

Changes to the definition of trained strength for the Army and resultant changes to the Ministry of Defence Armed Forces Personnel Statistics: Consultation response

BACKGROUND

1. On 11 July 2016, the Ministry of Defence opened an external consultation with stakeholders about proposed changes to Armed Forces personnel statistics due to the change to the army trained strength definition¹.
2. The personnel statistics affected are published in National Statistics Releases on the GOV.UK website². The publications are as follows:

Monthly Service Personnel Statistics (MSPS)	Biannual Diversity Statistics
Annual MOD Health and Safety Statistics	UK Armed Forces Recovery Capability
Annual Medical Discharges in the UK Armed Forces	

3. The aim of the consultation was to seek user's views on the impact of including Phase 1 trained personnel in the Trained Strength figures for Army on Defence Statistics National Statistics releases.
4. The consultation period ended on 21 August 2016.

RESULTS

5. There were no external responses to this consultation.
6. As outlined in the consultation, in future, the definition of trained strength for the Army is to include phase 1 trained personnel both for UK Regulars and the Future Reserves 2020.
7. For Army, Full-Time Trained personnel who have passed Phase 2 training (and are counted against the liability) will now be called 'Trade Trained'. This is to reflect the fact that these Army personnel have completed Phase 1 training (Basic Training) and Phase 2 training (Trade Training). It has been decided that for simplicity, the term 'Trade Trained' will replace the term 'Trained and counting towards liability' that was proposed in the consultation document. Continued reporting on 'Trade Trained' personnel will enable consistent comparisons with previous time series. The Full Time Trade Trained Strength includes phase 2 trained Regular, phase 2 trained Ghurkhas and those FTRS that count towards the Regular liability.
8. For Army, the term 'Full-Time Trained Strength' will now refer to phase 1 trained Regular, phase 1 trained Ghurkhas and those FTRS that count towards the Regular liability.

These changes will be implemented from 1 October 2016 situation date, for publication on GOV.UK from November 2016 onwards.

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/mod-personnel-statistics-change-to-army-trained-strength-definition>
2. <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence/about/statistics>