



# Ministry of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

3-K-40 Main Building  
Horse Guards Avenue  
London SW1A 2HB

Telephone: 020 7807 8896 Fax: 020 7218 0969

Email: [DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk)

Your Reference: email dated [REDACTED]

Date: 18 June 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: [REDACTED]

Your correspondence dated [REDACTED] has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested the following information:

“ Thanks for your reply. I am astonished at your estimated cost and can only conclude that you must have some slow readers in your organisation. Your cost is also very specific, I trust you didn't set some poor sod to read through a sample of reports to produce a figure that you could extrapolate from; they are due a staff of the month award if so. I can understand though that if you need to read individual reports that would not be value for money and it would be an error prone process anyway. Perhaps I can suggest trying to improve your data feeds to enable you to distinguish between emotional health and physical health quantitatively, it would allow you to spot areas where one or the other was underperforming. I know other government departments use text analysis systems like BRS <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC200569/>.

I would love the total number at April since 2007 for each year. If that is what I am able to get. I think this is the number published as part of your official statistics, if so a link to the most recent version would suffice.”

Please find enclosed the information you requested.

	Regular Armed Forces			Naval Service			Army			RAF		
	Total	Officer	Rank	Total	Officer	Rank	Total	Officer	Rank	Total	Officer	Rank
Apr-07	200	20	180	10	~	10	70	-	60	120	10	110
Apr-08	270	20	250	40	-	40	150	-	140	80	10	70
Apr-09	670	60	600	100	10	90	120	-	110	450	50	410
Apr-10	2 600	100	2 490	60	10	50	2 030	20	2 010	510	80	440
Apr-11	3 280	80	3 200	100	10	90	2 720	20	2 700	450	40	410
Apr-12	900	110	790	40	10	30	470	50	430	390	60	330
Apr-13	570	50	520	20	-	20	400	30	370	150	20	130
Apr-14	900	90	810	120	10	110	430	20	400	350	50	300

## Notes

UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained personnel and excludes Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and mobilised reservists.

Data is taken from the Joint Personnel Administration system "Absence Category" using the reason "Sickness". This is a live system and not all sickness may be recorded.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## Rounding

Where rounding has been used, totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so 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.

- zero or rounded to zero
- ~ five or less

I hope you find this helpful.

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 Head of Corporate Information, 2nd 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>

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)