

Contributors

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Acknowledgments

It is only through the contributions of a great many people that a publication like the *Index of U.S. Military Strength* is possible. Among them, a few special contributors have that extra talent, work ethic, and willingness to go the extra mile that make the *Index* a remarkable and uniquely special undertaking.

James Di Pane, Policy Analyst in the Center for National Defense, ably shouldered the major task of shepherding production of the 2022 *Index of U.S. Military Strength*. He worked with the authors, editors, and graphics and production professionals to make this *Index* a reality, both in print and on the web. Maiya Clark, Research Associate in the Center for National Defense, lent her detailed attention to the development and accuracy of the military service modernization tables for each service, a unique reference found only in this *Index*.

Once again, the indefatigable Senior Editor William T. Poole reprised his central role in maintaining a consistent tone, impeccable accuracy, and a fresh approach to conveying essential information throughout this multi-author document. Data Graphics Services Manager John Fleming and Data Graphics Designer Luke Karnick continued their impressive work in giving visual life to text and statistics to convey a message with maximum impact, working with the authors to explore more creative ways to convey important information. Senior Designer and Web Developer of Research Projects Jay Simon and Digital Director Maria Sousa ensured that the presentation of *Index* materials was tuned to account for changes in content delivery as our world becomes increasingly digital, portable,

and driven by social media, and the guidance and coordination provided by Director of Research Editors Therese Pennefather ensured the creation of a cohesive finished product.

We believe that this *Index* helps to provide a better-informed understanding and wider appreciation of America's ability to "provide for the common defence"—an ability that undergirds The Heritage Foundation's vision of "an America where freedom, opportunity, prosperity, and civil society flourish." The *Index* continues to be cited and referenced across government—by Congress, the executive branch, and officials within the Department of Defense and supporting government agencies—as well as the media, academia, and policy institutes and among the public. We remain encouraged that so many Americans are similarly concerned about the state of affairs in and the multitude of factors affecting our country.

The Heritage Foundation seeks a better life for Americans, and this requires a strong economy, a strong society, and a strong defense. To help measure the state of the economy, our Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity publishes the annual *Index of Economic Freedom*; to help guide Congress in its constitutional exercise of the power of the purse, Heritage scholars analyze federal spending across all sectors of the economy and put forward recommendations throughout the year that, if implemented, would make Members of Congress better stewards of the taxes paid by all Americans. To help Americans everywhere more fully understand the state of our defenses, our Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy

is publishing this eighth annual edition of the *Index of U.S. Military Strength*.

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Finally, as we do each year, The Heritage Foundation expresses its enduring appreciation to the members of the U.S. armed forces who continue to protect the liberty of the American people in an ever more challenging world.