



Ministry  
of Defence

Defence Statistics (Health)  
Ministry of Defence  
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Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 7 January 2017 requesting the following information:

*Under the Freedom of Information Act, I am requesting any data you may hold which will identify the number of military veterans (ex-service personnel) currently resident on the Isle of Wight.*

*I would be grateful if this information could identify the proportion of military veterans aged over 50 resident on the Isle of Wight.*

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

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

The Ministry of Defence does not hold information on the location of all UK Armed Forces veterans however we do publish an annual Official Statistic on the location of Armed Forces pension and compensation recipients, which includes veterans.

As at 31 March 2016 (latest published information), there were **1,276** UK Armed Forces veterans in receipt of Armed Forces pension or compensation whose latest location information was the Isle of Wight. Of these, **90%** were aged over 50.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and assistance) you may find it useful to note the following:

Defence Statistics publish statistics on the location of Armed Forces Pension and Compensation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/location-of-armed-forces-pension-and-compensation-recipients>

The Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) and War Pension Computer System (WPCS) have been combined to identify the latest recorded location information. The CAPS provides information on recipients under the Armed Forces Pension Scheme (AFPS) 1975 and 2005 and on recipients awarded under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS). The WPCS provides information on recipients of an on-going pension under the War Pension Scheme (WPS). Both systems are administrated and managed by DBS Veterans UK.

AFPS: There are a number of different occupational pension schemes available to Armed Forces personnel; the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Pension Scheme 1975 (AFPS 75) and the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Pension Scheme 2005 (AFPS 05). Further details of these schemes can be found on the Gov.uk website:

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/armed-forces-and-reserve-forces-pension-schemes-guidance-booklets>).

Please note that Service personnel need to have at least two years' reckonable service before they are entitled to receive benefits on either pension scheme. Therefore the figures provided will not include anyone who left with less than two years of Service. The figures do not include personnel who are eligible for future pension payments but are not yet in receipt of AFPS payments.

AFCS and WPS: The Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) 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. It replaced the previous compensation arrangements provided by the War Pensions Scheme (WPS) and the attributable elements of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Pensions Scheme. Defence Statistics publish an annual National Statistic (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>) on claims and awards under the WPS and a bi-annual National Statistic (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-statistics-index>) on claims and awards under the AFCS.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering these location statistics and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: [DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk)

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, 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 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 this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)