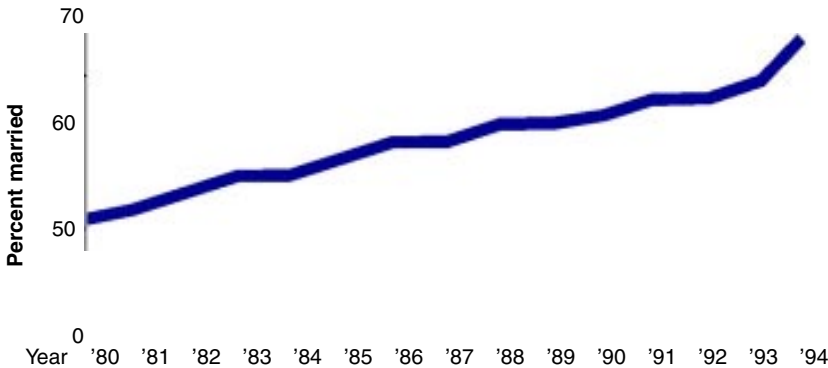


The Chart Page

By Tamar A. Mehuron, Associate Editor

Three Trends in the Force

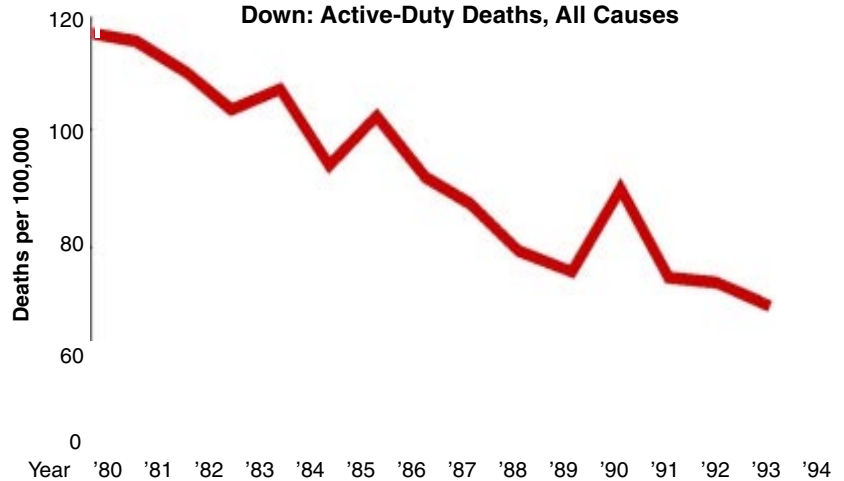
Up: Married Troops, as Percent of Force



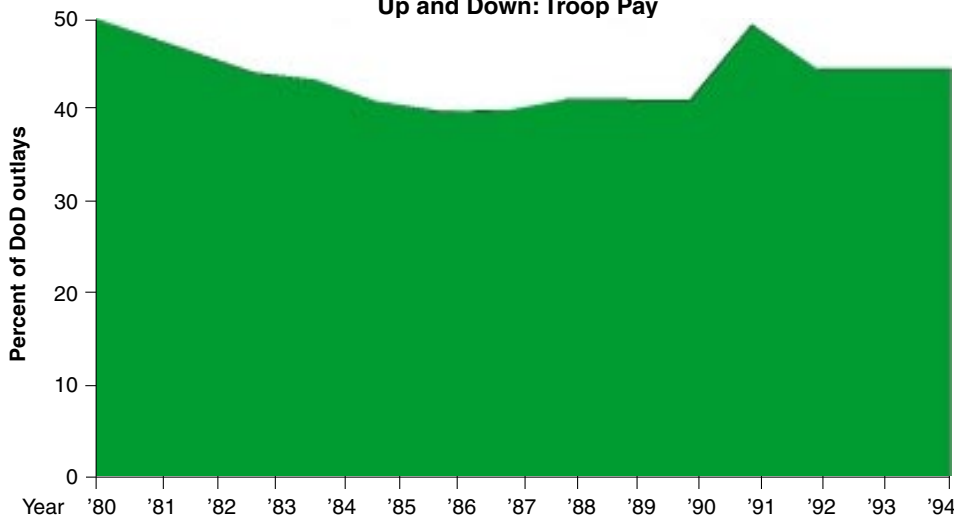
American troops are no longer predominantly single. The married segment of the All-Volunteer Force has grown by more than ten percentage points in just fifteen years.

Since Fiscal 1980, the active-duty death rate plunged forty percent because of a relative decline in aviation and traffic accidents. The rise in Fiscal 1984 stemmed from the October 1983 truck bombing of the Marine contingent in Beirut and the invasion of Grenada. In Fiscal 1986, an uptick was caused by a crash of a troop-carrying civil airliner. The Gulf War generated another one-year spike in Fiscal 1991.

Down: Active-Duty Deaths, All Causes



Up and Down: Troop Pay



Military pay, as a proportion of total Pentagon outlays, has varied significantly over the last decade and a half.