



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Statistics (Health)
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12 March 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received by the department on 26 February 2020 requesting the following information:

“...I need to know about the prevalence of PTSD in veterans. I have accessed the emails available online, however there are only statistics from 2011 and 2012.”

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

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our recorded information, I have established that the information you requested is not held by the Ministry of Defence.

The MOD does not hold information on all veterans diagnosed with mental health conditions, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Responsibility for the delivery of clinical and mental healthcare for veterans lies with the National Health Service (NHS) in England and the Devolved Administrations.

Under Section 16 (advice and assistance) you may wish to note the following:

The MOD has published the following National and Official Statistics which present information on MOD compensation schemes, which receive claims for PTSD:

War Pension Scheme (WPS)

The War Pension Scheme (WPS) provides no-fault compensation for all ex-service personnel where illness, injury or death is caused by service from the start of the First World War in 1914 up until 5 April 2005. The WPS is managed by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) with all compensation claims administered by Defence Business Services (DBS) Veterans UK.

The WPS National Statistic can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>

The latest bulletin, as published on the GOV.UK website on 27 June 2019, provides claim details as at 31 March 2019.

Table 21a in the supplementary tables presents the numbers of disablement pensioners in receipt of a War Pension due to suffering from PTSD.

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS)

The Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for injury, illness or death attributable to service that occurred on or after that date. It replaced the previous compensation arrangements provided by the WPS and the attributable elements of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Pensions Scheme.

The AFCS National Statistic can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-statistics-index>

The latest bulletin, as published on the GOV.UK website on 27 June 2019, provides claim details as at 31 March 2019.

Table 13 in the supplementary tables provides the number of conditions awarded under the Mental Disorder Tariff of Injury Table, where the claim made was for PTSD.

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/>.

Yours sincerely

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