



**Head of Defence Statistics (Air)**  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

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Ref: FOI2019/04915

[REDACTED]

16 May 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 23 April 2019 requesting the following information:

“Statistics regarding the RAF Personnel Support Branch, specifically:

1. The percentage chance of reaching further service for a male new entrant.
2. The percentage chance of promotion for a new entrant to further ranks and average LoS on promotion to these ranks. Would you please also provide the percentage chance of promotion between ranks having *already achieved the previous rank?*”

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) file attached to the email.

On 1 October 2011 the Personnel (Support), Personnel (Training) and Personnel (Physical Education) branches were amalgamated into a single Personnel Branch. On 1 February 2016 the Personnel branch was then once again divided into the Support and Training specialisations. As the seven year span of data used to generate a projection covers both the amalgamation and subsequent division of the branch specialisations, the attached data pertains to the Personnel branch as a whole.

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](mailto: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)

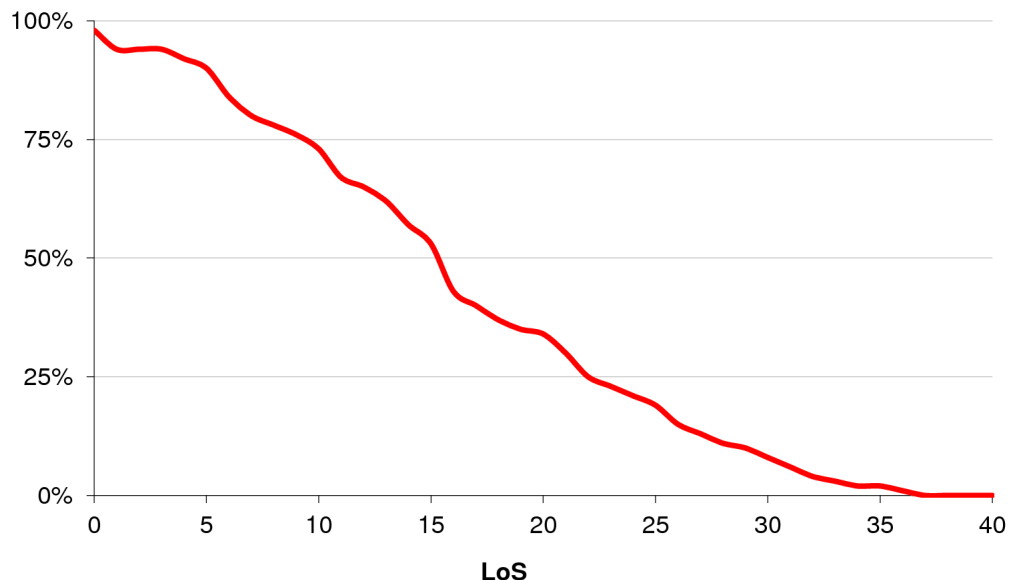
Would you like to be added to our contact list so we can consult with you if we are thinking about making any changes to the statistics we compile? Please register your interest by e-mailing [DefStrat-Stat-Air@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DefStrat-Stat-Air@mod.gov.uk).

## Career Projection for a *male* New Entrant in the Personnel branch

LoS <sup>1</sup>	% chance of reaching LoS
0	98%
1	94%
2	94%
3	94%
4	92%
5	90%
6	84%
7	80%
8	78%
9	76%
10	73%
11	67%
12	65%
13	62%
14	57%
15	53%
16	43%
17	40%
18	37%
19	35%
20	34%
21	30%
22	25%
23	23%
24	21%
25	19%
26	15%
27	13%
28	11%
29	10%
30	8%
31	6%
32	4%
33	3%
34	2%
35	2%
36	1%
37	0%
38	0%
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 <sup>2</sup>	Average <i>total</i> length of service on promotion into rank
PLT OFF/FG OFF	100%		
FLT LT	94%	94%	2 years 3 months
SQN LDR	51%	54%	11 years 10 months
WG CDR	16%	31%	16 years 10 months
GP CAPT	4%	23%	21 years 7 months
AIR CDRE +	1%	30%	25 years 7 months

**Survival Curve**



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

<sup>2</sup> 'Chance of promotion having already achieved the preceding rank' considers all male personnel in the branch and is not specific to LoS. It is based on trained and untrained male personnel within the branch.

**Notes:**

a. 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 - **male New Entrants** into the **Personnel** 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.