



Ministry
of Defence

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Date: **7th Jan 2016**

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 7th December 2015 requesting the following information:

Number of people(all ranks) leaving the ARMY 2005,2006,2007.....2015. Number of people(all ranks) leaving the RAF 2005,2006,2007.....2015. Number of people(all ranks) leaving the Navy 2005,2006,2007.....2015. Also for each service (army/navy/raf) and year, I would like to request, average length of service in years.

Following further communications on 11th December 2015 the request was clarified to be:

I would be looking for both sets of data for average length of service figures for:

- a. financial years from FY07/08 to FY14/15 and
- b. calendar years from 2008 to 2014

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found in Tables 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 2.2 below.

Table 1.1: Outflow of UK Regulars² by Service each Financial Year (1 April - 31 March)

	FY05/06	FY06/07	FY07/08	FY08/09	FY09/10	FY10/11	FY11/12	FY12/13	FY13/14	FY14/15
All Services	23 260	25 320	24 760	21 650	18 270	18 140	21 370	23 520	23 000	18 910
RNRM ³	4 490	4 400	4 330	4 440	3 720	3 630	4 320	4 350	3 790	3 520
Army	14 190	15 770	15 280	13 080	11 560	11 500	13 200	14 890	15 740	12 210
RAF	4 590	5 150	5 150	4 120	2 990	3 010	3 850	4 280	3 480	3 180

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Table 1.2: Average Length of Service¹ (in years) of UK Regulars² who Outflowed during each Financial Year by Service

	FY07/08	FY08/09	FY09/10	FY10/11	FY11/12	FY12/13	FY13/14	FY14/15
All Services	9.2	9.4	8.8	10.5	11.6	11.8	12.0	11.6
RNRM ³	9.6	9.8	9.8	10.9	12.3	12.4	12.6	11.9
Army	7.3	7.7	7.3	8.7	9.6	10.1	10.7	10.2
RAF	14.6	14.3	13.7	16.9	17.7	17.2	17.4	16.8

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Table 2.1: Outflow of UK Regulars by Service each Calendar Year (1 January - 31 December)

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
All Services	23 880	24 160	25 650	22 730	18 810	18 050	19 200	25 140	23 520	18 820
RNRM ³	4 510	4 270	4 530	4 440	3 940	3 510	3 720	4 870	3 920	3 510
Army	14 870	14 710	16 030	14 100	11 560	11 590	12 200	15 510	16 100	12 090
RAF	4 500	5 190	5 090	4 180	3 310	2 960	3 280	4 750	3 500	3 210

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Table 2.2: Average Length of Service¹ of UK Regulars² who Outflowed during each Calendar Year by Service

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
All Services	9.2	9.0	10.0	11.1	12.1	11.9	11.8
RNRM ³	9.7	9.7	10.5	11.7	12.5	12.7	12.2
Army	7.4	7.4	8.2	9.3	10.3	10.5	10.4
RAF	14.5	13.7	16.1	17.3	17.5	17.6	16.8

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Notes

1. Length of Service (LOS) is calculated as the difference between date of exit and date of entry. There are known problems with the date of entry information extracted from the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) database. If personnel have transferred from another Service, have served under an alternative assignment type (e.g. Reserve forces), are re-entrants or have transferred from Other Ranks to Officers, their entry date may correspond to any of these events. The resulting LOS may reflect their current period of service, include previous service, or it may be the time that has elapsed since they first joined the Armed Forces, irrespective of any break in service. It will invariably include time spent on untrained strength. Personnel with incomplete entry / exit date information on their exit record, which would prevent calculation of LOS, have been removed from this response.
2. UK Regular Forces comprises Full-time trained and untrained personnel but does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and Reservists.
3. RNRM comprises the Royal Navy and the Royal Marines.

Rounding

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 10. Numbers ending in 5 are rounded to the nearest 20 to avoid systematic bias. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

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, <https://ico.org.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)