



# Ministry of Defence

Army Policy & Secretariat  
Army Headquarters  
IDL 24 Blenheim Building  
Marlborough Lines  
Andover  
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ  
United Kingdom

ArmySec/Equip/Vehs/FOI2021/00811

E-mail: [ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk](mailto:ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk)

Website: [www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

16 February 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 25 January in which you requested the following information:

*"...the statistics on the UK Armed Forces concerning only the number of UK main battle tanks from ca. 1989 until 2015."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held, however is exempt under Section 21 of the Act because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

The UK Defence Statistics Compendium archive on the National Archives website holds numbers of armoured vehicles from 2002-2013 and can be found at the below link:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116143046/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/index.php/publications/UK-defence-statistics-compendium/>

I can confirm that no data before 2002 is held by the department. Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may wish to continue your search with the Tank Museum who may hold information in scope of your request. Their website can be found here:

<https://tankmuseum.org/>

Also, under Section 16 you may find it useful to view the MOD National Statistics publication on vehicle and aircraft holdings within the scope of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty. However, I must caveat that this data is not directly comparable to the UK Armed Forces Equipment and Formations statistics because it captures all vehicles in that category, not just those in the department's in-service fleet. For example, gate guardians and some tanks held in museums are included in these figures.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/502574/Vehicle\\_Aircraft\\_Holdings\\_within\\_the\\_scope\\_of\\_the\\_Conventional\\_Armed\\_Forces\\_in\\_Europe\\_Treaty\\_2016.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/502574/Vehicle_Aircraft_Holdings_within_the_scope_of_the_Conventional_Armed_Forces_in_Europe_Treaty_2016.pdf)

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



Army Policy & Secretariat