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Reference: **FOI2015/01041**

[REDACTED]

Date: **24 February 2015**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 19 December 2014 requesting the following information:

*"How many Serving Personnel were Medically Discharged in each year from 1<sup>st</sup> January 1991 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014? Please provide the primary causes of Medical Discharge".*

*"How many Serving Personnel were Medically Discharged before basic training (Phase 2 training) had been completed between 1st January 1991 and 31st October 2014? Please provide the primary causes of Medical Discharge".*

Upon further clarification on 26 January 2015 you asked:

*"If you could provide the figures you refer to going back to 1st January 1995, that would be great".*

I am 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 information in scope of your request is held. Some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. This is also in line with Defence Statistics rounding policy, in which numbers fewer than five are suppressed in order to reduce the possible inadvertent disclosure of individual identities. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Section 44(1)(a) has been applied as the disclosure of some of the information is prohibited by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. Defence Statistics release annual updates on medical discharges in the UK Armed Forces as an Official Statistic publication. In accordance with the Code of Practice for the release of National and Official Statistics, as set out in the 2007 Act, we are unable to provide the data for 2013/14 prior to the next statistical release, 16th July 2015. Section 44 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

The information you have requested can be found below.

Medical discharges in the UK Armed Forces involve a series of processes, at times complex, which differ in each Service to meet their specific employment requirements. Due to these differences between the three Services, comparisons between the single Service statistics are judged to be invalid. Therefore, the figures in this answer are presented separately for each Service.

Defence Statistics has interpreted "before basic training (Phase 2 training)" as all personnel that had not completed phase 2 training (untrained) at the time of discharge.

Between 1 January 1995 to 31 March 2014 (latest data available) there were **7,077** (of which **530** were untrained) Naval Service, **21,204** (of which **10,398** were untrained) Army and **3,755** (of which **454** were untrained) RAF UK Regular Armed Forces personnel medically discharged.

**Tables 1, 3 and 5** provide the number of UK Regular Armed Forces personnel medically discharged by Service, principal condition and year for the period 1 January 1995 to 31 March 2014. **Tables 2, 4 and 6** provide the same information for untrained personnel only.

**Table 1: UK Regular Naval Service<sup>1</sup> Personnel medically discharged by principal condition and Year, 1 January 1995 and 31 March 2014, Numbers<sup>2</sup>**

Cause Code Group	All	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>3</sup>
All	7,077	339	371	386	452	456	483	414	392	320	379	396	357	309	233	221	257	451	446	346	69
All cause coded medical discharges	6,807	316	339	353	431	445	483	413	391	315	310	359	335	306	225	219	257	450	445	346	69
Infectious and parasitic diseases (A00 - B99)	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	0	~	0	~	~	0	6	~	~	0
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	89	5	~	6	11	~	6	~	~	~	~	7	6	~	~	~	~	8	5	5	0
Blood disorders (D50 - D89)	29	~	~	5	~	0	~	~	0	~	~	0	~	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	0
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00 - E90)	175	13	11	13	14	11	12	11	6	10	7	7	7	8	~	7	8	7	8	9	~
Mental and behavioural disorders (F00 - F99)	651	22	26	16	31	25	42	30	38	42	29	46	42	39	29	28	35	45	38	35	13
Nervous system disorders (G00 - G99)	291	18	~	24	11	18	10	19	15	13	20	23	24	13	12	13	12	13	14	8	~
Eye and adnexa diseases (H00 - H59)	105	~	8	7	9	12	8	~	~	7	6	~	6	7	0	~	~	6	9	~	~
Ear and mastoid process diseases (H60 - H95)	162	6	8	5	~	9	10	6	6	~	~	5	~	~	7	6	5	21	33	24	0
Circulatory system disorders (I00 - I99)	160	8	11	9	15	8	11	9	9	8	5	5	~	6	8	7	7	14	6	9	~
Respiratory system disorders (J00 - J99)	179	11	26	22	20	15	5	7	~	5	~	10	6	~	~	9	5	11	6	5	~
Digestive system disorders (K00 - K93)	152	5	9	6	9	5	18	9	6	6	6	7	8	9	~	~	6	13	15	7	~
Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases (L00 - L99)	184	10	10	11	12	10	13	11	16	10	~	9	7	12	~	6	~	15	11	8	0
Musculoskeletal disorders (M00 - M99) and Injuries (S00 - T98)	4,359	204	212	223	286	321	333	290	276	202	211	224	206	186	145	124	148	254	267	203	44
Genitourinary system diseases (N00 - N99)	41	~	~	~	~	~	~	5	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	~	7	~	~	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the puerperium (O00 - O99)	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital malformations (Q00 - Q99)	47	~	~	~	6	~	~	~	5	~	~	~	5	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0
Clinical and laboratory findings (R00 - R99)	125	~	0	0	~	~	6	~	~	~	7	10	8	11	6	8	8	17	15	13	~
Factors influencing health status (Z00 - Z99)	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	~	0	~	0	~	8	5	7	0
Withheld consent	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other Medical Discharges for which data are not available	268	23	32	33	21	11	0	1	1	5	69	37	21	3	8	2	0	1	0	0	0

Source: FMED 23 and JPA

1 - Includes Royal Navy and Royal Marines

2 - Data presented as "~" has been suppressed in accordance with Defence Statistics' rounding policy

3 - Data only available up until 31 March 2014

**Table 2: UK Regular Untrained Naval Service<sup>1</sup> Personnel medically discharged by principal condition and Year, 1 January 1995 and 31 March 2014, Numbers<sup>2</sup>**

Cause Code Group	All	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>3</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>All cause coded medical discharges</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>
Infectious and parasitic diseases (A00 - B99)	~	0	0	0	~	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0
Blood disorders (D50 - D89)	~	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00 - E90)	8	0	~	0	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	~	0	~	~	~	0	0	0	0	0
Mental and behavioural disorders (F00 - F99)	13	0	0	0	~	~	0	0	0	~	0	~	~	~	0	~	0	~	~	0	0
Nervous system disorders (G00 - G99)	16	~	0	~	0	~	0	0	~	~	~	~	0	~	0	~	~	~	0	~	0
Eye and adnexa diseases (H00 - H59)	10	0	~	~	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	~	0	~	0	~	0	~	0	0	0
Ear and mastoid process diseases (H60 - H95)	5	~	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	~	0
Circulatory system disorders (I00 - I99)	7	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	0
Respiratory system disorders (J00 - J99)	~	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	~	0	0	~	0	0	0
Digestive system disorders (K00 - K93)	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	0	0	~	0	0	0	0
Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases (L00 - L99)	10	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Musculoskeletal disorders (M00 - M99) and Injuries (S00 - T98)	318	~	~	9	16	16	15	8	11	~	~	7	23	40	43	27	28	15	20	22	5
Genitourinary system diseases (N00 - N99)	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the puerperium (O00 - O99)	~	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital malformations (Q00 - Q99)	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	~	0	~	~	~	0	0	0	0	0
Clinical and laboratory findings (R00 - R99)	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	0
Factors influencing health status (Z00 - Z99)	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	~	~	0
Withheld consent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Medical Discharges for which data are not available	109	20	24	27	19	5	0	1	0	1	3	3	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0

Source: FMED 23 and JPA

1 - Includes Royal Navy and Royal Marines

2 - Data presented as "~" has been suppressed in accordance with Defence Statistics' rounding policy

3 - Data only available up until 31 March 2014

**Table 3: UK Regular Army Personnel medically discharged by principal condition and Year, 1 January 1995 and 31 March 2014, Numbers<sup>1</sup>**

Cause Code Group	All	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>2</sup>	
All	21,204 <sup>p</sup>	1,094	1,171	1,061	1,068	1,147	1,062	1,033	1,022	998	1,083	1,047	1,009	978	840	680	829	954	1,446	2,086 <sup>p</sup>	596 <sup>p</sup>	
All cause coded medical discharges	20,484 <sup>p</sup>	1,086	1,162	1,056	1,044	1,060	950	985	1,014	994	1,050	998	1,001	921	801	671	827	954	1,429	2,005 <sup>p</sup>	476 <sup>p</sup>	
Infectious and parasitic diseases (A00 - B99)	109 <sup>p</sup>	~	~	~	~	5	5	~	0	6	6	7	6	~	7	~	~	~	8	12	19 <sup>p</sup>	~ <sup>p</sup>
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	160 <sup>p</sup>	9	7	6	5	9	7	10	15	7	12	~	12	~	9	~	~	10	12	10 <sup>p</sup>	6 <sup>p</sup>	
Blood disorders (D50 - D89)	~ <sup>p</sup>	~	~	~	0	~	0	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	8	~ <sup>p</sup>	0 <sup>p</sup>
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00 - E90)	172 <sup>p</sup>	~	6	14	11	8	9	5	~	9	9	~	7	8	~	~	~	~	14	27	23 <sup>p</sup>	~ <sup>p</sup>
Mental and behavioural disorders (F00 - F99)	2,190 <sup>p</sup>	79	49	86	94	58	64	103	112	90	121	119	111	111	137	103	136	124	166	267 <sup>p</sup>	60 <sup>p</sup>	
Nervous system disorders (G00 - G99)	741 <sup>p</sup>	44	18	48	36	39	31	35	35	45	33	41	37	53	26	23	30	36	53	65 <sup>p</sup>	13 <sup>p</sup>	
Eye and adnexa diseases (H00 - H59)	150 <sup>p</sup>	~	~	5	5	~	~	~	~	~	12	8	12	14	6	6	10	12	12	16 <sup>p</sup>	6 <sup>p</sup>	
Ear and mastoid process diseases (H60 - H95)	587 <sup>p</sup>	14	13	15	10	7	5	13	14	10	15	17	37	23	13	21	31	67	87	140 <sup>p</sup>	35 <sup>p</sup>	
Circulatory system disorders (I00 - I99)	304 <sup>p</sup>	13	10	10	11	10	15	5	15	14	9	12	8	19	13	16	19	27	32	40 <sup>p</sup>	6 <sup>p</sup>	
Respiratory system disorders (J00 - J99)	487 <sup>p</sup>	43	30	39	32	50	28	33	18	34	29	20	25	17	~	15	~	21	12	16 <sup>p</sup>	~ <sup>p</sup>	
Digestive system disorders (K00 - K93)	305 <sup>p</sup>	13	8	12	18	22	9	11	18	13	14	12	11	12	14	6	13	14	29	48 <sup>p</sup>	8 <sup>p</sup>	
Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases (L00 - L99)	266 <sup>p</sup>	15	~	~	8	9	8	9	14	11	19	21	26	10	12	9	15	19	14	31 <sup>p</sup>	6 <sup>p</sup>	
Musculoskeletal disorders (M00 - M99) and Injuries (S00 - T98)	13,969 <sup>p</sup>	825	981	789	776	803	744	721	734	696	720	676	629	584	485	378	492	540	875	1,219 <sup>p</sup>	302 <sup>p</sup>	
Genitourinary system diseases (N00 - N99)	155 <sup>p</sup>	14	10	9	15	7	9	5	6	12	8	6	12	~	5	~	~	~	8	6	11 <sup>p</sup>	~ <sup>p</sup>
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the puerperium (O00 - O99)	~ <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 <sup>p</sup>	0 <sup>p</sup>
Congenital malformations (Q00 - Q99)	102 <sup>p</sup>	~	7	~	8	9	~	6	7	~	9	14	5	0	~	6	~	~	7	~ <sup>p</sup>	0 <sup>p</sup>	
Clinical and laboratory findings (R00 - R99)	540 <sup>p</sup>	7	6	13	7	15	9	19	19	33	25	37	56	47	37	37	32	39	41	45 <sup>p</sup>	16 <sup>p</sup>	
Factors influencing health status (Z00 - Z99)	197 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	~	0	0	~	0	~	~	0	7	13	17	37	16	9	36	45 <sup>p</sup>	7 <sup>p</sup>	
Withheld consent	9 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	1 <sup>p</sup>	0 <sup>p</sup>	
Other Medical Discharges for which data are not available	711 <sup>p</sup>	8	9	5	24	87	112	48	8	4	33	49	8	56	39	3	1	0	17	80 <sup>p</sup>	120 <sup>p</sup>	

Source: FMED 23 and JPA

1 - Data presented as "~" has been suppressed in accordance with Defence Statistics' rounding policy

2 - Data only available up until 31 March 2014

p - Indicates a provisional data point

**Table 4: UK Regular Untrained Army Personnel medically discharged by principal condition and Year, 1 January 1995 and 31 March 2014, Numbers<sup>1</sup>**

Cause Code Group	All	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>2</sup>
<b>All</b>	<b>10,398<sup>p</sup></b>	<b>468</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>116<sup>p</sup></b>
<b>All cause coded medical discharges</b>	<b>10,089<sup>p</sup></b>	<b>464</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>116<sup>p</sup></b>
Infectious and parasitic diseases (A00 - B99)	45 <sup>p</sup>	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	5	5	~	~	~	6	~	~	0	~	~	~ <sup>p</sup>
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	28 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0 <sup>p</sup>
Blood disorders (D50 - D89)	17 <sup>p</sup>	~	0	0	0	~	0	~	~	~	~	0	0	0	~	~	0	0	~	~	0 <sup>p</sup>
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00 - E90)	41 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0 <sup>p</sup>
Mental and behavioural disorders (F00 - F99)	294 <sup>p</sup>	8	~	~	9	10	5	14	16	28	25	15	15	11	23	19	28	17	21	15	6 <sup>p</sup>
Nervous system disorders (G00 - G99)	227 <sup>p</sup>	7	~	18	8	11	10	8	22	21	13	10	7	19	8	10	20	9	8	12	~ <sup>p</sup>
Eye and adnexa diseases (H00 - H59)	51 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	6	~	6	9	~	~	~	~	~	0	~ <sup>p</sup>
Ear and mastoid process diseases (H60 - H95)	83 <sup>p</sup>	~	~	~	~	~	~	5	~	~	6	5	11	5	~	~	7	9	0	8	~ <sup>p</sup>
Circulatory system disorders (I00 - I99)	109 <sup>p</sup>	~	0	~	~	~	8	~	~	9	~	~	~	13	8	11	12	13	8	5	0 <sup>p</sup>
Respiratory system disorders (J00 - J99)	324 <sup>p</sup>	10	15	13	20	39	22	26	12	28	22	18	20	13	11	14	10	14	5	11	~ <sup>p</sup>
Digestive system disorders (K00 - K93)	127 <sup>p</sup>	~	~	7	9	12	5	7	7	5	10	~	~	8	10	5	5	6	9	6	~ <sup>p</sup>
Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases (L00 - L99)	155 <sup>p</sup>	7	~	~	6	6	6	6	8	5	15	13	17	7	9	6	14	10	~	13	~ <sup>p</sup>
Musculoskeletal disorders (M00 - M99) and Injuries (S00 - T98)	8,003 <sup>p</sup>	413	609	438	501	524	491	448	438	482	444	427	389	377	335	259	320	268	359	391	90 <sup>p</sup>
Genitourinary system diseases (N00 - N99)	83 <sup>p</sup>	8	8	~	8	~	7	~	~	9	~	~	8	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~ <sup>p</sup>
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the puerperium (O00 - O99)	~ <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 <sup>p</sup>
Congenital malformations (Q00 - Q99)	42 <sup>p</sup>	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	5	~	~	~	~	0	0	~	~	0	~	~	0 <sup>p</sup>
Clinical and laboratory findings (R00 - R99)	330 <sup>p</sup>	~	~	8	6	11	7	15	10	25	15	21	40	34	31	28	22	17	20	11	~ <sup>p</sup>
Factors influencing health status (Z00 - Z99)	129 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	11	14	31	14	~	23	21	~ <sup>p</sup>
Withheld consent	6 <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	1	0 <sup>p</sup>
Other Medical Discharges for which data are not available	303 <sup>p</sup>	4	4	2	15	46	73	38	7	3	13	22	4	44	26	2	0	0	0	0	0 <sup>p</sup>

Source: FMED 23 and JPA

1 - Data presented as “~” has been suppressed in accordance with Defence Statistics’ rounding policy

2 - Data only available up until 31 March 2014

p- Indicates a provisional data point

**Table 5: UK Regular RAF Personnel medically discharged by principal condition and Year, 1 January 1995 and 31 March 2014, Numbers<sup>1</sup>**

Cause Code Group	All	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>2</sup>
All	3,755	221	212	232	160	178	187	185	137	251	202	207	241	226	187	191	162	171	212	161	32
All cause coded medical discharges	3,370	204	195	220	151	147	178	158	128	217	196	124	222	214	170	152	145	163	200	154	32
Infectious and parasitic diseases (A00 - B99)	12	~	~	0	0	~	~	0	0	~	0	0	0	~	~	~	0	~	~	0	0
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	87	6	5	~	6	7	6	7	5	~	6	0	~	~	6	5	~	5	~	~	6
Blood disorders (D50 - D89)	~	0	~	~	0	0	0	~	0	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00 - E90)	45	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Mental and behavioural disorders (F00 - F99)	599	26	19	19	18	13	21	20	13	28	65	38	78	49	40	32	29	26	33	27	5
Nervous system disorders (G00 - G99)	252	17	21	11	9	9	12	17	~	18	19	8	18	20	9	10	10	8	15	12	~
Eye and adnexa diseases (H00 - H59)	49	~	0	~	~	0	~	~	6	~	7	~	~	5	0	~	~	~	~	~	0
Ear and mastoid process diseases (H60 - H95)	91	~	~	~	7	6	5	6	6	7	~	~	6	~	~	~	~	~	~	13	7
Circulatory system disorders (I00 - I99)	137	9	6	11	6	8	~	14	~	16	8	6	9	10	~	~	~	~	8	~	~
Respiratory system disorders (J00 - J99)	58	5	8	6	~	~	0	~	~	6	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	~
Digestive system disorders (K00 - K93)	64	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	10	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	8	~
Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases (L00 - L99)	47	~	~	8	~	~	~	~	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	5	~
Musculoskeletal disorders (M00 - M99) and Injuries (S00 - T98)	1,820	128	122	143	91	90	113	71	79	108	71	51	87	108	92	84	83	95	109	78	17
Genitourinary system diseases (N00 - N99)	21	0	~	~	~	0	~	~	0	~	~	0	~	~	~	~	0	~	~	~	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the puerperium (O00 - O99)	~	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital malformations (Q00 - Q99)	17	0	0	~	0	~	~	~	0	~	~	~	0	0	0	~	~	~	0	0	0
Clinical and laboratory findings (R00 - R99)	57	~	0	0	~	~	0	5	5	~	5	~	~	~	~	~	6	7	5	5	0
Factors influencing health status (Z00 - Z99)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	~	0	~	0	0	~
Withheld consent	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	17	8	12	7	0
Other Medical Discharges for which data are not available	333	17	17	12	9	31	9	27	9	34	6	83	19	12	17	31	0	0	0	0	0

Source: FMED 23 and JPA

1 - Data presented as "~" has been suppressed in accordance with Defence Statistics' rounding policy

2 - Data only available up until 31 March 2014

**Table 6: UK Regular Untrained RAF Personnel medically discharged by principal condition and Year, 1 January 1995 and 31 March 2014, Numbers<sup>1</sup>**

Cause Code Group	All	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 <sup>2</sup>	
<b>All</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	~	~	
<b>All cause coded medical discharges</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	~	~	
Infectious and parasitic diseases (A00 - B99)	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neoplasms (C00 - D48)	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blood disorders (D50 - D89)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00 - E90)	~	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mental and behavioural disorders (F00 - F99)	20	~	0	~	~	0	~	~	~	~	~	0	~	~	0	~	~	~	~	0	~	~
Nervous system disorders (G00 - G99)	15	~	~	0	0	0	~	~	~	0	~	~	0	0	0	0	~	0	~	0	0	0
Eye and adnexa diseases (H00 - H59)	20	0	0	~	0	0	0	~	5	0	7	~	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ear and mastoid process diseases (H60 - H95)	24	0	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Circulatory system disorders (I00 - I99)	6	0	0	~	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	~	~	0	0	0	0
Respiratory system disorders (J00 - J99)	10	0	~	~	~	0	0	~	0	~	~	~	0	~	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Digestive system disorders (K00 - K93)	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	0	0	~	0	0	~	~	0	0	0
Skin and subcutaneous tissue diseases (L00 - L99)	10	0	~	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	~	~	0	0	0	0	~	0	~	0	~	0
Musculoskeletal disorders (M00 - M99) and Injuries (S00 - T98)	252	11	16	30	15	14	33	13	10	7	19	6	~	7	10	17	21	9	8	~	~	~
Genitourinary system diseases (N00 - N99)	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the puerperium (O00 - O99)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital malformations (Q00 - Q99)	6	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clinical and laboratory findings (R00 - R99)	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	0	0	0	~	0	0	0	0	0
Factors influencing health status (Z00 - Z99)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Withheld consent	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other Medical Discharges for which data are not available	60	0	0	1	0	14	0	3	1	1	1	5	4	4	4	22	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: FMED 23 and JPA

1 - Data presented as "~" has been suppressed in accordance with Defence Statistics' rounding policy

2 - Data only available up until 31 March 2014



Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), you may find it useful to note the following:

Defence Statistics release annual updates on medical discharges in the UK Armed Forces as an Official Statistic publication. The latest report can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence/about/statistics>.

Medical discharges are the result of a number of specialists (medical, occupational, psychological, personnel, etc) coming to the conclusion that an individual is suffering from a medical condition that pre-empts their continued service in the Armed Forces. Statistics based on these discharges do not represent measures of true morbidity or pathology. At best they indicate a minimum burden of ill-health in the Armed Forces. Furthermore, the number and diversity of processes involved with administering a medical discharge introduce a series of time lags, as well as impact on the quality of data recorded.

The information on cases was sourced from electronic personnel records and manually entered paper documents from medical boards. The primary purpose of these medical documents is to ensure the appropriate administration of each individual patient's discharge. Statistical analysis and reporting is a secondary function.

Although Medical Boards recommend medical discharges they do not attribute the principal disability leading to the board to Service. A Medical Board could take place many months or even years after an event or injury and it is not clinically possible in some cases to link an earlier injury to a later problem which may lead to a discharge. Decisions on attributability to Service are made by the Defence Business Services (DBS) (formerly Service Personnel and Veterans' Agency).

The tables in this FOI response have been scrutinised to ensure individual identities have not been revealed inadvertently. In line with Defence Statistics' rounding policy for health statistics (May 2009), and in keeping with the Office for National Statistics Guidelines, all numbers less than five have been suppressed and presented as '~'. Where there is only one cell in a row or column that is less than five, the next smallest number (or numbers where there are tied values) has also been suppressed so that numbers cannot simply be derived from totals.

In 2013/14, Defence Statistics did not receive the FMED 23 forms for 195 trained Regular Army personnel listed as medical discharges on JPA. In previous reports, the Army Personnel Centre (APC) have confirmed whether these cases are medical discharges and retrieved any FMED23 forms not received by Defence Statistics. This service is no longer provided by APC and we are therefore unable to determine whether these personnel have medically discharged or the principal and contributory causes for their discharge. Defence Statistics intend to update these figures by pursuing alternative lines of obtaining this information and therefore all Army figures provided for 2013/14 are provisional and have been annotated in the tables with a "p".

Principal cause is the first principal coded cause on the medical discharge paperwork (F Med 23). Contributory cause contains all other principal coded causes and any contributory coded causes on the medical discharge paper (F Med 23).

Figures have been compiled using the International Classification of Diseases & Related Health Problems version 10 (ICD 10) cause codes.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering Medical Discharges in the UK Regular Armed Forces and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing [DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk)

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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2nd 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, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

I hope you find this information useful

Yours sincerely,  
Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)