	118	4%
Hillsborough	407	170	577	22%
Merrimack	298	63	361	13%
Rockingham	256	289	545	20%
Strafford	162	248	410	15%
Sullivan	33	2	35	1%
Out of State	99	271	370	14%



Fight & Win Our Nation's Wars

Air National Guard

The 157th Air Refueling Wing (ARW) set new records in 2018-19 for the number of deployed Airmen, 594, and total number of days deployed, 49,869. They supported six combatant commanders around the world. The Wing was equally as busy at home. Planners for the Northeast Tanker Task Force executed 144 fighter deployments, delivering 29.1 million pounds of fuel to 1,004 U.S. and Allied aircraft. The Wing's alert detachment generated and flew 93 sorties, delivering 3 million pounds of fuel to 300 aircraft.

View of refueler boom from C-17 cockpit.

In March 2019, after 44 years operating the KC-135 refueler, the last of the KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft departed Pease for assignment to other units. The Wing received the first two new KC-46 Pegasus aircraft in August 2019, with the remaining 10 aircraft slated to arrive in Spring 2020.

This summer, 33 Airmen from the 157th Civil Engineer Squadron planned and conducted an on-going operation in Alaska to relocate the village of Newtok, threatened by rising sea levels, inland to the area of Mertavrik. During their rotation, they weatherized 13 houses and began installation of interior walls and insulation. Also, five driveways were completed as well as substantial progress made on additional road construction. The project provided expeditionary training in a multi-craft, joint force setting with other Air National Guard and United States Marine Corps Reserve personnel.

Army National Guard

The NHARNG continues to improve its readiness and capabilities. Eight NHARNG Soldiers deployed last year to the Middle East for nine months in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. In January, the 136th Cyber Security Team began its 400-day mobilization supporting a global cyber mission at Fort Meade, MD.

In the past year, the NHARNG gained two new units, a 60-person Military Police Battalion Headquarters and a 8-person Public Affairs Detachment. This spring, the 197th Field Artillery Brigade deployed to Grafenwoehr, Germany to lead Dynamic Front 2019. In June, the 3-197th Field Artillery Battalion and the 744th Forward Support Company moved its equipment from NH by rail and sea to Eastern Europe and played a key role in Breakthrough 2019, a HIMARS live-fire exercise hosted by the Hungarian National Defense Force.

Infantry Co. mortar team at AT.

In May, our Mountain Infantry company completed another successful rotation at the Joint Reserve Training Center (JRTC) in Fort Polk, LA as part of the larger Vermont-based 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT). In June, the 238th Medevac Company hosted an equally intensive annual training (AT) with its sister detachments from Michigan and Ohio in preparation for a fall deployment to support combat operations throughout the Middle East.

During the same period, the 3643rd Brigade Support Battalion and our detachment from Alpha Company, 1-169th Aviation Regiment sharpened their sling-loading operations, completing an impressive block of hands-on instruction at the ECTC and AASF. The training is in preparation for the units' August AT in Gagetown, Canada in support of Maroon Raider, a joint exercise with the Canadian Armed Forces.

Secure the Homeland

NHNG Soldiers, Airmen and State Employees conducted more than 100 domestic operation missions in support of civil authorities in 2018-19. These missions were highlighted by nine helicopter search and rescue missions, a fire suppression mission, two Civil Support Team (CST) responses to Chemical, Biological, Radiological & Nuclear (CBRN)-related emergencies, and multiple mutual aid responses by the Pease Fire Department.

12th CST conduct decon during training exercise.

Our Counter Drug task force continues to evolve with the ever-changing opioid threat to our state. Analysts were reorganized amongst our interagency partners, the first asset forfeiture case was brought to a successful outcome, and our first aviator was trained to support law enforcement efforts from the air. Over the past two years, analysts from our Counterdrug Task Force assisted 10 state law enforcement agencies in the seizure of $18.3 million worth of illegal drugs and provided support to 652 opioid cases. Civil Operations completed 1,396 hours in support of 200 drug prevention events throughout the state.

A Blackhawk dumping water during the Woodstock wildfire.
Photo courtesy: Ken Cowles

TSgt Mooers, 260th Air Traffic Control Squadron, readies a power generator for deployment to the Virgin Islands during Hurricane Irma relief effort.

In addition to its real-world responses, the CST conducted over 40 assist and special security event missions in support of civil authorities, which included national support for Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta.

Our State Active Duty missions focused on continued liaison with State Emergency Operations Center personnel to ensure emergency preparedness, and collaboration with Department of Information Technology to enhance the state's cybersecurity posture.

Four NHNG Soldiers and one Airman volunteered to support the Southwest Border mission in Arizona. These NH Guardsmen are performing communications and video surveillance assignments.

157th Medical Group search & extraction team members lift debris during exercise.

The 200-person CBRN Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) elements - designed to provide immediate incident response capabilities - conducted successful externally-evaluated training exercises with state and regional partners to validate their ability to perform their medical treatment, facility search and recovery, and decontamination missions. These personnel stand ready to provide support to civil authorities.

Build Partnerships-Globally

EL SALVADOR

The past two years, NH conducted 30 subject matter exchanges with our State Partnership Program country, El Salvador. These events, designed to improve interoperability, included swift water rescue training, cyber security assessments, maintenance exchanges, leadership development, and the 157th Air Refueling Wing flyover and 39th Army Band performing at the Ilopango Airshow.

SFC Compton interprets rope tying instructions at a swift water rescue exchange.

The 39th Army Band and a KC-135 refueler crew traveled to El Salvador in late January 2019 to perform at the Ilopango Airshow.

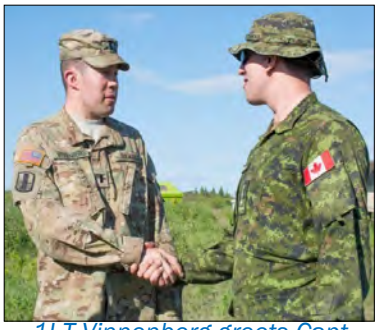
SPC Passi of the 114th Public Affairs Det. shows photos to two Salvadoran children.

CANADA

With our northern neighbors, we conducted more than a dozen small-team and company-level tactical training events over the border and at home. In March 2019, Soldiers from C Company, 3-172nd Infantry spent two weeks with members of the 5th Canadian Division in Goosebay, Canada conducting Arctic operations training as part of Exercise Northern Sojourn, a winter warfare training event.

Winter Warfare Training, Goosebay, Canada.

In April 2019, Soldiers from both El Salvador and Canada competed alongside our Soldiers and Airmen in the annual Best Warrior Competition.



1LT Vinnenberg greets Capt Andrew Piercey at Gagetown.

The NHARNG continues to support the Army ROTC Cadet Command's Cultural Understanding & Leadership Program (CULP) by sending mentors with ROTC cadets on month-long immersion exchanges to worldwide locations. This summer, Soldiers traveled to Uzbekistan, Latvia, Romania, Senegal, Botswana, Panama, Thailand, and Peru.

Build Partnerships-Locally

This year, from color guards to guest speakers, the NHNG had many Soldiers and Airmen participate in ceremonies and parades at town commons, schools and city main streets. For the 36th consecutive year, the NHNG hosted the Capital Region Food Program's holiday food basket project at the Concord Readiness Center. And, more than 50 NH Guardsmen volunteered for Operation Santa Claus, assembling bikes and loading and delivering thousands of Christmas gifts across the state to children in need.

The 39th Army Band, our community ambassadors, performed 100 concerts entertaining over 100,000 spectators. Each year, the band conducts shows at schools during March's Music in Our Schools Month; and each summer conducts performances throughout the state as part of its annual summer concert series.

Since July 2017, Army and Air military funeral honors teams performed more than 2,500 funeral services throughout the state in honor of our NH veterans.

39th Army Band performs at a community concert.

2018-2019 FACTS

Conducted 2507 Military Funeral Honors

Band performed 100 concerts at schools and communities

Supported 70 Community Events

Members of NHNG participate in Operation Santa Claus 2018.

L to R: 1) Veterans Day event at Plymouth Town Hall, 2) Air Honor Guard, 3) Veterans Cemetery on Memorial Day.

NHNG History - Always Ready, Always There

1679—NH first state militia units are organized.

1754—NH militia units fight in various conflicts against the French and their native allies.

1775—During the Revolution (1775-1783), elements of New Hampshire's militia fought at Bunker Hill, Saratoga, Trenton, and Monmouth.

1812—In the War of 1812 (1812-1814), the militia served in campaigns along the Canadian border.

1846—NH raises one regiment for service in the Mexican War (1846-1848), commanded by Colonel (and future president) Franklin Pierce.

1861—During the Civil War (1861-1865), NH organized 17 Infantry, one Cavalry, and one Artillery regiments for the Union Army. Most saw combat at Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg.

SGT Kauffelt transmits radio message.

1898—One NH regiment served during the Spanish-American War (1898-1899).

1916—NH deployed an Infantry regiment to Laredo, Texas in support of the Mexican border crisis of 1916.

1917—When America entered WWI (1917-1918), the 1st NH Infantry sailed to France and became the First Army Headquarters Regiment. A majority of the remaining Soldiers were assigned to the 26th Division and fought in six campaigns in France.

1941—During WWII (1941-1945), the 172nd Field Artillery Battalion fought in Northern Europe while the 197th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft Artillery) served first in Australia and later in the Philippines.

SSgt Strempfer, of 157th Logistics Readiness Squadron, inspects a tow truck at Pease.

1947—The NH Air National Guard was established as the 133rd Fighter Squadron.

1950—Two NH units were mobilized during the Korean War (1950-1953).

1961—NHANG was activated in support of the Berlin Airlift.

1968—The 3rd Battalion, 197th Field Artillery was one of only two National Guard artillery units to serve in Vietnam from 1968-1969.

1990—The 744th Transportation Company served in Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-1991).

2001—Since 9/11, more than half of the Soldiers and Airmen of the NHNG have deployed overseas in support of the Global War on Terror.

FORT NEW HAMPSHIRE

Veteran & Service Member Support

Under the newly-named Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services, the NH National Guard, through its Fort New Hampshire concept, stands ready to provide services and resources to service members, military families, and veterans.

Service Member & Family Support

- Family Readiness Support
- Family Assistance Centers
- Care Coordination
- Suicide & Sexual Assault Prevention
- Survivor & Outreach Services
- Transition Assistance
- Youth Programs

NHNG Child & Youth camp in April.

100,000+

VETERANS LIVE IN NH

Division of Veterans Services

- Coordination of VA benefits
- Survivors & Veterans Pension
- Veterans Service Officers co-located with Family Assistance Specialists

Gov. Sununu signs Executive Order 2018-01.

Community-Based Military Programs

- Collaborate, coordinate, and communicate with military and civilian provider groups in the delivery of health care services
- Focused on helping to facilitate military and civilian partnerships

State Veterans Cemetery

- Veteran & Family internments
- Education & Outreach at the Heritage Learning Center
- Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies

Contact Information

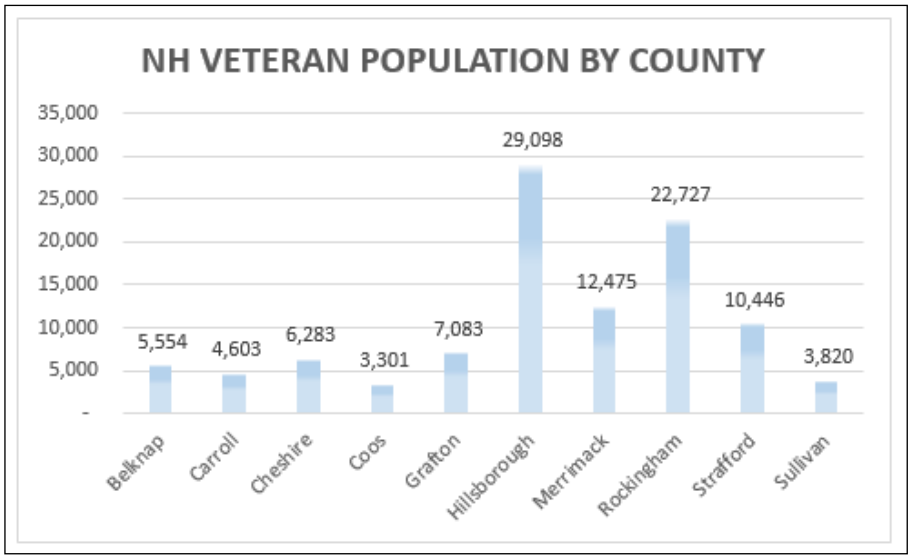
Service Member & Family Support	(877) 598-0666
Division of Veterans Services	(603) 624-9230
State Veterans Cemetery	(603) 796-2026
Community-Based Military Programs	(603) 271-9394

FORT NEW HAMPSHIRE

Veterans Services

Division of Veterans Services

As of January 1, 2018, there were 105,390 veterans in New Hampshire, or approximately 10% of the adult population. Just over half (54,100) are 65 or older, and 8% (8,541) are women. They represent every conflict since World War II. Our Veterans live in each county with the majority (61%) located in Hillsborough, Merrimack, and Rockingham Counties.



The veteran population in NH is currently decreasing by 2.58% annually. If the current trend continues, the number of veterans living in NH will be 74,228 by 2030.

In February 2018, Governor Sununu signed Executive Order 2018-01 directing the Adjutant General to coordinate the delivery of veteran services to NH's Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. The order created one coordinated State operation for the provision of veteran services. Since then, the Division of Veterans Services and the Division of Community-Based Military Programs have been working with the NHNG to improve access to services for those who currently serve and have served our Nation. The executive order was codified into law and rebrands the Adjutant General's Department as the Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services.

This year, the Division of Veterans Services averaged almost 300 Veteran appointments a month and processed claims for VA benefits that resulted in more than $6 million paid to veterans each month.

Division of Community-Based Military Programs

The Division of Community-Based Military Programs continues to be the driving force in NH's grass roots model of veteran support. The bureau coordinated the "Ask the Question" campaign that provides a method for service providers to identify veterans and deliver culturally competent care. Most notably, the Division led the state's effort, along with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to prevent suicide among the veteran population.

The NH Governor's Challenge Team at SAMHSA policy academy.

Veterans Services (Cont'd)

Veterans Cemetery

The State Veterans Cemetery honored veterans with 894 interments in 2018 and 958 in 2019. Both years exceeded the 5-year average of 862. There are over 11,500 veterans and eligible family members interred at the cemetery. In the past two years, three major additions were constructed at the cemetery: a 2,320 columbarium expansion was finished in 2018, 1,410 pre-placed vaults were installed in 2019, and 1,862 in-ground cremains plots were developed in 2019. These expansions extended the capacity of the developed part of the facility through 2030. In 2019, the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery Association opened the Command Sergeant Major Stanley Arnold and Mrs. Renate Arnold Veterans Heritage Learning Center. The cemetery and learning center hosts over 600 students annually. The learning center, along with the 20 Points of History and the Memorial Walkway, provides a creative and interactive educational environment for students and the public to learn about the selfless service and sacrifice of our NH veterans. In October 2018, Shawn Buck was appointed Director of the State Veterans Cemetery, replacing Mike Horne, who admirably served in this capacity for 10 years.

Renate Arnold, left, and Maj Gen (Ret) Gretchen Dunkelberger, president of the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery Association, share a smile in the Veterans Heritage Learning Center that was named for Mrs. Arnold and her late husband, Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley R. Arnold.

Students from Bridgewater-Hebron Village School and Newfound Memorial Middle School visited the cemetery and learned about the contributions of New Hampshire's veterans to our freedom. They also helped beautify our grounds.

Federal Grants Received for State Veterans Cemetery	
Chapel, Maintenance, Administration Buildings	$1,451,550
Columbarium	$3,010,219
Grave, Irrigation & Foot Bridge	$1,719,896
Expand Lawn Crypts, Roadways, Irrigation	$2,537,860
TOTAL	**$8,719,525**

We are New Hampshire's Citizen Soldiers and Airmen.

When disaster strikes New Hampshire, we respond.

When our Nation is threatened, we mobilize.

Selfless Service is our greatest passion.

SPC Jack Settele, C Co. 3/172nd INF takes a quick drink.

Soldiers and Airmen with Joint Force Headquarters, NHNG, enjoy a view from the roof of the state capitol in Concord.

TSgt Eric Low, 157th Medical Group inspects optometry equipment.

Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services

New Hampshire National Guard

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