



## ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1886-present***

This tabulation was compiled from such sources as the Navy Directory (issued at varying intervals to 1941); the Annual Reports of the Secretary of the Navy (issued annually to 1931); Comptroller of the Navy (NAVCOMPT) compilations; Department of the Navy (DON) 5-Year Program, Ships & Aircraft Supplemental Data Tables (SASDT); and records and compilations of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-802K, now N804J1D) Ship Management Information System (now Ship Management System), refined and edited with the assistance of the annual Naval Vessel Register.

For consistent historical comparison, Naval Reserve Force (NRF) and Naval Fleet Auxiliary Force (NFAF) ships, and Military Sealift Command (MSC) fleet support ships, are included in current and recent active totals. Figures, and conclusions drawn from them, would, otherwise, be historically inconsistent, and comparisons would be skewed.

From 1963 through 1974, former guided-missile frigates (DLG/DLGN) are counted under the categories (cruisers, destroyers) to which they were assigned on 30 June 1975: DLG 6 class Became DDG 37 class; DLG 16 class became CG 16 class; DLG 26 class became CG 26 class; DLGN 25, 35, 36 classes became CGN 25, 35, 36 classes.

Surface warfare ship totals do not include submarines, mine warfare, patrol or auxiliaries.

**TABLES:**

**1886-1891** | **1892-1897** | **1898-1903** | **1904-1909** | **1910-1916** | **1917-1923** |  
**1924-1930** | **1931-1937** | **1938-1944** | **1945-1951** | **1951-1957** | **1958-1964** |  
**1965-1971** | **1972-1978** | **1979-1985** | **1986-1992** | **1993-1999** | **2000-present**

### ***U.S. Navy Ship Force Levels, 1886-1891***

DATE	12/86	12/87	12/88	12/89	12/90	12/91
BATTLESHIP						
CRUISER*	1	2	2	4	7	8
MONITOR						1
TORPEDO BOATS					1	1
STEEL GUNBOATS**	1	1	1	4	5	7
AUXILIARIES						1
SCREW STEAMER***	13	13	13	13	11	10
SCREW SLOOPS ^	14	14	14	14	10	10

GUNBOATS~	5	5	5	5	5	5
SAILING VESSELS@	4	4	4	3	3	3
STEEL NAVY	2	3	3	8	13	18
OLD NAVY \$	36	36	36	35	29	28
TOTAL ACTIVE	38	39	39	43	42	46

#### NOTES

\* Mostly protected cruisers plus two armored cruisers and three unprotected cruisers.

\*\* Although not a gunboat, the steel-hulled despatch boat *Dolphin* was part of the "New Navy". The great increase in numbers after 1897 includes new building, conversions, and war prizes.

\*\*\* All wooden or iron ships until 1898 when the wartime expansion included eleven merchant ships temporarily converted to auxiliary cruisers.

^ Includes one steam sloop and one steam sloop-of-war.

~ Includes wooden, composite, and iron gunboats.

@ Includes one sloop-of-war and three training ships.

\$ The distinction between "Old" Navy and "Steel" Navy is somewhat artificial, the former being the old iron-hulled vessels with early steam engines, while the latter term covers (with a few exceptions) the new steel-hulled triple-expansion steam engine warships that become the standard ships of 20th-century navies.

#### EVENTS

- U.S. authorized first vessels of the "steel navy" in 1883 and 1885.
- First battleship (pre-dreadnought) authorized in 1886.
- Publication of Alfred Thayer Mahan's widely read but often misunderstood *The Influence of Sea Power Upon History* in 1890.

### ***U.S. Navy Ship Force Levels, 1892-1897***

DATE	12/92	12/93	12/94	12/95	12/96	12/97
BATTLESHIP				3	5	6
CRUISER	8	9	16	17	16	16
MONITOR	1	2	2	3	6	6
TORPEDO BOATS	1	1	1	1	1	6
STEEL GUNBOATS	7	9	10	10	11	14
AUXILIARIES#	1	1	1	1	1	1
SCREW STEAMER	9	7	7	7	7	7
SCREW SLOOPS	8	7	6	6	6	5

<b>GUNBOATS</b>	5	5	5	5	5	10
<b>SAILING VESSELS</b>	3	2	2	2	1	1
<b>STEEL NAVY</b>	18	22	30	35	40	49
<b>OLD NAVY</b>	25	21	20	20	19	23
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	43	43	50	55	59	72

#### NOTES

- First three battleships commissioned in 1895.

## ***U.S. Navy Ship Force Levels, 1898-1903***

DATE	12/98	12/99	12/00	12/01	12/02	12/03
<b>BATTLESHIP</b>	6	5	8	9	10	11
<b>CRUISER</b>	18	15	13	9	16	19
<b>MONITOR</b>	14	6	5	6	6	6
<b>DESTROYERS</b>					8	16
<b>TORPEDO BOATS</b>	12	15	18	24	27	27
<b>SUBMARINES</b>			1*	1	1	8
<b>STEEL GUNBOATS</b>	34**	28	30	29	29	29
<b>AUXILIARIES#</b>	30	26	25	25	26	26
<b>SCREW STEAMER</b>	16	13	11	10	9	9
<b>SCREW SLOOP</b>	4	4	3	3	3	2
<b>SAILING SHIPS</b>	1	1***				
<b>GUNBOATS @@</b>	25	20	26	25	25	22
<b>STEEL NAVY</b>	114	95	100	103	123	142
<b>OLD NAVY</b>	46	38	40	38	37	33
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	160	133	140	141	160	175

#### EVENTS

- Spanish-American War, April-August 1898.
- First submarine enters service in 1900. First torpedo boat destroyers enter service in 1902.

#### NOTES

\* *Holland*, although technically a submersible torpedo boat, was the first of some 500 or so diesel-electric boats commonly referred to as "submarines."

\*\*\* About 20 steel ships, converted to gunboats, were bought by the Navy in 1898 because of the war with Spain.

# Before the Spanish-American War, this category included the small freight carrier *Fern*. For the wartime period and after, it covers colliers, supply ships, water supply ships, a transport, a hospital ship, and a refrigerator ship.

\*\*\* By the turn of the century, the only active sailing ship left in the Navy (the rest had become stationary receiving or training ships or had been transferred to State Militias or Marine Schools) was the bark *Severn*, used to train midshipmen at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. The category is therefore closed.

@@ Twenty-three converted yachts, fourteen revenue cutters transferred from the Treasury Department, war prizes, and conversions of private craft temporarily increased the number of non-steel "gunboats" in the Navy during and after 1898.

### **U.S. Navy Ship Force Levels, 1904-1909**

DATE	12/04	12/05	12/06	12/07	12/08	12/09
BATTLESHIP	12	12	18	22	25	25
CRUISER	23	24	27	25	27	27
MONITOR	5	4	4	4	2	2
DESTROYERS	16	16	16	16	16	20
TORPEDO BOATS*	29	32	32	32	33	33
SUBMARINES	8	8	8	11	12	16
STEEL GUNBOATS	29	28	25	22	20	19
AUXILIARIES	28	27	29	30	30	29
SCREW STEAMER	4	4	2**			
SCREW SLOOPS	2***					
GUNBOATS	21	19	19	18	16	16
TOTAL ACTIVE	177	174	180	180	181	187

#### NOTES

\* A number of torpedo boats went in and out of commission during this time period, often seeing service with reserve units or State Militias. Most, however, came back into the Navy in 1917 and therefore remain on the list.

\*\* By 1906, all the screw steamers had either decommissioned or had become station ships, tenders, trainers, or auxiliaries, thus this category is closed down.

\*\*\* After 1904, the remaining two sloops, *Hartford* and *Mohican*, only served as training or station ships, thus closing down this category.

\*\*\*\* By 1906, the distinction between old and steel navy is no longer useful.

### **U.S. Navy Ship Force Levels, 1910-1916**

DATE	12/10	12/11	12/12	12/13	12/14	12/15	12/16
BATTLESHIP	29	30	32	32	34	32	36
CRUISER	27	25	24	27	28	30	30

MONITOR	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
DESTROYERS	27	36	42	46	50	57	61
TORPEDO BOATS*	31	30	30	25	19	18	18
SUBMARINES	17	17	23	26	36	37	44
STEEL GUNBOATS	18	18	17	17	17	17	17**
AUXILIARIES	29	28	28	27	26	26	25
GUNBOATS	16	15	12	11	11	11	11**
TOTAL ACTIVE	196	202	211	214	224	231	245

#### NOTES

\* A number of torpedo boats went in and out of commission during this time period, often seeing service with reserve units or State Militias. Most, however, came back into the Navy in 1917 and therefore remain on the list.

\*\* These two categories are merged together with the great wartime expansion of gunboat numbers in 1917.

### ***U.S.Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1917-1923***

DATE	4/6/17	11/11/18	7/1/19	7/1/20	7/1/21	7/1/22	7/1/23
BATTLESHIP	37	39	36	26	22	19	18
MONITORS, COASTAL	7	7	5	1	2@	-	-
CARRIERS, FLEET	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CARRIERS, ESCORT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CRUISERS	33	31	28	27	10	12	13
DESTROYERS	66	110	161	189	68 (208rc )	103	103
FRIGATES	17	17	-	-	-	-	-
SUBMARINES	44	80	91	58	69 (11rc)	82 (7rc)	69 (5rc)
MINE WARFARE	-	53	62	48	50 (8rc)	36	38
PATROL	42	350	65	45	59 (1rc)	43	41
AUXILIARY	96	87	304	173	104	83	82
SURFACE WARSHIPS	160	204	230	243	102	134	134
TOTAL ACTIVE	342	774	752	567	384 (228rc)	379 (7rc)	365 (5rc)

#### EVENTS

- U.S. enters WWI 6 April 1917
- Bolshevik Revolution begins 28 October (Old Style) 1917
- WWI ends 11 November 1918
- Washington Treaty in force 17 August 1923.

#### NOTES

@ The last Coast Defense Monitor went out of commission in 1921.

rc Reduced Commission: not included in "active" total. The drop in ship numbers evident from 1920-21 is a post-WWI readjustment to a peacetime strength, with limited budgets and naval arms limitation.

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1924-1930***

DATE	7/1/24	7/1/25	7/1/26	7/1/27	7/1/28	7/1/29	7/1/30
BATTLESHIPS	18	18	15(3rc)	15(3rc)	16(2rc)	16(2rc)	16(2rc)
CARRIERS, FLEET	1	1	1	1	3	3	3
CARRIERS, ESCORT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CRUISERS	16	18	18	16	16	16	20
DESTROYERS	103	105	106	106	106	103	103
FRIGATES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBMARINES	77(3rc)	76(3rc)	80	77	77	80	81
MINE WARFARE	39	40	39	40	40	37	36
PATROL	37	37	37	32	33	32	29
AUXILIARY	84	73	71	69	68	68	68
RIGID AIRSHIPS	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL ACTIVE	376 (3rc)	370 (3rc)	368 (3rc)	357 (3rc)	360 (2rc)	356 (2rc)	357 (3rc)
SURFACE WARSHIPS	137	141	139	137	138	135	139

#### EVENTS

- Battleship modernization program in effect 1926-1934.
- London Treaty in force 31 December 1930.

#### EVENTS

rc Reduced Commission: not included in "active" total.

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1931-1937***

DATE	7/1/31	7/1/32	7/1/33	7/1/34	4/1/35*	7/1/36	9/1/37*
BATTLESHIPS	12(3rc)	11(4rc)	11(4rc)	14(1rc)	15	15	15
CARRIERS, FLEET	3	3	3	4	4	4	3@
CARRIERS, ESCORT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CRUISERS	20	19	20	24	25	26	27
DESTROYERS	87^	102	101	102^^	104	106	111
FRIGATES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SUBMARINES	56	55	55	54	52	49	52
MINE WARFARE	33	33	26	26	26	26	30

PATROL	27(1rc)	24	26	24	23	23	22
AUXILIARY	69	65	68	71	71	73	75
RIGID AIRSHIPS	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
SURFACE WARSHIPS	119	132	132	140	144	147	153
TOTAL ACTIVE	308 (4rc)	313 (4rc)	311 (4rc)	320 (1rc)	320	322	335

#### EVENTS

- Japan enters Manchuria 18 September 1931. Hitler to power 30 January 1933.
- Failure of the International Economic Conference to stabilize world currencies in July 1933 leads to growing instability.
- Vinson-Trammell Act, 27 March 1934, authorizes--though it does not fund--Navy construction to Treaty strength.
- Japan renounces Washington Treaty 29 December 1934, effective 31 December 1936.
- Germany renounces disarmament clauses of the Treaty of Versailles 16 March 1935.
- Spanish Civil War begins 18 July 1936.
- Japan begins large-scale military operations in China 7 July 1937.

#### NOTES

- \* Data for 1 July not available.
- @ CV-1 to AV-1 (auxiliary).
- ^ London Treaty exchange of new DD for older types allowed.
- ^^ New DD begin to appear.
- rc Reduced Commission: not included in "active" total.

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1938-1944***

DATE	6/30/38	6/30/39	6/30/40	12/7/41	12/31/42	12/31/43	12/31/44
BATTLESHIPS	15	15	15	17	19	21	23
CARRIERS, FLEET	5	5	6	7	4	19	25
CARRIERS, ESCORT	-	-	-	1	12	35	65
CRUISERS	32	36	37	37	39	48	61
DESTROYERS	112	127	185	171	224	332	367
FRIGATES	-	-	-	-	-	234	376
SUBMARINES	54	58	64	112	133	172	230
MINE WARFARE	27	29	36	135	323	551	614

<b>PATROL</b>	34	20	19	100	515	1050	1183
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	-	-	-	-	121	673	2147
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	101	104	116	210	392	564	993
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	159	178	237	225	282	635	827
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	380	394	478	790	1782	3699	6084

#### EVENTS

- WWII begins in Europe when Germany and the USSR invade Poland September 1939.

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1945-1950***

DATE	8/14/45*	6/30/46	6/30/47	6/30/48	6/30/49	6/30/50
<b>BATTLESHIPS</b>	23	10	4	2	1	1
<b>CARRIERS, FLEET</b>	28	15	14	13	11	11
<b>CARRIERS, ESCORT</b>	71	10	8	7	7	4
<b>CRUISERS</b>	72	36	32	32	18	13
<b>DESTROYERS</b>	377	145	138	134	143	137
<b>FRIGATES</b>	361	35	24	12	12	10
<b>SUBMARINES</b>	232	85	80	74	79	72
<b>MINE WARFARE</b>	586	112	55	54	52	56
<b>PATROL</b>	1204	119	74	50	50	33
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	2547	275	107	86	60	79
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	1267	406	306	273	257	218
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	833	226	198	180	174	161
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	6768	1248	842	737	690	634

#### EVENTS

- WWII in Europe ends 8 May 1945.
- V-J Day 14 August 1945 (15 August in western Pacific).
- Pacific War formally ends 2 September 1945.
- U.S.-USSR relations deteriorate 1945-1950.
- Chinese Civil War won by communists 1949
- Korean War begins 25 June 1950.

#### EVENTS

\* V-J Day.

The increase in fleet size after 1950 is due to the mobilization, begun after North Korea



invaded South Korea on 25 June 1950.

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1951-1957***

DATE	6/30/51	6/30/52	6/30/53	6/30/54	6/30/55	6/30/56	6/30/57
BATTLESHIPS	3	4	4	4	3	3	2
CARRIERS, FLEET	17	19	19	20	21	22	22
CARRIERS, ESCORT	9	10	0	7	3	2	-
CRUISERS	15	19	19	18	17	16	16
DESTROYERS	206	243	247	247	249	250	253
FRIGATES	38	56	56	57	64	70	84
SUBMARINES	83	104	108	108	108	108	113
SSG/SSBNS *	1	1	2	2	1	2	2
COMMAND SHIPS	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
MINE WARFARE	91	114	121	117	112	113	104
PATROL	40	29	23	22	15	11	12
AMPHIBIOUS	208	189	226	223	175	139	134
AUXILIARY	269	309	287	288	262	236	224
SURFACE WARSHIPS	262	322	326	326	333	339	355
TOTAL ACTIVE	980	1097	1122	1113	1030	973	967

#### **EVENTS**

- Korean War Armistice signed 1953.
- Taiwan Straits patrol begins 1955.

#### **NOTES**

\* Guided Missile Submarine/Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine (nuclear powered).

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1958-1964***

DATE	6/30/58	6/30/59	6/30/60	6/30/61	6/30/62	6/30/63	6/30/64
BATTLESHIPS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CARRIERS	24	23	23	24	26	24	24
CRUISERS	15	12	13	12	13	18	24
DESTROYERS	245	237	226	223	240	222	215
FRIGATES	71	61	41	41	68	40	40
SUBMARINES	109	109	106	105	104	102	102
SSG/SSBNS	2	4	7	10	14	17	23
COMMAND SHIPS	1	1	1	1	1	2	2
MINE WARFARE	77	82	81	83	84	84	84

<b>PATROL</b>	12	6	4	4	2	-	-
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	121	120	113	110	130	132	133
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	213	205	197	206	218	216	212
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	331	310	280	276	321	280	279
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	890	860	812	819	900	857	859

- | <b>EVENTS</b>   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lebanon landings 1958.</li> <li>• Cuban quarantine October-December 1962.</li> <li>• Tonkin Gulf incident 1964./p&gt;</li> </ul> |

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### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1965-1971***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>6/30/65</b>	<b>6/30/66</b>	<b>6/30/67</b>	<b>6/30/68</b>	<b>6/30/69</b>	<b>6/30/70</b>	<b>6/30/71</b>
<b>BATTLESHIPS</b>	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
<b>CARRIERS</b>	25	23	23	23	22	19	19
<b>CRUISERS</b>	27	29	35	35	34	31	30
<b>DESTROYERS</b>	221	217	216	219	201	155	152
<b>FRIGATES</b>	39	42	46	50	43	47	61
<b>SUBMARINES</b>	104	104	105	105	100	103	100
<b>SSG/SSBNS</b>	30	37	41	41	41	41	41
<b>COMMAND SHIPS</b>	2	2	2	2	2	-	-
<b>MINE WARFARE</b>	84	84	83	84	74	64	59
<b>PATROL</b>	-	-	3	6	7	15	17
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	135	159	162	157	153	97	95
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	213	212	216	210	207	171	177
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	287	288	296	304*	279	249	262
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	880	909	931	932	885	743	752

- | <b>EVENTS</b>  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carrier strikes on North Vietnam and Market Time Operations begin 1965.</li> <li>• Sea Dragon amphibious operations 1966-1968.</li> </ul> |

#### **NOTES**

\* Vietnam era high.

The dramatic fall in ship numbers after 1968-1969 is due to the decision to limit the use of American military force in Vietnam and the decommissioning of many WWII-era ships.

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## ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1972-1978***

DATE ^	6/30/72	6/30/73	6/30/74	6/30/75	6/30/76	6/30/77	9/30/78
<b>BATTLESHIPS</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>CARRIERS</b>	17	16	14	15	13	13	13
<b>CRUISERS</b>	27	29	28	27	26	26	28
<b>DESTROYERS</b>	132	139	119	102	99	92	95
<b>FRIGATES</b>	66	71	64	64	64	64	65
<b>SUBMARINES</b>	94	84	73	75	74	77	81
<b>SSBNS</b>	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
<b>COMMAND SHIPS</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>MINE WARFARE</b>	31	34	34	34	25	25	25
<b>PATROL</b>	16	14	14	14	13	6	3
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	77	65	65	64	65	65	67
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	153	148	135	123	116	114	113
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	225	239	211	193	189	182*	188
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	654	641	587	559	536	523	531

### EVENTS

- Last U.S. forces withdraw from South Vietnam following the ceasefire 1973.
- South Vietnam falls to North Vietnamese communists 1975.

### NOTES

^ Beginning with FY 78, the fiscal year runs 1 October through 30 September.

\* Post-Vietnam low for surface warships.

## ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1979-1985***

DATE	9/30/79	9/30/80	9/30/81	9/30/82	9/30/83	9/30/84	9/30/85
<b>BATTLESHIPS</b>	-	-	-	-	1	2	2
<b>CARRIERS</b>	13	13	12	13	13	13	13
<b>CRUISERS</b>	28	26	27	27	28	29	30
<b>DESTROYERS</b>	97	94	91	89	71	69	69
<b>FRIGATES</b>	65	71	78	86	95	103	110
<b>SUBMARINES</b>	80	82	87	96	98	98	100
<b>SSBNS</b>	41	40	34	33	34	35	37
<b>COMMAND SHIPS</b>	-	3	4	4	4	4	4
<b>MINE WARFARE</b>	25	25	25	25	21	21	21
<b>PATROL</b>	3	3	1	4	6	6	6
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	67	63	61	61	59	57	58
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	114	110	101	117	103	120	121
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	190	191	196	202	195	203	211

<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	533	530	521*	555	533	557	571
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#### EVENTS

- Grenada operation 1983.
- Attempted peacekeeping in Lebanon 1983.

#### NOTES

\* Post-Vietnam War low (total active ships).

### ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1986-1992***

DATE	9/30/86	9/30/87	9/30/88	9/30/89	9/30/90	9/30/91	9/30/92
<b>BATTLESHIPS</b>	3	3	3	4	4	1	-
<b>CARRIERS</b>	14	14	14	14	13	15	14
<b>CRUISERS</b>	32	36	38	40	43	47	49
<b>DESTROYERS</b>	69	69	69	68	57	47	40
<b>FRIGATES</b>	113	115	107	100	99	93	67
<b>SUBMARINES</b>	101	102	100	99	93	87	85
<b>SSBNS</b>	39	37	37	36	33	34	30
<b>COMMAND SHIPS</b>	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
<b>MINE WARFARE</b>	21	22	22	23	22	22	16
<b>PATROL</b>	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
<b>AMPHIBIOUS</b>	58	59	59	61	59	61	58
<b>AUXILIARY</b>	23	127	114	137	137	112	102
<b>SURFACE WARSHIPS</b>	217	223^	217	212	203	188	156
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE</b>	583	594*	573	592	570	529	471

#### EVENTS

- Fall of the Berlin Wall and many East European communist governments, 1989-1990.
- Gulf mobilization and war, 1990-1991.
- Dissolution of the Soviet Union and end of the Cold War, 1991.

#### EVENTS

^ 1980s high for surface warships.

\* 1980s high for total active ships.

A rapid decline in force level is evident after the anticommunist revolutions in Eastern Europe and the collapse of the Soviet Union, 1989-1991.

## ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 1993-1999***

DATE	9/30/93	9/30/94	9/30/95	9/30/96	9/30/97	9/30/98	8/17/99
BATTLESHIPS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CARRIERS	13	12	12	12	12	12	12
CRUISERS	52	35	32	31	30	29	27
DESTROYERS	37	41	47	51	56	50	52
FRIGATES	59	51	49	43	42	38	37
SUBMARINES	88	88	83	79	73	65	57
SSBNS	22	18	16	17	18	18	18
COMMAND SHIPS	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
MINE WARFARE	15	16	18	18	18	18	18
PATROL	2	7	12	13	13	13	13
AMPHIBIOUS	52	38	39	40	41	40	41
AUXILIARY	110	94	80	67	52	57	57
SURFACE WARSHIPS	148	127	128	123	122	109	106
TOTAL ACTIVE	454	404	392	375	359	344	337

### NOTES

End of the Cold War 'peace dividend' leads to decommissioning of many older ships, especially cruisers and auxiliaries, in a manner similar to downsizing at the end of the Vietnam war.

## ***U.S. Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 2000 - 2006***

DATE	9/30/00	9/30/01	9/30/02	9/30/03	9/30/04	9/30/05	9/30/06
CARRIERS	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
CRUISERS	27	27	27	27	25	23	22
DESTROYERS	54	53	55	49	48	46	50
FRIGATES	35	35	33	30	30	30	30
SUBMARINES	56	55	54	54	54	54	54
SSBN	18	18	18	16	14	14	14
SSGN	0	0	0	2	4	4	4 <
MINE WARFARE	18	18	17	17	17	17	16
AMPHIBIOUS	41	41	41	38	37	37	35
AUXILIARY	57	57	56	52	51	45	44
SURFACE WARSHIPS	128	127	127	118	115	111*	114
TOTAL ACTIVE	318	316	313	297	292	282	281

### NOTES

- 9/11 and the GWOT does not increase Navy ship force levels.
- START treaty limits encourage creation of SSGN class, fleet ballistic missile submarines converted to carry conventional strike cruise missiles. Older surface warships continue to be

replaced at a less than one-to-one ratio.

\* Low since 1921

- To clarify the ship numbers included in this table, the year 2000 entries include active commissioned ships, those in the Naval Reserve Force (NRF) and ships operated by the Military Sealift Command (MSC). Row entries are self-explanatory, with the auxiliary category including combat logistic ships (such as oilers, ammunition, combat store ships), mobile logistics ships (such as submarine tenders) and support ships (such as command, salvage, tugs and research ships). Command ships have been subsumed into that category and the separate line entry removed. A new row has been added for guided missile submarines (SSGN).

Post-1999 data provided by N8F.

### ***U.S.Navy Active Ship Force Levels, 2007 to 2011***

DATE	9/30/07	9/30/08	9/30/09	9/30/10	9/30/11		
CARRIERS	11	11	11	11	11		
CRUISERS	22	22	22	22	22		
DESTROYERS	52	54	57	59	61		
FRIGATES	30	30	30	29	26		
LCS *		1	1	2	2		
SUBMARINES	53	53	53	53	53		
SSBN	14	14	14	14	14		
SSGN	4	4	4	4	4		
MINE WARFARE	14	14	14	14	14		
AMPHIBIOUS	33	34	33	33	31		
AUXILIARY	46	45	46	47	47		
SURFACE WARSHIPS	115	118	121	123	122		
TOTAL ACTIVE	278**	282	285	288	285		

#### **NOTES**

- Cost increases encourage construction of more affordable class of littoral combat ships, intended for inshore or 'brown water' operations in high risk environments.

\* Littoral Combat Ship

\*\* Low since 19<sup>th</sup>-century

*June 10 2011*

