



Ministry  
of Defence

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

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Ref: FOI2020/00673

[REDACTED]

14 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 17 January 2020 requesting the following information:

*“Yearly statistical data of Early Termination rates within Trade Group 7 (formally TG9 and 12) as a branch and separately for RAF(U) Swanwick. I kindly request data for the last 5 years, including this year, for the following roles:*

*Air Operations (Systems) Officer*

*Air Operations (Officer) Officer*

*Air Operations (Control) Sergeant*

*Air and Space Operations Specialist (Flight Operations)*

*Air and Space Operations Specialist (Aerospace Systems)”*

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.

The ‘Air Operations (Officer) Officer’ Branch is not one that is recognised by the RAF but, given the other Branches/Trades listed, we have taken this to mean the Air Operations (Control) Branch.

With effect from 1 April 2018 the Aerospace Battle Management (ABM), Air Traffic Control (ATC) and Flight Operations (Flt Ops) Branches were amalgamated into the single Air Operations Branch with two specialisations: Air Operations (Control) and Air Operations (Systems). Air Ops (Control) absorbed the ATC Branch and some personnel from the ABM Branch. Air Ops (Systems) absorbed the Flt Ops Branch and the remaining personnel from ABM Branch. As a result of this, 5 years worth of historical data is not available for the specialisations separately but information regarding the Air Ops Branch as a whole has been provided.

The Air Operations (Control) Sergeant trade is also known as the Non-Commissioned Controller (NCC) trade and is referred to as such in the attached.

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.uk](mailto:defstrat-stat-air@mod.uk)

## FOI2020.00673

### Early Termination Rates for the Air Operations Branch<sup>2</sup> and Trade Group 7

	FY14.15	FY15.16	FY16.17	FY17.18	FY18.19
<b>AIR OPS CONTROL/SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>
<i>RAF(U) Swanwick</i> <sup>3</sup>	6.8%	1.9%	2.0%	6.0%	8.6%
<b>TG7 ASOS/ASOM(AS)</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>
<i>RAF(U) Swanwick</i> <sup>3</sup>	0.0%	0.0%	44.4%	53.3%	0.0%
<b>TG7 ASOS/ASOM(FO)</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
<i>RAF(U) Swanwick</i> <sup>3</sup>	6.1%	10.3%	15.5%	3.2%	6.1%
<b>TG7 NCC</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
<i>RAF(U) Swanwick</i> <sup>3</sup>	6.5%	4.7%	2.3%	10.2%	0.0%

<sup>1</sup> Early Termination Outflow includes personnel whose Exit Reason on JPA is listed for any other reason than End of Engagement.

<sup>2</sup> As at 1 April 2018 the ABM, ATC and Flt Ops Branches were amalgamated into the single Air Operations Branch. The Air Ops Branch has two specialisations: Air Ops (Control) and Air Ops (Systems). Air Ops (Control) absorbed the ATC Branch and some of the ABM Branch. Air Ops (Systems) absorbed the Flt Ops Branch and the remainder of the ABM Branch. DS (Air) are unable to identify which ABM personnel became which specialisation and therefore all three legacy branches have been grouped together into the AIR OPS (CONTROL/SYSTEMS) Branch.

<sup>3</sup> Personnel based at RAF(U) Swanwick have been identified using the JPA Location 'Southampton (Swanwick Lane)'