



Ministry  
of Defence

**Defence Business Services**

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Ref: FOI2020/ 10853

26 October 2020

Mr

Dear Mr Thank you for your email of 26 September 2020 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

- “• *The number of sick days / sick leave that occurred across the whole of MOD in April 2019 and April 2020*
- *The number of sick days / sick leave that occurred across the whole of MOD in May 2019 and May 2020*
- *The number of sick days / sick leave that occurred across the whole of MOD in June 2019 and June 2020*
- *The number of sick days / sick leave that occurred across the whole of MOD in July 2019 July 2020*
- *The number of sick days / sick leave that occurred across the whole of MOD in August 2019 and August 2020”*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm all information in scope of your request is held.

The table below details the number of working days lost due to sickness for civilian personnel. Please note that that the figures are rounded to the nearest 10 with numbers ending in ‘5’ rounded to the nearest 20 to avoid systematic bias. The figures are based on Human Resources Management System where an individual has a Personal status of ‘Employee’ and is based solely on headcount.

Month (2019)	Number of Working Days Lost	Month (2020)	NumberofWorkingDay Lost
April 2019	26,190	April 2020	16,580
May 2019	25,730	May 2020	12,710
June 2019	26,130	June 2020	15,130
July 2019	29,710	July 2020	16,920
August 2019	25,860	August 2020	15,940

Under Section 16 (Advice and Guidance) you may be interested to know that the MOD publish an annual report on the Gov.uk website detailing civilian personnel sickness. The link below will take you to the relevant report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mod-civilian-sickness-absence-annual-statistics-index>

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](mailto: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

Defence Business Services (Secretariat)