



ARMY APPRENTICES SCHOOL – HIGHEST ACHIEVING INTAKES

Over the years, many intakes have laid claim to being the highest achieving intake. These claims are mostly based on the numbers of their classmates who have risen to high ranks. It is unfair to compare intakes over the history of the AAS. The early intakes did not have the same opportunities as later intakes and those intakes during the Vietnam era had the greatest promotion prospects.

Based on simple raw data, however, the intakes who produced the most Warrant Officers were:

- 19th Intake – 49 (25.7 % of their class)
- 18th Intake – 47 (25.1 %)
- 25th Intake – 44 (23.9 %).

The Intakes who produced the most officers were:

- 15th Intake – 21 (17.6 % of their class)
- 13th Intake – 21 (14.6 %)
- 18th Intake – 27 (14.4 %).

The top five intakes who produced the most Apprentices to reach WO2 or higher were:

- 18th Intake – 74 (39.5 % of their class)
- 19th Intake – 73 (38.4 %)
- 17th Intake – 59 (35.1 %)
- 15th Intake – 41 (34.4 %)
- 25th Intake – 63 (34.2 %).

The most amazing achievement would have to be the 35th Intake. Even though they had a large number of Apprentices in their intake (274), they produced 34 officers, many of very senior rank:

- 1 x Major General
- 1 x Brigadier
- 4 x Colonels
- 7 x Lieutenant Colonels.

The 9th intake had the next highest number of senior officers:

- 1 x Colonel
- 8 x Lieutenant Colonels.

The Apprentice to achieve the highest rank is Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie, 23rd Intake Bricklayer, past AAAA Patron, who was Chief of Army from 2008 until his retirement in 2011.

The Apprentice to reach the rank of WO1 in the shortest time is Hanna Andrews, a 17th Radio Mechanic, who made WO1 at age 27.

Statistics from Wally Rotow, 18th Intake.
As at 04th October 2016