



Ministry  
of Defence

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Reference: **FOI2023/06508**

[Redacted]

Date: **22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023**

Dear [Redacted],

Thank you for your email received by the Ministry Of Defence on 24/05/2023 requesting the following information:

*I'm contacting you in regard to the annual location statistics: Location Statistics for UK Regular Armed Forces and Civilians: 2022 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)*

I work for Wiltshire Council, and would like to obtain the figure for **Army Personnel Total based in South West England, Wiltshire** at a smaller, sub-local authority area level. *I'm hoping you might be able to direct me to the correct part of the MoD to make this request?*

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 the information in scope of your request is held.

**Number of UK Regulars Army Personnel Stationed in Wiltshire by Area Board as at 1 January 2023.**

	<b>1 January 2023</b>
<b>Wiltshire</b>	<b>16,630</b>
Chippenham and Villages Area Board	530
Corsham Area Board	490
Pewsey Area Board	350
Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board	1,570
Salisbury Area Board	~
Southern Wiltshire Area Board	50
Stonehenge Area Board	6,070
Tidworth Area Board	6,680
Warminster Area Board	870
Westbury Area Board	20

Source: Analysis Tri-Service

**Notes and Caveats:**

1. UK Regular Army 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. Includes trained and untrained personnel.

2. The figures are based on service personnel's stationed location and not their location of residence – where personnel work isn't necessarily where they live. Personnel deployed on operations to an area away from their stationed location are shown against their most recent stationed location.
3. Area Boards are a way of working to bring local decision making into the heart of the community. There are 18 Area Boards across Wiltshire, with each one holding delegated powers and devolved budgets to facilitate community action at a local level. JPA Postcode data and a Postcode to Area Board Lookup table provided by Wiltshire Council has been used to identify which Area Board personnel are stationed in.
4. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10 to prevent inadvertent disclosure. However, numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest 20 to prevent systematic bias. Totals and its constituent numbers have been rounded separately, and so Totals may not equal the sums of their rounded parts. Figures between 1 and 5 inclusive are represented by '~' to prevent possible disclosure, and zero represented by "-".

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40(2) requires the Department to conduct a balancing exercise, this exercise involves balancing the rights and interests of individuals against the legitimate interests in disclosure, this is not the same as carrying out the public interest test associated with certain exemptions in FOIA. The balancing exercise is carried out in order to decide whether the absolute exemption in section 40(2) is engaged. In particular, there is no assumption of disclosure in the legitimate interests test, as there is with qualified exemptions. The outcome of the balancing exercise lay in withholding the third-party personal data identified in the attached 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.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.

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](mailto:Analysis-Tri-Service@mod.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Analysis (Tri-Service)