



Ministry
of Defence

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21 August 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information

Thank you for your email of 12 July 2017 in which you requested the following information:

1. *'How many recruits attend the PRNC every year?
a. How many recruits of these recruits pass?
b. How many recruits of these recruits fail?'*
2. *What is the rate for Seagoing Local Overseas Allowance?*
3. *What is the average length of service on exit by each branch?*
4. *What is the average duration of service prior to promotion by rank and branch?*
5. *What is the percentage chance, by length of service of a member of the Royal Navy, of completing a full term of engagement (i.e. 18 years)?'*

Your enquiry is being treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. The information we are able to provide you with can be found detailed in the attached Annex to this letter.

With regard to the information you have requested under question 5, Defence Statistics cannot identify personnel by the length of their full term engagement, therefore it is not possible to provide the information requested. However, under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), we can provide the percentage chance of a Royal Navy Rating reaching a length of service up to 22 years, based on historic data which can also be found in the attached Annex. Please be advised however that this cannot be interpreted as the chance of completing a full term of engagement as the personnel included may have a different period as their length of full term engagement.

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.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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

1. How many recruits attend the PRNC every year.
 - a. How many recruits of these recruits pass?
 - b. How many recruits of these recruits fail?

The numbers of those booked to attend Pre-Royal Navy Course (PRNC) for the last 4 full recruiting years is shown at Table 1 below.

Table 1 Numbers booked to PRNC for the last 4 full years.
PRNC

	Attended	Attended - Referred	Failed to Attend
2013/2014	2024	104	11
2014/2015	2065	91	17
2015/2016	2124	162	30
2016/2017	1973	128	12

You should be aware that there is no Pass or Fail as such at PRNC, although there are elements, for example; the swimming test and the run test, which must be passed, however these results of such individual elements are not recorded in an easily accessible format. If the candidate fails any of the individual elements they will be given an overall result of Attended-Referred, and will need to repeat the PRNC before proceeding to entry.

2. What is the rate for Seagoing Local Overseas Allowance?

Local Overseas Allowance (LOA) as its name implies, varies from country to country. Seagoing LOA is 60% of the full LOA rate for whichever country the ship is located in.

3. What is the average length of service on exit by capbadge?

Table 2: Average length of service on exit by branch for Royal Navy Ratings.

Branch	Average length of service on exit
RN Engineer FAA	12.6
RN Engineer GS	12.3
RN Engineer SM	13.5
RN Logistics GS	12.9
RN Logistics SM	10.6
RN Medical GS	11.8
RN Medical SM	10.7
RN QARNNS	11.8
RN Warfare FAA	13.9
RN Warfare GS	10.8
RN Warfare SM	13.1

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

- FAA – Fleet Air Arm, GS – General Service, SM – Submariner, QARNNS – Queen Alexandra’s Royal Navy Nursing Service

4. What is the average duration of service prior to promotion by capbadge?

Table 3: Expected length of service on promotion by branch and rank for Royal Navy Ratings.

Branch	Expected length of service on promotion to the rank				
	OR-4 Leading Hand	OR-6 Petty Officer	OR-7 Chief Petty Officer	OR-8 Warrant Officer 2	OR-9 Warrant Officer 1
RN Engineer FAA	6.3	11.9	17.8	23.1	26.4
RN Engineer GS	5.3	10.1	14.6	20.7	23.6
RN Engineer SM	5.5	10.8	15.3	18.9	24.9
RN Logistics GS	7.4	13.8	19.4	N/A	24.9
RN Logistics SM	9.3	14.2	20.0	N/A	26.4
RN Medical GS	7.0	11.8	16.0	17.6	21.4
RN Medical SM	5.1	10.4	18.5	N/A	20.4
RN QARNNS	2.9	9.2	15.5	N/A	18.7
RN Warfare FAA	7.0	13.0	19.2	N/A	26.6
RN Warfare GS	6.7	12.4	18.7	21.3	24.1
RN Warfare SM	8.8	14.3	20.2	N/A	27.1

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

- Calculations in the table above are using historical data from the last 7 years (1 April 2010 to 1 April 2017). Historically personnel in some branches were promoted to OR-8 before being promoted to OR-9 however in the current career structure for all branches personnel are promoted straight from OR-7 to OR-9.
- Caution is advised when analysing or interpreting data for OR-8 and OR-9 as averages may be based on a small number of personnel.
- FAA – Fleet Air Arm
GS – General Service
SM – Submariner
QARNNS – Queen Alexandra’s Royal Navy Nursing Service

5. What is the percentage chance, by length of service of a member of the Royal Navy, of completing a full term of engagement (i.e. 18 years)?

The definition of a full term of engagement in the Royal Navy has changed over time. Personnel who entered the Royal Navy between 1 September 1982 and 31 October 2006 had a full term of engagement of 22 years, individuals who joined whilst under the age of 18 served to age 18 and thereafter completed the 22 years' service. Personnel who entered between 1 November 2006 and 31 March 2015 had a full term of engagement of 18 years, or until their 40th birthday, whichever is later. Currently personnel who join the Royal Navy have a full term of engagement of 20 years, or their 40th Birthday, whichever is later.

Table 4: The chances a New Entrant Royal Navy Rating will achieve a length of service of up to 22 years before exiting:

Start length of service	Chance of a New Entrant completing length of service
0	87%
1	82%
2	78%
3	73%
4	64%
5	56%
6	49%
7	43%
8	38%
9	34%
10	31%
11	29%
12	26%
13	24%
14	22%
15	21%
16	20%
17	19%
18	18%
19	18%
20	17%
21	17%

Source: Defence Statistics (Navy)

1. The majority of personnel within the data will be on contracts that require 22 years of service as their full term of engagement.
2. Length of Service in this table denotes the number of completed years served before exit. For example 5 years represents personnel who have served 5 full years but less than 6, before exiting.

Notes

Averages are produced using historical data from the time period 1 April 2010 – 31 March 2017.

Exiting denotes anything that results in an ending of Regular service e.g. time expiry, voluntary outflow, death etc.

Trained and untrained personnel have been included; therefore the figures will not be consistent with published Official Statistics.