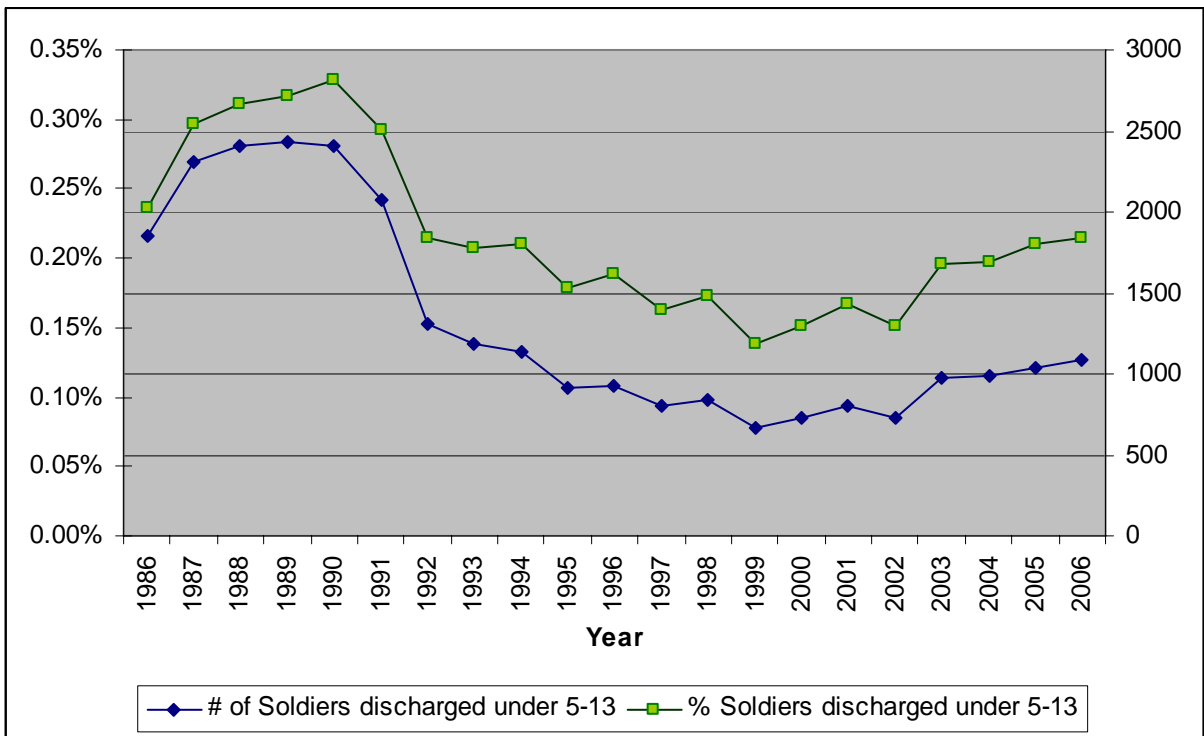


## U.S. Army Personality Disorder Separations Fact Sheet as of June 15, 2007:

- Some Soldiers have personality disorders that are incompatible with military service
- Discharge under Chapter 5-13 of AR 635-200 (derived from governing DOD Policy (DOD Directive 1332.14) is for Soldiers with personality disorders but not if there is a mental illness or other medical impairment that amounts to disability, or if their behavior is a result of combat exhaustion and other acute situational maladjustments. Chapter 5-13 can be considered a “screen” ensuring those “not fitting in” who have long-standing serious psychological issues are given the assistance, and the discharge, that they need.
- We separate Soldiers under Chapter 5-13 only if the doctoral-level provider concludes the disorder is so severe that the Soldier’s ability to function effectively in the military environment is significantly impaired. This condition must be a deeply ingrained maladaptive pattern of behavior of long duration that interferes with the Soldier’s ability to perform duty (combat exhaustion and other acute situational maladjustments do not meet this criterion). The diagnosis of personality disorder (see (DSM-IV) must be established by a psychiatrist or doctoral-level clinical psychologist with necessary and appropriate professional credentials privileged to conduct DoD evaluations.
- Ch 5-13 numbers are up since 1999 but are still below late 1980 numbers. These represent only approximately one percent of discharges. In 2006, the Active Army separated approximately 80,000 Soldiers, the majority at the completion of their normal contracted service, yet only 1,086 received a Chapter 5-13.



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SUBJECT: Personality Disorder Separations, AR 635-200 Chapter 5-13

- Soldiers entering the Army must indicate, in writing, if they have any pre-existing medical conditions, including psychological conditions. They are also screened by doctors and other professionals at the recruiting station and at the Military Entrance Processing Station. Some pre-existing medical conditions are waivable. Some recruits, however, manage to conceal their pre-existing medical conditions.
- Soldiers separated under chapter 5-13 receive honorable discharges, unless given an entry-level separation, in which case they receive an uncharacterized discharge. Soldiers with a mental illness or other medical impairment that amount to disability are separated under the Physical Disability System, AR 635-40.
- Neither DoD policy nor the DVA compensate for personality disorder. It is not considered a mental illness. However, personality changes due to a medical impairment (for example, traumatic brain injury or stroke) may be compensable as an organic mental disorder. According to DoD Financial Management Regulation Volume 7A, Chapter 9, October 2006, recoupment of unearned portions of enlistment bonuses, reenlistment bonuses (regular and selective) and retention bonuses is required for personality disorder administrative discharges. Recoupment is not required when member is separated or retired due to physical disability.
- Half-payment of non-disability separation pay is generally authorized to Soldiers involuntarily separated from active duty because of a personality disorder if they have between six years and twenty years of active duty service.
- Separated Soldiers are entitled to veterans benefits dependent on discharge characterization, length of service and disability rating. Several general benefits include loans, health care, education and training, and life insurance.