



# Ministry of Defence

**Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)  
Ministry Of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB  
United Kingdom**

Telephone [MOD]: **+44 (0)20 7807 8896**  
Facsimile [MOD]: **+44 (0)20 7218 0969**  
E-mail: **DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk**

Reference: **FOI2019/01452**

Dear [REDACTED]

Date: **19/02/2019**

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 29/01/2019 requesting the following information:

**"Can you kindly send me the most recent estimate of the number of UK Forces children."**

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We have now completed a search for the information you requested, and I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held and is provided in Table 1.

**Table 1: Estimated<sup>1</sup> Number of Children of UK Regulars<sup>2</sup> as at 1 January 2019**

<b>Total number of children</b>	<b>103,620</b>
Children under 18	90,020
Children 18 and over	13,600

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

**Notes:**

1. The figure is an estimate because the 'children' field that we use has not been validated. It is a field that Service Personnel fill in themselves in the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system.
2. 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.
3. The figures have been rounded to the nearest 10.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

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

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)