



Ministry
of Defence

Head of Defence Statistics (Air)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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Ref: FOI2020/05774

[REDACTED]

1 June 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 11 May 2020 requesting the following information:

Trade: Regiment Officer
Rank attained: Flight Lieutenant
Length of service: 8 years 11 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 Pilot Officer and each subsequent rank to Group Captain*
- *% chance of promotion into rank from Pilot Officer through to Group Captain, having already achieved the previous rank.*
- *Average total length of reckonable service on promotion into rank Pilot Officer through Group Captain*
- *Average total length of service on outflow*
- *% chance, year on year, of serving through to LoS 35.*

It would be most useful if it were at all possible for you to provide the same data for a new entrant officer to the Regiment branch, should it fall within the allowed research parameters.

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 7 year span of data covers 2012/13 – 2018/19 and **not** 2010/11 – 2018/19 as this would include nine years of data.

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). 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 Analysis (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

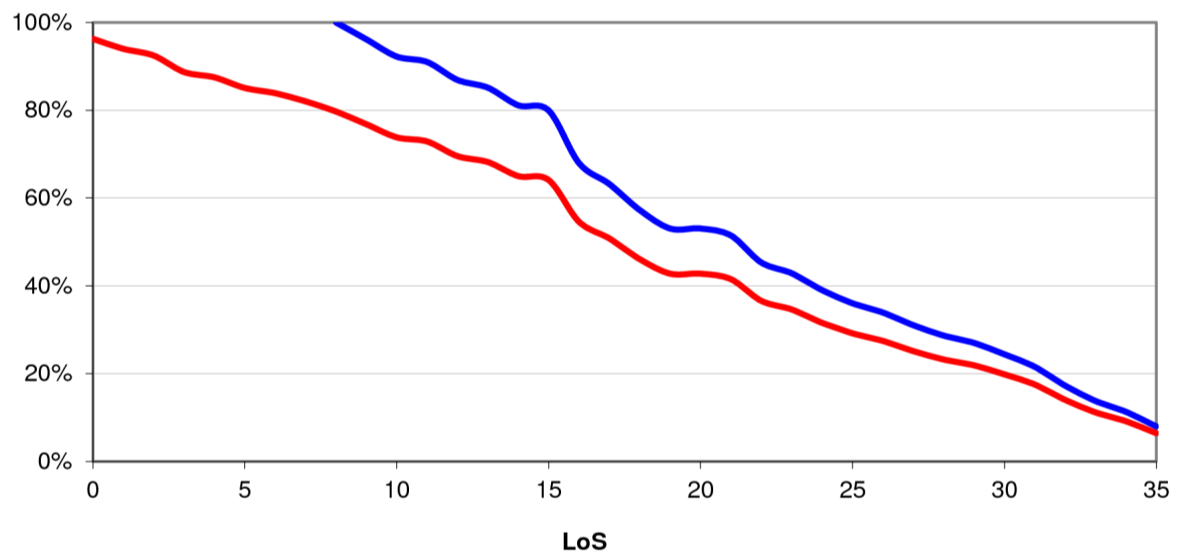
Career Projection for a New Entrant & Flight Lieutenant with 8 years length of service in the Regiment Branch.

LoS ¹	% chance of reaching LoS for ...		% chance of being promoted in to rank for ...		% chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank ²	Average total length of service on promotion in to rank for ...	
	New Entrant	Flt Lt with 8yrs LoS	New Entrant	Flt Lt with 8yrs LoS		New Entrant	Flt Lt with 8yrs LoS
0	96%						
1	94%						
2	92%						
3	89%		100%				
4	87%		84%	100%	84%	4 years 1 month	
5	85%		58%	72%	69%	12 years 10 months	13 years 3 months
6	84%		27%	33%	47%	17 years 10 months	18 years 3 months
7	82%		10%	12%	37%	24 years 5 months	24 years 5 months
8	80%	100%	5%	6%	50%	30 years 1 month	30 years 1 month
9	77%	96%					
10	74%	92%					
11	73%	91%					
12	70%	87%					
13	68%	85%					
14	65%	81%					
15	64%	80%					
16	55%	68%					
17	51%	63%					
18	46%	57%					
19	43%	53%					
20	43%	53%					
21	42%	51%					
22	37%	45%					
23	35%	43%					
24	32%	39%					
25	29%	36%					
26	27%	34%					
27	25%	31%					
28	23%	29%					
29	22%	27%					
30	20%	24%					
31	18%	22%					
32	14%	17%					
33	11%	14%					
34	9%	11%					
35	6%	8%					

Average Length of Service ³	13 years 4 months
Median Length of Service ³	12 years
Average Return of Service ⁴	19 years 1 month

PLT OFF/FG OFF
FLT LT
SQN LDR
WG CDR
GP CAPT
AIR CDRE +

Survival Curve



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 in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank' considers the branch as a whole and is not specific to LoS. It is based on trained and untrained personnel within the branch.

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

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

Notes:

a. 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 - **New Entrants** and **Flt Lts with 8yrs LoS** in the **RAF Regt** 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.