



This statistical release presents information relating to the gender, ethnicity, nationality, religion and age of Military Personnel employed by the Ministry of Defence (MOD). This publication meets the Department's obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty to provide information on its workforce identified by the Equality Act 2010.

Information is provided on the number of Military Personnel in (defined as the **strength**), joining (**intake**) and leaving (**outflow**) the UK Armed Forces. Statistics are included for **UK Regular Forces** and **Future Reserves 2020 (FR20)** personnel. Further statistics can be found in the **Excel Tables** which accompany this report.

Some statistics which were previously published in the **Diversity Dashboard (Military)**, **Annual** and **Quarterly Personnel Reports**, **Service Personnel Bulletin 2.01**, **Annual maternity report** and the **UK Reserve Forces and Cadets** report can now be found in this publication.

Key Points and Trends

Gender

- ◀▶ **10.2%** **Female representation in the UK Regular Forces**
As at 1 April 2017
This has remained stable since 1 April 2016 (10.2%), this is part of a longer term increasing trend.
- ▲ **14.0%** **Female representation in the Future Reserves 2020**
As at 1 April 2017
This has increased by 0.4 percentage points compared with 1 April 2016 (13.6%)
- ◀▶ **11.4%** **Of total intake into the combined UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020 were female**
in the 12 months to 31 March 2017
(A 15.0 per cent Female Intake Target for 2020 has been set - see page 4)

Ethnicity

- ▲ **7.2%** **Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) representation in the UK Regular Forces**
As at 1 April 2017
This has increased by 0.2 percentage points since 1 April 2016 (7.0%)
- ▲ **5.4%** **BAME representation in the Future Reserves 2020**
As at 1 April 2017
This has increased by 0.2 percentage points since 1 April 2016 (5.2%), this is part of a longer term increasing trend.
- ▲ **7.2%** **Of total intake into the combined UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 were BAME**
in the 12 months to 31 March 2017
(A 10.0 per cent BAME Intake Target for 2020 has been set - see page 4)

Responsible statistician: Tri-Service Head of Branch 020 7807 8896 DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Further information/mailling list: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk
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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¹Nationality strength statistics and all intake and outflow statistics by diversity characteristics are not National Statistics for the Future Reserves 2020.

A full glossary and other supporting documents are available at:

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

Supplementary tables containing further statistics can be found at:

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

Introduction

This publication contains diversity information on the strength, intake and outflow of the UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) population, both overall and for each of the Services, including the **Royal Navy / Royal Marines (RN/RM)**, **Army** and **Royal Air Force (RAF)**. Statistics are for trained and untrained personnel unless otherwise stated. Ethnic origin and religion data are self-reported on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) database. Any percentages or figures quoted within this report relate to those with a known ethnic origin, religion or nationality unless otherwise stated.

There has been a minor change in the methodology used to produce Reserves statistics from 1 April 2017. This aligns our methodology with that used to produce Regulars statistics. See page 12 for more details.

Detailed statistics and historic time series can be found in the **Excel tables** which accompany this report; 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 (Military)** and **Quarterly Location Statistics**. The **glossary** contains definitions of terminology used in this publication. The next edition of this publication is provisionally scheduled to be published on GOV.UK at 9:30am on 30th November 2017. 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 Statistics. The MOD continues to seek feedback from users to ensure this publication is meeting user needs.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- 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.

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

Background and Context

Diversity statistics are reported to meet the Department's obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty to provide information on its workforce in relation to the protected characteristics identified by the Equality Act 2010. Further information relating to the Public Sector Equality Duty can be found at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty/>

MOD publicises the importance placed on the Armed Forces being appropriately representative of the diverse society they exist to defend; and states that 'operational effectiveness depends on cohesion and teamwork, which are enhanced by treating everyone fairly, with dignity and respect'.

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 MOD has **consulted** on these changes and the resultant impact it will have on this publication and a consultation response was published on 7 November 2016.

Army personnel who have completed Phase 1 training (basic Service training) but not Phase 2 training (trade training), are now considered Trained personnel. This change will enable the Army to meet the SDSR 15 commitment to improve support to UK resilience. The Trained Strength definition for the Royal Navy, RAF, Maritime Reserve and RAF Reserves has not changed, reflecting the requirement for their personnel to complete Phase 2 training to be able to fulfil the core function of their respective Services.

Recent changes to the structure of the UK Armed Forces

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 MoD 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 (RN/RM) and RAF by a total of 700 personnel. The **SDSR 2015 Defence Key Facts** booklet announced new targets for 2020 for each of the Services.

In parallel, there have been increases in the Reserve populations; the **Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme** aims to increase the size of the Reserve Forces. Further personnel statistics and information on these changes can be found in **Monthly Service Personnel Statistics**.

Gender

The Prime Minister announced on 8 July 2016 that the exemption on women serving in ground close combat roles would be lifted. Roles that were previously excluded to women were the Royal Marines General Service, the Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps, the Infantry and the Royal Air Force Regiment. From November 2016 women are able to join the Royal Armoured Corps, both Regular and Reserve. The remaining ground close combat roles will open to women in late 2018, once additional health mitigations are in place. The Armed Forces are exempt from elements of the employment provisions of the Equality Act 2010 for reasons of combat effectiveness.

Ethnic origin and Nationality

Under the SDSR 2010, one of the areas reviewed was the Commonwealth recruitment rules. The MOD reintroduced the five-years UK residency requirement for future new recruits from Commonwealth countries in July 2013. This did not affect personnel already serving, or going through the recruitment process at the time of the announcement, those from the Republic of Ireland or for the Brigade of Gurkhas.

More recently, this residency requirement has been waived to allow for 200 Commonwealth citizens per annum to be recruited to fill a limited number of roles in the Regular Armed Forces which require specialist skills. For further information, see the written statement by Minister of State for the Armed Forces on 12 May 2016 and the links below.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2016-05-12/HCWS726/>

www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-residency-rules-for-armed-forces-recruits

www.gov.uk/government/publications/armed-forces-arf/armed-forces-arf--2

Information on the nationality eligibility criteria for each of the Services is available at:

<http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/careers/joining/get-ready-to-join>

<http://www.army.mod.uk/join/How-to-join.aspx>

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/how-to-apply/eligibility-check/>

Measuring Performance Against the 2020 Diversity Intake Targets

Background

Targets were set in summer 2015 to increase the diversity of personnel joining the UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 by 2020.

For definitions of the UK Regulars, Future Reserves 2020 and Intake see notes at the bottom of this page.

The 2020 targets are:

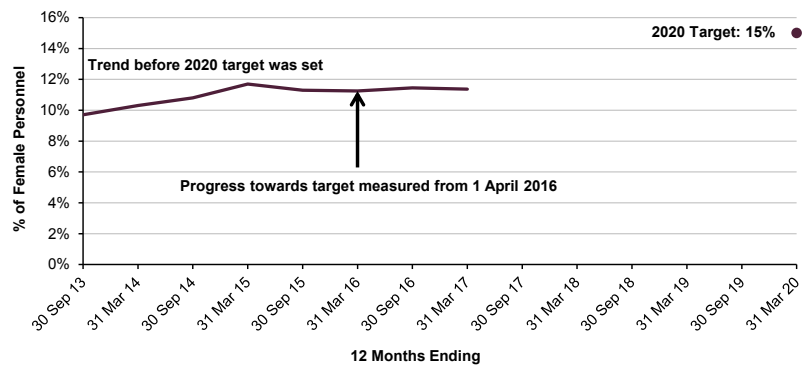
- To increase female personnel to 15 per cent of total intake by 2020. This target has been set by the Minister of State for the Armed Forces.
- To increase Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) personnel to at least 10 per cent of total intake by 2020, with an eventual target of 20 per cent. This target was set by the Prime Minister as part of the wider BME 2020 Vision.

This statistical release includes monitoring of progress against these targets. Statistics are for the 12 months ending 31 March 2017. Statistics on ethnic origin are self-declared by personnel and are as recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) database. Please see Excel Tables 28 and 29 and the single departmental plan for more information: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-single-departmental-plan-2015-to-2020/single-departmental-plan-2015-to-2020>

Female Intake

Since the 12 months ending 31 March 2016, when target monitoring began, the proportion of females joining the UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 has increased from 11.2% to 11.4%.

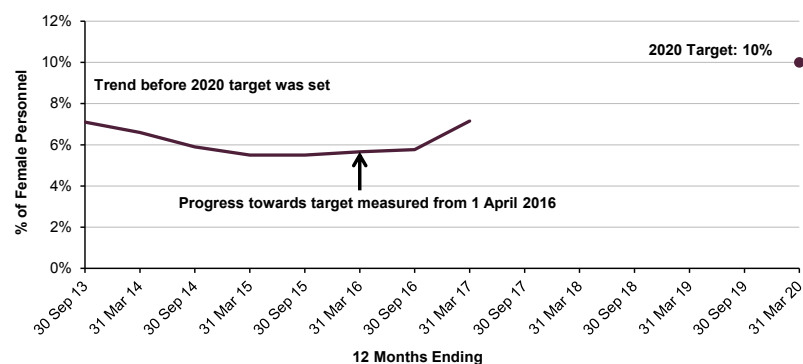
Figure 1: Progress Against Female Intake 2020 Target



BAME Intake

Since the 12 months ending 31 March 2016, when target monitoring began, the proportion of BAME personnel joining the UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 has increased from 5.7% to 7.2%.

Figure 2: Progress Against BAME Intake 2020 Target



A total of 96.6 per cent of intake into the UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020 combined, had a known ethnicity on intake, in the 12 months to 31 March 2017.

Notes

- UK Regulars comprise 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), Non Regular Permanent Staff (NRPS), High Readiness Reserve (HRR) and Expeditionary Forces Institute (EFI) personnel. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.
- Intake to UK Regular Forces comprises new entrants, re-entrants, direct trained entrants (including Professionally Qualified Officers) and intake from the reserves. It excludes all movements within the Regular Forces; including flows from the untrained to trained strength, transfers between Services and flows from Ranks to Officer due to promotion.
- Future Reserves 2020 includes volunteer reserves who are mobilised, HRR and volunteer reserve personnel serving on ADC or FTRS contracts. Sponsored Reserves who provide a more cost effective solution than volunteer reserve are also included in the Army Reserve FR20. Non Regular Permanent Staff (NRPS), Expeditionary Forces Institute (EFI) and University Officer Cadets and Regular Reservists are excluded.
- Intake to Future Reserves 2020 Forces comprises new entrants, Regular to Reserve transfers, Reserve re-joiners, and Reserve personnel joining from another part of the Reserves that are not included in the FR20 target population.

Gender

UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 Strengths

For full definitions on **UK Regular Forces** and **Future Reserves 2020** see [Glossary](#)

At 1 April 2017, 10.2 per cent of the UK Regular Forces were female (15,270 personnel), remaining stable since April 2016. Figure 3 shows that the RAF has the greatest proportion of female personnel followed by the RN/RM and the Army. This is partly explained by restrictions on roles available to women and the nature of the roles in each of the Services (see Background, page 3).

In comparison, 14.0 per cent of the Future Reserves 2020 were female (5,060 personnel), 3.8 percentage points higher than the UK Regular Forces. The number of females in the Future Reserves 2020 has increased at the same rate as the males and as a result the proportion of females has remained fairly stable since 1 October 2012.

Figure 3: Females in the UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020, at 1 April 2017

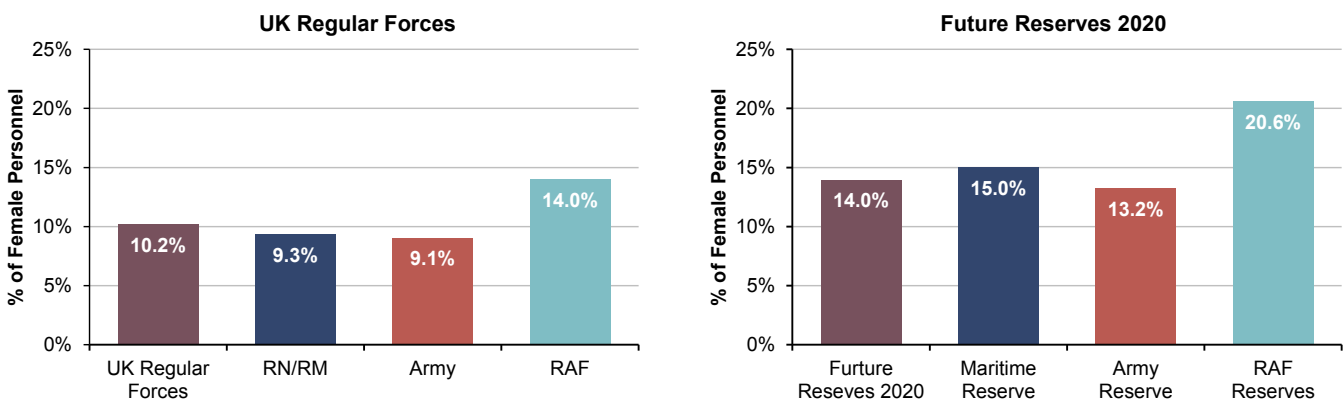
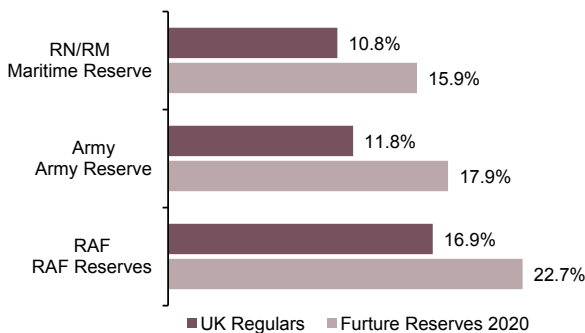


Figure 3 shows that the RAF has the greatest female representation for both UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020.

Figure 4: Percentage of Officers who are Female, as at 1 April 2017



At 1 April 2017, there was a greater proportion of female Officers in the Future Reserves 2020 (17.9 per cent) than the UK Regular Forces (13.0 per cent).

Compared with the UK Regular Forces, the Future Reserves 2020 has a higher female representation of Officers in every Service as shown in Figure 4. This trend has remained constant since October 2012.

Since April 2012, the proportion of female Officers in the UK Regular Forces has increased by 0.6 percentage points. In the UK Regular Forces there is a general trend of lower proportions of female personnel in the higher ranks within both Officers and Other Ranks.

In the Future Reserves 2020 there has been a sharp increase of 6.0 percentage points in the proportion of female Officers in the RAF Reserves whilst the Maritime Reserve and the Army Reserve have decreased by 2.0 and 1.0 percentage points respectively, since 1 October 2012.

Gender

Intake and Outflow UK Regular Forces

Intake is defined as the number of personnel joining the strength, and **outflow** is the number leaving.

In the 12 months to 31 March 2017, 1,260 female personnel joined the UK Regular Forces; 9.4 per cent of total intake. This has decreased by 0.3 percentage points compared with the 12 months to 31 March 2016. Intake of female personnel is higher for Officers (16.3 per cent), than for Other Ranks (8.6 per cent).

In the 12 months to 31 March 2017, female intake was:

- ⇒ 280 personnel (9.0 per cent) into the RN/RM
- ⇒ 660 personnel (8.0 per cent) into the Army
- ⇒ 320 personnel (15.4 per cent) into the RAF

Figure 5 shows that more female personnel are leaving the UK Regular Forces than are joining, which aligns with the wider trend for the UK Regular Forces, the difference has markedly decreased in recent years.

Female personnel accounted for 9.1 per cent of all outflow from the UK Regular Forces in the 12 months to 31 March 2017, consistent with the 12 months to 31 March 2016 (9.2 per cent).

Future Reserves 2020

In the 12 months to 31 March 2017, 1,020 female personnel joined the Future Reserves 2020; this is 15.4 per cent of total intake. Intake of female personnel is higher for Officers (19.0 per cent), than for Other Ranks (14.9 per cent).

Figure 5: Female Intake to and Outflow from the UK Regular Forces

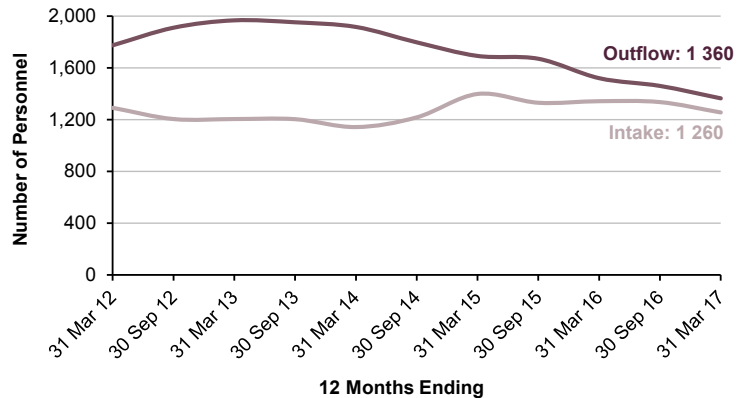


Figure 6: Female Intake to and Outflow from the Future Reserves 2020

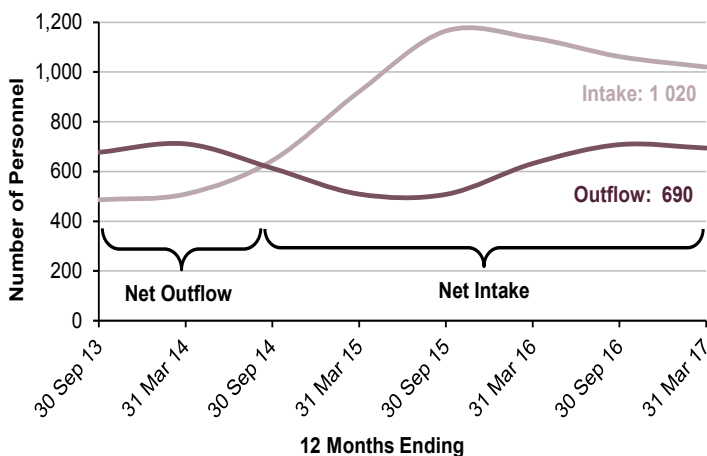


Figure 6 shows that the number of females joining the Future Reserves 2020 has risen by 530 personnel since the 12 months to 30 September 2013. This is mainly a result of the Future Reserve 2020 programme plans to increase the size of the Reserve Forces (see background page 3).

In the 12 months to 31 March 2017, female intake was:

- ⇒ 170 personnel (19.4 per cent) into the Maritime Reserve
- ⇒ 690 personnel (13.6 per cent) into the Army Reserve
- ⇒ 160 personnel (23.9 per cent) into the RAF Reserves

Figure 6 shows that the number of female personnel joining the Future Reserves 2020 (intake) was initially lower than the number of females leaving (outflow). A crossover occurred in the 12 months to 30th September 2014, since then intake of female personnel has remained greater than outflow.

Ethnic Origin and Nationality

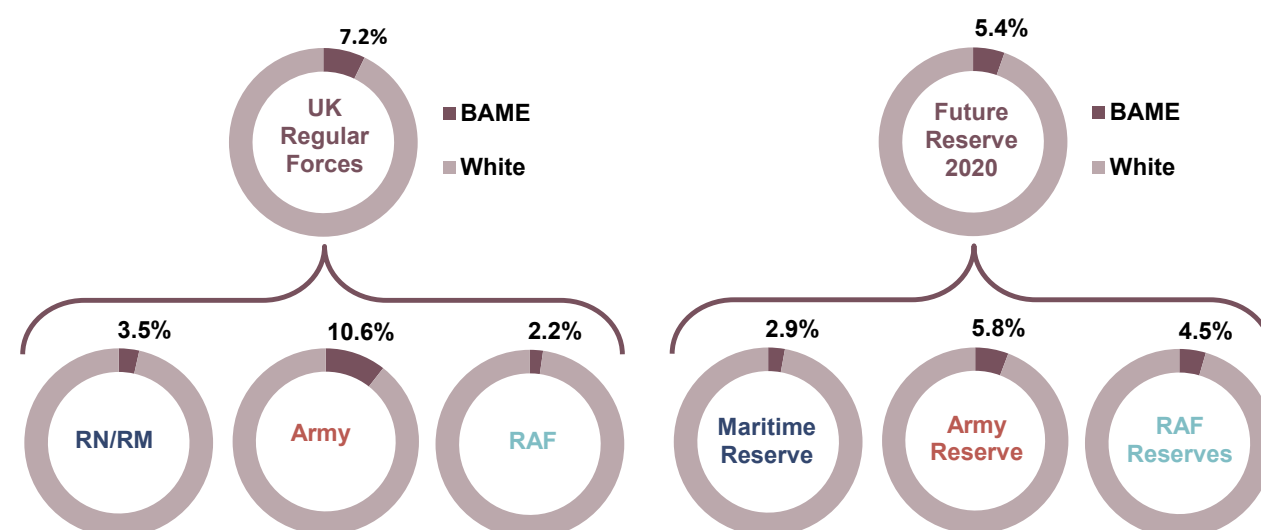
UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 Strengths

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) personnel accounted for 7.2 per cent of the UK Regular Forces (10,680 personnel), at 1 April 2017. Since 2009, Gurkha personnel have been able to transfer into the Army; this can partially explain the larger proportion of BAME personnel in the Army compared with the other UK Regular Services, see Figure 7.

As at 1 April 2017, 5.4 per cent of the Future Reserves 2020 (1,940 personnel) declared a BAME ethnicity. For both the UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020, the Army and Army Reserve represent 61.1 per cent of the UK Armed forces and also have the greatest proportion of BAME personnel; accounting for more than 80.0 per cent of all BAME personnel.

At 1 April 2017, 95.5 per cent of the UK Regular Forces and 98.4 per cent of the Future Reserves 2020 had a UK Nationality. The difference in Nationality between the UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020 can partially be explained by different eligibility requirements, (see background page 3).

Figure 7: Ethnicity of UK Regular and Future Reserves 2020 Personnel as at 1 April 2017



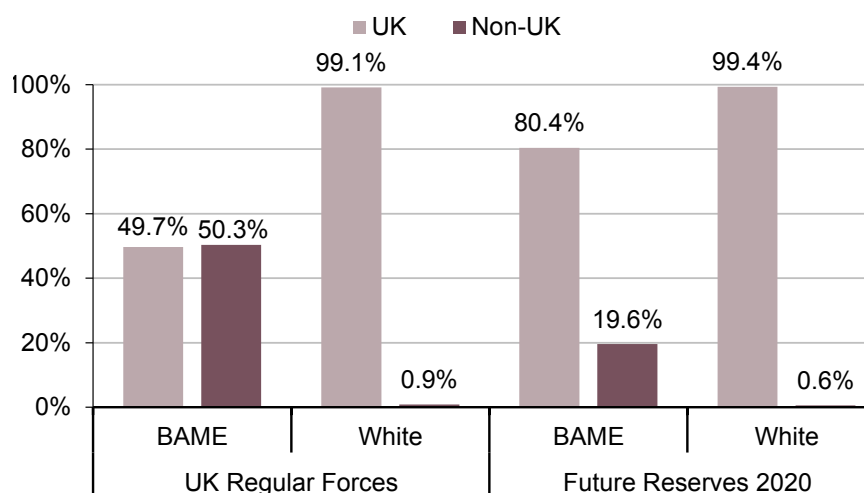
Declaration of **ethnic origin** is not mandatory for Armed Forces personnel. These statistics relate to personnel with a **known** ethnicity. At 1 April 2017, the percentage of personnel who declared an ethnicity was:

UK Regulars	99.2%
Future Reserves 2020	98.9%

At 1 April 2017, BAME personnel represented:

- ⇒ 2.4 per cent of Officers and 8.3 per cent of Other Ranks in the UK Regular Forces. Since April 2016 this has remained stable for the Officers but has increased by 0.3 percentage points in the Other Ranks.
- ⇒ 3.7 per cent of Officers and 5.8 per cent of Other Ranks in the Future Reserves 2020; the latter increasing 0.2 percentage points for the Other Ranks since April 2016.

Figure 8: Percentage of BAME and White personnel with UK and Non-UK Nationalities as at 1 April 2017



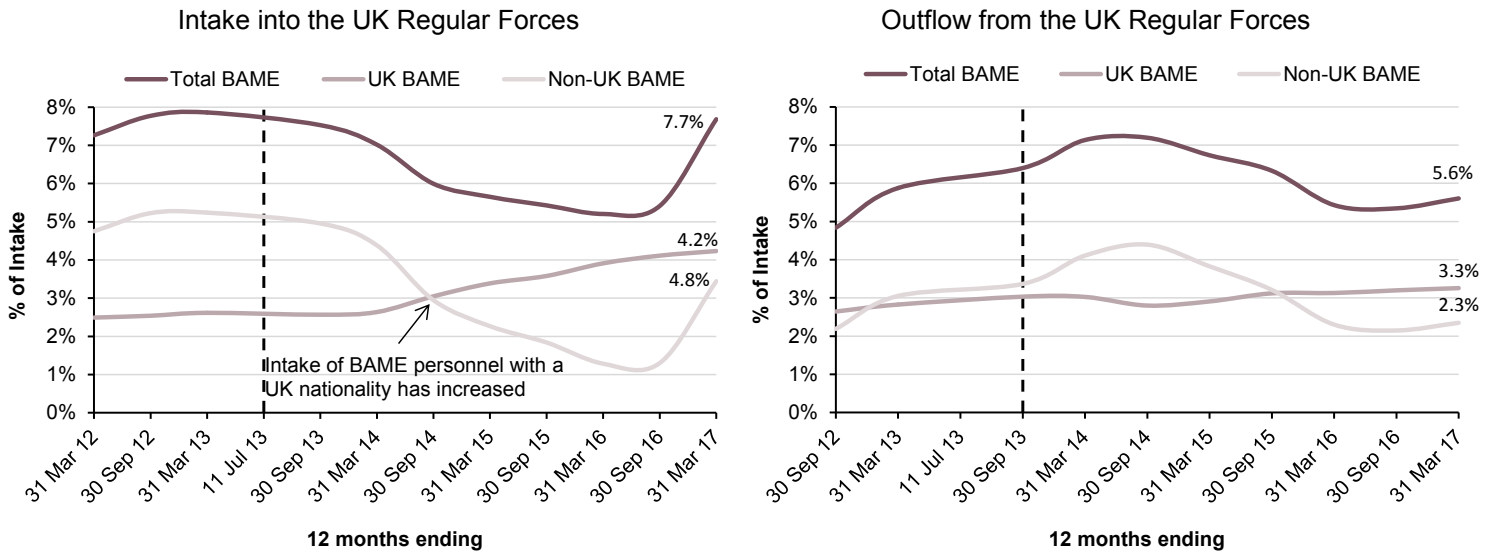
Ethnic Origin and Nationality

Intake and Outflow

UK Regular Forces

BAME personnel accounted for 7.7 per cent of intake into the UK Regular Forces in the 12 months to 31 March 2017, see Figure 9. The proportion of BAME personnel of a Non-UK Nationality joining the UK Regular Forces has increased from 24.0 per cent as at 1 October 2016 to 44.9 per cent as at 1 April 2017. This can be explained largely due to a waiver in residency requirements for recruits from Foreign and Commonwealth countries.

Figure 9: BAME, UK BAME and Non-UK BAME Intake to and Outflow from UK Regular Forces



BAME personnel represented 5.6 per cent of outflow from the UK Regular Forces in the 12 months to 31 March 2017, a decrease of 1.1 percentage points in the 12 months ending 31 March 2015 (Figure 9).

Future Reserves 2020

BAME personnel represent 6.0 per cent of intake in the 12 months ending 31 March 2017, this is an increase of 0.7 percentage points since 31 March 2015.

Figure 10: BAME intake to the Future Reserve 2020 by Service

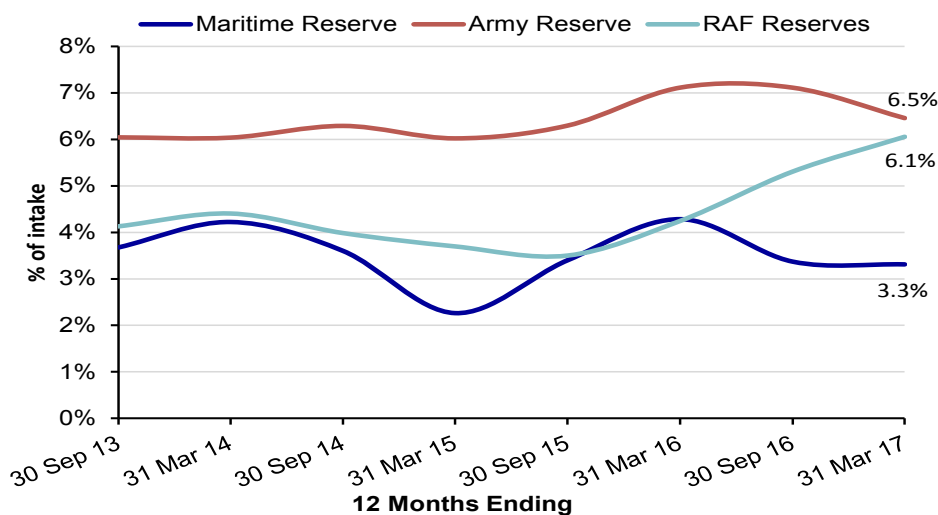


Figure 10 shows that since the 12 months ending 30th September 2013 the proportion of intake who are BAME in the

- ⇒ Maritime Reserve has decreased by 0.4 percentage points to 3.3 per cent
- ⇒ Army Reserve has increased by 0.5 percentage points to 6.5 per cent
- ⇒ RAF Reserves has increased by 2.0 percentage points to 6.1 per cent

Religion

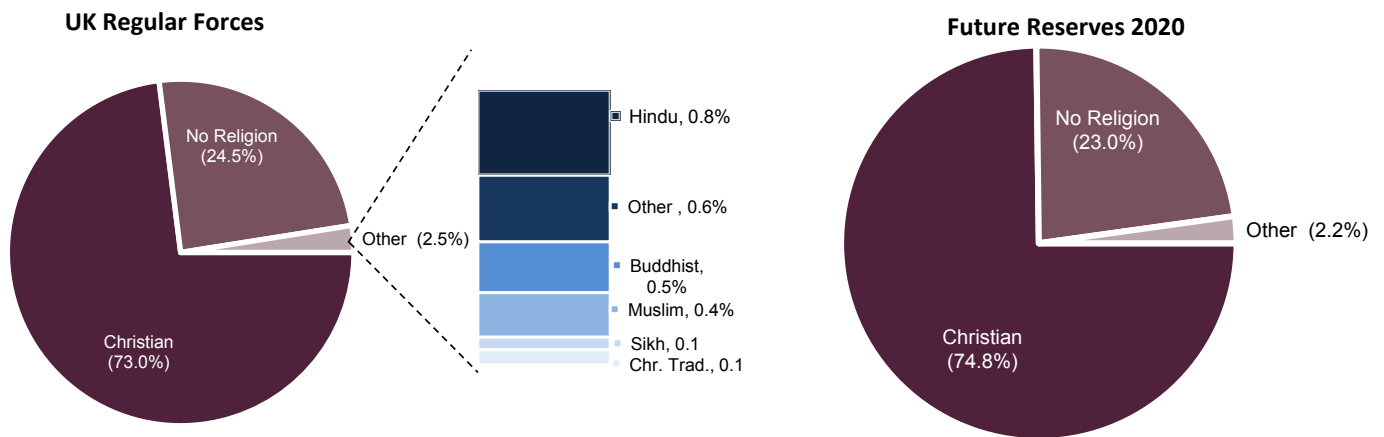
UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 Strengths

At 1 April 2017, 73.0 per cent of the UK Regular Forces and 74.8 per cent of the Future Reserves 2020 declared a Christian religion. Both have seen a decrease in the last year of 2.5 and 1.8 percentage points respectively, which is also in line with the long term decreasing trend. The distribution of religion representations are fairly similar across both the UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020, shown in Figure 11.

Declaration of **Religion** is not mandatory for Armed Forces personnel. These statistics only relate to personnel who have made a declaration. At 1 April 2017, the proportion of personnel who had made a declaration was:

UK Regular Forces	99.8%
Future Reserves 2020	97.2%

Figure 11: Religion of the UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 as at 1 April 2017



For further information on “Other”, please see Table 4 of the accompanying [Excel Tables](#)

At 1 April 2017 the proportion of personnel declaring no religious affiliation was 24.5 per cent (36,530 personnel) in the UK Regular Forces and 23.0 per cent (8,110 personnel) in the Future Reserves 2020; an increase of 2.3 and 1.7 percentage points respectively since 1 April 2016, following the long term trend.

Figure 12: Representation of No Religion in the UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020 by Service, as at 1 April 2017

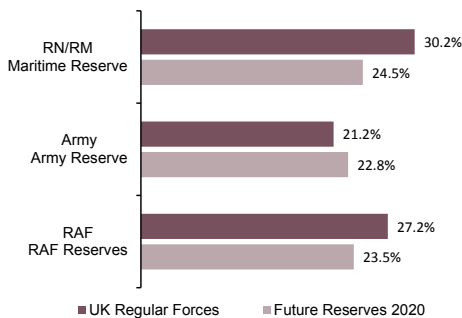
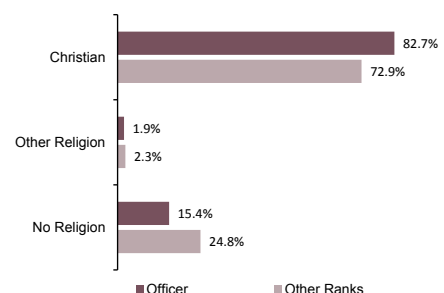


Figure 12 shows the representation of personnel declaring no religious affiliation by Service. Since 1 April 2016, the proportion of personnel declaring no religion has increased in all the Services.

Figure 13: Representation of religion in the Future Reserves 2020 by Officers and Other Ranks, as at 1 April 2017

Figure 13 shows that in the Future Reserves 2020, there are more personnel declaring a Christian religion in the Officers compared with Other Ranks. In contrast more personnel in the Other Ranks declared no religious affiliation, compared with Officers, as at 1 April 2017.



Age

UK Regular Forces and Future Reserves 2020 Strengths

As at 1 April 2017, 24.1 per cent of the UK Regular Forces and 14.2 per cent of the Future Reserves 2020 were under 25 years old. In the last year, this has decreased by 1.1 percentage points in the UK Regulars and 0.8 in the Future Reserves 2020.

Of the Officers 6.9 per cent of the UK Regular Forces and 5.6 per cent of the Future Reserves 2020 were under 25 years old.

Average age statistics are calculated using the mean. Age is age at last birthday. Average ages at 1 April 2017

	Total	Officer	Other Ranks
UK Regular Forces	31	37	30
Future Reserves 2020	37	44	36

Figure 14: Age of Officers in the UK Regular Forces and the Future Reserves 2020, as at 1 April 2017

Percentage of Personnel

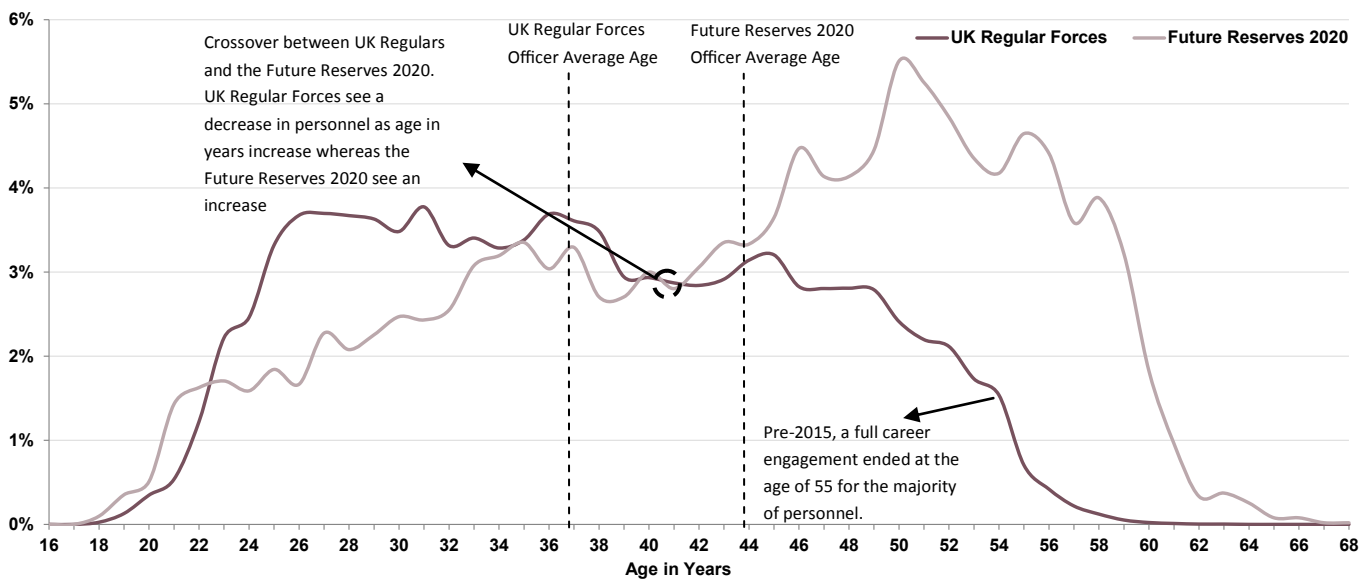


Figure 14 indicates that Officers in the UK Regular Forces are generally younger than Officers in the Future Reserves 2020. As at 1 April 2017 the average age for Officers in the UK Regular Forces was 37 years old compared to the Future Reserves 2020 where the average age was 44 years old.

The average age of Other Ranks in the UK Regular Forces is also generally younger than the Future Reserves 2020. As at 1 April 2017 the average age for the UK Regular Forces Other Ranks was 6 years younger than the Future Reserves 2020.

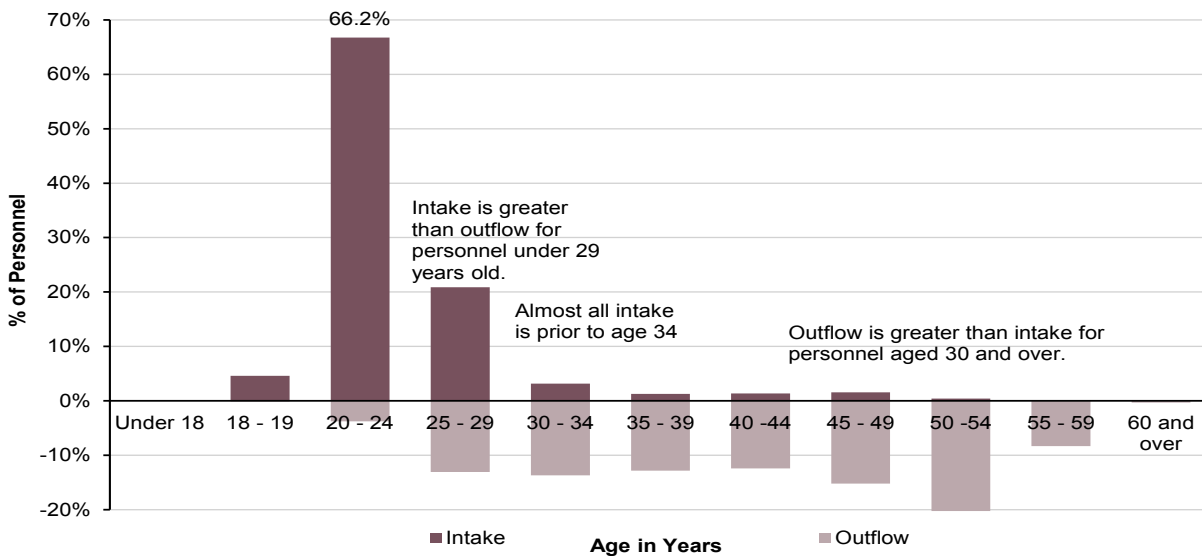
In the 12 months to 31 August 2016, half of those joining the Future Reserves 2020 had previously served in the UK Armed Forces ([Monthly Service Personnel Statistics](#), table 7b). This could explain, in part, why the age profile is higher for the Future Reserves 2020.

Age

Intake and Outflow

In the 12 months ending 31 March 2017, 10.4 per cent of intake to the UK Regular Forces were Officers (1,400 personnel). Figure 15 shows that, of this total, 7.8 per cent were aged 30 and over and the remaining 92.2 per cent were aged 18 to 29. Officer intake age profiles are heavily influenced by personnel joining having left higher education, with 66.7 per cent of all officer intake occurring between ages 20 and 24.

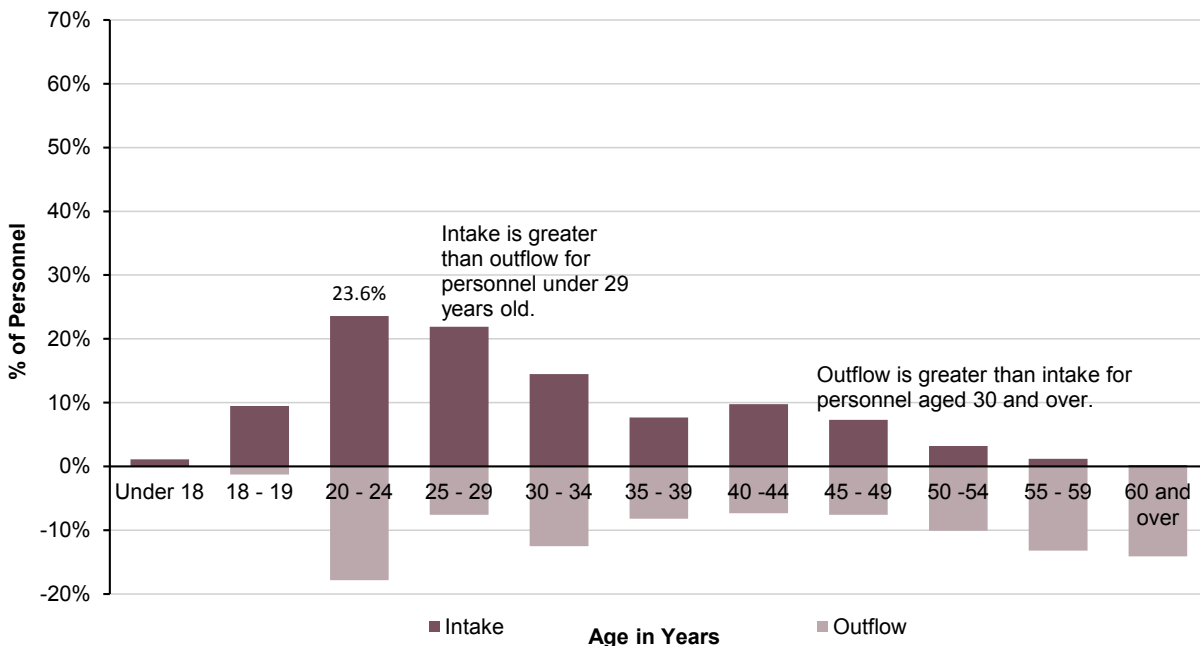
Figure 15: UK Regular Officer intake and outflow by Age for the 12 months ending 31 March 2017



The first point at which Regular personnel can leave voluntarily is normally after 4 years of Service for personnel aged over 18; each Service has slightly different guidelines.

A notable peak in the outflow for Officers can be seen at ages 50-54. Pre-2015, a full career engagement lasted until age 55; a limited number of Armed Forces personnel could serve beyond the age of 55.

Figure 16: Future Reserves 2020 Officer intake and outflow by Age for the 12 months ending 31 March 2017



For Future Reserves 2020 personnel, intake and outflow are fairly similar for each age group under the age of 50 unlike the UK Regulars. This reflects the different eligibility requirements between UK Regulars and Reserves.

Further Information

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.

Rounding

Figures in this publication (apart from maternity statistics and detailed ethnicity statistics) 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”.

Due to the small numbers involved for maternity statistics and detailed ethnicity statistics, the figures have been rounded to the nearest 5 with numbers less than five suppressed in line with Defence Statistics’ rounding policy. Percentages relating to figures less than 5 have also been suppressed to prevent disclosure.

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.

The MOD Disclosure Control and Rounding policy is published on GOV.UK at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defence-statistics-policies>

Revisions

There has been a minor change in the methodology used to produce Reserves statistics from 1 April 2017. This aligns our methodology with that used to produce Regulars statistics. This now allows us to capture individuals who intake and outflow within the same month. For example, if an individual joins on 3 March and leaves on 29 March they are now counted as an intake and an outflow under the new methodology, whereas previously this would not have been identifiable. The net effect of this change on our Statistics is negligible - seldom affecting greater than ten personnel in a month - but it does improve both the accuracy and efficiency of our processes. The historic back-series of Reserves data affected has been revised to reflect this in 1 April 2017’s edition of Biannual Diversity Statistics.

Corrections to the published statistics will be made if errors are found, or if figures change as a result of improvements to methodology or changes to definitions. When making corrections, we will follow the Ministry of Defence [Statistics Revisions and Corrections Policy](#). All corrected figures will be identified by the symbol “r”, and an explanation will be given of the reason for and size of the revision. Corrections which would have a significant impact on the utility of the statistics will be corrected as soon as possible, by reissuing the publication. Minor errors will also be corrected, but for convenience these corrections may be timed to coincide with the next annual release of the publication.

There are no regular planned revisions of this Bulletin.

Further Information

Useful definitions

Christian includes personnel declaring a Christian or Christian Tradition religion.

No religion includes personnel who have self-identified as having no religion on JPA, including personnel declaring themselves as Agnostic, Atheist, Humanist and Secularist. This does not include personnel with an unrecorded religion.

UK Nationality includes any individuals whose nationality is recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) database as Anguilla, Bermuda, British, British Hong Kong, British Overseas Territories, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands or Turks and Caicos Islands. More details can be found on the gov.uk website.

A full glossary is available at:

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

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: 020 7807 8896

Email: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk

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Other contact points within Defence Statistics are:

Defence Expenditure Analysis	030 6793 4531	DefStrat-Econ-ESES-DEA-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Price Indices	030 6793 2100	DefStrat-Econ-ESES-PI-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Naval Service Manpower	023 9262 5956	DefStrat-Stat-Navy-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Army Manpower	01264 886175	DefStrat-Stat-Army-Hd@mod.gov.uk
RAF Manpower	01494 496822	DefStrat-Stat-Air-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Tri-Service Manpower	020 7807 8896	DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Civilian Manpower	020 7218 1359	DefStrat-Stat-Civ-Hd@mod.gov.uk
Health Information	030 6798 4423	DefStrat-Stat-Health-Hd@mod.gov.uk

Please note that these email addresses may change later in the year.

If you wish to correspond by mail, our postal address is:

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)
Ministry of Defence, Main Building
Floor 3 Zone M
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

For general MOD enquiries, please call: 020 7218 9000