



Ministry of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Tri Service)
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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Your Reference: [REDACTED]

Date: 6 March 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

RE: [REDACTED]

Your correspondence [REDACTED] has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested the following information:

“I am trying to find figures for the percentage of female service personal (All Services, Regular and Reserve, whether mobilised or not).

From the figures on the above report, there are currently 199,620 total UK Armed Forces personnel. How many of this total figure are female?

The report appears to have broken down diversity figures for Regular personnel (ie 9.9% Regular female personnel), but not for Reserves, or indeed, the combined figure.”

Please find enclosed the information you requested:

Total UK Forces Personnel

At 1 January 2014 the number of personnel in the UK Forces, which includes all trained and untrained Regular, Full time and Reserve personnel, was 199,620. Of this total, the number of personnel that were female was **20,080 (or 10.1 per cent)**.

UK Regulars and UK Non-Regular Personnel

Of the 160,650 UK Regular personnel in the total UK Forces at 1 January 2014, **15,920 (9.9 per cent)** were female.

The Non-Regular and Reserve element of the UK Forces (which includes Gurkhas, Military Provost Guard Service, Locally Engaged Personnel, Volunteer Reserve, Active Regular Reserve Sponsored Reserve, Mobilised Reservists and Full-Time Reserve Service personnel) totalled 38,960 at 1 January 2014; of this **4,150 (10.7 per cent)** were female.

Please note:

- Elements of these figures are provisional and/or are estimates (Volunteer and Active Regular Reserve totals) please refer the Quarterly Personnel Report for more details; <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-quarterly-manning-report-statistics-index>
- Percentages are calculated from unrounded figures



UK Forces¹ - Trained and untrained, Regular, Full time and Reserve Service personnel by sex, as at 1 January 2014

	UK Forces ¹	Regular ²	Non-Regular ³
UK Forces Service Personnel	199 620^{pe}	160 650	38 960^{pe}
of which female	20 080 ^{pe}	15 920	4 150 ^{pe}
<i>Percentage female (%)</i>	<i>10.1^{pe}</i>	<i>9.9</i>	<i>10.7^{pe}</i>

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

Please note: Some information in this table is provisional (p) and/or estimates (e), please see the Quarterly Personnel Report for details on this and our background quality reports for information data quality.

- All UK Forces Service Personnel comprises UK Regular Forces, Gurkhas, Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS), Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP), Volunteer Reserve, Active Regular Reserve, Sponsored Reserve, and FTRS of unknown origin. University Officer Cadets are excluded. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.
- UK Regulars are full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel, Gurkhas, mobilised Reservists, Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS), Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP) and Non Regular Permanent Staff (NRPS), High Readiness Reserve (HRR) and Expeditionary Forces Institute (EFI) personnel. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.
- Non-Regular in this table includes Gurkhas, Military Provost Guard Service, Locally Engaged Personnel, Volunteer Reserve, Active Regular Reserve Sponsored Reserve, Mobilised Reservists and Full-Time Reserve Service personnel.
Volunteer Reserve comprises the Royal Naval Reserve, Royal Marine Reserve, Army Reserve, and the Royal Auxiliary Air Force.

The Regular Reserve comprises ex-Regular service personnel who retain a liability to be called up for military service in times of need. The "active" component identified here comprises ex-Regular personnel who have applied to return to military service, on a fixed term reserve contract.

Percentages are calculated from unrounded data

UK Forces by Service

At 1 January 2014 there were 38,120 personnel in the Naval Service (Trained and untrained Regular, Full time and Reserve personnel) and **3,530 (or 9.3 per cent)** of this total were female.

Of the 123,690 Army Service personnel (again trained and untrained Regular, Full time and Reserve personnel), **11,280 (or 9.1 per cent)** were female, at 1 January 2014.

There were 37,810 Royal Air Force service personnel (Regular, Full time and Reserve, trained and untrained) at 1 January 2014; of this total there were **5,260 (13.9 per cent)** female personnel.

Please note:

- Elements of these figures are provisional and/or are estimates (Volunteer and Active Regular Reserve totals) please refer the Quarterly Personnel Report for more details; <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-quarterly-manning-report-statistics-index>
- Percentages are calculated from unrounded figures



UK Forces¹ - Trained and untrained, Regular, Full time and Reserve Service personnel by service and sex, as at 1 January 2014

	UK Forces ¹	Naval Service ²	Army ³	RAF ⁴
UK Forces Service Personnel	199 620^{pe}	38 120^p	123 690^e	37 810
of which female	20 080 ^{pe}	3 530 ^p	11 280 ^e	5 260
<i>Percentage female (%)</i>	10.1^{pe}	9.3 ^p	9.1 ^e	13.9

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

Please note: Some information in this table is provisional (p) and/or estimates (e), please see the Quarterly Personnel Report for details on this and our background quality reports for information data quality.

- All UK Forces Service Personnel comprises UK Regular Forces, Gurkhas, Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS), Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP), Volunteer Reserve, Active Regular Reserve, Sponsored Reserve, and FTRS of unknown origin. University Officer Cadets are excluded. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.
- Naval Service Personnel comprises the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Royal Naval Reserve (RNR), Royal Marine Reserve (RMR), Active Royal Fleet Reserve (RFR) and the Royal Naval Reserve Sponsored Reserve. University Royal Naval Units (URNU) are excluded.
- Army Service Personnel comprises the UK Regular Forces, Gurkhas, Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP), Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS), the Army Volunteer Reserve, the Army Active Regular Reserve, the Army Sponsored Reserve, and FTRS of unknown origin. University Officer Training Corps (UOTC) are excluded.
- Royal Air Force (RAF) Service Personnel comprises the RAF Regular Force, the Royal Auxiliary Air Force, the Active Royal Air Force Reserve, and the RAF Sponsored Reserve. University Air Squadron (UAS) are excluded.

Percentages are calculated from unrounded data

I hope you find this helpful.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering Military Personnel and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

