

John H. Pendleton



Mr. John H. Pendleton is Director, Force Structure and Readiness Issues, in the Defense Capabilities and Management Team at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO). His portfolio examines how defense strategy is translated into force structure, how forces are kept ready, and how the military is postured around the world. Recent projects have included assessments of: DOD's readiness-rebuilding efforts and efforts to reduce headquarters; the Army's processes to determine its force structure; Air Force plans to divest the A-10 and shift structure to the reserve component; and the Navy's increased forward-deployment of ships and evolving fleet-response plans, among many others. His portfolio has also included regionally-focused efforts to address challenges posed by anti-access environments in China and Iran; plans for Arctic capabilities; and military posture in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Mr. Pendleton hosts a speaker series on behalf of GAO that brings in experts from government and industry. He also leads planning efforts for GAO's defense team and teaches training courses related to leadership and report development.

Mr. Pendleton assumed his current position in 2008 when he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service. He graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1987 and joined GAO that same year. He was posted to GAO's European Office from 1991-1995 where he focused on the post-Cold War drawdown of forces from Europe. Over his career, he has completed coursework at the Naval Postgraduate School, Army Command and General Staff College, and the National Defense University. He also has completed coursework at the Syracuse-Maxwell School, Harvard, Center for Creative Leadership, Aspen Institute and MIT's Seminar XXI. Mr. Pendleton has received numerous GAO awards including the Distinguished Service Award, Client Service Award, and the John Henry Luke Mentoring Award.