



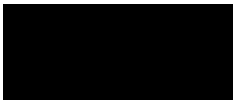
Head of Defence Statistics (Air)

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Ref: FOI2020/09856



29 September 2020

Dear 

Thank you for your email of 2 September 2020 requesting the following information:

I have been instructed in a case involving an RAF Other Rank Gunner RAF Regiment and I would be grateful if you might be able to provide statistical data relating to a new entrants % chance of:

- *Length of Service;*
- *Chance of promotion;*
- *strength and liability of the trade etc.*

In particular for a SAC Gunner who has completed 5 years 3 months service.

Also the percentage chance of commissioning and at what point that statistically happens; and the statistical chance of promotion as a commissioned officer.

In earlier requests I have made you also included the "Annual Compendium of RAF Manpower Statistics" and I would be grateful if I might have access to the most up to date version, which I understand is issued annually on 1 April and would be that of 1 April 2020.

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 strength as at 1 April 2020 of the RAF Gunner was 1440 with a workforce requirement of 1740.

We are unable to provide at what point commissioning statistical happens and the statistical chance of promotion as a commissioned officer after commissioning.

Please be aware that we are unable to provide the Annual Compendium of RAF Manpower Statistics April 2020, as it is not yet been published.

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 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

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

| LoS ¹ | % 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% |
| 36 | 1% | 2% |
| 37 | 0% | 1% |
| 38 | 0% | 0% |
| 39 | 0% | 0% |
| 40 | 0% | 0% |

| | % chance of being promoted in to rank for ... | | % chance of promotion in to rank, having already achieved the preceding rank ² | 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% | | | | |
| 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 |

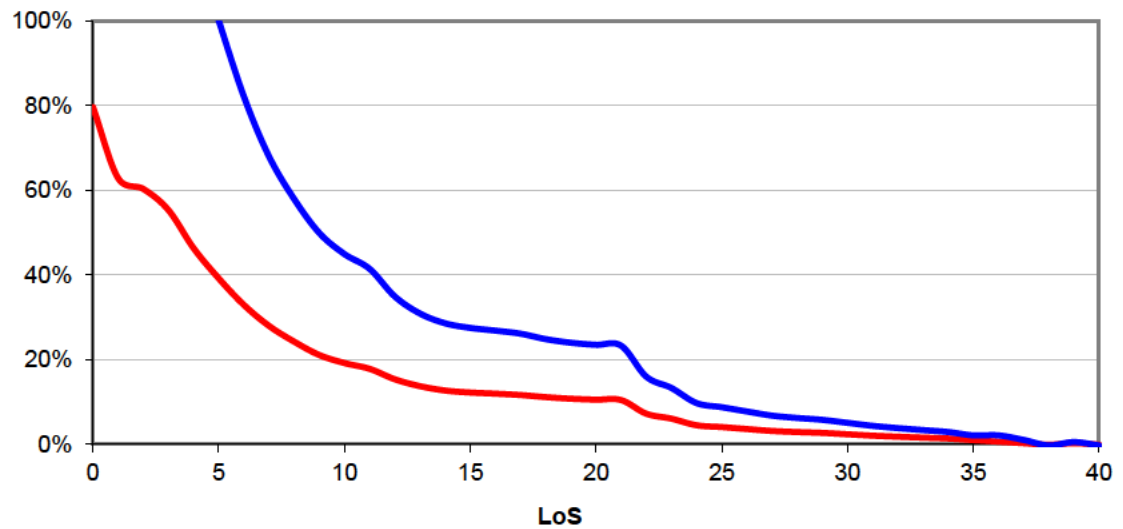
Average (mean) Length of Service³

% chance of commissioning for **New Entrant**

% chance of commissioning for **SAC with 5yrs LoS**

| |
|-------------------|
| 9 years 10 months |
| 3% |
| 6% |

Retention 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 trade as a whole and is not specific to LoS. It is based on trained and untrained personnel within the trade.

³ 'Average (Mean) Length of Service' is 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.

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.