



Ministry of Defence

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Mr Scott Matter
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22 September 2021

Dear Mr Matter,

Thank you for your email of 11 August in which you requested the following information:

"1) Please can you state how many females are currently serving as infantry soldiers.

2) Please can you confirm how many females have attended ITC Catterick for phase one training and their subsequent pass rate."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held.

Table1. Number and proportion of Females and Males in Infantry Regiments in the Trade Trained Regulars as at 1st April 2021

	Number	Proportion
Total	18,020	
Female	40	0.2%
Male	17,990	99.8%

Source: Analysis (Army)

Notes/Caveats:

1. Figures are for the Trade Trained Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, Army Reserve and all other Reserves, but includes those personnel that have transferred from GURTAM to UKTAP.
2. Figures are for those whose Arm / Service is Infantry, this will exclude any attached arms serving within Infantry Battalion/Regiments.
3. Figures have been rounded to 10 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.
4. Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not appear to be the sum of their parts.
5. Unrounded figures are used in the calculation of percentages.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) it might be helpful to note that the Army is not due to meet Full Operating Capability in Women in Ground Combat until 2023.

Table 1. Total number of Regular Army Females who started Phase 1 Training at ITC Catterick in Financial Year (FY) 2019/20 and FY2020/21 and the number of those that completed Phase 1 Training and those still in Phase 1 Training as at 1 July 2021

	Rounded
Intake to Phase 1 at ITC Catterick	50
<i>of which completed Phase 1</i>	30
<i>of which still in phase 1 training at ITC Catterick</i>	~

Source: Analysis (Army)

Notes/Caveats:

1. The figures are for the Regular Army only and therefore exclude Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reserves, Army Reserve and all other Reserves.
2. There may be personnel who have passed Phase 1 Training since 1 July 2021
3. There are ~20 personnel who left the Regular Army before completion of training
4. Figures have been rounded to 10 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality; numbers ending in "5" have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.
5. "~" denotes fewer than 5.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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/>.

Yours sincerely,

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Army Policy & Secretariat