



Ministry
of Defence

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Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 8 December 2017 requesting the following information:

"Across the armed forces, broken down into each service, i would like the breakdown by rank of those who are Medically Fit to Deploy, Medically Limited Deployable and Medically Non Deployable across the entire service..."

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 (MOD), and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held by the MOD.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. This is in line with JSP 200 (March 2016), in which numbers fewer than five are suppressed in order to reduce the possible inadvertent disclosure of individual identities. Officers ranked OF7, OF8 and OF9 have been combined in order to protect personal information as they include small numbers of personnel.

Table 1: UK Naval Service personnel¹ Medical Deployability Standard, by rank, numbers²
1 October 2017

Rank	Total	MFD	MLD	MND
Total	29,279	24,500	2,070	2,686
OF0	0	0	0	0
OF1	303	290	~	~
OF2	2,105	1,866	111	126
OF3	2,050	1,709	212	128
OF4	1,011	861	104	46
OF5	271	237	27	6
OF6	83	78	5	0
OF7/OF8/OF9	36	33	~	~
OR2	9,001	7,700	265	1,035
OR3	708	651	17	40
OR4	5,542	4,560	372	609
OR6	3,841	3,114	370	352
OR7	2,976	2,314	401	253
OR8	374	288	60	23
OR9	978	799	120	58

Source: JPA and DMICP

¹ Full time trained and serving against requirement personnel as at 1 October 2017.

² Please note that the total figure of personnel in Service is greater than the sum of MDS categories. This is because the MDS of some personnel was not available.

Table 2: UK Army personnel¹ Medical Deployability Standard, by rank, numbers²
1 October 2017

Rank	Total	MFD	MLD	MND
Total	77,440	60,131	10,024	7,276
OF0	~	~	0	0
OF1	1,253	1,191	34	27
OF2	4,094	3,510	401	179
OF3	4,380	3,411	656	313
OF4	1,716	1,306	309	101
OF5	505	388	93	24
OF6	151	121	23	7
OF7/OF8/OF9	~	~	6	0
OR2	20,240	16,213	1,542	2,482
OR3	13,675	11,005	1,319	1,350
OR4	12,827	9,738	1,828	1,261
OR6	7,753	5,658	1,396	699
OR7	5,567	3,916	1,177	474
OR8	3,878	2,668	935	275
OR9	1,341	952	305	84

Source: JPA and DMICP

¹ Full time trade trained and serving against requirement personnel as at 1 October 2017.

² Please note that the total figure of personnel in Service is greater than the sum of MDS categories. This is because the MDS of some personnel was not available.

Table 3: UK RAF personnel¹ Medical Deployability Standard, by rank, numbers²

1 October 2017

Rank	Total	MFD	MLD	MND
Total	30,561	25,405	1,895	3,261
OF0	0	0	0	0
OF1	402	393	~	~
OF2	2,780	2,441	133	206
OF3	1,998	1,677	139	182
OF4	1,019	888	68	63
OF5	284	250	20	14
OF6	83	~	9	~
OF7/OF8/OF9	34	~	~	0
OR2	9,247	8,152	270	825
OR3	142	122	3	17
OR4	6,452	5,128	412	912
OR6	4,800	3,714	445	641
OR7	2,390	1,831	253	306
OR8	0	0	0	0
OR9	930	706	138	86

Source: JPA and DMICP

¹ Full time trained and serving against requirement personnel as at 1 October 2017.² Please note that the total figure of personnel in Service is greater than the sum of MDS categories. This is because the MDS of some personnel was not available.

Under Section 16, you may find it useful to note that information on personnel in service are published by Defence Statistics on a quarterly basis. These can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-index>.

Service personnel with medical conditions or fitness issues which affect their ability to perform their duties are assessed in Primary Care or referred to a Medical Board for a medical examination and review of their medical grading. The patient may be downgraded to allow for treatment and rehabilitation. Medically downgraded personnel are those personnel who have been assessed by a Medical Board or in primary care and subsequently awarded an MDS of either MLD or MND. The MDS awarded can be on a temporary or permanent basis. The definitions of MDS categories are as follows:

Medically Fully Deployable (MFD): Personnel medically fit for duty with no employment limitations.

Medically Limited Deployable (MLD): Personnel medically fit for duty with minor employment limitations. MLD personnel may have a medical condition or functional limitation that prevents the meeting of all Medically Fully Deployable (MFD) requirements.

Medically Not Deployable (MND): Personnel medically fit for duty with major employment limitations. MND personnel are not fit to deploy on Operations but may be deployable on UK based exercises and should be able to work effectively for at least 32.5 hours per week.

MDS has been compiled using the Defence Statistics “derived” field which utilises a combination of the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) and Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) MDS.

Joint Personnel Administration is the most accurate source for demographic information for UK Armed Forces personnel and is used to gather information on a person’s service and MDS.

DMICP is a centralised data warehouse. It is the source of electronic, integrated healthcare records for primary healthcare and some MOD specialist care providers. DMICP was rolled out in 2007 and legacy medical data for currently serving personnel was migrated across during rollout.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk.

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/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics Health