



Ministry
of Defence

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[REDACTED]

Date: 4 November 2015

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry of Defence on 21 September 2015 requesting the following information:

“I am looking for any statistics you may hold concerning members of the armed forces who are from the British Overseas territories. I am especially interested in how many people from St Helena are currently serving within the armed forces.

I also wish to know how this compares (per capita) to counties/cities in Britain, or to the United Kingdom at large.”

Following further communications on 13 October 2015 the request was clarified to be:

“I am interested in data relating to the UK Regular Personnel.”

We are 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 some information in scope of your request is held.

The Ministry of Defence does not hold information on the second part of your request regarding **“How this compares (per capita) to counties/cities in Britain, or to the United Kingdom at large.”**

The remainder of the information you have requested can be found in Table 1 below.

| Table 1: Nationality of UK Regular Forces¹ personnel as at 1 October 2014 | | |
|---|----------------|-----|
| | Number | % |
| UK Regular Forces | 156 630 | |
| of which British Overseas Territories | 260 | 0.2 |
| of which St Helenian | 10 | |
| Unknown nationality | 60 | |
| Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service) | | |

Notes

1. UK Regular Forces comprises trained and untrained Full-time personnel but does not include Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and reservists.
2. British Overseas Territories comprises all personnel who are recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) database as nationals of Anguilla, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Overseas Territories, British Indian Ocean Territory, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, the Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena and its dependencies (Ascension and Tristan da Cunha), South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands. More details can be found on the gov.uk website at <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-british-nationality/british-overseas-territories-citizen>
3. Percentages are calculated using unrounded figures and exclude those with unknown nationality.

Rounding

- a. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10, though numbers ending in a 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to avoid systematic bias.
- b. Totals and sub-totals are rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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/>.

If you would you like to be added to our contact list please e-mail us at DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.uk. Our updates will inform you about statistical publications covering **Military Personnel** and consult you if we are thinking of making changes.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)