

The 20 fastest-promoting career fields, based on Air Force Times analysis of eight years of promotion data to find which Air Force specialty codes consistently had the shortest average time-in-grade:

AFSC	AFSC name	Number of times that AFSC appeared as fastest-promoting based on time-in-grade of airmen promoted					
		E-5	E-6	E-7	E-8	E-9	Total
3E9X1	Emergency management*	--	4	1	7	--	12
1N1X1	Geospatial intelligence*	3	2	5	1	--	11
1C2X1;1C2X0	Combat control*†	--	--	3	3	5	11
1U0X1	RPA sensor operator*	--	3	4	3	--	10
1T0X1	SERE training†	1	1	2	5	--	9
3E6X1	Operations management*	1	2	3	2	--	8
8G000	Honor guard	3	5	--	--	--	8
1A8X1	Airborne crypto language analyst*†	2	4	2	--	--	8
1C7X1	Airfield management*	--	--	2	6	--	8
9S100	Scientific applications specialist*	3	--	--	3	1	7

1C5X1	Aerospace control/warning systems*	2	3	2	--	--	7
4N1X1	Surgical service*	4	1	1	--	--	6
1A8X2	Airborne ISR*†	--	5	1	--	--	6
1C1X1	Air traffic control	--	2	2	2	--	6
1N3X1	Cryptologic language analyst*	1	5	--	--	--	6
1N4X1	Fusion analyst*†	2	3	--	1	--	6
3E8X1	EOD*†§	--	--	1	4	--	5
4H0X1	Cardiopulmonary laboratory*	1	2	2	--	--	5
1C4X1	TACP*†	--	--	4	1	--	5
1T2X1	Pararescue*†‡	--	3	2	--	--	5

\* Eligible for retraining in 2013; † Eligible for selective re-enlistment bonus; § Eligible for critical skills retention bonus; ‡ Eligible for retraining in 2015

Source: Air Force Times research