



Ministry
of Defence

**Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)
Ministry Of Defence
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Reference: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date: 11th June 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 3rd May 2019 requesting the following information:

- “1. How many BME people there are in the BAF?
Please split this into the Naval Service; British Army and RAF and provide figures from 2013-recent.**
- 2. Of the BME serving in the BAF, how many are British and how many are from the Commonwealth countries?
Again, please provide figures from 2013-recent.**
- 3. Could you provide a breakdown of the religious groups/ethnic origins of those serving in the BAF and again split that further into their nationalities? Again, please provide figures from 2013-recent if possible”**

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We have now completed a search for the information you requested and I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held.

As to part 1 of your request; the data you request is published in Biannual Diversity Statistics, the most recent edition is available on the Gov.uk website at the following address:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-biannual-diversity-statistics-2018>

As to part 2 of your request; the data is contained in Table 1 of this response.

As to part 3 of your request; the data is contained Table 2 in the spreadsheet accompanying this response.

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.gov.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/>.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering **Military Personnel** and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing DefStrat-Stat-Tri-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

Table 1- Commonwealth personnel in the UK Regular Forces (1 October 2013- 1 October 2018)

	01 October 2013	01 October 2014	01 October 2015	01 October 2016	01 October 2017	01 October 2018
Royal Navy/Royal Marines	500	480	440	390	390	480
Army	6010	5120	4480	4070	4070	3640
Royal Air Force	60	60	70	60	60	80
Total	6570	5660	4980	4530	4530	4190

UK Regulars comprise Full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel, Gurkhas, mobilised Reservists, Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS), Locally Engaged Personnel (LEP), Non Regular Permanent Staff (NRPS), High Readiness Reserve (HRR) and Expeditionary Forces Institute (EFI) personnel. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.

Ethnicity and Nationality as declared on JPA
 Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10