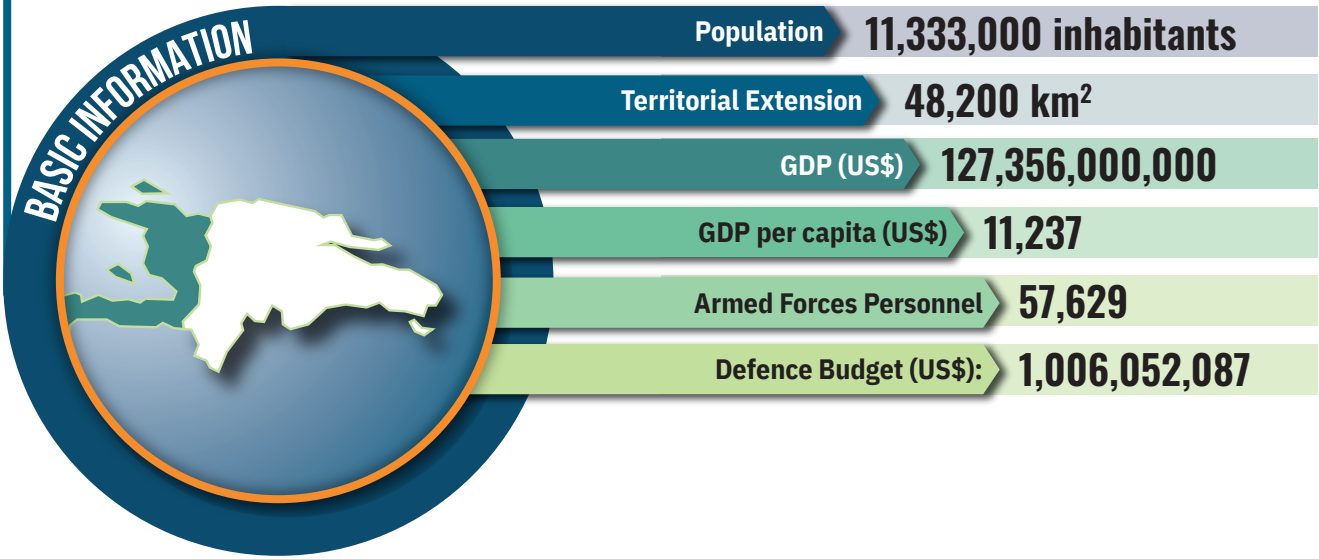




# DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



### Legal Framework

**National Legislation**

**Systems and concepts**

Law on risk management (Law N° 147-02 - 2002/09/22).  
Organic Law of the Armed Forces of the Dominican Republic (Law N° 139-13 - 2013/09/13).

**Military Organization**

Code of Military Justice (N° 7532 - 1953/03/05).

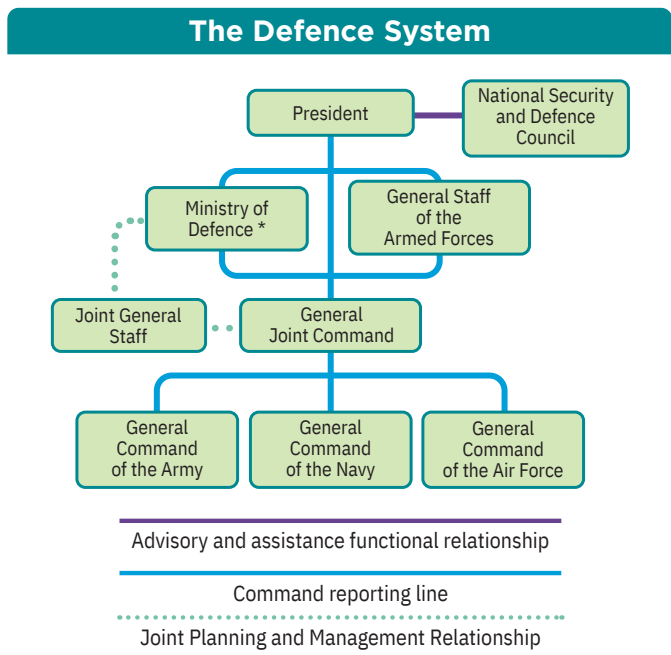
### National Security and Defence Council

The National Security and Defence Council is the rector of the National Security and Defence System and is the highest-level political decision-making and strategic coordination body. Among other functions, it approves the strategy and policy for national security and defence, as well as the technical guidelines and standards for the implementation and evaluation of national security and defence policy.

**It is composed of:**

- President of the Republic, who presides over it.
- Minister of Defence.
- Minister of the Presidency.
- Minister of the Interior and Police.
- Director of the National Research Department (DNI).
- Director-General of the National Police.
- National Director of Drug Control.

The Council may request the President to call other officials of the Executive Branch, as well as to invite officials from other branches of government, security and defence experts or any person of interest.



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.

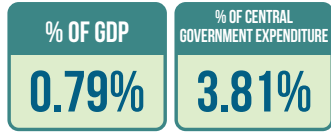
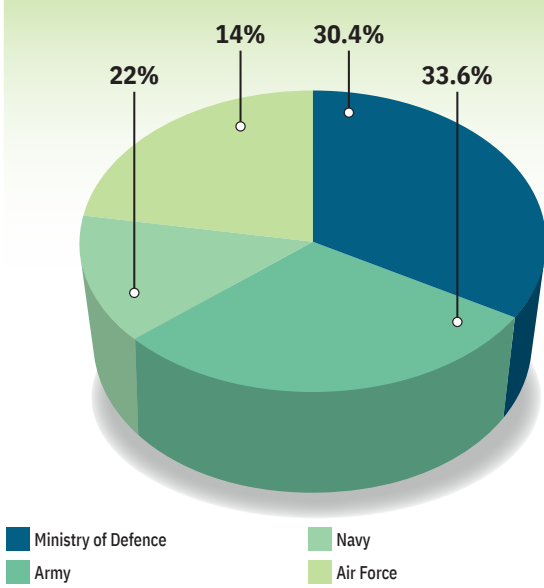
The Joint General Staff is a planning body. The General Staff of the Armed Forces is the highest decision-making body presided by the Minister and coordinated by the General Joint Command. It is integrated by the Vice-ministers, the Commander and Deputy Commanders of the Joint General Staff, the General 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.

\* 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 Political Constitution; *Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas* (N° 139 - 2013/19/09); and *Decreto N° 86-21 que reglamenta la composición y funcionamiento del Consejo de Defensa Nacional*.

## The Budget

Institutional Distribution, 2024

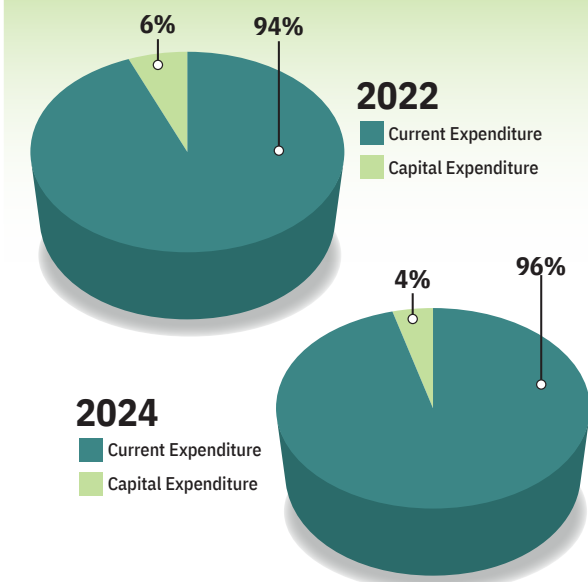


Budget 2024

Ministry of Defence, Budget 2024 (in Dominican pesos)

<b>Ministry of Defence</b>	<b>19,600,126,063</b>
Central Activities	5,304,217,185
National Defence	2,747,757,989
Health and Social Services	1,067,873,522
Military Education and Training	1,030,455,534
Administration of Special Contributions	9,449,821,833
<b>Army of the Dominican Republic</b>	<b>17,740,340,483</b>
Land Defence	17,612,644,404
Military Education and Training	127,696,079
<b>Navy of the Dominican Republic</b>	<b>8,162,078,164</b>
Naval Defence	7,565,103,523
Naval Education and Training	297,659,396
Health Services	299,315,245
<b>Air Force of the Dominican Republic</b>	<b>12,810,849,964</b>
Air Defence	11,347,215,818
Military Education and Training	143,614,640
Health Services	1,320,019,506
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,313,394,674</b>

Current and Capital Expenditure. Ministry of Defence

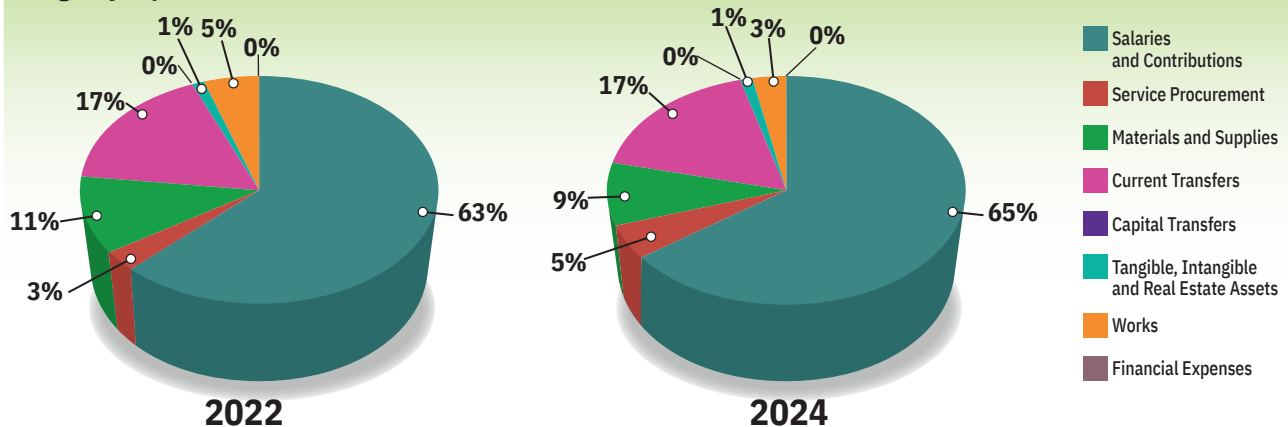


	2022		2024	
	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure	Current Expenditure	Capital Expenditure
<b>Ministry of Defence</b>	<b>84.0%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>90.0%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>
Central Activities	50.6%	49.4%	65.8%	34.2%
National Defence	98.6%	1.4%	99.0%	1.0%
Health and Social Services	97.9%	2.1%	98.8%	1.2%
Military Education and Training	90.2%	9.8%	89.4%	10.6%
Administration of Special Contributions	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
<b>Army of the Dominican Republic</b>	<b>99.6%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>99.8%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
Land Defence	99.6%	0.4%	99.8%	0.2%
Military Education and Training	97.3%	2.7%	98.1%	1.9%
<b>Navy of the Dominican Republic</b>	<b>99.5%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>98.3%</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
Naval Defence	99.4%	0.6%	98.3%	1.7%
Naval Education and Training	100.0%	0.0%	97.2%	2.8%
Health Services	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%
<b>Air Force of the Dominican Republic</b>	<b>99.8%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Air Defence	99.8%	0.2%	100.0%	0.0%
Military Education and Training	99.6%	0.4%	99.9%	0.1%
Health Services	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%

Decentralized. Civil Defence. 2024, in Dominican Pesos.

Coordination and prevention of loss of life and property in emergencies and disasters	209,957,180	1,405,000	211,362,180
---	-------------	-----------	-------------

Budget by Expenditure Item



Source: Compilation based on *Ley 80-23 que aprueba el Presupuesto General del Estado para el ejercicio presupuestario del año 2024*. IMF, World Economic Outlook Database (GDP, April 2024). Central Bank of the Dominican Republic (Exchange Rate: 1 US\$ = 57.9626 Dominicanos Pesos, January 2024).

## The Ministry of Defence

YEAR OF CREATION\*

**2013**

Average Tenure in Office for Ministers:  
**2 YEARS AND 4 MONTHS**

### MISSION

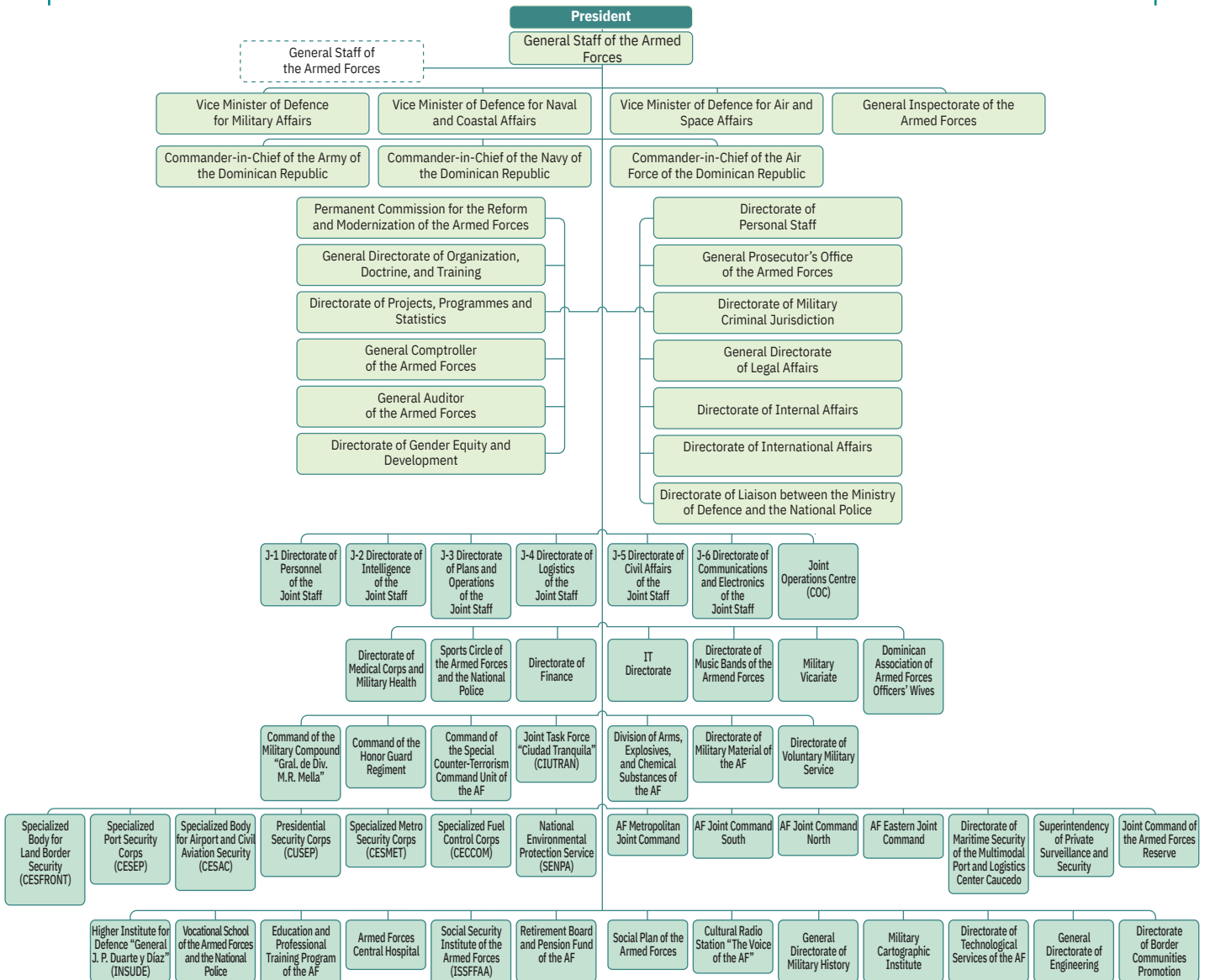
Defending the independence and sovereignty of the Nation, the integrity of its geographical areas and the Constitution, laws and institutions; combating transnational crime; promoting the social and economic development of the country; mitigating situations of disaster and public calamity; and restoring law and order in exceptional cases, with the purpose of safeguarding national interests for the benefit of the Dominican people.

### MANDATES

- Direct, control and administer military institutions in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic, the law and the orders issued by the President, and to issue the rules for this purpose.
- Issue orders to ensure the faithful fulfilment of the purpose for which the Armed Forces were created.
- Coordinate with other State agencies.
- Coordinate the elaboration of the proposed National Security and Defence Strategy.
- Enforce the National Military Strategy.
- Serve on the National Security and Defence Council.
- Chair the National Civil Aviation Security Committee (CONASAC), and the National Anti-Terrorism Committee, as well as any other bodies if designated by the competent authority.
- Authorize the entry into ports, harbours, bays and anchorages of military vessels from friendly countries on official, operational or technical visits, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Ensure proper planning and budget execution of the Armed Forces.
- Maintain appropriate dissemination bodies to inform and supplement the professional, technical and general culture of members of the Armed Forces.
- Establish the criteria and complementary rules for the elaboration of the organizational, administrative and technical regulations necessary for the development of the Armed Forces and submit them to the approval of the President of the Republic.
- Guard, supervise and control all weapons, military equipment, ammunition, explosives, chemical substances and war material entering the country or produced by the domestic industry; as well as any material that may be used in the manufacture of chemical and nuclear weapons, subject to the restrictions set out in the law.
- Submit to the General Staff of the Armed Forces all matters relating to operations and employment, as well as the fundamental provisions on mobilization and concentration of troops, operational plans, the adoption of new weapons and, in general, all measures concerning the preparation of the Force, organizational changes, regulations, investments, acquisitions and all aspects which have an impact on the general membership of the Armed Forces.
- Participate in the national system of disaster prevention, mitigation and response and in environmental control and protection.
- Serve on the Peace Missions Advisory Council.

\*The year of creation corresponds to the date on which the term "Defence" becomes part of the name of the institution. (Before 2013, there was a Ministry of Armed Forces, established in 1930).

### Organizational Chart



Source: Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas de la Republica Dominicana (N° 139-13 – 2013/03/09) and official site of the Ministry of Defence.

## The Armed Forces

### General Mission

The mission of the Armed Forces is to defend the independence and sovereignty of the Nation, the integrity of its geographical areas, and the Constitution and the institutions of the Republic. The Armed Forces shall intervene, as the President so directs, in programmes designed to promote the social and economic development of the country, mitigate disasters and public calamity, and to assist the National Police in order to maintain or restore public order in exceptional cases.

(Constitution, Art. 252).

### Joint General Command

Exercises the highest military authority in all matters of command, organization and instruction of the Armed Forces, and performs strategic direction of military operations under the authority of the President of the Republic and the Minister of Defence.

Responsible for the development of operational and contingency plans, as well as planning and supervising tactical, operational and strategic exercises and manoeuvres of the Armed Forces.

### Specific Missions

#### Land Force

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 restoring public order in exceptional cases and form part of the Public Force under the control of the Central Electoral Board during the national elections scheduled by this body. Perform the duties of military service as assigned by the President of the Republic, in normal situations, exceptional cases or during states of exception. Plan, organize, train and equip units to participate in joint, combined, peace, and humanitarian operations. Adopt all measures and actions necessary to comply with the orders issued by the President aimed at combating transnational criminal activities declared as high national priority objectives, which endanger the interests of the country. Participate in the organization and maintenance of effective systems to prevent or mitigate damage caused by natural and technological disasters. Ensure, control and defend the Land Border Zone from any threat that may affect national security interests or the cultural identity of the Dominican Republic. Elaborate self-management programmes and projects to promote military industry that contribute to national development.

#### Naval Force

Perform the functions of national maritime authority, under the terms of the legislation in force. Exercise control, security and defence of the coasts, ports, marinas, inland waters, territorial waters, contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone of the Republic. Protect the legal maritime traffic and industries. Combat maritime piracy, violations of laws and enforce provisions on shipping, maritime trade and international treaties. Enforce maritime navigation provisions, international agreements on flag-keeping, crewing, registration of vessels, trade and fishing. Develop self-management programmes and projects to promote the development of the national maritime industry. Exercise control, supervision and operational direction of auxiliary naval civilian services. Prepare and implement plans for naval defence and maritime security.

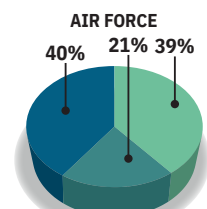
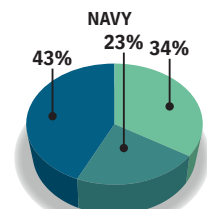
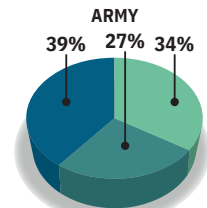
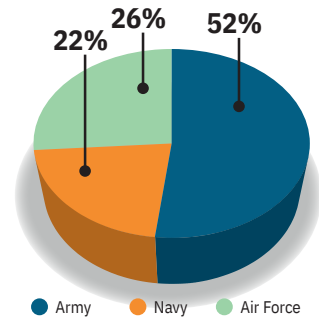
#### Air Force

Exercise control, security and defence of the Republic's airspace. Protect legal air traffic and trade, ensuring that their interests and flags are respected. Combat air piracy and violations of laws and enforce provisions on aerial navigation, air trade and international treaties. Prepare and implement air defence plans. Exercise control, supervision and operational direction of auxiliary civilian services. Develop self-management programmes and projects to promote the development of the national aerospace industry.

### Armed Forces Personnel

RANK	ARMY		NAVY		AIR FORCE	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>GENERAL OFFICERS AND ADMIRALS</b>						
Lieutenant General/Admiral	0	1	0	0	0	0
Major General/Vice Admiral	0	17	0	6	0	4
Brigadier General/Rear-Admiral	2	41	0	16	1	27
Colonel/Captain	46	616	12	238	51	408
Lieutenant Colonel/Commander	106	760	51	296	71	489
Major/Lieutenant Commander	129	1,107	100	380	115	643
Captain/Lieutenant	227	1,471	192	654	227	1,005
Lieutenant/Lieutenant (junior grade)	341	1,984	251	765	325	1,104
Second Lieutenant/Ensign	560	2,690	299	947	317	958
Cadets/Cadets	36	129	35	95	25	99
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,447</b>	<b>8,816</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>3,397</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>4,737</b>
<b>NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS</b>						
Sub-Lieutenant III	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Lieutenant II	0	0	0	0	8	36
Sub-Lieutenant I	1	10	0	2	0	2
Sergeant Major	503	2,628	170	1,007	242	797
Sergeant	713	4,061	261	1,450	556	1,507
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>6,699</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>2,459</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>2,342</b>
<b>TROOPS</b>						
Corporal	748	3,653	420	1,341	461	1,686
Private First Class/Seaman	618	6,550	615	2,809	493	3,338
Conscripts/Seamen	45	135	0	294	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,411</b>	<b>10,338</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>4,444</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>5,024</b>
<b>Total by Service</b>	<b>29,928</b>		<b>12,706</b>		<b>14,995</b>	
<b>Total Armed Forces</b>				<b>57,629</b>		

### Distribution of Personnel, by Force



● Officers ● NCOs ● Troops

Source: Compilation based on *Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas de la República Dominicana* (N° 139-13 – 2013/13/09), and information provided by the official website of the Ministry of Defence.

## Women in the Armed Forces

### Highest Rank Attained in Officer Ranks



### Highest Rank Attained in Non-Commissioned Officer and Troop Ranks



**Note:** Army hierarchy, for illustrative purposes. In the Naval Force, Colonel is equivalent to Captain. In the Air Force, the designation is the same. For troop personnel, it applies the same designation to all three forces.

The **Directorate for Gender Equity and Development** is responsible for developing research and producing knowledge, providing technical assistance to all headquarters, educational centres and units of the armed forces. The Directorate also provides training to the Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defence on gender, women, peace and security.

Of the total number of officers and NCOs, **17.4%** are women.

## Military Education

The **National University for Defence “General Juan Pablo Duarte y Díez” (UNADE)** is the body within the Ministry of Defence that comprises the academies, schools and courses that constitute the education system of the Armed Forces, or- ganizing them in faculties:

- Science for Security, Defence and National Development
- Military Science
- Naval Sciences
- Aeronautical Sciences
- Health Sciences
- Engineering

#### New entrants\*

Men: 186  
Women: 50

#### Academy Batalla de las Carreras

- Bachelor of Military Science.
- Hunters’ Course “Experts in Mountain Operations”.
- Leadership Course.

Men: 77  
Women: 26

#### Naval Academy Vice-Admiral Cesar de Windt Lavandier

- Bachelor of Naval Science.
- Course on the identification of controlled substances.
- Emergency Management Course.

Men: 107  
Women: 33

#### Air Academy Frank Andrés Feliz Miranda

- Bachelor of Aeronautical Science.
- Military Parachute Course.
- Marine Command Course.

\* Number of new entrants in the year 2023.

### ARMY

#### Graduate School of Military Studies of the Army of the Dominican Republic Major General Ramiro Matos Gonzalez, E.N.

- Specialization in human rights and international humanitarian law
- Military operations course for Assistant Officers.
- Command and Staff Course for Land Forces.

### AIR FORCE

#### Graduate School of Air Command and Staff (EGCEMA).

- Specialization in Command and Air Staff.
- Squadron Command and Staff Assistant Course.

### NAVY

#### Graduate School of Naval Command and Staff (EGCEMN).

- Specialization in Naval Command and Staff Major.
- Basic Naval Command and Staff Course.
- Basic English course for Officers.

#### Graduate School of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.

- Master’s Degree in Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.
- Diploma in Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.
- Diploma in Personal Data Protection and Privacy from the Perspective of Human Rights.
- Diploma in Children and Adolescents from the Perspective of Human Rights.
- Basic, Intermediate and Higher Courses in Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.
- Course for Operational Legal Advisers.

#### Graduate School of Strategic Studies.

- Master’s Degree in National Security and Defence.
- Specialization in Geopolitics.
- Diploma in Cyber Security and Cyber Defence; and in Cyber Security Management.
- Diploma in Methodology of Scientific Research applied to National Security and Defence.
- Course-workshop on national security and defence.
- Management of strategic communication for national defence and security.
- Seminar Advocacy in disaster risk management.

#### Graduate School of Military Joint Doctrine

- Specialization in Joint Command and Staff.
- Diploma in Defence Resources Management and Administration.
- Diploma in Doctrinal Updating.
- Diploma in Disaster Management and Handling.
- Course on Joint and Combined Operations.
- Course on damage assessment and needs analysis.
- Course on sustainment operations.

#### Civil Aviation Safety School Major General Pilot Luis Damián Castro Cruz, FARD.

- Diploma in Airport Security.
- Air cargo and mail security training.
- Basic training for airport security personnel.
- Instructors in aviation safety.
- Instruction in aviation security management.
- Instruction on the organization of aviation security exercises.
- Instruction for airport security supervisors.
- Instruction in aviation security crisis management.
- Course for k-9 dog handlers on explosive detection.

#### Armed Forces School of Intelligence (J-2).

- Diploma for a Military Attaché as a member of the Foreign Service.
- Diploma in Cyber Security and Cyber Defence.
- Basic intelligence course.
- Intelligence analyst course.
- Creole course.
- Introduction to operational intelligence.
- Psychological operations.

The six specialized bodies (tourist security, port security, land border security, airport security, metro security and fuel control) have a specific school with training and updating courses.

The **National School of Environmental Protection (ENPA)** offers specialized courses in soil, water, forest resources, environmental management, environmental legislation and biodiversity.

**Source:** Compilation based on information from the official sites of the Ministry of Defence and the University for Defence; and *Memoria Institucional 2023*.



## Military Service

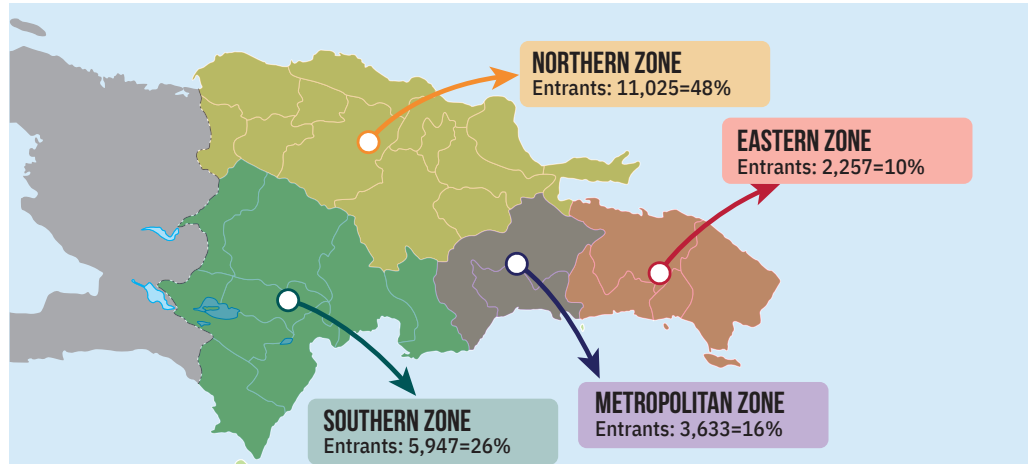
Military service is voluntary and is aimed at young men and women between the ages of 16 and 25.

It has two modes

- Basic Training Programme for Voluntary Military Service.
- Special Training Programme for secondary school students.

The Basic Training Programme lasts for six months and consists of two stages: the military stage and the patriotic stage.

### Recruitment. Number of Entrants by Zone, 2023



## Military Exercises

The Armed Forces conducted several exercises in 2023 on national territory:

- In compliance with the protection of the borders, the Army carried out surveillance and security patrols at the land borders.
- The Specialized Body on Land Border Security (CESFRONT) conducted patrols in the border area, in the provinces of Dajabon, Elías Piña, Independencia and Pedernales.
- Exercises in collaboration with international forces, especially from the United States.

They regularly participate in bilateral and multilateral military exercises. These include:

#### Multinational:

**Tradewinds exercise:** multinational exercise organized by the US Southern Command in the Caribbean.

**Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI):** Caribbean initiative, including training and collaboration to improve regional security.

**RESOLUTE SENTINEL 2023:** multinational conducted annually

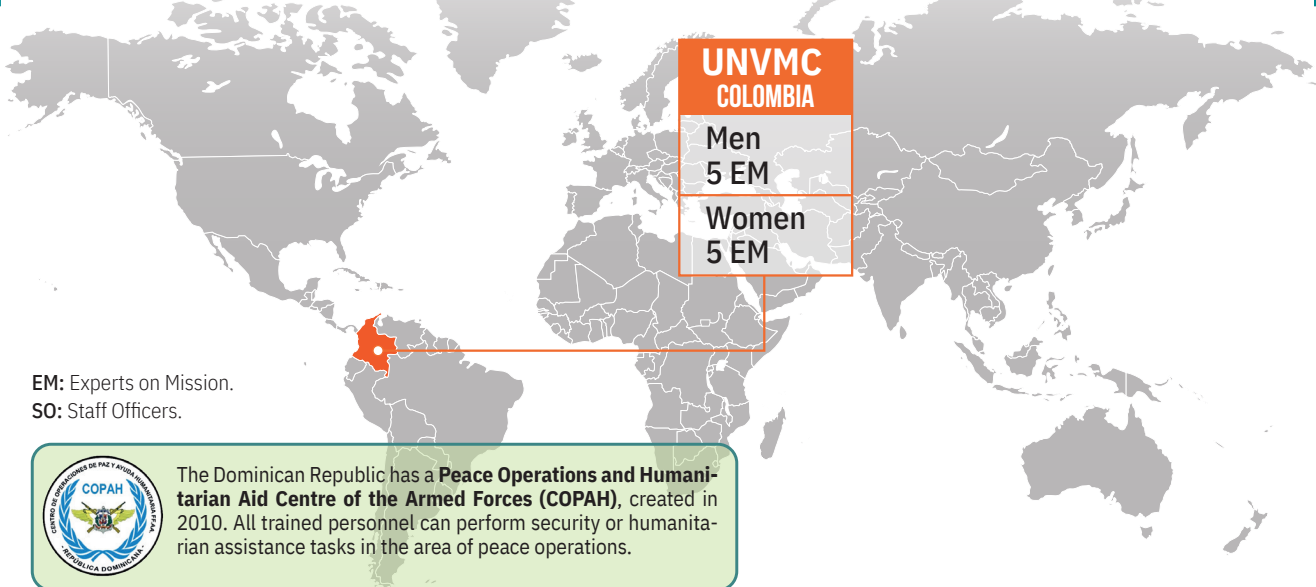
**PANAMAX:** among others, final conference of planning and execution of the exercise.

**DUNES EXERCISE:** exercise of cooperation in military exercises with France

**ZEUS CARIBE:** combined exercise of aero-maritime interdiction with the Colombian Armed Forces.

**CARIBE I:** binational exercise with the Colombian Air Force.

## Participation in Peace Operations



EM: Experts on Mission.  
SO: Staff Officers.



The Dominican Republic has a **Peace Operations and Humanitarian Aid Centre of the Armed Forces (COPAH)**, created in 2010. All trained personnel can perform security or humanitarian assistance tasks in the area of peace operations.



The Dominican Republic contributes **10** military personnel to United Nations peace operations, which represent **0.5%** of the total contributed by Latin America.

Source: Compilation based on Ley Orgánica de las Fuerzas Armadas de la República Dominicana (N° 139-13 – 2013/09/13); Ministry of Defence, Memoria Institucional 2023 and Informe Estadístico a diciembre 2023 de la Dirección de Proyectos, Programas y Estadísticas; and statistics from the official website of the UN Department of Peace Operations, Contribution of Uniformed Personnel to UN by Mission and Personnel Type, in its various submissions. Data closed as of April 2024.

## Community Support



### RevERDecer

The Army's national programme, which seeks to comply with the main lines of the institutional strategic plan, based on the care of habitat and natural resources and the promotion of environmental development. In 2023, two reforestation days were held in the provinces of San Juan and San Cristobal, where more than 7,000 trees were planted.

### Project "Protecting our future"

The Ministry of Defence launched the project "Protecting our future" for the construction of a children's care center, within the Ministry, for military families from solid waste collected and recycled by the troops. The project includes the collection of recyclable waste on beaches, coasts and green areas as part of the effort to reduce marine litter.

### Campaign against Dengue

The Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Health are carrying out preventive actions against dengue-carrying mosquitoes. The Army, Navy and Air Force conducted disinfection days against dengue mosquitoes in 2024, eliminating possible outbreaks, and also delivered cleaning kits and health.

## Institutional Strategic Plan 2021-2024

The Dominican Republic implements a National Planning and Public Investment System, and a National Development Strategy. The Ministry of Defence, in compliance with these regulations, prepares an Institutional Strategic Plan (PEI).

### Axes of the Institutional Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Institutional strengthening of national defence.

Improve the quality of life of members of the Armed Forces.

Development of security and internal defence capabilities to support the civilian authority.

Support for the social and economic development of the country through the capabilities of the Armed Forces

Institutional management, administrative support and project development.

## Risk and Emergency Management

### Armed Forces Contingency Plans related to Risk Management

**Mission:** to preserve lives and property, carrying out disaster prevention, search and rescue and other support operations.

**LIGHTNING PLAN**

**NEPTUNE PLAN**

**Mission:** to support risk management in cases of earthquakes or tsunamis.

### Natural, Anthropogenic and Technological Disaster Response Units.

#### Army:

- Operational Disaster Mitigation Brigade (BRIOMD)
- Humanitarian Response Unit (UHR)
- Ecological Unit

#### Navy:

- The Dolphin Unit, of size Regiment, carries out search and rescue operations

#### Air Force:

- Search and Rescue Squad
- Canine Unit (K-9)

### Activities in risk and emergency management during 2023 and 2024 included:

- Joint exercises to simulate humanitarian assistance on a multinational scale. Exercise CENTAM GUARDIAN 2023 was used to evaluate and strengthen the work procedures of the civil and military components through a national simulation. During the exercise, potential scenarios that could affect the country were practiced, including the deployment of mobile hospitals and immediate response to spills of hazardous chemicals.
- Support in forest fires. The Armed Forces provide constant support to quell these incidents when they occur, with the aim of minimizing the consequences that affect the environment.
- Support for search and rescue and humanitarian assistance: some 3,000 troops were deployed to respond to the problems caused by the passage of tropical storm "Franklin"; this deployment is in response to activities envisaged under the Lightning Plan.



Prevention and assistance during the Franklin storm, activation of the Lightning Plan. Photo: Ministry of Defence.

Source: Compilation based on information from the official website of the Ministry of Defence and *Memoria Institucional 2023*.

## Specialized Corps of the Ministry of Defence

**THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, IN ADDITION TO THE ARMED FORCES, HAS SIX SPECIALIZED CORPS:**

**Specialized Port Security Corps (CESEP)**

Responsible for the safety and security of the national port system. Its mission is to provide the Dominican Port Authority with the highest level of security in the country's port facilities, whether state, concessionary or private. It is also the implementer of the Code for the Security of Ships and Port Facilities.

**Specialized Body for Land Border Security (CESFRONT)**

Its mission is to establish a permanent security and control system at the formal points of entry and exit, as well as in the areas assigned to it along the Dominican land border. Conducts patrols and establishes checkpoints, observation posts and check-points in coordination with the various agencies deployed along the Dominican-Haitian border.

**Specialized Body for Airport and Civil Aviation Security (CESAC)**

Responsible for ensuring security services at national and international airports, through the application of rules, methods and procedures established by the International Civil Aviation Organization, for the protection of international civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference.

**Specialized Metro Security Corps (CESMET)**

Its mission is to establish a permanent safety and control system throughout the metro transport system and the national railway system, in order to provide the highest level of safety, ensuring its proper functioning. It is composed of a Joint Force, composed of members of the National Army, the Navy and the Air Force, and military assimilates required for the protection of its facilities.

**Specialized Body on Tourist Safety (CESTUR)**

Created in 2014, based on an agreement between the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Tourism to replace the previously called Tourist Police, its mission is to ensure integral security in the Dominican tourism sector through preventive actions, protection and orientation towards tourists, ensuring sustainable development consistent with compliance with the laws.

**Specialized Fuel Control Corps (CECCOM)**

Its mission is to implement safety and control policies in the process of distribution and marketing of fuels.

### Internal Order



Source: Compilation based on information from the official website of the Ministry of Defence; *Memoria Institucional*; *Libro Blanco de la Defensa 2022*; and the above-mentioned regulations.