



Ministry of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Tri Service)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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Your Reference: [REDACTED]

Date: 11th July 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: [REDACTED]

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

“Do you have any statistics available on the number of UK service personnel who are married, single, or who are parents themselves?”

We can confirm that the Ministry Of Defence does hold this information. Defence Statistics (Tri Service) holds statistics relating to declaration of personal status and number of children declared.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) we have provided a table below outlining whether personnel are Married/In A Civil Partnership and those who are not married for UK Regulars at 1 April 2014.

We have also provided a table outlining the number of UK Regular personnel as at 1 April 2014, grouped by the number of Children under 18 declared on the Joint Personnel Administration system.

Please note that the categories used to identify number of children and marital status are not validated by Defence Statistics (Tri Service) and given as declared on the Joint Personnel Administration system. As we cannot guarantee the accuracy of these figures, these figures are therefore marked **e** as estimates in the tables overleaf.

Please see overleaf the information provided,



Number of UK Regulars¹ by marital category² declaration as at 1 April 2014

Please note: the categories used to identify where service personnel have a spouse are not validated by Defence Statistics (Tri Service) and given as declared on the Joint Personnel Administration system; therefore we cannot guarantee the accuracy of these figures. These figures are therefore marked ^e as **estimates**.

	UK Regulars	Married ³	Not Married ⁴	Unknown
All Services	159 630	69 580^e	90 040^e	10^e
Officers	27 850	17 390 ^e	10 460 ^e	~ ^e
Other Ranks	131 770	52 190 ^e	79 580 ^e	10 ^e

Source: Defence Statistics

1. UK Regulars comprises trained and untrained Full-time personnel and excludes Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and mobilised reservists.
2. Personal status category is **self-declared** by the individual.
3. 'Married' includes the categories '*Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership*', '*Civil Partnership*', '*Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to a Civil Servant*', '*Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to Service Personnel*'
4. 'Not Married' includes the categories '*Prime Carer and Provider for Child*', '*Separated providing voluntary support*', '*Separated providing support as result of court order*' and '*All other members of Armed Forces*'.

Number of UK Regulars¹ by number of Children² under 18 declared as at 1 April 2014

This table shows the numbers of UK Regular personnel by the number of children they have declared they have under the age of 18. For example, personnel in the no children category therefore may have children that are adults themselves.

Please note: the categories used to identify number of children are not validated by Defence Statistics (Tri Service) and given as declared on the Joint Personnel Administration system; therefore we cannot guarantee the accuracy of these figures. These figures are therefore marked ^e as **estimates**.

	UK Regulars
All Services	159 630
No Children	109 600 ^e
1 Child	23 160 ^e
2 Children	19 350 ^e
3 Children	5 660 ^e
4 or more children	1 860 ^e

Source: Defence Statistics

1. UK Regulars comprises trained and untrained Full-time personnel and excludes Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and mobilised reservists.
2. The number of children category is **self-declared** by the individual and in this instance includes number of children **aged under 18**.

Rounding

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



For additional information on the Armed Forces and family life please see the Tri Service Families Continuous Attitudes Survey which can be found here;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tri-service-families-continuous-attitude-survey-2013>

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). 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

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri Service)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE