



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 SDSR 2015, publications reported against SDSR 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

▼ 194 140	<b>Strength of UK Forces Service Personnel</b> at 1 April 2018 <i>a decrease of 2 900 (1.5 per cent) since 1 April 2017</i>
▼ 136 770	<b>Full-time Trained Strength (RN/RM &amp; RAF) and Full-time Trade Trained Strength (Army)</b> at 1 April 2018 <i>a decrease of 2 080 (1.5 per cent) since 1 April 2017</i>
▲ - 6.0%	<b>Deficit against the planned number of personnel needed (Liability)</b> at 1 April 2018 <i>an increase in the deficit from -4.4 per cent as at 1 April 2017</i>
▲ 32 220	<b>Strength of the Trained Future Reserves 2020</b> at 1 April 2018 <i>An increase of 860 (2.7 per cent) since 1 April 2017</i>
▼ 12 360	<b>People joined the UK Regular Armed Forces</b> in the past 12 months (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018) <i>a decrease of 1 020 (7.6 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>
▲ 15 170	<b>People left the UK Regular Armed Forces</b> in the past 12 months (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018) <i>A minor increase of 130 (0.8 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>
▼ 5 560	<b>People joined the Future Reserves 2020</b> in the past 12 months (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018) <i>a decrease of 1 070 (16.1 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>
▲ 5 500	<b>People left the Future Reserves 2020</b> in the past 12 months (1 April 2017 – 31 March 2018) <i>an increase of 340 (6.5 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>

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**Background quality report:**

[www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tri-service-personnel-bulletin-background-quality-reports](http://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tri-service-personnel-bulletin-background-quality-reports)

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## 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)**.

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) announced on 29 June 2016 that it was changing the Army trained, disciplined manpower by changing the definition of trained strength to include those in the Army who have completed Phase 1 training. This affects 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 January 2017. A consultation response was published on 7 November 2016. The changes outlined in the consultation and response have been incorporated into this publication from the 1 January 2017 edition onwards. This affects statistics in some of the accompanying Excel tables, specifically tables: 3a, 3e, 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b and 7c. Terminology has also been updated in Excel tables 3c and 4.

Detailed statistics, including unrounded figures, and historic time series can be found in the **Excel tables**. These include quarterly statistics on the number of **Applications** to each of the Services, **Service and Civilian Personnel, Separated Service** (the proportion of personnel breaching harmony guidelines), **Applications** to each of the Services and **Military Salaries**. 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.

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. 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.

## Policy background

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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 29 June 2016, the MOD [announced](#) that the Army planned to use Regular and Reserve Phase 1 trained personnel in response to crises within the UK. Following this, the term ‘Trained Strength’ would 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 were published on 7 October 2016.

From the 1 January 2017 edition onwards, Army personnel who have completed Phase 1 training (basic Service training) but not Phase 2 training (trade training), are 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.

Army personnel who have completed Phase 2 training are now called ‘Trade Trained’. This population aligns with the old definition of trained personnel, therefore maintaining the continuity of the statistical time series and will continue to be counted against the liability and SDSR target for 2020.

### 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 23 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.

As a result of the changes to Army Trained Strength (referred to above) and their impact on the Army Reserve, the MOD released a [Written Ministerial Statement](#) containing revised Future Reserves 2020 strength growth profiles on 8 November 2016. Reporting of the growth of the Reserves will be based on strength profiles only.

This statement outlined trained strength targets for FY18/19 as follows: Maritime Reserve 3,100, Army Reserve 30,100 and RAF Reserves 1,860.

## UK Service Personnel

Due to the introduction of the Defence Recruitment System (DRS) and the uncertainty of all intake data, all figures are considered provisional and subject to review for this release of Quarterly Service Personnel Statistics.

**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 194,140, which includes:

- All **UK Regular** personnel and all **Gurkha** personnel (which at 1 April 2018 comprised 77.1 per cent of UK Service Personnel);
- **Volunteer Reserve** personnel (which at 1 April 2018 comprised 18.8 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 April 2018 comprised 4.1 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 total strength of the UK Forces<sup>1</sup> has decreased between 1 April 2017 and 1 April 2018, by 1.5 per cent (2,900 personnel). Over the same period, there have been increases across the Reserves populations and Gurkhas, which have been offset by a reduction in the UK Regular Forces, shown in Table 1. This is also part of a long term trend.

**Table 1: Trends in UK Forces Strength<sup>1</sup>**

	1 Apr 15	1 Apr 16	1 Apr 17	1 Oct 17	1 Jan 18	1 Apr 18	% Change since 1 Apr 17
<b>UK Forces Personnel</b>	<b>195 690</b>	<b>197 090</b>	<b>197 040</b>	<b>195 730</b>	<b>194 950</b>	<b>194 140</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>
UK Regular Forces	153 720	151 000	149 370	147 520	147 030	146 560	-1.9%
Gurkhas	2 870	2 860	2 990	2 940	2 910	3 150	5.3%
Volunteer Reserve	31 260	35 070	36 460	37 090	36 940	36 480	0.0%
Other Personnel	7 840	8 170	8 220	8 180	8 060	7 960	-3.2%
<b>Royal Navy/ Royal Marines</b>	<b>38 200</b>	<b>38 360</b>	<b>38 450</b>	<b>38 490</b>	<b>38 520</b>	<b>38 450</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
UK Regular Forces	32 740	32 500	32 540	32 430	32 450	32 480	-0.2%
Volunteer Reserve	3 160	3 540	3 560	3 680	3 690	3 600	1.1%
Other Personnel	2 300	2 320	2 350	2 380	2 380	2 370	1.1%
<b>Army</b>	<b>120 490</b>	<b>121 750</b>	<b>121 540</b>	<b>120 350</b>	<b>119 470</b>	<b>118 580</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
UK Regular Forces	87 060	85 040	83 560	82 210	81 710	81 120	-2.9%
Gurkhas	2 870	2 860	2 990	2 940	2 910	3 150	5.3%
Volunteer Reserve	25 880	28 980	30 180	30 540	30 320	29 900	-0.9%
Other Personnel	4 680	4 870	4 810	4 670	4 530	4 410	-8.3%
<b>Royal Air Force</b>	<b>36 990</b>	<b>36 980</b>	<b>37 050</b>	<b>36 890</b>	<b>36 960</b>	<b>37 110</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
UK Regular Forces	33 930	33 460	33 260	32 890	32 880	32 960	-0.9%
Volunteer Reserve	2 220	2 540	2 730	2 870	2 930	2 980	9.3%
Other Personnel	850	980	1 060	1 130	1 160	1 170	10.2%

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 — Army

Following public announcement and public consultation the definition of Army Trained Strength has changed. From 1 October 2016, UK Regular Forces and Gurkha personnel in the Army 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. Previously, only personnel who had completed Phase 2 training were considered trained.

This change does not affect the Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM) or the Royal Air Force (RAF).

As a result of this change, the Full-time Trained Strength (FTTS) includes:

- UK Regular Forces who have passed Phase 1 and Phase 2 training, in the RN/RM & RAF, and UK Regular Forces and Gurkha personnel who have passed Phase 1 training in the Army;
- Those elements of the Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) who are counted against the liability, for all three Services.

This change was implemented in the 1 October 2016 edition of this publication.

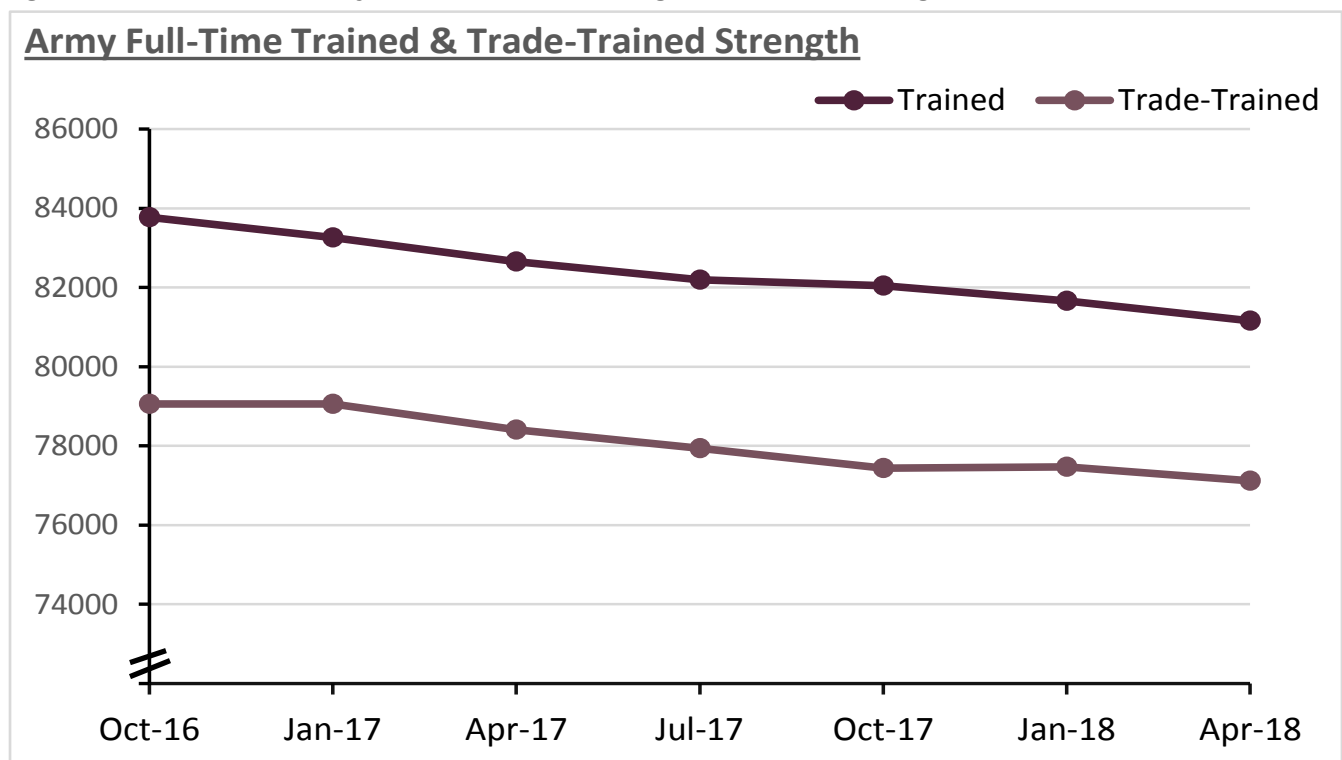
As can be seen in Table 2, the Army Full-time Trained Strength has decreased by 1,500 (1.8%) since 1 April 2017.

**Table 2: Comparison of Full-Time Trained and Trade-Trained Strengths (Army)**

	1 Apr 17	1 Jul 17	1 Oct 17	1 Jan 18	1 Apr 18
<b>Full-Time Trained Strength</b>	82 650	82 190	82 040	81 660	81 160
<i>of which Trade-Trained</i>	78 410	77 940	77 440	77 470	77 120

Source: Defence Statistics Tri Service

**Figure 1: FTTS in the Army since Trained Strength definition change (Oct 16)**



# Full-time Trained Strength (RN/RM & RAF) and Full-time Trade Trained Strength (Army) and Liability

The Full-time Trained Strength (FTTS) (RN/RM & RAF) and Full-time Trade Trained Strength (FTTTS) (Army) (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.

As at 1 April 2018, the Tri Service FTTS (RN/RM & RAF) & FTTTS (Army) has decreased by 1.5 per cent (2,080 personnel) since 1 April 2017. The FTTS (RN/RM & RAF) and FTTTS (Army) comprises: 133,350 Regular personnel (97.5 per cent), 2,740 Gurkhas (2.0 per cent); and 680 Full Time Reserve Service personnel (0.5 per cent) who are filling Regular posts and count against the liability.

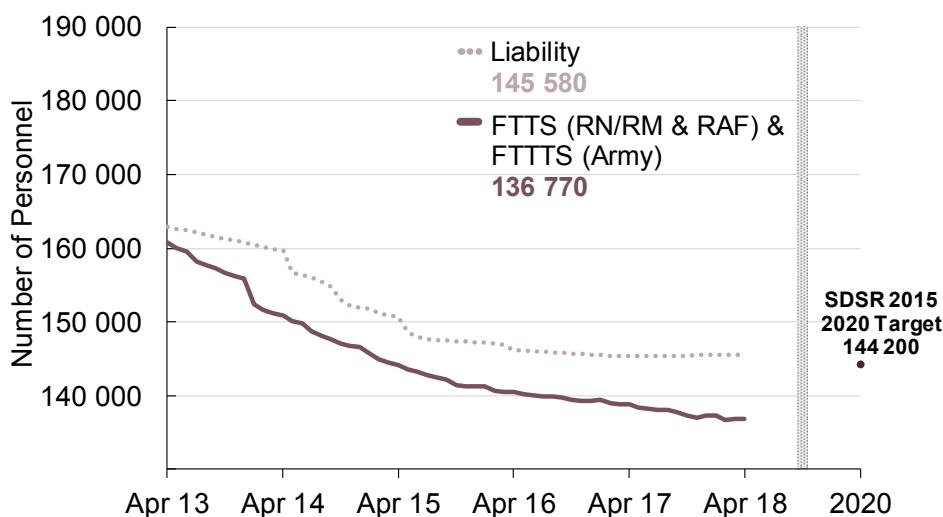
**Table 3: FTTS (RN/RM & RAF) and FTTTS (Army) against the Liability**

	1 Apr 15	1 Apr 16	1 Apr 17	1 Oct 17	1 Jan 18	1 Apr 18	SDSR 2020 Targets
<b>FTTS (RN/RM &amp; RAF) &amp; FTTTS (Army)</b>	144 120	140 430	138 840	137 280	137 260	136 770	
Liability	150 700	146 190	145 300	145 440	145 500	145 580	<b>144 200</b>
% Surplus/Deficit	-4.4%	-3.9%	-4.4%	-5.6%	-5.7%	-6.0%	
<b>RN/RM (FTTS)</b>	30 060	29 700	29 580	29 280	29 260	29 300	
Liability	30 280	30 100	30 250	30 350	30 400	30 450	<b>30 450</b>
% Surplus/Deficit	-0.7%	-1.3%	-2.2%	-3.5%	-3.7%	-3.8%	
<b>Army (FTTTS)</b>	82 230	79 750	78 410	77 440	77 470	77 120	
Liability	86 540	82 640	82 650	82 650	82 650	82 650	<b>82 000</b>
% Surplus/Deficit	-5.0%	-3.5%	-5.1%	-6.3%	-6.3%	-6.7%	
<b>RAF (FTTS)</b>	31 830	30 980	30 850	30 560	30 530	30 350	
Liability	33 880	33 450	32 410	32 440	32 460	32 480	<b>31 750</b>
% Surplus/Deficit	-6.0%	-7.4%	-4.8%	-5.8%	-5.9%	-6.5%	

Source: Defence Statistics Tri Service

The current deficit against the current liability is 6.0 per cent for the UK Armed Forces. There is a deficit of 3.8 per cent, 6.7 per cent and 6.5 per cent in the Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM), the Army and the Royal Air Force (RAF) respectively, as can be seen in Table 3.

**Figure 2: FTTS (RN/RM & RAF) and FTTTS (Army) against Liability and 2020 target derived from SDSR 2015**



## Full-time Trained Strength (RN/RM & RAF) and Full-time Trade Trained Strength (Army)

includes all UK Regular personnel, Gurkhas and those elements of the Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) who are counted against the liability (see [glossary](#) for more detail).

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

# UK Regular Personnel

As at 1 April 2018, the trained and untrained strength of the UK Regular Forces (which excludes Gurkhas) was 146,560.

There are 9,310 untrained personnel in the UK Regular Forces, of which 3,530 in RN/RM, 3,150 in the Army and 2,630 are in the RAF. The untrained strength reflects the number of personnel who can potentially join the trained strength.

**Table 4: UK Regular Forces by Service and Training**

	1 Apr 17		1 Apr 18	
<b>RN/RM</b>	<b>32 540</b>		<b>32 480</b>	
of which Trained	29 260	89.9%	28 950	89.1%
<b>Army</b>	<b>83 560</b>		<b>81 120</b>	
of which Trained	79 710	95.4%	77 960	96.1%
of which Trade-Trained	75 620	90.5%	74 070	91.3%
<b>RAF</b>	<b>33 260</b>		<b>32 960</b>	
of which Trained	30 830	92.7%	30 330	92.0%

**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.

Source: Defence Statistics Tri Service

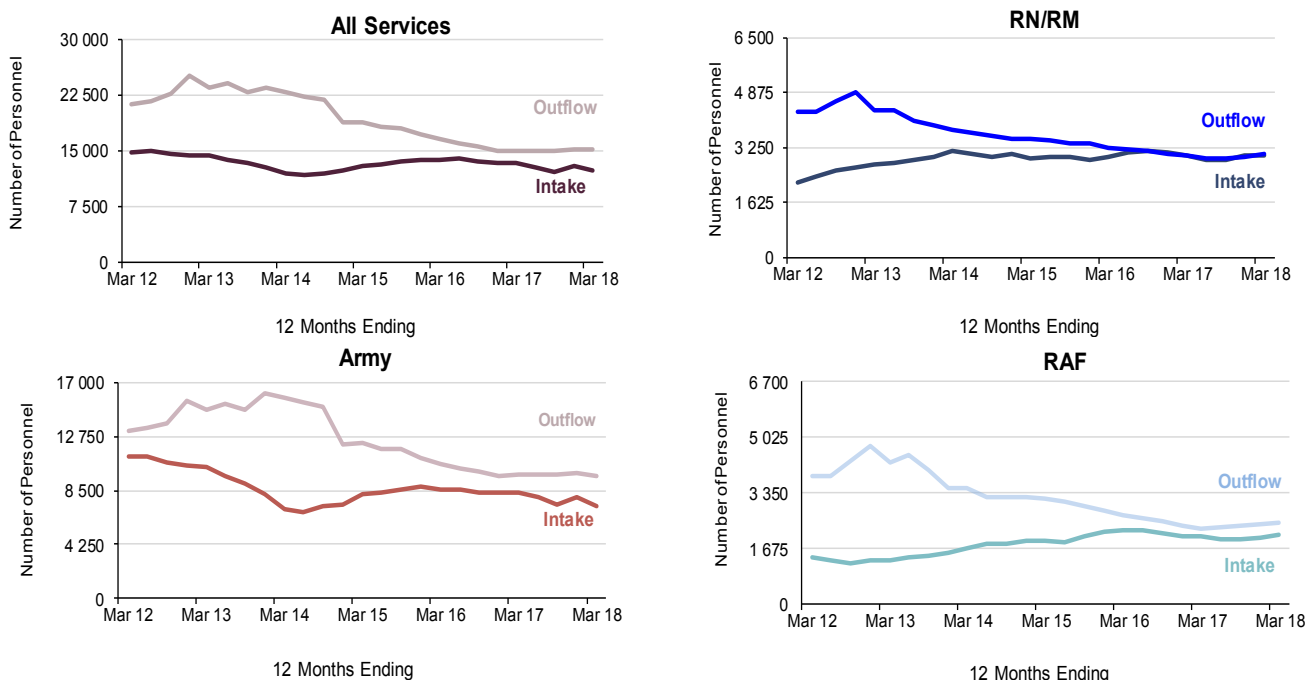
## Intake and Outflow since 2012

In the 12 months to 31 March 2018, there was a net outflow of 2,810 personnel from the UK Regular Forces. This has increased compared with the 12 months to 31 March 2017, where there was a net outflow of 1,660.

### Intake

- Intake into the trained and untrained UK Regular Forces was 12,360 in the 12 months to 31 March 2018. This has decreased from 13,380 in the 12 months to 31 March 2017.
- Of the current intake, 11.5 per cent was into Officers and 88.5 per cent was into Other Ranks.
- Compared to the 12 months to 31 March 2017, intake to the RN/RM, Army and RAF has decreased by 0.1 per cent, 13.0 per cent and 2.7 per cent respectively.

**Figure 3: 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 15,170 in the 12 months to 31 March 2018; up from 15,050 in the 12 months to 31 March 2017.
- Across all services, VO was the most common reason for outflow of Trained and Trade-Trained personnel, accounting for 60.0% of outflow in the 12 months to 31 March 2018.
- The RAF had the highest percentage of outflow accounted for by VO (64.2%) while the Army had the lowest (58.9%) in the 12 months to 31 March 2018.
- In the 12 months to 31 March 2018, 7,470 trained (RN/RM & RAF) and trade trained (Army) personnel left through VO; the VO rate was 5.6 per cent. This is an increase from 7,340 in the 12 months to 31 March 2017 with the VO rate at 5.4 per cent.
- In the 12 months to 31 March 2018, the VO rate amongst Other Ranks (5.8 per cent) is higher when compared to Officers (4.3 per cent).

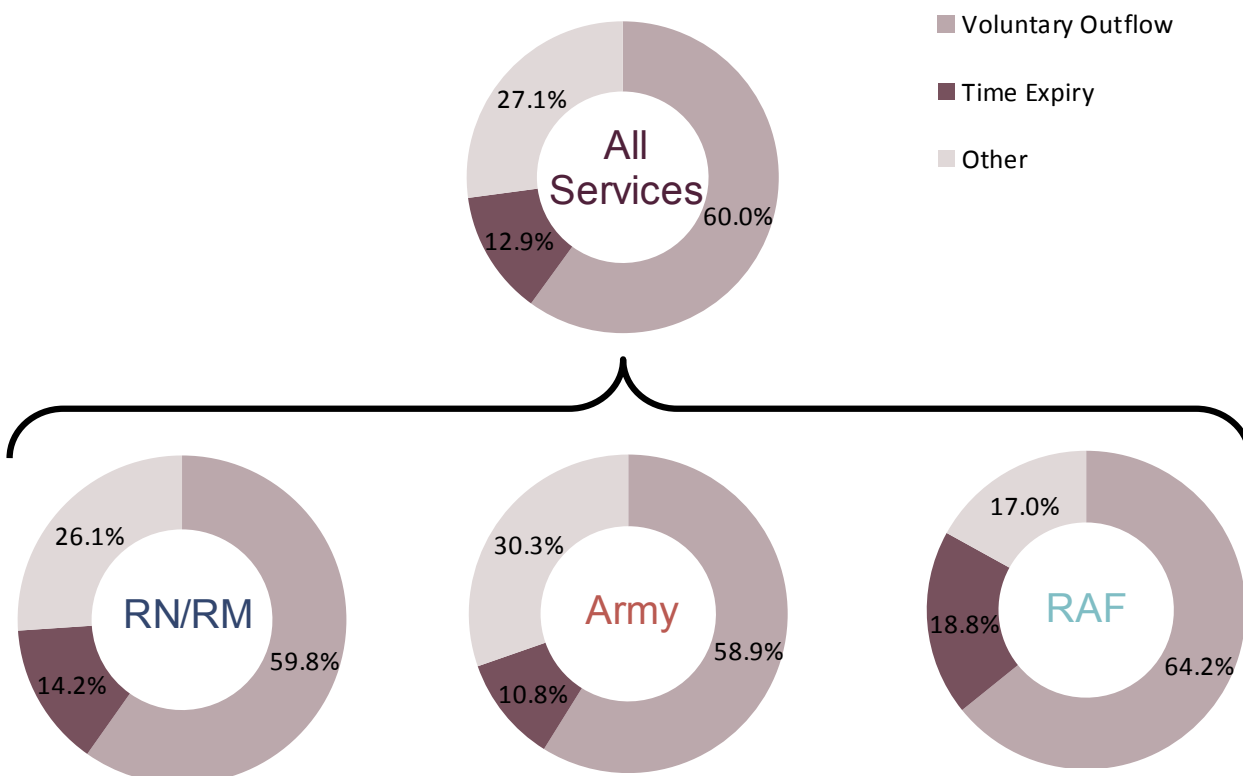
**Voluntary Outflow** encompasses all trained (RN/RM & RAF) and Trade Trained (Army) personnel who voluntarily exit before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.

**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 (RN/RM & RAF) and trade trained (Army) strength due to, amongst others, medical reasons, misconduct, compassionate, dismissals and death.

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 (RN/RM & RAF) and trade trained (Army) UK Regulars by exit reason (12 months to 31 March 2018)**





# Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring

Following consultation on changes to the Army trained strength definition and the removal of the FR20 intake targets, the MOD released Future Reserves 2020 trained strength growth profiles in a [Written Ministerial Statement](#) on 8 November 2016. Reporting of the growth of the Reserves will be based on trained strength profiles only.

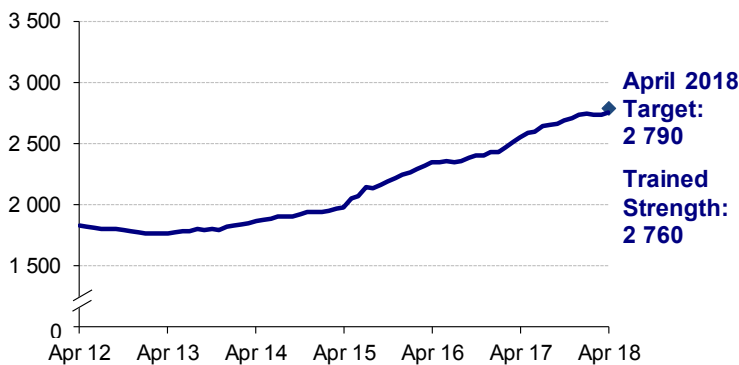
**Future Reserves 2020** includes volunteer reserves who are mobilised, High Readiness Reserves and those volunteer reserves serving on Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) and Additional Duties Commitment (ADC). Sponsored Reserves who provide a more cost effective solution than volunteer reserve are also included in the Army Reserve FR20.

## Future Reserves 2020 Strength

Following this, progress against FR20 population trained strength targets are reported in table 6a of the [Excel tables](#).

The total **trained and untrained strength** of the Tri-Service Future Reserves 2020 at 1 April 2018 was 36,280, an increase of 60 personnel or 0.2 per cent since 1 April 2017.

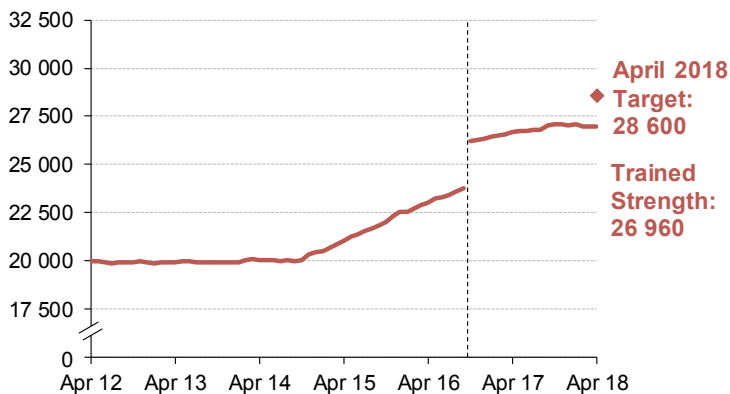
**Figure 5: Maritime Reserve trained strength**



The Maritime Reserve total strength as at 1 April 2018 was 3,600. This is an increase of 40 personnel (1.1 per cent) since 1 April 2017.

Figure 5 shows that the Maritime Reserve trained strength was 2,760 as at 1 April 2018. This is an increase of 200 personnel (7.9% per cent) since 1 April 2017.

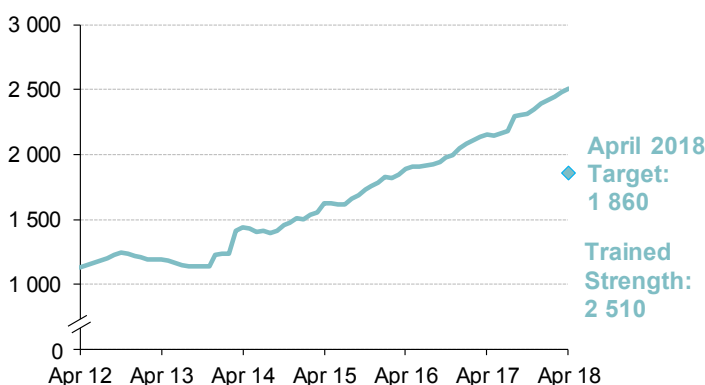
**Figure 6: Army Reserve FR20 trained strength**



The Army Reserve total strength as at 1 April 2018 was 29,710. This is a decrease of 230 personnel (-0.8 per cent) since 1 April 2017.

Figure 6 shows that the Army Reserve trained strength was 26,960 as at 1 April 2018. This is an increase of 300 (1.1%) since 1 April 2017.

**Figure 7: RAF Reserves trained strength**



The RAF Reserves total strength as at 1 April 2018 was 2,980. This is an increase of 250 personnel (9.3 per cent) since 1 April 2017.

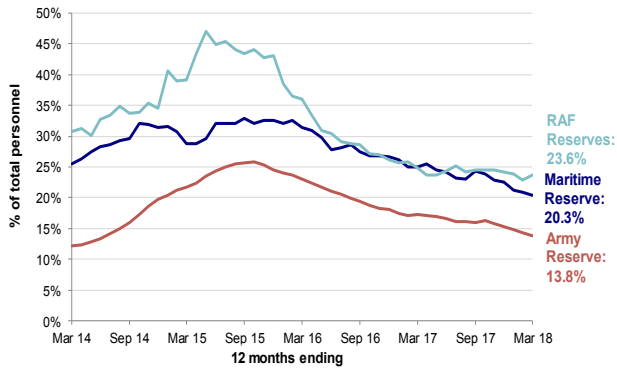
Figure 7 shows that as at 1 April 2018 the RAF Reserves trained strength was 2,510. This is an increase of 360 personnel (16.7 per cent) since 1 April 2017.

# Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring

## FR20 Intake and Outflow statistics

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

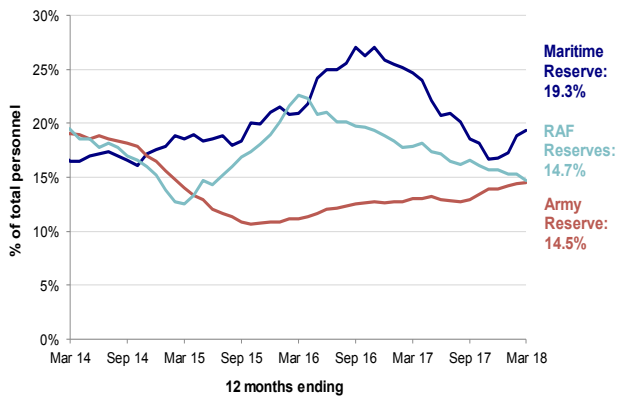
**Figure 8: Total intake rate by Service**



The total intake rates for each service in the 12 months to 1 April 2018 are as follows:

- The Maritime Reserve total intake rate was **20.3 per cent**; a decrease of 4.6 percentage points since the 12 months to 1 April 2017.
- The Army Reserve total intake rate was **13.8 per cent**; a decrease of 3.6 percentage points since the 12 months to 1 April 2017.
- The RAF Reserves total intake rate was **23.6 per cent**; a decrease of 1.1 percentage points since the 12 months to 1 April 2017.

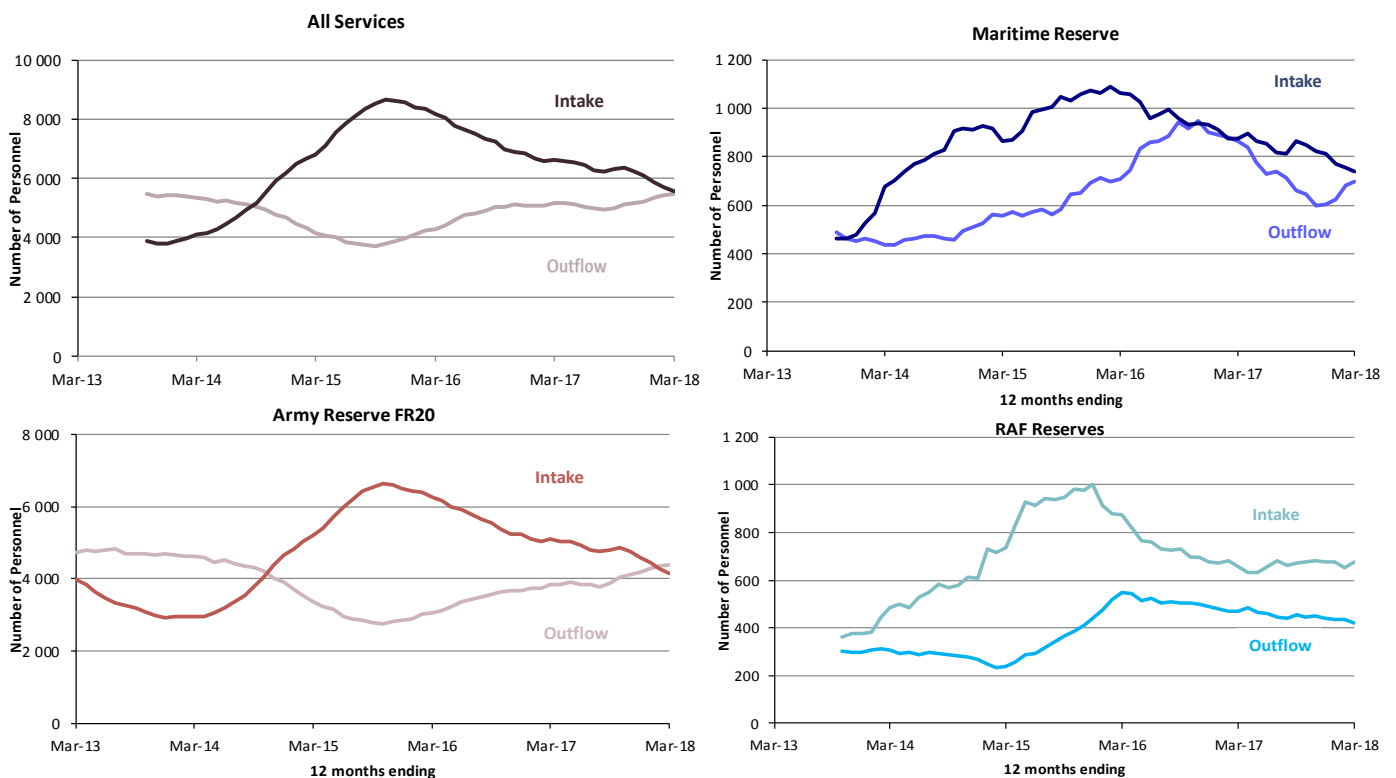
**Figure 9: Total outflow rate by Service**



The total outflow rates for each service in the 12 months to 1 April 2018 are as follows:

- The Maritime Reserve total outflow rate was **19.3 per cent**; a decrease of 5.3 percentage points since the 12 months to 1 April 2017.
- The Army Reserve total outflow rate was **14.5 per cent**; an increase of 1.5 percentage points since the 12 months to 1 April 2017.
- The RAF Reserves total outflow rate was **14.7 per cent**; a decrease of 3.1 percentage points since the 12 months to 1 April 2017.

**Figure 10: Intake to and Outflow from the FR20 Reserves over 12 month period**



## Applications

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Following on from the last publication in February, a new application system is in the process of being implemented and as such no information is currently available for subsequent periods. It is presently not known when the new system will be fully available. Further information will follow in subsequent editions of Quarterly Service Personnel Statistics as and when it becomes available.

## Separated Service

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**Separated service** measures absence from normal place of duty. The time an individual experiences separated service is compared against each Service's "**Individual Harmony**" guidelines to ensure a balance between duty and leisure for all Service Personnel.

A breach of individual harmony guidelines occurs when Service personnel experience separated service for longer than the period outlined in individual harmony guidelines, which are based on the structures and organisation of that Service. The guidelines are measured over a 36 month period and the limits are **660 days** away for the RN/RM; **498 days** for the Army; and **468 days** away for the RAF.

Prior to April 2014, these limits were 415 days over a 30 month period for the Army and 280 days over a 24 month period for the RAF.

**Separated Service** concerns personnel who are serving away from their usual place of duty or are unable to enjoy leisure at their normal place of duty or residence at place of duty.

**Individual Harmony** is the freedom to enjoy leisure at the normal place of duty or residence at place of duty; this includes leave and adventurous training.

Using 1 April 2017 as an example:

### **Trained UK Regular personnel breaching over 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2017**

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### **Trained UK Regular personnel as at 1 April 2017**

Separated Service data are available in table 10, of the accompanying Excel tables. Please note that, due to ongoing data issues, Separated Service figures for most recent months are currently not available. Further information will follow in subsequent editions of Service Personnel Statistics.

## FR20 Reserves: Officer intake and outflow

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Tables 14a, 14b and 14c in the associated Excel Tables provide information on UK Armed Forces Future Reserves 2020 Officer Intake and Outflow.

## Further Information

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### 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.

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

### Revisions

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 efficient use of resource these corrections may be timed to coincide with the next annual release of the publication.

In Table 5d, there have been some revisions made to the Royal Navy/Royal Marines trained outflow VO numbers for the 12 months ending 31 Dec 2017. This has affected the Royal Navy/Royal Marines and All Services total.

In Table 7b, there have been some minor revisions made to the Maritime Reserve trained direct entrants figures for the 12 months ending 31 December 2017. This has affected the Maritime and All Services totals.

### 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.)

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### 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:

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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:

<https://www.gov.uk/make-a-freedom-of-information-request/the-freedom-of-information-act>

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