



Ministry
of Defence

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Reference: FOI2014/06591

Correspondence dated: 30 October 2014

[Redacted]

Date: 24 November 2014

Dear [Redacted],

Thank you for your email of 30 October 2014 requesting the following information:

The most common mechanism of non-fatal major and serious incidents to Armed Forces personnel was 'Training/Exercise' with 760 (38%) for MOD Civilians was 'Normal Duties' with 155 (76%) incidents reported...Unfortunately, unlike for regular soldiers, there seems to be no accounting for how the 275 Reservists received their injuries (ie percentage injured during training etc). Is this deliberate? If not, are you able to get that breakdown for me?

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

Table 1: UK Reserve Armed Forces personnel, major and serious injuries and illnesses by mechanism, 2013/14^p, numbers¹

Mechanism	All	%
All	275 ^p	100%
Adventure training	65 ^p	23%
Discipline Related	~ ^p	1%
Normal duties	30 ^p	11%
RTA (Road Traffic Accidents)	~ ^p	1%
Sport/Recreation	40 ^p	14%
Training/Exercise	130 ^p	48%
Workplace Transport	~ ^p	1%

Source: MOD Health & Safety Reporting Systems

1. In line with Defence Statistics' rounding policy, all figures of five or more have been rounded to the nearest five and figures fewer than five have been suppressed and marked ~. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and thus totals may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

p. Figures for 2013/14 are provisional.

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

Defence Statistics (Health) compiles Health and Safety statistics on behalf of Defence Safety and Environment Authority Corporate Policy and Assurance (DSEA-CPA). An Official Statistic publication 'MOD Health and Safety Statistics Annual Report' is released each year providing the validated numbers on major and serious injuries and is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-health-and-safety-statistics-index>

The Top Level Budget (TLB) Incident Notification Cells maintain local databases of reported incidents. Since 2005 Service personnel and civilians report incidents to notification cells (the AINC, DINC, CINC and NSINC) with the exception of the RAF who have continued to report via their SHEF advisors on each of their sites. IRIS was introduced in December 2007 to enable the MOD to monitor and analyse accident trends in all areas of the Department and ensure compliance with current health and safety legislation.

The data presented here is compiled from a number of extracts:

- Incident Recording Information System (IRIS) data is as at 29 June 2012 (system switched off)
- Army Incident Notification Cell (AINC) data is as at 23 September 2014
- Accident and Incident Recording System (AIRS) data is as at 2 October 2014
- Defence Equipment & Support Incident Notification Cell (DINC) data is as at 2 October 2014
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIOINC) data is as at 6 October 2014
- Joint Forces Command/Head Office and Corporate Services (JFC/HOCS) data is as at 8 October 2014
- Naval Service Incident Notification Cell (NSINC) data is as at 15 August 2014

Adventure Training - Injuries resulting from organised adventure training activities (i.e. when part of an exercise or training course) such as skiing, rock climbing, parachuting and mountain biking.

Discipline Related - Injuries resulting from incidents where an individual could be disciplined by the Service or civilian authorities for their actions. The individual committing the offence does not necessarily have to be the injured person or a member of the Services. Many injuries that fall in to this mechanism are as a result of assaults. However, please note this mechanism is also used for injuries resulting from suspected self harm, which is not considered a military offence.

Normal duties - Injuries that occur during normal work duties that do not fall into other mechanism categories.

RTA - Injuries resulting from road traffic accidents on the public highway. Only RTAs that occur on duty are included in the report.

Sport/Recreation - Injuries resulting from participating in sporting activities such as football or rugby. This mechanism also includes injuries resulting from off duty activities where that activity does not readily fall in to any other mechanism.

Training/Exercise - Injuries resulting from activities related to being on exercise, routine training or participating in organised physical training. This mechanism also includes non battlefield injuries sustained on operations where the information supplied on health and safety systems is minimal.

Workplace Transport - Injuries resulting from road traffic accidents off the public highway i.e. within the boundaries of a military establishment or training area. This mechanism also includes injuries resulting from directly working on a vehicle.

The figures presented here are provisional, highlighted with a 'p', as they will change as further incidents are reported and as additional information on existing injuries/illnesses is received

The figures supplied are for incidents that occurred both on duty and off duty, but exclude off duty Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs) and battlefield injuries.

The figures supplied are for incidents that occurred both on MOD sites and off MOD sites.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering health and safety 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

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 this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)