



Head of Analysis 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 27 July 2021 requesting the following information:

I would be grateful if you could assist me with DS (Air) statistics for a matter I am dealing with, the details of which are:

Trade: TG 7 (RAF Aerospace Operations Specialist) (was TG 12)
Rank attained: Sgt
Length of service: 22 Years 8 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 2012/13 to 2019/20 (if not available then 2011/12 to 2019/18). In particular, I am interested in figures relating to:

- Average and median length of service
- Average time taken to progress to each rank (from enlistment) and percentage chance of promotion having already achieved the previous rank
- Average total length of reckonable service on promotion into rank from enlistment
- % chance, year on year, for service through to LoS 40

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, if within your budget limitations. I trust the above is clear, however, should you require any further detail or clarification please do not hesitate to contact me.

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) files attached to the email.

It is worth noting that span of data that you have requested above covers an 8-year period, and the current 7-year span of data, which has been used for the above request uses data from 2014/15 to 2020/21.

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 and a Sergeant in the Aerospace Systems trade with 22 years length of service.

LoS ¹	% chance of reaching LoS	
	New Entrant	Sgt with 22yrs LoS
0	96%	
1	94%	
2	92%	
3	88%	
4	76%	
5	69%	
6	62%	
7	55%	
8	52%	
9	47%	
10	46%	
11	44%	
12	40%	
13	38%	
14	37%	
15	35%	
16	33%	
17	32%	
18	31%	
19	31%	
20	30%	
21	30%	
22	25%	100%
23	23%	88%
24	21%	78%
25	19%	73%
26	18%	73%
27	17%	66%
28	15%	60%
29	14%	57%
30	10%	34%
31	9%	30%
32	9%	28%
33	7%	22%
34	6%	20%
35	6%	19%
36	4%	11%
37	2%	7%
38	1%	2%
39	0%	0%
40	0%	0%

	% chance of being promoted into rank for ...		% chance of promotion into rank, having already achieved the preceding rank ²	Average (mean) total length of service on promotion into rank for ...	
	New Entrant	Sgt with 22yrs LoS		New Entrant	Sgt with 22yrs LoS
AC/LAC					
SAC/SAC(T)	94%		94%	1 year 1 month	
CPL	54%		56%	6 years 6 months	
SGT	31%		52%	12 years 3 months	
FS/CHF TECH	16%	40%	51%	22 years 1 month	26 years 4 months
WO	8%	17%	49%	27 years 7 months	30 years 7 months

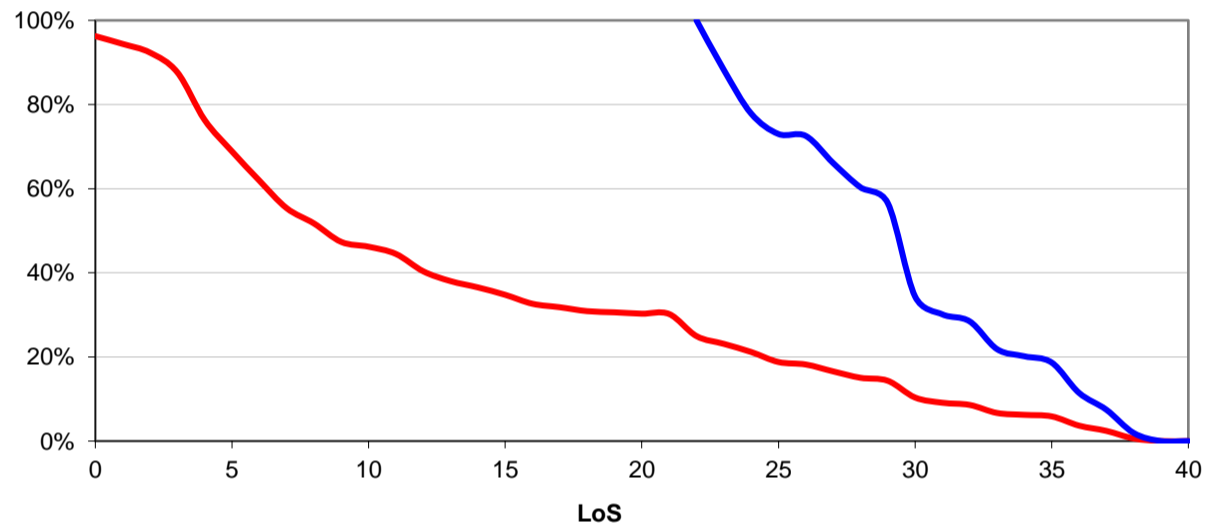
Average (mean) length of service³

11 years 11 months

Median length of service³

10 years

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 & 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.

Notes:

- These data are based on the seven year span of actual data 2014/15 – 2020/21. By considering a cohort of individuals with the similar characteristics - **New Entrants** and **Sergeants** in the **Aerospace Systems** trade with **22 years** LoS - average career projections have been calculated.
- Analysis Air' 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.
- Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number, in the case of 0%, it is not actually zero, just a very small number.