



# Ministry of Defence

Ref: FOI2016/03138

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E-mail address:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 10 March 2016 requesting the following information:

*"1. Please state the total number of Royal Navy Engineers (full time equivalent, all ranks, trained and untrained personnel) employed by the Navy on each of the following dates: a) 1 Jan 2011, b) 1 Jan 2012 c) 1 Jan 2013 d) 1 Jan 2014 e) 1 Jan 2015 f) 1 Jan 2016. Please also provide the most current figure, and if possible, a break down for the numbers of Ship Engineers, Weapon Engineers, Air Engineer and Submarine Engineers, for each of the above dates.*

*2. Please state the total number of unfilled Royal Navy Engineer positions (full time equivalent, all ranks, trained and untrained personnel) on each of the following dates: a) 1 Jan 2011, b) 1 Jan 2012 c) 1 Jan 2013 d) 1 Jan 2014 e) 1 Jan 2015 f) 1 Jan 2016. Please also provide the most current figure, and if possible, a break down for the numbers of Ship Engineers, Weapon Engineers, Air Engineer and Submarine Engineers, for each of the above dates.*

*3. Please state the total number of Royal Navy Service personnel (full time equivalent, all ranks, trained and untrained) employed by the Navy on each of the following dates: a) 1 Jan 2011, b) 1 Jan 2012 c) 1 Jan 2013 d) 1 Jan 2014 e) 1 Jan 2015 f) 1 Jan 2016. Please also provide the most current figure.*

*4. Please state the number of unfilled Royal Navy Service positions (full time equivalent, all ranks, trained and untrained personnel) on each of the following dates: a) 1 Jan 2011, b) 1 Jan 2012 c) 1 Jan 2013 d) 1 Jan 2014 e) 1 Jan 2015 f) 1 Jan 2016. Please also provide the most current figure."*

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 all the information in scope of your request is held. As part of your request, you asked for the most current figures. Defence Statistics release Royal Navy manpower figures as an Official Statistics publication. In accordance with the Code of Practice and the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 for the release of National and Official Statistics, the most current figure I can provide is at 1 February 2016. 1 March 2016 figures are scheduled for publication at 09:30 on 14 April 2016.

The information you have requested can be found below in tables 1, 2, 3 and 4.

**Table 1. Full time equivalent<sup>1</sup> Royal Navy Service<sup>2</sup> Engineers by Arm<sup>3</sup> and trained status<sup>4</sup>**

Date	RN Engineer FAA		RN Engineer GS		RN Engineer SM		Engineer Branches combined Grand total		
	Trained	Untrained	Trained	Untrained	Trained	Untrained	Trained	Untrained	
01/01/2011	3 620	360	6 180	260	2 700	260	12 500	880	13 380
01/01/2012	3 640	140	5 710	260	2 710	210	12 050	610	12 660
01/01/2013	3 280	280	5 140	250	2 650	200	11 070	730	11 800
01/01/2014	3 200	290	4 720	340	2 510	250	10 430	880	11 320
01/01/2015	3 150	290	4 470	380	2 450	230	10 060	900	10 960
01/01/2016	3 050	290	5 130	460	2 360	270	10 540	1 020	11 560
01/02/2016	3 030	330	5 130	540	2 420	270	10 580	1 140	11 720

**Table 2. Unfilled liability driving<sup>5</sup> Royal Navy Service<sup>2</sup> Engineer positions by Arm<sup>3</sup>**

Date	RN Engineer (arm not assigned)	RN Engineer FAA	RN Engineer GS	RN Engineer SM	Grand Total
01/01/2011	~	520	680	210	1 410
01/01/2012	~	630	430	210	1 280
01/01/2013	10	320	450	230	1 020
01/01/2014	10	270	480	270	1 020
01/01/2015	10	260	510	440	1 210
01/01/2016	10	230	760	410	1 400
01/02/2016	10	210	780	420	1 420

**Table 3. Full time equivalent<sup>1</sup> Royal Navy Service<sup>2</sup> personnel and trained status<sup>4</sup>**

Date	Trained	Untrained	Grand Total
01/01/2011	35 450	3 090	38 540
01/12/2011	34 430	2 180	36 610
01/01/2013	31 810	2 610	34 430
01/01/2014	30 700	2 810	33 510
01/01/2015	30 200	2 920	33 120
01/01/2016	29 800	2 870	32 670
01/02/2016	29 720	3 120	32 840

**Table 4. Unfilled liability driving<sup>5</sup> Royal Navy Service<sup>2</sup> positions**

Date	Total
01/01/2011	4 750
01/01/2012	4 680
01/01/2013	4 130
01/01/2014	4 040
01/01/2015	3 550
01/01/2016	3 790
01/02/2016	3 880

Notes:

1. Full time equivalent refers to regulars and full-time reserve service personnel in regular positions.
2. Royal Navy Service refers to the Royal Navy and Royal Marines
3. Officers and other ranks have been included in the same arms. The Engineering Branch (of Officers and Other Ranks) comprises 3 Arms (Fleet Air Arm, General Service, Submarine).
4. Trained status is included in the strength (number of personnel) as the unfilled positions specifically refer to trained strength. Trained strength comprises service personnel who have completed Phase 1 and 2 training.
5. Unfilled liability driving positions:
  - The permitted Strength is essentially to fill Liability Driving Positions together with an allowance for margin activity by Rank and Specialisation.
  - There is effectively no extra Strength to fill Non-Liability Driving Positions.
  - Liability Driving (ie enduring) positions may be gapped to free an incumbent to fill a Non-Liability Driving (ie Temporary) position.
  - It is only appropriate to consider Gapped Liability Driving positions.
  - Significant variation can occur when ships/submarines go into Maintenance Periods; enter Service; or are paid off.
  - Exchange positions have not been included.
  - Untrained personnel cannot fill Liability Driving positions.

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, 1<sup>st</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, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Navy)