

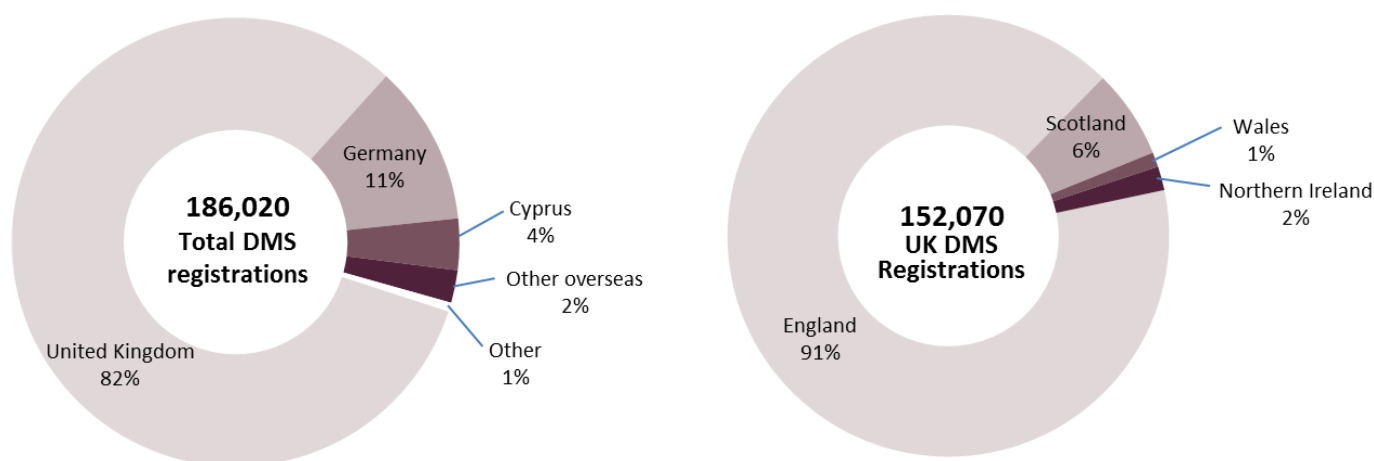


Published 27 August 2015

This quarterly Official Statistic provides summary statistics on the number of serving UK Armed Forces personnel and entitled civilian personnel with a Defence Medical Services (DMS) registration. Personnel with a DMS registration have their primary care (GP services) provided by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) rather than the NHS. This report uses a snapshot of data as at 1 July 2015. Reports are released quarterly, eight weeks after the reporting point. The next report will be published on 26 November 2015.

Key Points and Trends

Figure 1: UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian personnel DMS registrations, by registration location, 1 July 2015



▼ A decrease of 3,570 since 1 April 2015

Source: DMICP Data Warehouse

Of the **186,020** UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian personnel with a DMS registration, **152,070¹** (**82%**) are located in the UK. Of these, **136,410** are UK Armed Forces personnel and **15,660** are entitled civilian personnel. NHS Wiltshire CCG had the largest number of UK Armed Forces (**n=15,370**) and entitled civilian (**n=5,140**) DMS registrations.

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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-WDS-Pubs@mod.uk

¹ Due to rounding, subtotals will not always add up to the total.

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Other bulletins in this series can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-personnel-nhs-commissioning-quarterly-statistics-index>

Supplementary tables containing all data presented in this publication can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/defence-personnel-nhs-commissioning-quarterly-statistics-financial-year-201516>

Introduction

This report is being released to enable the MOD, the Department of Health, NHS England (and devolved administrations), Public Health England, Local Area Authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups to make informed decisions regarding the commissioning of clinical services in different parts of the country depending on the size and make-up of the Armed Forces populations requiring access to care, and to contribute to the MODs commitment to release information where possible.

Information has been presented by²:

- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Local Area Authority (LAA) (England)
- Local Health Board (LHB) and Local Area Authority (LAA) (Wales)
- Community Health Partnership (CHP) and Council Area (CA) (Scotland)
- Local Commissioning Group (LCG) and Local Government District (LGD) (Northern Ireland)
- Defence Primary Healthcare region (DPHC) (UK)

Data are presented for personnel with a DMS registration. UK Armed Forces Serving personnel comprising: Regular personnel, Gurkhas, Officer Designates and Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) Full Commitment (FC) personnel. Entitled civilian personnel data presented comprise Service personnel family dependents and MOD employed civilian personnel who are entitled to care at MOD primary care facilities.

² As advised by the Office of National Statistics (ONS)

Main Findings

Table 1 presents the location of UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian personnel as at 1 July 2015. Please see Table A1.2 in the supplementary tables for numbers by Service.

Table 1: UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian personnel DMS registrations, by registration location, 1 July 2015, Numbers ^{1,2,3,4}

Location	All persons	UK Armed Forces	+/-	Civilian	+/-
ALL	186,020	150,510		35,510	
UNITED KINGDOM	152,070	136,410	+	15,660	
of which:					
England	137,870	123,140	+	14,720	
Wales	1,640	1,340		300	
Scotland	9,920	9,650		270	+
Northern Ireland	2,640	2,270		370	
OTHER	33,950	14,100	--	19,850	-
of which:					
Germany	21,500	9,430	--	12,080	-
Cyprus	6,880	2,630	+	4,250	-
Other overseas	4,370	930		3,440	-
Reserve Practices	160	160	++	10	
Unknown ⁵	1,030	960	--	70	

Source: DMICP Data Warehouse

¹ Due to rounding, please note that totals may not equal the sum of their parts.

² The presence of +/- indicates percentage changes in figures over the last quarter. + indicates there has been between a 5% and 10% increase and - indicates there has been between a 5% and 10% decrease. ++ indicates a greater than 10% increase and -- indicates a greater than 10% decrease.

³ Where possible, UK Armed Forces patients registered in other overseas locations are allocated back to their last known UK, Germany or Cyprus practice in the last 12 months. No entitled civilian patients registered in other overseas locations are allocated back to previous regions.

⁴ Please note that some population changes will be due to the resolution of a technical issue in the data warehouse. Personnel have now been assigned to their correct registration location.

⁵ Unknown includes data quality issues and data management practice registrations.

As at 1 July 2015:

- **81%** of all DMS registrations at MOD medical centres were for UK Armed Forces personnel.
- **82%** of all DMS registrations (UK Armed Forces and civilian) at MOD medical centres were in the UK; **74%** of all DMS registrations were in England.
- For UK Armed Forces personnel; **91%** were registered in the UK (**82%** in England, **6%** in Scotland, **2%** in Northern Ireland, and **1%** in Wales); **9%** were registered overseas.
- For entitled civilians personnel; **44%** were registered in the UK (**41%** in England, **1%** in Scotland, **1%** Wales and **1%** Northern Ireland); **56%** were registered overseas.
- **3,440** entitled civilian personnel were registered to practices in overseas locations other than Germany or Cyprus, a reduction of **5%** since the previous quarters report. This is primarily due to data cleansing.

Main Findings (Cont.)

- Germany has seen a **9%** decrease in UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian registrations in the last quarter due to the drawdown of forces from Germany. The Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) 2010³ announced that while the presence of the British military in Germany has played an important role in demonstrating Alliance solidarity, there was no longer any operational requirement for UK forces to be based there, and the aim to withdraw forces from Germany by 2020.
- **13%** of Army personnel DMS registrations are overseas (**77%** in Germany, **16%** in Cyprus). **4%** of RAF personnel DMS registrations are overseas (**31%** in Germany, **64%** in Cyprus) and **1%** of Navel Service personnel DMS registrations are overseas.

In the previous publication, released 28 May 2015, Defence Statistics released provisional figures due to an increase in the number of personnel with 'unknown' patient registration location details. This was due to a technical issue in the data warehouse resulting in 8,600 UK Armed Forces personnel who could not be linked to their patient registration location details. This issue did not affect the live patient record and has now been resolved.

This issue predominantly impacted new recruits. Therefore, the increase in registrations at training locations since last quarter is due to both new intake and personnel with 'unknown' patient registration location details last quarter being assigned to their correct registration location.

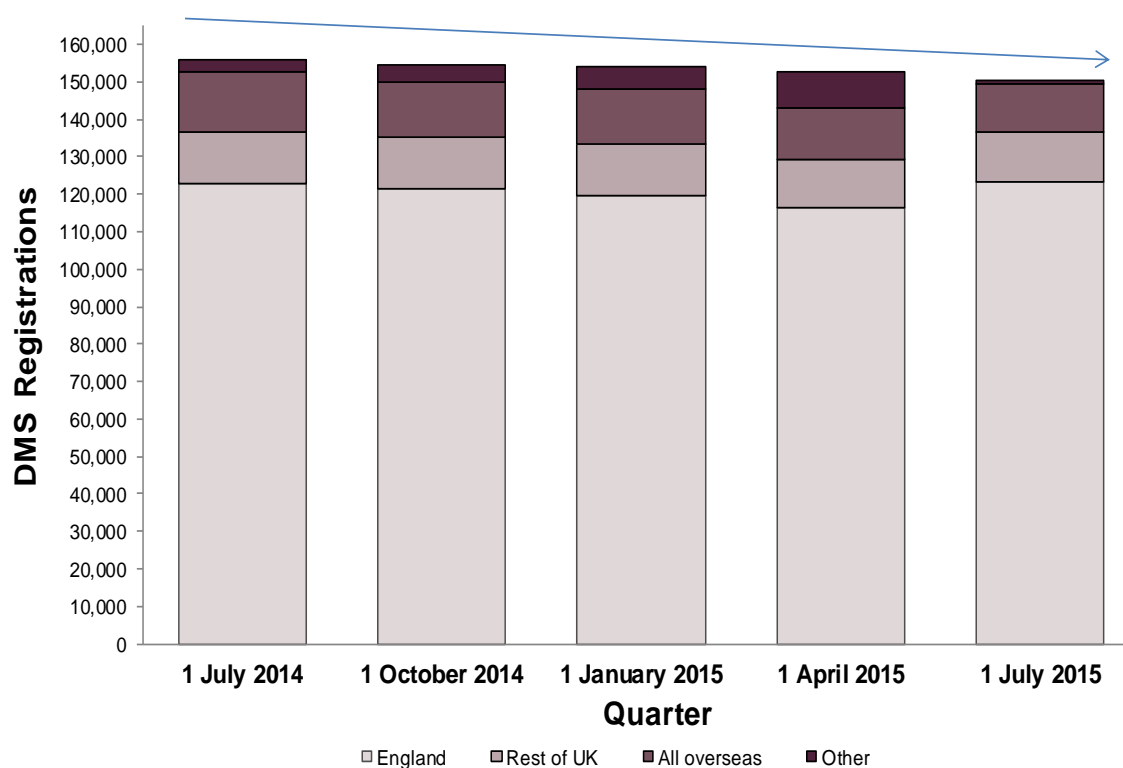
³ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/62482/strategic-defence-security-review.pdf

UK Armed Forces Personnel

Figure 2 presents the number of registrations for UK Armed Forces personnel over the last five quarters which has decreased by **2,050** since 1 April 2015. This is due to the Armed Forces conforming to reduction targets as set out in the SDSR 2010. Since 1 October 2013 there has been an overall reduction of **15,160** personnel.

In addition to the overall reduction of the UK Armed Forces, some population changes denoted by +/- in **Table 1** are influenced by the movement of groups of registrations from one practice to another. Please see the Regional Analysis section for further details.

Figure 2: UK Armed Forces DMS registrations, by country and quarter, 1 July 2014 – 1 July 2015, numbers ^{1,2,3}



Source: DMICP Data Warehouse

¹ Rest of UK consists of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

² All Overseas consists of Germany, Cyprus and Other Overseas.

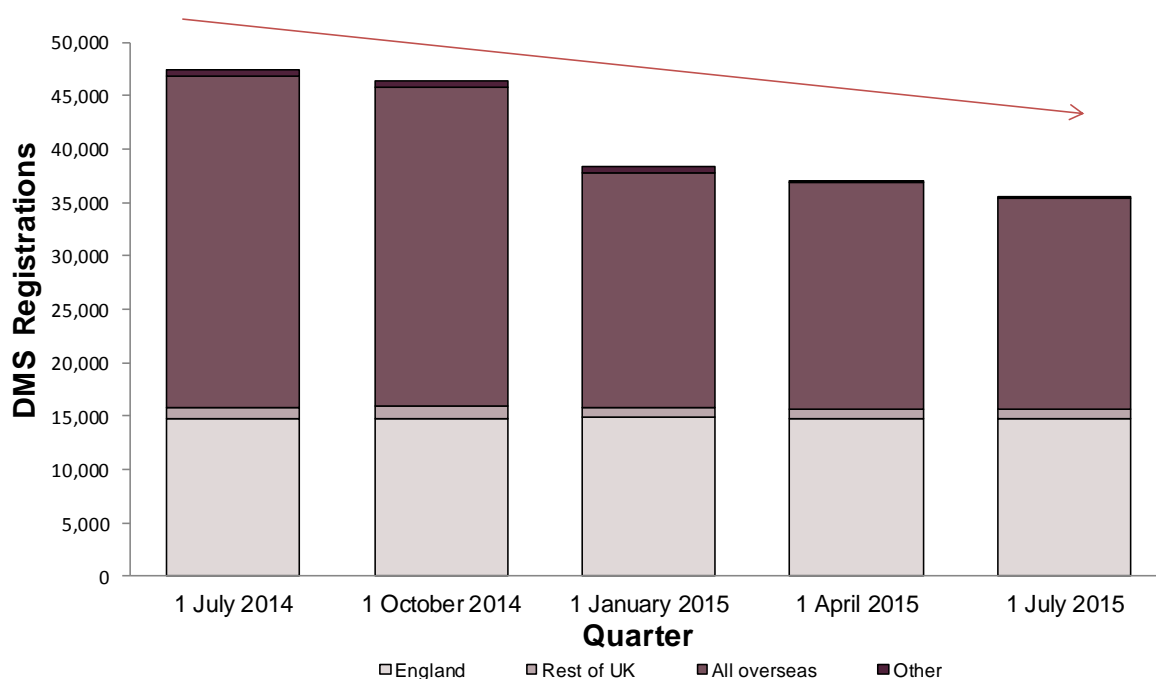
³ Other consists of Reserve Practices and Unknown.

Entitled Civilian Personnel

Figure 3 presents the number of registrations for entitled civilians over the last five quarters which has decreased by **1,510** since the last report dated 1 May 2015. Since 1 October 2013 there has been an overall reduction of **12,780** entitled civilian personnel.

As the Army Basing Programme moves UK Armed Forces personnel back to the UK, it is expected that the number of entitled civilians will fall. This is because the majority of family dependents that return to the UK will no longer be entitled civilians and will revert back to being under the primary care of the NHS.

Figure 3: Entitled civilian DMS registrations, by country and quarter, 1 July 2014 – 1 July 2015, numbers



Source: DMICP Data Warehouse

¹ Rest of UK consists of Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

² All Overseas consists of Germany, Cyprus and Other Overseas.

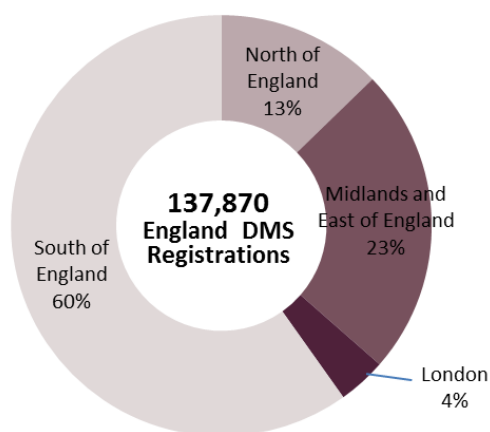
³ Other consists of Reserve Practices and Unknown.

Regional Analysis

DMS registrations by location, age and gender can be found in the supplementary tables of this report.

England Regional Analysis

Figure 4: UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian DMS registrations, by location, 1 July 2015



▲ An increase of 6,890 since 1 April 2015

Source: DMICP Data Warehouse

For England statistics for each CCG and LAA please see Tables B1.1 to B2.7 in the supplementary tables of this report. There are a number of locations where there have been changes in the number of DMS registrations since last quarter.

The number of UK Armed Forces registrations at NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG has increased by **1,570** since last quarter. This is due to a combination of: new intake; personnel with 'unknown' patient registration location details last quarter being assigned to their correct registration location due to the resolution of a technical error; and The Light Dragoons who are moving from Swanton Morley (NHS South Norfolk CCG) to Catterick under the Army Basing Programme⁴.

UK Armed Forces personnel from 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards are in the process of moving from Sennelager (Germany) to Swanton Morley (NHS South Norfolk CCG) under the Army Basing Programme. Overall, the number of UK Armed Forces registrations at NHS South Norfolk CCG has decreased by **110** since last quarter.

The number of UK Armed Forces registrations at NHS Hounslow CCG has increased by **380** since last quarter. This is primarily due to 1st Battalion Irish Guards moving from Aldershot (NHS North East Hampshire and Farnham CCG) to Hounslow under the Army Basing Programme.

The increase in UK Armed Forces registrations at NHS North West Surrey CCG is due to new entrants registered at Pirbright.

The number of UK Armed Forces registrations at NHS Cumbria CCG has decreased by **130** since last quarter. This is primarily due to HMS Artful moving to Faslane (Argyll and Bute CHP).

Resolution of a technical issue in the data warehouse has resulted in personnel previously in the 'Unknown' category being allocated to their correct registration location. This issue predominantly impacted new recruits at Harrogate (NHS Harrogate and Rural District CCG) and Catterick (NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG) who tend to be in the 16-19 and 20-24 age groups.

⁴ <http://www.army.mod.uk/structure/33834.aspx>

Regional Analysis (Cont.)

Wales Regional Analysis

There have been no major changes in Wales this quarter. For Wales statistics by LHB and LAA please see Tables C1.1 to C2.7 in the supplementary tables of this report.

Scotland Regional Analysis

For Scotland statistics by CHP and CA please see Tables D1.1 to D2.7 in the supplementary tables of this report.

The number of UK Armed Forces registrations at Highland CHP has decreased by **200** since last quarter. This is primarily due to 3 SCOTS who have deployed on Op TOSCA in Cyprus, the battalion will recover to Inverness in September 2015.

The number of UK Armed Forces registrations at Glenrothes and North East Fife has increased by **80** since last quarter. This is primarily due to The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and 2 Battalion Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers moving from Germany to Leuchars under the Army Basing Programme. This increase in registrations will continue as 110 Provost Company and 1st Regiment Royal Military Police also move to Leuchars.

Please note that HMS Queen Elizabeth is currently being built in Scotland. The 120 personnel who are assigned to this ship's medical centre are registered at a MOD medical centre within Dunfermline and West Fife CHP. When built in November 2016, HMS Queen Elizabeth will be based at Portsmouth and MOD medical centres within NHS Portsmouth CCG will then be responsible for the care of 400 personnel (increasing to 1,100) assigned to HMS Queen Elizabeth.

Northern Ireland Analysis

There have been no major changes in Northern Ireland this quarter. For Northern Ireland statistics by LCG and LDG please see Tables E1.1 to E2.7 in the supplementary tables of this report.

Defence Primary Healthcare Regional Analysis

For statistics by DPHC region please see Tables F1.1 to F1.7 in the supplementary tables of this report.

Changes seen in DPHC regions reflect those seen in the England, Scotland and Northern Ireland regional analysis.

Germany has seen a decrease of **2,120** UK Armed Forces and entitled civilian registrations in the last quarter due to the Army Basing Programme. Consequently, there has been an increase in UK Armed Forces registrations at some UK MOD medical centres as personnel relocate back to the UK, primarily NHS South Norfolk CCG (East region), NHS Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby CCG (Northern England region) and NHS South Eastern Hampshire CCG (South region).

Methodology

This section provides a brief summary of the methodology and data sources; more detailed information is available in the background quality report for this bulletin.

The analysis provided in this publication is based on patient registration information from the Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) and cross-referenced with the Joint Personnel Administration system (JPA) for Service personnel.

The following UK Armed Forces personnel have been included: Regulars, FTRS and Gurkhas with a DMS registration. This includes both trained and untrained personnel. Service personnel have been excluded when they have a non-DMS registration type. The data presented on entitled civilian personnel were based on the number of DMS registrations in DMICP identified as 'civilian'. 'Civilians' include contractors, MOD employed entitled civilians and military family dependents.

For UK Armed Forces personnel only, Defence Statistics have devised a process to allocate personnel to a medical centre where they are registered at overseas practices (excluding Germany and Cyprus), data management practices, reserve practices and at incorrect facilities. For civilian patients, no data processing is carried out.

Where a previous UK, Germany or Cyprus medical centre could not be identified in the last 12 months, personnel have been presented in Table 1 as follows:

- Overseas, Operations and Exercises - 'Other Overseas'
- Data management practices – 'Unknown'
- Non primary care locations – 'Unknown'
- Reserve Practices – 'Reserve Practices'

As at 1 July 2015, 2,482 UK Armed Forces personnel held a non-DMS registration. As such, these personnel were excluded from the data.

All UK medical centres identified from DMICP were mapped to an NHS CCG using a list published by the Health and Social Care Information Centre and the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

For tables where age bands have been presented, the Service age bands start at 16 (the youngest age at which it is possible to join the Armed Forces). The entitled civilian age bands start from 0-4. Note that the age bands in the tables span five years with the exception of a 16-19 category for Service personnel and the 60+ category for both Service and entitled civilian personnel. The age presented is the age at the time of the data extract.

Naval Service personnel registered to surface or submarine flotilla have been allocated to either HMS Nelson (Portsmouth), HMS Drake (Plymouth) or HMS Neptune (Faslane, Scotland). The base ports are responsible for the care of individuals requiring medical treatment or onward referral to the NHS.

Glossary

Army Basing Programme

The Basing Plan sets out the location changes for the Army and also confirms the drawdown of all units from Germany by 2020. The plan has transitioned into a delivery Programme and this will affect most areas of the Army as more than 100 units will either relocate, re-role, convert or disband over the next six years.

Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Responsible for the commissioning of clinical services and provision of public health initiatives in England.

Community Health Partnership (CHP)

Responsible for the commissioning of clinical services and provision of public health initiatives in Scotland

Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP)

The MOD electronic primary health care patient record. The DMICP programme commenced during 2007 and comprises an integrated primary Health Record (iHR) for clinical use and a pseudo-anonymised central data warehouse. Prior to this data warehouse, medical records were kept locally, at each individual medical centre. By 2010, DMICP was in place for the UK and the majority of Germany. Rollout to other overseas locations commenced in November 2011.

Defence Medical Service (DMS)

Provides primary healthcare, dental care, hospital care, rehabilitation, occupational medicine, community mental healthcare and specialist medical care to Service personnel and entitled civilian personnel.

Defence Medical Service Registration

A DMS registration at a MOD medical centre means that the MOD are responsible for providing long term, permanent and full primary healthcare; however these individuals will be referred to the NHS for secondary healthcare provision. UK Armed Forces Serving personnel entitled to DMS includes Regular personnel, Gurkhas, Officer Designates and Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel who are Full Commitment (FC). Some service personnel family dependents and MOD employed civilian personnel are entitled to care.

Entitled Civilians

Civilians whose primary healthcare is provided by Defence Medical Services. Includes contractors, MOD employed entitled civilians and military family dependents. Numbers presented in this report are not representative of the number of MOD employed civilians or military dependents associated with the MOD as the majority of MOD civilian employees are not entitled to military health care, and the majority of military dependents will be registered with an NHS GP practice.

Joint Personnel Administration (JPA)

The personnel administration system used by the UK Armed Forces. It is the single authoritative source for personnel demographic information.

Local Commissioning Group (LCG)

Responsible for the commissioning of clinical services and provision of public health initiatives in Northern Ireland.

Local Health Board (LHB)

Responsible for the commissioning of clinical services and provision of public health initiatives in Wales.

Glossary (Cont.)

Non - Defence Medical Service Registration (Non - DMS)

A 'non-DMS' registration denotes that a person's primary healthcare is delivered by the NHS, with a record also being held on DMICP. This record is used for when they access healthcare facilities in DMS medical centres for emergency or ad hoc treatment, and for treatment whilst on operations. Service personnel have been excluded when they have a non-DMS registration type.

Strategic Defence and Security Review 2010 (SDSR)

The SDSR was a review of the United Kingdom's Defence and security capability published in 2010. It envisaged that by 2020 each Service will number: Royal Navy 29,000, RAF 31,500 and Army 94,000. The target for the Army was revised to 82,000 following the internal 3 Month Exercise in July 2011 and announcements in the Army 2020 paper published July 2012.

UK Armed Forces Personnel

Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) - FTRS are personnel who fill Service posts for a set period on a full-time basis while being a member of one of the Reserve Services, either as an ex-regular or as a volunteer. An FTRS reservist on:

Full Commitment (FC) fulfils the same range of duties and deployment liability as a regular Service person;

Limited Commitment (LC) serves at one location but can be detached for up to 35 days a year;

Home Commitment (HC) is employed at one location and cannot be detached elsewhere.

Gurkhas - Gurkhas are recruited and employed in the British and Indian Armies under the terms of the 1947 Tri-Partite Agreement (TPA) on a broadly comparable basis. They remain Nepalese citizens but in all other respects are full members of UK Armed Forces. Since 2008, Gurkhas are entitled to join the UK Regular Forces after 5 years of service and apply for British citizenship.

Regulars - full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding FTRS, Gurkhas, Naval activated Reservists, mobilised Reservists, Military Provost Guarding Service (MPGS) and Non Regular Permanent Service (NRPS).

Further Information

Symbols

Table 1 containing UK Armed Forces and civilian breakdowns shows the changes in population figures over the latest quarter. The following symbols indicate percentage changes:

- + There has been between 5% and 10% increase since the previous quarter;
- ++ There has been a greater than 10% increase since the previous quarter;
- - There has been between 5% and 10% decrease since the previous quarter;
- -- There has been a greater than 10% decrease since the previous quarter.

Percentage changes have not been shown where population figures were below 20 in both the current and previous quarters. This is because a difference of a small number of people can show a large percentage change, creating a false sense of change over the three month period.

Rounding

The tables in this report have been scrutinised to ensure individual identities have not been revealed inadvertently. In line with the Defence Statistics rounding policy (May 2009), figures have been rounded to the nearest 10 in keeping with the Office for National Statistics Guidelines. All numbers fewer than five have been suppressed and presented as '~'. Rounding is desirable both as a means of disclosure control and to improve the clarity of outputs and convey appropriate levels of precision to users. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts. Numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Further Information (Cont.)

Contact Us

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

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Tri-Service Manpower	020 7807 8896	DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.uk
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