



This publication provides information on the number of **Military Personnel** in (defined as the **strength**), joining (**intake**) and leaving (**outflow**) the UK Armed Forces. Detail is provided for both the **Full-time Armed Forces** and **Reserves**. Further statistics can be found in the [Excel tables](#).

The recent trends in personnel numbers in this report relate to the targets outlined in the **Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) 2015** and the **Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme**. Prior to SDRS 2015, publications reported against SDRS 2010, the Three Month Exercise (3ME), Army 2020 and the Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme.

Some of the statistics previously published in the following publications can now be found in this release: [Monthly, Quarterly](#) and [Annual](#) Personnel Reports, [UK Reserve Forces and Cadets](#), [Service Personnel Bulletin 2.01](#) and [Service and Civilian Bulletin 2.03](#).

Key Points and Trends

- ▲ **196 320** **Strength of UK Forces Service Personnel**
at 1 September 2016
an increase of 640 (0.3 per cent) since 1 September 2015
- ▼ **139 810** **Full-time Trained Strength**
at 1 September 2016
a decrease of 2 290 (1.6 per cent) since 1 September 2015
- ▲ **- 4.1%** **Deficit against the planned number of personnel needed (Liability)**
at 1 September 2016
This is an increase in the deficit from -3.7 per cent as at 1 September 2015
- ▲ **28 080** **Strength of the Trained Future Reserves 2020**
at 1 September 2016
an increase of 2 360 (9.2 per cent) since 1 September 2015
- ▲ **13 620** **People joined the UK Regular Armed Forces**
in the past 12 months (1 September 2015 – 31 August 2016)
an increase of 200 (1.5 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period
- ▼ **15 850** **Regular personnel left the Armed Forces**
in the past 12 months (1 September 2015 – 31 August 2016)
a decrease of 2 230 (12.3 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period
- ▼ **7 350** **People joined the Future Reserves 2020**
in the past 12 months (1 September 2015 – 31 August 2016)
a decrease of 1 010 (12.1 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period
- ▲ **4 850** **Future Reserves 2020 personnel left the Armed Forces**
in the past 12 months (1 September 2015 – 31 August 2016)
an increase of 1 110 (29.8 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period

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Background quality report: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tri-service-personnel-bulletin-background-quality-reports

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

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Supplementary tables containing further statistics can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-2016>

A glossary and other supporting documents are available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-supplementary-documents>

Introduction

This publication contains information on the **strength, intake and outflow** for the UK Armed Forces overall and each of the Services; **Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM), Army and Royal Air Force (RAF)**. An update to statistics on **Service and Civilian Personnel** and **Military Salaries** is also included this month.

From this edition onwards, statistics published in the Excel tables that accompany this release have been unrounded. Following an assessment of disclosure risk, the Responsible Statistician has judged that there is minimal risk of disclosing personally identifiable information through the release of unrounded figures in this publication. As such, rounding is no longer necessary.

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) announced on 29th June 2016 that it was changing the Army trained, disciplined manpower by changing the definition of trained strength to include those in the Army whom have completed Phase 1 training. This will affect some Tri-Service totals. This does not affect the Naval Service or the RAF in any way. The MOD held a public consultation on **SDSR Resilience: Trained strength definition for the Army and resultant changes to Ministry of Defence Armed Forces personnel statistics**, between 11 July and 21 September 2016. A consultation response will be published in due course. This does not affect the figures in this release; any changes will be implemented from the 1 October 2016 edition onwards.

Whilst the total RAF liability has been agreed, the composition is undergoing review. The Officer and Other Rank breakdown is currently marked as provisional for RAF, for 1 April - 1 September 2016, along with the Tri-Service Officer and Other Rank breakdown (see page 12 for further information).

Statistics on Exit Reason for the Army (specifically Voluntary Outflow, Time Expiry and Other), for UK Regular personnel, have been marked as provisional from 1 February 2016 edition onwards (see page 12 for further information). The corresponding Tri-Service totals are also marked as provisional.

Detailed statistics and historic time series can be found in the **Excel tables**. These include quarterly statistics on **Separated Service** (the proportion of personnel breaching harmony guidelines) and the number of **Applications** to each of the Services. Further historic statistics will be added in due course; in the meantime, historic statistics can be found in the following archived publications: **Monthly, Quarterly and Annual Personnel Reports, UK Reserve Forces and Cadets, Service Personnel Bulletin 2.01, Service and Civilian Bulletin 2.03, UK Armed Forces Maternity Report, Diversity Dashboard and Quarterly Location Statistics**. The **glossary** contains definitions of terminology used in this publication.

The next edition of this publication will be published on GOV.UK at 9:30am on 17 November 2016. A calendar of upcoming MOD statistical releases can be found on **GOV.UK**.

A National Statistics publication

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Statistics. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

Policy background

The main factors affecting decisions about the size of the Armed Forces required by the MOD to achieve success in its military tasks include:

- An assessment of current and future threats to UK national security;
- The need for contingent / reactive capability – the requirement to be able to respond immediately to domestic or international crisis;
- Current operational and international obligations (e.g. NATO, UN);
- Changes in technology, the introduction of new equipment and restructuring that leads to equipment becoming obsolete or surplus to requirements;
- The need to deliver against the military tasks as efficiently as possible, maintaining a balanced, affordable defence budget.

The Service personnel statistics in this publication are reported against the [2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review](#) (SDSR), released in November 2015. Prior to SDSR 2015, publications reported against the planned Future Force 2020, as set out in the SDSR 2010 which planned to reduce the size of the Armed Forces.

Army Trained Strength

On 29th June 2016, the MOD [announced](#) that the Army will in future plan to use Regular and Reserve Phase 1 trained personnel in response to crises within the UK. Following this, the term ‘Trained Strength’ will include all Army personnel trained in the core function of their Service (i.e. those who have completed Phase 1 training). The Trained Strength definition for the Royal Navy, RAF, Maritime Reserve and RAF Reserves will remain unaffected, reflecting the requirement for their personnel to complete Phase 2 to be able to fulfil the core function of their respective Services.

The MOD has [consulted](#) on these changes and the resultant impact it will have on this publication and a consultation response will be published in due course.

To note, any changes will be implemented in the 1 October 2016 edition of this publication and do not affect the figures in this release.

Full-time Armed Forces personnel

In order to meet the manpower reduction targets set out in SDSR 2010, the [Three Month Exercise](#) (3ME) and [Army 2020](#) (A2020), a redundancy programme coupled with adjusted recruiting (intake) and contract extensions were set. The redundancy programme is now complete.

On 23rd November 2015, the Ministry of Defence published the National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review 2015. SDSR 2015 outlines plans to uplift the size of the Regular Armed Forces, setting targets for a strength of 82,000 for the Army, and increasing the Royal Navy/Royal Marines and Royal Air Force by a total of 700 personnel. The [SDSR 2015 Defence Key Facts](#) booklet announced new targets for 2020 for each of the Services.

Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) Programme

The Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme aims to increase the size of the Reserve Forces. Further information on the growth of the Reserves can be found in the Policy Background section of previous [Monthly Service Personnel Statistics](#) publications.

The written ministerial statement released on the 19th December 2013 detailed the planned growth of the FR20 population and can be viewed in full [here](#). This statement outlined trained strength targets for FY18/19 as follows:

Maritime Reserve	3 100
Army Reserve	30 100
RAF Reserves	1 860

As a result of the changes to Army Trained Strength (referred to above) and their impact on the Army Reserve, the MOD has committed to releasing revised Future Reserves 2020 strength growth profiles that reflect these changes. These will be published in due course.

UK Service Personnel

UK Service Personnel comprise the total **strength** of the military personnel employed by the Ministry of Defence (**Excel tables**, Table1). The current strength of the UK Service Personnel is 196,320, which includes:

- All **UK Regular** personnel and all **Gurkha** personnel (which at 1 September 2016 comprised 77.6 per cent of UK Service Personnel);
- **Volunteer Reserve** personnel (which at 1 September 2016 comprised 18.2 per cent of UK Service Personnel);
- **Other Personnel** including the Serving Regular Reserve, Sponsored Reserve, Military Provost Guard Service, Locally Engaged Personnel and elements of the Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) (which at 1 September 2016 comprised 4.2 per cent of UK Service Personnel).

Strength is the number of personnel.

Volunteer Reserves voluntarily accept an annual training commitment and are liable to be mobilised to deploy on operations. They can be utilised on a part-time or full-time basis to provide support to the Regular Forces at home and overseas.

The strength of the UK Forces¹ has increased between 1 September 2015 and 1 September 2016, by 0.3 per cent (640 personnel). Over the same period, there has been a decrease in the strength of UK Regular personnel and there have been increases in the Reserves populations. The total strength of the Regular Forces has decreased by 2,200 (1.4%) between 1 September 2015 and 1 September 2016. The total strength of the Volunteer Reserve has increased by 2,430 (7.3%) between 1 September 2015 and 1 September 2016.

Table 1: Recent Trends in the Strength of the UK Forces¹

	1 Apr 14	1 Apr 15	1 Apr 16	1 Jun 16	1 Jul 16	1 Aug 16	1 Sep 16
UK Forces Personnel	198 810	195 690	197 090	196 970	196 690	196 590	196 320
UK Regulars	159 630	153 720	151 000	150 680	150 220	149 920	149 500
Gurkhas	3 050	2 870	2 860	2 840	2 830	2 820	2 810
Volunteer Reserve	28 860	31 260	35 070	35 240	35 390	35 600	35 720
Other Personnel	7 280	7 840	8 170	8 210	8 250	8 260	8 290

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Table 2: UK Forces¹ Strength by Service

	1 Sep 14	1 Sep 15	1 Sep 16	Increase/Decrease 1 Sep 15 - 1 Sep 16	% Increase/Decrease 1 Sep 15 - 1 Sep 16
Strength					
Naval Service	37 960	38 160	38 200	+40	0.1%
Army	120 330	120 590	121 180	+580	0.5%
Royal Air Force	37 240	36 920	36 940	+20	0.1%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

1. UK Forces comprises all UK Regular, Gurkha, Volunteer Reserve and Other personnel. The constituents of "Other personnel" are reported towards the top of this page.

Full-time Trained Strength and Liability

The **Full-time Trained Strength (FTTS)** (which comprises military personnel who have completed 'Phase 1' and 'Phase 2' training) is counted against the **Liability**. The difference between the two is measured as either a surplus or deficit. This is one indicator of the Service's ability to execute military tasks. Other indicators include the surplus / deficit within key trades or in specific Ranks.

Full-time Trained Strength

includes all trained UK Regular personnel, Gurkhas and a number of Reserve Forces personnel filling Regular posts whilst serving on Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS).

Liability is the number of Service personnel needed, based on the Defence Planning Round, set for each of the three Services.

- The Strength of the Full-time Trained UK Armed Forces is 139,810, a decrease of 1.6 per cent (2,290 personnel) since 1 September 2015.
- The FTTS for the RN/RM is 29,520, 79,390 for the Army and 30,900 for the RAF.
- The FTTS comprises: 136,780 Regular personnel (97.8 per cent); 2,510 Gurkhas (1.8 per cent); and 520 Full Time Reserve Service personnel (0.4 per cent) who can fill Regular posts and are deployable.

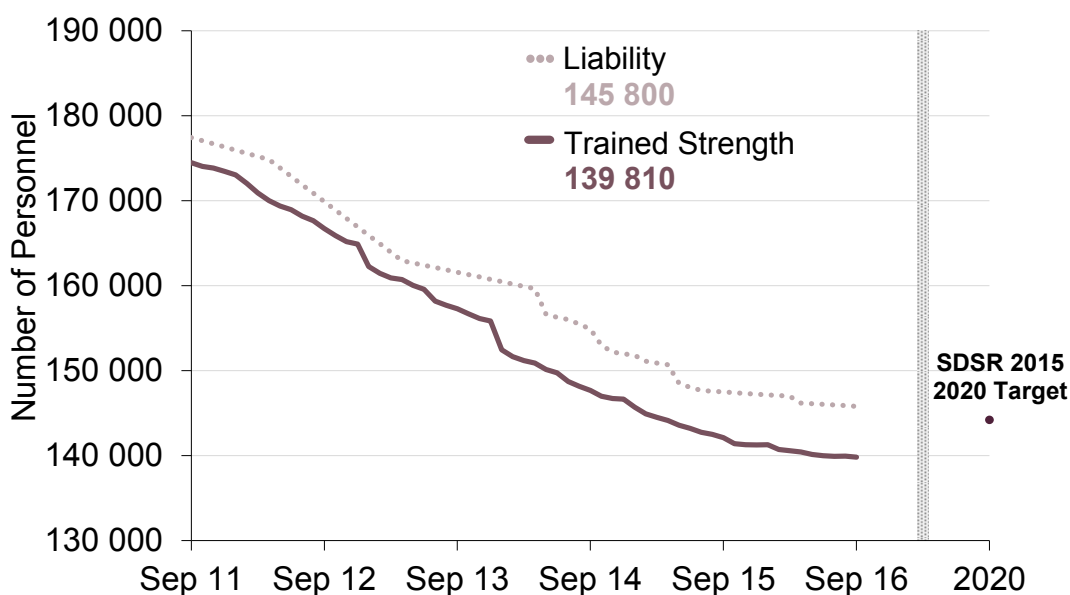
Table 3: Full-Time Trained Strength against the Liability

	1 Apr 14	1 Apr 15	1 Apr 16	1 Jun 16	1 Jul 16	1 Aug 16	1 Sep 16
Trained Strength	150 890	144 120	140 430	139 990	139 910	139 940	139 810
Liability	159 640	150 700	146 190	146 030	145 950	145 870	145 800
<i>Surplus/Deficit</i>	<i>-8 750</i>	<i>-6 580</i>	<i>-5 750</i>	<i>-6 040</i>	<i>-6 040</i>	<i>-5 930</i>	<i>-5 990</i>
<i>% Surplus/Deficit</i>	<i>-5.5</i>	<i>-4.4</i>	<i>-3.9</i>	<i>-4.1</i>	<i>-4.1</i>	<i>-4.1</i>	<i>-4.1</i>

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

- The current deficit against the Liability is 4.1 per cent for the UK Armed Forces. There is a deficit of 2.1 per cent in the Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM), 3.9 per cent in the Army and 6.4 per cent in the Royal Air Force (RAF).
- The SDSR 2015 envisaged that by 2020 the UK Armed Forces would have 144,200 personnel, comprising 30,450 for the RN/RM, 82,000 for the Army and 31,750 for the RAF.

Figure 1: Full-Time Trained Strength against Liability and 2020 target derived from SDSR 2015



UK Regular Personnel

As at 1 September 2016, the trained and untrained strength of the UK Regular Forces (which excludes Gurkhas) was 149,500, of which 136,780 were trained personnel.

There are 12,730 untrained personnel in the UK Regular Forces, of which 7,200 are in the Army. The untrained strength reflects the number of personnel who can potentially join the trained strength.

RN/RM 32 330	ARMY 83 880
RAF 33 290	

Figure 2: Trained and untrained Strength of the UK Regular Forces, by Service, as at 1 September 2016

Table 4: UK Regular Forces Strength by Service

Strength	1 Sep 15		1 Sep 16	
RN/RM	32 480		32 330	
Of which trained	29 550	91.0%	29 200	90.3%
Army	85 610		83 880	
Of which trained	78 340	91.5%	76 690	91.4%
RAF	33 620		33 290	
Of which trained	31 400	93.4%	30 890	92.8%

UK Regulars are full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, excluding FTRS personnel, Gurkhas, mobilised Reservists, Military Provost Guarding Service (MPGS), Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP), and Non Regular Permanent Service (NRPS).

Intake is defined as the number joining the Strength, whereas **Outflow** is the number leaving.

Intake and Outflow since 2010

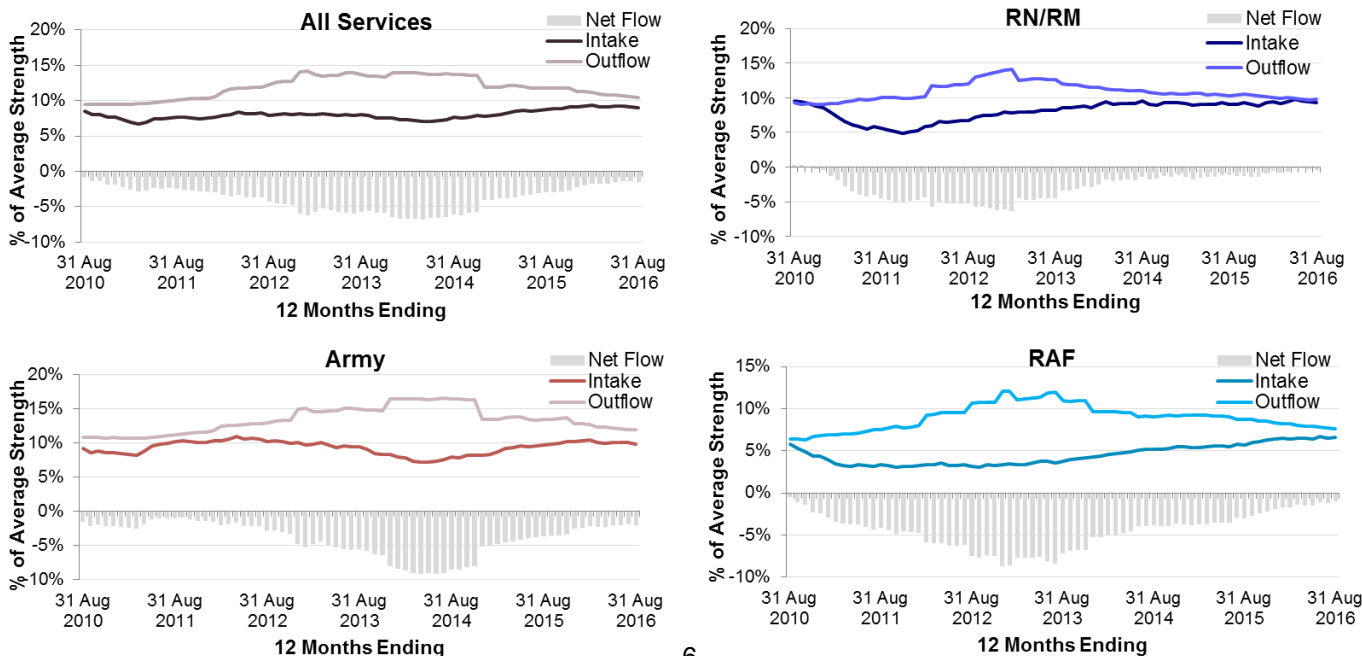
Intake and Outflow over the past six years are presented in Figure 3. Since 2010 outflow has exceeded intake for each 12 month period.

- Excluding personnel who left on redundancy, in the 12 months to 31 August 2016, there was a net outflow of 2,220 personnel from the UK Regular Forces. This difference has reduced compared with the 12 months to 31 August 2015, when 3,790 more personnel left the UK Regular Forces than joined.

Intake

- Intake into the trained and untrained UK Regular Forces was 13,620 in the 12 months to 31 August 2016. This has increased from 13,420 in the 12 months to 31 August 2015.
- Of the current intake, 9.3 per cent was into Officers and 90.7 per cent was into Other Ranks.
- Compared to the 12 months to 31 August 2015, intake to the RN/RM has increased by 1.0 per cent, intake to the Army has decreased by 1.1 per cent and the RAF has increased by 13.6 per cent.

Figure 3: Net Flow, Intake to and Outflow from the UK Regular Forces over a 12-month period



UK Regular Personnel

Outflow

- Outflow from the trained and untrained UK Regular Forces was 15,850 in the 12 months to 31 August 2016; down from 18,080 in the 12 months to 31 August 2015.
- In the 12 months to 31 August 2016, less than 5 trained and untrained personnel left the UK Regular Forces as part of the UK Armed Forces Redundancy Programme. This compares to 860 in the 12 months to 31 August 2015.

Armed Forces Redundancy Programme Tranche 1-4 statistics are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-redundancy-program-statistics-index>

Voluntary Outflow encompasses all trained personnel who voluntarily exit before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.

Time Expiry is a term used to describe those in the Armed Services who reach the end of their engagement or commission and then leave.

Other includes outflow from the trained strength due to, amongst others, medical reasons, misconduct, compassionate, dismissals and death.

The following statistics on exit reason are **provisional** (see introduction for further information). At a Tri-Service level, more personnel left the trained UK Regular Forces by Voluntary Outflow (VO) than for any other reason (Figure 4).

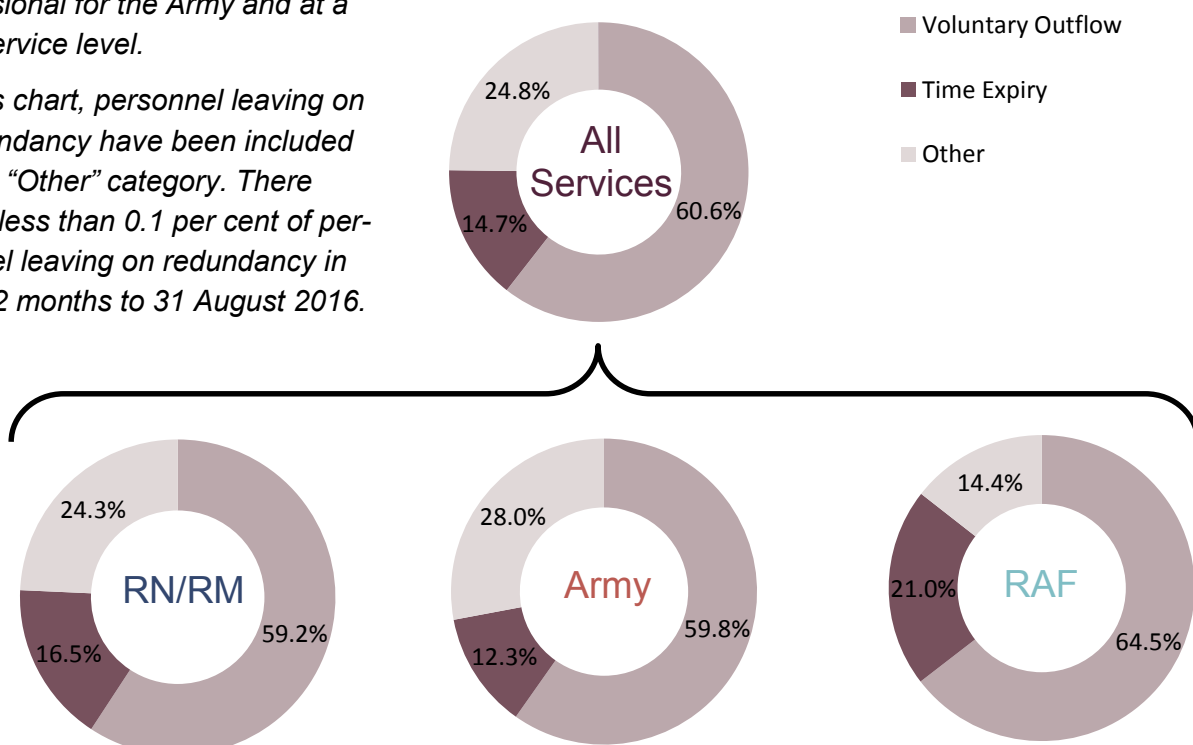
- In the 12 months to 31 August 2016, 7,700 trained personnel left through VO; provisionally the VO rate was 5.6 per cent. This is an increase from 7,590 in the 12 months to 31 August 2015 and a VO rate of 5.4 per cent
- In the 12 months to 31 August 2016, the provisional VO rate is slightly higher amongst Other Ranks (5.8 per cent), compared to Officers (4.4 per cent).

There is no single reason why personnel leave on Voluntary Outflow, but the personnel who completed the [Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey](#) indicated reasons for leaving the Armed Forces included the impact of Service life on family and personal life and opportunities outside the Armed Forces.

Figure 4: Outflow of trained UK Regulars by exit reason (12 months to 31 August 2016)

Statistics on exit reason are provisional for the Army and at a Tri-Service level.

In this chart, personnel leaving on Redundancy have been included in the "Other" category. There were less than 0.1 per cent of personnel leaving on redundancy in the 12 months to 31 August 2016.



Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring

The [public consultation](#) outlines the proposed changes to the Army Reserve trained strength definition and the FR20 intake targets.

Future Reserves 2020

includes volunteer reserves who are mobilised, High Readiness Reserves and those volunteer reserves serving on Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) and Additional Duties Commitment (ADC). Sponsored Reserves who provide a more cost effective solution than volunteer reserve are also included in the Army Reserve FR20.

Future Reserves 2020 Strength

Progress against FR20 population trained strength targets is reported in table 6a of the [Excel tables](#).

The total **trained and untrained strength** of the Tri-Service Future Reserves 2020 was 35,430; an increase of 2,500 or 7.6 per cent since 1 September 2015. The **trained strength** of the Tri-Service Future Reserves 2020 was 28,080 an increase of 2,360 or 9.2 per cent since 1 September 2015.

Table 5: Future Reserves 2020 strength by Service

		1 Sep 15	1 Sep 16	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Maritime Reserve	Trained	2 160	2 390	+220	+10.4%
	Untrained	1 220	1 140	-90	-7.1%
Army Reserve FR20	Trained	21 870	23 750	+1880	+8.6%
	Untrained	5 260	5 530	+260	+5.0%
RAF Reserves	Trained	1 690	1 940	+250	+15.0%
	Untrained	730	690	-40	-5.0%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

FR20 Intake

Intake statistics report how many people have joined the trained or untrained strengths. As well as new recruits, this can include personnel transferring from the Regular Forces, other Reserve populations, or Reserve re-joiners.

In the 12 months between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, **intake** to the Tri-Service Future Reserves 2020 was **7,350 people** (2,580 trained and 4,770 untrained); a **12.1 per cent decrease** on the same 12 month period in the previous year.

Table 6: Intake to Future Reserves 2020, trained and untrained

Intake	1 Sep 14	1 Sep 15	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
	31 Aug 15	31 Aug 16		
Maritime Reserve	1 010	990	-20	+1.5%
Army Reserve FR20	6 420	5 630	-790	-12.3%
RAF Reserves	940	730	-210	-22.5%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

FR20 Outflow

Outflow statistics report how many personnel have left the trained or untrained strengths. The majority of outflow is personnel leaving the Armed Forces, though a substantial proportion do transfer to another part of the Armed Forces, such as the Regulars or another Reserve Force.

In the 12 months between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 **outflow** from the Tri-Service Future Reserves 2020 was **4,850 people** (2,810 trained and 2,050 untrained); a **29.8 per cent increase** compared with the same 12 month period in the previous year. Such increases in outflow are to be expected following growth in both the trained and untrained strengths.

Table 7: Outflow from Future Reserves 2020, trained and untrained

Outflow	1 Sep 14	1 Sep 15	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
	31 Aug 15	31 Aug 16		
Maritime Reserve	570	850	+290	+50.9%
Army Reserve FR20	2 830	3 490	+660	+23.2%
RAF Reserves	340	510	+170	+49.1%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring

All three services have seen an increase in total outflow (in the 12 months to 31st August 2016 compared to the same time period last year (Table 7). This is to be expected following the FR20 programme’s aim to increase the size of the Reserve Forces. Trained outflow rates take into account the increases in trained outflow which have resulted from an increase in trained strength.

Trained outflow rate
 12 months total trained outflow divided by the mean average strength. For more information see glossary “Exit rate”
 Outflow includes personnel moving to any other part of the Armed Forces including the UK Regulars or another Reserve population not in the FR20

Figure 5: Maritime Reserve trained strength outflow rate

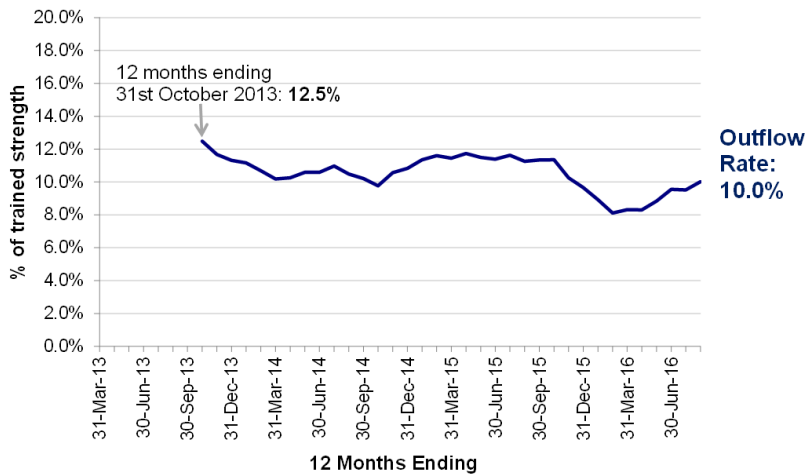


Figure 5 shows that the Maritime Reserve trained strength outflow rate was the highest in the 12 months ending 31st October 2013 at 12.5 per cent.

In the 12 months to 31st August 2016 the outflow rate was 10.0 per cent. It has decreased by 1.2 percentage points since the same 12 month period last year.

Figure 6: Army Reserve FR20 trained strength outflow rate

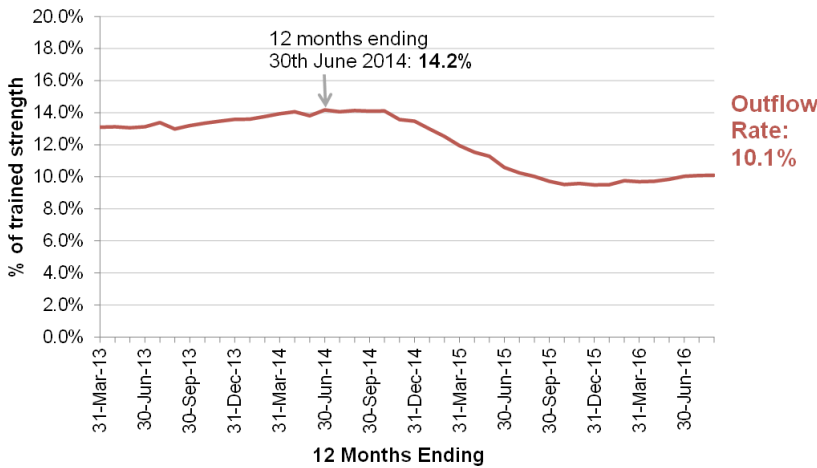


Figure 6 shows that the Army Reserve FR20 trained outflow rate was the highest in the 12 months ending 30th June 2014 at 14.2 per cent.

In the 12 months to 31st August 2016 the outflow rate was 10.1 per cent. It has increased by 0.1 percentage points since the same 12 month period last year.

Figure 7: RAF Reserves trained strength outflow rate

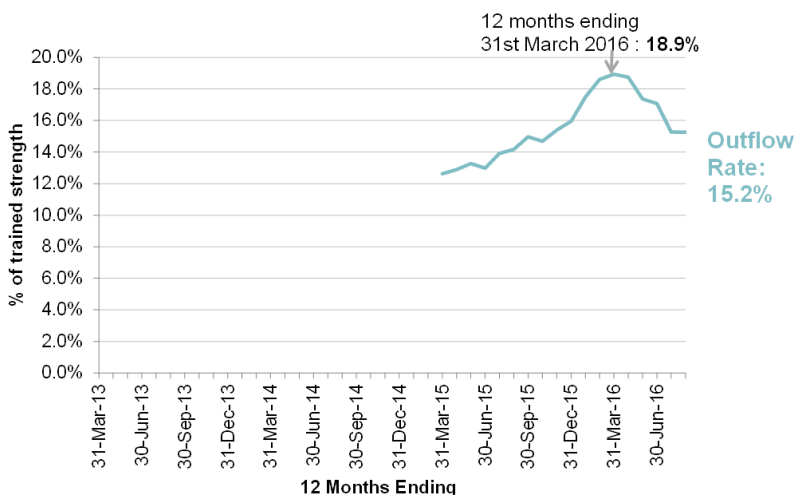


Figure 7 shows that the RAF Reserves outflow rate was the highest in the 12 months ending 31st March 2016 at 18.9 per cent.

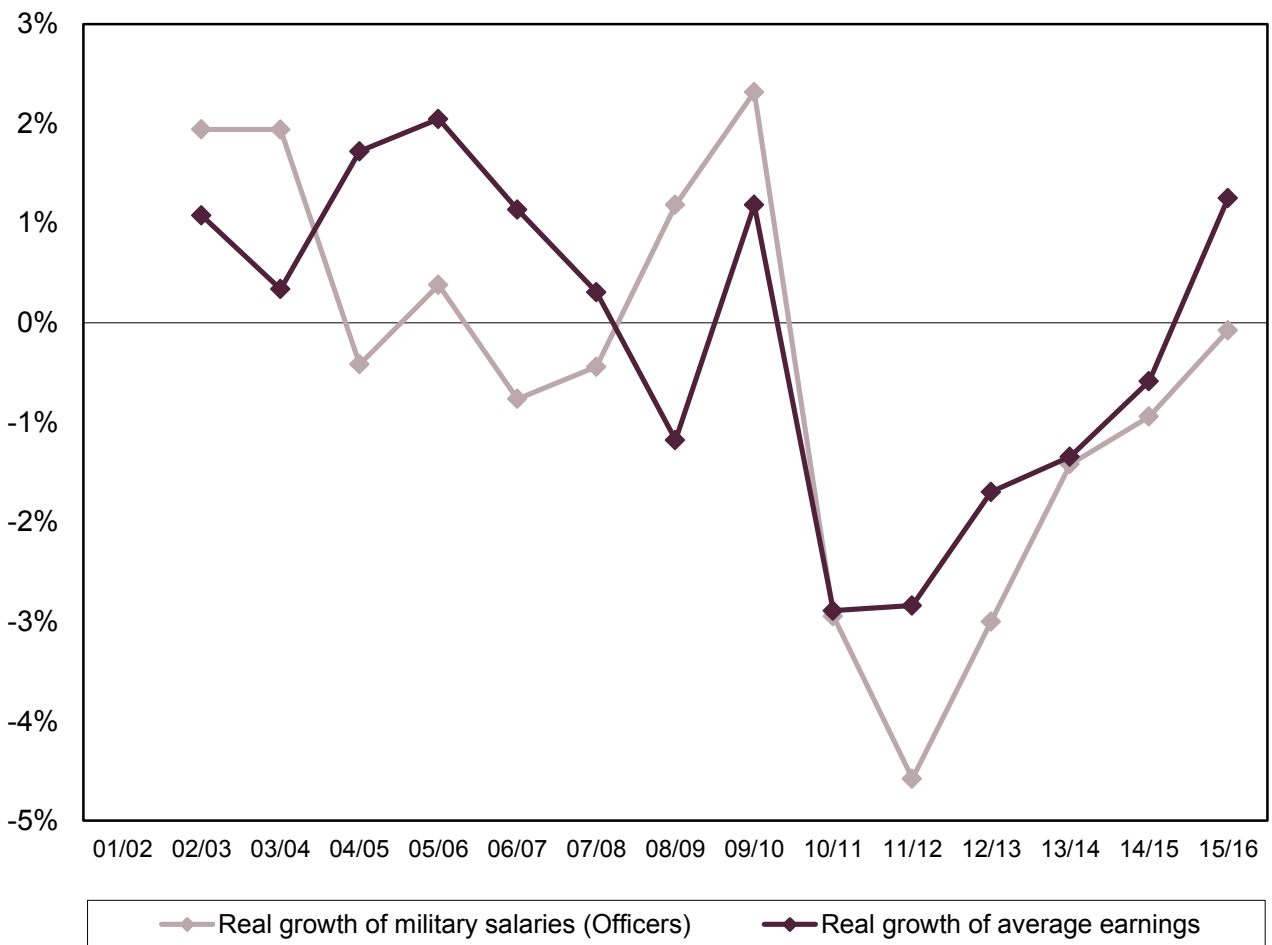
In the 12 months to 31st August 2016 the outflow rate was 15.2 per cent. It has increased by 1.1 percentage points since the same 12 month period last year.

Military Salaries

The Military Salaries indices are based on annual pay rates. All indices are calculated using the number of service personnel at each rank at 1 April 2016. With the introduction of Pay 16, the strength profile no longer matches previous years meaning it is not possible to continue the current index. The index is now split into two: the old index based against salaries in 2001/02 (the year the Pay 2000 system was introduced); and the new index based against salaries in 2016/17 (the year the Pay 16 was introduced).

The Military Salaries Index remained the same between 2011/12 and 2012/13 due to the two year public sector pay freeze. From 2014/15 all rates of base pay have been uplifted by one per cent each year, as recommended by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body (AFPRB). The latest report from the AFPRB is available [here](#).

Figure 8: Real growth of Military Salaries (Officers) and Average Earnings



Following the changes in Strength profiles of the Other Ranks as a result of NEM, it is only possible to make meaningful comparisons against average earnings for the Officers.

Real growth in military salaries and average earnings is growth over and above the Retail Price Index (RPI) measure of inflation. Figure 8 highlights that military salaries for Officers are almost growing in line with inflation. The real growth of Officer military salaries excluding bonuses is still negative at -0.1 per cent during 2015/16. The real growth in UK average earnings for the economy (total pay including bonuses) is experiencing a positive growth rate of 1.3 per cent for the first time since 2009/10 as a result of average earnings outstripping inflation.

Service and Civilian Personnel

As at 1 April 2016, the total MOD personnel is 214,850, this is made up of 158,610 full-time trained and untrained Service personnel (73.8%) and 56,240 Civilians (26.2%). These totals are lower than they were at 1 April 2015.

- The total strength of MOD personnel has decreased by 3,870 (1.8%) since 1 April 2015.
- Service personnel strength has decreased by 1,960 (1.2%) and Civilian personnel strength has decreased by 1,920 (3.3%) since April 2015.

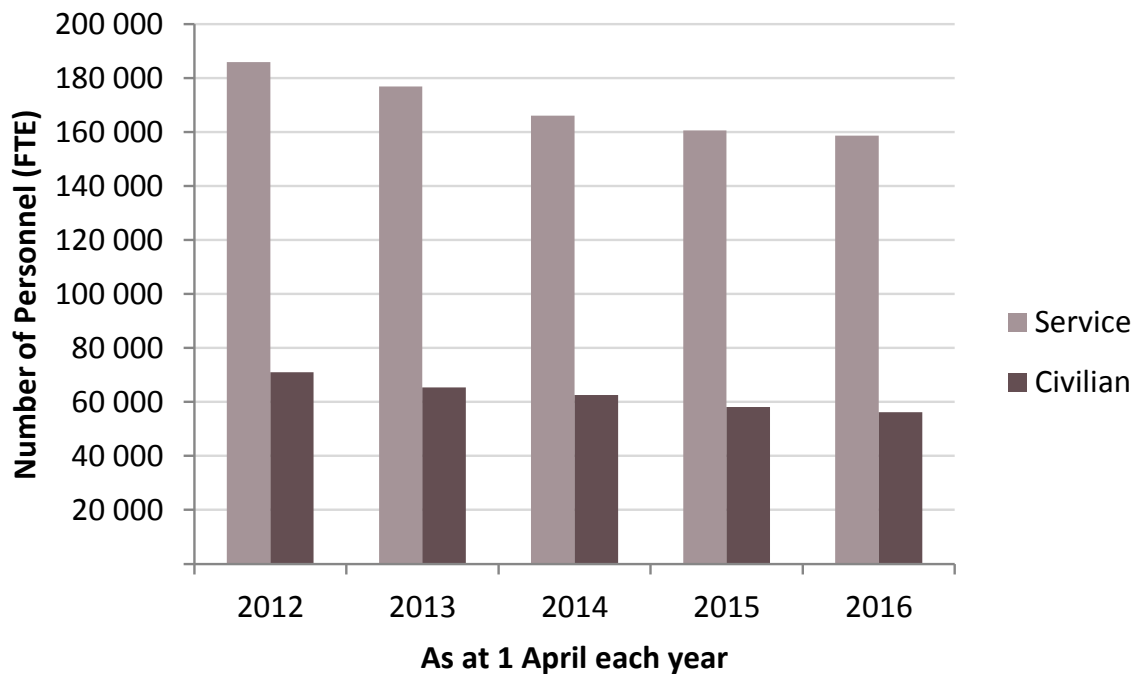
Service Personnel made up of:

UK Regulars
FTRS
Gurkhas
Locally Engaged Personnel

Civilian (Level 0) made up of:

Civilian (Level 1)
DE&S Trading Entity
Trading Funds
Locally engaged civilians

Figure 9: Service and Civilian personnel strength comparison, as at 1 April each Year



Further Information

Rounding

Figures in this publication have been rounded to the nearest 10, though numbers ending in a “5” have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent the systematic bias caused by always rounding numbers upwards. For example; a value of “25” would be rounded down to “20” and a value of “15” would be rounded up to “20”.

Additionally, totals and sub-totals are rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

Percentages are calculated from unrounded data and presented to one decimal place.

An updated MOD Disclosure Control and Rounding policy has been published on GOV.UK and we have applied this policy to the accompanying statistics on Service personnel in the Excel tables. The policy is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defence-statistics-policies>.

Revisions

The Royal Navy/Royal Marines Officers and Other Ranks liability statistics, for 1 August 2016 (in the accompanying Excel tables), have been revised in this release due to a calculation error. The RN/RM Officers liability total has decreased by 74 personnel and the RN/RM Other Ranks liability total has increased by 75 personnel. The corrected figures have been marked 'r' for 'revised' in table 3a. The corresponding Surplus/Deficit figures and the Tri-Service totals have also been revised and labelled accordingly.

Whilst the total RAF liability has been agreed, the composition is undergoing review. The Officer and Other Rank breakdown is currently marked as provisional for RAF, from 1 April to 1 September 2016, along with the Tri-Service Officer and Other Rank breakdown. As a result, the associated surplus / deficit figures are also provisional. These figures will be finalised in due course.

Statistics on Exit Reason for the Army (specifically Voluntary Outflow, Time Expiry and Other), for UK Regular personnel, are marked as provisional from 1 February edition onwards (see page 7 and Excel tables 4 and 5d). The corresponding Tri-Service totals are also marked as provisional. This is due to the implementation of improvements to the quality assurance process. These statistics will be finalised in due course. The associated historic statistics will also be affected and therefore revised.

There are no regular planned revisions of this Bulletin.

Symbols

	Discontinuity in time series
*	not applicable
..	not available
–	Zero
~	5 or fewer
p	Provisional
e	Estimate
r	Revised

Italic figures are used for percentages and other rates, except where otherwise indicated.

Further Information (cont.)

Contact Us

Defence Statistics welcome feedback on our statistical products. If you have any comments or questions about this publication or about our statistics in general, you can contact us as follows:

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service) Telephone: 0207 807 8896
Email: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk

If you require information which is not available within this or other available publications, you may wish to submit a Request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to the Ministry of Defence. For more information, see:

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Other contact points within Defence Statistics are:

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