



Ministry  
of Defence

**Head of Defence Statistics (Air)**

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

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Ref: FOI2020.05068

[REDACTED]

20 May 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 28 April 2020 requesting the following information:

*Trade: Trade Group 1 Aviation Technician (Mechanical)*  
*Rank attained: SAC*  
*Length of service: 5 years 10 months*

*I wonder if you are able to 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 relating to:*

- *Average and median length of service.*
- *% chance of promotion into rank from LAC and each subsequent rank to WO*
- *% chance of promotion into rank from LAC through to WO, having already achieved the previous rank.*
- *Average total length of reckonable service on promotion into rank LAC through WO*
- *Average total length of service on outflow*
- *% chance, year on year, of serving through to LoS 40.*

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.

Please be aware that the attached information is based on the 7 year span 2012/2013 to 2018/2019 as the years quoted in your original request cover 9 years.

Please also note that 'average total length of reckonable service' is unavailable and that attached contains 'average total length of service'.

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.gov.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.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 [analysis-air@mod.uk](mailto:analysis-air@mod.uk)

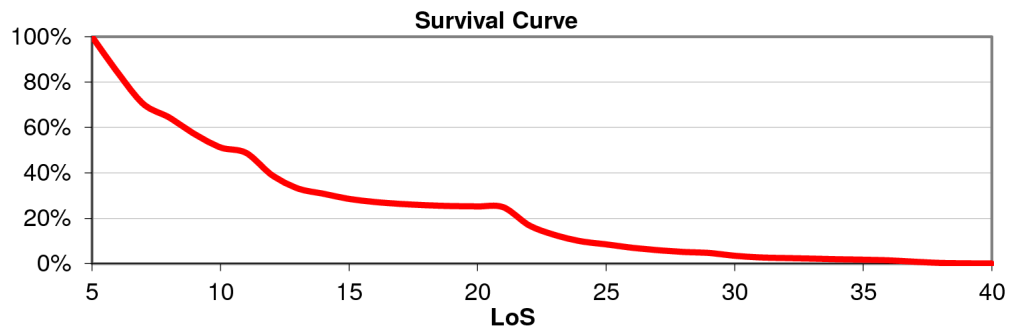
## Career Projection for a Senior Aircraftman in the Aircraft Technician (Mechanical) trade with 5 years length of service.

LoS <sup>1</sup>	% chance of reaching LoS
5	100%
6	84%
7	70%
8	64%
9	57%
10	51%
11	49%
12	39%
13	33%
14	31%
15	29%
16	27%
17	26%
18	26%
19	25%
20	25%
21	25%
22	17%
23	13%
24	10%
25	8%
26	7%
27	6%
28	5%
29	5%
30	3%
31	3%
32	2%
33	2%
34	2%
35	2%
36	1%
37	1%
38	0%
39	0%
40	0%

	% chance of an SAC with 5years LoS being promoted in to rank	% chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank <sup>2</sup>	Average total length of service on promotion in to rank for and SAC with 5years LoS
SAC	100%		
SAC(T)	73%	94%	6 years 10 months
CPL	43%	54%	9 years 9 months
SGT	23%	53%	15 years 7 months
CT	13%	54%	20 years 7 months
FS	4%	30%	25 years 6 months
WO	2%	46%	30 years 7 months

Average Length of Service<sup>3</sup>  
 Median Length of Service<sup>3</sup>  
 Average Return of Service<sup>4</sup>

14 years 2 months
13 years
19 years 1 month



<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 personnel serving more than or equal to 21 years but less than 22 years.

<sup>2</sup> 'Chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank' considers the trade as a whole and is not specific to LoS. It is based on trained and untrained personnel within the trade.

<sup>3</sup> Average & Median Length of Service are the average length of service of personnel on strength. It considers trained and untrained personnel within the trade and is not specific to rank or LoS.

<sup>4</sup> Average Return of Service is the average length of service on outflow. It considers trained and untrained personnel within the trade and is not specific to rank or LoS.

**Notes:**

- These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2012/13 – 2018/19. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - SACs in the **A Tech M** trade with **5 years** length of service - 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.