



Ministry of Defence



UK Armed Forces Monthly Personnel Report

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Defence Statistics (Tri-Service),
Ministry of Defence,
Main Building,
Floor 3 Zone K,
Whitehall,
London,
SW1A 2HB.

The Responsible Statistician for this publication is the Tri-Service Head of Branch.

Tel: 020 7807 8896

Email: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.uk

The Background Quality Report for this publication can be found on the Statistics at MOD webpage on the GOV.UK website or [here](#).

We are seeking your views on proposed changes to MOD armed forces personnel statistics. Further details on the proposed changes and the consultation process can be found here:

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-mod-armed-forces-personnel-statistics

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to these statistics and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing:

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This is a monthly publication providing information on the number of personnel in (defined as the **strength**), joining (**intake**) and leaving (**outflow**) the UK Regular and Non-Regular Forces (see Glossary) broken down by training status. It complements the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report by providing higher-level figures on strength, intake and outflow for the UK Regular Armed Forces.

The tables provide information about the patterns of change in the composition of the UK's Armed Forces for the four most recent months. The three most recent financial years are also presented to provide context.

The graphs that accompany tables extend the time-series to provide a monthly picture of the longer term patterns.

The trends in this report are in relation to the planned reduction of the UK Armed Forces, set out in the **Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR)** and the **3 Month Exercise (3ME)**. The SDSR and 3ME set out specific changes to and decisions made on the Armed Forces.

Armed Forces Personnel Key Points

- The full time trained strength of the UK Armed Forces was **143,580** at 1 May 2015; a decrease against 1 April 2015 (see **Table 1**, **Table 2** and **Graphs 1.1 - 1.3**). At 1 May 2015, the full time trained strength of the UK Armed Forces was in deficit of **3.7** per cent of the requirement (**149,170**).
- In the 12 months to 30 April 2015, **13,210** people have joined the UK Regular Forces in the past year (see **Table 3**). This is an increase compared to the 12 months to 31 March 2015 and Financial Year 2013/14.
- Outflow from the UK Regular Forces was **18,880** in the 12 months to 30 April 2015 (see **Table 3**). This includes **1,310** personnel who have left on redundancy.

Data Sources

Armed Forces statistics prior to March 2006 are compiled from pay records (Naval Service) or personnel records (Army and RAF) held by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA, formerly the Armed Forces Personnel Administration Agency). In March 2006 the transfer of all Regular Service personnel records to the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system began. Statistics are compiled from JPA for the RAF from April 2006, for the Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM) from November 2006 and for the Army from April 2007.

Data Quality

Please note: an updated May 2015 liability was unavailable before publication this month and uses a historic liability figure. As such, each liability and the associated surplus/deficit are marked as provisional.

National Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

Contact Us

We are seeking your views on proposed changes to MOD armed forces personnel statistics. Further details on the proposed changes and the consultation process can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-mod-armed-forces-personnel-statistics>

Defence Statistics welcome feedback on our statistical products. If you have any comments or questions about this publication or about Defence Statistics in general, you can contact us as follows:

Telephone: 0207 807 8896

Email: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk

Visit our website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-national-and-official-statistics-by-topic> for a list of our statistical products.

Symbols and Conventions:

Symbols

	discontinuity in time series
*	not applicable
..	not available
p	provisional
r	revised
rp	revised but still provisional
e	estimate
zero or rounded to zero	

Rounding

Where rounding has been used, totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so totals may not equal the sums of their rounded parts. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

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Strengths and Requirements

Table 1 shows, by Service, the strength, requirements and surplus/deficit for trained Service personnel, based on Defence Programme liabilities set for each of the three Services. See Graphs 1.1 -1.3 (page 6) for time series broken down by individual Service and Table 2 (pages 7 and 8) for details of trained and untrained personnel.

The **requirement** for the UK Armed Forces is the number of Service personnel needed for each of the three Services, based on totals that are adjusted through the Departmental Programme process and endorsed by the Defence Board.

Please note: An updated May 2015 liability was unavailable before publication and uses a historic liability figure. As such, each liability and the associated surplus/deficit are marked as provisional.

The **trained strength of the UK Armed Forces** comprises all personnel (or strength) in the UK Armed Forces who have completed Phase 1 and 2 training (see Glossary for more details concerning training).

The **surplus/deficit** for full time trained Service personnel is calculated as the difference between the requirement and full-time trained strength of the UK Armed Forces.

- The full time trained strength of the UK Armed Forces was **143,580** at 1 May 2015, **down from 144,120** at 1 April 2015 and **down from 150,890** at 1 April 2014. This is due to the SDSR's decision to reduce the size of the UK Armed Forces by around 17,000 posts (around 5,000 each from the RN/RM and RAF and approximately 7,000 from the Army). A further reduction of 12,000 to the Army was subsequently announced as a result of the 3ME, bringing the total reduction of 19,000 to the Army.
- The requirement for full time trained UK Armed Forces was provisionally **149,170** at 1 May 2015, **down from 150,700** at 1 April 2015 and **down from 159,640** at 1 April 2014.
- The UK Armed Forces trained strength was provisionally in **deficit of 5,590** (3.7 per cent of the requirement) at 1 May 2015, compared to a **deficit of 6,580** (4.4 per cent of the requirement for trained UK Armed Forces) at 1 April 2015 and a **deficit of 8,750** (5.5 per cent of the requirement for trained UK Armed Forces) at 1 April 2014.
- At 1 May 2015, the RN/RM, Army and RAF were all in deficit (provisionally by **390**, **3,140** and **2,050** personnel respectively). Please note that figures of the deficits are provisional
- For more information on the redundancies see the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme Tranche 1 to 4 statistics which can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-redundancy-program-statistics-index>
- **Graphs 1.1 to 1.3** show surplus and deficit against requirement since April 2008.

Table 1 - Full time trained strengths and requirements of UK Armed Forces¹

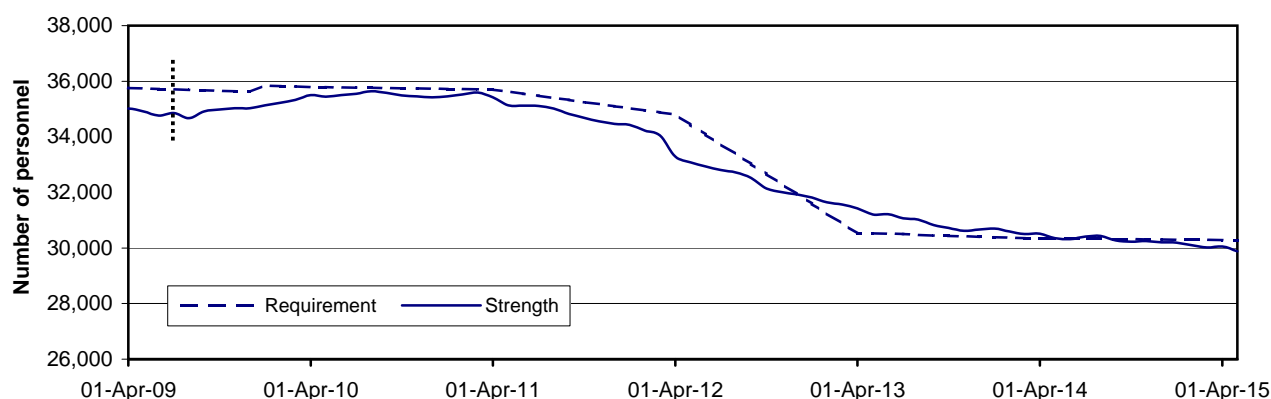
	2012 1 Apr	2013 1 Apr	2014 1 Apr	2015 1 Feb	2015 1 Mar	2015 1 Apr	2015 1 May
All Services							
Requirement ²	174 840	162 940	159 640	151 100	150 890	150 700	149 170 ^p
Trained Strength	170 010	160 710	150 890	144 910	144 500	144 120	143 580
Surplus/Deficit	-4 830	-2 230	-8 750	-6 190	-6 390	-6 580	-5 590 ^p
RN/RM							
Requirement ²	34 800	30 530	30 340	30 300	30 290	30 280	30 280 ^p
Trained Strength	33 290	31 420	30 510	30 100	30 010	30 060	29 890
Surplus/Deficit	-1 510	890	160	- 200	- 280	- 230	- 390 ^p
Army							
Requirement ²	101 210	96 790	94 100	86 710	86 620	86 540	85 080 ^p
Trained Strength	98 600	93 940	87 180	82 820	82 560	82 230	81 940
Surplus/Deficit	-2 610	-2 850	-6 930	-3 880	-4 050	-4 300	-3 140 ^p
Royal Air Force							
Requirement ²	38 830	35 620	35 200	34 100	33 990	33 880	33 810 ^p
Trained Strength	38 120	35 350	33 210	31 990	31 930	31 830	31 760
Surplus/Deficit	- 700	- 270	-1 990	-2 100	-2 060	-2 050	-2 050 ^p

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

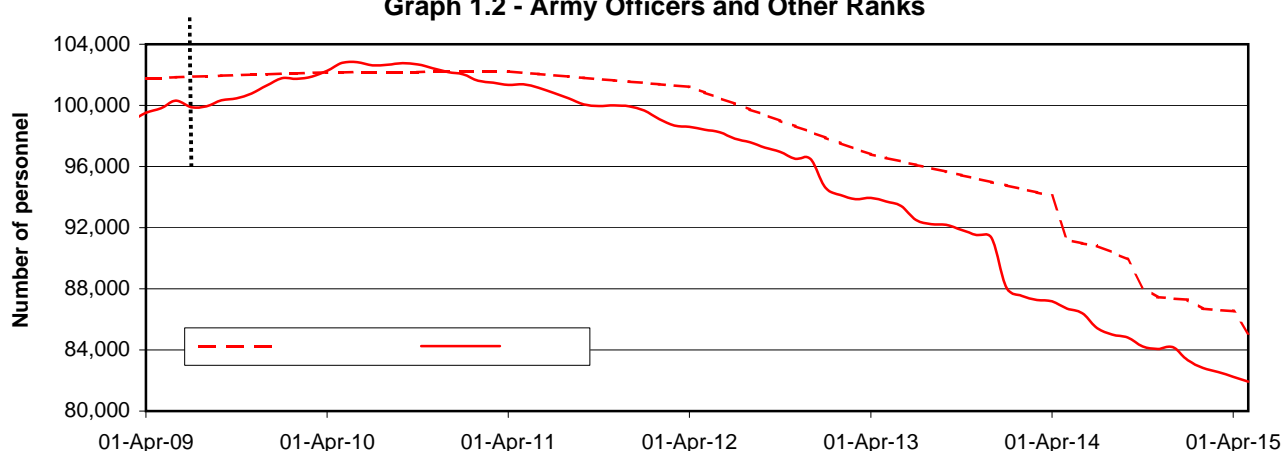
1. Full time trained strength and trained requirement comprises trained UK Regular Forces, trained Gurkhas and elements of the Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) that may be deployed overseas, including Full Commitment (FC), Limited Commitment (LC), Home Commitment (HC) personnel. See Glossary for more details.
2. Requirements are based on Defence Programme requirements set for each of the three Services. The Armed Forces continually refine their transition plans as they progress towards their new structures.

Trained strength and requirement of UK Armed Forces

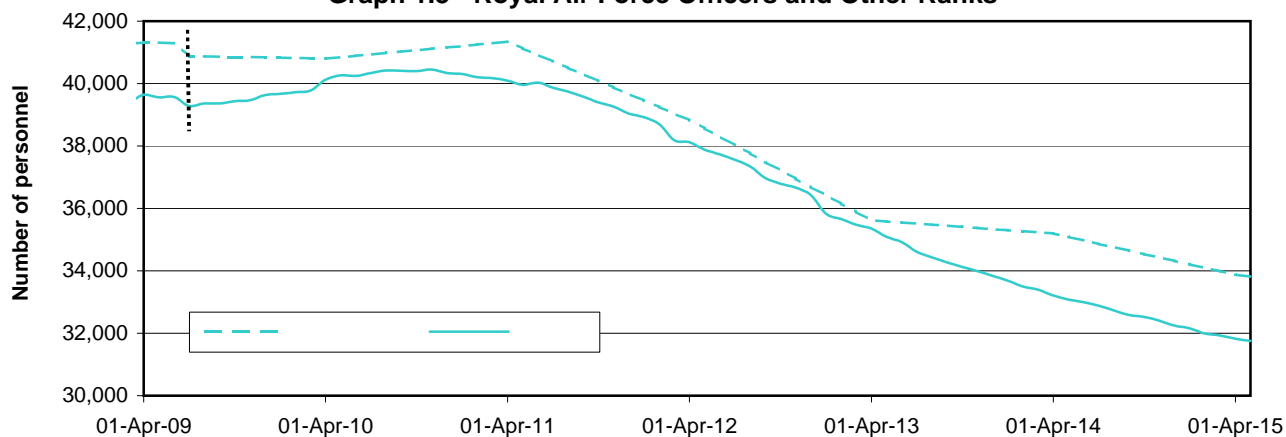
Graph 1.1 - RN/RM Officers and Other Ranks



Graph 1.2 - Army Officers and Other Ranks



Graph 1.3 - Royal Air Force Officers and Other Ranks



Prior to 1 July 2009 strength and requirement figures include some FTRS personnel that were not deployable overseas, and therefore would not count towards the requirement. This is shown in the graphs as a dotted line representing a break in series. See Glossary for more details.

For graphs showing the three Services full time trained strength and requirement split by Officer/Rank, see Graphs 5.2-5.10 in the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-quarterly-manning-report-statistics-index>

Trained and Untrained

Table 2 shows, by Service, **trained and untrained (see Glossary)** strengths of **UK Regular** and **full time UK Non-Regular** Armed Forces. The majority of Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel serve in support roles which are vital to Defence but do not form part of the UK Regulars (more information on what defines these can be found in the footnotes below the table). **Table 1** (pages 4 and 5) provides more detail on requirements.

- The total trained and untrained strength of the UK Armed Forces was **160,040** at 1 May 2015, **down from 160,340** at 1 April 2015 and **down from 165,860** at 1 April 2014.
- As at 1 May 2015 the UK Regular Forces comprised **153,340** personnel of which **140,640** were trained. The Army has the largest number of trained UK Regular Forces personnel (79,270) followed by the Royal Air Force (31,740) and the Royal Navy / Royal Marines (29,630). There are **12,700** untrained personnel in the UK Regular Forces with 7,530 of them being in the Army.
- The Gurkha trained strength has decreased slightly while the untrained strength has remained stable since the last reporting period.

Table 2 - Strength of UK Armed Forces¹ - full time trained and untrained personnel

	2012 1 Apr	2013 1 Apr	2014 1 Apr	2015 1 Feb	2015 1 Mar	2015 1 Apr	2015 1 May
UK Armed Forces¹	185 690	176 660	165 860	160 480	160 230	160 340	160 040
Trained and serving against requirement	170 010	160 710	150 890	144 910	144 500	144 120	143 580
FTRS serving against additional requirement	1 810	2 180	2 880	3 250	3 310	3 370	3 480
Untrained	13 870	13 760	12 080	12 320	12 410	12 850	12 990
UK Regular Forces²	179 800	170 710	159 630	153 940	153 660	153 720	153 340
Trained	166 110	157 150	147 760	141 920	141 540	141 160	140 640
Untrained	13 700	13 560	11 870	12 020	12 120	12 560	12 700
RN/RM	35 540	33 960	33 330	32 850	32 820	32 740	32 630
Trained	33 190	31 280	30 310	29 850	29 770	29 800	29 630
Untrained	2 360	2 680	3 030	3 000	3 050	2 940	3 000
Army	104 250	99 730	91 070	86 960	86 810	87 060	86 800
Trained	94 800	90 530	84 250	80 090	79 860	79 540	79 270
Untrained	9 450	9 200	6 810	6 870	6 960	7 520	7 530
Royal Air Force	40 000	37 030	35 230	34 120	34 030	33 930	33 920
Trained	38 120	35 340	33 200	31 980	31 920	31 810	31 740
Untrained	1 880	1 680	2 030	2 140	2 120	2 110	2 180
Full Time UK Non-Regular Forces³	5 890	5 950	6 230	6 540	6 570	6 620	6 700
Trained	5 710	5 750	6 020	6 240	6 280	6 330	6 420
Gurkhas	3 650	3 310	2 840	2 630	2 590	2 580	2 570
FTRS serving against the requirement	260	250	300	360	370	380	370
FTRS serving against additional requirement	1 810	2 180	2 880	3 250	3 310	3 370	3 480
Untrained	180	200	210	300	290	290	290
Gurkhas	180	200	210	300	290	290	290
FTRS ⁴	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

1. UK Armed Forces comprises all UK Regular Forces and full time UK Non-Regular Forces but excludes mobilised reservists.
2. UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained personnel. It does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel and mobilised reservists.
3. Full time UK Non-Regular Forces comprises Gurkhas and Full Time Reserve Service Personnel (FTRS). Mobilised reservists are not classed as full time UK Non-Regular Forces.
4. For a reservist to serve full time they are required to be trained.

For more information on the total strength of the UK Armed Forces, broken down by trained and untrained, and Regular and Non-Regular components see tables 5a, 5b and 5c of the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-redundancy-program-statistics-index>

Intake to and Outflow from UK Regular Forces

Table 3 shows the intake to and outflow from UK Regular Forces by Service, including trained and untrained personnel.

Intake comprises trained and untrained personnel who are new-entrants, intake from reserves, personnel who re-enter the Services and trained direct entrants. Intake **excludes** movements between Services, promotions from Other Ranks to Officers and flows from untrained to trained. For more details regarding intake see the footnotes below the Table and the Glossary.

Outflow includes both trained and untrained personnel who leave the Services (including personnel that reach the end of an agreed contracted period, those who successfully apply to leave the Services before the end of their contract (Voluntary Outflow) and those that are made redundant), die in Service and recalled reservists on release. Outflow figures **do not** include promotion from Ranks to Officers or any flows between the different Services. More detail on outflow can be found in both the footnotes below the Table and the Glossary.

For additional details showing Intake and Outflow in a time series for individual Services please see Graphs 3.1 - 3.3 (page 11) for more information on numbers of personnel who voluntarily exit the Armed Forces before the end of their agreed contracted period see Table 4 (pages 12 and 13) and Graphs 4.1-4.3 (page 14).

- The **intake** into the UK Regular Forces was **13,210** in the 12 months to 30 April 2015, **up from 12,980** in the 12 months to 31 March 2015 and **up from 11,880** in the 12 months to 31 March 2014. In order to meet the targets set out in SDSR and 3ME, a redundancy programme coupled with adjusted recruiting (intake) and contract extensions were set. As redundancy draws to a close and the Services move towards their 2020 targets, the Armed Forces are seeking to stabilise. As such extensions of service (longer contracts) are actively being offered to appropriate personnel. Though the Armed Forces are reducing in size and have surpluses in some ranks, the Armed Forces needs to continue to recruit into junior ranks to replace those who are promoted or who leave with individual military experience.
- The **outflow** from the UK Regular Forces was **18,880** in the 12 months to 30 April 2015; **down from 18,910** in the 12 months to 31 March 2015 and **down from 23,000** in the 12 months to 31 March 2014.
- In the 12 months to 30 April 2015, **1,310** personnel left the UK Regular Forces under the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme. The redundancy programme was needed to ensure that the Armed Forces continue to have the right balance of skills for the future, maintained across rank structures. This figure includes exits through Tranche 4 of the redundancy program.
- The outflow from the Army was **12,220** in the 12 months to 30 April 2015, of which **1,280** were due to personnel leaving on redundancy. For more information on the redundancies see the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme Tranche 1-4 statistics which can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-redundancy-program-statistics-index>
- Excluding all flows to and from Long Term Absentee (LTA) – in the 12 months to 30 April 2015, **5,670** more personnel left the UK Regular Forces than joined. This difference has reduced compared with the 12 months to 31 March 2015 where **5,930** more personnel left the UK Regular Forces than joined and the 12 months to 31 March 2014 where **11,110** more personnel left the UK Regular Forces than joined.
- **Graphs 3.1 to 3.3** show intake and outflow for each of the Services since 31 March 2010.

Table 3 - Intake¹ to and Outflow² from UK Regular Forces³ trained and untrained, by Service

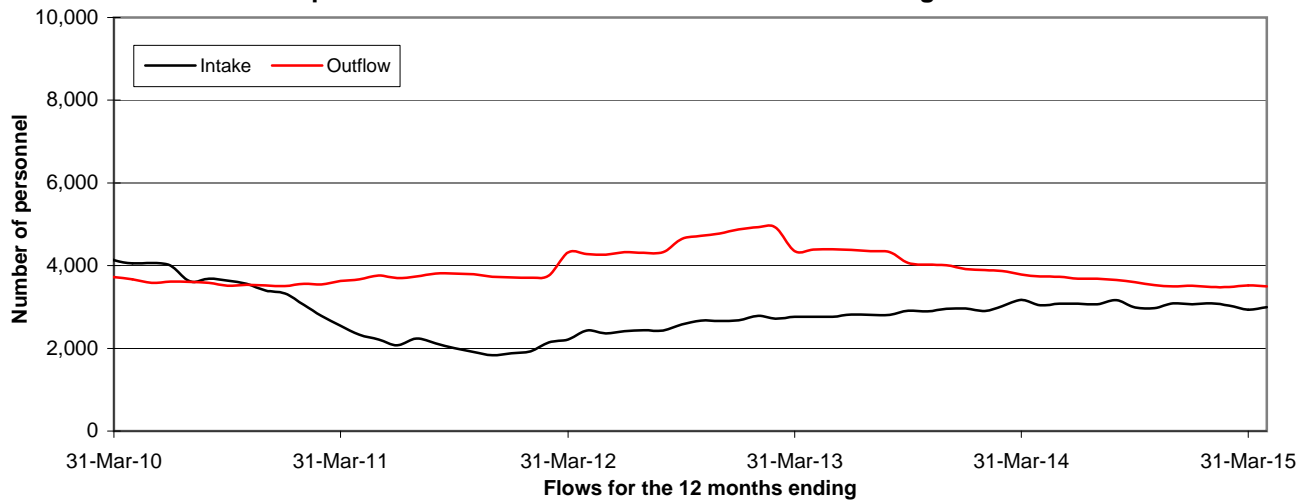
	Financial Year			12 months ending:				Financial
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2015 31 Jan	2015 28 Feb	2015 31 Mar	2015 30 Apr	Year to 2015 30 Apr
All Services								
Strength at start of period	186 360	179 800	170 710	160 190	159 670	159 630	158 980	153 720
Intake (+)	14 800	14 370	11 880	12 420	12 640	12 980	13 210	1 070
LTA Intake (+) ⁴	630	470	370	310	310	310	310	30
Outflow (-)	21 370	23 520	23 000	18 700	18 680	18 910	18 880	1 460
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	7 750	8 800	8 050	7 400	7 410	7 610	7 660	720
of which Redundancy ⁶	1 700	3 470	4 280	1 370	1 370	1 350	1 310	10
LTA Outflow (-) ⁴	640	400	320	280	270	280	270	20
Strength at end of period ⁷	179 800	170 710	159 630	153 940	153 660	153 720	153 340	153 340
RN/RM								
Strength at start of period	37 660	35 540	33 960	33 260	33 280	33 330	33 140	32 740
Intake (+)	2 220	2 770	3 170	3 090	3 040	2 930	3 000	150
LTA Intake (+) ⁴	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	-
Outflow (-)	4 320	4 350	3 790	3 480	3 490	3 520	3 500	260
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	1 450	1 850	1 690	1 700	1 710	1 740	1 700	120
of which Redundancy ⁶	660	430	40	-	-	-	-	-
LTA Outflow (-) ⁴	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	-
Strength at end of period ⁷	35 540	33 960	33 330	32 850	32 820	32 740	32 630	32 630
Army								
Strength at start of period	106 240	104 250	99 730	91 470	91 050	91 070	90 700	87 060
Intake (+) ⁸	11 190	10 300	7 020	7 460	7 720	8 160	8 280	680
LTA Intake (+) ⁴	620	460	360	310	300	300	300	20
Outflow (-)	13 200	14 890	15 740	12 020	12 000	12 210	12 220	950
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	4 980	5 530	4 710	4 040	4 050	4 200	4 290	440
of which Redundancy ⁶	600	2 060	4 060	1 340	1 340	1 310	1 280	10
LTA Outflow (-) ⁴	630	390	310	270	270	270	260	10
Strength at end of period ⁷	104 250	99 730	91 070	86 960	86 810	87 060	86 800	86 800
Royal Air Force								
Strength at start of period	42 460	40 000	37 030	35 460	35 340	35 230	35 140	33 930
Intake (+)	1 390	1 310	1 690	1 870	1 880	1 880	1 930	240
LTA Intake (+) ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outflow (-)	3 850	4 280	3 480	3 200	3 190	3 180	3 160	260
of which Voluntary Outflow ⁵	1 320	1 430	1 650	1 660	1 660	1 670	1 680	150
of which Redundancy ⁶	440	980	180	30	30	30	30	-
LTA Outflow (-) ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strength at end of period ⁷	40 000	37 030	35 230	34 120	34 030	33 930	33 920	33 920

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

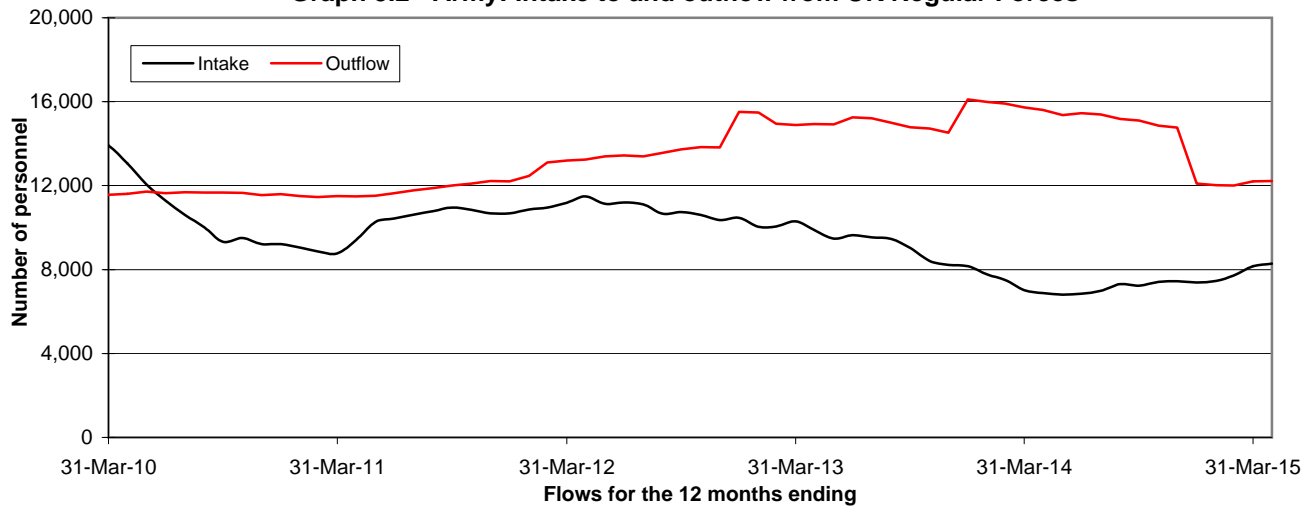
- Figures show intake to UK Regular Forces, both trained and untrained, which comprises new entrants, re-entrants, direct trained entrants (including professionally qualified Officers) and intake from the reserves. They exclude all movements within the Regular Forces; including flows from untrained to trained strength, transfers between Services and flows from Ranks to Officer due to promotion.
- Figures show outflow from UK Regular Forces, both trained and untrained, including personnel leaving the Services, deaths, recalled reservists on release.
- UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained personnel. It does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and mobilised reservists.
- Long Term Absentees (LTAs) are Service personnel who have been absent without leave (AWOL) for more than 21 days.
- Voluntary outflow is defined as all exits from trained personnel which are voluntarily generated by the individual before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.
- Redundancy figures presented will not match those published in the Quarterly Personnel Report (QPR) due to the inclusion of both Trained and Untrained Personnel.
- Strengths at the end of the period may not equal the sum of the strength at the beginning of the period and intervening intake and outflow. This is due to movements between Services.
- Army intake figures include transfers from the Gurkhas to the UK Regular Forces.

Intake to and Outflow from UK Regular Forces

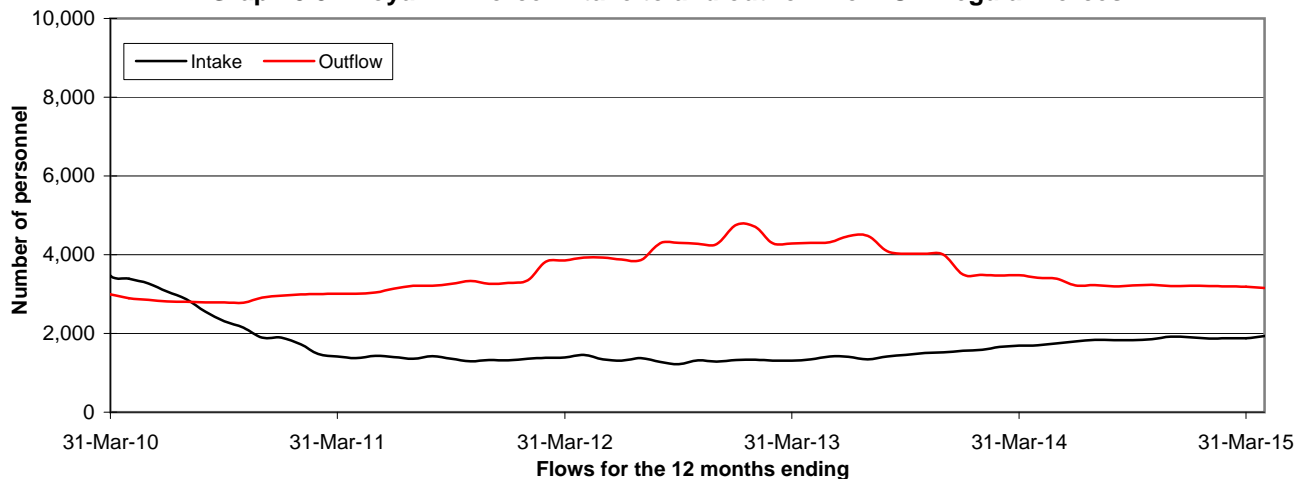
Graph 3.1 - RN/RM: Intake to and outflow from UK Regular Forces



Graph 3.2 - Army: Intake to and outflow from UK Regular Forces



Graph 3.3 - Royal Air Force: Intake to and outflow from UK Regular Forces



More information on intake and outflow for the UK Regular Forces can be seen in the Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-quarterly-manning-report-statistics-index>

For graphs showing intake to the UK Regular Forces by Service and percentage of female representation and ethnicity see graphs 8.1, 8.2, 8.3 of the Quarterly Personnel Report.

For graphs showing outflow from the UK Regular Forces by Service and total trained and untrained personnel see graphs 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3 of the Quarterly Personnel Report

Voluntary Outflow from UK Regular Forces

Table 4 focuses on Voluntary Outflow (VO) from trained UK Regular Forces by Service and Officers and Other Ranks. Voluntary Outflow encompasses all personnel who voluntarily exit before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period. For more details, see the footnotes below or the Glossary. For total outflow from UK Regular Forces see Table 3 (pages 9 and 10).

- The VO rate for Officers was **4.6 per cent of the trained strength** in the 12 months to 30 April 2015. In the same period the VO rate from Other Ranks was **5.5 per cent of the trained strength**.
 - For Officers, the Army has the highest VO rate (**5.1 per cent**) followed by the RN/RM (**4.3 per cent**) and the Royal Air Force (**3.8 per cent**).
 - For personnel in Other Ranks, the RN/RM has the highest VO rate (**6.0 per cent**), followed by the Royal Air Force (**5.5 per cent**) and the Army (**5.3 per cent**).
 - **Graphs 4.1 to 4.3** (page 14) show the trend of VO rates since Financial Year 2010/11 across all three Services.
 - There is no single reason why VO has changed over the years, but the Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey shows reasons that service personnel have given for leaving the Armed Forces include the impact of service life on family and personal life and opportunities outside the service.
- See Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey [here](#)

Table 4 - Voluntary Outflow¹ (VO) from trained UK Regular Forces

	Financial Year			12 month period ending			
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2015 31 Jan	2015 28 Feb	2015 31 Mar	2015 30 Apr
All Services							
Officers							
VO number	1 000	1 080	1 180	1 090	1 090	1 100	1 150
VO rate ²	3.5	3.9	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.6
Other Ranks							
VO number	6 750	7 720	6 880	6 310	6 320	6 510	6 520
VO rate ²	4.8	5.7	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.5
RN/RM							
Officers							
VO number	200	240	260	230	240	250	260
VO rate ²	3.1	3.7	4.3	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3
Other Ranks							
VO number	1 250	1 610	1 420	1 470	1 470	1 490	1 450
VO rate ²	4.4	6.2	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.0
Army							
Officers							
VO number	560	640	650	590	580	590	620
VO rate ²	4.1	4.8	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.8	5.1
Other Ranks							
VO number	4 420	4 890	4 060	3 450	3 460	3 610	3 660
VO rate ²	5.4	6.1	5.4	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.3
Royal Air Force							
Officers							
VO number	230	210	260	260	270	260	270
VO rate ²	2.8	2.6	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.8
Other Ranks							
VO number	1 090	1 220	1 390	1 390	1 390	1 410	1 410
VO rate ²	3.5	4.2	5.2	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

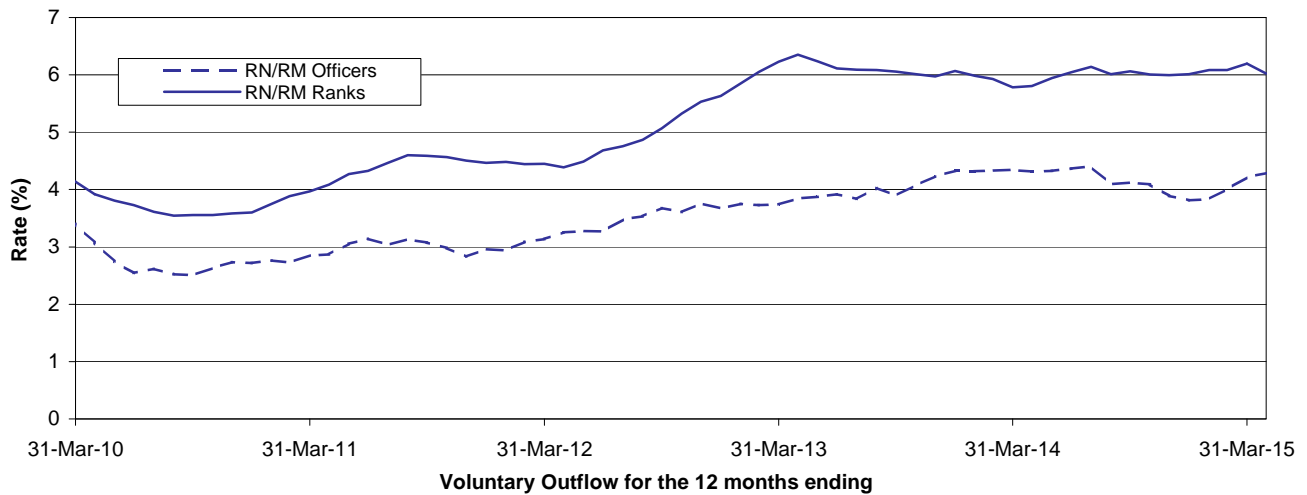
1. Voluntary outflow is defined as all exits from Trained UK Regular Forces which are voluntarily generated by the individual before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.
2. Voluntary outflow rate is the percentage of the trained average strength of the UK Regular Forces that left as voluntary outflow.

For more information on Outflow from UK Regular Forces by exit reason, see Tables 12a and 12b in the UK Armed Forces Quarterly Personnel Report which can be found at:

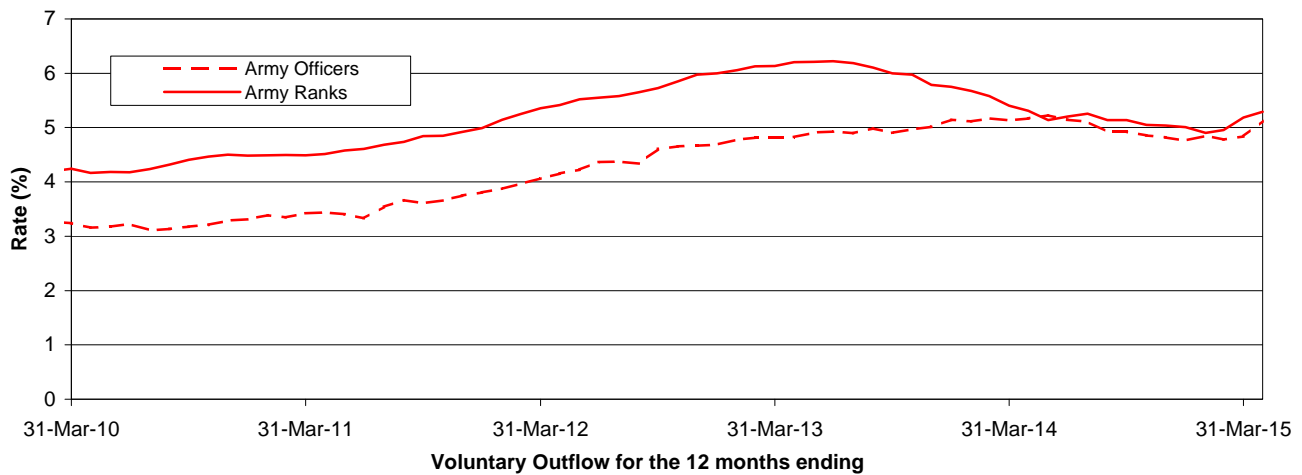
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-quarterly-manning-report-statistics-index>

Voluntary Outflow (VO) from UK Regular Forces

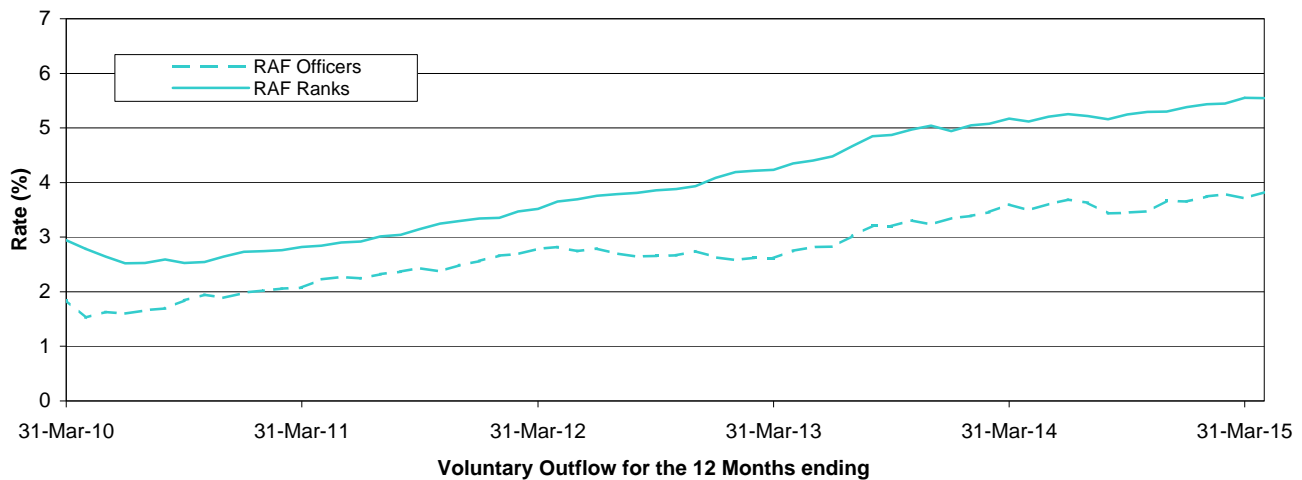
Graph 4.1: RN/RM VO rate as a percentage of average trained strength



Graph 4.2: Army VO rate as a percentage of average trained strength



Graph 4.3: Royal Air Force VO rate as a percentage of average trained strength



Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Exit Rate All exit rates used in this publication, for trained personnel are calculated as follows:

To calculate a rate for trained personnel, 12 months total exits are divided by the mean average strength.

To calculate the mean average strength, strength data at the 1st of the reporting month and at the 1st of the same month a year prior are averaged by summing and dividing by 2. This figure is then combined with the remaining 11 months of 1st of the month data, for the months between. The total is divided by 12 to obtain the mean average strength.

This '12 month centred rolling average' uses 13 months of 1st of the month strengths data to cover any movements in month at the end of the 12 months reported.

FTRS (Full-Time Reserve Service) are personnel who fill Service posts for a set period on a full-time basis while being a member of one of the reserve Services, either as an ex-regular or as a volunteer. An FTRS reservist on:

- **Full Commitment (FC)** fulfils the same range of duties and deployment liability as a Regular Service person;
- **Limited Commitment (LC)** serves at one location but can be detached for up to 35 days a year;
- **Home Commitment (HC)** is employed at one location and cannot be detached elsewhere.

Each Service uses FTRS personnel differently:

The Royal Navy/Royal Marines predominantly uses FTRS to backfill gapped regular posts. However, they do have a small number of FTRS personnel that are not deployable for operations overseas. There is no distinction made in terms of fulfilling baseline Liability posts between FTRS Full Commitment (FC), Limited Commitment (LC) and Home Commitment (HC).

The Army employ FTRS(FC) and FTRS(LC) to fill Regular Army Liability (RAL) posts as a substitute for Regular personnel for set periods of time. FTRS(HC) personnel cannot be deployed to operations and are not counted against RAL.

The RAF consider that FTRS(FC) can fill regular RAF Liability posts but have identified separate liabilities for FTRS(LC) and FTRS(HC).

Gurkhas are recruited and employed in the British and Indian Armies under the terms of the 1947 Tri-Partite Agreement (TPA) on a broadly comparable basis. They remain Nepalese citizens but in all other respects are full members of HM Forces. Since 2008, Gurkhas are entitled to join the UK Regular Forces after 5 years of service and apply for British citizenship.

Intake to UK Regular Forces (as defined in table 3) comprises new entrants, re-entrants, direct trained entrants (including professionally qualified officers) and intake from the reserves. It excludes all movements within the Regular Forces; including flows from the untrained to trained strength, transfers between Services and flows from ranks to officer due to promotion.

Joint Personnel Administration JPA is the system used by the Armed Forces to deal with matters of pay, leave and other personal administrative tasks. JPA replaced a number of single-service IT systems and was implemented in April 2006 for RAF, November 2006 for Naval Service and April 2007 for Army.

Liability is the requirement for Armed Forces personnel. The Monthly Personnel Report presents the "Regular Liability" in Table 1.

Long Term Absentees (LTAs) are service personnel who have been Absent without leave (AWOL) for more than 21 days.

Mobilised Reservists are reserves who have been called into full-time service with the Regular Forces on military operations.

Naval Service was previously used in this publication to describe the population which comprises the **Royal Navy** (including the Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service) and the **Royal Marines** combined which is now referred to as **RN/RM** or **Royal Navy/Royal Marines**. Naval Service describes the total Naval population which includes the RN/RM as well as the **Maritime Reserve**, Serving **Royal Fleet Reserve** and Naval **Sponsored Reservists**.

Operational Commitment Establishment (Reserve) (OCE(R)) FTRS(FC) personnel that are deployed to operations can be moved into OCE(R) posts. While they are filling OCE(R) positions, FTRS(FC) personnel are not counted against Regular Army Liability. These are reported in Table 2 as *FTRS personnel serving against an additional requirement* along with non-deployable FTRS as defined above.

Outflow from UK Regular Forces includes personnel leaving the Services, deaths, recalled reservists on release and outflow to the Home Service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment (which disbanded on 31 March 2008). They do not include promotion from ranks to officers or flows between Services.

Prior to year ending 31 March 2009, Army outflow included the net flow of personnel from the Regular Armed Forces to Long Term Absentee (LTA). Post year ending 31 March 2009 outflow does not include this flow to LTA.

RN/RM or **Royal Navy/Royal Marines** is a term used in this publication to describe full-time Naval Armed Forces personnel which comprises of the **Royal Navy** (including the Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service) and the **Royal Marines** combined.

Trained Strength comprises military personnel who have completed Phase 1 and 2 training.

- **Phase 1** Training includes all new entry training to provide basic military skills.
- **Phase 2** Training includes initial individual specialisation, sub-specialisation and technical training following Phase 1 training prior to joining the trained strength.

UK Regulars are full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding FTRS personnel, Gurkhas, Naval activated Reservists, mobilised Reservists, MPGS and NRPS. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.

Untrained strength comprises military personnel who have yet to complete Phase 2 training.

Voluntary Outflow is defined as all exits from trained personnel which are voluntarily generated by the individual before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.