



# Ministry of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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Your Reference: [REDACTED]

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> January 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:

*“A breakdown for each of the sections of the armed forces (Army, Navy, RAF) of the stated religions of members for the last two years.*

*For example:*

*Army:*

*Roman Catholic: xx*

*Jewish: xx*

*Muslim: xx”*

And

*“details of all stated religions”*

Please find enclosed the information you requested overleaf; numbers of UK Regular personnel, trained and untrained, by **declared** religion for each Service as at the 1 April points for 2012 and 2013 and most recent quarter point 1 October 2013 for reference.

The total numbers of UK Regular personnel, trained and untrained, is provided for each Service and each date point for comparison with the stated religions below.

**Please note:** As the statistics regard declared religion; people that have an **undeclared** religion or prefer not to state their religion could follow any of these religions but would not be represented by these statistics.

For each situation date below, the number of people that have an **undeclared** religion is approximately 1,800 for April 2012, 1,540 for April 2013 and 1,590 for October 2013.



## UK Regular<sup>1</sup> Personnel, by declared Religion<sup>2</sup>

	01 Apr 12	01 Apr 13	01 Oct 13
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>179 800</b>	<b>170 710</b>	<b>166 460</b>
<b>Naval Service<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>35 540</b>	<b>33 960</b>	<b>33 520</b>
<i>Of Which:</i>			
Buddhist	40	50	50
Christian			
<i>Of Which:</i>			
Church of England	17 880	16 390	15 820
Roman Catholic	4 140	3 890	3 790
All Other Christian	5 980	5 740	5 680
Hindu	20	20	20
Jewish	10	10	10
Muslim	40	40	40
Sikh	10	10	10
Secular / No Religion	7 110	7 550	7 860
All Other Religions	180	170	160
<b>Army</b>	<b>104 250</b>	<b>99 730</b>	<b>97 030</b>
<i>Of Which:</i>			
Buddhist	440	470	460
Christian			
<i>Of Which</i>			
Church of England	54 190	50 080	47 950
Roman Catholic	12 880	12 060	11 600
All Other Christian	22 330	21 560	21 070
Hindu	760	830	810
Jewish	60	50	50
Muslim	550	550	560
Sikh	90	120	130
Secular / No Religion	12 370	13 450	13 770
All Other Religions	480	470	460
<b>RAF</b>	<b>40 000</b>	<b>37 030</b>	<b>35 920</b>
<i>Of Which:</i>			
Buddhist	40	40	40
Christian			
<i>Of Which:</i>			
Church of England	21 230	19 260	18 380
Roman Catholic	4 380	3 980	3 800
All Other Christian	5 800	5 440	5 310
Hindu	40	40	40
Jewish	10	10	10
Muslim	50	50	50
Sikh	20	20	20
Secular / No Religion	6 710	6 670	6 800
All Other Religions	160	150	150

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

1. UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained personnel and excludes Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and mobilised reservists.
2. Religion figures are based on the religion which has been **declared** by the individual on the Joint Personnel Administration system.
3. Naval Service includes both Royal Navy and Royal Marine personnel.



## Rounding:

The totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and may not equal the sums of their rounded parts. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

- denotes zero or rounded to zero
- ~ denotes fewer than 5

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](mailto: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](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri Service)