

# How Do You Compare?

## How do YOU compare to the average Marine on board *Constitution* in 1812?

### How tall are you?

The average height was 5' 7 ¼". The shortest Marine was 5' 1 1/8" and the tallest 6' 3".

### How old are you?

The average age was 26 years. The youngest Marine was 15, the oldest 41.

### Where were you born?

Nearly 70% of *Constitution's* Marines were born in the United States, and of those, 37% hailed from Massachusetts. Men from Ireland, Holland, Great Britain, Canada, and France also served in the ship's detachment.

### What color are your eyes?

The most typical eye color was blue.

### What color is your hair?

The majority of Marines had brown hair.

### What is your occupation?

Prior to joining about 40% of *Constitution's* Marines worked as artisans or craftsmen, including butchers, bakers, blacksmith, tailors, plasterers, shoemakers, silver platers, and coachmakers. Most of the other men were farmers or laborers before joining the Marines.

*This information is based on Marine Corps Size Rolls that recorded the personal information of recruits to aid in the recovery and identification of deserters.*

## How do YOU compare to the average Sailor on board *Constitution* in 1812?

### How tall are you?

The average height was 5' 6".

### How old are you?

The average age was 27 but a few were under 15 and over 50.

### What color are your eyes?

The most typical eye color was gray (shade of blue).

### What color is your hair?

The majority of sailors had brown hair worn short or tied back in a short queue (braid).

### Are you African American?

7-15% of sailors were free men of color.

### Do you have any tattoos?

5-10% of sailors had tattoos. Designs often included initials, anchors, hearts, or a cross.

### Do you have any marks?

A seafaring life left many sailors with scars, burns, and missing fingers.