



Ministry  
of Defence

Air Command Secretariat  
Spitfire Block  
Headquarters Air Command  
Royal Air Force  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire  
HP14 4U

Ref: 2020/02012

[REDACTED]

10 March 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of the 11 February 2020 requesting the following information;

1. Since 2007 how many males/females have passed the RAFFT first time broken down by sex and year?
2. Since 2007 how many males/females have passed the RAFFT after remedial training broken down by sex and year?
3. Since 2007 how many males/females have been discharged from the RAF for failing to pass the RAFFT broken down by sex and year?
4. Since 2007 how many males/females have remained downgraded and un-deployable broken down by sex and year?
5. Since 2007 how many legal actions have been brought against the MOD/RAF in relation to discharge for not passing the RAFFT and have any been successful?
6. How many serving personnel were in the RAF by year since 2007?

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, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, data have been rounded to the nearest 10, where "-" denotes zero and "~" denotes a number less than or equal to 5. Due to the rounding methods used, totals may not always equal the sum of the parts. When rounding to the nearest 10, numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

1. Information not held
2. Information not held

3. No males or females have been discharged from the RAF for failing to pass the Royal Air Force Fitness Test (RAFFT). The RAF do not discharge personnel for RAFFT failure. However, I am able to provide data relating to the number of personnel who have been discharged from the RAF for Fitness Related Matters, these include discharges that are fitness related or relating to an individual's attitude to personal fitness.

RAF Personnel Discharged for Fitness Related Matters

Date	Male	Female
2010	20	~
2011	20	~
2012	20	~
2013	20	~
2014	20	~
2015	~	~
2016	~	~
2017	~	~
2018	~	~
2019	~	~

4. The below table shows how many Medically non-deployable personnel there were on the 1 April for years 2010 to present

RAF Non-deployable personnel

Date	Male	Female
01/04/2010	2750	1190
01/04/2011	2760	1200
01/04/2012	2760	1110
01/04/2013	2510	1120
01/04/2014	2480	1120
01/04/2015	2430	1030
01/04/2016	2480	1140
01/04/2017	2210	1090
01/04/2018	2300	1010
01/04/2019	2440	1030

5. There have been no legal actions brought against the MOD/RAF in relation for not passing the RAFFT.

6. Section 21 - information accessible by other means, RAF personnel data can be found on the below websites. For data from April 2012 to present please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/quarterly-service-personnel-statistics-2019>

The statistics for earlier years can be found in the National Archives,

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140116145335/http://www.dasa.mod.uk/index.php/publications/personnel/military/quarterly-personnel-report>

Under Section 16 (advice and guidance), you may find the following information useful;

- Data is not recorded by gender for the RAFFT or remedial training, the RAF only records the total number of failed Fitness Tests per year.
- The RAF have two fitness tests, the first is the RAFFT and the second is the Rockport Walk Test (RWT). The RAFFT is undertaken by all eligible and fully fit personnel and comprises of a Multi Stage Shuttle Run, followed by press ups and sit ups. The RWT is undertaken by personnel aged 55, or those personnel carrying an injury who are unable to undertake the multi-stage shuttle run, it also requires personnel to undertake press-ups and sit-ups.
- Not all RAF personnel are eligible for fitness testing.
- It is not possible to provide data prior to 2010, this is due to a change in the reporting system and data prior to this date is not robust and therefore is not used for statistical purposes.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact us in the first instance at the address above. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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 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

Air Command Secretariat