

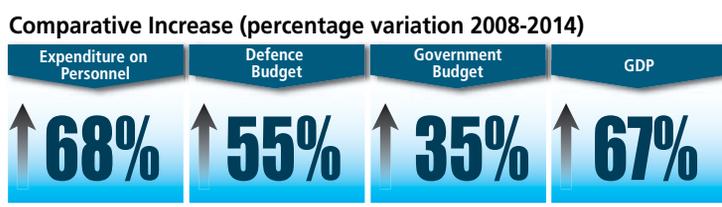
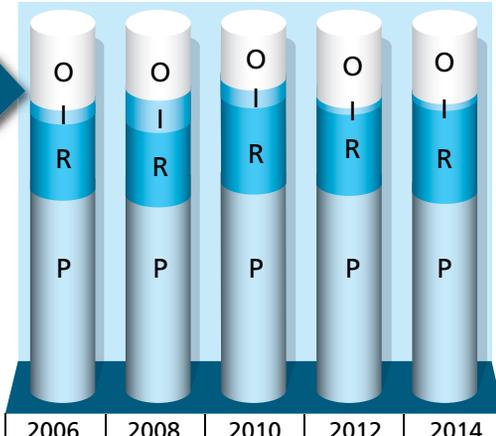
# Dominican Republic



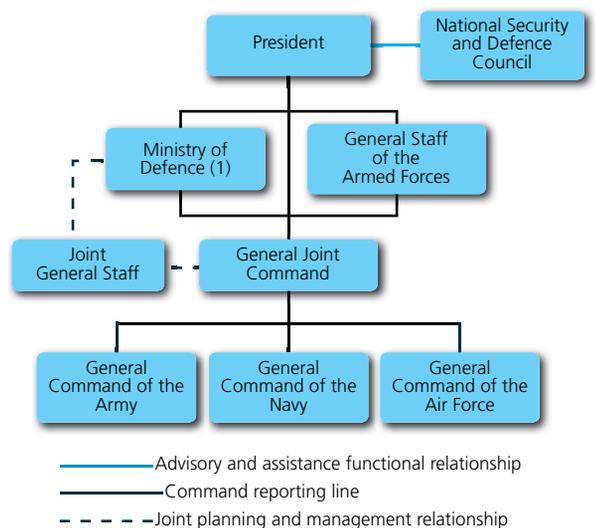
Population	10,416,000
Territorial Extension	48,670 km <sup>2</sup>
GDP 2014 (US\$)	62,790,000,000
Armed Forces Personnel	56,022
Defence Budget (US\$)	417,072,353

**Defence Budget Breakdown**

- P: Salaries and other benefits
- R: Retirement and pensions funds
- I: Investment
- O: Other expenses



## The Defence System



## The Legal Framework

**National Legislation**

**Systems and Concepts**

- Organic Law of the Armed Forces (N° 139 – 2013/09/19).

**Military Organization**

- Code of Justice of the Armed Forces (Act N° 3483 - 1953/02/13)

Source: Compilation based on the aforementioned legislation.

The Dominican Republic represents the most recent case of institutional reform in the region. In September 2013, the Organic Law of the Armed Forces was modified and the previous Ministry of the Armed Forces became the Ministry of Defence.

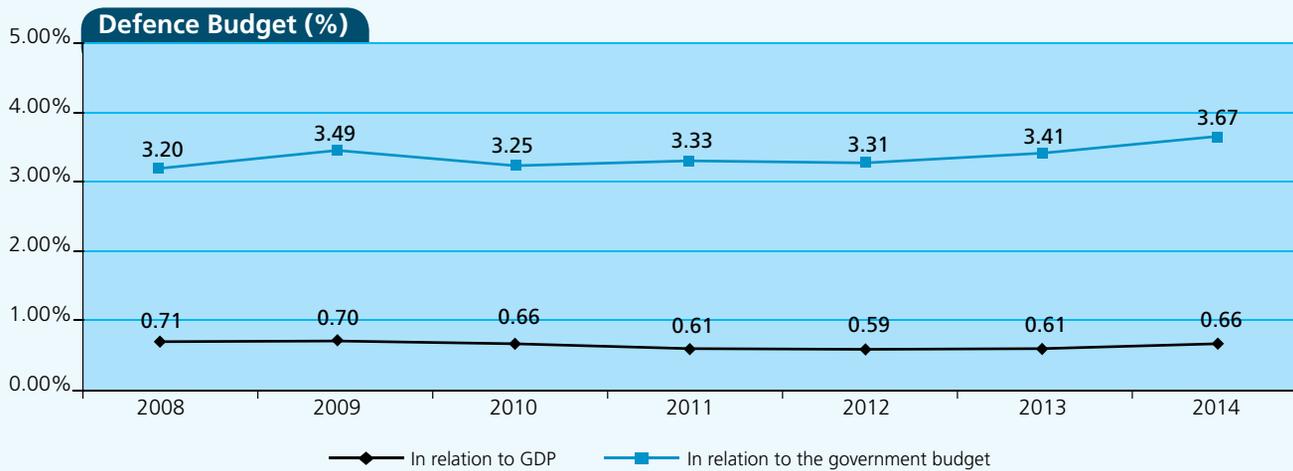
The President may receive the advice of the National Security and Defence Council. The Minister of Defence is the highest authority for the administration of the Armed Forces, but in case of being a civilian, the highest military authority is the General Joint Command. The Joint General Staff is a planning body. The General Staff of the Armed Forces is the highest decision-making body Presided by the Minister and coordinated by the General Joint Command, it is integrated by the Vice-ministers, the Commander and Deputy Commanders of the Joint General Staff, the General Inspectorate of the Armed Forces and the Legal Advisor of the Ministry and the General Commanders of each branch. Congress holds the powers granted by the Constitution and permanently monitors defence-related issues through the specific committees in both Houses.

(1) Only if the Minister is a member of the military. In cases where the Minister is a civilian, direct command is exercised by the Joint General Command.

Source: Compilation based on the Political Constitution and *Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (N° 139 – 2013/09/19). *Anuario Estadístico de América Latina y el Caribe*, 2013, CEPAL (population, projection 2014), IMF, World Economic Outlook Database, (GDP projection 2014), CEPAL website (territory), and information provided by the Ministry of Defence (personnel).

## Budget

Year	Defence Budget (US\$)	Government Budget (US\$)	GDP (US\$)
2008	269,120,373	8,416,481,414	37,698,000,000
2009	311,355,315	8,928,070,214	44,716,000,000
2010	332,298,929	10,215,566,144	50,055,000,000
2011	333,481,771	10,012,199,372	54,355,000,000
2012	353,297,867	10,669,995,399	59,429,000,000
2013	371,290,891	10,894,281,111	60,765,000,000
2014	417,072,353	11,368,645,280	62,790,000,000



## Defence Budget 2014 (in local currency)

Chapters	Personnel Services	Non-personnel Services	Materials and Supplies	Others*	TOTAL
<b>Ministry of the Armed Forces</b>					
Ministry of Defence	1,275,334,027	371,655,952	633,968,996	5,057,073,541	7,338,032,516
Army	4,327,101,745	214,964,561	445,577,300	11,998,803	4,999,642,409
Navy	1,800,559,482	79,894,572	410,362,291	38,064,441	2,328,880,786
Air Force	2,597,072,345	548,241,127	485,909,221	103,453,815	3,734,676,508
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,000,067,599</b>	<b>1,214,756,212</b>	<b>1,975,817,808</b>	<b>5,210,590,600</b>	<b>18,401,232,219</b>

\* Includes current transfers, capital, and non-financial assets and works.

**Source:** Compilation based on the *Presupuesto de ingresos and Ley de gastos públicos* from 2006 to 2014. The Government Budget passed by Congress by means of the above-mentioned Act is considered herein. The concept of investment is that expressed in "Non-financial assets". GDP: Projection of the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year considered. This source has been taken for comparative purposes. Each country prepares the budget based on its own GDP estimation. The value of the dollar considered corresponds to the exchange rate determined by the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year under consideration. As of June, the 2014 average was 43.22 Pesos on the basis of data provided by the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic. For further calculations, figures are provided in local currency. Expressions in Bold Type (Table) refer to the different items regarding defence that can be found in a sectorial or institutional classification of the Budget Act.

**The Ministry of Defence**

**Date of Foundation**  
1930 (since 2013 as the Ministry of Defence)

**Current Minister (September 2014)**  
Teniente General Máximo William Muñoz Delgado

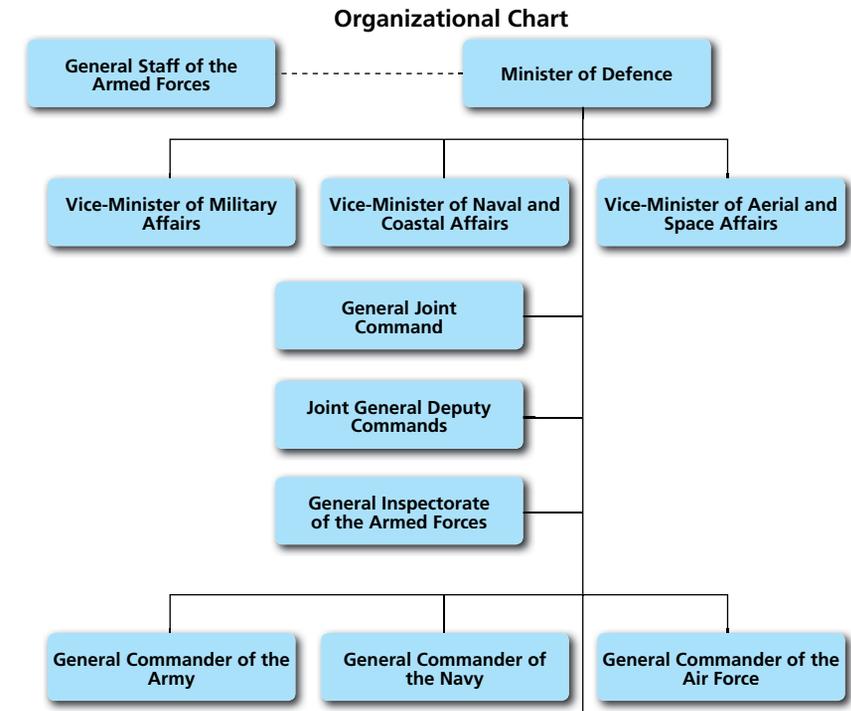
**Can military members be Ministers of Defence?**  
Yes

**Number of military members who were Ministers of Defence**  
39

**Number of civilians who were Ministers of Defence**  
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**Have there been any women in charge of the Ministry of Defence?**  
No

**Average permanence in the Minister of Defence position**  
2 years



**Six Specialized Bodies are within the Ministry of Defence:**

- Specialized Port Security Body: (CESEP):**  
It is responsible for security and the protection of the national port system. Its mission is to provide the Port Authority with the highest level of security for the country's port installations, whether they are nationalised, operating under concessions, or private. Furthermore, it is the implementing agency for the protection of Boats and Port Installations.
- Specialized Ground Border Security Body (CESFRONT):**  
Its mission is to establish permanent security and control in the country's formal entry and exit points as well as areas assigned to it along the Dominican land border. It performs patrols and establishes checkpoints, observation points and screening in coordination with the various agencies deployed along the Dominican-Haitian border.
- Specialized Body in Airport Security and Civil Aviation (CESAC):**  
It is responsible for ensuring security services in domestic and international airports, by applying rules, methods and procedures established by the International Civil Aviation Organization for the safeguarding of international civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference.
- Specialized Body for Metro Security (CESMET):**  
Its mission is to establish permanent security and control throughout the metro transport system and the national railway system in order to provide the highest level of security, ensuring its good functioning. It consists of a joint force, 60% of which is formed by members of the Army, 20% Navy and 20% Air Force, as well as assimilated military personnel required for the protection of its facilities.
- Specialized Tourist Security Body (CESTUR):**  
Created in 2014 following an agreement between the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Tourism to replace the former Tourist Police, its mission is to ensure the comprehensive security of the Dominican tourism sector, through prevention, protection and the provision of guidance to tourists, ensuring sustainable development consistent with the performance of the law.

In addition, the Armed Forces collaborate in operational tasks through the **Special Fuel Control Body (CECCOM)** which is within the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and whose mission is to implement national security and control policies for the distribution and marketing of fuels and to ensure compliance with rules, procedures and regulations.

**Exchange Activities between 2012-2014**

- The Dominican Republic assumed the Secretariat of the Conference of Central American Armed Forces – CFAC in 2014. In the framework of this mechanism, between 2012 and 2014 it participated in the following Exchange activities with representatives of the countries that form part of CFAC:
- Specialization in Military Health
  - Specialization in Military Education
  - Specialization in Transmissions
  - Specialization in Civil Affairs
  - Specializations in Naval and Air Forces
  - Specialization in the Humanitarian Rescue Unit

**Source:** Compilation based on the *Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (N° 139 – 2013/09/19), websites of the Ministry of Defence, Specialized Security Body, Specialized Ground Border Security Body, Specialized Body in Airport Security and Civil Aviation, Specialized Body for Metro Security, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and information provided by the Ministry of Defence.

## The Armed Forces

### General Mission

The mission of the Armed Forces is to defend the independence and sovereignty of the Republic, the integrity of its geographic spaces, and the Constitution and institutions of the Republic. The Armed Forces shall intervene, whenever the Executive orders so, in programs devoted to promoting the country's social and economic development, to mitigate disaster and public calamity situations, and aid the National Police in maintaining or restoring public order in exceptional cases. (Constitution, Sec. 252)

### General Joint Command

- Exercise the highest military authority for all issues relating to command, organization and instruction of the Armed Forces.
- Execute the strategic direction of military operations under the authority of the President of the Republic and Ministry of Defence.
- Designate, when operational circumstances require so, the Joint Operational Commands with functions that include the general coordination of these operations, in accordance with the Manual of Joint Operations of the Armed Forces.
- Inspect the different institutions, services and units of the Armed Forces., either directly or through the officers designated.
- Present to the Joint General Staff of the Armed Forces all the issues related to functioning and employment, as well as the fundamental dispositions regarding mobilization and troop concentrations, operational plans, the adoption of new arms and, in general, all measures concerning the preparation of the Armed Forces, organizational changes, regulations, investments, acquisitions and all aspects that in one way or another impact members of the Armed Forces.
- Elaborate operational and contingency plans in conformance with the currently valid Manual of Joint Doctrine.
- Plan and supervise the annual exercises of the Armed Forces at the tactical, operational and strategic levels.
- Coordinate joint actions with the military commands of allied countries and international organisms.
- Participate in the national system of prevention, mitigation and response to disasters and in the control and protection of the environment.
- Form part of the Advisory Board for peace operations.



### Specific Missions

#### Army

- Defend the integrity, sovereignty, and independence of the Nation.
- Defend the Constitution, laws and institutions of the Republic.
- Assist the National Police in maintaining or reestablishing public order in exceptional circumstances and form part of the Public Force under the control of the Central Electoral Board during national elections programmed by this body.
- Provide the functions of military service to which they are destined by the President of the Republic, in normal situation, in exceptional cases, or during states of exception.
- Recruit, train and equip personnel for their employment in the diverse operations to which they are destined.
- Plan, organize, train and equip units to participate in joint, combined, peace, and humanitarian assistance operations.
- Adopt all the measures and actions necessary to achieve the orders made by the President of the Republic aimed at combatting transnational criminal activities declared as high priority national objectives, which put the interests of the country in danger.
- Participate in the organization and maintenance of efficient systems that prevent or mitigate the damage occasioned by natural or technological disasters, in accordance with the directives contained in the Risk Management Act.
- Prepare and coordinate the Nation's land capacities and resources for their employment in case of being required in the interest of national security and defence.
- Secure, control and defend the Land Border Zone from all threats to national security interests or those that affect the Dominican cultural identity.
- Elaborate self-management programs and projects to promote military industry that contributes to national development.



#### Navy

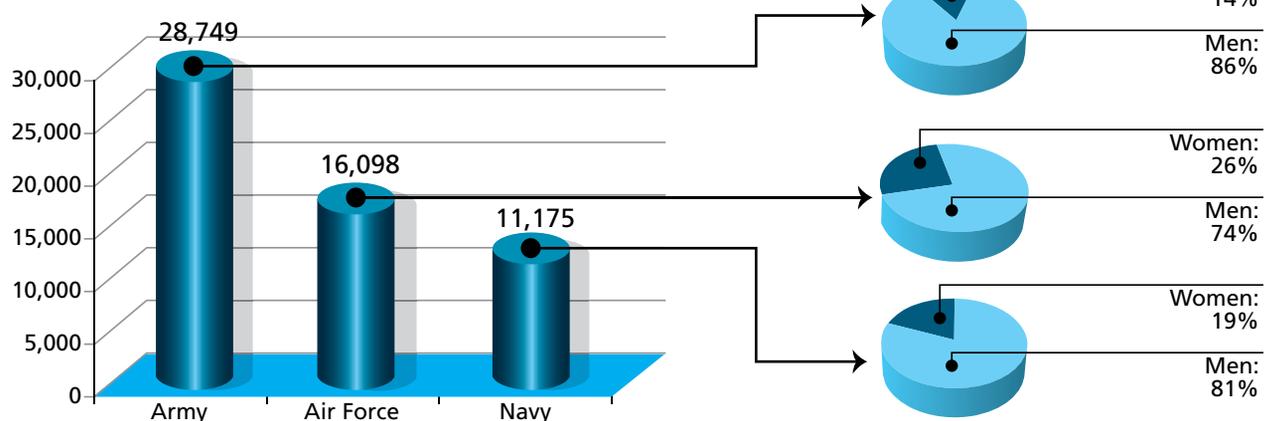
- Exercise the functions of national maritime authority, in virtue of that established in legislation in force.
- Exercise the control, security, and defence of the coasts, ports, sport marinas, interior waters, territorial waters, contiguous zone and the exclusive economic zone of the Republic.
- Protect legal maritime traffic and industries.
- Combat maritime piracy, violations of laws, and impose the dispositions on navigation, maritime commerce and international treaties.
- Ensure compliance with the dispositions of maritime navigation, international agreements on flags, titles and crews, the registry of boats, commerce and fishing, and facilitate legal maritime commerce.
- Elaborate self-management programs and projects to promote naval military industry.
- Prepare and coordinate the Nation's maritime capacities and resources for their employment in case of being required in the interest of national security and defence.
- Exercise the control, supervision and operational direction of auxiliary naval civilian services.
- Prepare and execute plans for naval defence and maritime security.



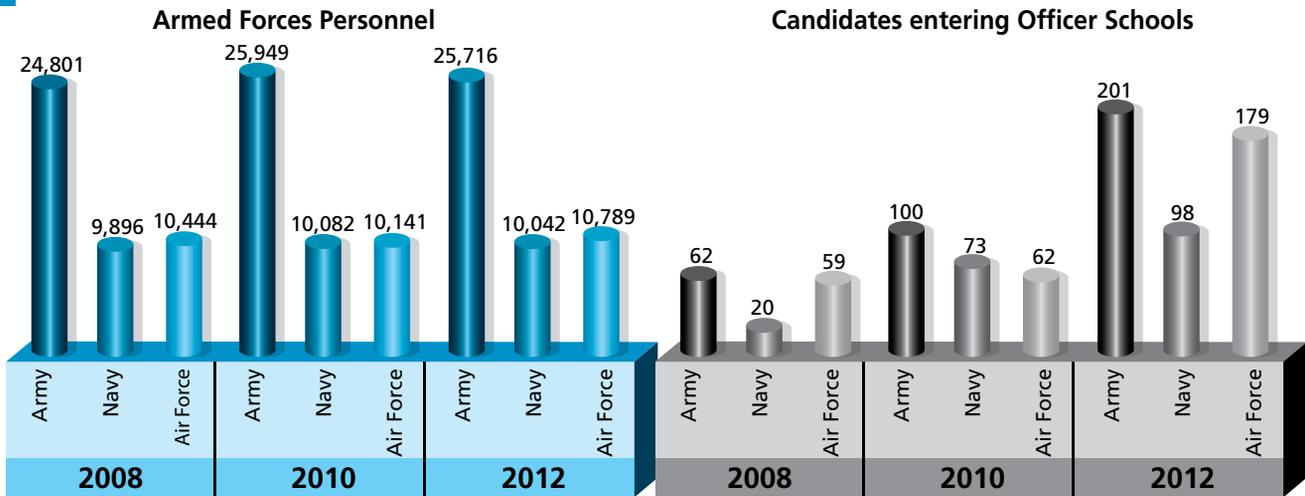
#### Air Force

- Exercise the control, security and defence of the Republic's airspace.
- Protect legal air traffic and commerce.
- Combat air piracy, law violations and ensure compliance with the dispositions of aerial navigation, commerce and international treaties.
- Prepare and coordinate the Nation's aeronautical capacities and resources for their employment in case of being required in the interest of national security and defence.
- Exercise surveillance and security of the Nation's airspace.
- Prepare and implement plans for air defence.
- Exercise the control, supervision and operational direction of auxiliary aerial civilian services.
- Elaborate self-management programs and projects to promote aerospace military industry.

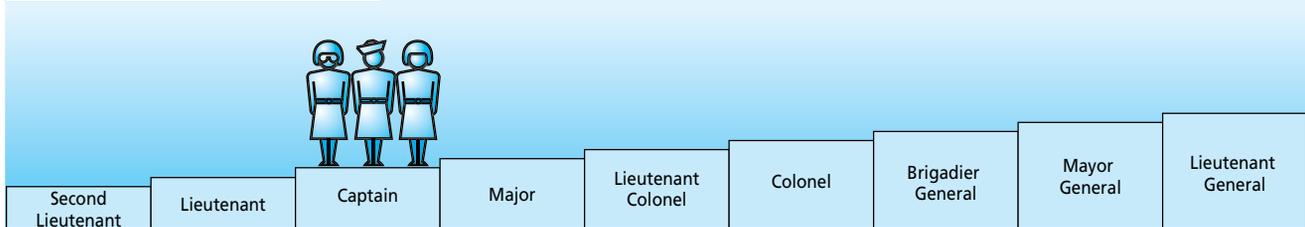
### Armed Forces Personnel 2014: 56,022



Source: Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas (Nº 139 – 2013/09/19) (missions) and information provided by the Ministry of Defence (personnel).



**Women in the Armed Forces** Maximum rank achieved by women in the Command Corps (2014)

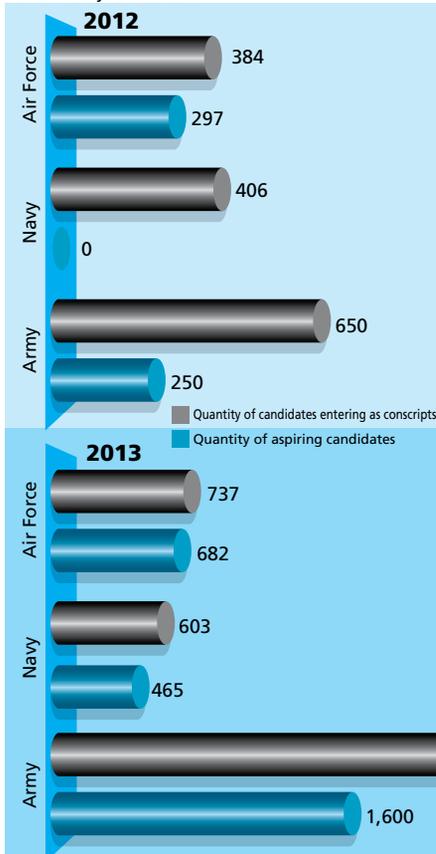


**Note:** These ranks correspond to the Army, as an example. The equivalent rank to Captain in the Navy is Lieutenant and in the Air Force it has the same rank. The Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their careers, different to those who develop a career in the civilian sphere and are then incorporated to the military.

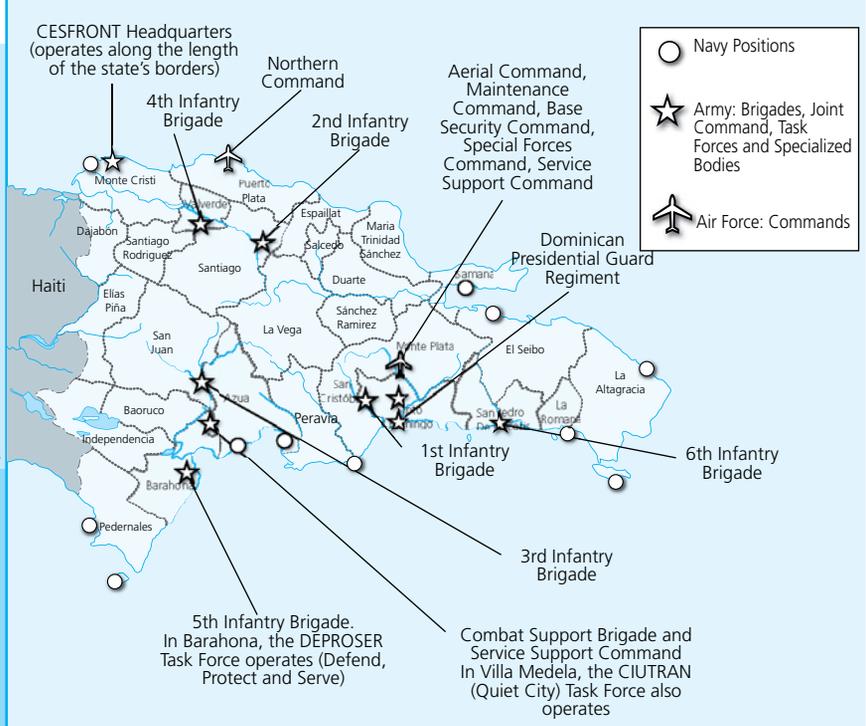
**Of total Armed Forces personnel, 18% (10,224) are women.**

**Military Service**

Military service is voluntary for all Dominican people and provides for a four-year duration.



**Territorial Deployment of the Armed Forces**

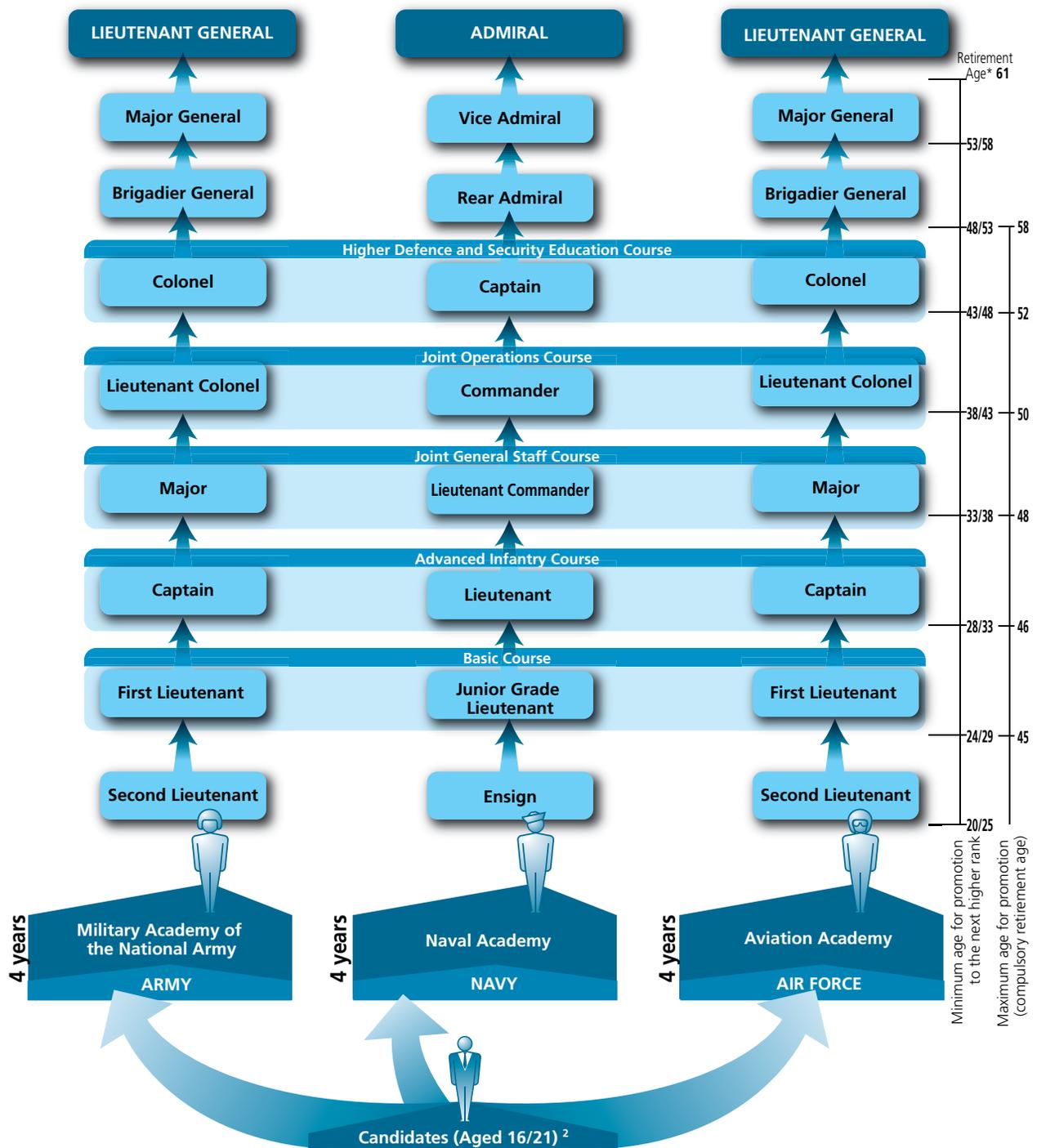


**A special training programme is available for high-school students on Saturdays and has a three-month duration.**

**Source:** Compilation based on the *Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (Nº 139 – 2013/09/19) and information provided by the Ministry of Defence.

Education and the Military Career

Career Path for Officers in Command Bodies<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their professional careers. The diagram makes a theoretical reconstruction of officers' promotion through the completion of mandatory courses. Further requirements for promotion have not been considered.

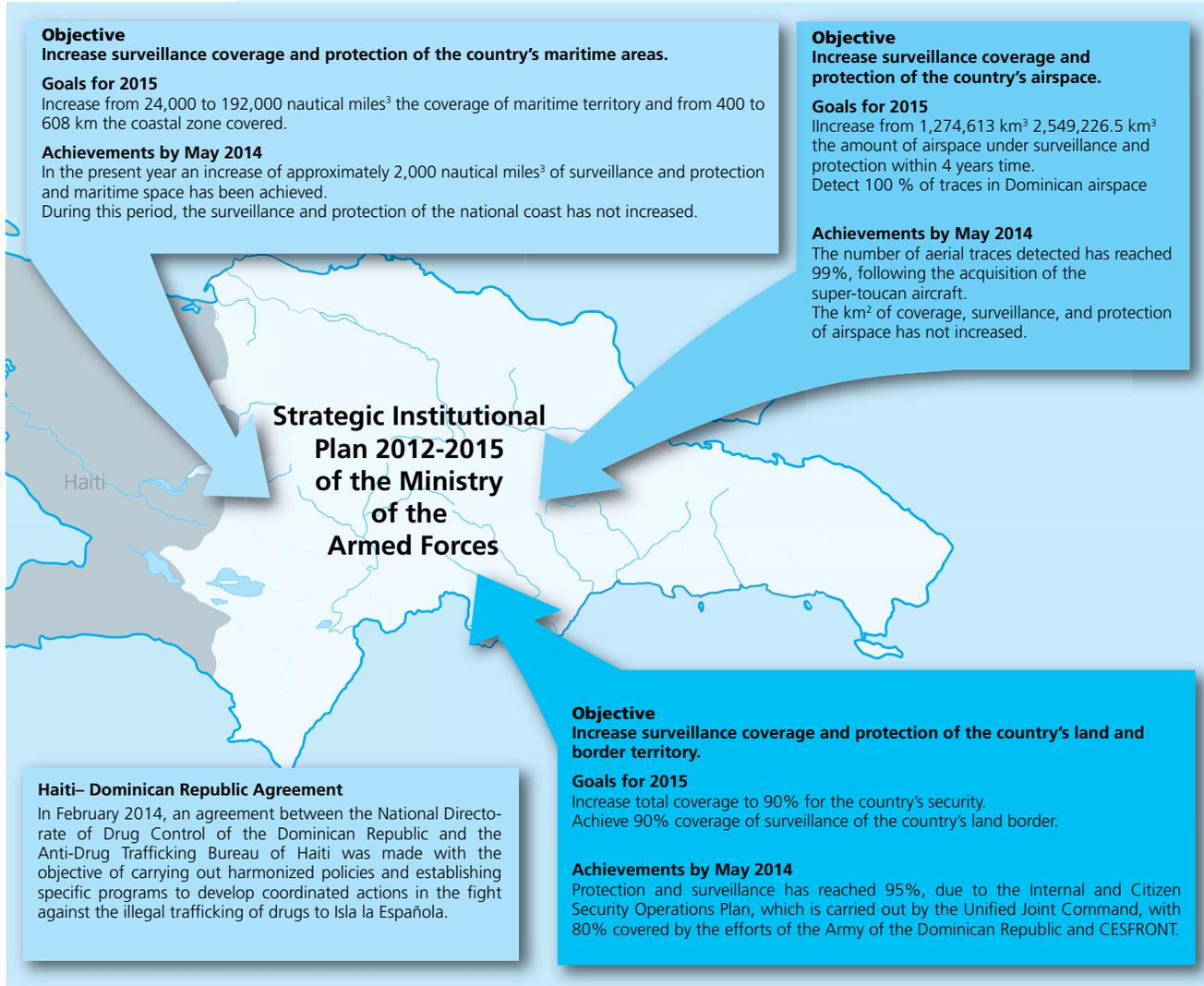
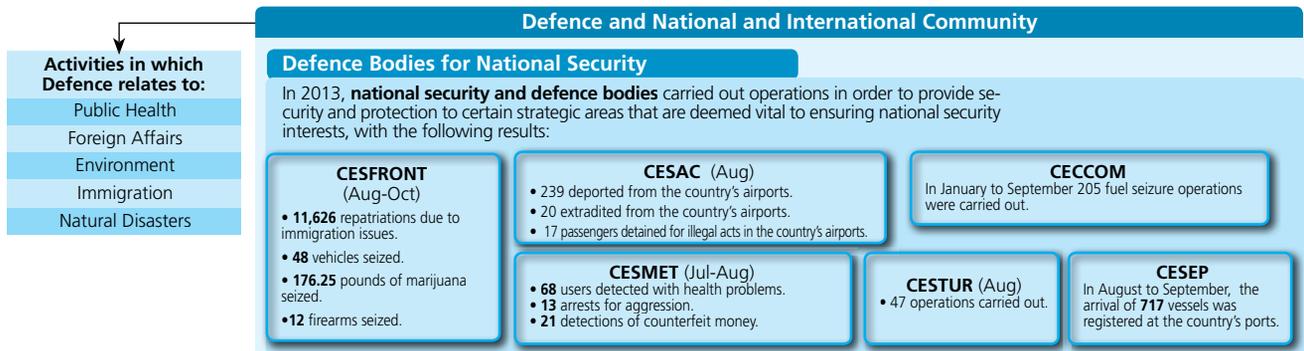
<sup>2</sup> The age of 16-21 has been considered for comparative purposes. The minimum age for promotion shall depend on the age of graduation from the military institution.

\* Retirement is obligatory when 40 years in service have been completed.

Cadets	Aspiring candidates			
	Army	Navy	Air Force	
	803	370	45	
	649	447	0	
Cadets	Entrants			
	Army	Navy	Air Force	
	106	101	31	
	100	81	0	

Source: Compilation based on *Ley orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (N° 139 – 2013/09/19) and information provided by the Ministry of Defence.

In accordance with the new Organic Law of the Armed Forces, INSUDE brings together all institutes for initial, medium and higher training.



### Natural Disasters

#### The Institutional Plan of the Armed Forces for Natural Disasters 2012-2015

The Strategic Pillar of Population Protection aims to contribute to the prevention and mitigation of the effects of natural and technological disasters together with the National Emergency Commission.

#### Strategy:

- Support the National Emergency Commission through the Center of Emergency Operations, providing risk management for humanitarian assistance and reducing the effects caused by natural or technological disasters.
- Contribute to preserving security and the well being of citizens.
- Provide security and maintain order within refuges in affected areas.

#### Goals for 2015:

- Assistance to 90% on the national territory with an emphasis on vulnerable and at-risk areas.
- 3 sufficiently-equipped Specialized Military Units
- Have the necessary operational land vehicles, helicopters, planes and boats.

#### Achievements by May 2014:

- Assistance to 90% on the national territory with an emphasis on vulnerable and at-risk areas.
- 3 sufficiently-equipped Specialized Military Units
- Have the necessary operational land vehicles, helicopters, planes and boats.

#### Military Support

The **Relámpago Plan** is activated on the basis of alerts emitted by the **Center of Emergency Operations (COE)**. It works in reestablishing communication and support to persons most affected through the reconstruction of housing.

**October 2012**, the Armed Forces activated the **"Relámpago"** Operational Plan, in the face of the passage of Tropical Storm Sandy.

**November 2012**, implementation of phases II and III of the **"Relámpago"** Operational Plan due to the effects of flooding.

**July 13**, activation of the **"Relámpago"** Operational Plan in prevention of Tropical Storm Chantal, which caused flooding and the bursting of rivers, provoked by strong downpours left as it passed.

### Commission of Natural Disaster Management

In 2014, the Commission for Natural Disaster Management was created through presidential decree. It will be responsible for applying the **HOPEFOR Initiative**.

The Commission will be composed of: the Ministry of the Armed Forces, of Foreign Relations, and the Environment and Resources, the Center of Emergency Operations and of Civil Defence.

Created through **Resolution 65/307 of the United Nations General Assembly** to improve the efficiency of coordinating military resources and civil defence in the response to natural disasters, signed by **Qatar, Turkey and the Dominican Republic**.

The fundamental pillars of the **HOPEFOR Initiative** are:

- Establish a training plan for civilian and military actors involved in humanitarian operations.
- Improve the operational capacities of the region through information exchange.
- Elaborate a model for the prevention of disasters that includes new preparation agreements.
- Implement a Center of Excellency for Natural Disaster Assistance in the Caribbean.

#### Other operations carried out by the Armed Forces in support of the Center of Emergency Operations.

**March 2013**, provided support to the National Emergency Commission in the **"Easter Work"** operation, providing assistance and security during Easter week.

**Operation "Easter Week 2014"**, the Armed Forces placed Navy personnel at the disposal of the Center of Emergency Operations with the objective of preserving human life.

### Participation in Peace Operations

Current Missions	Military Component			
	MEM		MC	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
MINUSMA (Mali)	-	-	1	1

MEM: Military experts on mission, including military observers, judge advocates and military liaison officers, among others.  
- MC: Military Contingents

The Dominican Republic contributes with 2 military personnel to United Nations peacekeeping missions, representing **0.03%** of the total Latin American contribution. It is the only country of the region present in Mali

In terms of training for peace operations, Armed Forces personnel have participated in courses at the CREOMPZ Regional Center (Guatemala). The courses attended were Basic United Nations Soldier, Military Observer, General Command Officer and United Nations Terminology, as well as Gender and Peace Operations.



**Source:** Compilation based on the *Plan Estratégico Institucional 2012-2015*, *Informe de los logros y/o seguimiento del Plan Estratégico Institucional 2012-2015* of the Ministry of Defence, *Decreto N° 325-06 que crea el Cuerpo Especializado de Seguridad Fronteriza Terrestre (CESFRONT)*, *Decreto N° 18-13 que crea la Comisión Presidencial para la implementación de la iniciativa HOPEFOR*, and Resolution N° 65/307 of the United Nations General Assembly. Websites of the Air Force, Navy, the Center of Governmental Information, of the Presidency and the Ministry of Foreign Relations, and information provided by the Ministry of Defence. Statistics on the contribution of military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, May 2014.