



Ministry  
of Defence

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4 November 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 20 October 2016 in which you requested the following information:

*"The number of Women Army officers for each year from 1985 to 1995 in the separate ranks of: Major General, Brigadier, Colonel, Lieutenant Colonel, Major, Captain, Lieutenant, 2nd Lieutenant.*

*The percentage of Women Army Officers for each of the ranks and years as described above."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information you requested is enclosed below.

You are invited to note the following:

- Data is grouped by Paid Rank. Lieutenant Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel Special List are grouped into one as they are referring to the same Paid Rank group.
- The figures are for trained Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Home Service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, TA and all other Reserves.
- During the time period covered, the Women's Royal Army Corps were disbanded and merged with the Regular Army. For the purpose of this request, current definition of Regulars has been used and therefore includes those who may have previously been considered as Women's Royal Army Corps.
- Figures have been rounded to 10; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.
- Unrounded figures are used in the calculation of percentages.
- "-" denotes zero or rounded to zero.

Year		Second Lieutenant	Lieutenant	Captain	Major	Lieutenant Colonel	Colonel	Brigadier	Major General
01/04/1986	Total	1,240	2,200	5,220	5,150	1,820	630	240	60
	Female	80	260	510	170	30	10	-	-
	Percentage	6.5%	11.9%	9.7%	3.3%	1.5%	2.2%	0.8%	0.0%
01/04/1987	Total	1,260	2,300	5,290	5,130	1,830	630	250	60
	Female	110	260	510	170	30	10	-	-
	Percentage	8.4%	11.4%	9.7%	3.3%	1.5%	2.2%	1.2%	0.0%
01/04/1988	Total	1,190	2,260	5,420	5,140	1,850	640	230	60
	Female	90	270	540	170	30	20	-	-
	Percentage	7.8%	12.0%	10.0%	3.2%	1.6%	2.5%	1.3%	0.0%
01/04/1989	Total	940	2,300	5,290	5,340	1,870	640	240	60
	Female	90	290	560	170	30	20	-	-
	Percentage	9.9%	12.5%	10.6%	3.2%	1.7%	2.5%	1.2%	0.0%
01/04/1990	Total	1,160	2,200	5,250	5,360	1,890	660	240	60
	Female	100	300	590	170	30	20	-	-
	Percentage	9.1%	13.5%	11.2%	3.1%	1.6%	2.4%	1.7%	0.0%
01/04/1991	Total	1,190	2,260	5,420	5,430	1,970	650	240	60
	Female	130	290	710	200	40	20	-	-
	Percentage	10.8%	13.0%	13.1%	3.7%	2.0%	2.6%	1.3%	0.0%
01/04/1992	Total	1,150	2,090	5,240	5,310	1,970	630	240	60
	Female	100	240	600	170	40	20	-	-
	Percentage	9.1%	11.5%	11.4%	3.3%	2.0%	2.7%	0.8%	0.0%
01/04/1993	Total	760	2,050	5,140	4,960	1,780	580	220	60
	Female	60	230	590	170	40	10	-	-
	Percentage	8.3%	11.0%	11.5%	3.3%	2.3%	2.2%	1.4%	0.0%
01/04/1994	Total	620	1,940	4,630	4,530	1,660	540	200	60
	Female	60	210	570	180	40	10	-	-
	Percentage	10.4%	10.9%	12.3%	3.9%	2.3%	2.4%	1.5%	0.0%
01/04/1995	Total	500	1,930	4,290	4,300	1,550	510	180	50
	Female	70	200	530	160	40	10	-	-
	Percentage	15.0%	11.0%	12.0%	4.0%	3.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%
01/04/1996	Total	470	1,580	4,170	4,570	1,590	490	180	40
	Female	80	180	500	190	40	10	-	-
	Percentage	17.0%	11.2%	12.0%	4.2%	2.4%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: Defence Statistics (Army)

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, 2<sup>nd</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>.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat