



Ministry  
of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2017/05025

Reply to: [REDACTED]

16 May 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 25 April 2017 requesting the following information:

*“The number of members of each of the Armed Forces who failed Compulsory Drugs Tests for the past three years. Separated by service and year. Also, separately please break down the Royal Navy by Ship or Base, and the RAF by Squadron or Station. Further, for the whole Armed Forces, please provide data as to how many commissioned officers failed, and how many non-commissioned members failed.”*

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

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information relating to your request. The information is broken down by Service and is presented in the tables below.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, disclosure control has been applied to the figures provided herewith. Disclosure control is necessary when presenting any statistical or numeric information to safeguard the confidentiality of individuals.

Therefore the figures provided in this response have been rounded to the nearest 10, where “-” denotes zero, “~” denotes a number less than or equal to five. When rounding up to the nearest 10, 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’.

In accordance with the guidelines stipulated by the Office of National Statistics, an in-depth breakdown of specific CDT results for each location has been withheld under Section 40 of FOIA, due to the low figures involved.

The MOD conducts CDT because substance misuse is incompatible with Service life. Fewer than 0.8% of those tested under the MOD’s CDT programme return a positive result and anyone who falls short of our high standards can expect to be disciplined. In a very small number of exceptional circumstances, second chances may be considered. This only happens where a Commanding Officer believes the individual meets the stipulated retention criteria.

**NUMBER OF ARMY PERSONNEL WHO FAILED CDT**

Year	All Personnel	Commissioned Officers	All Other Ranks
2016	740	~	730
2015	570	~	570

2014	600	~	600
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**NUMBER OF ROYAL NAVY PERSONNEL WHO FAILED CDT**

Year	All Personnel	Commissioned Officers	All Other Ranks	RN Ship/Base/Unit
2016	80	-	80	HMS Queen Elizabeth, HMS Chiddingfold, HMS Middleton, HMS Bangor, HMS Penzance, HMS Monmouth, HMS Richmond, HMS Daring, HMS Tyne, HMS Hurworth, HMS St Albans, HMS Dragon, HMS Talent, HMS Trenchant, HMS Vengeance, HMS Audacious, HMS Astute, HMS Sultan, HMS Collingwood, Portsmouth Flotilla HQ, HMS Neptune, HMS Caledonia, HMS Raleigh, MOD Main Building, HQ Gibraltar, Britannia Royal Naval College, Naval Outdoor Centre Germany, HMS Drake, MCM2 Squadron, HMS Nelson, Faslane Flotilla HQ, 30 Cdo IX, 1 Assault Group RM, Royal Marines School of Music (RMSoM), 43 Cdo RM, Commando Training Centre RM (CTCRM), 45 Cdo RM, RM Poole, 40 Cdo RM, 42 Cdo RM, RNAS Yeovilton, RNAS Culdrose.
2015	40	-	40	HMS Lancaster, HMS Northumberland, HMS Middleton, HMS Duncan, HMS Hurworth, HMS Defender, HMS Scott, HMS Monmouth, HMS Sutherland, HMS Dragon, HMS Somerset, HMS Westminster, HMS Ocean, HMS Quorn, HMS Daring, HMS Kent, HMS Echo, HMS Iron Duke, HMS St Albans, HMS Richmond, RFA Cardigan Bay, HMS Bangor, HMS Chiddingfold, HMS Penzance, HMS Dauntless, HMS Vanguard, HMS Triumph, HMS Ambush, HMS Talent, HMS Trenchant, HMS Vengeance, HMS Collingwood, HMS Sultan, Portsmouth Flotilla HQ, HMS Raleigh, HMS Temeraire, Defence Diving School, HMS Excellent, HMS Nelson, HMS Sultan, Diego Garcia, Royal Navy Rugby Football Union, HMS Neptune, Haslar Company, Naval Ocean Processing Facility, Supreme Allied Command Atlantic(SACLANT), British Defence

				Staff (BDS), RNAS Culdrose.
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#### NUMBER OF ROYAL NAVY PERSONNEL WHO FAILED CDT Cont.

<b>2014</b>	50	~	50	1 Assault Group RM, 30 Cdo IX, 40 Cdo RM, 43 Cdo RM, 45 Cdo RM, 847 Naval Air Squadron, Commando Logistics Regiment, Commando Training Centre RM (CTCRM), HMS Ambush, HMS Artful, HMS Astute, HMS Defender, HMS Dragon, HMS Drake, HMS Excellent, HMS Iron Duke, HMS Nelson, HMS Neptune, HMS Ocean, HMS Portland, HMS Sultan, HMS Westminster, JSU Northwood, Portsmouth Flotilla HQ, RM Poole, RNAS Culdrose, RNAS Yeovilton.
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#### NUMBER OF RAF PERSONNEL WHO FAILED CDT

Year	All Personnel	Commissioned Officers	All Other Ranks	RAF Station
<b>2016</b>	50	-	50	Cosford, Brize Norton, Odiham, Halton, Marham, Lossiemouth, Leeming, Honington, St Mawgan, Henlow, Stafford, Shawbury, Benson, Coningsby, Northolt.
<b>2015</b>	30	-	30	Cosford, Brize Norton, Halton, Marham, Lossiemouth, Leeming, Cyprus, Honington, Waddington, St Athan, Wittering, Stafford, LATCC (Mil).
<b>2014</b>	40	~	30	Cosford, Brize Norton, Odiham, Halton, Marham, Corsham, Scampton, Leuchars, Wyton, Lossiemouth, Leeming, Cyprus, Chicksands, Honington, Waddington, Gibraltar, Northwood, St Athan, Wittering

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance Team, Ground Floor, Zone D, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the FOI Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence People Secretariat FOI