



Ministry  
of Defence



FOI2021/01231

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22 February 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 February 2021 in which you requested the following information:

'Air Engineering Officer

All data for the last 7 years please

1. For a New Entrant (Female):

- Length of Service (chance of survival) statistics from entry to 40 years
- Promotion:
  - o Chance of promotion to each rank from Lieutenant to Commander
  - o Expected length of service on promotion to each rank
  - o Expected length of service in each rank

2. If the same information above could be provided for an individual who has commissioned through the ranks via the Upper Yardman (UY) scheme, it would be greatly appreciated. However if this means that too much effort needs to be expended, then please disregard.'

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

A search for the information has been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held and is detailed at Annex A to this letter.

In response to question one, due to a small population in the source data for Female Air Engineering (AE) Officers we are unable to provide the requested information as there are

not enough personnel to provide reliable analysis. Therefore, under section 16 (Advice and Assistance) we have provided analysis for a New Entrant AE Officer regardless of gender which may be of interest to you.

In response to question two, we are unable to provide the requested analysis for personnel commissioned from the Other Ranks through the Upper Yardman scheme as the methodology does not enable them to be distinguished from Direct Entry Officers.

The analysis in Tables 1, 2 and 3 has been provided for a New Entrant AE Officer. New Entrant includes personnel who have joined the Royal Navy at the rank of OF-1 within the previous 12 months as at 1 April each year. The data provided for the chances of survival and chances of promotion are produced using historic data from 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2020. The use of seven years data reduces fluctuations caused by one-off factors and also covers a wider period of the economic cycle which may influence outflow. As the analysis is derived from historic data it will reflect policy measures over that time period and, therefore, may not be reflective of behaviour under current or future policy conditions. Caution should be taken when interpreting the analysis for higher ranks and longer lengths of service as this is a small population. Whilst the data is an accurate reflection of the chances of promotion and survival for the period used, data for different time periods could give very different results.

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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section

**ANNEX A**  
**to FOI2021/01231**  
**dated 22 February 2021**

**Table 1. The chance a New Entrant AE Officer will achieve each length of service (LOS) before exiting:**

Length of Service (years)	Chance of Completing Length of Service
0	96%
1	87%
2	81%
3	78%
4	77%
5	77%
6	72%
7	71%
8	70%
9	68%
10	63%
11	58%
12	54%
13	53%
14	49%
15	47%
16	45%
17	40%
18	36%
19	34%
20	34%
21	34%
22	31%
23	30%
24	28%
25	25%
26	23%
27	20%
28	19%
29	17%
30	16%
31	15%
32	13%
33	12%
34	11%
35	10%
36	8%
37 and above	5%

Source: Analysis (Navy)

1. Expected LOS is calculated by using the averages of historic data and represents full years of completed service.

- Exiting denotes anything that results in an ending of Regular service, e.g. time expiry, voluntary outflow, death etc.

**Table 2. The chance of promotion for a New Entrant AE Officer:**

Rank		Chance of Promotion to Rank
OF-2	Lieutenant	77%
OF-3	Lt-Commander	51%
OF-4	Commander	28%
OF-5	Captain	10%
OF-6	Commodore	5%
OF-7	Rear-Admiral	1%

Source: Analysis (Navy)

**Table 3. The expected LOS in rank, and expected LOS on promotion to rank in years, for a New Entrant AE Officer:**

Rank		Expected LOS in Rank	Expected LOS on Promotion to the Rank
OF-1	Sub-Lieutenant	3.5	N/A
OF-2	Lieutenant	8.4	4.2
OF-3	Lt-Commander	7.2	13.2
OF-4	Commander	6.1	19.4
OF-5	Captain	5.9	25.9
OF-6	Commodore	3.9	30.3
OF-7	Rear-Admiral	2.9	34.1

Source: Analysis (Navy)

- 'Expected LOS in rank' includes all exits from that rank, for example promotion to the next rank or exiting the Service.
- N/A is present because you cannot be promoted to OF-1.