



Ministry  
of Defence

**Defence Statistics (Tri Service)  
Ministry Of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB  
United Kingdom**

Telephone [MOD]: **+44 (0)20 7807 8896**  
Facsimile [MOD]: **+44 (0)20 7218 0969**  
E-mail: **DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk**

Reference: **FOI 2015 03008**

Date: **31 March 2015**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 15 March 2015 requesting the following information:

*“Please provide intake figures of armed forces by sex and age from 1963. Please send all intake figures that you have to 2014 going back as far as you can.”*

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 some information in scope of your request is held. Please find enclosed the information you requested.

**Intake to the UK Regular forces by sex and age** is available for the time period **1999/2000 to 2013/14**.

- Information for financial years **1999/2000 to 2006/07** is available in existing publications, where the relevant information can be found is outlined below.
- Information for financial years **2007/08 to 2013/14** is provided in tables overleaf.

You may also find it helpful to note **intake to the UK Regular forces by sex** is available for the time period **1963/64 to 2013/14**. For where to find available information please see the Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) part of this response on page 6.

### **Intake to the UK Regular forces by sex and age**

Intake information by sex and age for **1999/2000 to 2006/07** is available in Tri Service Publication 19 (TSP 19: UK Regular Forces Intake and Outflow by Age Report) publication available through the national archives:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116142443/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/index.php/publication/personnel/military/archive/TSP-19-UK-regular-forces-intake-and-outflow-by-age>

Information by sex and age for the 1999/2000 financial year is readily available in the [TSP 19 1999/2000](#) report; information for financial year 1999/2000 to 2006/07 can be found in the more recent issues of TSP 19.

Intake to the UK Regular Forces by age and sex for financial years **2007/08 to 2013/14** has been prepared for this response; please see overleaf tables providing this information.

## Intake to the UK Regular Forces by sex and age, financial years 2007/08 - 2013/14

### Notes and Definitions

- Figures show intake to UK Regular Forces which comprises new entrants, re-entrants, direct trained entrants (including professionally qualified officers) and intake from the reserves. They exclude all movements within the Regular Forces; including flows from untrained to trained strength, transfers between Services and flows from ranks to officer due to promotion.
- Figures are for Intake to UK Regular Forces and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and mobilised reservists.
- Age is age at last birthday.
- Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10 and numbers ending in “5” have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Additionally, totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not equal the sum of their rounded parts.

- \* not available
- zero
- ~ five or less

## Intake to the UK Regular Forces by sex and age, financial years 2007/08 - 2013/14

	2007/08			2008/09		
	UK Regulars	Female	Male	UK Regulars	Female	Male
<b>Intake for all ages</b>	<b>21 350</b>	<b>2 120</b>	<b>19 230</b>	<b>23 190</b>	<b>2 140</b>	<b>21 060</b>
16	2 700	230	2 480	2 720	210	2 510
17	3 250	310	2 940	3 220	310	2 920
18	2 810	290	2 520	3 070	260	2 800
19	2 490	230	2 260	2 760	230	2 530
20	1 860	160	1 700	2 100	170	1 920
21	1 560	160	1 400	1 790	180	1 610
22	1 360	170	1 180	1 550	160	1 390
23	1 130	140	1 000	1 380	150	1 230
24	880	80	800	1 020	110	920
25	760	80	680	810	100	710
26	540	60	480	630	60	560
27	420	50	380	470	50	420
28	360	40	330	360	30	330
29	230	30	200	280	30	250
30	180	20	160	210	20	190
31	140	20	130	180	10	170
32	140	10	130	160	20	140
33	80	10	70	80	10	70
34	60	10	50	70	~	70
35	40	~	40	60	~	50
36	60	~	60	60	10	50
37	20	~	20	20	~	20
38	30	10	20	20	~	20
39	30	~	30	20	~	20
40	90	~	90	40	~	30
41	30	-	30	30	~	30
42	10	-	10	10	~	10
43	20	~	10	10	-	10
44	10	-	10	20	~	10
45	10	-	10	10	~	10
46	10	~	10	10	-	10
47	10	~	10	~	-	~
48	10	-	10	~	-	~
49	~	~	~	10	-	10
50	~	~	~	~	-	~
51	-	-	-	~	-	~
52	~	-	~	~	-	~
53	~	-	~	-	-	-
54	~	-	~	-	-	-
55 & above	~	-	~	~	-	~

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

For notes and definitions please see page 2

**Intake to the UK Regular Forces by sex and age, financial years 2007/08 - 2013/14 (contd.)**

	2009/10			2010/11		
	UK Regulars	Female	Male	UK Regulars	Female	Male
<b>Intake for all ages</b>	<b>21 500</b>	<b>1 910</b>	<b>19 590</b>	<b>12 730</b>	<b>1 120</b>	<b>11 610</b>
16	2 130	180	1 950	1 470	80	1 380
17	2 490	250	2 240	1 290	110	1 180
18	2 650	240	2 400	1 490	160	1 330
19	2 660	220	2 440	1 390	130	1 260
20	2 190	160	2 030	1 260	80	1 180
21	1 810	130	1 670	1 080	80	1 000
22	1 670	170	1 500	1 060	100	960
23	1 410	130	1 280	940	110	830
24	1 070	110	960	660	60	600
25	810	80	740	560	50	510
26	600	50	560	400	30	370
27	460	40	420	290	30	260
28	380	30	350	230	30	200
29	270	30	240	140	20	120
30	230	30	200	120	10	110
31	170	10	160	100	10	100
32	140	10	120	80	10	70
33	60	~	60	30	~	20
34	60	10	50	30	~	20
35	50	10	40	20	~	20
36	40	~	40	20	~	20
37	20	~	20	10	~	~
38	20	~	20	10	-	10
39	10	~	10	~	-	~
40	20	~	20	10	~	10
41	10	-	10	~	-	~
42	20	~	20	10	~	10
43	10	~	10	10	~	~
44	10	-	10	~	-	~
45	10	-	10	~	-	~
46	10	-	10	10	-	10
47	10	~	~	~	-	~
48	10	~	~	~	-	~
49	~	-	~	~	-	~
50	~	-	~	~	-	~
51	~	~	-	~	-	~
52	~	-	~	~	-	~
53	~	-	~	~	-	~
54	~	-	~	~	-	~
55 & above	-	-	-	~	~	~

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

For notes and definitions please see page 2

**Intake to the UK Regular Forces by sex and age, financial years 2007/08 - 2013/14 (contd.)**

	2011/12			2012/13			2013/14		
	UK Regulars	Female	Male	UK Regulars	Female	Male	UK Regulars	Female	Male
<b>Intake for all ages</b>	<b>14 800</b>	<b>1 290</b>	<b>13 510</b>	<b>14 370</b>	<b>1 200</b>	<b>13 170</b>	<b>11 880</b>	<b>1 140</b>	<b>10 740</b>
16	1 490	100	1 390	1 000	90	910	880	70	800
17	1 620	130	1 490	1 520	120	1 400	1 240	100	1 140
18	1 700	150	1 540	1 640	140	1 500	1 340	110	1 230
19	1 760	170	1 590	1 790	120	1 680	1 410	120	1 290
20	1 580	110	1 480	1 490	90	1 400	1 180	100	1 080
21	1 320	90	1 230	1 380	110	1 280	1 090	110	980
22	1 180	100	1 080	1 210	100	1 110	1 060	100	960
23	980	90	880	1 010	100	910	930	110	820
24	810	70	750	840	90	750	690	70	620
25	600	60	530	670	60	610	580	60	510
26	440	50	390	490	40	440	390	40	350
27	340	40	300	340	30	310	280	40	230
28	270	30	240	260	30	230	230	30	200
29	190	30	160	190	20	170	170	20	140
30	140	20	120	140	20	130	100	10	90
31	120	10	110	110	10	100	100	20	80
32	100	20	90	110	10	100	80	10	70
33	30	~	30	40	10	30	30	~	30
34	30	~	20	20	~	20	20	~	10
35	20	~	20	20	~	20	20	~	20
36	10	-	10	10	~	10	20	~	10
37	10	~	10	10	-	10	10	-	10
38	10	~	~	~	~	~	~	-	~
39	~	-	~	10	~	10	10	~	~
40	20	~	10	10	-	10	10	~	10
41	10	~	~	10	~	10	10	~	10
42	~	~	~	~	-	~	10	~	10
43	10	-	10	10	-	10	10	-	10
44	~	-	~	~	-	~	~	-	~
45	~	~	~	10	~	~	~	~	~
46	~	-	~	~	~	~	~	-	~
47	~	-	~	~	-	~	~	-	~
48	~	-	~	~	-	~	~	-	~
49	-	-	-	~	-	~	~	-	~
50	~	-	~	~	-	~	~	-	~
51	~	-	~	~	-	~	~	-	~
52	~	-	~	-	-	-	-	-	-
53	~	~	~	-	-	-	-	-	-
54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 & above	~	~	~	~	-	~	~	-	~

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

For notes and definitions please see page 2

## Intake to the UK Regular forces by sex

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note historic **Intake to the UK Regular forces by sex** is available for the time period **1963/64 to 2013/14**.

- Information for financial years **1963/1964 to 1980/81** is provided in the table overleaf.
- Comparable overlapping historic information for financial years **1975/76 to 2013/14** can be found in historic Defence Statistics publications, where to find the relevant publications is provided in the tables overleaf.

Information regarding historic intake information by sex to the UK Regulars since **1963/64 to 1980/81** has been prepared for this response; please see overleaf tables providing this information.

### Notes and Definitions

- Figures for personnel joining as Officers and for female personnel joining before financial year 1963/64 are unavailable; only male, Other Ranks intake for 1952/53 to 1962/63 is available.
- Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10 and numbers ending in “5” have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.
- Additionally, totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not equal the sum of their rounded parts.
  - \* not available
  - zero
  - ~ five or less

## Recruitment to UK Regulars by whether Officer or Other Ranks and sex, 1952/53 - 1980/81

The figures below do not report a population for Regulars consistent with that currently reported though all figures include Nursing Services as per current definitions of the UK Regulars

	<b>All Personnel</b>	Female	Male	<b>Other Ranks</b>	Female	Male	<b>Officers</b>	Female	Male
1952/53	*	*	*	<b>99 470</b>	*	99 470	*	*	*
1953/54	*	*	*	<b>81 060</b>	*	81 060	*	*	*
1954/55	*	*	*	<b>72 650</b>	*	72 650	*	*	*
1955/56	*	*	*	<b>62 020</b>	*	62 020	*	*	*
1956/57	*	*	*	<b>69 930</b>	*	69 930	*	*	*
1957/58	*	*	*	<b>50 020</b>	*	50 020	*	*	*
1958/59	*	*	*	<b>68 620</b>	*	68 620	*	*	*
1959/60	*	*	*	<b>52 010</b>	*	52 010	*	*	*
1960/61	*	*	*	<b>47 810</b>	*	47 810	*	*	*
1961/62	*	*	*	<b>54 310</b>	*	54 310	*	*	*
1962/63	*	*	*	<b>49 800</b>	*	49 800	*	*	*
1963/64	<b>41 820</b>	4 910	36 910	<b>40 060</b>	4 590	35 460	<b>1 760</b>	320	1 440
1964/65	<b>50 330</b>	5 630	44 700	<b>48 780</b>	5 380	43 400	<b>1 550</b>	250	1 300
1965/66	<b>45 710</b>	5 980	39 740	<b>42 820</b>	5 580	37 240	<b>2 890</b>	390	2 500
1966/67	<b>48 160</b>	6 220	41 950	<b>45 320</b>	5 800	39 520	<b>2 850</b>	420	2 430
1967/68	<b>39 030</b>	5 320	33 720	<b>36 830</b>	4 940	31 890	<b>2 200</b>	370	1 830
1968/69	<b>34 560</b>	4 730	29 830	<b>32 470</b>	4 400	28 070	<b>2 090</b>	320	1 760
1969/70	<b>42 250</b>	6 070	36 180	<b>40 030</b>	5 760	34 280	<b>2 220</b>	310	1 900
1970/71	<b>47 810</b>	6 740	41 070	<b>45 280</b>	6 390	38 890	<b>2 530</b>	340	2 180
1971/72	<b>55 450</b>	6 580	48 880	<b>52 680</b>	6 190	46 500	<b>2 770</b>	390	2 380
1972/73	<b>46 320</b>	5 320	41 010	<b>43 980</b>	4 960	39 020	<b>2 350</b>	360	1 990
1973/74	<b>32 430</b>	4 710	27 720	<b>30 200</b>	4 400	25 800	<b>2 240</b>	320	1 920
1974/75	<b>42 240</b>	5 380	36 850	<b>40 070</b>	5 110	34 960	<b>2 160</b>	270	1 890
1975/76	<b>46 910</b>	5 220	41 690	<b>44 770</b>	4 970	39 800	<b>2 140</b>	250	1 880
1976/77	<b>40 240</b>	3 850	36 390	<b>37 920</b>	3 530	34 380	<b>2 330</b>	320	2 010
1977/78	<b>38 240</b>	4 050	34 190	<b>35 980</b>	3 750	32 230	<b>2 250</b>	300	1 960
1978/79	<b>43 370</b>	4 590	38 770	<b>40 980</b>	4 310	36 660	<b>2 390</b>	280	2 110
1979/80	<b>50 650</b>	4 450	46 210	<b>47 770</b>	4 110	43 660	<b>2 880</b>	330	2 550
1980/81	<b>50 490</b>	3 800	46 690	<b>47 160</b>	3 390	43 770	<b>3 330</b>	410	2 920

Source: Defence Statistics

You may find it helpful to note comparable historic intake information by sex for **1975/76 to 2013/14** is available in UK Defence Statistics (UKDS) compendium publication; historic versions are available through the national archives:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116142443/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/index.php/publications/UK-defence-statistics-compendium>

And more recent issues on the current Defence Statistics section of the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mod-national-and-official-statistics-by-topic>

The earliest intake information by sex available in these reports is for the 1975/76 financial year this information is readily available on page 58, **Table 2.25**, of the [UK Defence Statistics 2000](#) report.

Detail on the financial years between those published in UKDS 2000 can be found in UKDS older reports and for information later than financial year 1999/2000 up to 2007/08 can be found in more recent issues of the UKDS compendium. The totals for sex are additionally available in the tables provided in the earlier section of this request.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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, <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](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)