

Black Hawk

Provides air assault, general support, aero-medical evacuation, command and control, and special operations support to combat, stability, and support operations.



DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Black Hawk (UH-60) is the Army's utility tactical transport helicopter. The versatile Black Hawk has enhanced the overall mobility of the Army due to dramatic improvements in troop capacity and cargo lift capability. It will serve as the Army's utility helicopter in the Future Force.

There are three basic versions of the UH-60: the original UH-60A, the current UH-60L, which has greater gross weight capability, higher cruise speed, rate of climb and external load, and the UH-60M, which, among other improvements, includes the improved GE-701D engine, which provides higher cruise speed, rate of climb, and internal load than the UH-60A and L versions.

On the asymmetric battlefield, the Black Hawk provides the commander the agility to get to the fight quicker and to mass effects throughout the battlespace across the full spectrum of conflict. A single Black Hawk can transport an entire 11-person, fully equipped infantry squad faster than predecessor systems and in most weather conditions. The Black Hawk can reposition a 105mm howitzer, its crew of six, and up to 30 rounds of 105mm ammunition in a single lift. The aircraft's critical components and systems are armored or redundant, and its airframe is designed to protect crew and passengers by crushing progressively on impact.

The Army has put into place programs to extend the life of the UH-60, by providing it with the capabilities needed on the future battlefield. The UH-60M program will incorporate a digitized cockpit and improved handling characteristics, and will extend the service life of the system. The UH-60A recapitalization/rebuild program will be applied to a number of older aircraft while awaiting introduction of the UH-60M aircraft into the fleet, and will gain immediate reliability improvements and slow the fleet aging process.

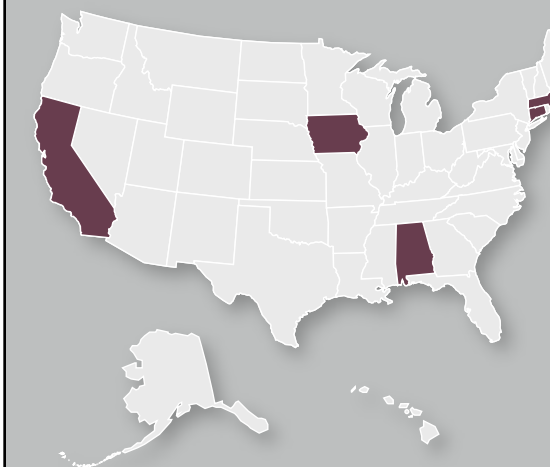
	UH-60A	UH-60L	UH-60M
Max gross weight: (pounds)	20,250	22,000	22,000
Cruise speed: (knots)	149	150	152
Rate climb (feet per minute):	814	1,315	1,646
Engines (2 each):	GE-700	GE-701C	GE-701D
External load: (pounds)	8,000	9,000	9,000
Internal load: (troops/pounds)	11/2,640	11/2,640	11/3,190
Crew:	Two pilots, two crew chiefs		
Armament:	Two 7.62mm machine guns		

PROGRAM STATUS

- **3QFY04** Limited user test to provide test data for Milestone C, production decision

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **2QFY05** UH-60M Milestone C production decision, Defense Advisory Board
- **2QFY05** Award low-rate initial production contract



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CONTRACTORS

- United Technologies (Stratford, CT)
- General Electric (Lynn, MA)
- GNK Westland (Tallahassee, AL)
- Rockwell Collins (Cedar Rapids, IA)
- Parker Hannifin (Irvine, CA)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Recapitalization

ACQUISITION PHASE

- System Development and Demonstration
- Production and Deployment
- Operations and Support