



Ministry
of Defence

**Defence Statistics Health
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Date: **12 August 2020**

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 27 July 2020 requesting the following information:

“amount of veterans we have living in the UK Also the information about how many are on the list as to be suffering from PTSD

Not just veterans but also serving personal.

So I would like a copy of all states and figures from you in relation to this issue.”

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

Veterans living in the UK and those with PTSD

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence does not hold information on all veterans living in the UK. However, the MOD has published a range of statistics on specific veteran cohorts that may be of assistance. The links to these publications are provided in the advice and assistance section below.

Serving personnel with PTSD

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds this information. The information is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. It is already in the public domain and can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-mental-health-annual-statistics-financial-year-201920>. The data you require can be found in the MS Excel Spreadsheet at Figure 9, Figure 10, Figure 12 and Figure 17.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), you may find it useful to note the following information relating to statistics published on specific veteran cohorts and PTSD :

Annual Population Survey (APS)

The MOD has published veteran estimates using data compiled by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) from the veteran questions in the Annual Population Survey (APS). These statistics include respondents from individuals living in households in England, Wales and Scotland (Great Britain) aged 16 and over. The veteran questions in the APS were not asked in Northern Ireland due to security concerns.

The publications provide estimates on the size and socio-demographic characteristics of the UK veteran population living in households in England, Scotland and Wales.

There are 4 reports in this series, published using the 2014 to 2017 Annual Population Survey datasets

produced by the Office for National Statistics. The statistical bulletin published in 2017 was the last in the series.

The Official Statistics can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/annual-population-survey-uk-armed-forces-veterans-residing-in-great-britain>

Census 2011

The MOD has published 2 reports in this series:

- This first report presents the estimates on the size and socio-demographic characteristics of the working age UK Armed Forces veteran population (between 16 and 64 years of age), using responses provided in the 2011 Census, administered across England and Wales by the ONS. The aim of this report is to present estimated summary figures on working age veterans, specifically: people characteristics (gender, age and ethnicity); location (country, region, county, local authority and NHS authority areas); health; disability; employment status; highest education qualification obtained and housing.
- This second report presents comparisons between working age (aged between 16 – 64) UK Armed Forces veterans, and working age usual residents in England and Wales, using responses provided in the 2011 Census, administered across England and Wales by the ONS. The aim of this report is to present comparisons between working age veterans and usual residents in terms of self-reported health, disability, housing, education, economic activity (or employment status) and occupation.

Both Official Statistics can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/census-2011-working-age-uk-armed-forces-veterans-residing-in-england-and-wales-index>

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 21 of the supplementary Excel tables provides the number of disablement pensioners in receipt of a war pension for a mental health condition, and of which the number who were awarded specifically for 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 25 June 2020, provides claim details as at 31 March 2020. Table 13 of the supplementary Excel tables provides the number of awards made under the AFCS to serving and ex-serving Armed Forces personnel for mental health conditions, and of which the number awarded where the condition claimed for was PTSD.

Location of UK Armed Forces Pension and Compensation Recipients

This Statistical Bulletin presents summary information on veteran pension and compensation recipients by country, region, county, local authority, local health organisation, and postcode district. The following veteran cohorts are included:

Armed Forces Pension Scheme (AFPS) - UK Armed Forces veterans in receipt of an occupational pension under one of the following Armed Forces Pension Schemes: AFPS 75 or AFPS 05. It does not include those in receipt of an occupational pension under the AFPS 15.

War Pension Scheme (WPS) - UK Armed Forces veterans in receipt of a disablement pension under the War Pension Scheme. The WPS provides no-fault compensation for Service-attributable injury or illness from the start of the First World War in 1914 until 5 April 2005.

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) - UK Armed Forces veterans who have been awarded compensation under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme. The AFCS came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for Service-attributable injury or illness from this date

Please note that veterans who are not in receipt of an occupational pension under the AFPS and have not been awarded compensation under the WPS or AFCS will not be included in these statistics.

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

[https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/location-of-armed-forces-pension-and-compensation-
recipients](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/location-of-armed-forces-pension-and-compensation-recipients)

The latest bulletin, as published on the GOV.UK website on 29 August 2019, provides details on compensation and pension recipients as at 31 March 2019.

Population Projections: UK Armed Forces Veterans residing in Great Britain, 2016 to 2028

The Ministry of Defence has also published a statistical bulletin presenting population projections for UK Armed Forces veterans residing in Great Britain to 2028. Please note that population projections are not forecasts and will inevitably differ to a greater or lesser extent from actual future population change. In addition to the uncertainties in the underlying 2016 baseline data, our assumptions about the future cannot be certain as patterns of both those entering the veteran population and deaths are always liable to change and can be influenced by many factors.

The projections presented in this report will support the UK Government's Veterans Strategy (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategy-for-our-veterans>) and will provide an indication of the size and demographic changes of the GB veteran population, enabling MOD, other Government departments for example the NHS, the Devolved Administrations, and the charitable sector to develop policies and service deliveries which continue to meet the needs of veterans in the future.

The statistical bulletin can be found on the GOV.UK website:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/population-projections-uk-armed-forces-veterans-residing-
in-great-britain-2016-to-2028](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/population-projections-uk-armed-forces-veterans-residing-in-great-britain-2016-to-2028)

The bulletin, as published on the GOV.UK website on 10 January 2019, provides population projections for the UK Armed Forces veterans residing in Great Britain to 2028.

Armed Forces Covenant annual report

The Armed Forces Covenant lays out the Government's commitment to ensure the armed forces community, which includes service leavers, are not disadvantaged in any way at the end of their military career. The report is intended under the Armed Forces Act 2011 to ensure that Parliament, on behalf of the people of the UK, can understand how the Covenant continues to be delivered.

The Armed Forces Covenant annual report can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-covenant-annual-reports>

The 2019 report was published on the GOV.UK website on 10 January 2020. The healthcare section of the report includes a summary of the number of referrals received for the Veterans' Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service (TILS) and the Veterans' Mental Health Complex Treatment Service (CTS), which provide specialist NHS care pathways just for veterans.

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

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to statistics and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing Analysis-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.gov.uk.

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/>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

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