



Ministry  
of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2017/09065

Reply to: [REDACTED]

18 October 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 19 September 2017 requesting the following information:

*Could you let me know how many sexual assaults or rape have been reported by military personnel in each of the last five calendar years; how many of these sexual assaults or rapes were alleged to have been committed by fellow military personnel in each of the last five calendar years, and how many of these resulted in convictions or prosecutions, for the same time period.*

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

I can advise you that part of your request is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA as the information is already available to you. Statistics for sexual offences in the Armed Forces are now published annually and have been since 1 January 2015. This information can be found at the following link:

<http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sexual-offences-in-the-service-justice-system>

Details of prosecutions/convictions are available on the Gov.UK website. Courts Martial results showing the number of people prosecuted/convicted are published at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/court-martial-results-from-the-military-court-centres>

Because statistics for sexual offences in the Armed Forces have only been published since 1 January 2015, information from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2014 was not included in the links provided. Therefore the information is contained in the table below:

Year	Sexual Assaults or Rapes reported by military personnel	Number committed by military personnel
2013	67	63
2014	49	47

The following caveats apply to the table:

1. The existing approved figures for the years 2009 to 2014 have been used, and these were fixed in April 2016; they cannot be guaranteed 100% accurate, especially those for 2014.
2. In accordance with policy adopted for previous sexual assault and rape FOIs, the offences have been taken to be those contrary to ss.1 to 4 Sexual Offences Act 2003, including attempted rape, although s.4 is not listed as a sexual assault; offences against younger children contrary to ss.5 to 8 have not been included, also in accordance with that policy.
3. Only Service police investigations (subject to the accuracy note above) are included, and any otherwise relevant Home Office police force cases will not be shown.

4. In accordance with the wording of the FOI request, the “committed by” column only includes those investigations from the “reported by” column where there was a suspect identified as a member of UK armed forces.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence People Secretariat FOI