Casualties and Costs of the Civil War

1861-1865

Did you know?
Not all states in the Union were free.
Four border states allowed slavery, but did not secede from the Union as the Confederate states did.

US Population in 1860
Note: Each figure represents 1%. The Union had 64 enslaved persons as of 1860.

Union States: 19,127,948
- White (98.82%)
- Enslaved African Americans (0%)
- Free African Americans (1.18%)

Confederate States: 12,315,373
- White (65.77%)
- Enslaved African Americans (32.10%)
- Free African Americans (2.13%)

Military Strengths
Note: Service numbers are accepted estimates.

Total Servicemen
- Union: 2,000,000
- Confederacy: 750,000

Total Army Enlistment by Year
(Dates as of January 1)
- Union: 575,917
- Confederacy: 918,191

Years:
- 1861: Union 258,660, Confederacy 196,016
- 1862: Union 304,015, Confederacy 860,737
- 1863: Union 277,970, Confederacy 959,460
Soldier Demographics

**Average Union Soldier**
- Age: 26
- Height: 5’8”
- Weight: 143.5 lbs
- Enlistment: Volunteer
- Profession: Farmer

**Average Confederate Soldier**
Much less is known about Confederate soldiers due to incomplete and lost records.

Union Troops Nation of Origin
Note: Each figure represents 1%.
- American Born (75%)
- Germany (8.75%)
- Ireland (7.50%)
- England and Colonies (5%)
- Other (3.75%)

Enlistment and Conscription
Note: Confederate numbers are estimated from incomplete records.

**Union**
- Volunteers: 1,750,741
- Draftees: 249,259

**Confederacy**
- Volunteers: 668,007
- Draftees: 81,993

African Americans at War

**African American Union Troops Region of Origin**
- Free States: 44,781
- Border States: 93,346
- Freed or Escaped Slaves from Confederate States: 40,765

**Official Military Admittance of African American Soldiers**
- **Union**: July 1862
- **Confederacy**: March 1865

**Union Soldier Monthly Salary**
- **White**:
  - $13/month
- **African American**:
  - $10/month

*Before these dates, many free African Americans joined unofficial regiments. Enslaved African Americans were often brought to war as servants, or impressed into military service by their masters.*
Troop Fatalities

Note: Death totals are accepted estimates. Confederate numbers are estimated due to incomplete returns. Little is known about Confederate POWs.

**Total Estimated Deaths: 623,026**
- Confederacy: 258,000
- Union: 360,222

**Union Causes of Death**
- 224,580
  - Fatally Wounded in Battle (30.17%)
  - Disease (61.55%)
  - Fatalities in Enemy Prisons (8.27%)

**Confederate Causes of Death**
- 94,000
  - Fatally Wounded in Battle (36.43%)
  - Disease (63.57%)

American Wars: Side by Side

Note: "Battle deaths" do not include death by disease, capture, or other deaths.

**Total American Deaths in Battle**
- Revolutionary War: 4,435
- War of 1812: 2,260
- Indian Wars: 1,000
- Mexican War: 1,733
- Civil War: 623,026
- Spanish–American War: 385
- World War I: 53,402
- World War II: 291,557
- Korean War: 33,739
- Vietnam War: 47,434
- Persian Gulf War: 148

**Total War Costs (Period Value)**
- Revolutionary War: 101 million
- War of 1812: 90 million
- Indian Wars: 260 million
- Mexican War: 71 million
- Civil War: 4,183 million
- Spanish–American War: 283 million
- World War I: 20 billion
- World War II: 296 billion
- Korean War: 30 billion
- Vietnam War: 111 billion
- Persian Gulf War: 61 billion

Sources


