



Ministry  
of Defence

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Date: 26 March 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 5 March 2015 requesting the following information:

*“Further to my last request, please can you provide me with the total number of pilots in all three forces, for the last two years.*

- a) the current total number of pilots in the RAF*
- b) the current total number of pilots in the Army*
- c) the current total number of pilots in the Royal Navy*
- d) last year's total number of pilots in the RAF*
- e) last year's total number of pilots in the Army*
- f) last year's total number of pilots in the Royal Navy”*

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 information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below.

We are able to identify the total number of personnel who are designated to be a pilot in each of the Services:

Using information from the Joint Personnel Administration system, Defence Statistics can identify that as at 1 December 2014 there were **1,790** trained regular pilots in the **RAF** and as at 1 December 2013 there were **1,830** pilots in the RAF.

Using information supplied by the Army Air Corps, there was estimated to be approximately **540** trained pilots on strength in the **Army** at September 2014, and **550** trained pilots on strength in the Army at February 2015.

Using information from the Joint Personnel Administration system, Defence Statistics can identify that as at 1 December 2014 there were **530 pilots** in the **Royal Navy / Royal Marines** and as at 1 December 2013 there were **550 pilots** in the Royal Navy / Royal Marines.

Please note that figures have been rounded to the nearest 10, numbers ending in “5” have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

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)