



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2017/07470

[REDACTED]

21 August 2017

Reply to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 21 July 2017 requesting the following information:

"Date Range 21.07.2014 to 21.07.2017

How many service personnel have made complaints of any kind of sexual Assault committed against them whilst on any military property in the UK or abroad to include ships subs planes etc or committed against them where the suspect has been another member of the armed services

Notes:

Please break down by service, gender of offender and victim and where possible location."

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

I can advise you that following a search of our records, I have established that some of the information you requested is held by the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

However, under Section 21 of the FOIA the MOD is not obliged to supply information that is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. For the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2016, a Section 21 exemption applies as official statistics of all sexual offences reported to the Service Police during that period have been published and can be found at the following link:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/sexual-offences-in-the-service-justice-system

For the Period 1 January 2017 to 21 July 2017, Section 22 of the FOIA applies because official statistics for sexual offences in the Service Justice System are now published annually. The next official statistics for the period 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017 are due to be published in March 2018.

To provide an answer for the remaining period, I can advise that as at 1 August 2014 there were 156,739 Full-Time UK Regular Personnel and 28,201 personnel in the Future Reserves 2020 (these numbers include trained and untrained personnel). During the time 21 July 2014 to 31 December 2014 there were 38 incidents of sexual assault reported to the Service Police across the three Services. Of the 38 incidents, all of the suspects were

male. Please note that the 38 incidents were allegations and not all will have followed through to conviction. The incidents are broken down further in the following tables.

Table A overleaf displays a breakdown by the gender of victims of sexual assault reported to the Service Police in the period 21 July 2014 to 31 December 2014.

Table A: Gender of victims	
Female	35
Male	3

Table B below displays a breakdown by location of incidents of sexual assault reported to the Service Police in the period 21 July 2014 to 31 December 2014.

Table B: Location of incidents	
UK	22
Overseas	16

Table C below displays a breakdown by Service of personnel suspected of sexual assault reported to the Service Police in the period 21 July 2014 to 31 December 2014 and the victims of the offences.

Table C: Breakdown by Service		
Service	Suspects	Victims
Royal Navy	6	6
Army	30	20
RAF	2	1
Civilian	0	11

Table D below displays a breakdown of the premises of the offences reported to the Service Police in the period 21 July 2014 to 31 December 2014.

Table D: Premises of offences	
Barracks	17
Commercial premises	4
Residence	7
Street	2
Training area	2
Vehicle	2
Vessel	2
Other (not specified)	2

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). 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