

Definitions and Revisions

Effective March 2020, the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division (AFHSD) resumed the distribution of data from the Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS) used in this report. The current report reflects up-to-date data from the AFHSD since 2000.

From 2018 (Q2) through 2019 (Q3), AFHSD temporarily halted the distribution of the data used in this report and the Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence (TBICoE) used the MHS Data Repository to ensure this report was completed on a timely basis. While TBICoE used a different data source, the approach was consistent with the historical methodology.

Effective October 2015, the International Classification of Diseases was updated. With the improved information, more moderate traumatic brain injuries can be counted. Previously, some cases were categorized as "unclassifiable" severity due to more limited surveillance information. Also in 2015, the Assistant Secretary of Defense clarified the TBI case definition. A subsequent review found that some of the remaining "unclassifiable" cases were likely moderate TBI. This change also will contribute to higher counts of moderate TBI surveillance cases.

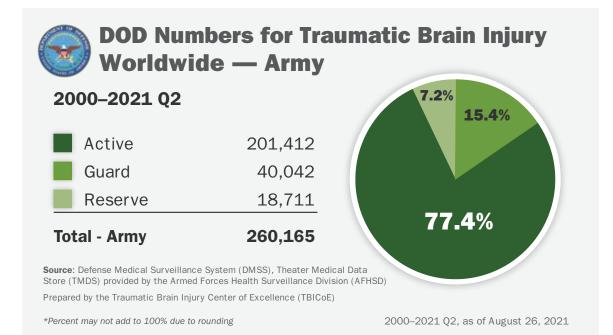
Worldwide numbers represent medical diagnoses of TBI that occurred anywhere U.S. forces are located including the continental United States since 2000.

Concussion/Mild TBI is characterized by the following: Confused or disoriented state which lasts less than 24 hours; or loss of consciousness for up to 30 minutes; or memory loss lasting less than 24 hours. Excludes penetrating TBI. A CT scan is not indicated for most patients with a Mild TBI. If obtained, it is normal.

Moderate TBI is characterized by the following: Confused or disoriented state which lasts more than 24 hours; or loss of consciousness for more than 30 minutes, but less than 24 hours; or memory loss lasting greater than 24 hours but less than seven days; or meets criteria for Mild TBI except an abnormal CT scan is present. Excludes penetrating TBI. A structural brain imaging study may be normal or abnormal.

Severe TBI is characterized by the following: Confused or disoriented state which lasts more than 24 hours; or loss of consciousness for more than 24 hours; or memory loss for more than seven days. Excludes penetrating TBI. A structural brain imaging study may be normal but usually is abnormal.

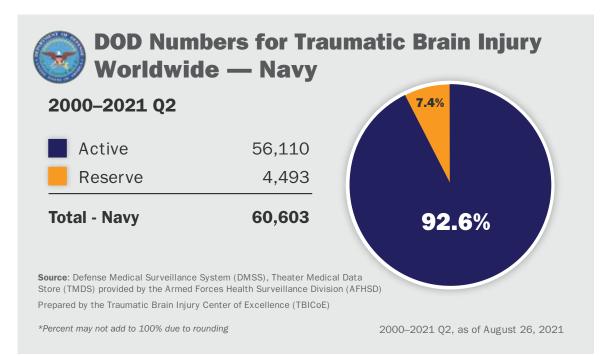
Penetrating TBI, or open head injury, is characterized by the following: A head injury in which the scalp, skull and dura mater (the outer layer of the meninges) are penetrated. Penetrating injuries can be caused by high-velocity projectiles or objects of lower velocity such as knives, or home fragments from a skull fracture that are driven into the brain.



Service Component Severity Diagnosed Penetrating 2,683 2,096 Severe 20,959 Active Moderate 164,116 Mild 11,558 Not Classifiable 521 Penetrating 404 Severe Guard Moderate 3,988 Army 32,879 Mild 2,250 Not Classifiable 182 Penetrating Severe 199 1,907 Moderate Reserve 15,302 Mild 1,121 Not Classifiable

2000-2021 Q2, as of August 26, 2021

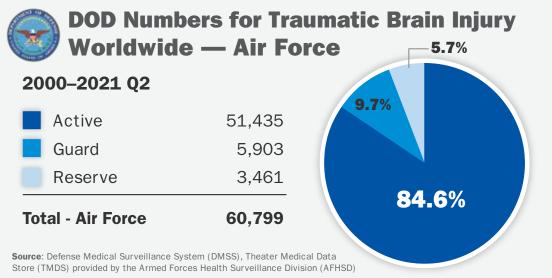
Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS), Theater Medical Data Store (TMDS) provided by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division (AFHSD).



Service	Component	Severity	Diagnosed
Navy	Active	Penetrating	654
		Severe	541
		Moderate	6,542
		Mild	46,115
		Not Classifiable	2,258
	Reserve	Penetrating	50
		Severe	34
		Moderate	492
		Mild	3,750
		Not Classifiable	167

2000-2021 Q2, as of August 26, 2021

Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS), Theater Medical Data Store (TMDS) provided by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division (AFHSD).



Prepared by the Traumatic Brain Injury Center of Excellence (TBICoE)

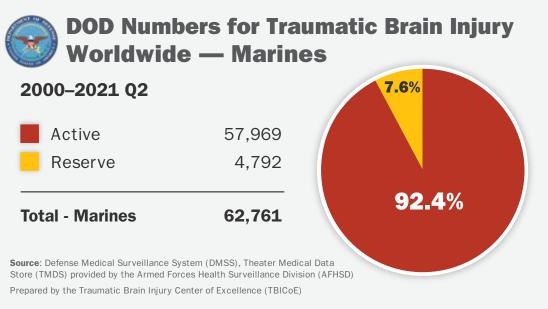
*Percent may not add to 100% due to rounding

2000-2021 Q2, as of August 26, 2021

Service	Component	Severity	Diagnosed
Air Force	Active	Penetrating	542
		Severe	481
		Moderate	5,284
		Mild	43,817
		Not Classifiable	1,311
	Guard	Penetrating	59
		Severe	46
		Moderate	673
		Mild	4,974
		Not Classifiable	151
	Reserve	Penetrating	34
		Severe	29
		Moderate	394
		Mild	2,910
		Not Classifiable	94

2000-2021 Q2, as of August 26, 2021

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2000–2021 Q2, as of August 26, 2021

Service	Component	Severity	Diagnosed
Marines	Active	Penetrating	768
		Severe	671
		Moderate	6,726
		Mild	47,953
		Not Classifiable	1,851
	Reserve	Penetrating	69
		Severe	58
		Moderate	514
		Mild	3,955
		Not Classifiable	196

2000-2021 Q2, as of August 26, 2021

Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System (DMSS), Theater Medical Data Store (TMDS) provided by the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division (AFHSD).