



This publication provides information on the number of **Military Personnel** in (defined as the **strength**), joining (**intake**) and leaving (**outflow**) the UK Armed Forces. Detail is provided for both the **Full-time Armed Forces** and **Reserves**. Further statistics can be found in the [Excel tables](#).

The recent trends in personnel numbers in this report relate to the targets outlined in the **Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) 2010**, the **Three Month Exercise (3ME)**, **Army 2020 (A2020)** and the **Future Reserves 2020 (FR20)** programme.

This publication forms part of a new series of bulletins following the outcome of a public consultation on [Changes to Ministry of Defence Armed Forces Personnel Statistics](#). It is the first release of quarterly statistics on **Separated Service** and an update of annual statistics on the **Military Salaries Index**.

Some of the statistics previously published in the following publications can now be found in this release: [Monthly](#), [Quarterly](#) and [Annual](#) Personnel Reports, [UK Reserve Forces and Cadets](#), [Service Personnel Bulletin 2.01](#) and [Service and Civilian Bulletin 2.03](#).

Key Points and Trends

▼ 195 600	Strength of UK Forces Service Personnel at 1 August 2015 <i>a decrease of 260 (0.1 per cent) since 1 August 2014</i>
▼ 142 490	Full-time Trained Strength at 1 August 2015 <i>a decrease of 5 680 (3.8 per cent) since 1 August 2014</i>
▼ - 3.5%	Deficit against the planned number of personnel needed (Liability) at 1 August 2015 <i>a reduction in the deficit from -4.7 per cent, as at 1 August 2014</i>
▲ 25 490	Strength of the Trained FR20 Volunteer Reserve at 1 August 2015 <i>an increase of 2 190 (9.4 per cent) since 1 August 2014</i>
▲ 13 370	People joined the Regular Armed Forces in the past 12 months (1 August 2014 – 31 July 2015) <i>an increase of 1 480 (12.5 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>
▲ 8 140	People joined the FR20 Volunteer Reserve in the past 12 months (1 August 2014 – 31 July 2015) <i>an increase of 3 440 (73.2 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>
▼ 18 110	Regular personnel left the Armed Forces in the past 12 months (1 August 2014 – 31 July 2015) <i>a decrease of 4 200 (18.8 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>
▼ 3 780	FR20 Volunteer Reserve personnel left the Armed Forces in the past 12 months (1 August 2014 – 31 July 2015) <i>a decrease of 1 390 (26.9 per cent) compared with the previous 12 month period</i>

Responsible statistician: Tri-Service Head of Branch 020 7807 8896 DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.uk
Further information/mailling list: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk
Background quality report: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tri-service-personnel-bulletin-background-quality-reports

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 DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-supplementary-documents>

Introduction

This publication contains information on the **strength, intake and outflow** for the UK Armed Forces overall and each of the Services; **Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM), Army and Royal Air Force (RAF)**. In addition, this is the first time the number of military personnel experiencing **separated service** and the proportion of personnel breaching **harmony** guidelines is to be included in an Official Statistic produced by Defence Statistics.

Detailed statistics and historic time series can be found in the **Excel tables**. Additional historic statistics will be added to these tables in due course; in the meantime, historic statistics can be found in the previous publications outlined below. The **glossary** contains definitions of terminology used in this publication.

The next edition of this publication will be published on GOV.UK at 9:30am on 8 October 2015. A calendar of upcoming MOD statistical releases can be found on **GOV.UK**.

Changes to Armed Forces personnel statistics

The Ministry of Defence is implementing changes to Armed Forces personnel statistics. Previous Tri-Service publications have been reviewed, including: **Monthly, Quarterly and Annual Personnel Reports, UK Reserve Forces and Cadets, Service Personnel Bulletin 2.01, Service and Civilian Bulletin 2.03, UK Armed Forces Maternity Report, Diversity Dashboard and Quarterly Location Statistics**.

Following the consultation on **Changes to Ministry of Defence Armed Forces Personnel Statistics**, the above nine publications are being amalgamated into four new publications. The consultation response includes further detail on the changes we are making during 2015-16, including the introduction of this publication. For information on where updates to statistics in previous MOD Tri-Service publications are now located please see the following **guide**.

A National Statistics publication

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.

Policy background

The main factors affecting decisions about the size of the Armed Forces required by the MOD, to achieve success in its military tasks include:

- An assessment of current and future threats to UK national security;
- The need for contingent / reactive capability – the requirement to be able to respond immediately to domestic or international crisis;
- Current operational and international obligations (e.g. NATO, UN);
- Changes in technology, the introduction of new equipment and restructuring that leads to equipment becoming obsolete or surplus to requirements;
- The need to deliver against the military tasks as efficiently as possible, maintaining a balanced, affordable defence budget.

The Service personnel statistics in this publication relate to the planned Future Force 2020, as set out in the 2010 Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR). SDRS 2010 set out reductions of 17,000 Full-time Armed Forces personnel by 2015. A 'Three Month Exercise' (3ME) and Army 2020 White Paper announced a further 12,000 reductions to the Army, to be fully implemented by 2020, bringing the total number of reductions to the Full-time Armed Forces, from the 2010 position, to approximately 29,000. Furthermore, Army 2020 states the reductions in the size of the Regular Army and the implementation of the Army 2020 structure will be achieved by 2018. In parallel, the Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme, which aims to increase the size of the Reserve Forces, targets the Volunteer Reserve.

Full-time Armed Forces personnel:

In order to meet the targets set out in SDRS 2010 and 3ME, a redundancy programme coupled with adjusted recruiting (intake) and contract extensions was set. This combination of measures enabled the Armed Forces to maintain the right balance of skills across the rank structures into the future. With the redundancy programme now complete, the Services continue to draw on a variety of measures to balance force levels against their 2020 targets.

Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) Programme

2010 The 2010 **Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR)** identified the future Armed Forces that the UK would need over the next ten years and beyond. It identified that the Reserve Forces should be an integral part of this Future Force; providing additional capacity as well as certain specialists whom it would not be practical or cost effective to maintain in the UK Regular Forces.

2011 The **2011 Independent Commission to Review the UK's Reserve Forces**, [available here](#), reported against this context and recommended:

Maritime Reserve should increase to **3,100** trained personnel.

Army Reserve should increase to **30,000** trained personnel.

Royal Air Force Reserves should increase to **1,800** trained personnel.

These became the FR20 Programme trained strength targets.

2013 Information on measures the MOD planned to take in order to achieve these targets is in the **FR20 White Paper "Reserves in the Future Force 2020: Valuable and Valued"** published in July 2013, [available here](#).

Subsequently to this, details of the planned growth of the FR20 over the next 5 years were placed in the House of Commons Library on 19 December 2013. This statement included annual trained strength targets along with intake targets to support the planned growth, and can be viewed in full [here](#).

UK Service Personnel

The **UK Service Personnel** comprise the total **strength** of the military personnel employed by the Ministry of Defence. The current strength of the UK Service Personnel is 195,600, which includes:

- All **UK Regular** personnel and all Gurkha personnel (which at 1 August 2015 comprised **79.1 per cent** of the UK Service Personnel);
- **Volunteer Reserve** personnel (which at 1 August 2015 comprised **16.8 per cent** of the UK Service Personnel);
- **Other Personnel** including the Serving Regular Reserve, Sponsored Reserve, Military Provost Guard Service, Locally Engaged Personnel and elements of the FTRS (comprised **4.1 per cent** of the UK Service Personnel at 1 August 2015).

Strength is the number of personnel.

Volunteer Reserves voluntarily accept an annual training commitment and are liable to be mobilised to deploy on operations. They can be utilised on a part-time or full-time basis to provide support to the Regular Forces at home and overseas.

The strength of the UK Forces has decreased slightly between 1 August 2014 and 1 August 2015, by 0.1 per cent (260 personnel). The decreases were in the UK Regular personnel and Gurkhas, driven by planned reductions in the numbers of personnel under SDSR 2010, the 3ME and A2020, and there have been increases in the Reserves populations.

Table 1: UK Service Personnel: Strength by Service

Strength	1 Aug 14	1 Aug 15	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Naval Service	38 080	38 250	+160	0.4%
Army	120 480	120 320	-160	-0.1%
Royal Air Force	37 300	37 040	-260	-0.7%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Whilst the overall UK Forces strength has been maintaining a downward trend, the strength of the Volunteer Reserve has been increasing.

- The Maritime Reserve has increased by 410 (13.9 per cent) since 1 August 2014, the Army Volunteer Reserve has increased by 3,050 (12.6 per cent) since 1 August 2014 and the RAF Volunteer Reserve has increased by 620 (35.4 per cent) since 1 August 2014.

Table 2: Recent trends in the strength of the UK Forces

	1 Apr 13	1 Apr 14	1 Apr 15	1 May 15	1 Jun 15	1 Jul 15	1 Aug 15
UK Forces Personnel	211 340	198 810	195 690	195 690	195 820	195 600	195 600
UK Regulars	170 710	159 630	153 720	153 340	153 020	152 380	152 020
Gurkhas	3 510	3 050	2 870	2 850	2 840	2 720	2 710
Volunteer Reserve	30 360	28 860	31 260	31 650	32 090	32 560	32 920
Other Personnel	6 760	7 280	7 840	7 840	7 870	7 940	7 950

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Full-time Trained Strength and Liability

The **Full-time Trained Strength** (which comprises military personnel who have completed 'Phase 1' and 'Phase 2' training) is counted against the **Liability**. The difference between the two is measured as either a surplus or **deficit**. This is one indicator of the Service's ability to execute military tasks. Other indicators include the surplus / deficit within key trades or in specific Ranks.

- The Strength of the Full-time Trained UK Armed Forces is 142,490, a decrease of 3.8 per cent (5,680 personnel) since 1 August 2014. The Full Time Trained Strength is 29,900 for the RN/RM, 81,060 for the Army and 31,530 for the RAF.
- Of this total, 17.5 per cent of personnel are Officers and 82.5 per cent are Other Ranks.
- The Full-time Trained Strength (FTTS) comprises: 139,690 Regular personnel (98.0 per cent); 2,430 Gurkhas (1.7 per cent); and 360 Full Time Reserve Service personnel (0.3 per cent) who can fill Regular posts and are deployable.

Full-time Trained Strength includes all trained UK Regular personnel, Gurkhas and a number of Reserve Forces personnel filling Regular posts whilst serving on Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS).

Liability is the number of Service personnel needed, based on the Defence Planning Round, set for each of the three Services.

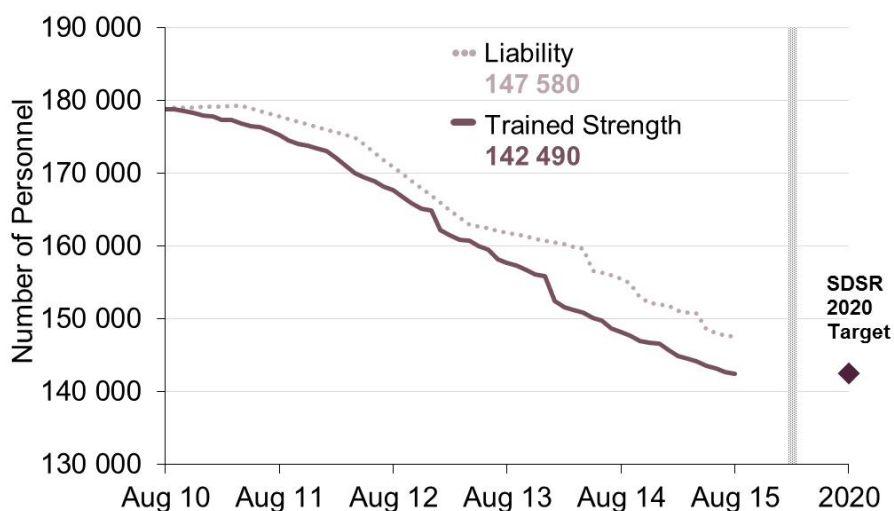
Table 3: Full-Time Trained Strength against the Liability

	1 Apr 13	1 Apr 14	1 Apr 15	1 May 15	1 Jun 15	1 Jul 15	1 Aug 15
Trained Strength	160 710	150 890	144 120	143 580	143 200	142 730	142 490
Liability	162 940	159 640	150 700	148 500 †	148 030 †	147 670	147 580
Surplus/Deficit	-2 230	-8 750	-6 580	-4 920 †	-4 830 †	-4 940	-5 090
% Surplus/Deficit	-1.4	-5.5	-4.4	-3.3 †	-3.3 †	-3.3	-3.5

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

- The current deficit is 3.5 per cent for the UK Armed Forces. This equates to deficits of 1.2 per cent in the Royal Navy/Royal Marines (RN/RM), 3.2 per cent in the Army and 6.2 per cent in the Royal Air Force (RAF).
- A substantial proportion of the Army deficit (of FTTS against the Liability) is likely to be due to the numbers of Service personnel reducing to meet the targets set out in the SDSR 2010 and 3ME/A2020 and planned Liability reductions not keeping pace. During this transitional drawdown period the published Army Liability will lag behind the number of personnel actually needed due to the way in which it is calculated.
- The SDSR 2010 envisaged that by 2020 the UK Armed Forces will have 142,500 personnel. This comprises 29,000 personnel for the RN/RM, 82,000 for the Army (following 3ME/A2020) and 31,500 for the RAF.

Figure 1: Full-Time Trained Strength against the Liability and SDSR 2020 target



Please note: May to June 2015 Liabilities have been finalised and revised. See **Revisions** section for details.

Regular Personnel

As at 1 August 2015, the trained and untrained strength of the UK Regular Forces (which excludes Gurkhas) was 152,020, of which, 139,690 were trained personnel.

- The largest numbers of trained UK Regular Forces personnel are in the Army followed by the RAF and the RN/RM.
- There are 12,330 untrained personnel in the UK Regular Forces with 7,120 of them being in the Army. The untrained strength reflects the number of personnel who can potentially join the trained strength.

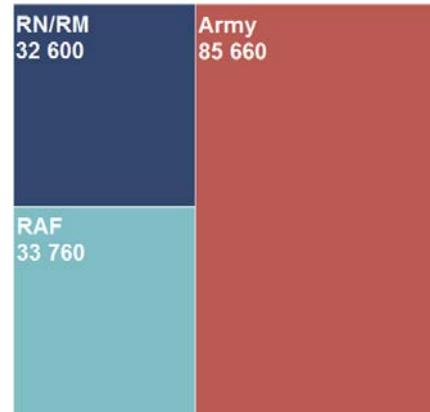


Figure 2: Trained and untrained Strength of the UK Regular Forces, by Service, as at 1 August 2015

Intake and Outflow since July 2010

Intake and Outflow over the past 5 years are presented in Figure 3. Since 2010 outflow has exceeded intake for each 12 month period, following the announcement of the reduction in the size of the Armed Forces.

- In the 12 months to 31 July 2015, 4,740 more personnel left the UK Regular Forces than joined. This difference has reduced compared with the 12 months to 31 July 2014, when 10,420 more personnel left the UK Regular Forces than joined.

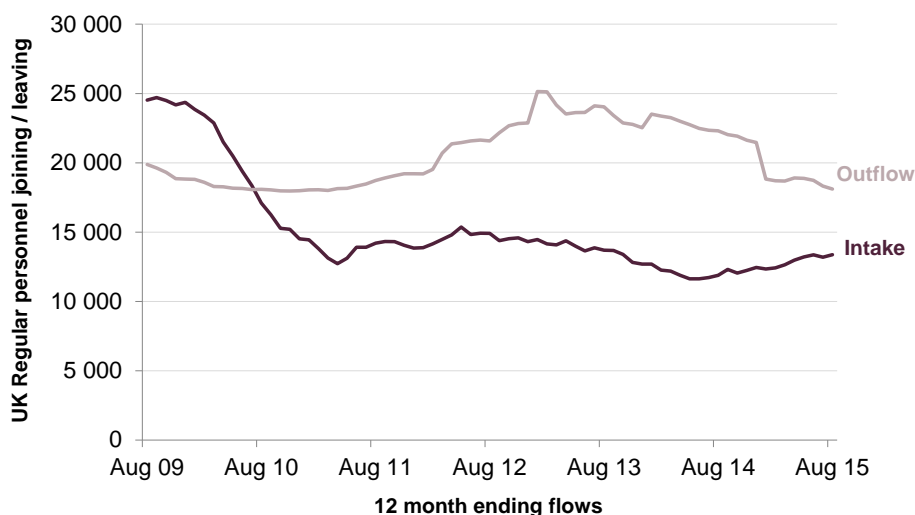
Intake

- Intake into the trained and untrained UK Regular Forces was 13,370 in the twelve months to 31 July 2015, up from 13,190 in the 12 months to 30 June 2015 and up from 11,890 in the 12 months to 31 July 2014.
- Of the current intake, 8.6 per cent was into the Officers and 91.4 per cent was into the Other Ranks.
- From the beginning of the financial year on 1 April 2015 to 31 July 2015; 4,130 people have joined. This is an increase compared with intake of 3,740 in the same period last year (1 April to 31 July 2014).
- The intake pattern for each Service differs. Compared to the 12 months to 31 July 2014, intake to the RN/RM decreased by 0.8 per cent (20 personnel), the Army has increased by 19.4 per cent (1,350 personnel) and the RAF has increased by 8.3 per cent (150 personnel).

UK Regulars are full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, excluding FTRS personnel, Gurkhas, mobilised Reservists, Military Provost Guarding Service (MPGS), Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP), and Non Regular Permanent Service (NRPS).

Intake is defined as the number joining the Strength, whereas **outflow** is the number leaving.

Figure 3: Intake to and Outflow from the UK Regular Forces (over a 12-month period)



Regular Personnel

Outflow

- Outflow from the trained and untrained UK Regular Forces was 18,110 in the 12 months to 31 July 2015; down from 18,320 in the 12 months to 30 June 2015 and down from 22,300 in the 12 months to 31 July 2014.
- From the beginning of the financial year on 1 April 2015 to 31 July 2015; 5,840 people have left the UK Regulars. This is a decrease compared with outflow of 6,650 in the same period last year (1 April to 31 July 2014).
- Outflow has decreased considerably compared to previous 12 month periods, due to the previous 12 month periods including individuals leaving on redundancy under Tranche 3 of the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme. The Redundancy Programme is now complete.
- In the 12 months to 31 July 2015, 870 trained and untrained personnel left the UK Regular Forces under Tranche 4 of the Armed Forces Redundancy Programme. This compares to 4,090 in the 12 months to 31 July 2014, leaving on Tranche 3; the largest of the 4 Tranches of redundancies.

Voluntary Outflow

encompasses all trained personnel who voluntarily exit before the end of their agreed engagement or commission period.

Time Expiry is a term used to describe those in the Armed Services who reach the end of their engagement or commission and then leave.

Other Wastage is outflow from the trained strength due to, amongst others, medical reasons, misconduct, compassionate, dismissals and death.

Armed Forces Redundancy Programme Tranche 1-4 statistics are available at:

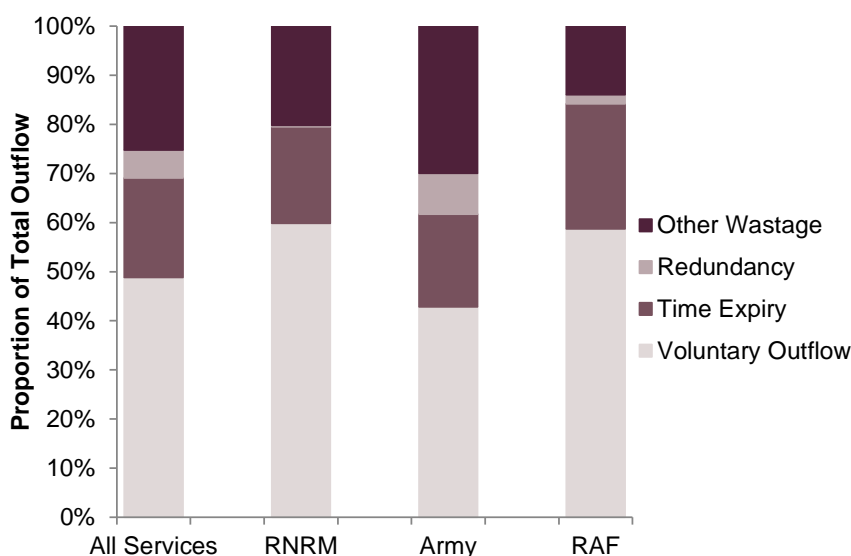
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-redundancy-program-statistics-index>

At the All Services level, Voluntary Outflow (VO) accounted for the greatest proportion of those leaving the trained UK Regular Forces (Figure 4).

- In the 12 months to 31 July 2015, 7,470 trained personnel left through VO.
- The VO rate is higher amongst Other Ranks (5.4 per cent), compared to Officers (4.6 per cent). This **difference** between Officers and Other Ranks VO rate varies between Services. The VO rate for Other Ranks is higher than for Officers in the RAF and RN/RM whilst the VO rates for Officer and Other Ranks in the Army are broadly similar.

There is no single reason why personnel leave on Voluntary Outflow, 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 Armed Forces.

Figure 4: Outflow from the trained UK Regular Forces, by exit reason, in the 12 months to 31 July 2015



Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring

FR20 Strengths as at 1 August 2015

The **total trained and untrained** strength of the FR20 Tri-Service Volunteer Reserve at 1 August 2015 was 32,560, an increase of 4,360 or 15.4 per cent since 1 August 2014.

The **trained** strength of the FR20 Tri-Service Volunteer Reserve at 1 August 2015 was 25,490, an increase of 2,190 or 9.4 per cent since 1 August 2014.

The **untrained** strength of the FR20 Tri-Service Volunteer Reserve at 1 August 2015 was 7,060, an increase of 2,170 or 44.3 per cent since 1 August 2014.

Table 4: FR20 Trained strength by service

Trained Strength	1 Aug 14	1 Aug 15	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Maritime Reserve	1 910	2 140	+230	+12.2%
Army Reserve	20 010	21 700	+1 690	+8.4%
RAF Reserves	1 390	1 660	+270	+19.4%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

FR20 Intake as at 1 August 2015

Intake statistics report how many people have joined the **trained or untrained** strengths. As well as new recruits, this can include personnel coming from the Regular Forces, other Reserve populations, or Reserve re-joiners.

In the 12 months between 1 August 2014 and 31 July 2015 **8,140 people** joined the Tri-Service FR20 Volunteer Reserve (2,750 trained and 5,380 untrained); a **73.2 per cent increase** on the same 12 month period last year.

Table 5: Intake to FR20 populations, trained and untrained

Intake	1 Aug 13 31 Jul 14	1 Aug 14 31 Jul 15	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Maritime Reserve	790	1 000	+210	+26.7%
Army Reserve	3 360	6 200	+2 830	+84.2%
RAF Reserves	550	940	+400	+72.4%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

FR20 Outflow

Outflow statistics report how many personnel have left the **trained or untrained** strengths. The majority of outflow is personnel leaving the Armed Forces, though a substantial proportion do transfer to another part of the Armed Forces, such as the Regulars or another Reserve Force.

In the 12 months between 1 August 2014 and 31 July 2015 **3,780 people** left the Tri-Service FR20 Volunteer Reserve (2,570 trained and 1,210 untrained); a **26.9 per cent decrease** compared to the same 12 month period last year.

Table 6: Outflow from the FR20 populations, trained and untrained

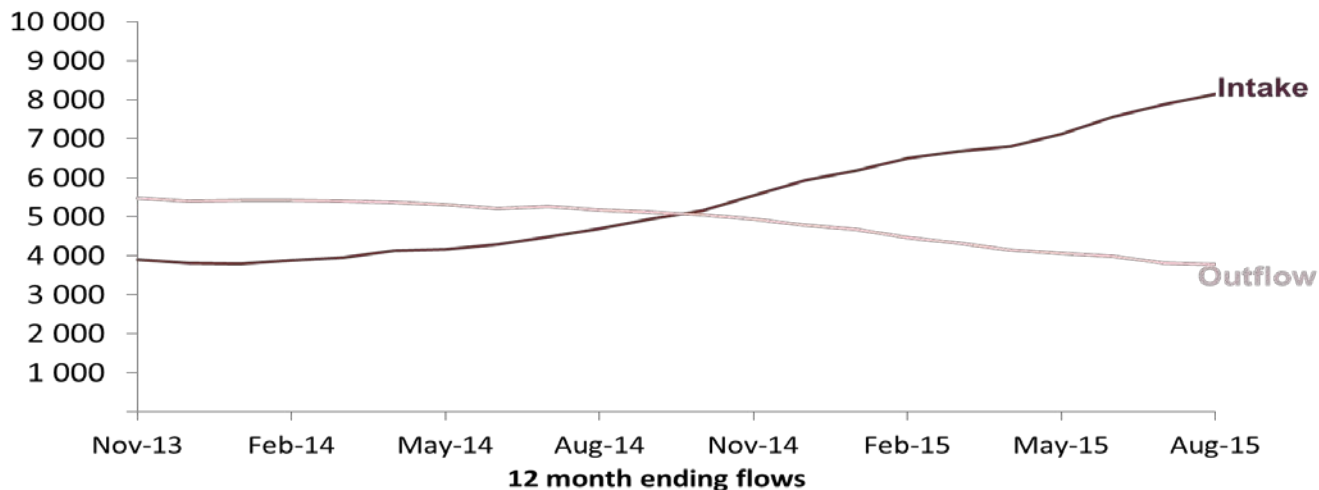
Outflow	1 Aug 13 31 Jul 14	1 Aug 14 31 Jul 15	Increase/ Decrease	% Increase/ Decrease
Maritime Reserve	480	590	+110	+23.4%
Army Reserve	4 400	2 880	-1 520	-34.6%
RAF Reserves	300	320	+20	+6.7%

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Future Reserves 2020 (FR20) programme monitoring

Intake and Outflow over time

Figure 5: FR20 Volunteer Reserves (Trained and Untrained) Joining and Leaving

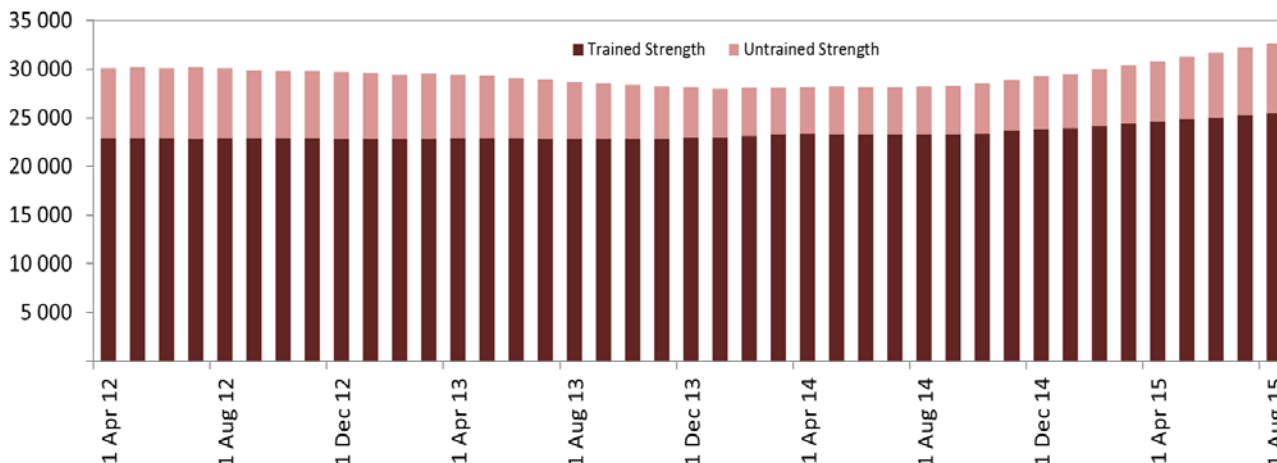


By studying intake (number of people joining) and outflow (number of people leaving) over time, the graph shows that since the start of the FR20 Programme, more people are now joining the Reserve Forces and less people are leaving.

Initially outflow was higher than intake; this situation results in a decrease to the total strength (as illustrated in Figure 5 and Figure 6). During 2014 a crossover occurred whereby intake became higher than outflow; once this happens the total strength starts to increase (again illustrated in Figure 5 and Figure 6). The FR20 Programme has sought to increase recruitment levels and to improve the proposition for Reserves. Hence there is now a widening gap between intake and outflow, which if sustained, will result in continuing growth in the strength numbers; the overarching aim of the Programme.

FR20 Strengths over time

Figure 6: FR20 Volunteer Reserve Trained and Untrained Strengths



Since April 2012 trained strength has shown a gradual increase, whereas untrained strength initially decreased (reaching its lowest point early 2014) before commencing a steady increase.

Early changes in the strengths were likely due to the restructuring of the Reserve Forces during the initial stages of the FR20 Programme. Subsequent improved recruitment and training of Reserves, as a result of the FR20 Programme, has resulted in larger numbers both joining and completing training and therefore increased strengths for both trained and untrained personnel.

Separated Service

Separated service measures absence from normal place of duty. The time an individual experiences separated service is compared against each Service's "**Individual Harmony**" guidelines to ensure a balance between duty and leisure for all Service Personnel.

A breach of individual harmony guidelines occurs when Service personnel experience separated service for longer than the period outlined in individual harmony guidelines which are based on the structures and organisation of that Service; for the RN/RM **660 days** away over a 36 month period for the Army no more than **498 days** away and the RAF no more than **468 days** away.

Separated Service concerns personnel who are serving away from their usual place of duty or are unable to enjoy leisure at their normal place of duty or residence at place of duty.

Individual Harmony is the freedom to enjoy leisure at the normal place of duty or residence at place of duty; this includes leave and adventurous training.

Using 1 July 2015 as an example:

Trained UK Regular personnel breaching over 1 July 2012 – 30 June 2015

Trained UK Regular personnel as at 1 July 2015

Table 7 shows the rate at which individual harmony guidelines have been breached by Service.

Table 7: Breaches of Individual Harmony Guidelines by Service

	1 Apr 14	1 Jul 14	1 Oct 14	1 Jan 15	1 Apr 15	1 Jul 15
% Breaching Harmony						
RN/RM	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Army	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.0	2.8
RAF	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Compared with 1 April 2014, all three Services have seen a decrease in breach rates at 1 July 2015. While breach rates for the RN/RM and the Army have continued a steady downward trend, the RAF breach rates were fairly consistent in 2014 but have shown a downward trend in 2015.

Military Salaries

The Military Salaries indices are based on annual pay rates. All indices are calculated using the number of service personnel at each rank at 1 April 2015 based against salaries in 2001/02- the year the new Pay 2000 system was introduced. As the underlying number of personnel remains constant, the changes in indices purely reflect changes in salaries and are reported to the nearest percentage point in table 8.

The military salaries index remained the same between 2011/12 and 2012/13 due to the two year public sector pay freeze. From 2013/14 all rates of base pay have been uplifted by one per cent each year, as recommended by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body (AFPRB). The latest report from the AFPRB is available [here](#).

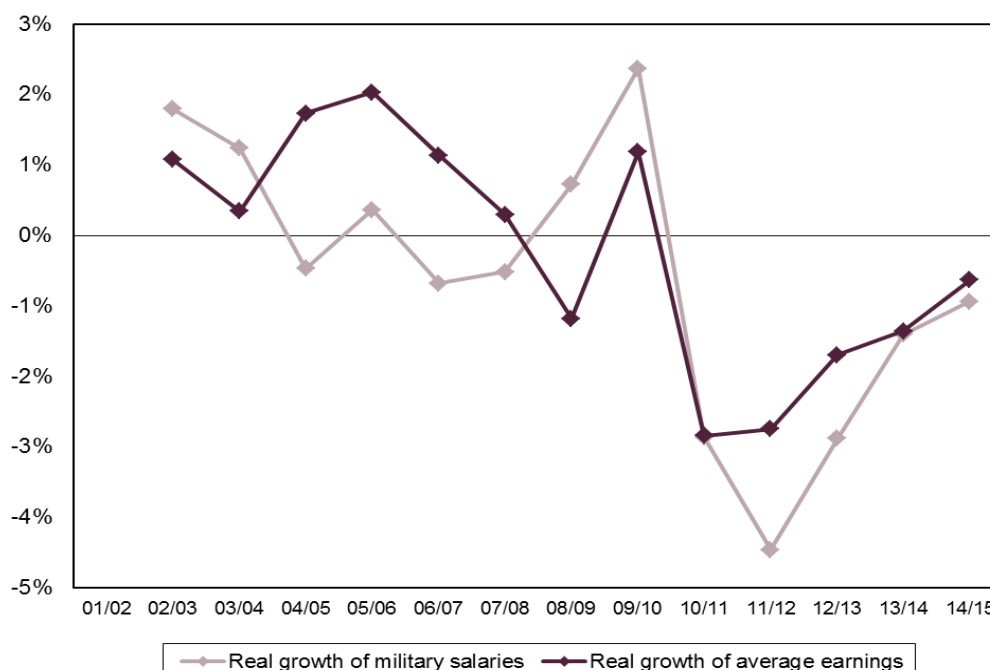
Table 8: Military Salaries Index

	Financial Year							
	2001/02	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Military salaries Index (all ranks)	100	130	133	133	133	135	136	138
Senior officers (Maj Gen & above)	100	131	136	136	136	138	139	140
Officers (up to Brigadier)	100	132	134	134	134	136	138	139
Other ranks (Sergeant & above)	100	129	132	132	132	133	135	136
Other ranks (up to Corporal)	100	130	132	133	133	135	136	138

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

Real growth in military salaries and average earnings is growth over and above the Retail Price Index (RPI) measure of inflation. Figure 7 highlights that there continues to be a real terms contraction in military salaries. The real growth of military salaries excluding bonuses is still negative at -0.9 per cent during 2014/15. The real growth in UK average earnings for the economy (total pay including bonuses) is also experiencing a negative growth rate of -0.6 per cent as a result of inflation continuing to outstrip growth in average earnings.

Figure 7: Real growth of military salaries and average earnings



Further Information

Symbols

	Discontinuity in time series
*	not applicable
..	not available
–	Zero
~	5 or fewer
p	Provisional
e	Estimate
r	Revised

Italic figures are used for percentages and other rates, except where otherwise indicated.

Rounding

Figures in this publication have been rounded to the nearest 10, though 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”.

Additionally, totals and sub-totals are rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

Percentages are calculated from unrounded data and presented to one decimal place.

Revisions

The following revisions have been made to the statistics in the Excel tables that accompany this report:

- **Liability**, previously labelled “Requirement” in this publication is defined as the number of Service personnel needed, based on the Defence Planning Round, set for each of the three Services. “Requirement” has been relabelled “Liability” in this and future publications of Service Personnel Statistics to align internal and external definitions. There has been **no change** to the underlying methodology or data.

Planning round 2015 Liabilities have now been finalised. Liabilities for May and June 2015 have been revised as appropriate and Liabilities for July 2015 are no longer provisional. The Army liability for May has decreased by 670 personnel and the Army liability for June has decreased by 1070 personnel. These updated liabilities have impacted the associated surplus/deficits for Army and the Tri-Service liability and surplus/deficits.

There are no regular planned revisions of this Bulletin.

Further Information (cont.)

Contact Us

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

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service) Telephone: 0207 807 8896
Email: DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk

If you require information which is not available within this or other available publications, you may wish to submit a Request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to the Ministry of Defence. For more information, see:

<https://www.gov.uk/make-a-freedom-of-information-request/the-freedom-of-information-act>

Other contact points within Defence Statistics are:

Defence Expenditure Analysis	030 6793 4531	DefStrat-Econ-ESES-DEA-Hd@mod.uk
Price Indices	030 6793 2100	DefStrat-Econ-ESES-PI-Hd@mod.uk
Naval Service Manpower	023 9254 7426	DefStrat-Stat-Navy-Hd@mod.uk
Army Manpower	01264 886175	DefStrat-Stat-Army-Hd@mod.uk
RAF Manpower	01494 496822	DefStrat-Stat-Air-Hd@mod.uk
Tri-Service Manpower	020 7807 8896	DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.uk
Civilian Manpower	020 7218 1359	DefStrat-Stat-Civ-Hd@mod.uk
Health Information	030 6798 4423	DefStrat-Stat-Health-Hd@mod.uk

Please note that these email addresses may change later in the year.

If you wish to correspond by mail, our postal address is:

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

For general MOD enquiries, please call: 020 7218 9000