



Ministry  
of Defence

Air Command Secretariat  
Spitfire Block  
Headquarters Air Command  
Royal Air Force  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire  
HP14 4UE

**Ref: FOI2020/06829; IR2020/09455**

Mr John Fuerst  
request-662186-d0884cd0@whatdotheyknow.com

**12 November 2020**

Dear Mr Fuerst,

Thank you for your correspondence of 14 October 2020 requesting a clarification of data tables that were provided as part of an Internal Review of your Freedom of Information request:

*“Thank you for this information. Can you clarify if the index scores (e.g., index A or AIS) are equivalent to T-scores (i.e., with a standard deviation of 10). If not, what are the expected standard deviations for the RAF aptitude test index scores? (For example, the Army ACT index scores us a SD of 10, making them T-scores).”*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for Informal Resolution. I have reviewed your request and I wish to advise you that the Airmen Selection Test (AST) Indices are not Trade scores. They are four individual elements that make up the summary scores of the whole selection test. RAF Trades are grouped into four family groups for testing purposes and calculations reflect the aptitude required for each. In the calculation of the index score, the stanine score of the relevant aptitude test is weighted, to reflect the relative importance of a particular aptitude to ensure training success for that trade family. For ease of interpretation, the calculated summary score is multiplied by a constant so that the score range of each index would be between 11 and 100. No one can score below 11 because the minimum stanine is 1. Generally, there is a normal distribution for each index, the mean of each is 55 and the standard deviation is about 15.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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 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,

[Original signed]

Air Command Secretariat