



**Head of Defence Statistics (Air)**

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

Shackleton  
No 1 Site, HQ Air Command  
Walters Ash  
HIGH WYCOMBE, HP14 4UE

Telephone [MOD]: **95221 6822**  
Telephone [Civ]: **01494 486822**  
E-mail: **Analysis-Air-Hd@mod.gov.uk**

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 21 August 2020 requesting the following information:

*Trade:* Trade Group 8 RAF Regiment (Gunner)  
*Rank attained:* SAC  
*Length of service:* 5 years 3 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 2011/12 to 2018/19. In particular, 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 for each rank*
- *% 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 to this trade.*

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 2013/14 – 2019/20 and **not** 2011/12 – 2018/19 as this would include eight years of data and would not include the most recent data available.

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 New Entrant and a Senior Aircraftman in the Gunner trade with 5 years length of service.

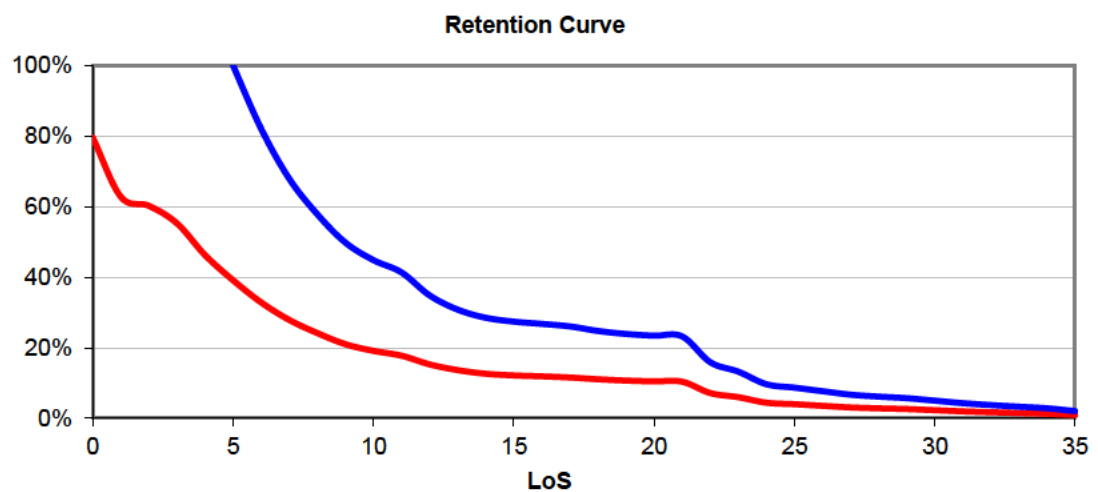
LoS <sup>1</sup>	% chance of reaching LoS	
	New Entrant	SAC with 5yrs LoS
0	80%	
1	63%	
2	60%	
3	55%	
4	46%	
5	39%	100%
6	33%	82%
7	28%	68%
8	24%	58%
9	21%	50%
10	19%	45%
11	18%	41%
12	15%	35%
13	14%	31%
14	13%	29%
15	12%	27%
16	12%	27%
17	12%	26%
18	11%	25%
19	11%	24%
20	10%	23%
21	10%	23%
22	7%	16%
23	6%	13%
24	4%	10%
25	4%	9%
26	4%	8%
27	3%	7%
28	3%	6%
29	3%	6%
30	2%	5%
31	2%	4%
32	2%	4%
33	2%	3%
34	1%	3%
35	1%	2%

	% chance of being promoted in to rank for ...		% chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank <sup>2</sup>	Average(mean) total length of service on promotion in to rank for ...	
	New Entrant	SAC with 5yrs LoS		New Entrant	SAC with 5yrs LoS
AC/LAC	100%		100%		
SAC	60%	100%	60%	1 years 3 months	
LCPL	24%	50%	39%	6 years 4 months	7 years 5 months
CPL	16%	35%	67%	9 years 0 months	9 years 8 months
SGT	7%	14%	41%	13 years 11 months	14 years 3 months
FS	4%	8%	56%	20 years 8 months	20 years 11 months
WO	1%	3%	36%	27 years 7 months	27 years 10 months

Mean Length of Service<sup>3</sup> 9 years 10 months  
 Median Length of Service<sup>3</sup> 7 years

Mean Return of Service<sup>4</sup>

LAC	Less than 1 complete year
SAC	5 years 1 month
LCPL	7 years 10 months
CPL	14 years 2 months
SGT	25 years 5 months
FS	29 years 12 months
WO	35 years 3 months



<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(Mean) & Median Length of Service are the average length of service of personnel on strength. It considers trained and untrained persc within the trade and is not specific to rank or LoS.  
<sup>4</sup> Average(Mean) Return of Service is the average length of service on outflow. It considers trained and untrained personnel within the trade.

**Notes:**

- a. These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2013/14 – 2019/20. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - **New Entrants** and **SACs** in the **Gnr** trade with **5 years** LoS - 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.