



Ministry
of Defence

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19 June 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 23 May 2014 requesting the following information:

I would be grateful if you would provide me with the numbers of those WP's who have lower limb amputation that's Attribital to service.

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held, please find the information you requested below.

As at 31st March 2014 (the latest date for which War Pensions data is available), there were a minimum of **850** War Disablement pensioners in payment under the War Pensions Scheme (WPS) for a lower limb amputation.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), you may find it useful to note the following:

The War Pensions Scheme (WPS) provides no-fault compensation for all ex-service personnel where illness, injury or death is caused by Service from the start of the First World War in 1914 up until 5 April 2005. It was replaced by the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) which came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for injury, illness or death attributable to Service that occurred on or after that date.

Records relating to War Disablement Pensioners in payment for a lower limb amputation were identified by a text search in the medical condition and claimed medical condition fields for 'amputation', 'amputee', 'lower limb amputation', 'lower limb amputee', 'thigh', 'foot', 'leg', 'toe', 'hip', 'ankle' and 'knee'.

The figure for lower limb amputations includes individuals who are receiving a War Disablement Pension for an amputation below the knee, above the knee or of the lower limb (leg).

Please note that due to the free-text nature of this field, the figures quoted should be treated as a minimum as some records may have been missed.

The figures presented are based on data stored on the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency's War Pensions Computer System (WPCS).

In line with Defence Statistics' Rounding Policy, all figures of five or more have been rounded to the nearest 5.

Further figures and information on the War Pension Scheme can be found on the Gov.uk website at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>

Statistics provided in this response are in addition to those published by Defence Statistics (Quarterly Afghanistan and Iraq Amputation Statistics) which only present numbers of amputees amongst **servicing** Armed Forces since 2001. Please note that an individual may appear in both the Amputations Statistics and the War Pensions Scheme numbers provided if the incident occurred in-service between 2001 and 31 March 2014.

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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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 Freedom of Information 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.gov.uk>.

I hope you find this information useful

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics Health Head (B1)