



Ministry
of Defence

Recruit Trainee Survey - Cover Note 2016/17

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The statistical release found separately provides results from the Recruit Trainee Survey (RTS) 2016/17. The RTS is administered to All Phase 1 and 2 training establishments to gauge Phase 1 recruits' and Phase 2 trainees' attitude, background, perceptions and experience of training 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.

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

The survey was carried out over a 12 month survey period (April 2016-March 2017) to bring it in-line with the military calendar. During this time there were 13757 responses to the questionnaire. Overall, 4795 Phase 1 Army recruits and 2949 Phase 2 Trainees, 2078 Phase 1 Royal Navy recruits and 1420 Phase 2 Trainees and 1348 Phase 1 RAF recruits and 1167 Phase 2 Trainees completed the Survey (responses for the Royal Marines are included within the Royal Navy figures).

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).

For any percentage given, however, we can estimate 'confidence intervals' within which the true values are likely to fall. For example; hypothetically, if 50% of our sample of 13757 recruits and trainees strongly agreed that the training was what they expected, we can be 95% certain that the 'true' value would be between 49.5% and 50.5%, i.e. a margin of 0.5% on each side.

Table 1: Response rates

		Total Responses	% of questionnaires	2015/16 Response rate	2014/15 response rate
Phase 1	Army	4795	79	46	72
	Navy	2078	80	82	83
	RAF	1348	83	95	93
	Total Phase 1	8221	66	60	76
Phase 2	Army	2949	54	29	31
	Navy	1420	48	49	53
	RAF	1167	61	90	30
	Total Phase 2	5536	54	37	34
Total		13757	67	48	51

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](#). All corrected figures will be identified by the symbol "r", and an explanation will be given of the reason for and size of the revision. Corrections which would have a significant impact on the utility of the statistics will be corrected as soon as possible, by reissuing the publication. Minor errors will also be corrected, but for convenience these corrections may be timed to coincide with the next annual release of the publication.

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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