Ministry of Defence

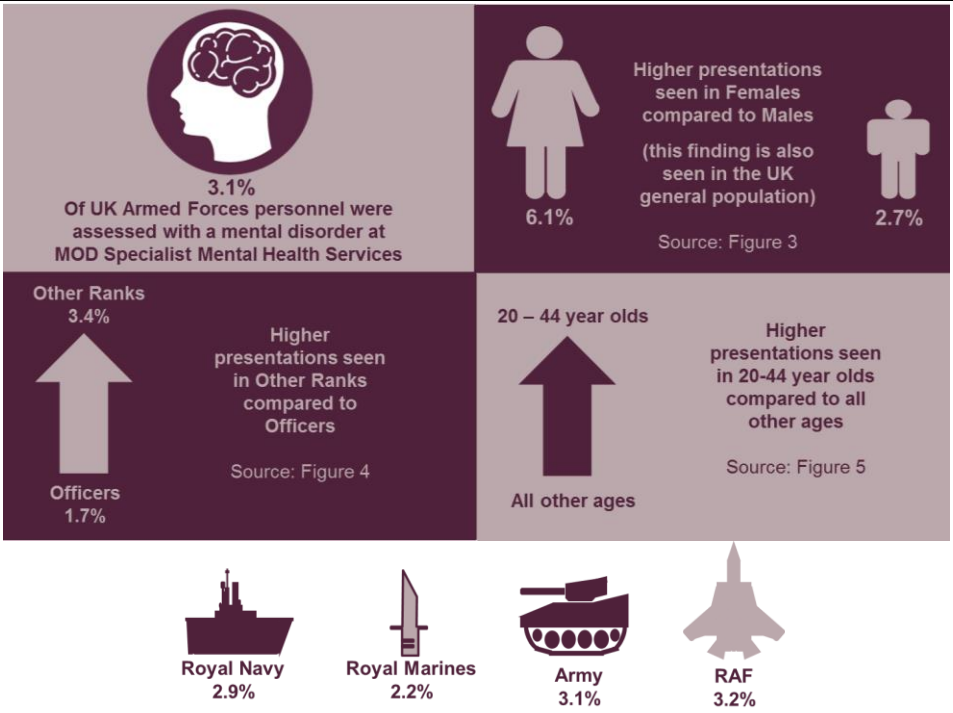
UK Armed Forces Mental Health: Annual Summary & Trends Over Time, 2007/08 - 2017/18

Published 21 June 2018

This annual bulletin provides statistical information on mental health in the UK Armed Forces for the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2018. It summarises all initial assessments for a new episode of care of Service personnel at MOD Specialist Mental Health services (Departments of Community Mental Health (DCMH) for outpatient care and all admissions to the MOD's in-patient care contractor) by financial year.

This report presents eleven-year trend information on demographic groups at risk and comparisons to mental health in the UK population.

Key Points and Trends 2017/18



Lower presentations seen among Royal Marines compared to the other Services
Source: Figure 2

The number and rate of mental disorder among UK Armed Forces personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services increased over time from 1.8% in 2007/08 to 3.2% in 2015/16 and has since remained around this level at **3.1 %** in the latest year, 2017/18 (this represents approximately 3 in 100 personnel). Findings of significantly higher presentations in certain demographic groups remained broadly similar throughout the last eleven years (as presented in above graphic).

The PTSD rate remains **low** at **0.2%**, which represents 2 in 1,000 personnel assessed with the disorder in 2017/18.

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Background Quality Report: www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mental-health-in-the-uk-armed-forces-background-quality-report
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.gov.uk

Contents

Supplementary tables containing:

- all data presented in this publication
- figures presenting UK Armed Forces personnel PTSD by gender and Psychoactive Substance Misuse due to alcohol by gender.
- tables presenting UK Armed Forces personnel by assignment type Regular, Reservist and Other.

can be found at : https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-mental-health-statistics-index

Consultation

A consultation ran in 2017 to seek views on ceasing production of episodes tables in this annual report and ceasing the mid-year mental health official statistic. Following the consultation, it was decided to cease both the episodes tables and the mid-year report. Therefore, this is the first publication of this annual report not to have supplementary tables containing detailed statistics on episodes of care at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, however a summary of episode is still provide in **Table 3** of this report. Previous releases of the tables can still be found at the link above.

Revisions

In June 2018 Defence Statistics found that incorrect information was published on rates of Mental Disorders among Royal Marines for all age groups in 2009/10 and for 50 years and over in 2015/16.

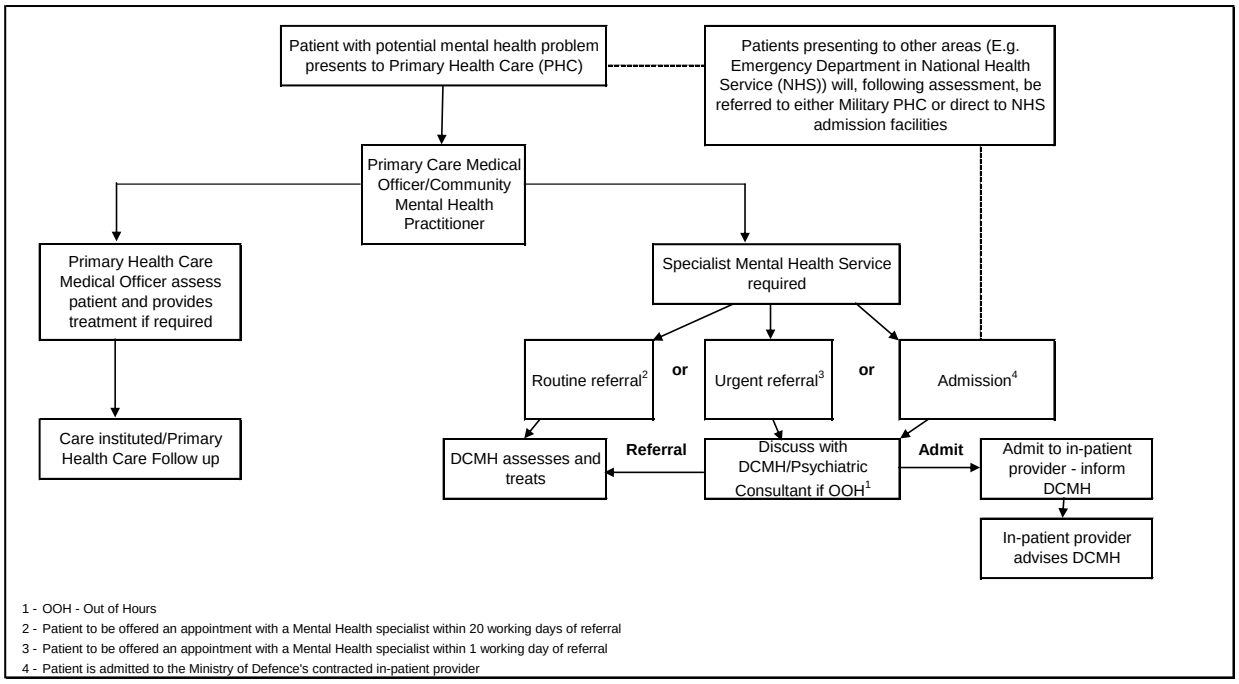
Also incorrect information was published on RAF personnel with no mental health information provided in 2007/08. These were the result of processing errors. A revised version of the 2016/17 bulletin have been released; changes to previously reported data are annotated with an ‘r’. There has been no impact on the overall findings for populations at risk and a series of steps have now been put in place to reduce the risk of future amendments.

Introduction

1. Assessment and care-management within the UK Armed Forces for personnel experiencing mental health problems is available at three levels :

- In Primary Health Care (PHC), by the patient's own Medical Officer (MO).
- In the community through specialists in military Departments of Community Mental Health (DCMH).
- In hospitals, either the NHS or the contracted In-Patient Service Provider (ISP).

2. The level of care a patient may require is determined by a number of factors, including the severity of symptoms and the degree of risk posed by the patient's current condition. The following diagram shows the pathways into mental health services in the UK Armed Forces :



3. This report summarises all attendances for a new episode of care of Armed Forces personnel at MOD Specialist Mental Health services (**MOD's DCMH for outpatient care, and all admissions to the MOD's in-patient care contractor) only**. It therefore captures patients referred to the Specialist Mental Health Service and does not represent the totality of mental health problems in the UK Armed Forces as some patients can be treated wholly within the primary care setting by their GP or medical officer.

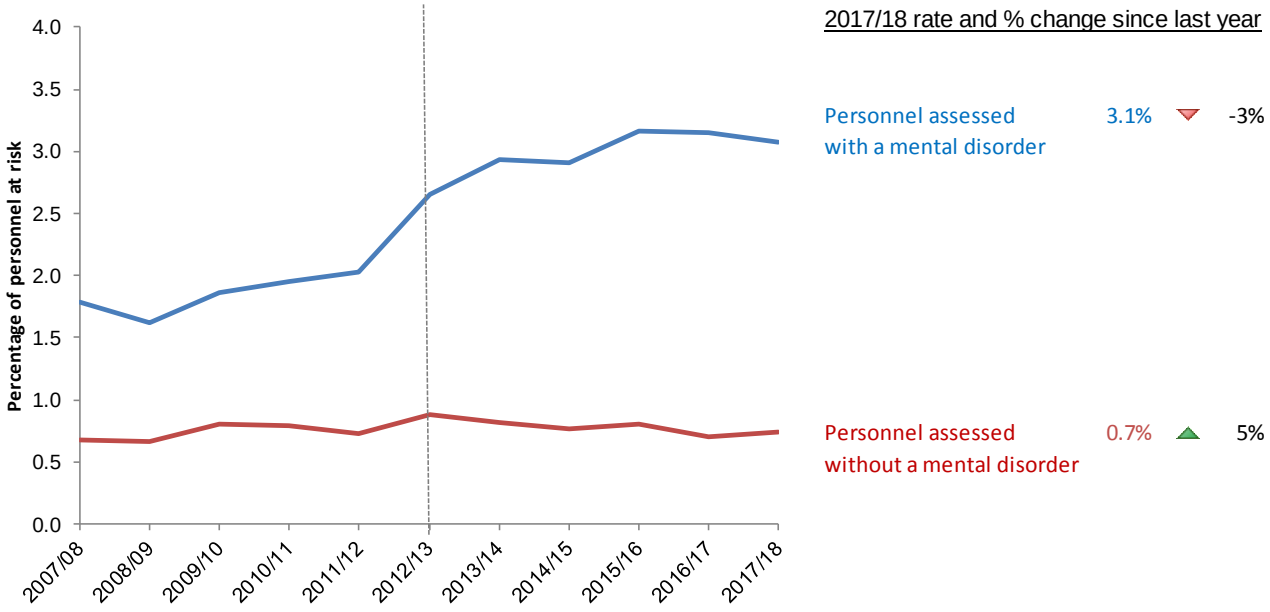
4. DCMH are specialised psychiatric services based on community mental health teams closely located with primary care services at sites in the UK and abroad. All UK based and aero-medically evacuated Service personnel based overseas requiring in-patient admission are treated by one of eight NHS trusts in the UK which are part of a consortium headed by the South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Foundation Trust (SSSFT); UK based Service personnel from British Forces Germany are treated at Gilead IV hospital, Bielefield under a contract with Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen an Families Association (SSAFA) through the Limited Liability Partnership. When presenting in-patient data in this report, the data include returns from both contract providers.

Results: Trends in UK Armed Forces mental health initial assessments 2007/08 – 2017/18

3.1% UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder in 2017/18 at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services

5. UK Armed Forces personnel may access specialist mental health care as an outpatient at a MOD Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) and/or as an in-patient at a MOD in-patient care provider. Clinician's record the patient's initial mental health assessment based on the presenting signs and symptoms. A number of patients are assessed by clinician's as having no specific and identifiable mental disorder.

Figure 1: UK Armed Forces personnel presenting at MOD Specialist Mental Health services by initial assessment, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2].
2007/08-2017/18



Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76)

6. A rising trend was seen between 2007/08 and 2015/16 where the rate of UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services rose from 1.8% to 3.2%. The rate has since remained at this level with **3.1%** of personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services in 2017/18. This represents approximately 3 in 100 UK Armed Forces personnel.

7. A possible explanation for the rise in the years up until 2015/16 may be the successful effect of campaigns run by the MOD to reduce stigma resulting in an increase in mental health awareness among UK Armed Forces personnel, Commanding Officers and clinician's in the primary care setting leading to greater detection rates and referrals to specialist care.

8. The number of personnel presenting for assessment who were then judged by specialist mental health clinicians as having no mental disorder have not changed over the ten year period presented.

4 in **5** of UK Armed Forces personnel seen at MOD Specialist Mental Health in 2017/18 were assessed with a mental disorder	**1** in **5** of UK Armed Forces personnel seen at MOD Specialist Mental Health in 2017/18 were assessed as having no mental disorder

Table 1: UK Armed Forces personnel presenting at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by Service provider, initial assessment, numbers and percentage population at risk[1,2,3,4,5,6].
2007/08-2017/18

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13[1]	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Number of personnel	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n
Personnel with an initial assessment with MOD Mental Health Services[2]	**5,118**	**4,556**	**5,318**	**5,440**	**5,302**	**6,507**	**6,521**	**6,059**	**6,364**	**6,137**	**5,960**
At a DCMH	5,033	4,418	5,231	5,349	5,205	6,434	6,429	5,943	6,255	6,023	5,846
At a MOD in-patient provider	236	293	266	266	257	257	275	305	292	271	263
Personnel assessed with a mental disorder[3]	3,557	3,199	3,753	3,902	3,944	4,952	5,165	4,858	5,147	5,083	4,886
Personnel assessed without a mental disorder[3]	1,343	1,303	1,626	1,584	1,419	1,631	1,440	1,274	1,300	1,133	1,175
Missing mental disorder information[4]	256	138	68	86	10	14	41	32	21	11	7
Percentage of personnel at risk.	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Personnel with an initial assessment with MOD Mental Health Services[2]	***2.6***	***2.3***	***2.6***	***2.7***	***2.7***	***3.5***	***3.7***	***3.6***	***3.9***	***3.8***	***3.7***
At a DCMH	*2.5*	*2.2*	*2.6*	*2.7*	*2.7*	*3.4*	*3.7*	*3.6*	*3.8*	*3.7*	*3.7*
At a MOD in-patient provider	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*
Personnel assessed with a mental disorder[3]	*1.8*	*1.6*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*2.0*	*2.7*	*2.9*	*2.9*	*3.2*	*3.2*	*3.1*
Personnel assessed without a mental disorder[3]	*0.7*	*0.7*	*0.8*	*0.8*	*0.7*	*0.9*	*0.8*	*0.8*	*0.8*	*0.7*	*0.7*
Missing mental disorder information[4]	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG
1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Please note, an individual may have had contact at both DCMH and In-patient provider.
3. Clinician's initial assessment based on presenting symptoms (paragraphs 71 and 72).
4. Initial diagnosis not available (See BQR)
5. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)

9. The rate of mental disorder among UK Armed Forces personnel assessed within specialised psychiatric services (3.1%) was lower than the rate of **4.5%** within the UK general population who accessed secondary mental health services[a] in 2016/17[1] (latest data available).

10. Comparisons with the UK general population are difficult for a number of reasons. Due to the nature of the role UK Armed Forces personnel undertake, in particular access to weapons; a patient's medical officer may refer at an earlier stage to specialised mental health services compared to the UK general population. In addition, the source of the UK general population statistic for mental ill-health also covers services such as Adult Learning Disability, Autistic Spectrum and Children/ Young People services which are not relevant to the UK Armed Forces population (these services accounted for just 6% of all secondary mental health service usage in 2016/17).

11. The lower rates seen among UK Armed Forces personnel accessing specialist mental health services compared to the UK general population may be due to the structure within the military; tight

[1] UK general population aged 16-59 years accessing NHS secondary mental health services in 2016/17 was used as a comparison against UK Armed Forces personnel. Source: http://digital.nhs.uk/pubs/mhb1617

unit cohesion plays a vital role in maintaining good mental health as well as helping to identify early signs of mental ill-health.

12. The rigorous selection of individuals into the UK Armed Forces may help to prevent those with more serious mental disorders joining the Services. In addition, UK Armed Forces personnel who have a mental disorder which prevents continued Service in the military environment may be considered for medical discharge, thus more severe cases of mental health requiring in-patient admission may not remain in the UK Armed Forces population; this is different to the UK general population.

Results: Demographic Risk Groups 2007/08 - 2017/18

Higher presentations seen in:	Lower presentations seen in:
Females **Other Rank** **20 - 44 year olds**	**Royal Marines**

13. The analysis in this section presents the number of UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental health disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health services by demographic groups: Service; Gender; Officer/Other Rank; Age Group and deployment status. Table 2 presents the findings for 2017/18 collectively.

Table 2: UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by demographics, number and percentage of personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5,6]. 2017/18

	2017/18		
	n	%	percentage of UK Armed Forces personnel at risk
Number of personnel assessed with a mental disorder at Mental Health Services	**4,886**	**3.1**	
Service			
Royal Navy*	758	2.9	
Royal Marines	159	2.2	
Army*	2,868	3.1	
RAF*	1,101	3.2	
Gender			
Male	3,915	2.7	
Female*	971	6.1	
Rank			
Officer	497	1.7	
Other Rank*	4,389	3.4	
Age			
Aged <20	184	2.4	
Aged 20-24*	876	3.1	
Aged 25-29*	1,183	3.3	
Aged 30-34*	982	3.4	
Aged 35-39*	824	3.4	
Aged 40-44*	489	3.4	
Aged 45-49	241	2.2	
Aged 50 +	126	1.5	
Deployment - Theatres of operation[5]			
Iraq and/or Afghanistan[6]	2,511	3.1	
of which Iraq	*1,285*	*2.9*	
Of which Afghanistan[6]	*2,136*	*3.1*	
Neither Iraq nor Afghanistan	2,375	3.1	

Significant differences in 2017/18:

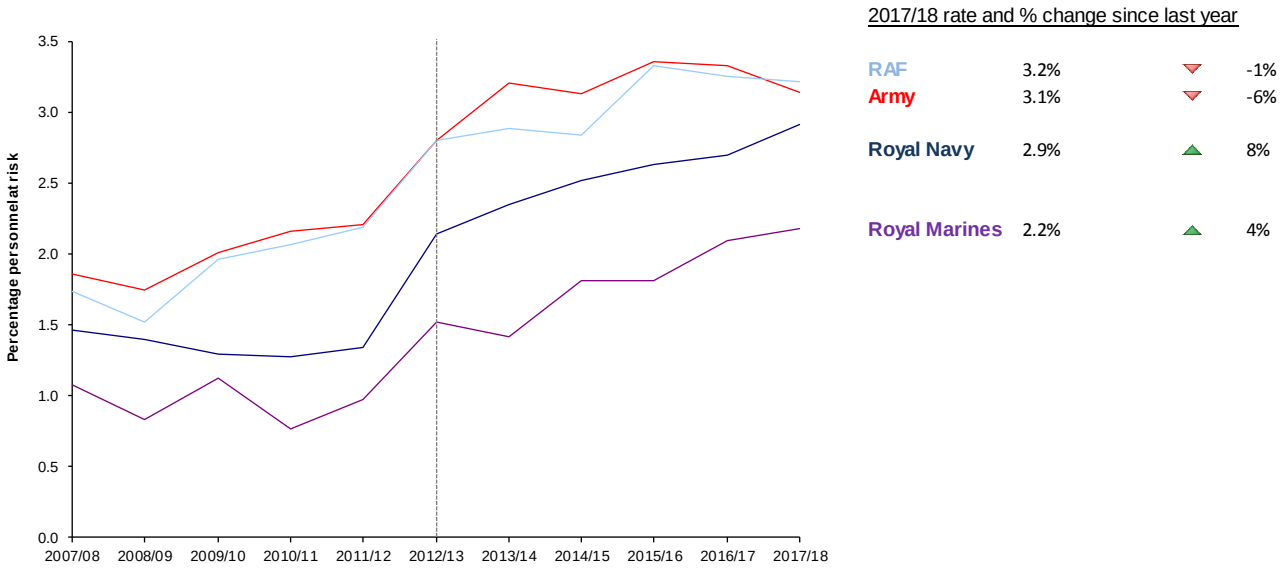
- **Lower in Royal Marines**
- **Higher in Females**
- **Higher in Other Ranks**
- **Higher in personnel aged between 20 and 44 years**

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
2. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)
3. Numbers within demographic groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change age group, rank or deployment status will be counted once in each sub-category.
4. '*' denotes significantly higher rates to comparison group(s).
5. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
6. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).

14. The higher rates of presentation among these demographic groups seen in Table 2 are broadly similar to those seen between 2007/08 and 2017/18. Figures 2-5 present rates for personnel assessed with mental disorders among each demographic group since 2007/08 along with possible explanations for the differences observed.

Figure 2: UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by Service, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2,3].
2007/08 - 2017/18



Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

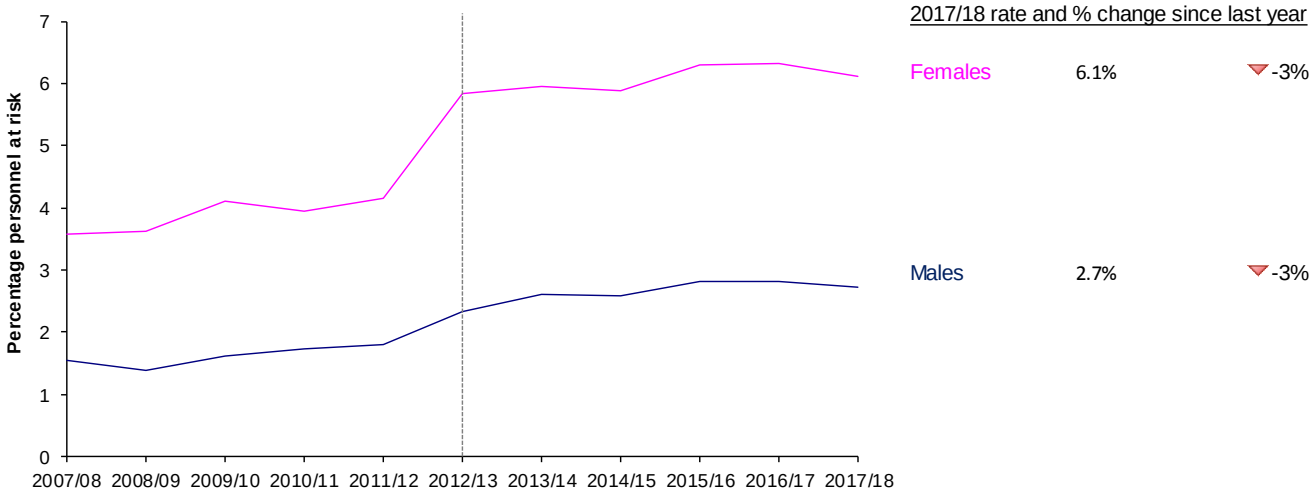
1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76)
3. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

15. Rates of mental disorder have risen in each of the Services throughout the eleven year period presented (Figure 2).

16. **Royal Marines had significantly lower rates** of mental ill health than the three other Services throughout the period presented. The Royal Marines undergo rigorous training to ensure only the 'elite' go forward as Royal Marines (thus the selection process removes those that may be more susceptible to mental health problems). The tight unit cohesion that exists amongst the elite forces further supports the 'healthy worker' effect (personal communication with Def Prof Mental Health) and may also influence the lower rates of mental ill health in this Service. In addition, high levels of preparedness may serve to lessen the impact of operational deployment experiences on mental ill health among the Royal Marines[b].

17. Whilst Royal Marines have significantly lower rates of mental health compared to the other Services, there was a 103% rise in rates between 2007/08 and 2017/18, the highest rise across the Services. This rise may be a result of a Royal Marine led initiative called Project REGAIN aimed at encouraging help seeking within the Service, which was introduced in January 2017. In the latest year, the rate among Royal Navy increased by 8% compared to relatively stable rates among the other Services. The reasons for this rise are unclear.

Figure 3: UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by gender, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2,3]
2007/08 – 2017/18



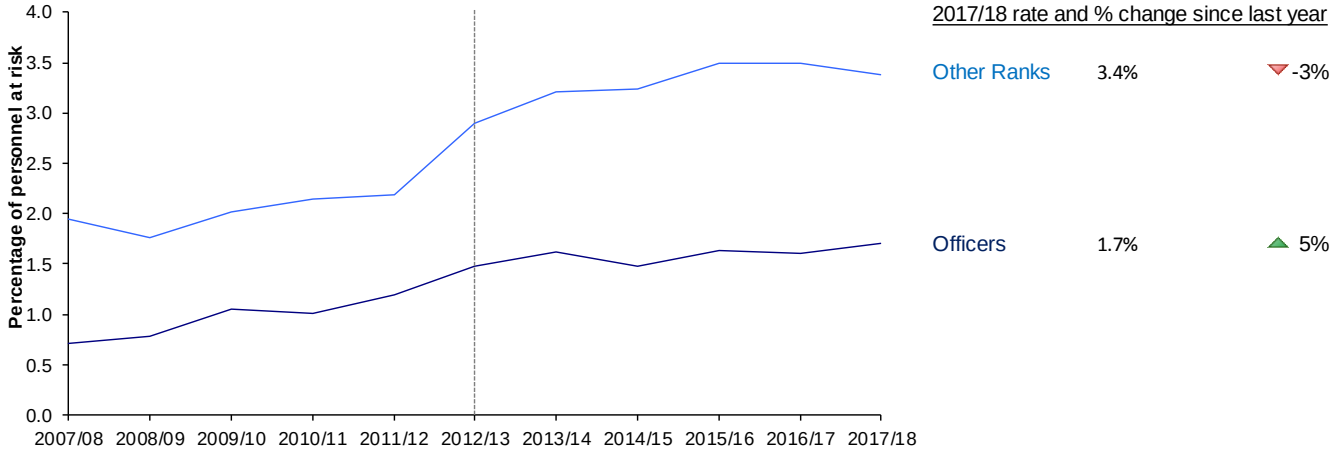
Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76)
3. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

18. Rates of mental disorders in **females were significantly higher than males** across all years presented (Figure 3). This finding was replicated in the civilian population where females are more likely to report mental ill health than males. A study following up the mental health of adults suggested that this is because females are likely to have more interactions with health professionals[c]. MOD has not investigated whether females in the UK Armed Forces have more interactions with health professionals than their male colleagues.

19. Whilst rates among females remain higher than males; there was a larger increase among the percentage of males with a mental disorder between 2007/08 and 2017/18 compared to females (76% and 71% respectively). The reasons for this are unclear however it is possible that increased mental health awareness is encouraging help seeking among groups who have previously not presented for help. A similar pattern was seen among the UK general population with higher increases in rates of mental health among males compared to females [b,d].

Figure 4: UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by Officer/Other Rank, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2,3].
2007/08 – 2017/18

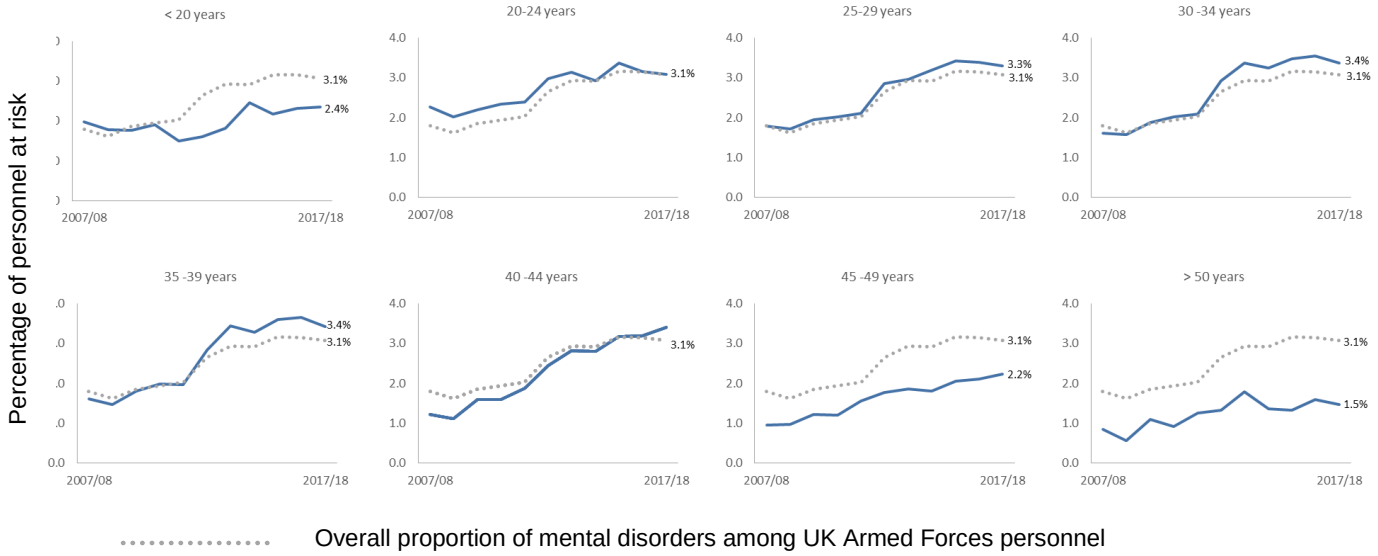


Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG
1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76).
3. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

20. **Other Ranks had consistently higher rates** of mental ill health compared to Officers in the UK Armed Forces for all years presented (Figure 4). The differences between Other Ranks and Officers may be due to educational and/or socio-economic background, where both higher educational attainment and higher socio-economic background are associated with lower levels of mental ill health disorder[e]. The majority of Officers (with the exception of those promoted from the Ranks) are recruited as graduates of the higher education system, whilst the majority of Other Ranks are recruited straight from school and often from the inner cities (particularly for the Army).

21. Whilst Other Ranks had consistently higher rates of mental ill health; Officers have seen a higher increase in the percentage of personnel who presented to MOD Specialist Mental Health services compared to Other Ranks (141% and 74% respectively) over the time period 2007/08 to 2017/18. A possible explanation of the increase in presentations could be due to MOD's commitment to anti-stigma campaigns and an increase in mental health awareness.

Figure 5: UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by Age group, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2]
2007/08 – 2017/18



Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG
1. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76).
2. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

22. Rates of mental disorders were **highest among those aged between 20-44 years** compared to those aged under 20 years and 45 years and over (Figure 5). The reasons for this are unclear.

23. A number of the age groups saw an increase in the percentage of presentations which was greater than that seen in the UK Armed Forces as a whole, for example personnel aged 40-44 years had a 179% increase in presentations to MOD Specialist Mental Health services in 2017/18 compared to the start of reporting in 2007/08. The reasons for this are unclear.

The most prevalent disorders were:

- **Neurotic Disorders**
  - **Adjustment Disorders**
  - **Other Neurotic Disorders**
- **Mood Disorders**

Rates of PTSD remain low at **0.2%** of UK Armed Forces personnel

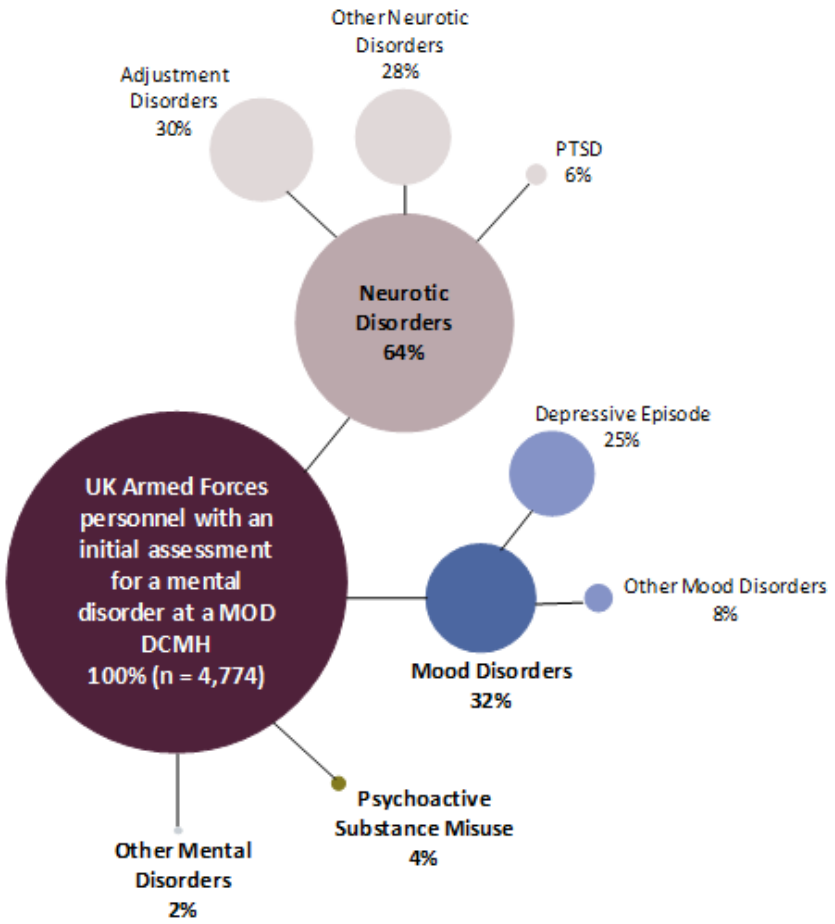
24. Clinician's at MOD Specialist Mental Health services record the patient's initial mental health assessment based on the presenting signs and symptoms, categorizing to World Health Organisation's International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health-Related Disorders 10th edition (ICD-10) mental disorders (more details can be found in the Glossary). A patient admitted to a MOD in-patient provider will be discharged to the care of a DCMH and therefore the data in this section presents the number of personnel assessed at a MOD DCMH by mental disorder.

25. **Neurotic Disorders** (Adjustment, Other Neurotic Disorders and PTSD) were the most prevalent mental disorders among UK Armed Forces personnel in 2017/18 (accounting for 1.9% of the population or approximately 2 in every 100 personnel), with Adjustment Disorders accounting for around a third of all mental disorders in the UK Armed Forces (Figure 6). Rates of Adjustment disorders were significantly higher than all other mental disorders in each year between 2007/08 and 2015/16 (Figure 7).

26. The finding that Neurotic Disorders were the most prevalent mental disorders among UK Armed Forces personnel is consistent with the UK general population. However, there were differences in the specific types of Neurotic Disorders most commonly seen within the UK Armed Forces and the UK general population. In the UK general population, Generalised Anxiety disorders, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and Phobias were the most common Neurotic disorders[d], whereas Adjustment disorder was the most common in the UK Armed Forces. Adjustment disorder is a short term condition occurring when a person is unable to cope with or adjust to a particular source of stress such as a major life change, loss or event. The higher rates of Adjustment disorders seen in the UK Armed Forces compared to the UK general population may reflect the impact of Service life with routine postings every few years and operational tours. Another possible explanation is a clinician's diagnostic habit to assess UK Armed Forces personnel with a condition which is less prognostically serious (personal correspondence with DCA Psychiatry, 2014).

27. In 2017/18, Mood Disorders accounted for a third of all mental disorders in the UK Armed Forces (Figure 6). The majority of Mood Disorder diagnoses were for Depressive episodes.

Figure 6: UK Armed Forces personnel mental disorders at initial assessment at MOD DCMH[1,2,3,4]
2017/18

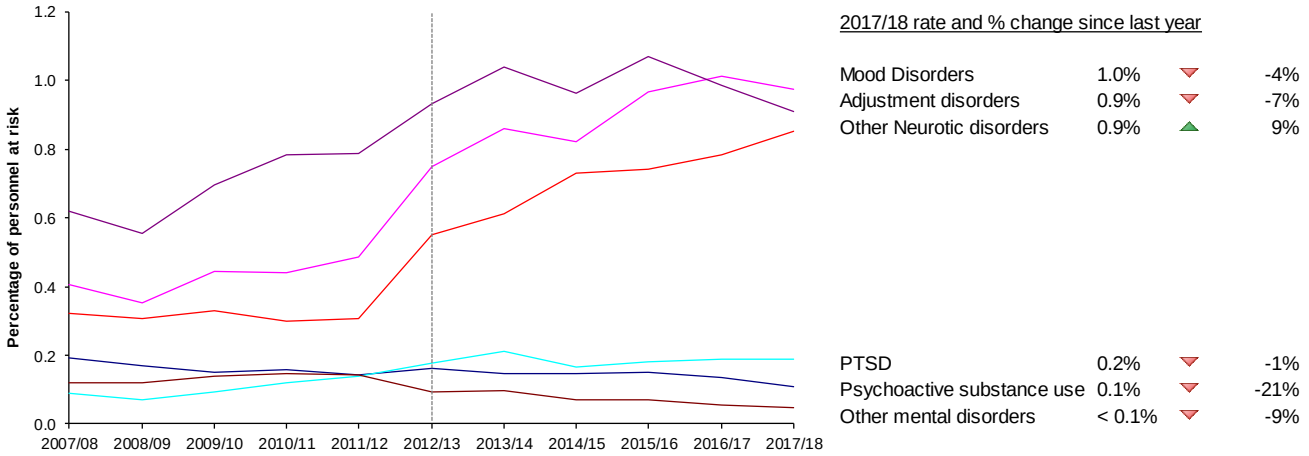


% of UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder in 2017/18

All disorders	**3.0%**
Psychoactive substance use	**0.1%**
of which disorders due to alcohol	*0.1%*
Mood Disorders	**1.0%**
of which depressive episode	*0.8%*
Neurotic disorders	**1.9%**
of which PTSD	*0.2%*
of which Adjustment disorders	*0.9%*
Other mental disorders	**0.0%**

Source : DS Database and DMICP
1. Percentages in the graphic may not sum 100% due to some personnel presenting with more than one disorder and thus are counted within each disorder they have presented with.
2. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)
3. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76)
4. The percentage of UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder differs from that presented in Table 1 as this only includes personnel assessed at a MOD DCMH in 2017/18 (See paragraph 24)

Figure 7: UK Armed Forces personnel by mental disorder at initial assessment at MOD DCMH, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2,3].
2007/08-2017/18



Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76).
3. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

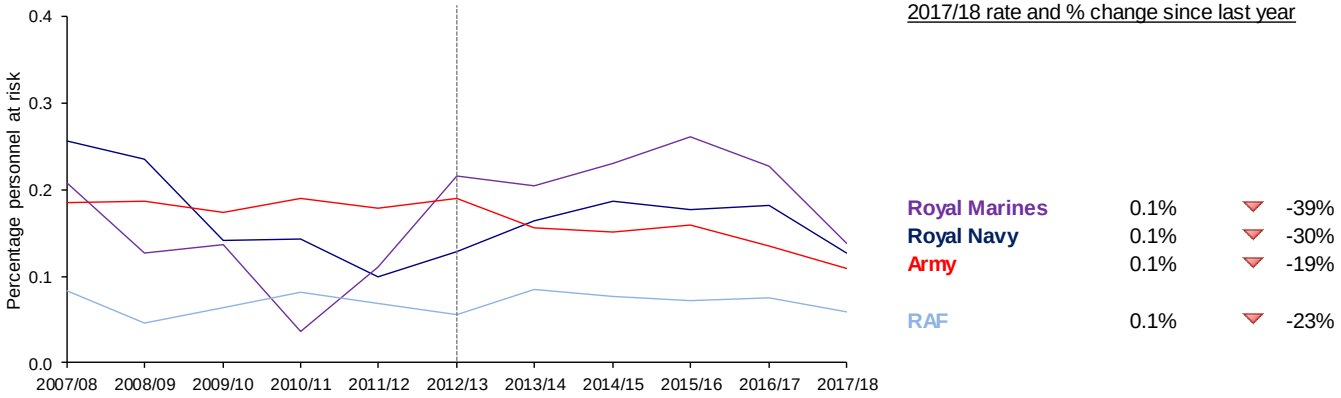
28. Some disorders showed a greater increase in the proportion of personnel presenting to a MOD DCMH over the time period presented. The highest increases in rates of mental disorders between 2007/08 and 2017/18 were Mood disorders and Other Neurotic disorders (139% and 166% respectively). In the 2017/18, the rate of each disorder decreased from the previous year with the exception of Other Neurotic disorders which increased by 9%. Other Neurotic disorders include Stress-related and Anxiety disorders. Possible changes to clinician's diagnostic habits may be the explanation for this rise.

29. Despite media attention focusing on prevalence of **PTSD** and **Psychoactive substance misuse due to alcohol** in the UK Armed Forces, Figure 7 shows that these disorders remain **low** with around 2 in 1,000 Armed Forces personnel assessed with PTSD (0.2%) and 1 in 1,000 personnel assessed with Psychoactive substance misuse due to alcohol (0.1%). Figure 9 presents the differences in the percentage of UK Armed Forces personnel within each Service assessed with PTSD.

30. Rates of psychoactive substance misuse due to alcohol and other mental health disorders showed a decline in presentations since reporting began in 2007/08 (-44% and -59% respectively). Defence Statistics will continue to monitor factors that may be influencing this change. Differences in the percentage of UK Armed Forces personnel within each Service assessed with psychoactive substance misuse due to alcohol are shown in Figure 8.

Psychoactive Substance Misuse due to Alcohol

Figure 8: UK Armed Forces personnel with an initial assessment at the MOD's DCMH, for psychoactive substance misuse due to alcohol, by Service, percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].
2007/08 – 2017/18



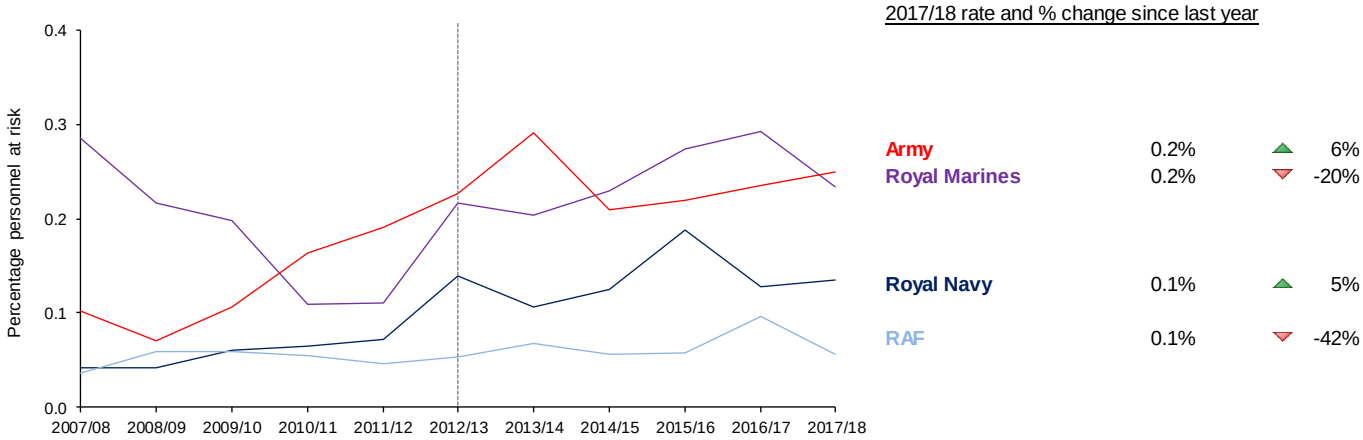
Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76).
3. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

31. Despite the overall low number of initial assessments for Psychoactive Substance Misuse for Alcohol, there were differences between the Services over the period presented. Rates for alcohol misuse have decreased among Royal Navy, Army and RAF personnel since 2007/08, however a different pattern was seen among the Royal Marines, with increasing rates between 2010/11 and 2015/16. Please note, the number of Royal Marines assessed with this disorder remain small (n=17 in 2016/17) small numbers can lead to a larger percentage change and so caution should be taken in interpreting these findings. The rates of Psychoactive Substance Misuse for Alcohol are now similar for each Service at 0.1%.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Figure 9: UK Armed Forces personnel with an initial assessment at the MOD's DCMH, for PTSD by Service, percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].
2007/08 – 2017/18



Source : DS Database and DMICP

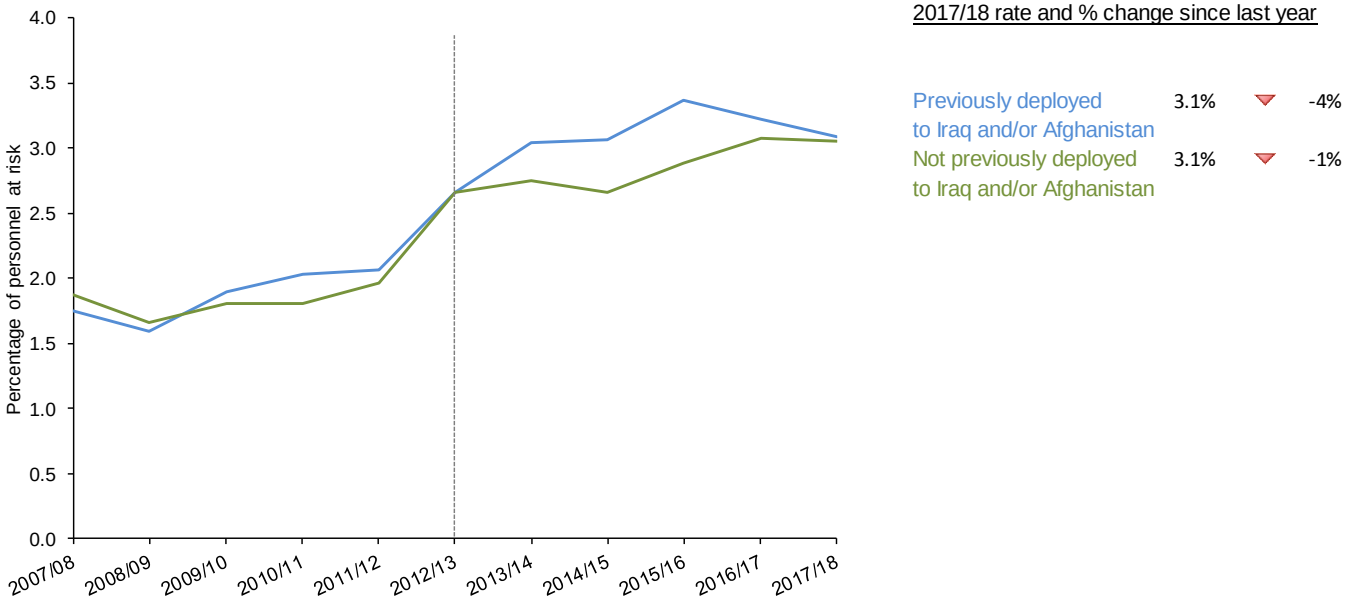
1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76).
3. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

32. The Army and Royal Marines had the highest proportion of personnel assessed with PTSD during the eleven year period. Figure 11 shows that deployment was a key factor for subsequent assessment of PTSD in the UK Armed Forces.

33. Rates of PTSD fell among Royal Marines and RAF in 2017/18 compared to the previous year. Small numbers can lead to a larger percentage change therefore caution should be taken when interpreting the percentage change from the previous year due to the small number of personnel presenting with PTSD from the Royal Marines and the RAF (from 22 Royal Marines personnel in 2016/17 to 17 Royal Marines personnel in 2017/18 and from 33 RAF personnel in 2016/17 to 19 RAF personnel in 2017/18).

34. Despite the increase in the rates of personnel assessed with PTSD over time, **rates remain low at 0.2%** of UK Armed Forces personnel in 2017/18, equivalent to 2 in 1,000 personnel.

Figure 10: UK Armed Forces personnel assessed with a mental disorder at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by Deployment Status, percentage of personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].
2007/08 – 2017/18



Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
3. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).
4. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76).
5. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

35. Since 2007/08 the proportion of UK Armed Forces personnel who were identified as having a mental health disorder and were previously deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan increased by 76% compared to 63% for those personnel who were identified as not having previously deployed. This comparison only includes deployment to Operation TELIC (Iraq), Operation HERRICK (Afghanistan) and Operation VERITAS (Afghanistan) and does not include deployment to recent operations to Operation SHADER (Iraq) and Operation TORAL (Afghanistan).

36. Rates of mental health between 2013/14 and 2015/16 were significantly higher in those identified as having previously deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan compared to those not having previously deployed there. However, in 2017/18 the difference was not significant with **3.1%** of personnel identified as having previously deployed to Iraq and/or Afghanistan assessed as having a subsequent mental disorder compared to **3.1%** of personnel not previously deployed there. A possible explanation for the rates in the two populations becoming more similar is the end of Operation TELIC (Iraq) in mid-2011 and Operation HERRICK (Afghanistan) in late-2014, therefore the number of personnel still serving who deployed on these operations is reducing.

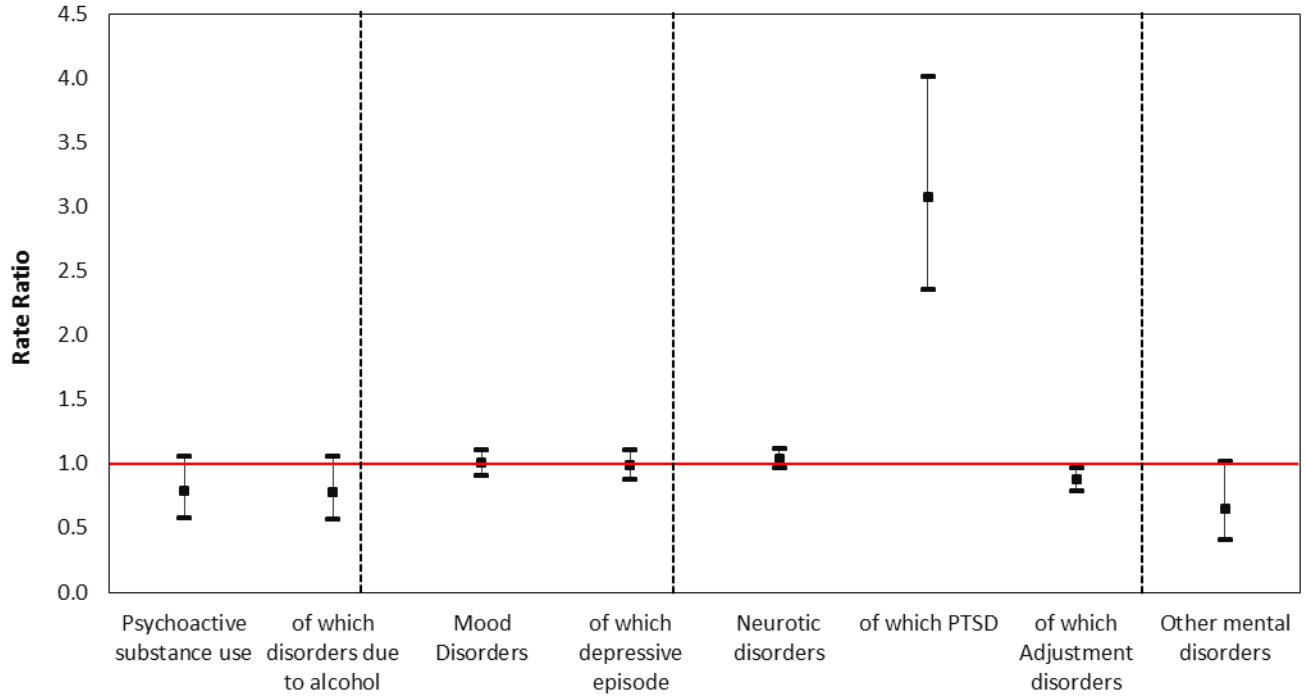
37. To investigate whether there were certain mental health disorders associated with deployment, rate ratios (RR) were calculated. The rate ratios provide a comparison of cases seen between personnel identified as having deployed to a Iraq and/or Afghanistan and those who have not been identified as having deployed there. A rate ratio less than 1 indicates lower rates in those deployed than those not deployed, whereas a rate ratio greater than 1 indicates higher rates in those deployed

than those not deployed. If the 95% confidence interval does not encompass the value 1.0, then this difference is statistically significant.

38. When looking at the specific mental disorders in 2017/18, there were some statistically significant differences:

- **Rates of PTSD were higher in those who had previously deployed** to Iraq and/or Afghanistan than those not deployed there (Figure 11). For each separate deployment this represents an increase risk for PTSD of 190% for Service personnel previously deployed to Iraq and 240% for Service personnel previously deployed to Afghanistan.

Figure 11: UK Armed Forces personnel seen at the MOD's DCMH's, for Iraq and/or Afghanistan by mental disorder. Rate Ratio, 95% Confidence Interval[1,2,].
2017/18



Source: DS Database and DMICP

1. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
2. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).

Results: Number of new episodes of care among UK Armed Forces personnel 2007/08-2017/18

Number of new episodes of care at MOD Specialist Services in 2007/08 – 2017/18

39. Personnel may have more than one episode of care in a year. To understand clinical activity and prevalence of mental health disorders assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, it is important to present the total number of new episodes of care. This is of particular use to MOD's policy areas and other internal users of this bulletin.

Table 3: UK Armed Forces new episodes of care at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by Service provider, initial assessment, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].
2007/08-2017/18

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10[1]	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13[1]	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Number of new episodes of care											
New episodes of care at MOD Mental Health Services[2]	**5,277**	**4,716**	**5,735**	**5,886**	**5,708**	**7,002**	**7,129**	**6,574**	**7,022**	**6,692**	**6,639**
At a DCMH	5,037	4,418	5,443	5,582	5,404	6,700	6,804	6,210	6,686	6,381	6,336
At a MOD in-patient provider	240	298	292	304	304	302	325	364	336	311	303
Episodes assessed with a mental disorder[3]	3,674	3,272	4,002	4,190	4,261	5,338	5,624	5,246	5,669	5,521	5,411
Episodes assessed without a mental disorder[3]	1,346	1,303	1,662	1,603	1,437	1,649	1,459	1,292	1,332	1,160	1,221
Missing mental disorder information[4]	257	141	71	93	10	15	46	36	21	11	7
Percentage of personnel at risk											
New episodes of care at MOD Mental Health Services[2]	***2.7***	***2.4***	***2.8***	***2.9***	***2.9***	***3.8***	***4.1***	***3.9***	***4.3***	***4.2***	***4.2***
At a DCMH	*2.5*	*2.2*	*2.7*	*2.8*	*2.8*	*3.6*	*3.9*	*3.7*	*4.1*	*4.0*	*4.0*
At a MOD in-patient provider	*0.1*	*0.2*	*0.1*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*	*0.2*
Episodes assessed with a mental disorder[3]	*1.8*	*1.7*	*2.0*	*2.1*	*2.2*	*2.9*	*3.2*	*3.1*	*3.5*	*3.4*	*3.4*
Episodes assessed without a mental disorder[3]	*0.7*	*0.7*	*0.8*	*0.8*	*0.7*	*0.9*	*0.8*	*0.8*	*0.8*	*0.7*	*0.8*
Missing mental disorder information[4]	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT, BFG
1. Dotted lines represent changes in methodology. April 2007- Jun 2009 new attendances, July 2009 to date new episodes of care and 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
3. Clinician's initial assessment based on presenting symptoms (paragraphs 71 and 72)
4. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)

40. The rate of new episodes of care at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services in 2017/18 remained the same as last year at 4.2%.

Number of UK Armed Forces personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Services in 2017/18

41. In 2017/18, **5,960** UK Armed Forces personnel had **6,639** new episodes of care at MOD Specialist Mental Health services (Tables 1 and 3). There were 6,336 new episodes at a MOD DCMH and 303 new episodes at MOD In-patient providers.

42. Breaking this information into initial assessments for mental health disorders at a MOD DCMH during 2017/18, there were :

- 3,070 personnel with 3,213 new episodes of care for Neurotic Disorders. Of which:
  - *1,449 personnel with 1,496 new episodes of Adjustment Disorder.*
  - *299 personnel with 323 new episodes of PTSD.*

- 1,551 personnel with 1,651 new episodes of care for Mood Disorder. Of which:
  - *1,196 personnel with 1,272 episodes of Depressive episodes.*

- 171 personnel with 183 new episodes of Psychoactive Substance Misuse. Of which:
    - *163 personnel with 175 episodes of Psychoactive Substance Misuse due to alcohol.*

- 77 personnel with 79 new episodes of Other Mental Disorders.

43. Following a consultation in 2017 the production of more detailed tables presenting episodes of care data and rates have been ceased. Previous releases of the tables can still be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-mental-health-statistics-index.

Annex A1: Royal Navy personnel presenting at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services 2007/08-2017/18

2.9%	Higher presentations seen in:	The most prevalent disorders were:
Royal Navy personnel assessed with a mental disorder 2017/18 at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services	**Females** **Other Ranks**	**Neurotic Disorders** **Mood Disorders**

44. In 2017/18, approximately 3 in every 100 Royal Navy personnel were assessed with a mental disorder.

45. The overall percentage of Royal Navy personnel presenting with mental ill health at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services was 2.9% in 2017/18, an increase of 8% compared to the previous year. Rates of mental health among the UK Armed Forces as a whole decreased by 3% compared to the previous year to 3.1% of all personnel.

46. There has been a rising trend in the rate of mental disorders among Royal Navy personnel since 2007/08, from a rate of 1.5% in 2007/08 to 2.9% in 2017/18.

47. There were statistically significant higher presentations in certain demographic groups in line with the findings for the UK Armed Forces as a whole :

- Females
- Other ranks

48. Previous deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan was not a predictor of mental disorders in the Royal Navy.

49. Neurotic Disorders were the most prevalent condition among Royal Naval personnel assessed with a mental disorder.

50. Rates per 1,000 personnel at risk and 95% Confidence Intervals are available in Excel tables at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-mental-health-statistics-index.

Table A1.1: Royal Navy personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

Royal Navy	Number of initial assessments	*Of which mental disorders* n	%
2007/08	706	461	1.5
2008/09	651	434	1.4
2009/10	638	404	1.3
2010/11	659	394	1.3
2011/12	609	392	1.3
2012/13	836	586	2.1
2013/14	849	617	2.4
2014/15	819	649	2.5
2015/16	818	672	2.6
2016/17	854	696	2.7
2017/18	932	758	2.9

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A1.2: Royal Navy personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by gender, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Male			Female		
	Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*	
Royal Navy	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	526	331	1.2	180	130	3.6
2008/09	463	287	1.0	188	147	4.0
2009/10	476	290	1.1	162	114	3.1
2010/11	499	285	1.0	160	109	3.0
2011/12	465	301	1.2	144	91	2.7
2012/13	636	428	1.8	200	158	5.0
2013/14	682	498	2.1	167	119	4.0
2014/15	635	493	2.2	184	156	5.2
2015/16	640	515	2.3	178	157	5.2
2016/17	670	533	2.3	184	163	5.4
2017/18	726	581	2.5	206	177	5.9

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73)
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A1.3: Royal Navy personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by rank, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Officer			Other Rank		
	Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*	
Royal Navy	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	66	55	0.8	640	406	1.6
2008/09	80	62	0.9	571	372	1.5
2009/10	71	52	0.8	567	352	1.4
2010/11	76	52	0.8	583	342	1.4
2011/12	77	56	0.8	532	336	1.5
2012/13	105	76	1.2	731	510	2.4
2013/14	109	77	1.2	740	540	2.7
2014/15	120	87	1.4	699	562	2.9
2015/16	125	98	1.6	693	574	3.0
2016/17	114	96	1.6	740	600	3.1
2017/18	141	125	2.0	791	633	3.2

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73)
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within rank groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change rank group will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A1.4: Royal Navy personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services with a mental health disorder, by Age group, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
Royal Navy	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**	**n**	**%**
Under 20	40	2.1	27	1.4	26	1.5	20	1.4	8	1.0	8	1.7	~	0.6	8	1.2	8	0.9	23	2.4	17	1.6
20 - 24	127	1.9	126	2.0	109	1.7	103	1.6	81	1.4	139	2.7	106	2.2	105	2.3	103	2.4	105	2.4	109	2.5
25 - 29	99	1.7	87	1.4	97	1.5	92	1.4	108	1.7	150	2.4	172	2.8	193	3.2	179	3.0	175	3.0	193	3.4
30 - 34	59	1.3	65	1.6	53	1.3	53	1.2	63	1.4	108	2.3	138	2.9	127	2.7	159	3.3	160	3.4	175	3.7
35 - 39	82	1.4	78	1.4	58	1.1	67	1.3	63	1.4	76	2.0	91	2.7	91	2.8	99	3.0	111	3.2	132	3.5
40 - 44	36	1.0	32	0.8	41	1.1	41	1.1	45	1.2	73	2.0	63	1.9	74	2.5	63	2.2	64	2.5	68	2.8
45 - 49	~	0.8	~	0.8	15	0.6	16	0.7	21	0.9	25	1.1	38	1.7	42	1.9	45	2.1	44	2.0	46	2.1
50+	~	0.3	~	0.2	7	0.7	5	0.5	5	0.5	8	0.8	~	1.0	13	1.0	16	1.1	16	1.0	23	1.3

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73)
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within age groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change age group will be counted once in each sub-category.
4. In line with the JSP 200 directive on statistical disclosure control, figures have been suppressed. Please see Background Quality Report for more information.

Table A1.5: Royal Navy personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by Deployment Status, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Iraq and/or Afghanistan[1,2]			Iraq			Afghanistan[2]			Neither Operation		
	Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*	
Royal Navy	**assessments**	**n**	**%**	**assessments**	**n**	**%**	**assessments**	**n**	**%**	**assessments**	**n**	**%**
2007/08	169	121	1.1	156	112	1.1	19	15	0.7	538	341	1.7
2008/09	214	157	1.3	194	140	1.3	49	37	1.3	437	277	1.4
2009/10	211	152	1.3	174	123	1.2	68	52	1.5	427	252	1.3
2010/11	213	137	1.1	178	112	1.1	64	42	1.1	446	257	1.4
2011/12	214	148	1.2	168	117	1.2	83	60	1.3	395	244	1.4
2012/13	259	196	1.7	199	157	1.7	111	85	1.8	579	391	2.4
2013/14	291	225	2.1	221	171	2.1	128	99	2.1	558	392	2.5
2014/15	268	224	2.3	184	151	2.1	145	126	2.7	552	426	2.7
2015/16	273	242	2.7	187	167	2.5	147	129	3.0	545	430	2.6
2016/17	241	211	2.5	176	153	2.4	116	102	2.5	613	485	2.8
2017/18	238	206	2.6	166	142	2.4	122	109	2.8	694	552	3.1

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
2. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).
3. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
4. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)
5. Numbers within deployment groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change deployment status will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A1.6: Royal Navy personnel seen at the MOD's DCMH by mental disorder, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5,6].

2007/08 - 2017/18

Royal Navy	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13[1]		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
ICD-10 description	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases seen by DCMH	**691**	**2.2**	**633**	**2.0**	**627**	**2.0**	**645**	**2.1**	**598**	**2.1**	**829**	**3.0**	**840**	**3.2**	**805**	**3.1**	**807**	**3.2**	**843**	**3.3**	**912**	**3.5**
Cases of Mental Health disorder	**445**	**1.4**	**415**	**1.3**	**394**	**1.3**	**386**	**1.3**	**381**	**1.3**	**577**	**2.1**	**609**	**2.3**	**635**	**2.5**	**660**	**2.6**	**686**	**2.7**	**739**	**2.8**
Psychoactive substance use	85	0.3	73	0.2	47	0.2	47	0.2	32	0.1	36	0.1	43	0.2	49	0.2	45	0.2	48	0.2	33	0.1
of which disorders due to alcohol	*81*	*0.3*	*73*	*0.2*	*44*	*0.1*	*44*	*0.1*	*29*	*0.1*	*35*	*0.1*	*43*	*0.2*	*48*	*0.2*	*45*	*0.2*	*47*	0.2	*33*	*0.1*
Mood disorders	123	0.4	115	0.4	131	0.4	121	0.4	121	0.4	207	0.8	211	0.8	218	0.8	223	0.9	245	1.0	292	1.1
of which depressive episode	*116*	*0.4*	*106*	*0.3*	*125*	*0.4*	*113*	*0.4*	*114*	*0.4*	*188*	*0.7*	*197*	*0.8*	*205*	*0.8*	*192*	*0.8*	*190*	0.7	*223*	*0.9*
Neurotic disorders	207	0.7	194	0.6	194	0.6	201	0.7	212	0.7	321	1.2	337	1.3	366	1.4	384	1.5	388	1.5	408	1.6
of which PTSD	*13*	*0.0*	*13*	*0.0*	*19*	*0.1*	*20*	*0.1*	*21*	*0.1*	*38*	*0.1*	*28*	*0.1*	*32*	*0.1*	*48*	*0.2*	*33*	0.1	*35*	*0.1*
of which adjustment disorders	*133*	*0.4*	*103*	*0.3*	*117*	*0.4*	*137*	*0.4*	*136*	*0.5*	*168*	*0.6*	*186*	*0.7*	*205*	*0.8*	*192*	*0.8*	*184*	0.7	*198*	*0.8*
Other mental and behavioural disorders	30	0.1	33	0.1	26	0.1	22	0.1	23	0.1	17	0.1	20	0.1	9	0.0	17	0.1	15	0.1	15	0.1
No mental disorder	**216**	**0.7**	**218**	**0.7**	**239**	**0.8**	**266**	**0.9**	**221**	**0.8**	**256**	**0.9**	**239**	**0.9**	**175**	**0.7**	**158**	**0.6**	**163**	**0.6**	**186**	**0.7**
No Initial assessment provided	30																					

Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73)
2. Clinician's initial assessment based on presenting symptoms (paragraphs 71 and 72)
3. Initial diagnosis not available (See BQR)
4. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
5. Some personnel may present with more than one disorder within the year, thus the sum of each disorder will not equal to the sum of all personnel seen by a DCMH.
6. The percentage of Royal Navy personnel assessed with a mental disorder differs from that presented in Table A1.1 as this only includes personnel assessed at a MOD DCMH (See paragraph 24)

Annex A2: Royal Marine personnel presenting at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services 2007/08-2017/18

2.2% Royal Marines personnel assessed with a mental disorder 2017/18 at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services	The most prevalent disorders were: **Neurotic Disorders** **Mood Disorders**

51. In 2017/18, approximately 2 in every 100 Royal Marine personnel were assessed with a mental disorder.

52. The overall percentage of Royal Marine personnel presenting to MOD Specialist Mental Health Services with mental ill health increased by 4% in 2017/18 compared to the previous year to a rate of 2.2% of personnel. Rates of mental health among the UK Armed Forces as a whole decreased by 3% to 3.1%. A possible explanation for the rise in rates among Royal Marines may be the result of an initiative within the Service to encourage help seeking called Project REGAIN which was introduced in January 2017.

53. The small numbers in each demographic group result in wide confidence intervals around rates of mental disorders among Royal Marines and therefore, interpretation of statistically significant differences must be treated with caution.

54. Previous deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan was a predictor of mental disorders in the Royal Marines in five of the last 11 years (2009/10, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18).

55. Unlike for the overall UK Armed Forces, there was no significant difference among Royal Marines year on year between males and females; rank or age group.

56. Neurotic Disorders were the most prevalent condition among Royal Marines assessed with a mental disorder.

57. Rates per 1,000 personnel at risk and 95% Confidence Intervals are available in Excel tables at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-mental-health-statistics-index.

Table A2.1: Royal Marine personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

Royal Marines	Number of initial assessments	*Of which mental disorders* n	%
2007/08	124	83	1.1
2008/09	85	65	0.8
2009/10	125	91	1.1
2010/11	100	63	0.8
2011/12	119	79	1.0
2012/13	152	120	1.5
2013/14	165	111	1.4
2014/15	174	142	1.8
2015/16	164	139	1.8
2016/17	181	157	2.1
2017/18	189	159	2.2

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A2.2: Royal Marine personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by gender, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Male			Female		
Royal Marines	Number of initial assessments	*of which mental disorders* n	%	Number of initial assessments	*of which mental disorders* n	%
2007/08	118	~	1.0	6	~	3.3
2008/09	~	~	0.8	~	~	2.2
2009/10	~	~	1.1	~	~	1.1
2010/11	100	63	0.8	0	0	0.0
2011/12	~	~	1.0	~	~	1.0
2012/13	144	113	1.5	8	7	7.0
2013/14	159	~	1.4	6	~	3.8
2014/15	164	133	1.7	10	9	8.2
2015/16	158	134	1.8	6	5	4.5
2016/17	175	~	2.1	6	~	3.5
2017/18	183	154	2.1	6	5	4.3

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. In line with the JSP 200 directive on statistical disclosure control, figures have been suppressed. Please see Background Quality Report for more information.

Table A2.3: Royal Marine personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by rank, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Officer			Other Rank		
	Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*	
Royal Marines	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	8	7	0.8	116	76	1.1
2008/09	6	6	0.7	79	59	0.8
2009/10	8	7	0.8	117	84	1.2
2010/11	7	~	0.3	93	~	0.8
2011/12	9	~	0.5	110	~	1.0
2012/13	10	10	1.2	142	110	1.6
2013/14	8	5	0.6	157	106	1.5
2014/15	6	6	0.7	168	136	1.9
2015/16	12	10	1.2	152	129	1.9
2016/17	8	8	1.0	173	149	2.2
2017/18	11	11	1.3	178	148	2.3

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within rank groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change rank status will be counted once in each sub-category.
4. In line with the JSP 200 directive on statistical disclosure control, figures have been suppressed. Please see Background Quality Report for more information.

Table A2.4: Royal Marine personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services with a mental health disorder, by age group, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
Royal Marines	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under 20	~	0.5	~	0.3	~ r	0.3 r	~	0.4	0	-	~	1.1	5	1.5	~	0.7	~	0.3	~	1.3	~	0.4
20 - 24	29	1.3	23	1.0	22 r	0.9 r	20	0.8	29	1.2	31	1.3	27	1.2	33	1.5	25	1.3	18	1.1	18	1.2
25 - 29	20	1.1	20	1.0	32 r	1.6 r	13	0.6	16	0.7	31	1.5	25	1.1	39	1.7	34	1.5	40	1.7	45	2.1
30 - 34	16	1.6	11	1.1	9 r	0.9 r	13	1.2	14	1.2	30	2.5	21	1.7	35	2.7	33	2.5	36	2.7	30	2.2
35 - 39	9	0.9	6	0.6	16 r	1.8 r	8	0.9	13	1.6	12	1.6	16	2.3	16	2.3	25	3.5	37	4.6	37	4.3
40 - 44	~	0.6	~	0.3	7 r	1.0 r	~	0.4	~	1.0	~	1.0	13	2.2	9	1.5	17	3.0	12	2.2	19	3.7
45 - 49	~	0.7	~	0.3	~ r	0.6 r	~	1.2	~	0.3	7	2.0	~	1.7	7	1.9	~	1.4	8	2.1	6	1.5
50+	0	-	0	-	~ r	0.7 r	0	-	0	-	0	-	~	0.7	~	0.6	0 r	-	~	1.4	~	1.7

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within age groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change age group will be counted once in each sub-category.
4. In line with the JSP 200 directive on statistical disclosure control, figures have been suppressed. Please see Background Quality Report for more information.
5. r denotes a change to previously published information, errors were due to a processing error but do not impact on the overall findings of the report (See BQR).

Table A2.5: Royal Marine personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by Deployment Status, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Iraq and/or Afghanistan[1,2]			Iraq			Afghanistan[2]			Neither Operation		
	Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*	
Royal Marines	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	79	60	1.3	44	31	1.0	58	44	1.4	45	23	0.8
2008/09	55	44	0.9	29	23	0.8	44	35	0.9	30	21	0.7
2009/10	100	75	1.4	41	32	1.2	91	69	1.6	25	16	0.6
2010/11	73	47	0.9	34	21	0.8	65	43	1.0	27	16	0.5
2011/12	91	65	1.1	32	24	0.9	87	62	1.2	28	14	0.6
2012/13	106	87	1.7	52	42	1.9	95	77	1.7	47	33	1.2
2013/14	113	74	1.5	53	32	1.6	101	68	1.6	52	37	1.2
2014/15	129	104	2.3	43	32	1.8	122	98	2.4	45	38	1.1
2015/16	108	92	2.3	43	38	2.3	95	79	2.2	56	47	1.3
2016/17	107	99	2.7	50	48	3.1	98	91	2.7	74	58	1.5
2017/18	113	97	2.9	53	48	3.3	97	83	2.7	76	62	1.6

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
2. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).
3. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
4. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)
5. Numbers within deployment groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change deployment status will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A2.6: Royal Marine personnel seen at the MOD's DCMH, by mental disorder, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5,6,7].

2007/08 - 2017/18

Royal Marines	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13[1]		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
ICD-10 description	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases seen by DCMH	**124**	**1.6**	**85**	**1.1**	**122**	**1.5**	**98**	**1.2**	**117**	**1.4**	**150**	**1.9**	**161**	**2.1**	**169**	**2.2**	**162**	**2.1**	**177**	**2.4**	**188**	**2.6**
Cases of Mental Health disorder	**83**	**1.1**	**65**	**0.8**	**88**	**1.1**	**62**	**0.7**	**77**	**0.9**	**118**	**1.5**	**108**	**1.4**	**136**	**1.7**	**137**	**1.8**	**153**	**2.0**	**158**	**2.2**
Psychoactive substance use	17	0.2	10	0.1	~	0.1	~	0.0	~	0.1	~	0.2	16	0.2	~	0.2	20	0.3	17	0.2	11	0.2
of which disorders due to alcohol	*16*	*0.2*	*10*	*0.1*	*~*	*0.1*	*~*	*0.0*	*~*	*0.1*	*~*	*0.2*	*16*	*0.2*	*~*	*0.2*	*20*	*0.3*	*17*	*0.2*	*10*	*0.1*
Mood disorders	14	0.2	~	0.1	14	0.2	8	0.1	~	0.1	28	0.4	24	0.3	28	0.4	38	0.5	42	0.6	56	0.8
of which depressive episode	*11*	*0.1*	*~*	*0.1*	*12*	*0.1*	*8*	*0.1*	*~*	*0.1*	*24*	*0.3*	*20*	*0.3*	*22*	*0.3*	*32*	*0.4*	*32*	*0.4*	*40*	*0.5*
Neurotic disorders	47	0.6	43	0.5	64	0.8	50	0.6	58	0.7	70	0.9	64	0.8	88	1.1	80	1.0	93	1.2	94	1.3
of which PTSD	*22*	*0.3*	*17*	*0.2*	*16*	*0.2*	*9*	*0.1*	*9*	*0.1*	*17*	*0.2*	*16*	*0.2*	*18*	*0.2*	*21*	*0.3*	*22*	*0.3*	*17*	*0.2*
of which adjustment disorders	*18*	*0.2*	*19*	*0.2*	*42*	*0.5*	*38*	*0.5*	*42*	*0.5*	*32*	*0.4*	*36*	*0.5*	*46*	*0.6*	*27*	*0.4*	*37*	*0.5*	*44*	*0.6*
Other mental and behavioural disorders	5	0.1	~	0.0	~	0.0	~	0.0	~	0.0	~	0.1	6	0.1	~	0.0	~	0.0	~	0.0	1	0.0
No mental disorder	**~**	**0.5**	**20**	**0.3**	**34**	**0.4**	**36**	**0.4**	**40**	**0.5**	**34**	**0.4**	**56**	**0.7**	**34**	**0.4**	**28**	**0.4**	**25**	**0.3**	**31**	**0.4**
No Initial assessment provided	~																					

Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Some personnel may present with more than one disorder within the year, thus the sum of each disorder will not equal to the sum of all personnel seen by a DCMH.
3. Clinician's initial assessment based on presenting symptoms (paragraphs 71 and 72)
4. Initial diagnosis not available (See BQR)
5. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
6. In line with the JSP 200 directive on statistical disclosure control, figures have been suppressed. Please see Background Quality Report for more information.
7. The percentage of Royal Marines personnel assessed with a mental disorder differs from that presented in Table A2.1 as this only includes personnel assessed at a MOD DCMH (See paragraph 24)

Annex A3: Army personnel presenting at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services 2007/08-2017/18

3.1% Army personnel assessed with a mental disorder 2017/18 at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services	Higher presentations seen in: **Females** **Other Ranks** **20 - 39 year olds**	The most prevalent disorders were: **Neurotic Disorders** **Mood Disorders**

58. In 2017/18, approximately 3 in every 100 Army personnel were assessed with a mental disorder.

59. The overall percentage of Army personnel presenting with mental ill health to MOD Specialist Mental Health Services was 3.1% in 2017/18, a fall of 6% compared to the previous year. This is similar to the rate seen among the UK Armed Forces as a whole which decreased by 3% to 3.1% in 2017/18.

60. There were statistically significant higher presentations in certain demographic groups in line with the findings for the UK Armed Forces as a whole :

- Females
- Other ranks
- Those aged between under 20 and 39 years of age
- Previous deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan was a predictor of mental disorders in five of the last 11 years (2010/11, 2011/12, 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16)

61. Neurotic Disorders were the most prevalent condition among Army personnel assessed with a mental disorder.

62. Rates per 1,000 personnel at risk and 95% Confidence Intervals are available in Excel tables at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-mental-health-statistics-index.

Table A3.1: Army personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

Army	Number of initial assessments	*of which mental disorders* n	%
2007/08	2,987	2,135	1.9
2008/09	2,883	1,998	1.7
2009/10	3,287	2,381	2.0
2010/11	3,422	2,538	2.2
2011/12	3,352	2,556	2.2
2012/13	4,092	3,150	2.8
2013/14	4,146	3,377	3.2
2014/15	3,855	3,057	3.1
2015/16	4,045	3,180	3.4
2016/17	3,803	3,110	3.3
2017/18	3,519	2,868	3.1

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A3.2: Army personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by gender, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Male			Female		
	Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*	
Army	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	2,601	1,842	1.7	386	293	3.4
2008/09	2,481	1,702	1.6	402	296	3.5
2009/10	2,828	2,016	1.8	459	365	4.1
2010/11	2,986	2,191	2.0	436	347	3.9
2011/12	2,884	2,171	2.0	468	385	4.3
2012/13	3,490	2,643	2.6	602	507	5.7
2013/14	3,538	2,859	3.0	608	518	6.1
2014/15	3,269	2,567	2.9	586	490	6.0
2015/16	3,473	2,706	3.1	572	474	6.0
2016/17	3,240	2,621	3.1	563	489	6.2
2017/18	2,965	2,384	2.9	554	484	6.2

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A3.3: Army personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services by rank, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Officer			Other Rank		
	Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*	
Army	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	119	98	0.6	2,868	2,037	2.1
2008/09	145	116	0.7	2,738	1,882	1.9
2009/10	189	156	1.0	3,098	2,225	2.2
2010/11	181	147	0.9	3,241	2,391	2.4
2011/12	208	178	1.1	3,144	2,378	2.4
2012/13	261	221	1.4	3,831	2,929	3.0
2013/14	276	233	1.6	3,870	3,144	3.5
2014/15	249	198	1.4	3,606	2,859	3.4
2015/16	239	212	1.5	3,806	2,968	3.7
2016/17	228	193	1.4	3,575	2,917	3.7
2017/18	253	213	1.5	3,266	2,655	3.4

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within rank groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change rank status will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A3.4: Army personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services with a mental health disorder, by age group, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
Army	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under 20	233	1.9	229	1.9	229	1.9	194	2.1	120	1.4	128	1.6	138	1.9	164	2.6	128	2.2	125	2.2	136	2.4
20 - 24	696	2.5	629	2.2	731	2.5	802	2.8	780	2.8	885	3.3	857	3.5	731	3.3	798	3.8	711	3.7	630	3.5
25 - 29	479	1.9	461	1.8	524	2.1	579	2.3	599	2.3	763	3.0	788	3.2	778	3.4	831	3.7	789	3.6	729	3.5
30 - 34	274	1.6	270	1.6	344	1.9	411	2.2	434	2.2	607	3.1	689	3.7	595	3.4	577	3.5	592	3.6	542	3.3
35 - 39	292	1.6	247	1.4	316	1.8	325	2.0	309	2.0	442	3.1	493	3.7	439	3.4	479	3.7	490	3.7	438	3.2
40 - 44	109	1.4	109	1.3	160	1.7	159	1.6	211	2.0	229	2.3	278	3.1	240	3.0	262	3.4	261	3.4	248	3.2
45 - 49	32	0.9	36	0.9	51	1.2	50	1.1	69	1.5	83	1.8	87	1.9	74	1.6	87	1.9	91	1.8	103	2.1
50+	20	0.8	19	0.7	34	1.1	31	1.0	46	1.4	38	1.2	70	2.1	50	1.5	43	1.3	67	1.8	52	1.3

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within age groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change age group will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A3.5: Army personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by Deployment Status, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Iraq and/or Afghanistan[1,2]			Iraq			Afghanistan[2]			Neither Operation		
	Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*Of which mental disorders*	
Army	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	1,724	1,301	1.9	1,520	1,156	2.0	399	300	1.5	1,264	835	1.8
2008/09	1,729	1,238	1.7	1,408	994	1.7	664	506	1.7	1,154	760	1.8
2009/10	2,064	1,554	2.0	1,495	1,107	2.0	1,085	851	2.1	1,224	827	2.0
2010/11	2,278	1,777	2.3	1,402	1,104	2.1	1,586	1,241	2.4	1,144	761	2.0
2011/12	2,261	1,798	2.3	1,308	1,061	2.2	1,693	1,341	2.3	1,091	758	2.0
2012/13	2,741	2,192	2.9	1,427	1,159	2.7	2,270	1,814	2.9	1,378	970	2.7
2013/14	2,871	2,428	3.4	1,397	1,204	3.2	2,489	2,088	3.4	1,281	954	2.8
2014/15	2,537	2,133	3.3	1,174	1,017	3.2	2,252	1,887	3.3	1,318	924	2.8
2015/16	2,435	2,060	3.5	1,126	958	3.3	2,176	1,835	3.6	1,610	1,120	3.1
2016/17	2,074	1,787	3.4	980	850	3.1	1,852	1,595	3.4	1,729	1,323	3.3
2017/18	1,776	1,546	3.2	840	733	2.9	1,594	1,387	3.2	1,743	1,322	3.1

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
2. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).
3. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
4. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)
5. Numbers within deployment groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change deployment status will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A3.6: Army personnel seen at the MOD's DCMH, by mental disorder, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5,6].

2007/08 - 2017/18

Army	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13[1]		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
ICD-10 description	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases seen by DCMH	**2,932**	**2.6**	**2,783**	**2.4**	**3,230**	**2.7**	**3,354**	**2.9**	**3,276**	**2.8**	**4,036**	**3.6**	**4,078**	**3.9**	**3,773**	**3.9**	**3,962**	**4.2**	**3,727**	**4.0**	**3,439**	**3.8**
Cases of Mental Health disorder	**2,084**	**1.8**	**1,951**	**1.7**	**2,341**	**2.0**	**2,472**	**2.1**	**2,480**	**2.1**	**3,093**	**2.8**	**3,310**	**3.1**	**2,975**	**3.0**	**3,099**	**3.3**	**3,039**	**3.3**	**2,789**	**3.1**
Psychoactive substance use	236	0.2	228	0.2	220	0.2	231	0.2	209	0.2	225	0.2	170	0.2	153	0.2	155	0.2	129	0.1	106	0.1
of which disorders due to alcohol	*212*	*0.2*	*214*	*0.2*	*206*	*0.2*	*222*	*0.2*	*206*	*0.2*	*213*	*0.2*	*164*	*0.2*	*148*	*0.2*	*150*	*0.2*	*126*	*0.1*	*100*	*0.1*
Mood disorders	477	0.4	408	0.4	518	0.4	549	0.5	561	0.5	828	0.7	948	0.9	824	0.8	964	1.0	1,029	1.1	881	1.0
of which depressive episode	*377*	*0.3*	*342*	*0.3*	*462*	*0.4*	*508*	*0.4*	*493*	*0.4*	*666*	*0.6*	*768*	*0.7*	*643*	*0.7*	*757*	*0.8*	*768*	*0.8*	*696*	*0.8*
Neurotic disorders	1,224	1.1	1,160	1.0	1,430	1.2	1,537	1.3	1,552	1.3	1,970	1.8	2,140	2.0	1,946	2.0	1,985	2.1	1,879	2.0	1,819	2.0
of which PTSD	*117*	*0.1*	*81*	*0.1*	*126*	*0.1*	*191*	*0.2*	*220*	*0.2*	*254*	*0.2*	*306*	*0.3*	*204*	*0.2*	*208*	*0.2*	*219*	*0.2*	*228*	*0.2*
of which adjustment disorders	*768*	*0.7*	*697*	*0.6*	*895*	*0.8*	*986*	*0.8*	*979*	*0.8*	*1,100*	*1.0*	*1,226*	*1.2*	*1,046*	*1.1*	*1,127*	*1.2*	*990*	*1.1*	*886*	*1.0*
Other mental and behavioural disorders	147	0.1	155	0.1	198	0.2	199	0.2	180	0.2	117	0.1	116	0.1	90	0.1	56	0.1	52	0.1	41	0.0
No mental disorder	**725**	**0.6**	**832**	**0.7**	**928**	**0.8**	**915**	**0.8**	**831**	**0.7**	**981**	**0.9**	**813**	**0.8**	**848**	**0.9**	**907**	**1.0**	**730**	**0.8**	**710**	**0.8**
No Initial assessment provided	123																					

Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Some personnel may present with more than one disorder within the year, thus the sum of each disorder will not equal to the sum of all personnel seen by a DCMH.
3. Clinician's initial assessment based on presenting symptoms (paragraphs 71 and 72)
4. Initial diagnosis not available (See BQR)
5. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
6. The percentage of Army personnel assessed with a mental disorder differs from that presented in Table A3.1 as this only includes personnel assessed at a MOD DCMH (See paragraph 24)

Annex A4 RAF personnel presenting at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services 2007/08-2017/18

3.2% RAF personnel assessed with a mental disorder 2017/18 at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services	Higher presentations seen in: **Females** **Other Ranks**	The most prevalent disorders were: **Neurotic Disorders** **Mood Disorders**

63. In 2017/18, approximately 3 in every 100 RAF personnel were assessed with a mental disorder.

64. The overall percentage of RAF personnel presenting to MOD Specialist Mental Health Services with mental ill health was 3.2% in 2017/18, a decrease of 1% compared to the previous year. Rates of mental health among the UK Armed Forces as a whole decreased by 3% to 3.1%.

65. There were statistically significant higher presentations in certain demographic groups in line with the findings for the UK Armed Forces as a whole :

- Females
- Other ranks

66. Previous deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan was not a predictor of mental disorders among RAF personnel. There were also no specific age groups at risk of mental disorder among the RAF.

67. Neurotic Disorders were the most prevalent condition among RAF personnel assessed with a mental disorder.

68. Rates per 1,000 personnel at risk and 95% Confidence Intervals are available in Excel tables at https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-mental-health-statistics-index.

Table A4.1: RAF personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

RAF	Number of initial assessments	*of which mental disorders* n	%
2007/08	1,136	775	1.7
2008/09	879	664	1.5
2009/10	1,258	870	2.0
2010/11	1,259	907	2.1
2011/12	1,222	917	2.2
2012/13	1,427	1,096	2.8
2013/14	1,362	1,060	2.9
2014/15	1,211	1,010	2.8
2015/16	1,337	1,156	3.3
2016/17	1,299	1,120	3.3
2017/18	1,320	1,101	3.2

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A4.2: RAF personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by gender, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Male			Female		
	Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*	
RAF	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	812	552	1.4	324	223	3.8
2008/09	621	456	1.2	258	208	3.6
2009/10	858	585	1.5	400	285	4.7
2010/11	870	618	1.6	389	289	4.8
2011/12	860	621	1.7	362	296	5.1
2012/13	982	748	2.2	445	348	6.4
2013/14	939	706	2.2	423	354	7.0
2014/15	857	703	2.3	354	307	6.3
2015/16	930	788	2.6	407	368	7.6
2016/17	921	775	2.6	378	345	7.2
2017/18	968	796	2.7	352	305	6.3

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).

Table A4.3: RAF personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by rank, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Officer			Other Rank		
	Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*	
RAF	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	115	77	0.8	1,021	698	2.0
2008/09	96	77	0.8	783	587	1.7
2009/10	170	138	1.4	1,088	732	2.1
2010/11	178	138	1.4	1,081	769	2.3
2011/12	187	157	1.6	1,035	760	2.3
2012/13	202	157	1.8	1,225	939	3.1
2013/14	205	172	2.1	1,157	888	3.1
2014/15	196	162	2.0	1,015	848	3.1
2015/16	192	152	1.9	1,145	1,004	3.8
2016/17	196	171	2.2	1,103	949	3.6
2017/18	177	148	1.9	1,143	953	3.6

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within rank groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change rank status will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A4.4: RAF personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services with a mental health disorder, by age group, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
RAF	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under 20	42	4.2	23	1.5	32	1.5	32	2.0	29	3.1	8	1.4	8	1.6	17	2.8	31	4.4	29	3.5	30	3.2
20 - 24	169	2.2	118	1.6	151	2.0	143	1.9	148	2.1	162	2.6	182	3.2	128	2.5	154	3.2	111	2.5	119	2.7
25 - 29	150	1.6	159	1.7	184	2.0	194	2.1	195	2.2	264	3.1	223	2.8	241	3.1	264	3.5	260	3.5	216	3.1
30 - 34	117	1.8	102	1.7	150	2.3	158	2.2	175	2.4	228	3.1	235	3.2	230	3.3	260	3.8	255	3.8	235	3.6
35 - 39	163	1.8	148	1.8	167	2.2	180	2.7	138	2.3	158	3.0	175	3.6	175	3.4	204	3.7	215	3.8	217	3.7
40 - 44	70	1.2	62	1.1	103	1.8	126	2.1	126	2.2	166	3.1	143	3.0	124	2.9	135	3.5	129	3.4	154	4.2
45 - 49	40	1.2	42	1.2	58	1.6	58	1.6	77	2.2	73	2.1	64	1.9	64	1.9	76	2.4	84	2.6	86	2.7
50+	24	1.2	11	0.6	27	1.3	25	1.1	33	1.4	44	1.9	39	1.7	32	1.4	38	1.6	41	1.6	47	1.8

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (See paragraph 76).
3. Numbers within age groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change age group will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A4.5: RAF personnel assessed at MOD Specialist Mental Health Services, by Deployment Status, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5].

2007/08 - 2017/18

	Iraq and/or Afghanistan[1,2]			Iraq			Afghanistan[2]			Neither Operation		
	Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*		Number of initial	*of which mental disorders*	
RAF	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%	assessments	n	%
2007/08	496	352	1.5	451	322	1.5	116	82	1.0	640	423	2.0
2008/09	467	365	1.5	403	317	1.5	185	146	1.4	412	299	1.6
2009/10	632	486	1.9	529	412	1.9	300	226	1.8	626	384	2.1
2010/11	686	536	2.0	528	418	2.0	370	286	1.8	573	371	2.2
2011/12	702	530	1.9	517	388	1.9	469	361	1.9	520	387	2.6
2012/13	892	707	2.7	591	477	2.7	661	526	2.6	542	394	3.1
2013/14	906	700	2.7	558	437	2.7	722	550	2.6	456	360	3.3
2014/15	844	718	2.9	464	403	2.8	735	621	2.9	368	293	2.8
2015/16	889	778	3.4	503	442	3.3	760	668	3.3	448	378	3.3
2016/17	813	709	3.3	448	388	3.1	695	605	3.2	486	411	3.2
2017/18	781	662	3.3	429	362	3.1	657	557	3.2	539	439	3.1

Source : DS Database, DMICP, SSSFT and BFG

1. Deployment to the wider theatre of operation (see BQR)
2. Data for Afghanistan between 1 January 2003 and 14 October 2005 were not available for person level deployment (see BQR).
3. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
4. Excludes personnel where Initial diagnosis was not supplied (See BQR)
5. Numbers within deployment groups may not sum the total as personnel who have more than one episode of care in a year and change deployment status will be counted once in each sub-category.

Table A4.6: RAF personnel seen at the MOD's DCMH, by mental disorder, numbers and percentage personnel at risk[1,2,3,4,5,6,7].

2007/08 - 2017/18

RAF	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11		2011/12		2012/13[1]		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
ICD-10 description	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
All cases seen by DCMH	**1,121**	**2.5**	**859**	**2.0**	**859**	**1.9**	**1,242**	**2.8**	**1,252**	**3.0**	**1,214**	**3.1**	**1,419**	**3.9**	**1,351**	**3.8**	**1,324**	**3.8**	**1,276**	**3.7**	**1,307**	**3.8**
Cases of Mental Health disorder	**760**	**1.7**	**649**	**1.5**	**853**	**1.9**	**902**	**2.1**	**910**	**2.2**	**1,088**	**2.8**	**1,050**	**2.9**	**995**	**2.8**	**1,144**	**3.3**	**1,098**	**3.2**	**1,088**	**3.2**
Psychoactive substance use	38	0.1	21	0.0	28	0.1	36	0.1	31	0.1	22	0.1	31	0.1	27	0.1	26	0.1	26	0.1	21	0.1
of which disorders due to alcohol	*37*	*0.1*	*20*	*0.0*	*28*	*0.1*	*36*	*0.1*	*29*	*0.1*	*22*	*0.1*	*31*	*0.1*	*27*	*0.1*	*25*	*0.1*	*26*	*0.1*	*20*	*0.1*
Mood disorders	181	0.4	158	0.4	230	0.5	202	0.5	256	0.6	339	0.9	328	0.9	303	0.9	349	1.0	313	0.9	322	0.9
of which depressive episode	*160*	*0.4*	*142*	*0.3*	*216*	*0.5*	*191*	*0.4*	*243*	*0.6*	*230*	*0.6*	*262*	*0.7*	*239*	*0.7*	*270*	*0.8*	*229*	*0.7*	*237*	*0.7*
Neurotic disorders	507	1.1	426	1.0	547	1.2	599	1.4	562	1.3	704	1.8	681	1.9	667	1.9	756	2.2	760	2.2	749	2.2
of which PTSD	*16*	*0.0*	*26*	*0.1*	*26*	*0.1*	*24*	*0.1*	*19*	*0.0*	*21*	*0.1*	*25*	*0.1*	*20*	*0.1*	*20*	*0.1*	*33*	*0.1*	*19*	*0.1*
of which adjustment disorders	*276*	*0.6*	*259*	*0.6*	*352*	*0.8*	*411*	*0.9*	*379*	*0.9*	*442*	*1.1*	*379*	*1.0*	*307*	*0.9*	*393*	*1.1*	*375*	*1.1*	*321*	*0.9*
Other mental and behavioural disorders	34	0.1	44	0.1	57	0.1	75	0.2	74	0.2	38	0.1	26	0.1	16	0.0	28	0.1	17	0.0	20	0.1
No mental disorder	**290**	**0.6**	**210**	**0.5**	**405**	**0.9**	**364**	**0.8**	**318**	**0.8**	**353**	**0.9**	**327**	**0.9**	**210**	**0.6**	**195**	**0.6**	**199**	**0.6**	**240**	**0.7**
No Initial assessment provided	71[r]																					

Source : DS Database and DMICP

1. Dotted lines represent 2012/13 revised methodology to include electronic patient record data source (paragraph 73).
2. Some personnel may present with more than one disorder within the year, thus the sum of each disorder will not equal to the sum of all personnel seen by a DCMH.
3. Clinician's initial assessment based on presenting symptoms (paragraphs 71 and 72).
4. Initial diagnosis not available (See BQR)
5. Percentages are based on the calculation of the absolute number and are presented to 1dp (paragraph 76)
6. The percentage of RAF personnel assessed with a mental disorder differs from that presented in Table A4.1 as this only includes personnel assessed at a MOD DCMH (See paragraph 24)
7. r denotes changes to previously published information, errors were due to a processing error but do not impact on the overall findings of the report (See BQR).

Glossary

Admissions In-patient admissions to the MOD mental health in-patient care providers.

Army The British Army consists of the General Staff and the deployable Field Army and the Regional Forces that support them, as well as Joint elements that work with the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. Its primary task is to help defend the interests of the UK.

Assessed without a mental disorder A number of patients present to DCMH with symptoms that require the treatment skills of DCMH staff, whilst not necessarily having a specific and identifiable mental disorder as defined under ICD-10.

Defence Medical Information Capability Programme (DMICP) is the MOD electronic primary health care patient record.

Department for Community Mental Health (DCMH) DCMH are specialised psychiatric services based on community mental health teams closely located with primary care service at sites in the UK and abroad.

FTRS (**Full-Time Reserve Service**) are personnel who fill Service posts for a set period on a full-time basis while being a member of one of the Reserve Services, either as an ex-regular or as a volunteer. An FTRS reservist on:
Full Commitment (FC) fulfils the same range of duties and deployment liability as a regular Service person;
Limited Commitment (LC) serves at one location but can be detached for up to 35 days a year;
Home Commitment (HC) is employed at one location and cannot be detached elsewhere.

Each Service uses FTRS personnel differently:

- The Naval Service predominantly uses FTRS to backfill gapped regular posts. However, they do have a small number of FTRS personnel that are not deployable for operations overseas. There is no distinction made in terms of fulfilling baseline liability posts between FTRS Full Commitment (FC), Limited Commitment (LC) and Home Commitment (HC).
- The Army employ FTRS(FC) and FTRS(LC) to fill Regular Army Liability (RAL) posts as a substitute for regular personnel for set periods of time. FTRS(HC) personnel cannot be deployed to operations and are not counted against RAL.
- The RAF consider that FTRS(FC) can fill Regular RAF Liability posts but have identified separate liabilities for FTRS(LC) and FTRS(HC).

Gurkhas are recruited and employed in the British and Indian Armies under the terms of the 1947 Tri-Partite Agreement (TPA) on a broadly comparable basis. They remain Nepalese citizens but in all other respects are full members of HM Forces. Since 2008, Gurkhas are entitled to join the UK Regular Forces after 5 years of service and apply for British citizenship.

International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health-Related Disorders 10th edition (ICD-10) is the standard diagnostic tool for epidemiology, health management and clinical purposes. The following ICD 10 Chapters have been included in this report :

- **F10 - F19 Mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance misuse, including alcohol**. A wide variety of disorders that differ in severity (from uncomplicated intoxication and harmful use to obvious psychotic disorders and dementia), but that are all attributable to the use of one or more psychoactive substances (which may or may not have

been medically prescribed).

- **F30 - F39 Mood affective disorders, including depressive episodes.** Disorders in which the fundamental disturbance is a change in affect or mood to depression (with or without associated anxiety) or to elation. The mood change is usually accompanied by a change in the overall level of activity; most of the other symptoms are either secondary to, or easily understood in the context of, the change in mood and activity. Most of these disorders tend to be recurrent and the onset of individual episodes can often be related to stressful events or situations. Includes Manic and Bipolar affective disorders, Depressive and recurrent Depressive episodes and other mood affective disorders.

- **F40 - F49 Neurotic Stress related and somatoform disorders, including PTSD and Adjustment disorders.** This includes mental disorders characterized by anxiety and avoidance behaviour, with symptoms distressing to the patient, intact reality testing, no violations of gross social norms, and no apparent organic aetiology.

- **F00 - F09**, **F20 - F29 and F50 - F99 are presented as 'Other mental health disorders'.** This includes, disorders grouped together on the basis of their having in common a demonstrable etiology in cerebral disease, brain injury, or other insult leading to cerebral dysfunction; schizophrenia, personality disorders and eating disorders.

In-patient services are provided through eight NHS trusts in the UK which are part of a consortium headed by the South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Foundation Trust (SSSFT) and at Gilhead IV Hospital, Bielefield, Germany under a contract with Guys and St Thomas Hospital in the UK up until April 2013 and from this date the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) through the Limited Liability Partnership.

Mental disorder Patients assessed by clinicians at a MOD DCMH or in-patient provider with a mental and behavioural disorder categorised under Chapter V in ICD-10.

Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS) provides trained professional soldiers to meet defence armed security requirements in units of all three Services based in Great Britain. MPGS provide armed guard protection of units, responsible for control of entry, foot and mobile patrols and armed response to attacks on their unit.

Mobilised Reservists are Volunteer or Regular Reserves who have been called into permanent service with the Regular Forces on military operations under the powers outlined in the Reserve Forces Act 1996. Call-out orders will be for a specific amount of time and subject to limits (e.g. under a call-out for warlike operations (Section 54), call-out periods should not exceed 12 months, unless extended.)

MOD Specialist Mental Health Services encompass the delivery of care through MOD's DCMH for outpatient care, and all admissions to the MOD's in-patient care contractor. It does not cover mental health care for patients treated wholly in the primary care setting by GPs.

New episodes of care New patients; or patients who have been seen at a DCMH but were discharged from care and have been referred again. This represents the level of clinical activity/prevalence and does not represent the number of personnel assessed as an individual may have more than one episode of care.

Non Regular Permanent Staff (NRPS) are members of the Army Volunteer Reserve Force employed on a full time basis. The NRPS comprises Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and soldiers posted to units to assist with the training, administrative and special duties within the Army Reserve. Typical jobs are Permanent Staff Administration Officer and Regimental Administration Officer. Since 2010, these contracts are being discontinued in favour of FTRS (Home Commitment) contracts. NRPS are not included in the Future Reserves 2020 Volunteer Reserve population as they have no liability for call out.

Number of Personnel represents the number of individuals with an initial assessment at MOD Specialist Services. An individual may have more than one episode of care but the individual will only be counted once in the number of personnel.

Officer An officer is a member of the Armed Forces holding the Queen's Commission to lead and command elements of the forces. Officers form the middle and senior management of the Armed Forces. This includes ranks from Sub-Lt/2nd Lt/Pilot Officer up to Admiral of the Fleet/Field Marshal/Marshal of the Royal Air Force, but excludes Non-Commissioned Officers.

Operation HERRICK is the name for UK operations in Afghanistan which started in April 2006. UK Forces are deployed to Afghanistan in support of the UN authorised, NATO led International Security Assistance Force (IASF) mission and as part of the US-led Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

Operation SHADER is providing military support to the US led Coalition to defeat Daesh in Iraq and Syria.

Operation TELIC is the name for UK operations in Iraq which started in March 2003 and finished on 21 May 2011. UK Forces were deployed to support the Government's objective to remove the threat that Saddam Hussein posed to his neighbours and his people and, based on evidence available at the time, disarm him of his weapons of mass destruction. The Government also undertook to support the Iraqi people in their desire for peace, prosperity and freedom.

Operation TORAL started 1 December 2014, is the UK's post 2014 contribution to operations in Afghanistan under the NATO RESOLUTE SUPPORT MISSION.

Other Ranks Other ranks are members of the Royal Marines, Army and Royal Air Force who are not officers but Other Ranks include Non-Commissioned Officers.

Personnel at Risk is defined as the number of serving UK Armed Forces personnel eligible for mental healthcare. This includes regular UK Armed Forces personnel, Ghurkhas, Military Provost Guard Staff, mobilised reservists, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and Non-regular Permanent Staff.

Rate Ratio (RR) provides a comparison of cases seen between personnel identified as having deployed to a theatre and those who have not been identified as having deployed to either theatre.

Royal Air Force (RAF). The Royal Air Force (RAF) is the aerial defence force of the UK.

Royal Marines (RM) Royal Marines are sea-going soldiers who are part of the Naval Service. RM officer ranks were aligned with those of the Army on 1 July 1999.

Royal Navy (RN) The sea-going defence forces of the UK but excludes the Royal Marines and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service (RFA).

SSSFT is the South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Foundation Trust which heads up the consortium providing in-patient care through eight NHS trusts in the UK.

Strength is defined as the number of serving UK Armed Forces personnel.

UK Regulars are full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding FTRS personnel, Gurkhas, Naval activated Reservists, mobilised Reservists, Military Provost Guarding Service (MPGS) and Non Regular Permanent Service (NRPS). Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.

Data, Definitions and Methods

Data Sources

69. Defence Statistics receive data from DCMH and in-patient providers for all UK regular Armed Forces personnel from the following sources :

DCMH

- Between 01 January 2007 and 30 June 2014, the report captures data provided by DCMHs to Defence Statistics in monthly returns.
- For the period 01 April 2012 to 30 June 2014, new episodes of care data was also sourced from the electronic patient record held in Defence Medical Information Capability Program (DMICP) in addition to those provided by DCMH in monthly returns.
- Since 01 July 2014, DMICP was the single source of DCMH new episodes of care data.

In-patient

- Since January 2007, SSSFT and Gilead IV hospital, Bielefeld have submitted relevant in patient records.

Data Coverage

70. The data in this report include regular UK Armed Forces personnel, Ghurkhas, Military Provost Guard Staff, mobilised reservists, Full Time Reserve Service personnel and Non-regular Permanent Staff as all of these individuals are eligible for assessment at a DCMH.

71. DCMH staff record the initial mental health assessment during a patient's first appointment, based on presenting complaints. The information is provisional and final diagnoses may differ as some patients do not present the full range of symptoms, signs or clinical history during their first appointment. The mental health assessment of condition data were categorised into three standard groupings of common mental disorders used by the World Health Organisation's International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Health-Related Disorders 10th edition (ICD-10).

72. A number of patients present to DCMH with symptoms that require the treatment skills of DCMH staff, whilst not necessarily having a specific and identifiable mental disorder. These cases are referred to as "assessed without a mental disorder".

Methodology

73. Due to the methodology changes implemented in July 2009 and in July 2013, when looking at trends over time for new episodes of care across the series of published reports, it is advisable to note :

- Prior to 2009/10, only an individual's first attendance at a DCMH or an in-patient provider were included in the data submitted by DCMHs to Defence Statistics.
- Since 2009/10, the report captures all new episodes of care provided by DCMH to Defence Statistics in monthly returns.
- Since 2012/13, the report captures all new episodes of care recorded in the MOD patient electronic record in addition to monthly submissions provided by DCMH to Defence Statistics.

74. Changes made to the methodology in July 2009 and July 2013 can be read in more detail in the Background Quality Report (BQR) published at www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-national-and-official-statistics-by-topic.

Rates

75. Rates enable comparisons between groups and over time, taking account of the number of personnel in a group (personnel at risk) at a particular point in time**. The number of events (i.e. mental disorders) is then divided by the number of personnel at risk per annum and multiplied by 1,000 to calculate the rate per 1,000 personnel at risk.**

Percentage

76. Previous publications of this report have provided rates alongside numbers to provide context and comparison between groups. This information is still available in the Excel file accompanying the release of this report, however, due to user feedback, this publication now provides a focus on the percentage of the population at risk. This is calculated in the same way as the rate per 1,000 but multiplying by 100 instead of 1000, i.e. **the number of events (for example mental disorders) is then divided by the number of personnel at risk per annum and multiplied by 100 to calculate the percentage of personnel affected.** The percentages presented have been rounded to one decimal place.

77. The information presented in this publication has been structured to release information into the public domain in a way that contributes to the MOD accountability to the British public but which doesn't risk breaching individual's rights to medical confidentiality. In line with JSP 200 Statistics (April 2016), and in keeping with the Office for National Statistics Guidelines, all numbers less than five have been suppressed and presented as '~' to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of individual identities. Where there is only one cell in a row or column that is less than five, the next smallest number (or numbers where there are tied values) has also been suppressed so that numbers cannot simply be derived from totals.

Strengths and weaknesses of the data presented in this report

78. A key strength of this report is the presentation of the number of Service personnel who have been seen for a new episode of care at a DCMH or in-patient facility, as reported by clinician's. The inclusion in this report of new episodes of care direct from the legal electronic patient record improves the robustness and integrity of the underlying data. As the data is held in a pseudo-anonymised format in the DMICP data warehouse, patient consent is not an issue. A further strength is the use of the pseudo-anonymised patient identifier to enable DS to validate data therefore improving accuracy and enabling linkage to deployment records to identify any effect of deployment on mental health in the UK Armed Forces. In addition, the tables in this report have been scrutinised to ensure individual identities have not been revealed inadvertently.

79. Users should be aware that this report does not include information on patients seen only by their GP or Medical Officer. Mental disorder types reported here are the clinician's initial assessment during a patient's first appointment at a DCMH, based on presenting complaints, therefore final diagnosis may differ as some patients do not show full range of symptoms, signs or clinical history during their first appointment. It should also be noted that the clinician's primary diagnosis is reported here, however patients can present with more than one disorder. Changes in methodology in 2009/10 and 2012/13 also make it difficult to compare new episodes of care data over time. A further weakness of data in this report is that with any new data collection system, there is a training burden; user inexperience with the new mental health templates in DMICP may have affected coverage and accuracy. In addition, DMICP is a live system and extracts for this report are taken six weeks after the end of the reporting period. Therefore any amendments to records or late data entries may be excluded from this report.

80. More detailed information on the data, definitions and methods used to create this report can be found in the Background Quality Report (BQR) published at www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-national-and-official-statistics-by-topic.

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a. Mental Health Bulletin: 2016-17 Annual Report: NHS Digital.

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e. Meltzer H, Singleton N, Lee A et al (2002). The social and economic circumstances of adults with mental disorders, *Her Majesty's Stationery Office (HMSO): London*.

Further Information

Symbols

~ In line with JSP 200 (April 2016) to ensure individuals are not inadvertently identified suppression methodology has been applied to reduce the risk of disclosure, numbers fewer than five have been suppressed and presented as '~'. Where there was only one cell in a row or column that was fewer than five, the next smallest number has also been suppressed so that numbers cannot simply be derived from totals.

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