



Ministry of Defence

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Reference: FOI2021/10316

[REDACTED]

Date: 30 September 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 12 September 2021 requesting the following information:

“Please provide me with updated figures for Apr 21 (or thereabouts). To be compatible with the previous figures, the data should be drawn from the "Religion" and "Religion Requirements" as held on JPA, taken as a snapshot on any recent day:

- Figures for the 3 Services should be separated out please.
- Figures should also be divided into age groups (20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54).
- The data should show how many personnel are in each category under the data field "Religion".
- *Taking those who select "No Religion", the data should show the breakdown of the choices personnel subsequently made under the data field "Religion Requirements".*
- The data should allow a calculation to be made of the response rate to these questions i.e. the unknown/blanks are also important in both fields.
- The data should be supplied in absolute figures not as percentages. I can work these out from the figures.
- In order to anonymise the data, it should be rounded to the nearest 10. Numbers ending in 5 may be rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to avoid systematic bias.
- Please provide the data on a spreadsheet. (By way of example, I have attached your previous spreadsheet as the presentation was excellent and exactly what I was looking for).

Additionally, I'd be most grateful if you would provide data to help me understand how many service chaplains are male and how many are female - and how that compares to the male/female split in the military population overall. I don't mind how you chose to present that data as long as it allows a clear comparison between the 2 groups (chaplains compared to the wider military population)".

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 can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held.

Please find attached a table (Table 1) breaking down UK Regulars¹ by Religion², Religious requirement² and Age Group³ as at 1 April 2021. Please also find attached a table (Table 2) breaking down UK Regulars¹ and Regular Chaplains⁴ by Gender⁵ as at 1 April 2021.

Notes and Caveats:

1. 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. Figures for UK regulars include both trained and untrained personnel.
2. Religion and Religious requirement as reported on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA). Unknown includes those with an unrecorded religion, and those who chose not to declare.
3. Ages are calculated as the difference between an individual's Date of Birth, and the strength date mentioned above, as recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) system.
4. Regular Chaplains comprise Chaplain 2000, Chaplain Air Force, RN Chaplain and Royal Army's Chaplain Department as recorded in Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) who are also recorded as Regulars.
5. Gender as self-declared in JPA. This may be the individuals birth sex, or an individuals legally recognised affirmed gender under JSP 889.

In line with JSP 200 on statistical disclosure, suppression methodology has been applied to ensure individuals are not inadvertently identified dependent on the risk of disclosure. Therefore, figures have been rounded to the nearest 10, though numbers ending in a "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent the systematic bias caused by always rounding numbers upwards. 5 or fewer is represented by '~', 0 is represented by '-'.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR. In line with JSP200 Statistics Disclosure Guidance, numbers fewer than five have been suppressed to reduce the possible inadvertent disclosure of individual identities; secondary suppression has been applied so numbers cannot be derived. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

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.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 Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Analysis (Tri-Service)

Table 1: UK Regulars¹ by Religion, Religious requirement² and Age Group³ as at 1 April 2021

Religion	Religious requirement/ Age Group	Royal Navy/Royal Marines	Army	Royal Air Force	Grand Total
Buddhist	<i>Buddhist</i>	70	930	100	1090
	Under 18	-	~	-	~
	18-19	10	10	~	20
	20-24	10	80	20	120
	25-29	10	190	20	220
	30-34	10	230	20	260
	35-39	10	190	20	220
	40-44	10	170	10	190
	45-49	~	50	~	50
	50-54	~	~	~	~
	55-59	~	-	~	~
Christian		20030	52460	20320	92800
of which:	Baptist	100	330	110	550
	Under 18	-	~	-	~
	18-19	~	~	~	10
	20-24	20	40	10	70
	25-29	10	60	10	90
	30-34	20	60	10	100
	35-39	10	60	20	90
	40-44	10	50	30	90
	45-49	10	30	20	50
	50-54	10	20	20	40
	55-59	~	~	-	10
	Over 60	-	~	~	~
	Christian	160	110	300	570
	Under 18	-	~	~	~
	18-19	~	~	20	20
	20-24	20	20	60	90
	25-29	40	40	60	130

30-34	40	30	90	160
35-39	40	20	50	100
40-44	10	~	20	40
45-49	10	~	~	10
50-54	~	-	~	10
55-59	-	-	~	~
Christian (Unspecified)	3660	7530	2660	13850
Under 18	60	320	30	400
18-19	180	450	100	730
20-24	890	1410	570	2870
25-29	950	1870	790	3610
30-34	830	1630	740	3200
35-39	510	1100	270	1880
40-44	160	580	80	830
45-49	60	150	40	240
50-54	20	20	30	70
55-59	10	~	10	20
Church in Wales	110	650	160	920
Under 18	~	10	-	10
18-19	~	20	~	20
20-24	20	110	10	140
25-29	20	110	20	150
30-34	20	140	30	190
35-39	20	120	30	170
40-44	~	80	40	120
45-49	~	40	10	60
50-54	~	20	10	40
55-59	~	~	~	10
Over 60	~	-	-	~
Church of England	11390	29060	12470	52930
Under 18	50	380	30	460
18-19	270	930	180	1370
20-24	1450	3930	1090	6470
25-29	1540	5140	1530	8220

30-34	1790	6010	1950	9750
35-39	2110	5630	2600	10340
40-44	1640	3990	2200	7830
45-49	1320	1880	1450	4640
50-54	960	1040	1110	3120
55-59	240	130	330	700
Over 60	20	10	10	40
Church of Ireland	100	490	120	720
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	~	20	~	30
20-24	10	80	10	100
25-29	20	90	10	120
30-34	10	110	10	130
35-39	20	90	30	140
40-44	10	60	20	100
45-49	10	20	20	60
50-54	10	10	10	40
55-59	~	~	~	10
Church of Scotland	880	2410	990	4290
Under 18	~	10	-	10
18-19	20	30	10	60
20-24	110	230	70	420
25-29	90	340	80	510
30-34	110	410	90	610
35-39	140	510	200	860
40-44	160	440	190	790
45-49	120	270	160	550
50-54	100	160	130	390
55-59	30	20	40	90
Over 60	~	-	~	~
Congregational	~	10	10	20
20-24	-	~	~	~
25-29	-	~	~	~
30-34	~	~	~	~

35-39	-	~	-	~
40-44	~	~	~	~
45-49	~	~	~	~
50-54	~	~	~	10
55-59	~	-	~	~
Eastern Orthodox	~	~	~	10
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	~	~	~
35-39	~	~	-	~
Free Church of Scotland	10	10	~	30
20-24	-	~	~	~
25-29	~	~	-	~
30-34	~	~	-	10
35-39	~	-	-	~
40-44	~	-	~	~
45-49	~	-	~	~
50-54	~	-	~	~
55-59	~	-	-	~
Free Presbyterian	20	430	20	460
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	10	-	10
20-24	~	110	~	110
25-29	10	130	10	140
30-34	~	100	~	100
35-39	~	70	~	70
40-44	~	20	~	20
45-49	-	~	-	~
Greek Orthodox	10	10	~	20
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	-	~	~	~
25-29	~	~	~	10
30-34	-	~	-	~
35-39	~	~	~	~
40-44	-	~	-	~

45-49	~	-	-	~
50-54	~	-	-	~
Lutheran	~	10	~	20
20-24	~	~	-	10
25-29	-	~	~	~
30-34	-	~	-	~
35-39	-	~	-	~
40-44	-	~	-	~
Methodist	400	1800	460	2660
Under 18	~	10	~	10
18-19	~	10	~	20
20-24	40	220	30	290
25-29	40	270	30	340
30-34	60	290	60	410
35-39	60	380	80	520
40-44	80	390	110	580
45-49	60	150	70	290
50-54	50	60	60	170
55-59	20	10	10	40
Over 60	-	~	~	~
Moravian	-	~	~	~
30-34	-	~	-	~
45-49	-	-	~	~
Orthodox	10	60	10	90
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	20	~	20
25-29	~	10	~	20
30-34	~	10	~	20
35-39	~	10	~	20
40-44	~	~	~	10
45-49	~	-	~	~
50-54	-	~	-	~
Other Christian	30	540	30	600

18-19	~	10	-	10	
20-24	~	60	~	60	
25-29	~	80	10	90	
30-34	10	140	10	160	
35-39	10	140	10	160	
40-44	~	90	~	90	
45-49	~	20	-	20	
50-54	~	~	-	~	
55-59	-	-	~	~	
Pentecostal		100	570	30	700
18-19	~	10	-	10	
20-24	20	80	10	110	
25-29	20	120	10	140	
30-34	30	140	10	180	
35-39	10	120	~	140	
40-44	10	80	~	100	
45-49	10	10	~	30	
50-54	-	~	~	~	
55-59	~	-	~	~	
Plymouth Brethren	~	~	~	~	
20-24	~	-	-	~	
25-29	-	~	-	~	
30-34	~	-	-	~	
55-59	-	-	~	~	
Presbyterian		90	210	90	390
Under 18	-	10	~	10	
18-19	~	10	-	10	
20-24	10	20	10	30	
25-29	20	40	10	60	
30-34	10	40	10	60	
35-39	10	40	10	60	
40-44	20	40	20	70	
45-49	10	10	10	30	
50-54	10	~	20	30	

55-59	~	~	~	10
Over 60	-	-	~	~
Presbyterian Church in Ireland	30	340	50	420
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	10	50	10	60
25-29	10	70	10	80
30-34	~	70	10	90
35-39	10	50	10	70
40-44	~	50	10	60
45-49	-	20	10	20
50-54	~	10	-	10
55-59	-	~	-	~
Over 60	-	~	-	~
Presbyterian Church of Wales	-	10	~	10
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	-	-	~	~
30-34	-	~	~	~
35-39	-	~	-	~
40-44	-	~	-	~
45-49	-	~	-	~
Quaker (Society of Friends)	~	~	~	10
Under 18	-	~	-	~
20-24	-	~	-	~
30-34	-	-	~	~
35-39	-	~	-	~
40-44	~	-	-	~
45-49	~	~	-	~
Roman Catholic	2830	7500	2730	13060
Under 18	10	70	10	90
18-19	50	200	30	280
20-24	360	980	290	1630
25-29	490	1380	350	2220
30-34	570	1630	470	2670

35-39	520	1450	540	2510
40-44	370	1030	490	1900
45-49	230	470	260	970
50-54	170	250	210	640
55-59	50	40	70	150
Over 60	~	~	~	10
Russian Orthodox	~	~	-	~
20-24	-	~	-	~
35-39	~	-	-	~
Salvation Army	10	60	10	80
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	10	-	10
25-29	~	~	~	10
30-34	~	10	~	10
35-39	~	10	~	20
40-44	~	10	-	10
45-49	~	10	~	20
50-54	~	10	-	10
55-59	-	-	~	~
Scottish Episcopal Church	10	20	10	40
20-24	~	-	-	~
25-29	~	~	~	10
30-34	~	10	~	10
35-39	~	~	-	~
40-44	~	~	~	~
45-49	-	~	~	10
50-54	~	~	~	10
55-59	-	~	-	~
Seventh Day Adventist	40	240	10	280
18-19	~	~	-	~
20-24	~	40	~	40
25-29	10	60	-	70
30-34	10	70	~	80
35-39	~	40	~	50

40-44	~	30	~	30
45-49	~	10	-	10
United Free Church of Scotland	~	~	~	~
30-34	-	-	~	~
40-44	~	-	-	~
50-54	-	~	~	~
United Reformed Church	10	30	30	80
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	-	~	~	~
25-29	~	~	~	~
30-34	~	10	~	10
35-39	~	10	~	10
40-44	~	~	10	10
45-49	~	~	~	10
50-54	~	~	10	10
55-59	~	~	~	10
Over 60	-	~	-	~

Christian Tradition	70	110	50	230
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of which:	Christian Scientist	10	10	10	30
	Under 18	-	~	-	~
	18-19	~	~	~	~
	20-24	-	~	~	~
	25-29	~	~	~	~
	30-34	~	-	~	10
	35-39	~	~	-	~
	40-44	~	-	-	~
	45-49	-	~	~	~
	Christian Tradition	20	20	20	70
	18-19	-	~	-	~
	20-24	~	~	~	~
	25-29	~	~	~	10
	30-34	10	~	~	20
	35-39	10	~	~	20

40-44	~	~	~	10
45-49	~	~	~	10
50-54	-	~	~	~
55-59	~	-	~	~
Over 60	~	-	-	~
Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon)	20	40	10	70
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	10	~	10
25-29	~	10	~	10
30-34	~	~	~	10
35-39	~	10	~	10
40-44	~	20	~	20
45-49	-	~	~	~
50-54	~	-	~	~
55-59	~	-	-	~
Jehovah's Witness	-	~	~	~
25-29	-	-	~	~
30-34	-	~	-	~
Other Christian Tradition	20	40	10	60
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	10	~	10
25-29	-	~	~	10
30-34	10	10	~	20
35-39	~	~	~	10
40-44	~	~	~	10
45-49	~	~	~	10
50-54	~	-	~	~
55-59	~	-	-	~
Unitarian	~	~	~	10
20-24	-	~	-	~
30-34	-	~	~	~
35-39	~	-	-	~
40-44	-	~	-	~

	45-49	-	-	~	~
	50-54	-	~	-	~
Hindu	<i>Hindu</i>	30	1350	60	1440
	Under 18	-	~	~	~
	18-19	-	10	-	10
	20-24	~	70	10	90
	25-29	10	220	20	250
	30-34	~	390	20	400
	35-39	~	310	10	320
	40-44	10	280	10	300
	45-49	-	50	-	50
	50-54	~	10	~	20
	55-59	-	-	~	~
Judaism	<i>Judaism</i>	20	70	20	110
	18-19	~	-	-	~
	20-24	~	10	~	20
	25-29	10	20	~	30
	30-34	~	10	~	20
	35-39	~	10	~	20
	40-44	~	10	~	10
	45-49	~	~	-	~
	50-54	~	~	~	10
	55-59	-	~	-	~
Muslim	<i>Muslim</i>	60	510	80	650
	Under 18	-	~	~	10
	18-19	~	20	~	30
	20-24	10	70	20	100
	25-29	20	90	20	120
	30-34	~	110	20	130
	35-39	10	130	20	160
	40-44	10	60	~	70
	45-49	~	10	~	20
	50-54	-	~	~	~
Sikh	<i>Sikh</i>	10	130	40	180

	Under 18	-	-	~	~
	18-19	-	10	~	10
	20-24	~	10	~	10
	25-29	~	30	10	50
	30-34	~	40	10	60
	35-39	~	30	10	40
	40-44	~	10	~	10
	45-49	-	~	~	~
	50-54	~	~	-	~
Other Religions		310	1160	240	1710
of which:	Baha'i	-	-	~	~
	35-39	-	-	~	~
	Druid	~	10	10	20
	Under 18	-	~	-	~
	20-24	-	-	~	~
	25-29	-	~	-	~
	30-34	-	-	~	~
	35-39	~	~	~	~
	40-44	~	~	~	~
	45-49	-	~	~	~
	Jainist	-	-	~	~
	20-24	-	-	~	~
	35-39	-	-	~	~
	Kirati	~	180	~	180
	20-24	-	10	-	10
	25-29	-	30	~	30
	30-34	-	90	~	90
	35-39	~	30	-	40
	40-44	-	20	~	20
	45-49	~	~	-	~
	50-54	-	~	-	~
	Other	130	250	140	510
	Under 18	-	~	-	~
	18-19	~	10	-	10

20-24	10	60	10	70
25-29	20	40	20	80
30-34	30	50	30	110
35-39	40	50	40	120
40-44	20	20	20	60
45-49	10	10	10	30
50-54	~	-	10	10
55-59	-	~	~	~
Pagan	40	230	40	310
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	10	-	10
20-24	~	50	~	60
25-29	10	50	~	70
30-34	10	70	10	80
35-39	10	30	10	50
40-44	~	10	10	30
45-49	~	10	~	10
50-54	~	~	~	~
55-59	-	-	~	~
Rastafarian	120	460	40	630
Under 18	-	~	-	~
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	30	100	10	140
25-29	40	120	~	170
30-34	20	120	20	160
35-39	20	80	10	110
40-44	~	30	~	40
45-49	~	10	~	10
50-54	-	~	~	~
Spiritualist	10	20	10	40
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	10	~	10
25-29	~	~	-	10
30-34	~	~	~	10

35-39	~	~	~	10
40-44	-	-	~	~
45-49	-	~	~	~
Wicca	~	10	~	20
20-24	-	~	-	~
25-29	~	~	-	~
30-34	-	~	-	~
35-39	-	~	~	~
40-44	~	~	-	~
45-49	-	~	~	~
50-54	~	-	-	~
Zoroastrian (Parsee)	-	~	~	~
25-29	-	~	-	~
35-39	-	-	~	~
55-59	-	~	-	~

No Religion	13240	25300	12260	50790
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of which:	Agnostic	1420	7390	1410	10220
	Under 18	10	300	~	320
	18-19	100	740	40	880
	20-24	530	2660	410	3600
	25-29	450	2040	430	2920
	30-34	190	1030	250	1460
	35-39	90	380	140	610
	40-44	20	160	60	240
	45-49	20	50	40	110
	50-54	10	20	30	60
	55-59	10	~	10	20
	Over 60	~	-	~	~
	Atheist	3860	12140	3820	19820
	Under 18	60	530	30	620
	18-19	250	1220	170	1630
	20-24	1480	4100	1190	6770
	25-29	1100	3080	1160	5340
	30-34	570	1880	660	3120

35-39	220	860	300	1380
40-44	90	340	180	610
45-49	40	90	80	220
50-54	20	40	50	110
55-59	10	~	10	20
Humanist	70	130	100	300
18-19	-	~	-	~
20-24	~	~	~	10
25-29	~	10	10	30
30-34	10	30	20	60
35-39	10	30	30	70
40-44	20	20	20	60
45-49	10	20	10	40
50-54	10	10	10	30
55-59	~	~	~	10
No Religion	570	560	1240	2370
Under 18	-	10	10	10
18-19	10	10	30	50
20-24	40	80	150	270
25-29	100	100	280	490
30-34	140	120	290	550
35-39	130	120	260	520
40-44	80	80	120	280
45-49	30	30	60	120
50-54	20	10	30	60
55-59	~	~	10	20
Over 60	-	-	~	~
No Religion (Unspecified)	7210	4970	5600	17780
Under 18	180	490	80	760
18-19	660	910	440	2010
20-24	1860	1520	1320	4710
25-29	1730	1080	1020	3820
30-34	1350	520	1020	2890
35-39	810	270	950	2030

	40-44		370	130	510	1010
	45-49		150	30	160	340
	50-54		80	20	80	180
	55-59		10	~	20	30
	Other Beliefs		110	100	60	280
	Under 18		~	~	-	~
	18-19		~	~	-	~
	20-24		20	20	10	50
	25-29		30	20	10	60
	30-34		20	30	10	60
	35-39		10	20	10	40
	40-44		10	10	10	30
	45-49		10	~	~	10
	50-54		~	-	~	10
	55-59		~	-	~	~
	Over 60		~	-	-	~
	Secularist		~	10	10	20
	20-24		-	-	~	~
	25-29		~	-	-	~
	30-34		~	~	~	~
	35-39		-	~	~	~
	40-44		-	~	~	~
	45-49		-	~	~	~
	50-54		~	~	-	~
	55-59		~	-	-	~
Unknown	Unknown		20	210	40	270
	Under 18		~	20	~	20
	18-19		~	50	~	60
	20-24		~	80	20	110
	25-29		~	30	10	50
	30-34		~	20	~	30
	35-39		~	~	~	10
	40-44		~	~	-	~
	45-49		-	-	~	~

	50-54	-	-	~	~
	Over 60	~	-	-	~
Grand Total		33850	82230	33200	149280
	Under 18	380	2180	200	2760
	18-19	1570	4730	1030	7340
	20-24	7000	16350	5370	28720
	25-29	6830	17000	5960	29790
	30-34	5920	15690	5900	27500
	35-39	4880	12430	5670	22980
	40-44	3170	8340	4210	15720
	45-49	2160	3490	2460	8110
	50-54	1510	1760	1850	5120
	55-59	400	230	540	1170
	Over 60	40	20	20	70

Notes and Caveats:

1. UK Regulars comprise Full time Service personnel, including Nursing Services, but excluding Full Time Reserve Service (FTRS) personnel, Gurkhas, mobilised
2. Religion and Religious requirement as reported on the Joint Personnel Administration system (JPA). Unknown includes those with an unrecorded religion, a
3. Ages are calculated as the difference between an individual's Date of Birth, and the strength date mentioned above, as recorded on the Joint Personnel Adm
Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10 in line with disclosure control policy. Figures ending in 5 are rounded to the nearest 20 to avoid bias, 5 or fewer i