



Ministry  
of Defence

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Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016 requesting the following information:

**“How many foreign and commonwealth armed forces personnel were there in the UK armed forces, by country and service as of 1st April (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.”**

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. The information you have requested can be found in Tables 1 and 2 below.

#### Notes

1. Figures are as reported on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) database. Unknown comprises those with an unrecorded nationality on JPA. UK Nationality includes any individuals whose nationality is recorded on Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) 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 <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-british-nationality/british-overseas-territories-citizen>
2. UK Regular Forces comprises Full-time personnel but does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and Reservists.
3. 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.

Rounding: The figures in Tables 1 and 2 have been rounded to the nearest 10, though numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest 20 to avoid systematic bias. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so totals may not equal the sum of their rounded parts.

Symbols: “~” denotes figures of 5 or less, and “-” denotes zero.

Table 1: Nationality<sup>1</sup> of UK Regular Forces<sup>2</sup> personnel by Service as at 1 April 2015 and 1 April 2016

	1 Apr 15				1 Apr 16			
	All Services	RN/RM	Army	RAF	All Services	RN/RM	Army	RAF
<b>Total UK Regular Forces</b>	<b>153 720</b>	<b>32 740</b>	<b>87 060</b>	<b>33 930</b>	<b>151 000</b>	<b>32 500</b>	<b>85 040</b>	<b>33 460</b>
<b>of which UK</b>	<b>146 370</b>	<b>32 060</b>	<b>80 540</b>	<b>33 770</b>	<b>144 130</b>	<b>31 870</b>	<b>78 960</b>	<b>33 290</b>
British	146 130	32 030	80 340	33 760	143 900	31 850	78 770	33 280
British Hong Kong	70	-	70	-	70	-	70	-
British Overseas Territory Citizen	160	20	130	10	150	20	120	10
Gibraltarian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Monserratan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Helenian	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
<b>of which Foreign and Commonwealth</b>	<b>7 350</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>6 520</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>6 870</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>6 070</b>	<b>160</b>
Antiguan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australian	70	10	50	-	60	10	50	-
Bahamian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bangladeshi	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
Barbadian	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Belizean	50	-	50	-	40	-	40	-
Botswanan	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
Cameronian	120	-	120	-	120	-	110	-
Canadian	60	20	30	-	50	20	30	-
Citizen of Fiji	1 560	120	1 430	10	1 460	100	1 340	10
Citizen of Seychelles	20	-	20	-	10	-	10	-
Citizen of Sri Lanka	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Citizen of St Christopher (St Kitts) and Nevis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cypriot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican	30	-	30	-	30	-	20	-
French	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gambian	210	10	200	-	170	10	160	-
Ghanaian	730	-	720	-	640	-	630	-
Grenadian	130	10	120	-	120	10	110	-
Guyanese	20	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Indian	180	-	170	-	170	-	160	-
Irish	530	60	450	20	560	70	470	20
Italian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jamaican	330	20	300	10	290	20	260	10
Kenyan	210	10	200	-	190	10	180	-
Lesotho	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malawian	170	10	160	-	150	-	140	-
Malaysian	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-
Maltese	10	-	10	-	10	-	-	-
Mauritanian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mauritian	60	-	50	-	50	-	50	-
Moldovan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mozambican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Namibian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nepalese	700	10	690	-	740	10	730	-
New Zealander	60	10	50	-	60	10	40	-
Nigerian	230	10	220	-	210	10	190	-
Pakistani	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
Papua New Guinean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rwandan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leonean	30	-	30	-	30	-	20	-
Singaporean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South African	640	90	530	10	560	80	470	10
Spanish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
St Lucian	210	10	200	-	200	10	190	-
Swazi	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Tanzanian	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Thai	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tongan	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Trinidad and Tobago citizen	80	30	40	10	60	20	30	10
Ugandan	50	-	50	-	50	-	40	-
United States citizen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vincentian	450	200	250	-	410	180	220	-
Yugoslavian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zambian	40	-	30	-	30	-	30	-
Zimbabwean	210	20	180	10	190	20	160	10
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)



Table 2: Nationality<sup>1</sup> of Future Reserves 2020<sup>3</sup> as at 1 April 2015 and 1 April 2016

	1 Apr 15				1 Apr 16			
	All Services	Maritime Reserve	Army Reserve	RAF Reserves	All Services	Maritime Reserve	Army Reserve	RAF Reserves
<b>Total Future Reserves 2020</b>	<b>30 810</b>	<b>3 160</b>	<b>25 440</b>	<b>2 220</b>	<b>34 760</b>	<b>3 540</b>	<b>28 670</b>	<b>2 540</b>
<b>of which UK</b>	<b>30 180</b>	<b>3 120</b>	<b>24 920</b>	<b>2 140</b>	<b>33 970</b>	<b>3 430</b>	<b>28 070</b>	<b>2 460</b>
British	30 160	3 120	24 900	2 140	33 950	3 430	28 050	2 460
British Hong Kong	-	-	-	-	10	-	10	-
British Overseas Territory Citizen	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
British Singapore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>of which Foreign and Commonwealth</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>20</b>
Australian	30	-	30	-	30	-	20	-
Bangladeshi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Botswanan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroonian	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Canadian	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
Citizen of Fiji	20	-	20	-	40	-	40	-
Citizen of Seychelles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Citizen of Sri Lanka	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Danish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dominican	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gambian	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Ghanaian	30	-	30	-	30	-	30	-
Grenadian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Guyanese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hungarian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indian	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
Irish	80	-	70	10	90	10	80	10
Jamaican	40	-	40	-	50	-	50	-
Kazakh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kenyan	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
Lithuanian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malawian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaysian	-	-	-	-	10	-	10	-
Maltese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mauritian	-	-	-	-	10	-	10	-
Nepalese	60	-	60	-	90	-	90	-
New Zealander	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
Nigerian	40	-	30	-	40	-	30	-
Pakistani	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portuguese	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Qatari	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Romanian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leonean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Singaporean	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South African	30	-	30	-	40	-	30	-
St Lucian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swazi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tanzanian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trinidad and Tobago citizen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ugandan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukrainian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United States citizen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vincentian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zambian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zimbabwean	20	-	20	-	20	-	20	-
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

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, <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.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)