



This biannual Statistical Notice provides summary statistics on claims and awards made under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS), paying compensation for injury, illness or death caused by Service. The report presents summary figures on the following:

- Claims, reconsiderations and appeals registered under the AFCS and outcomes for these cases.
- Service and demographic breakdowns for those awarded compensation.
- Claim clearance times, including the average working days it has taken for AFCS claims to be cleared by Veterans UK.
- Recipients of Guaranteed Income Payments (GIPs) and Survivors' Guaranteed Income Payments (SGIPs) under the scheme.
- Service personnel and veterans in receipt of the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP)
- Total amounts paid out in lump sum awards, GIPs and SGIPs under the scheme.

NOTE: There are currently ongoing investigations into the accuracy of outcome data for a small proportion of AFCS claims. Therefore all outcome information presented within this Statistical Bulletin has been marked as provisional. Full details of this investigation are presented within the accompanying Background Quality Report. Any revisions made will be presented within the next scheduled release in June 2016.

Key Points

Injury claims. Between 6 April 2005 to 30 September 2015:

- 60,030^P injury/illness claims were registered under the scheme. The number of injury/illness claims registered has increased year on year, due to a raised awareness of the scheme, as well as larger numbers who are eligible to claim.
- As at 30 September 2015, 31,830^P (56%) of injury claims had been awarded a lump sum award. An additional 1,575^P (3%) were also awarded an ongoing Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP), of which 870 were in receipt of the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP).
- The average (median) clearance time for initial injury / illness claims was four calendar months (75 working days).
- Between 2005/06 and 2014/15 over £422M was paid out in the form of lump sum awards under the scheme, and over £53M paid out in the form of GIPs.

Survivors' claims. Between 6 April 2005 to 30 September 2015:

- 855^P survivors' claims were registered under the scheme. As at 30 September 2015, 330^P (39%) survivors' claims had been awarded, resulting in 290^P eligible partners and 320^P children being in receipt of ongoing payments under the scheme.
- The average (median) clearance time for Survivors' claims was two and a half calendar months (50 working days).
- Between 2005/06 and 2014/15 over £44M has been paid out in the form of Survivors' GIPs.

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Background quality report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-statistics-background-quality-reports-index>

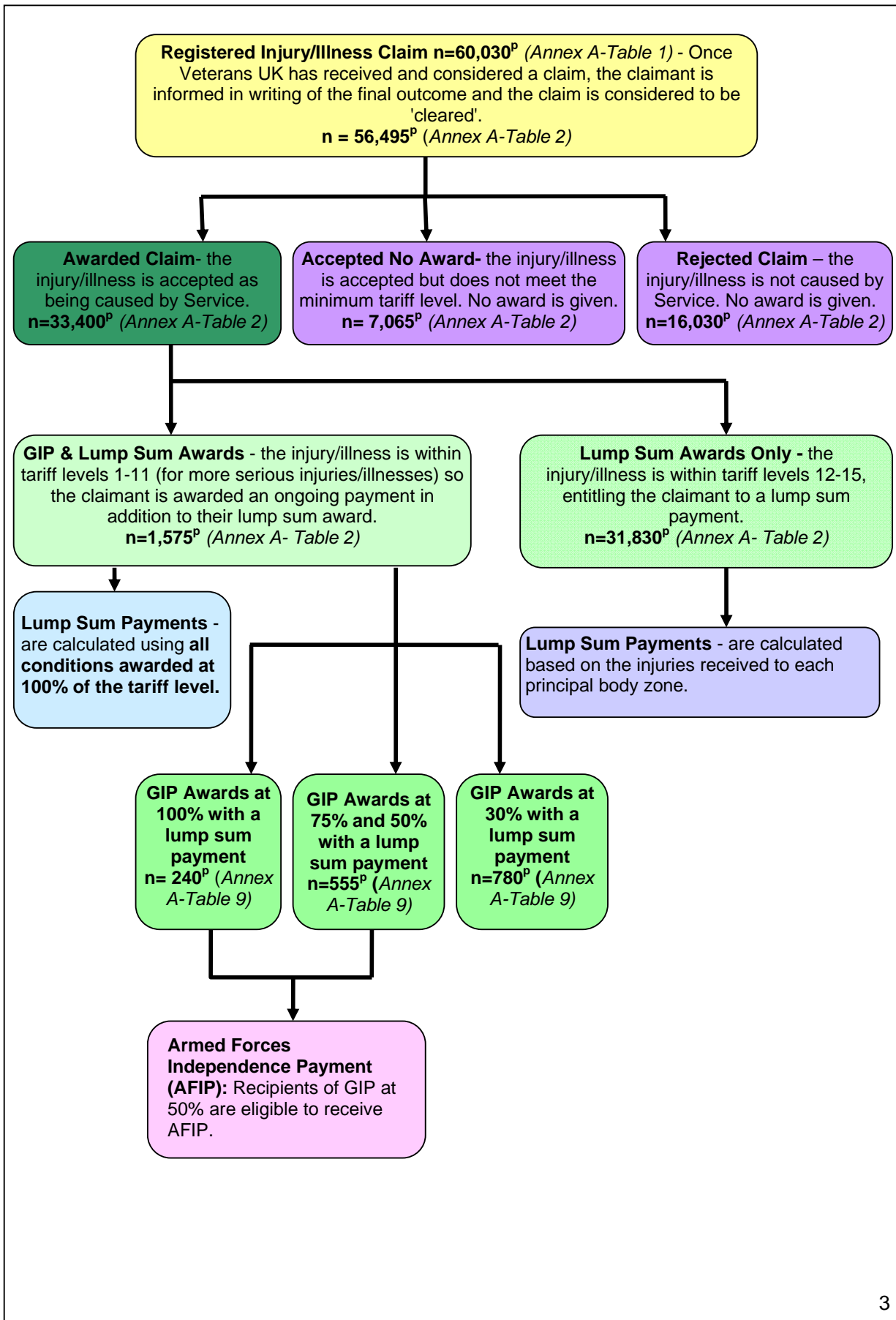
Would you like to be added to our **contact list**, so that we can inform you about updates to these statistics and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing DefStrat-Stat-WDS-Pubs@mod.uk

Introduction

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1. These statistics present summary information on the UK Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) as at 30 September 2015.
2. The AFCS came into force on 6 April 2005. It replaced the previous compensation arrangements provided by the War Pension Scheme (WPS) and the attributable elements of the Armed Forces Pensions Scheme.
3. This report has been provided in response to the increasing number of requests for information about claims and awards under the scheme, and the number of individuals currently in receipt of ongoing compensation. A range of information is requested including further details of claims and awards (e.g. number of people awarded for a particular illness/injury) and further information on those awarded compensation (e.g. the number of people awarded AFCS compensation who deployed to Iraq/Afghanistan). The report is used by external organisations such as NHS trusts, local Government and Armed Forces charities. The report is also used to support other MOD departments in work planning and policy development.
4. For the first time these statistics also include information on the numbers of Service personnel and veterans in receipt of the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP) and financial amounts paid out under the AFCS. This has been included following increased interest in this information, both internally and externally to the MOD.
5. The MOD also produces an annual National Statistic on the WPS and an annual Official Statistic on the location of pension and compensation recipients. These publications can be found at the following links:
 - WPS: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>
 - Location Statistics:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/449660/2015_0727-Location_Stats_March_15_FINAL_-_O.pdf

Results



Results (Cont.)

Registered claims

- Numbers of registered initial injury/illness claims have increased each year (**Figure 1**). This is due to a raised awareness of the scheme, as well as larger numbers who are eligible to claim, i.e. Service related injury/illness with an incident/onset date on or after 6 April 2005. Any claim related to injury or illness with an onset prior to 6 April 2005 will be considered under the WPS. Additionally Service personnel are entitled to register a claim whilst in Service under the AFCS, unlike the WPS where claimants have to wait until they leave Service. Therefore, increasing numbers of Service personnel are claiming whilst in Service within the seven year time limit for injury/illness claims from the date of injury/onset of illness (see Background Quality Report for more information on AFCS time limits to claim).

Figure 1: AFCS claims registered, by claim type and financial year, 2005/06 to 2014/15, numbers

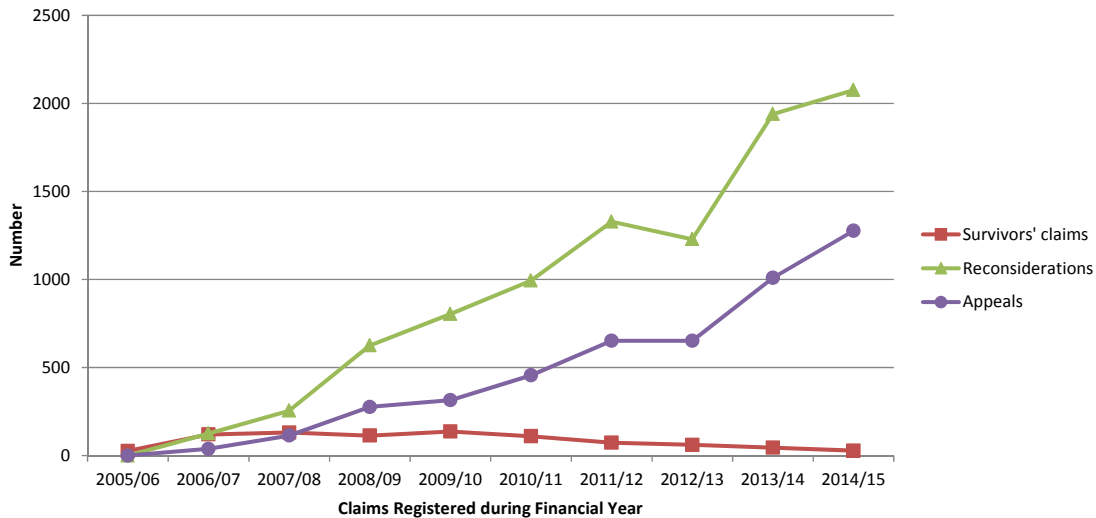


- The numbers of reconsiderations and appeals are increasing over time, due to the increasing numbers of initial claims (**Figure 2**). However the numbers of reconsiderations and appeals have increased at a greater rate over time, indicating a greater proportion of injury/illness claims are resulting in a reconsideration/appeal in more recent years.
- Annual numbers of registered survivors' claims have decreased each year since 2009/10 (**Figure 2**). This reflects the overall number of deaths related to Service, and particularly a decrease in the numbers of operational deaths as a result of the drawdown of Operations in Afghanistan¹.

¹ As published in the MOD annual statistics on deaths among the regular Armed Forces on the Gov.uk website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-deaths-in-service-statistics-index>.

Results (Cont.)

Figure 2: AFCS survivors' claims, reconsiderations and appeals registered, by claim type and financial year, 2005/06 to 2014/15, numbers



9. **Table 1 in Annex A** provides further detail on annual numbers of registered claims by claim type. The numbers of in-Service and post-Service injury claims have increased over time, following the general pattern for injury claims. However medical discharge claims do not follow this same pattern and have decreased since 2011/12.
10. Numbers of registered medical discharge claims each year are low compared to the total number of medical discharges each year². This is likely a result of more Service personnel claiming under the AFCS prior to their medical discharge, and therefore their claim being registered as an in-Service claim. Additionally, medically discharged personnel are required to meet a set of eligibility criteria in order to have a medical discharge claim automatically registered under the AFCS, for example, individuals who have served for less than two years are not automatically considered, along with Tier 1 medical discharges (medical discharges for injuries/illnesses of lower severity).

Claim Outcomes

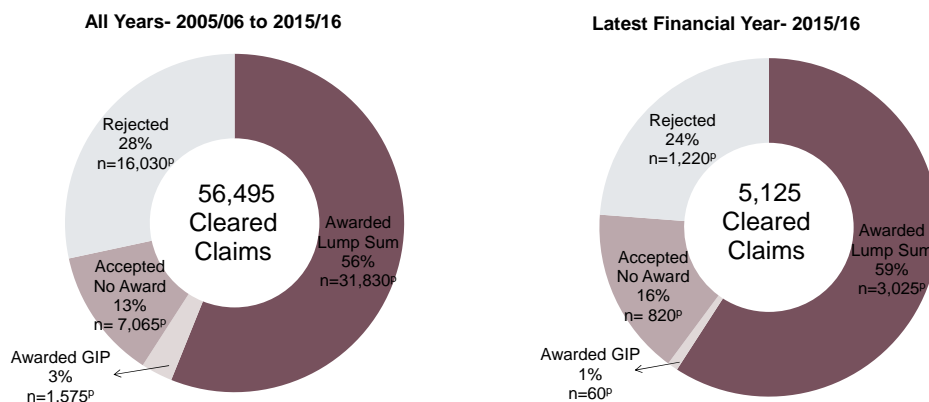
11. Due to the complexities of the data held on claim outcomes at each stage of the claim process, it is not currently possible to follow through any claims that have reached the reconsideration/appeal stage (see paragraph 48 for further details). Therefore this section and **Tables 2-3 and 7-13 in Annex A** present only the outcomes of initial injury/ illness claims and not the final outcome of each case.
12. Recent investigations into outcome data have led to some concern over the accuracy of outcome information recorded for some claims. The extent of this issue is currently unknown, though it is unlikely to impact on overall trends of cleared claim outcomes. Outcome information presented within this Statistical Bulletin and relevant tables in **Annex A** has been marked provisional (p) until investigations are complete and any incorrect records have been amended.

² As published in the MOD annual medical discharge statistics on the Gov.uk website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medical-discharges-among-uk-service-personnel-statistics-index>.

Results (Cont.)

13. Information on cleared AFCS claims are presented by outcome in **Annex A**. Specifically, outcomes of initial injury/illness claims and initial survivors' claims are presented by financial year (**Table 2**). Outcomes of initial injury/illness claims and initial survivors' claims are also presented by quarter for the latest five quarters (**Table 3**), as are outcomes for reconsiderations (**Table 4**) and appeals (**Table 5**).
14. Overall the number of cleared initial injury/illness claims has increased over time (**Table 2, ANNEX A**), in line with the increase in registered claims each year. However 2013/14 showed a peak in the number of cleared injury claims. This was due to a reorganisation and simplification of processes by Veterans UK at that time to clear a backlog of claims for both the AFCS and the WPS. A similar trend is apparent for cleared claims under the WPS, presented in the WPS annual statistics, published 4 June 2015. Subsequently as a result of more claims being cleared, more claims were also awarded in 2013/14.
15. As initial injury/illness claims account for the majority of AFCS claims, a summary of the proportion of the outcomes for cleared claims is presented in **Figure 3**. A comparison is made between claim outcomes since the start of the scheme and so far in the latest financial year (2015/16). During the first six months of 2015/16 almost two-thirds^p of cleared initial injury/illness claims were awarded lump sum compensation. The proportions of awarded injury/illness claims follow a similar pattern to those overall since the scheme began.

Figure 3: AFCS cleared initial injury/illness claims by initial outcome, overall and in the latest financial year, numbers and percentage of cleared claims¹



1. Data for 2015/16 covers the six month period 1 April 2015 – 30 September 2015

16. Overall, nearly two-thirds (61%^p) of survivors' claims cleared between 6 April 2005 and 30 September 2015 were rejected (**Table 2** in **Annex A**). There are several reasons why death-in-Service claims may be rejected:
 - The claim may be for a death that is not attributable to Service.
 - Claims from eligible partners (rather than spouses) may be rejected if there is not sufficient evidence of financial dependency.

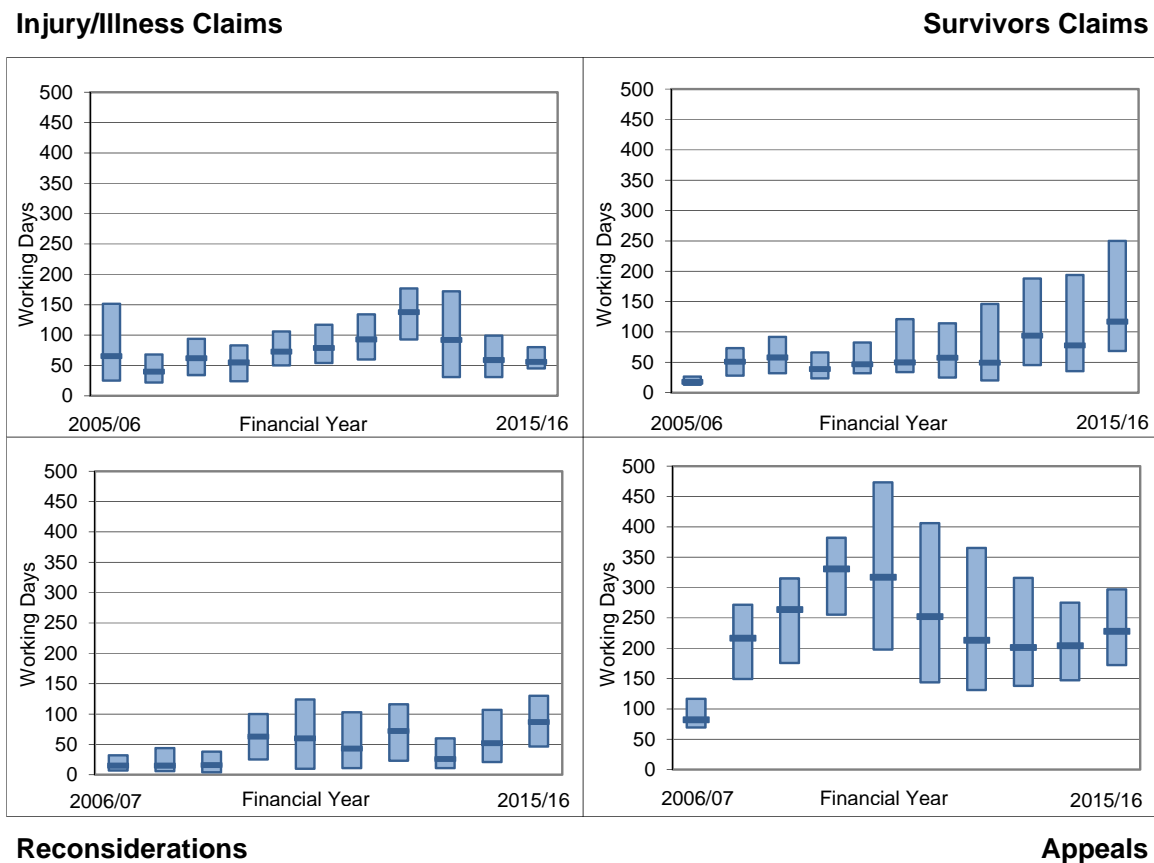
Results (Cont.)

17. **Tables 4 and 5 in Annex A** present the outcomes of all cleared reconsiderations and appeals under the AFCS. Of all reconsiderations and appeals cleared between 6 April 2006 and 30 September 2015:

- 25% of cleared injury/illness reconsiderations and 10% of survivors' reconsiderations resulted in a successful outcome (new/increased award).
- 55% of cleared injury/illness appeals and 23% of survivors' appeals resulted in a successful outcome (new/increased award or a favourable reconsideration).

Claim clearance times

Figure 4: AFCS claim clearance times, by claim type and financial year, 2005/06 to 2015/16, median average, upper quartile and lower quartile



18. The average (median) provides an indication of how long an average claimant can expect to wait for a decision. Comparing the averages across the four claim types (injury/illness, survivors, reconsiderations, appeals) shows the average clearance time is dependent on the claim type.

19. Since the AFCS began, on average initial injury/illness claims were cleared within four calendar months (75 working days). Survivors' claims and reconsiderations took less time to clear (two and a half calendar months or 50 and 47 working days respectively). Appeals took the longest to clear (11 calendar months or 224 working days).

Results (cont.)

20. The varying times taken to clear claims across the claim types is due to processing requirements. Appeals generally take longer to clear than other claim types due to the processes involved before a final decision can be made, for example gathering evidence and passing the case over to the Pensions Appeal Tribunal (PAT).
21. The average clearance times for **injury/illness claims** have decreased over the last three financial years from a peak in 2012/13 of 138 working days to 56 working days in 2015/16. This decrease is due to changes in workload/resources at Veterans UK:
 - The peak in clearance times in 2012/13 is likely to be partly due to a loss in resources at Veterans UK due to the MOD Voluntary Early Release Scheme (VERS). The peak is also driven by a shift in AFCS work priorities following the Lord Boyce Review of the AFCS at this time. Resources at Veterans UK were redirected to uplift awards as a result of the Review, which impacted on the times taken to clear new AFCS cases.
 - During 2013/14 additional resources were allocated to AFCS workloads, resulting in the improvement seen in the average clearance times.
 - Veterans UK also streamlined their processes during 2014/15 which has resulted in improved clearance times.
22. The average time taken to clear survivors' claims was higher in the latest financial year (117 working days). The range of clearance times was wider than for initial injury/illness claims, and showed a greater range of times within the latest few financial years. The wider range of times for survivors claims is due to the processes involved e.g. there are often delays in processing while evidence is gathered and relationship statuses are checked. The majority of survivors claims are death in-Service cases, which Veterans UK have advised usually take the longest to clear. This is because coroner's inquests need to be completed before a decision can be made on the claim, resulting in delays in processing the claim.
23. For **reconsiderations** there was a peak in average clearance times in 2012/13. This is likely to be due to the change in resource priorities following the Lord Boyce review (see paragraph 21).
24. For **appeals** the average clearance times reached a peak of **331** working days in 2009/10. Prior to 2010 the quantities of appeal cases received were much lower than for other claim types and these cases were actioned by Veterans UK when resources were available. The numbers of appeals registered since 2010 has increased and appropriate resource has been allocated to these cases. This is reflected in the reduction in clearance times after 2009/10. Appeals generally show the largest range in clearance times, which is likely to be due to the varying complexity of appeals cases.
25. Survival analysis has been used to investigate further the length of time between a claim being registered and cleared to calculate the expected time for each claim type to clear (**Table 6 and Figure 5, Annex A**).
26. The results show the majority (75%) of claims are predicted to be cleared by the following points in time:
 - Initial injury/illness claims - 131 working days (approx six and a half calendar months)
 - Survivors claims - 95 working days (approx five calendar months)
 - Reconsiderations - 101 working days (approx five calendar months)
 - Appeals - 340 working days (approx 17 calendar months)

Results (cont.)

Recipients of Lump Sum Payments and GIPs

27. Information on lump sum awards following an initial injury/illness claim under the AFCS is presented in **Annex A**. Note that there may have been unsuccessful initial injury/illness claims that went on to be awarded following reconsideration or appeal; such claims are not currently included within this section of the results.
28. Of all cleared claims awarded a lump sum award as at 30 September 2015:
- The majority of claims were registered by personnel still in Service (**Table 7 in ANNEX A**). The proportion of in-Service claims has remained consistent in the two quarters of 2015/16 (**Table 8 in ANNEX A**).
 - 5%^p were also awarded a GIP (**Table 9 in ANNEX A**).
 - Over 90%^p of claims were awarded within the tariff of injury groups of musculoskeletal (MSK) disorders or fractures and dislocations (**Table 10 in ANNEX A**). These are frequently reported as the most common types of Service-related injuries, and account for a large proportion of Service personnel that are medically discharged from Service³. The MOD is working towards reducing the prevalence of MSK disorders.
 - Three quarters^p of awarded claims were registered by Army personnel (**Table 11 in ANNEX A**) which is higher than expected given the strengths of the three Services⁴ and the finding that the majority of claims registered are in-Service claims. This finding was replicated in recent statistics⁵ showing that the numbers of reported health and safety incidents on MOD property between 2010/11 and 2014/15 were statistically significantly higher for Army personnel than for the Naval Service and RAF.
 - Three-quarters^p of claims were awarded to Service personnel and veterans aged 20-34 (**Table 12 in ANNEX A**). This finding is also supported by the above health and safety statistics where individuals in younger age-groups were at a higher risk of reported injury and ill health incidents.
 - Over a third^p of claims were awarded to Service personnel and veterans living in the South West or South East of England (**Table 13 in ANNEX A**). This is to be expected since a larger proportion of Service personnel reside in these regions.

AFCS awards to those previously deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan

29. The MOD is frequently asked to provide the numbers of Service personnel and veterans that have been awarded compensation under the AFCS as a result of injuries sustained on Operations in Iraq and/or Afghanistan. However, this compensation scheme attributes injury/illness to Service and not a particular event during a Service person's career. Therefore **it is not possible to attribute AFCS claims/awards to a specific deployment.**
30. However, due to the demand for this information this section presents the number of Service personnel and veterans awarded under the scheme who previously deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan. It is important to note that **these figures may include**

³ As published in the MOD annual medical discharge statistics:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medical-discharges-among-uk-service-personnel-statistics-index>.

⁴ As published in the MOD monthly personnel statistics: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-index>

⁵ As published in the MOD annual health and safety statistics:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/defence-personnel-health-and-safety-statistics-financial-year-201415>

⁶ As published in the MOD quarterly location statistics: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/location-of-all-uk-regular-service-and-civilian-personnel-quarterly-statistics-index>

Results (cont.)

individuals awarded compensation for an injury/illness that did not occur during their deployment.

31. Of the 28,140 people awarded compensation for an initial claim for an injury/illness caused by Service as at 30 September 2015, a total of 17,560 had deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan prior to their claim. Of these:
 - 5,195 individuals had deployed on Operations in Iraq only prior to the registered date of their claim.
 - 8,085 individuals had deployed on Operations in Afghanistan only prior to the registered date of their claim.
 - 5,945 individuals had deployed on operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan prior to the registered date of their claim.
32. Information from this point onwards is sourced directly from Veterans UK and not from CAPS. Therefore please note that the figures presented in this section may not always correspond to those presented previously. Due to ongoing investigations into presenting information on final outcome (see paragraphs 11-12) the numbers of individuals in receipt of AFIP does not currently correspond to the number of GIP awards at 50% or above in Table 9 (Annex A).

Recipients of GIP and SGIP payments

33. **Tables 14-17 in Annex A** provide further information on individuals who have been awarded ongoing payments under the AFCS, covering those in receipt of both Guaranteed Income Payments (GIP) and Survivors' Guaranteed Income Payments (SGIP).
34. As at 30 September 2015:
 - 1,870 individuals were in receipt of a GIP as a result of awards for injury/illness claims at tariff levels 1-11.
 - 290 spouses/eligible partners and 320 children were in receipt of a SGIP as a result of a death related to Service.

Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP)

35. Service personnel and veterans automatically considered eligible for receipt of the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP) are those that are awarded a GIP at 50% or above.
36. As at 30 September 2015, 870 Service personnel and veterans were in receipt of AFIP.

Financial amounts paid out under the AFCS

37. **Table 18 in ANNEX A** provides information on the financial amounts that have been paid out under the AFCS since the scheme began.
38. The amount paid out in lump sum payments during 2011/12 was much higher compared to other financial years (over £126M). The high amounts paid out are partly due to additional payments made following the Lord Boyce Review of the AFCS (see the background quality report for more information on the Review).
39. There was also a peak in the amount paid out in lump sums during 2013/14. This was driven by an increase in the number of cleared claims. During 2013/14 additional

Results (cont.)

resources were allocated to AFCS workloads to clear a backlog of cases following the Lord Boyce Review (see paragraph 21 for more information) which explains this peak.

40. Although the number of awards made as a result of initial injury/illness claims under the scheme has increased in the last financial year, the amounts paid out in lump sum compensation are lower in this year. This is due to a higher proportion of awards being made at lower tariff levels for less severe injuries.
41. The amount paid out in Guaranteed Income Payments has increased year on year. This is expected as the amounts paid each year represent all ongoing payments and not just those awarded in the that year.

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.

Data Sources

42. Most of the information presented within this Statistical Bulletin is sourced from AFCS data held on the Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) which is managed by Veterans UK, responsible for administering the scheme. Veterans UK are responsible for ensuring the quality of the data supplied to Defence Statistics.
43. Defence Statistics receive quarterly datasets from the Veterans UK finance team which are used to report on recipients of Guaranteed Income Payments. Information on the overall financial amounts paid out under the AFCS is also sourced from the Finance Team.
44. Information on those in receipt of the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP) is recorded by Veterans UK in a standalone spreadsheet. This data has been used to provide the number of individuals in receipt of AFIP.

Data Coverage

45. The data presented include all regular and reservist personnel and dependants who have claimed for compensation under the AFCS between 6 April 2005 and 30 September 2015. Individuals are eligible to claim under the AFCS for any injury/illness/death caused by Service on or after 6 April 2005.
46. Although the figures presented cover all claims registered during the reported time period, the figures do not represent all individuals who have sustained a Service related injury/illness during that time. This is because there can be a time lag between an individual's injury/illness and the date they make a claim. Individuals have up to seven years to make an injury/illness claim from the date of their initial injury/diagnosis. There are some exceptions to this such as late-onset illnesses. Claims for a late-onset illness can be made at any time after the event to which it relates, as long as it is done so within three years of seeking medical advice. Families have up to three years to make a claim as a result of a death caused by Service.
47. The figures presented on lump sum awards made under the AFCS (Tables 7-13) are based on awards made as a result of initial injury/illness claims only. Figures for any new awards made as a result of a reconsideration or appeal are not included in these tables, which give further summaries of awards by tariff level, tariff of injury group, claim type, age group, gender and region. The MOD are currently developing the report to include these additional awards and plan to include this in the next publication of the statistics, due in June 2016. Please note however that Tables 4 and 5 (Annex A) do provide the overall outcomes of cleared reconsiderations and appeals.
48. Please note that some information on the outcomes of appeals made under the AFCS is not recorded on CAPS and is therefore not presented in this report. Veterans UK record all registered appeals on CAPS. However only outcomes at the first stage of the appeal process (First Tier Tribunal) are recorded on CAPS. Information on appeals that progress to further stages (e.g. Upper Tier Tribunal) are dealt with offline. The MOD are working with Veterans UK to investigate including this information in future reports.
49. The number of registered reconsiderations during the first six months of 2015/16 (**Table 1 in Annex A**) is lower than we would expect, based on the numbers registered in previous

Methodology (cont.)

years. Defence Statistics are working with Veterans UK to investigate this and therefore the figure presented for 2015/16 is marked as provisional (p).

Calculation of claim clearance times

50. Information on AFCS claim clearance times has been presented as a median average with an inter-quartile range, rather than a mean average and standard deviation as these statistics are affected less by outliers. An outlier is an observation within a dataset that appears to be inconsistent with the remainder of the dataset.
 - The median is the value in the centre of the data set when they are arranged from smallest to largest.
 - A quartile is any of three values (first/lower quartile, second quartile (median), third/upper quartile) that divides the sorted (from smallest value to largest value) dataset into four equal parts. The lower quartile (LQ) is the value that at which 25% of the values in the dataset will be below. The upper quartile (UQ) is the value that at which 75% of the values in the dataset will be below.
 - The inter-quartile range (IQR) is the range in which the middle 50% of the data points fall (i.e. the distance between the lower and upper quartile). The longer the inter-quartile range the wider the spread of data.
51. Survival analysis has been used to investigate further the length of time between a claim being registered and cleared. This analysis has been carried out for each claim type: injury/illness claims, survivors claims, reconsideration and appeals. This analysis has been used as it takes account of both open and closed claims to predict the times in which each claim type are expected to be cleared.
52. Please note that the overall number of claims included in the calculations for average clearance times differs to the number of cleared claims reported in Table 2. This is due to cases with incomplete registered/cleared dates being excluded from the analysis. Veterans UK will investigate these records and, once corrected, the claims will be included in the analysis.
53. Further information on the techniques used to investigate clearance times can be found in the accompanying Background Quality Report and in **Annex A**.

Strengths and weaknesses of the data presented in this report

54. This report combines data captured across a variety of Veterans UK databases to present a single source of information on claims, awards and payments made under the AFCS. These statistics can be used by MOD to monitor trends over time. This report, for the first time, also presents the number of individuals in receipt of the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP) and the total amounts paid out under the scheme by financial year, giving a more comprehensive picture of payments resulting from claims made under the scheme.
55. Due to the complexities of the data held on claim outcomes at each stage of the claim process, these statistics currently present initial injury / illness claim outcomes separately to outcomes of any subsequent registered reconsiderations and appeals. Defence Statistics has begun to combine outcome data in order to present the final outcome for each case. However initial investigation has led to some concern over the accuracy of outcome information recorded for some claims. The extent of this issue is currently unknown and therefore all outcome information presented within this Statistical Bulletin has been marked provisional until investigations are complete and any incorrect records have been amended. Updated outcome information will be published in the next scheduled release of these statistics in June 2016.

Glossary

Appeal	If a claimant is not satisfied with the outcome of their claim they may lodge an appeal to an appropriate Tribunal.
Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS)	Compensation scheme for all members of the regular and reserve forces. It provides compensation for all injuries, ill-health and death attributable to service where the cause occurred on or after 6 April 2005.
Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP)	On 8 April 2013 the MOD, in conjunction with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), introduced a new benefit called the Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP) . The AFIP is a simplification of the financial support available for members of the Armed Forces who have been seriously injured as a result of Service since 6 April 2005. The AFIP provides eligible recipients with on-going payments to help with the additional costs associated with their injuries.
Armed Forces Pension Scheme (AFPS)	Pension available to members of the Regular Armed Forces who have served for a minimum of two years. AFPS 75 – Introduced in 1975 and closed to new members from 6 April 2005. Pension benefits are based on rank and time served AFPS 05 – Introduced on 6 April 2005. Pension benefits are based on time served and final salary.
Claim	The term ‘claim’ is used to refer to both injury claims raised by claimant as well as medical discharge and death-in-service cases which are automatically referred to Veterans UK for consideration.
Cleared Claim	A claim is classed as cleared when Veterans UK issue a letter to the claimant informing them of the outcome of their claim, reconsideration, or appeal.
Compensation and Pension System (CAPS)	AFPS and AFCS database system.
Guaranteed Income Payment	A Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP) is a payable when an award has been made and the injury or illness is in tariff levels 1 to 11.
Injury/illness claim	Claims made by serving or former members of the

Glossary (cont.)

	Armed Forces for an injury or illness caused by Service on or after 6 April 2005. They include in-Service claims, medical discharge claims and post-Service claims.
Inter-quartile range	The inter-quartile range is the largest minus the smallest number in the middle 50% of the data.
Lord Boyce Review	In 2010 a review of the AFCS was conducted under the independent chairmanship of former Chief of Defence Staff, Admiral the Lord Boyce. The Review found the Scheme was fundamentally sound but required adjustment in some areas. A full summary of the Review can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans#review-of-the-armed-forces-compensation-scheme .
Lump Sums	A tax-free lump sum payment is paid to a Service or ex-Service person as compensation for pain and suffering for an injury or illness that is predominantly caused or made worse by Service.
Median average	The median of a finite list of numbers can be found by arranging all the values from lowest to highest and picking the middle value.
Medical Discharge Claim	Personnel medically discharged from Service will have a claim automatically registered under the AFCS if they meet certain criteria. Please see the BQR for more information.
MOD Voluntary Early Release Scheme (VERS)	The MOD introduced the VERS off the back of the Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR), published in October 2010. The Prime Minister stated his ambition was to “ensure that as many of the job losses as possible are found through voluntary redundancy and retirement, rather than making people redundant.
Pensions Appeal Tribunal (PAT)	The PAT hears appeals from servicemen and servicewomen who have disagreed with the decision made by Veterans UK on the outcome of their claim.
Reconsideration	If a claimant is not satisfied with the outcome of their claim they may ask for reconsideration.
Registered Claim	A claim is classed as registered when Veterans

Glossary (cont.)

	UK begin a workflow on the CAPS for a claim.
Spanning Cases	Spanning Cases are claims considered first for entitlement under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, but passed to the War Pensions Scheme where the cause or injury occurred prior to 6 April 2005.
Survival Analysis	Survival Analysis analyses the time duration until the event we are interested in occurs. In this reports case that is when the claim has been cleared.
Survivor's Claim	Claims made by surviving dependents of former Armed Forces where death was caused by Service on or after 6 April 2005. They include death-in-Service claims, death-post-Service claims and additional child claims. One awarded survivors claim may result in multiple payments (e.g. to a spouse and children).
Survivor's Guaranteed Income Payment	A Survivor's Guaranteed Income Payment (SGIP) is a taxable payment designed to compensate an individual for loss of support provided by their partner where their death is due to Service.
Veterans UK	Veterans UK administer the armed forces pension schemes and compensation payments for those injured or bereaved through service.
War Pension Scheme (WPS)	No fault compensation scheme for all members of the regular and reserve force. It provides compensation for all injuries, ill-health and death caused or made worse by service from WW1 in 1914 to 5 April 2005. Only eligible to claim once left the services.
Working days	Any day in which legal business can be conducted. In this report a working day is any day apart from a Saturday, Sunday or bank holiday.

Further Information

Symbols

~	Negligible (greater than zero, fewer than 5)
-	Not calculated due to value of zero (Please note this symbol was used to refer to values of zero in previous AFCS publications – zero values are now shown as '0')
p	Provisional
r	Revised
Q1	1 April to 30 June
Q2	1 July to 30 September
Q3	1 October to 31 December
Q4	1 January to 31 March

Rounding

In line with Defence Statistics' rounding policy, figures of five or more have been rounded to the nearest 5 and figures fewer than five have been suppressed and marked ~. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

Revisions

The AFCS statistics are subject to routine revisions as the CAPS is a live data system and historic data may be amended on the CAPS between data extracts (see Background Quality report for further information). Any revisions to historic data as a result of amended information on the CAPS can be identified by a revision marker ('r') and are only discussed if such revisions are considered to have impact on the findings.

There are additional revisions in this Statistical Bulletin as a result of improvements to the methodology used to assign outcomes to injury/illness claims. In previous AFCS Statistical Bulletins, claims accepted as due to Service that fell below the minimum tariff level (resulting in no lump sum award) were presented as rejected claims. In this Statistical Bulletin (**Tables 2 and 3, Annex A**) these cases have been presented separately to provide a more accurate representation of claims that have been rejected (and thus considered to not be attributable to Service).

There may be a delay in data entry on CAPS and therefore figures for the latest time period are routinely marked provisional ('p').

Scheme information

Further information on the AFPS, WPS and AFCS can be found on the Gov.UK website:

AFPS: <https://www.gov.uk/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans>

WPS and AFCS: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-compensation>

Contact Us

Defence Statistics welcome feedback on our statistical products. If you have any comments or questions about this publication or about our statistics in general, you can contact us as follows:

Defence Statistics (Health) Tel: 030 6798 4423

Email: DefStrat-Stat-Health-Hd@mod.uk

If you require information which is not available within this or other available publications, you may wish to submit a Request for Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to the Ministry of Defence. For more information, see:

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

Further Information (cont.)

Other contact points within Defence Statistics are:

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Price Indices	030 6793 2100	DefStrat-Econ-ESES-PI-Hd@mod.uk
Naval Service Manpower	023 9254 7426	DefStrat-Stat-Navy-Hd@mod.uk
Army Manpower	01264 886175	DefStrat-Stat-Army-Hd@mod.uk
RAF Manpower	01494 496822	DefStrat-Stat-Air-Hd@mod.uk
Tri-Service Manpower	020 7807 8896	DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Hd@mod.uk
Civilian Manpower	020 7218 1359	DefStrat-Stat-Civ-Hd@mod.uk
Health Information	030 6798 4423	DefStrat-Stat-Health-Hd@mod.uk

Please note that these email addresses may change later in the year.

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