



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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FOI 2017/02064

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[REDACTED]
Via email: [REDACTED]

27 February 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information – Final Response

Thank you for your email of 7February 2017 requesting the following information:

'an estimate of the number of women at sea on the first day of each month of the year 2013. Also the numbers of RN men airlifted from ships deployed at sea in the year 2013, and give this as a percentage of male personnel deployed at sea in that year'

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search has now been completed, and I can confirm that information is held which falls within the scope of your request; this data is set out in Annex A below.

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, Zone D, 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, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

Number of Royal Navy women at sea during 2013

The table below contains an estimate of the number of women at sea as at the first day of each month in 2013. This has been estimated by matching female personnel deployed on ships against data on the ship and submarine activity schedule for the year. Please note that we have necessarily had to make the assumption that any personnel assigned to a ship as at the first day of the month would have deployed with that ship, no matter when during the month the ship was at sea. There may therefore be female personnel who were assigned to the ship at a later date during the month and who were deployed with the ship, as well as others who were assigned away from the ship and who did not deploy. These figures exclude any females in embarked aviation flights, embarked commando groups and augmentees.

Total number of personnel deployed as at the first of each Month in 2013

	01-Jan-13	01-Feb-13	01-Mar-13	01-Apr-13	01-May-13	01-Jun-13	01-Jul-13	01-Aug-13	01-Sep-13	01-Oct-13	01-Nov-13	01-Dec-13
Female	321	557	620	542	571	451	370	575	540	556	550	481

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. Includes trained and untrained regular personnel as at the first of each month who were posted to ships which were deployed at any point during that month.
2. Does not include females in embarked aviation flights, embarked commando groups, or augmentees.

We estimate that the total number of female personnel deployed at any point throughout 2013 was **889**. Some of these personnel may have been deployed on more than one ship or on more than one occasion during the year.

Number of Royal Navy men aeromedically evacuated from ships during 2013

Between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2013 a minimum of **124** male UK Naval Service personnel were aeromedically evacuated from ships at sea. This represents **1.5%** of all male personnel who were deployed on ships during 2013. Please note that this represents the percentage of males who were deployed at any point during the year and not the percentage of deployments. The number of male personnel deployed at sea has been estimated using the same methodology as for female personnel above.

Aeromedical Evacuation (AE) is the medically supervised movement of patients to and between medical facilities by air transportation. This number does not include connecting flights and reverse aeromedical evacuations. To determine the number, aeromedical evacuation records from the Aeromedical Evacuation Control Centre (AECC) at RAF Brize Norton were searched for any that included the name of a ship. The data was also linked to the Joint Personnel Administration system (JPA) to search the Posted Unit for personnel attached to a ship.

If a Service person becomes ill or injured on operations or at sea, they are returned at the first convenient opportunity. This may be via an aeromed flight if there is space available, but emergency cases will be given priority. Alternatively they may be returned on a routine flight, in which case Defence Statistics will not have sight of the reason for their return. Therefore, the number shown represents the minimum number of male Royal Navy personnel aeromedically evacuated due to illness or injury at sea.