

Ranks and Codes

This page has information on the various codes used in the CACCF, and by the military in general. There are three kinds of codes that you will find here:

MOS codes give the person's Military Occupational Specialty (this is actually an Army term, the other services may use different ones. Same thing, though, it's what the person did in the service). We have been able to obtain some lists of MOS codes from *the late 1970s*, which will *mostly* be the same as the Vietnam-period codes (we know of some that are definitely different). We're working on finding more proper period codes; if you know where we can get some, let Tom know.

- Air Force MOS codes

- Army MOS codes

- Marine Corps MOS coc

- Navy MOS codes

I DON'T THINK
THESE ARE STILL
ON THEIR SITE.
I HAVE COPIES OF

Military Ranks are not really is some information on

A.F. & MARINES ALSO
IF INTERESTED.

not familiar with them. Here

- Comparison of ranks in

- Army Ranks

- Marine Corps Ranks

- Air Force Ranks

- Navy Ranks

CACCF Codes can be especially confusing. We've tried to translate them on the Result Details page for any search, but you may want to look at them for yourself. Note: we do not have explanations for what exactly some of these codes mean in certain cases. These are taken from the documentation that comes with the CACCF, and there is no explanation there.

Note also that we have added/changed some of the codes when we thought it would make them easier to read (such as with State and Religion, which are number codes in the original CACCF). We've added codes for Posthumous Promotion to indicate several kinds of mistake which may not be obvious. These changes have only been made to help legibility, **IN NO CASE HAVE WE CHANGED ANY CASUALTY'S INFORMATION OR WHAT THE CODES MEAN.**

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- [Air Force MOS codes](#)
- [Army MOS codes](#)
- [Marine Corps MOS codes](#)
- [Navy MOS codes](#)

Military Ranks are not really codes, but they can be confusing for those not familiar with them. Here is some information on

- [Comparison of ranks in the various US Armed Forces](#)
- [Army Ranks](#)
- [Marine Corps Ranks](#)
- [Air Force Ranks](#)
- [Navy Ranks](#)

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CACCF codes include

- Branch of Service
- Service Component
- Posthumous Promotion (added)
- Casualty Type -- [C1 on the initial results list]
- Casualty Reason [C2 on the initial results list]
- Aircraft Involvement [C3 on the initial results list]
- Body
- Country
- Province
- Race
- Religion
- State

Military Ranks

All members of the US Armed forces have a "pay grade" that runs from E1-E9 for enlisted personnel, W1-W4 for warrant officers, and O1-O11 for commissioned officers. These grades are considered equivalent between the services and receive the same pay. Ranks, however, can vary a good deal between services, and Navy ranks have little in common with those of any other service. There are several technical distinctions between the terms "rank" and "grade", but for most purposes one can consider grade as one's position in the military hierarchy and rank as one's military title. Coast Guard ranks are not included below, but for all practical purposes they are the same as Navy ranks.

TABLE OF US MILITARY RANKS

The table below gives a brief synopsis of US military ranks. The abbreviations are explained further below.

GRADE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR FORCE	MARINE CORPS
E1	PV1 PVT.	.SR . . . . .	.AB	PVT
E2	PV2 PVT.	.SA . . . . .	.AMN A3C . . .	PFC
E3	PFC . . . . .	.SN . . . . .	.A1C A2C . . .	LCPL
E4	CPL SP4.	.PO3 . . . . .	.SGT A1C . . .	CPL

E5	. . . .	SGT	SP5	. . . .	.PO2	. . . .	.SSGT	. . . .	SGT
E6	. . . .	SSG	SP6	. . . .	.PO1	. . . .	.TSGT	. . . .	SSGT
E7	. . . .	PSG	SFC	SP7	.CPO	. . . .	.MSGT	. . . .	GYSGT
E8	. . . .	1SG	MSG	. . . .	.SCPO	. . . .	.SMSGT	. . . .	FSGT MSGT
E9	. . . .	CSM	SGM	. . . .	.MCPO	. . . .	.CMSGT	. . . .	SMAJ MGYS
W1	. . . .	WO1	. . . .	.WO-1	. . . .	.WO	. . . .	.WO	
W2	. . . .	CW2	. . . .	.CWO-2	. . . .	.CWO-2	. . . .	.CWO2	
W3	. . . .	CW3	. . . .	.CWO-3	. . . .	.CWO-3	. . . .	.CWO3	
W4	. . . .	CW4	. . . .	.CWO-4	. . . .	.CWO-4	. . . .	.CWO4	
O1	. . . .	2LT	. . . .	.ENS	. . . .	.2LT	. . . .	2LT	
O2	. . . .	1LT	. . . .	.LTJG	. . . .	.1LT	. . . .	1LT	
O3	. . . .	CPT	. . . .	.LT	. . . .	.CPT	. . . .	CPT	
O4	. . . .	MAJ	. . . .	.LCDR	. . . .	.MAJ	. . . .	MAJ	
O5	. . . .	LTC	. . . .	.CDR	. . . .	.LTC	. . . .	LTC	
O6	. . . .	COL	. . . .	.CAPT	. . . .	.COL	. . . .	COL	
O7	. . . .	BG	. . . .	.COMO	RADM (L)	.BGEN	. . . .	BGEN	
O8	. . . .	MG	. . . .	.RADM	RADM (U)	.MAJ GEN	. . . .	MAJGEN	
O9	. . . .	LTG	. . . .	.VADM	. . . .	.LT GEN	. . . .	LTGEN	
O10	. . . .	GEN	. . . .	.ADM	. . . .	.GEN	. . . .	GEN	
O11	. . . .	GA	. . . .	.FADM	. . . .	.GEN AF	. . . .	

The abbreviations above are the ones currently used by each service; Vietnam-era abbreviations differed in some cases. In some cases I have changed the abbreviations in the database for consistency, such as using SSG for Staff Sergeant in both the Army and Marine Corps, but SSGT for the Air Force since it is a different grade.

Warrant officer ranks and titles are the same for all services, and Chief Warrant Officer is the title for grades W-2 through W-4. Each services' ranks are outlined below.

Army Ranks: The Army sometimes has several ranks for the same enlisted grade, based on command position versus technical skill. Specialist Four, for example, has the pay grade of a corporal, but less authority than a corporal. Sergeant First Class, grade E7, is considered more of an administrative rank than Platoon Sergeant, also grade E7. Specialist grades SP4 through SP7 were in use during the Vietnam period, but have been slowly phased out except for SP4. SP8 and SP9 existed in theory, but no one ever held these ranks.

E1	. . .	PV1	PVT	. . . .	Private
E2	. . .	PV2	PVT	. . . .	Private
E3	. . .	PFC		. . . .	Private First Class
E4	. . .	CPL	SP4	. . . .	Corporal / Specialist Four
E5	. . .	SGT	SP5	. . . .	Sergeant / Specialist Five
E6	. . .	SSG	SP6	. . . .	Staff Sergeant / Specialist Six
E7	. . .	PSG	SFC	SP7	Platoon Sergeant / Sergeant First Class / Specialist
Seven					
E8	. . .	1SG	MSG	. . . .	First Sergeant // Master Sergeant
E9	. . .	CSM	SGM	. . . .	Command Sergeant Major // Sergeant Major
W1	. . .	WO1		. . . .	Warrant Officer

W2.	. . .	CW2	. . . . .	Chief Warrant Officer
W3.	. . .	CW3	. . . . .	Chief Warrant Officer
W4.	. . .	CW4	. . . . .	Chief Warrant Officer
O1.	. . .	2LT	. . . . .	Second Lieutenant
O2.	. . .	1LT	. . . . .	First Lieutenant
O3.	. . .	CPT	. . . . .	Captain
O4.	. . .	MAJ	. . . . .	Major
O5.	. . .	LTC	. . . . .	Lieutenant Colonel
O6.	. . .	COL	. . . . .	Colonel
O7.	. . .	BG.	. . . . .	Brigadier General
O8.	. . .	MG.	. . . . .	Major General
O9.	. . .	LTG	. . . . .	Lieutenant General
O10	. . .	GEN	. . . . .	General
O11	. . .	GA.	. . . . .	General of the Army

Marine Corps Ranks: Marine Corps officer ranks are the same as the Army; enlisted ranks are given below. Staff/line distinctions exist only for E8 and E9. Gunnery Sergeants (E7s) are usually addressed as "Gunny" except in very formal situations.

E1.	. . . .	.PVT.	. . . . .	Private
E2.	. . . .	.PFC.	. . . . .	Private First Class
E3.	. . . .	.LCPL	. . . . .	Lance Corporal
E4.	. . . .	.CPL.	. . . . .	Corporal
E5.	. . . .	.SGT.	. . . . .	Sergeant
E6.	. . . .	.SSGT	. . . . .	Staff Sergeant
E7.	. . . .	.GYSGT.	. . . . .	Gunnery Sergeant
E8.	. . . .	.FSGT	MSGT	First Sergeant / Master Sergeant
E9.	. . . .	.SMAJ	MGYS	Sergeant Major / Master Gunnery Sergeant

Air Force Ranks: Officer and warrant officer ranks are the same as in the Army and Marine Corps. Enlisted ranks are as noted below. The junior enlisted rank structure changed somewhat in about 1967, so that Airman First Class referred to grade E4 or E3 at different periods. SMSGT and CMSGT are abbreviated SMS and CMS in CACF1193. There is currently also the rank of "Senior Airman", a non-command E4, that was not in use during the Vietnam era.

E1.	. . . .	.AB	. . . . .	Airman Basic
E2.	. . . .	.AMN	A3C	Airman / Airman Third Class
E3.	. . . .	.A1C	A2C	Airman First Class / Airman Second Class
E4.	. . . .	.SGT	A1C	Sergeant / Airman First Class
E5.	. . . .	.SSGT	. . . . .	Staff Sergeant
E6.	. . . .	.TSGT	. . . . .	Technical Sergeant
E7.	. . . .	.MSGT	. . . . .	Master Sergeant
E8.	. . . .	.SMSGT.	. . . . .	Senior Master Sergeant
E9.	. . . .	.CMSGT.	. . . . .	Chief Master Sergeant

Navy Ranks: Navy ranks are unique, and naval enlisted ranks (ratings) can be rather complicated. Warrant officers have the same titles as in other services. Note that the officer ranks of Captain and

Lieutenant are **not** equivalent to these titles in the other services. As noted above, Coast Guard ranks are the same as Navy ranks for all practical purposes.

E1.	. . . .	.SR	. . . . .	Seaman Recruit
E2.	. . . .	.SA	. . . . .	Seaman Apprentice
E3.	. . . .	.SN	. . . . .	Seaman
E4.	. . . .	.PO3	. . . . .	Petty Officer Third Class
E5.	. . . .	.PO2	. . . . .	Petty Officer Second Class
E6.	. . . .	.PO1	. . . . .	Petty Officer First Class
E7.	. . . .	.CPO	. . . . .	Chief Petty Officer
E8.	. . . .	.SCPO	. . . . .	Senior Chief Petty Officer
E9.	. . . .	.MCPO	. . . . .	Master Chief Petty Officer
O1.	. . . .	.ENS	. . . . .	Ensign
O2.	. . . .	.LTJG	. . . . .	Lieutenant junior grade
O3.	. . . .	.LT	. . . . .	Lieutenant
O4.	. . . .	.LCDR	. . . . .	Lieutenant Commander
O5.	. . . .	.CDR	. . . . .	Commander
O6.	. . . .	.CAPT	. . . . .	Captain
O7.	. . . .	.COMO	RADM (L) . .	Commodore / Rear Admiral (Lower)
O8.	. . . .	.RADM	RADM (U) . .	Rear Admiral (Upper)
O9.	. . . .	.VADM	. . . . .	Vice Admiral
O10	. . . .	.ADM	. . . . .	Admiral
O11	. . . .	.FADM	. . . . .	Fleet Admiral

The terms "seaman" and "petty officer" are general titles, and not used by any individual sailor. In practice, enlisted sailors have specific rank titles based on their occupational specialty (rate) and pay grade as outlined below.

Grade E3s use one of the titles immediately below (Seaman, Airman, etc.); E2s use the same titles with "Apprentice" (e.g., SA = Seaman Apprentice, HA = Hospital Corpsman Apprentice), and E1s use "Recruit" (e.g., SR = Seaman Recruit, CR = Constructionman Recruit).

AN	. . . . .	Airman
CN	. . . . .	Constructionman
FN	. . . . .	Fireman
HN	. . . . .	Hospital Corpsman
SN	. . . . .	Seaman
TN	. . . . .	Stewardsman

Petty officers (grades E4-E9) have specific rank titles and abbreviations that indicate their occupational specialty. The abbreviations are followed by 1, 2, 3, C, SC, or MC to denote pay grade. Only those encountered in the casualty database are listed below; it is not necessarily a full list, nor are all necessarily in current use. I believe GMH to be a mistake, since I have not found it in any standard reference.

The names of the two-letter abbreviations can be used as titles (though one wouldn't normally call someone that except in very formal situations). The third letter would not usually be used as a form of address -- both ABH3 and ABF3 would be "Aviation Boatswain's Mate Third Class"; ABCM would be "Master Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate, etc." "Boatswain's Mate" is always *pronounced*

"Bosun's Mate."

AB	. . . . .	Aviation Boatswain's Mate
ABF	. . . . .	" " F (Fuels)
ABH	. . . . .	" " H (Handling)
AC	. . . . .	Air Controlman
AD	. . . . .	Aviation Machinist's Mate
ADJ	. . . . .	" " J (Jet Engine Mechanic)
ADR	. . . . .	" " R (Reciprocating Engine Mechanic)
AE	. . . . .	Aviation Electrician's Mate
AM	. . . . .	Aviation Structural Mechanic
AME	. . . . .	" " E (Safety Equipment)
AMH	. . . . .	" " H (Hydraulics)
AMS	. . . . .	" " S (Structures)
AO	. . . . .	Aviation Ordnanceman
AQ	. . . . .	Aviation Fire Control Technician
AQB	. . . . .	" " B (Bomb Director)
AQF	. . . . .	" " F (Fire Control)
AS	. . . . .	Aviation Support Equipment Technician
ASE	. . . . .	" " E (Electrical)
AT	. . . . .	Aviation Electronics Technician
ATN	. . . . .	" " N (Radio and Radio Navigation Equipment)
ATR	. . . . .	" " R (Radar and Radar Navigation Equipment)
AX	. . . . .	Aviation Antisubmarine Warfare Technician
AZ	. . . . .	Aviation Maintenance Administrationman
BM	. . . . .	Boatswain's Mate
BT	. . . . .	Boilerman Technician
BU	. . . . .	Builder
BUH	. . . . .	" " H (Heavy)
BUL	. . . . .	" " L (Light)
BUR	. . . . .	" " R (Concrete)
CE	. . . . .	Construction Electrician
CEP	. . . . .	" " P (Power)
CET	. . . . .	" " T (Telephone)
CEW	. . . . .	" " W (Wiring)
CM	. . . . .	Construction Mechanic
CMA	. . . . .	" " A (Automotive)
CMH	. . . . .	" " H (Construction)
CS	. . . . .	Commissaryman
CT	. . . . .	Communications Technician
CYN	. . . . .	Communications Yeoman
DC	. . . . .	Damage Controlman
DK	. . . . .	Disbursing Clerk
DS	. . . . .	Data Systems Technician
DT	. . . . .	Dental Technician
EA	. . . . .	Engineering Aid
EAD	. . . . .	" " D (Drafting)
EM	. . . . .	Electrician's Mate

EN Engineman
 EO Equipment Operator
 EOH " " H (Hauling)
 EON " " N (Construction Equipment)
 ET Electronics Technician
 ETN " " N (Communications)
 ETR " " R (Radar)
 FT Fire Control Technician
 FTG " " G (Gun Fire Control)
 FTM " " M (Missile Fire Control)
 GM Gunner's Mate
 GMC " " C (Construction Battalion)
 GMG " " G (Guns)
 GMH (probable mistake/misprint)
 HM Hospital Corpsman
 HN Hospitalman
 HT Hull Maintenance Technician
 IC Interior Communications Electrician
 JO Journalist
 MM Machinist's Mate
 MR Machinery Repairman
 PH Photographer's Mate
 PN Personnelman
 PR Aircrew Survival Equipmentman
 PT Photographic Intelligenceman
 QM Quartermaster
 RD Radarman
 RM Radioman
 SD Steward
 SF Shipfitter
 SFM " " M (Metalsmith)
 SFP " " P (Pipefitter)
 SH Ship's Serviceman
 SK Storekeeper
 SM Signalman
 ST Sonar Technician
 SW Steelworker
 SWE " " E (Erector)
 SWF " " F (Fabricator)
 TM Torpedoman's Mate
 UT Utilitiesman
 UTP " " P (Plumber)
 YN Yeoman

Note that the Naval abbreviation for Chief Shipfitter, SFC, is also the Army abbreviation for Sergeant First Class.

CACCF Codes

SERVICE

A ARMY
 M MARINE CORPS
 N NAVY
 F AIR FORCE
 C COAST GUARD

COMPONENT

R REGULAR
 V RESERVE
 G NATIONAL GUARD
 Y SELECTIVE SERVICE
 * UNKNOWN / NOT REPORTED

POSTHUMOUS PROMOTION

(There are about 100 cases where the Rank/Grade simply don't make any sense. I've added codes &, !, and ? to deal with those situations).

+ POSTHUMOUS PROMOTION AS INDICATED
 & NO PP INDICATED IN NARA FILE, BUT RANK/GRADE
 INDICATE THAT ONE MAY HAVE OCCURRED
 ! PP INDICATED IN NARA FILE, BUT NO PROMOTION INDICATED
 BY RANK/GRADE COMPARISON
 ? UNKNOWN BUT OBVIOUS MISTAKE

CASTYPE These are the basic categories of casualty code. These are general, with more specific "what happened" information being covered by other codes. Currently, no one is carried as MIA or POW according to these codes (there is one POW code in the database, but it has since been changed – this change will show up when we update the database)

A1 HOSTILE, DIED
 A2 HOSTILE, DIED WOUNDS
 A3 HOSTILE, DIED MISSING
 A4 HOSTILE, DIED CAPTURED
 B5 HOSTILE-MISSING, RETURNED
 B6 HOSTILE, NOW MISSING
 B7 HOSTILE CAPTURED, RETURNED
 B8 HOSTILE, NOW CAPTURED
 C1 NON-HOSTILE, DIED OTHER
 C2 NON-HOSTILE, DIED ILLNESS/INJURY
 C3 NON-HOSTILE, DIED MISSING
 D5 NON-HOSTILE MISSING, RETURNED
 D6 NON-HOSTILE, NOW MISSING

REASON This is the more specific "what happened" code for the casualty. These are the definitions given in the CACCF documentation; it is not always clear to us what the differences between some of these may be. NOTE that "misadventure" is often a nice way of saying "friendly fire."

A	AIR LOSS, CRASH - SEA
B	AIR LOSS, CRASH - LAND
C	VEHICLE LOSS, CRASH
D	GUN, SMALL ARMS FIRE
E	ARTILLERY, ROCKET, MORTAR
F	BOMB EXPLOSION
G	OTHER EXPLOSIVE DEVICE
H	MULTIPLE FRAGMENTATION WOUNDS
I	MISADVENTURE
J	DROWNED, SUFFOCATED
K	BURNS
L	ILLNESS, DISEASE
M	MALARIA
N	HEPATITIS
O	HEART ATTACK
P	STROKE
Q	SUICIDE
R	ACCIDENTAL SELF-DESTRUCTION
S	INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE
T	ACCIDENTAL HOMICIDE
U	OTHER ACCIDENT
V	OTHER CAUSES
Z	UNKNOWN, NOT REPORTED

AIRNOAIR This is an expansion of the REASON code, indicating whether the casualty was part of an aircraft incident, and what the person's role in the aircraft was.

1	FIXED WING - PILOT
2	FIXED WING - CREW
3	FIXED WING - NONCREW
4	HELICOPTER - PILOT
5	HELICOPTER - CREW
6	HELICOPTER - NONCREW
7	GROUND CASUALTY
8	SEA CASUALTY

BODY This indicates whether the body was recovered or not. NOTE that the BNR data are out-of-date in the version of the CACCF we have now; we will be correcting this in the near future. Check the DPMO web site on our Links page for the most up-do-date information available.

--- BODY RECOVERED (used for visual effect)
 BNR BODY NOT RECOVERED

COUNTRY The country in which the casualty took place.

CB CAMBODIA
 CH COMMUNIST CHINA
 LA LAOS
 TH THAILAND
 VN NORTH VIETNAM
 VS SOUTH VIETNAM

PROVINCE For some reason, not all of these are listed; i.e. there are casualties listed with a province code of 47, but no explanation for that code is given in the material I have.

01 QUANG TRI
 02 THUA THIEN
 03 QUANG NAM
 04 QUANG TIN
 05 QUANG NGAI
 06 KONTUM
 07 BINH DINH
 08 PLEIKU
 09 PHU YEN
 10 DARLAC
 11 KHANH HOA
 12 TUYEN DUC
 13 QUANG DUC
 14 PHUOC LONG
 15 LAM DONG
 16 NINH THUAN
 17 BINH THUAN
 18 BINH THUY
 19 LONG KHANH
 20
 21 BINH LONG
 22 TAY NINH
 23 BINH DUONG
 24 GIA DINH
 25 BIEN HOA
 26 PHUOC TUY
 27 LONG AN
 28 KIEN TUONG
 29 KIEN PHONG
 30 DINH TUONG
 31 AN GIANG

32 VINH LONG
 33 KIEN HOA
 34 VINH BINH
 35 PHONG DINH
 36 KIEN GIANG
 37 CHUONG THIEN
 38 BA XUGEN
 39 AN XUGEN
 40 CON SON ISLAND
 41 PHU BON
 42 HUA NGHIA
 43 GO CONG
 44 BAC LIEU
 45 CHUA DOC
 46 SA DEC
 47
 48
 49 PHU QUOC ISLAND
 50 DMZ
 81 OFFSHORE, Military Region 1
 82 OFFSHORE, Military Region 2
 83 OFFSHORE, Military Region 3
 84 OFFSHORE, Military Region 4
 89 OFFSHORE, PROVINCE & Military Region UNKNOWN
 91 PROV UNKNOWN, Military Region 1
 92 PROV UNKNOWN, Military Region 2
 93 PROV UNKNOWN, Military Region 3
 94 PROV UNKNOWN, Military Region 4
 99 PROV & Military Region UNKNOWN

RACE These are the DoD's ethnic classifications as used in the CACCF.

C CAUCASIAN
 I AMERICAN INDIAN
 L MALAYAN
 M MONGOLIAN
 N NEGRO
 Z UNKNOWN, NOT REPORTED

RELIGION (The CACCF uses numeric codes for religion; we have changed these to alphabetic codes to make them more readable.)

00 NO PREFERENCE
 AD 7TH DAY ADVENTIST
 AG ASSEMBLIES OF GOD
 BA BAPTIST - AMERICAN BAPTIST CONVENTION

BO	BAPTIST - OTHER GROUPS
BR	BRETHREN, DUNKERS
BS	BAPTIST - SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
BU	BUDDHISM
CC	CHURCH OF CHRIST
CG	CHURCH OF GOD
CN	CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN
CS	CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
DC	DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
EB	EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN
EP	EPISCOPAL, ANGLICAN
ER	EVANGELICAL, REFORMED
FR	FRIENDS, QUAKERS
GO	GREEK ORTHODOX
HB	JEWISH
LD	LATTER DAY SAINTS, MORMON
LU	LUTHERAN & MISSOURI SYNOD
MC	MISSION COVENANT
MS	MOSLEM, MUSLIM
MT	METHODIST
NZ	NAZARENE
PB	PRESBYTERIAN
PC	PENTECOSTAL
PN	PROTESTANT - NO PREFERENCE
PO	PROTESTANT - OTHER CHRISTIAN
OR	OTHER RELIGIONS
RC	ROMAN CATHOLIC
RF	REFORMED
RO	RUSSIAN ORTHODOX
SA	SALVATION ARMY
UU	UNITARIAN UNIVERSAL
UC	UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WT	JEHOVAHS WITNESSES
99	OTHER, NOT REPORTED

STATE Changed from the number codes (FIPS) used in the CACCF to standard US Postal Service codes.

AK	ALASKA
AL	ALABAMA
AR	ARKANSAS
AZ	ARIZONA
CA	CALIFORNIA
CO	COLORADO
CT	CONNECTICUT
DC	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DE	DELAWARE

FL	FLORIDA
GA	GEORGIA
HI	HAWAII
IA	IOWA
ID	IDAHO
IL	ILLINOIS
IN	INDIANA
KS	KANSAS
KY	KENTUCKY
LA	LOUISIANA
MA	MASSACHUSETTS
MD	MARYLAND
ME	MAINE
MI	MICHIGAN
MN	MINNESOTA
MO	MISSOURI
MS	MISSISSIPPI
MT	MONTANA
NC	NORTH CAROLINA
ND	NORTH DAKOTA
NE	NEBRASKA
NH	NEW HAMPSHIRE
NJ	NEW JERSEY
NM	NEW MEXICO
NV	NEVADA
NY	NEW YORK
OH	OHIO
OK	OKLAHOMA
OR	OREGON
PA	PENNSYLVANIA
RI	RHODE ISLAND
SC	SOUTH CAROLINA
SD	SOUTH DAKOTA
TN	TENNESSEE
TX	TEXAS
UT	UTAH
VA	VIRGINIA
VT	VERMONT
WA	WASHINGTON
WV	WEST VIRGINIA
WI	WISCONSIN
WY	WYOMING
PR	PUERTO RICO
VQ	VIRGIN ISLANDS
GU	GUAM
CZ	PANAMA CANAL ZONE
SO	AMERICAN SAMOA

XX OTHER
ZZ UNKNOWN, NOT REPORTED

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