

This is a rough guide to the basic organization of the Union and Confederate armies. Actual details (such as number of components or men, or rank of commander) could differ depending on circumstances and between US and CS forces. This basic organization is also true, with some modification, for Western armies from the 1800s to the present day.

ARMY
 (E.g., The Army of the Potomac; The Army of Northern Virginia)
 * Commanded by major general or higher rank
 * Consists of two or more corps

An army also includes other components, both military (such as engineers, quartermasters, signal officers, and Medical officers) and civilian (such as teamsters and wagonmasters)

Corps
 * Commanded by a major general or lieutenant general
 * Consists of about three divisions

Division

Division

Division
 * Commanded by major general
 * Consists of three or four brigades

Division

Division

Brigade

Brigade

Brigade

Brigade
 * Commanded by brigadier general
 * Consists of four to six regiments

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Regt. **Regt.** **Regt.** **Regt.**

Regiment (e.g., 54th Massachusetts; 26th North Carolina)
 * The basic unit of army organization
 * Consists of infantry, artillery, or cavalry
 * Commanded by colonel
 * Organized at state level and then handed over to federal service
 * Consists of ten companies and/or battalions or batteries, depending on the branch of service

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Company
 * Commanded by captain
 * Consists of about a hundred men depending on branch of service, usually from the same town or community

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