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Reference: FOI2022/09608



Date: 29/09/2022

Dear

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 17/08/2022 requesting the following information:

"How many foreign and commonwealth citizens have served in the U.K. armed forces between the 11th September 2001 and the 1st of April 2022?"

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 I can confirm that some of the information in scope of your request is not held.

Specifically, we have no data held prior to 2007 for the nationalities of Royal Navy/Royal Marines and Royal Air Force personnel. As a result of we've only been able to provide data will show data beginning 1 April 2007 for these two services. Nationality is available for for Army personnel beginning 1 April 2001.

Tables 1 and 2 will be attached with this letter. Table 1 includes data for all three services from 2007 to 2022, and Table 2 includes Army data from 2001 to 2007.

## Table 1 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. Unless otherwise stated, includes trained and untrained personnel.
- 2. Nationality as recorded in the Joint Personnel Administration (JPA). Other Foreign is defined as those excluding from the UK.
- 3. The Commonwealth grouping includes all personnel with a nationality, as recorded on JPA at the time of publication, that is reported in the British Nationality Act 1981, SCHEDULE 3 (Countries Whose Citizens are Commonwealth Citizens), further information of which is available at http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/61/schedule/3. On the 12th November 2015, under the British Nationality (The Gambia) Order 2015, the Gambia was omitted from the Commonwealth. Figures relating

to personnel with a nationality, as recorded on JPA, of Gambian are still included in the Irish and Commonwealth grouping. For further information see http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/1771/contents/made.

4. 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 is represented by '~', 0 is represented by '-'.

## Table 2 Notes and Caveats:

- 1. The figures are for Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Home Service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, TA and all other Reserves.
- 2. Nationality is as recorded at the time period specified and not necessarily the same as at birth or when recruited.
- 3. Figures are a snapshot at the time period specified and are not a count of unique individuals. For example, an individual who was serving at Apr-01 may also be serving as at Apr-06 and would therefore be counted in both figures
- 4. 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 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 have any gueries 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). 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.

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 <a href="mailto:Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk">Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk</a>

Yours sincerely,

Analysis (Tri-Service)

Table 1: Strongth of UK Regular <sup>2</sup> personnel by Nationally <sup>2</sup> as at 1 April 2007 - 2022																
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Table 2: Foreign and Commonwealth individuals serving in Regular Army as at 1 April 2001-2006

Nationality	Apr-01	Oct-01	Apr-02	Apr-03	Apr-04	Apr-05	Apr-06
Commonwealth	1.430	1.760	2.410	4.150	5.410	6.040	6.410
Antiguan	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Australian	70	70	70	80	80	80	70
Bahamian	~	~	~	_	_	~	_
Banglalee	~	~	~	~	~	~	10
Barbadian	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Belizean	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Botswana	_	_	_	~	~	~	10
Cameroon	_	_	~	~	10	10	20
Canadian	70	70	70	60	60	60	60
Cypriot	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Dominican	~	~	~	~	10	10	10
Eireian	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Fijian	580	720	1,050	1,480	1,730	1,920	1,990
Gambian	10	10	20	40	60	70	80
Ghanaian	20	50	100	230	440	560	660
Grenadian	10	10	100	30	50	50	50
Guyanese	~	~	~	10	10	20	20
Indian	20	20	20	20	40	40	40
Jamaican	70	140	240	620	910	960	970
Kenyan	20	20	240	40	70	90	100
Malawi	20 ~	20	10	20	60	80	100
	~	~	10	20	~	10	100
Malaysian Maltese	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Mauritian	10	10	10	10	20	20	20
Namibian (Fmly SW African)	~	~	~	~	20	20	~
New Zealander	60	60	60	70	70	70	60
Nigerian	10	10	20	30	50	50	70
	10	10	10	10	10	10	
Pakistani	10	_	-	10	10	10	10
Pakistani (West)	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Papuan	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Rhodesian	_	_	~	~	~		
Seychellois		~				10	10
Sierra Leone	10		10	10	20 ~	40 ~	40 ~
Singaporean	420	470					
South African	130	170 ~	230	360	510	620	720
Sri Lankan	~	~	~	10	10	10	10 ~
St Kitts	~						
St Lucia		10	20	210	220	230	220
St Vincent	180	170	170	280	290	280	280
Swazi	-	-	-				10
Tanzanian	~	- ~	- ~	~	10	~	- 10
Tongan					10		10
Trinidadian	20 ~	20	30	50	60	70	70
Ugandan				10	20	30	40
West Indian	~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Zambian	~	140	100	10	10	20	20
Zimbabwean	80	140	190	390	530	560	560
Other Foreign	20	20	30	30	20	40	40
American	~ ~	~	~	~	~	~	~
Dutch	~	~	~	~	-	-	-
Egyptian		~			-	_	- ~
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Nepalese	10	10	10	10	20	30	30
Norwegian	~	~	~	~	-	-	-
Pacific Islander	~	~	~	~	~	~	-
Sudanese	-	-	-	~	-	-	-
Swedish	~	~	~	~	-	-	-
Swiss	-	~	~	~	~	~	~
Irish	210	190	190	180	190	190	190

**Caveats/Notes:**1. The figures are for Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Home Service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, TA and all other Reserves.

- $2. \ Nationality is as recorded at the time period specified and not necessarily the same as at birth or when recruited.\\$
- $3.\ Figures \ are a snapshot\ at\ the\ time\ period\ specified\ and\ are\ not\ a\ count\ of\ unique\ individuals.\ For\ example,\ an\ individual\ who$ was serving at Apr-01 may also be serving as at Apr-06 and would therefore be counted in both figures.
- 4. 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 is represented by '~'. 0 is represented by '-'.