



Ministry
of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Air)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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Ref: FOI2018/01630

[REDACTED]

26 February 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 31 January 2018 requesting the following information:

- 1. The percentage chance of reaching further service in the Pilot Branch (GD(P) for a new entrant (direct entrant/graduate).*
- 2. The average length of service in this Branch (I think this is referred to as Return of Service).*
- 3. The percentage chance of a direct entrant/graduate attaining promotion to further ranks and the average length of service on promotion to these ranks. As previously could you also provide the percentage chance of promotion between ranks, having already achieved the previous rank.*
- 4. The percentage chance of a new entrant pilot completing flying training and becoming combat ready.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the information you have requested has now been completed and I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds some information in scope of your request.

No recorded information is held regarding 'the percentage chance of a new entrant pilot completing flying training and becoming combat ready'. Under Section 16(1) of the FOI Act (the duty to provide advice and assistance) you may find it helpful to note that information is held regarding the number of personnel, in the Pilot branch, who become trained but this does not necessarily constitute being 'combat ready'.

The remainder of the information you have requested can be found in the Adobe (.pdf) file attached to the email.

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,

Head of Defence Statistics (Air)

Would you like to be added to our contact list so we can consult with you if we are thinking about making any changes to the statistics we compile? Please register your interest by e-mailing defstrat-stat-air@mod.uk

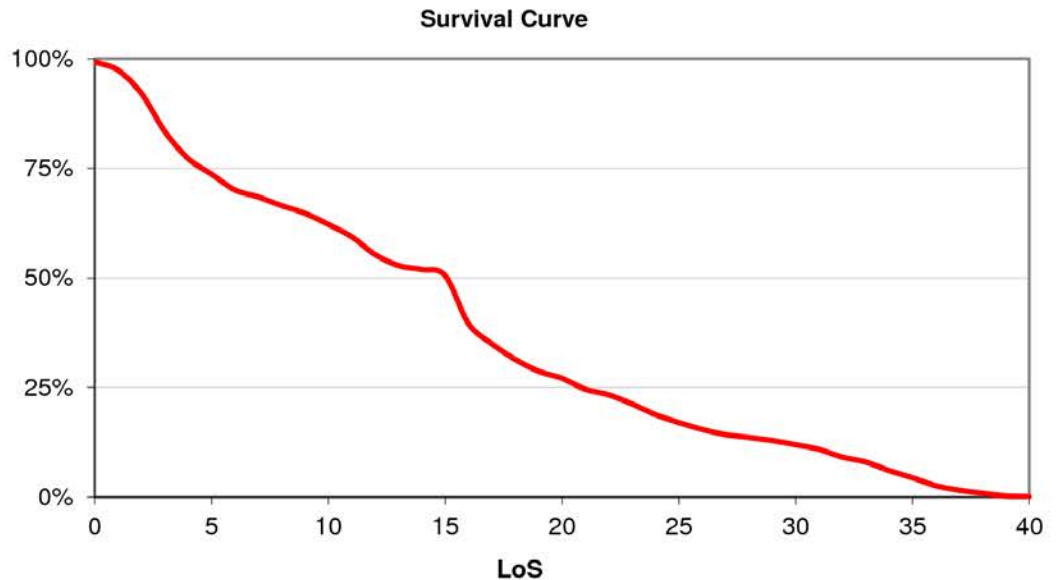
Career Projection for a New Entrant in the Pilot Branch

| LoS ¹ | % chance of reaching LoS |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 | 99% |
| 1 | 97% |
| 2 | 92% |
| 3 | 83% |
| 4 | 77% |
| 5 | 74% |
| 6 | 70% |
| 7 | 68% |
| 8 | 67% |
| 9 | 65% |
| 10 | 62% |
| 11 | 59% |
| 12 | 55% |
| 13 | 53% |
| 14 | 52% |
| 15 | 51% |
| 16 | 40% |
| 17 | 35% |
| 18 | 31% |
| 19 | 29% |
| 20 | 27% |
| 21 | 25% |
| 22 | 23% |
| 23 | 21% |
| 24 | 19% |
| 25 | 17% |
| 26 | 15% |
| 27 | 14% |
| 28 | 14% |
| 29 | 13% |
| 30 | 12% |
| 31 | 11% |
| 32 | 9% |
| 33 | 8% |
| 34 | 6% |
| 35 | 4% |
| 36 | 3% |
| 37 | 2% |
| 38 | 1% |
| 39 | 0% |
| 40 | 0% |

| | % chance of a New Entrant being promoted to subsequent ranks | % chance of promotion into rank, having already achieved the preceding rank ² | Average total length of service on promotion into rank |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| PLT OFF/FG OFF | 100% | | |
| FLT LT | 81% | 81% | 3 years 5 months |
| SQN LDR | 26% | 31% | 11 years 11 months |
| WG CDR | 12% | 45% | 17 years 3 months |
| GP CAPT | 5% | 45% | 23 years 1 month |
| AIR CDRE + | 3% | 55% | 27 years 10 months |

Average Return of Service³

17 years 8 months



¹ LoS 'x' means 'LoS greater than or equal to x but less than x+1'. So 'LoS21', for example, is the chance of personnel serving more than or equal to 21 years but less than 22 years.

² Chance of promotion having already achieved the preceding rank considers the branch as a whole and is not specific to LoS.

³ Average Return of Service is the average length of service on exit. It considers the branch as a whole and is not specific to rank or LoS.

Notes:

a. These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2010/11 – 2016/17. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - **New Entrants** in the **Pilot** branch - average career projections have been calculated.

b. Defence Statistics' career forecasts are not based on the actual experience of any one individual, but rather are based on the historical behaviour of individuals with similar characteristics.