



Ministry
of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Air)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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[REDACTED]

8 February 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 16 January 2019 requesting the following information:

"I would be grateful if you could assist me with DS (Air) statistics for a matter I am dealing with, the details of which are:

*Trade: Aviation Technician
Rank attained: Chief Technician
Length of service: 15 years 11 months.*

I wonder if you could provide me with pertinent statistics in this matter, given the above details using a 7-year span of data from 2010/11 to 2018/19. I am interested in figures regarding:

- *Average and median length of service.*
- *Average time taken/percentage chance to progress to each rank to Group Captain,*
- *Percentage chance of reaching LOS 15 through to LOS 30*
- *Average length of reckonable service on outflow for each rank.*

It would be most useful if it were at all possible for you to provide the same data for a new entrant to this specialism."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

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

Please note that the attached information is based on the 7 year span of data from 2011/12 to 2017/18 and not 2010/11 to 2018/19 as requested in your email.

It has also not been possible to provide the promotion information through to the rank of Group Captain as, within this trade, the highest achievable rank is Warrant Officer. In order to reach the rank of Group Captain an individual would have to apply for commission into one of the RAF's officer branches.

DS(Air) are not in a position to provide 'reckonable service' and therefore average length of service on outflow within the attached files is 'average *total* length of service on outflow'.

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 Chief Technician in the Aircraft Technician (Avionics) trade with 15 years length of service.

LoS ¹	% chance of reaching LoS
15	100%
16	94%
17	92%
18	87%
19	87%
20	87%
21	87%
22	74%
23	61%
24	50%
25	45%
26	40%
27	34%
28	30%
29	27%
30	18%

	% chance of being promoted to subsequent ranks	Average total length of service on promotion
CHF TECH	100%	
FS	27%	23 years 7 months
WO	10%	30 years 11 months

Average length of service ²	14 years 5 months
Median length of service ²	12 years

	Average return of service ³
CHF TECH	27 years 6 months
FS	32 years 10 months
WO	36 years 6 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 Average/Median Length of Service is the average length of service of personnel on strength. It considers all trained personnel within the trade and is not specific to rank or LoS.

³ Average Return of Service is the average length of service on outflow. It considers all trained personnel within the trade.

Notes:

- These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2011/12 – 2017/18. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - **Chf Tech's** in the **A Tech(Av)** trade with **15 years** LoS - average career projections have been calculated.
- On promotion to FS, A Tech M and A Tech Av personnel join the A Eng Tech trade. These figures include projections for all A Eng Tech Personnel.
- 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.