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Thank you for your email of 22 November in which you requested the following information:

1. Number of Army personnel married and number of personnel with children.
2. Number of Army families living in Service Families Accommodation and the number of those not.
3. Number of Army partners who reported an issue to a Unit Welfare Officer.
4. Number of Army partner cases that were then referred to either the Army Welfare Service or another agency.
5. Number of Army personnel whose deployments were cut short due to a family issue.
6. Number of Army divorces since 2000.
7. Average length of deployment to Iraq and Afghan since 2002.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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. A copy of the information which can be released is enclosed at Annex A.

Some information held by the Department falling within scope of your request is exempt from release under section(s) 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act and is therefore withheld. This is because it is personal data and releasing it would be a breach of Data Protection.

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, Ground 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>.

Yours sincerely,



1. Number of Army personnel married and number of personnel with children.

See attached table.

2. Number of Army families living in Service Families Accommodation and the number of those not.

The number of Service Families Accommodation occupied by Regular Army personnel on 1 December was 26,355.

3. Number of Army partners who reported an issue to a Unit Welfare Officer.

Withheld under s40 (Personal Information).

4. Number of Army partner cases that were then referred to either the Army Welfare Service or another agency.

Withheld under s40 (Personal Information).

5. Number of Army personnel whose deployments were cut short due to a family issue.

Withheld under s40 (Personal Information).

6. Number of Army divorces since 2000.

See attached table. Please note that the information is only available for the period 2000 to 2006.

7. Average length of deployment to Iraq and Afghan since 2002.

Six months.

Number of Service Personnel by Marital Status and Number of Children as at 1 October 2016

Table 1 : Regular Strength by Marital Status

Unmarried	49,110
Married	35,380

Table 2 : Regular Strength by number of children

0 Children	50,690
1+ Children	33,790

Notes/Caveats:

The figures are for trained and untrained Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service and Mobilised Reserves.

Married status has been taken from the "marital status" listed on JPA for pay and allowance purposes and so may not reflect legal marital status.

Number of children has been extracted as recorded on JPA. This data is unverified and as such should be treated as an estimate

"Married" include those whose marital status is listed as : Civil Partnership, Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to a Service Person who is 1S, Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to Civil Servant or Individual within recognized Welfare organisation and Married or in a Registered Civil Partnership to Service Person who is 5S.

"Unmarried" include those whose marital status is listed as : All other members of Armed Forces, Prime Carer and Provider for Child, Separated providing support as result of court order, Separated providing voluntary support and no value.

Figures have been rounded to "10". Figures ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Divorces - rates per 1,000 married population (males only) by age at divorce, 1999-2006

Year of divorce	Age at date of divorce									
	All ages	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-59	60 and over
1999										
Males	13.0	2.2	25.9	29.7	28.4	24.2	19.5	14.5	8.5	1.8
Trained Officer (male)	..	-	*	6.7	13.6	7.3	10.4	8.1	1.6	*
Trained Soldier (male)	..	11.4	15.1	25.8	23.7	20.5	15.2	17.1	0.0	-
2000										
Males	12.7	2.5	23.9	27.9	27.4	24.1	19.5	15	8.4	1.9
Trained Officer (male)	..	-	*	15.4	9.4	8.5	12.2	12.8	7.9	*
Trained Soldier (male)	..	6.3	12.9	28.0	27.7	21.3	18.4	23.6	0.0	*
2001										
Males	13.0	2.0	21.6	27.9	28.3	25	20.5	15.3	8.7	1.9
Trained Officer (male)	..	-	*	15.0	11.2	9.7	9.1	6.5	3.3	*
Trained Soldier (male)	..	0.0	14.0	24.9	26.9	25.4	17.8	12.8	19.8	*
2002										
Males	13.4	3.0	24.4	29.4	29.1	25.9	21.5	16.7	9.2	2.0
Trained Officer (male)	..	-	*	12.3	16.8	15.2	11.5	8.3	7.6	*
Trained Soldier (male)	..	15.3	13.1	29.3	31.5	25.8	21.3	11.6	6.0	-
2003										
Males	14.0	3.4	25.7	30.6	29.8	27.1	23.3	17.9	10.0	2.1
Trained Officer (male)	..	-	*	11.2	13.8	8.6	11.5	11.5	7.8	*
Trained Soldier (male)	..	0.0	12.0	28.3	30.5	26.0	21.1	16.2	7.5	-
2004										
Males	14.1	4.5	26.4	30.4	29.9	27.2	23.5	18.7	10.4	2.3
Trained Officer (male)	..	-	60.5	4.5	11.8	11.6	9.7	7.6	7.7	0.0
Trained Soldier (male)	..	0.0	11.4	22.8	31.1	27.3	23.6	24.1	0.0	
2005										
Males	13.1	3.9	24.9	28.3	27.2	24.8	22.4	18.2	10.0	2.2

Source: ONS Divorces (numbers and rates): sex and age at divorce, 1993-2003, Table 4.1 taken from Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics - Series FM2 number 31; DASA (Army) Divorce Rates

Source: FM2 Marriage, divorce and adoption statistics, Tables 4.1 and 4.9

Symbols and Conventions:

- .. rates not available
- no married population exists
- *married population < 100

Rates calculated from fewer than 20 events are distinguished by italic type as a warning to users that their reliability as a measure may be affected by the small number of events.

Notes:

Please note that direct comparisons can not be made between the data for the reasons noted below.

1. ONS figures based on England and Wales **ONLY**, and will include Army personnel divorces in the rates. It is assumed that those divorcing in England and Wales were married in England or Wales. This will not always be true.
2. Army figures are based on the average married strength over the year in the Army.
For the Army, the number of divorces is calculated by identifying the number of individuals, month on month, whose marital status on their Record of Service changed from a married code to a divorced code in the calendar year stated i.e. it only counts the people who changed from a married code one month to a divorced code the next month, so, although unlikely, it does not pick up anyone who may have been miscoded as single and then becomes coded as divorced.
3. ONS use interim revised mid-year estimates of the resident population by marital status in England and Wales to calculate the divorce rates. They are based on applying the midyear population distribution by marital status, as found in the published marital status estimates for the same period, to the population estimates revised in light of the 2001 Census.
The marital status estimates used to calculate the rates for 2001 are final and are based on the results of the 2001 Census. Numbers of divorces are derived from the decree absolute form, supplied by the Courts to the Lord Chancellor's Dept.
4. Figures are given for males only, this is because ONS counts a divorce as two separate cases, whereas Army divorces are counted as one case

(unless they are divorcing another serving member of the Army).

5. Figures for Males for 1999, 2000 and 2001 may differ from those previously given by DASA. This is because rates provided by ONS are based on population estimates, and these estimates have been revised since DASA last compared the divorce rates.

¹ 2006 rates are provisional as they were produced using the 2005 marital status estimates; the 2006 estimates were not available at the time of compilation of these data.

confidentiality notice

Some of the data in this document may disclose sensitive personal information as defined by section 2 of the Data Protection Act 1998 or data collected in confidence from respondents. They are released to you as an agent of the Data Controller for statistical purposes only and may not be disclosed to a third party, even within the Ministry of Defence, since this may be a breach of section 33(4) of the same Act. If these data are for a legal case, that is, a request under Section 35 of the Data Protection Act, then you must not pass on the data without consulting further with DASA and providing it a copy of any relevant court or tribunal order or request. If in doubt, refer to DASA.