



Ministry
of Defence

Officer Cadet Survey - Cover Note 2015/16

Published 28 July 2016

The statistical release found separately provides results from the Officer Cadet Survey (OCS) 2015/16. The OCS is administered to four of the Armed Services initial officer training colleges to gauge officer cadets' background, perceptions of training, facilities and food, support, fairness of treatment, general perceptions of the course and hopes for the future. The data is used to inform colleges on their performance, and to compare results with required standards set by the MOD.

Due to changes in response rates for the individual services, Tri-Service results are not presented, however, figures for the different Services are available, reflecting the differing experiences in training colleges, along with changes over time.

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Background quality report: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/recruit-trainee-survey>

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

Methodology

All young officer cadets who have completed at least two weeks training were invited to participate in the survey. Participants complete an anonymous and confidential online questionnaire.

Over the twelve-month survey period (April 2015 – March 2016), there were 880 responses to the questionnaire. Overall, 269 RAF officer cadets, 212 Army officer cadets, 368 Navy officer cadets and 31 RM officer cadets completed the survey.

The overall response rate for all four colleges is 70% (up from 35% in 14/15). Due to large changes in the responses rates from the different Services, Tri-Service results are not reported on.

There have been small changes in the respondent profile in terms of age and gender. The data is not weighted to take account of non-response.

Totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

A detailed explanation of the statistical reliability of this survey is found in Annex A of the main report, however it should be noted that due to non-response we cannot be certain that the figures obtained are exactly those we would have found, had everybody been interviewed (the 'true' values).

Table 1: Response rates

	Total Responses	% of questionnaires	2015/16 response rate	2014/15 response rate
Army	212	24	38	24
Navy	368	42	96	29
RAF	269	31	94	64
Royal Marines	31	4	86	55
Total	880		70	35

In order to complete the survey, respondents log into the survey using a unique password which has been generated for their training establishment. This enables Ipsos MORI to identify how many completed surveys have been received from each training school. In order to calculate response rates, Ipsos MORI request the individual services to provide the number of people from their service who could have completed the survey (the number people from their service who have completed at least two weeks of a course). These numbers are then used to calculate response rates based on how many completed surveys are received out of the number that could have been completed.

Response rates should be treated with caution. The large changes in response rates are currently being investigated and the response rate methodology will be reviewed before the 2016/17 publication.

No adjustment or weighting has been applied to this data to bring it in-line with the actual (or population) Service profile.

Revisions

Corrections to the published statistics will be made if errors are found, or if figures change as a result of improvements to methodology or changes to definitions. When making corrections, we will follow the Ministry of Defence [Statistics Revisions and Corrections Policy](#).

Further Information

Contact Us

The MOD welcomes feedback on our statistical products. If you have any comments or questions about this publication, you can contact us as follows:

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

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