**Hierarchy of Modern Navies List**

Naval organization at the flotilla level and higher is less commonly abided by, as ships operate in smaller or larger groups in various situations that may change at a moment's notice. However there is some common terminology used throughout navies to communicate the general concept of how many vessels might be in a unit.

Navies are generally organized into groups for a specific purpose, usually strategic, and these organizational groupings appear and disappear frequently based on the conditions and demands placed upon a navy. This contrasts with army organization where units remain static, with the same men and equipment, over long periods of time.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit Name** | **Vessel types** | **No. of Vessels** | **Officer in command** |
| [Navy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Navy) or [Admiralty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Admiralty) | All vessels in a navy | 2+ Fleets | [Fleet Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fleet_Admiral) or [Admiral of the Fleet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Admiral_of_the_Fleet) or [Grand Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Admiral) |
| [Fleet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naval_fleet) | All vessels in an ocean or general region | 2+ [Battle Fleets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_Fleet) or [Task Forces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Force) | [Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Admiral) |
| [Battle Fleet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_Fleet) or [Task Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Force) | A large number of vessels of all types | 2+ [Task Groups](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Group) | [Vice Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vice_Admiral) |
| [Task Group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Group) | A collection of complementary vessels | 2+ [Task Units](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Unit) or Squadrons | [Rear Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rear_Admiral) (upper half) or [Rear Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rear_Admiral) |
| [Squadron (naval)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squadron_(naval)) or [Task Unit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Unit) | Usually [capital ships](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capital_ship) | A small number of vessels | [Rear Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rear_Admiral) (lower half), [Commodore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commodore_(rank)), or [Flotilla Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flotilla_Admiral) |
| [Flotilla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flotilla) or [Task Unit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_Unit) | Usually not capital ships | A small number of vessels, usually of the same or similar types | [Rear Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rear_Admiral) (lower half), [Commodore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commodore_(rank)), or [Flotilla Admiral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flotilla_Admiral) |
| [Task Element](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Task_force#United_States_Navy) | A single vessel | One | [Captain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Captain_(naval)) or [Commander](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commander) |