



Ministry
of Defence

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Ministry of Defence
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Ref: FOI 2022/09492

08 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 10 August 2022 requesting the following information:

"Please can you provide, or signpost me to where I can find the following information;

- 1) city in England with largest number of veterans?
- 2) number of veterans residing in Manchester?
- 3) number of veterans residing in New Zealand? And Auckland City region."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held by the Department. Under Section 16 (Advice & Assistance) of the Act, you may find it useful to know the information that is already available in the public domain.

Defence Statistics Health publishes an annual bulletin on the location of armed forces pension and compensation recipients using postcode data from the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, War Pension Scheme and Armed Forces Pension Scheme. Table 3 of the Supplementary Tables includes a breakdown of recipients who are veterans by UK local authorities and metropolitan areas.

Table 2 contains a breakdown of recipients who are veterans by country, however we do not currently publish local level data for recipients located overseas.

Please note, information is only available on individuals who are in receipt of an Armed Forces pension and/or compensation and will therefore not be representative of all veterans in a given location. This information is also reliant on accurate postcode details being voluntarily supplied and updated by those in receipt of a pension and/or compensation.

The latest iteration was published on Thursday 25th August. The bulletin and supplementary tables from previous years can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/location-of-armed-forces-pension-and-compensation-recipients>

For the first time, the Census 2021 included a question asking respondents about their status as a veteran of the UK armed forces. The Office for National Statistics and the Office for Veterans Affairs are predicted to publish the data in late 2023 which will provide the most up-to-date and comprehensive breakdown available. More information on the publication schedule can be found at:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/aboutcensus/censusproducts/analysis/ukarmedforcesveteransanalysisplans>

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). 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

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