# ‘

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

[Jump to navigation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#mw-head) [Jump to search](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#p-search)

|  |
| --- |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4e/Roman_Military_banner.svg/100px-Roman_Military_banner.svg.png |
| Part of [a series](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Military_of_ancient_Rome) on the |
| [**Military of ancient Rome**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_of_ancient_Rome)  [753 BC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Founding_of_Rome) – [AD 476](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fall_of_the_Western_Roman_Empire) |
| [Structural history](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_history_of_the_Roman_military)[[show]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) |
| [Campaign history](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campaign_history_of_the_Roman_military)[[show]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) |
| [Technological history](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technological_history_of_the_Roman_military)[[show]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) |
| [Political history](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_history_of_the_Roman_military)[[show]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) |
| [Strategy and tactics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strategy_of_the_Roman_military)[[show]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) |
| [Frontiers and fortifications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_military_frontiers_and_fortifications)[[show]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) |
| **[Scutum 1.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Scutum_1.jpg)**[**Military of ancient Rome portal**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Military_of_ancient_Rome) |
| * [v](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template:Ancient_Rome_military_sidebar) * [t](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template_talk:Ancient_Rome_military_sidebar) * [e](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Template:Ancient_Rome_military_sidebar&action=edit) |

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_coins_sestertius_Nero_countermark_X_Legion_Gemina.jpg)

[Nero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nero), Sestertius with countermark "X" of Legio X Gemina.  
Obv: Laureate bust right.  
Rev: Nero riding horse right, holding spear, DECVRSIO in exergue; S C across fields.

This is a **list of** [**Roman legions**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion), including key facts about each legion, primarily focusing on the [Principate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principate) (early Empire, 27 BC – 284 AD) legions, for which there exists substantial literary, epigraphic and archaeological evidence.

Main article: [Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army)

Main article: [Imperial Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_Roman_army)

Main article: [Roman legion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion)

When [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) became sole ruler in 31 BC, he disbanded about half of the over 50 legions then in existence. The remaining 28 legions became the core of the early Imperial army of the [Principate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principate) (27 BC – 284 AD), most lasting over three centuries. Augustus and his immediate successors transformed legions into permanent units, staffed by entirely career soldiers on standard 25-year terms.

During the [Dominate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominate) period (near the end Empire, 284–476), legions were also professional, but are little understood due to scarcity of evidence compared to the Principate. What is clear is that late legions were radically different in size, structure, and tactical role from their predecessors, despite several retaining early period names. This was the result of the military reforms of Emperors [Diocletian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diocletian) and [Constantine I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constantine_I), and of further developments during the 4th century.

The legions were identified by [Roman numerals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_numerals), though the spelling sometimes differed from the modern "standard". For example, in addition to the spellings "IV", "IX", "XIV", "XVIII" and "XIX", the respective spellings "IIII", "VIIII", "XIIII", "XIIX" and "XVIIII" were commonly used.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#cite_note-1)

**Contents**

* [1 Late Republican legions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Late_Republican_legions)
* [2 Early Empire legions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Early_Empire_legions)
  + [2.1 Legend](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Legend)
* [3 Late Empire legions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Late_Empire_legions)
* [4 See also](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#See_also)
* [5 Notes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Notes)
* [6 References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#References)
  + [6.1 Primary sources](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Primary_sources)
  + [6.2 Secondary sources](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Secondary_sources)
* [7 External links](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#External_links)

**Late Republican legions**

Until the [Marian reforms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marian_reforms) of 107 BC, the [Republican](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Republic) legions were formed by compulsory levy of Roman citizens (who met a minimum property qualification) and raised whenever it was necessary. Usually they were authorized by the [Roman Senate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Senate), and were later disbanded.

[Gaius Marius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaius_Marius)' reforms transformed legions into standing units, which could remain in being for several years, or even decades. This became necessary to garrison the Republic's now far-flung territories. Legionaries started large-scale recruiting of volunteer soldiers enlisted for a minimum term of six years and a fixed salary, although conscription was still practiced. The property requirements were abolished by Marius, so that the bulk of recruits were henceforth from the landless citizens, who would be most attracted to the paid employment and land offered after their service.

In the last century of the Republic, [proconsuls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proconsul) governing frontier provinces became increasingly powerful. Their command of standing legions in distant and arduous military campaigns resulted in the allegiance of those units transferring from the Roman state to themselves. These *imperatores* (lit: victorious generals, from the title [imperator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperator) they were hailed with by their troops) frequently fell out with each other and started civil wars to seize control of the state. e.g. [Sulla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sulla), [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar), [Pompey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pompey), [Crassus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Licinius_Crassus), [Mark Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony) and Octavian (later [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus), the first Emperor himself). In this context, the *imperatores* raised many legions that were not authorised by the Senate, sometimes having to use their own resources. As civil wars were resolved, many of these "private" units would be disbanded, only for more to be raised to fight the next civil war. By the time Augustus emerged as sole ruler of Rome in 31BC, over 50 legions were in existence, many of which were disbanded.

The legions included in the following list had a long enough history to be somehow remarkable. Most of them were levied by Julius Caesar and later included into [Octavian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus)'s army, some of them were levied by Marc Antony.

* [Legio I *Germanica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Germanica) (*Germanic*): 48 BC–70 ([Revolt of the Batavi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolt_of_the_Batavi)), [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar)
* [Legio II *Sabina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Augusta) (*Sabine*): 43 BC to circa 9 AD, early name of the [Legio II *Augusta*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Augusta)
* [Legio III *Cyrenaica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Cyrenaica) (*from Cyrene*): probably around 36 BC to (at least) 5th century, [Mark Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony)
* [Legio III *Gallica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Gallica) (*Gallic*): around 49 BC to at least early 4th century, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) (emblem: [bull](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taurus_(astrology)))
* [Legio IV *Macedonica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Macedonica) (*Macedonian*): 48 BC–70 (disbanded by [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian)), [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) (emblem: [bull](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taurus_(astrology)), [capricorn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capricorn_(astrology)))
* [Legio IV *Scythica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Scythica) (*from Scythia*): around 42 BC to at least early 5th century, [Mark Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony) (emblem: [capricorn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capricorn_(astrology)))
* [Legio V *Alaudae*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_V_Alaudae) (*Larks*): 52 BC–86 (destroyed by the Dacians in the [first Battle of Tapae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domitian%27s_Dacian_War#The_defeat_of_Cornelius_Fuscus)), [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) (emblem: [elephant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elephant))
* [Legio VI *Ferrata*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Ferrata) (*Ironclad*): 52 BC to after 250, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) (emblem: [bull](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taurus_(astrology)), [she-wolf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lupercal) and [Romulus and Remus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romulus_and_Remus)); twin legion of [Legio VI *Victrix*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Victrix)
* [Legio VI *Victrix*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Victrix) (*Victorious*): 41 BC to after 402, [Octavian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) (emblem: [bull](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taurus_(astrology)))
* [Legio VII *Claudia Pia Fidelis*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VII_Claudia) (*loyal and faithful to Claudius*): 51 BC–44 BC, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar); disbanded and re-formed by [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian) as [Legio VII *Gemina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VII_Gemina)
* [Legio VIII *Augusta*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VIII_Augusta): 59 BC–48 BC, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar), disbanded and re-enlisted by Augustus as [Legio VIII *Augusta*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VIII_Augusta)
* [Legio IX *Hispana*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IX_Hispana) *Triumphalis* (*Triumphant*): 59 BC–48 BC, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar), disbanded and re-enlisted by Augustus as [Legio IX *Hispana*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IX_Hispana)
* [Legio X *Fretensis*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_X_Fretensis) (*of the sea strait*): levied by [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) in 41/40 BC
* [Legio X Equestris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_X_Equestris) (*Equestrian*): before 58 BC–45 BC, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar)'s personal legion
* [Legio XI](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XI) Claudia: 58 BC–45 BC, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) (emblem: [Neptune](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neptune_(mythology))), disbanded, reconstituted by Augustus
* [Legio XII *Victrix*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/XII_Fulminata) (*Victorious*): 57 BC–45, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar)
* [Legio XII *Fulminata*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XII_Fulminata) (*Thunderbolt*): after being renamed by Augustus, first reconstituted by [Lepidus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Aemilius_Lepidus_(triumvir)) in 43 BC, named by [Mark Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony) as Legio XII *Antiqua* (*Ancient*)
* [Legio XIII *Gemina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XIII_Gemina) (*Twin*): 57 BC–45 BC: [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar), later (41 BC) reconstituted by Augustus
* [Legio XIV *Gemina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XIV_Gemina) (*Twin*): 57 BC–48 BC: [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar), destroyed and reconstituted in 53 BC. Reconstituted by Augustus after 41 BC
* [Legio XVIII *Libyca*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XVIII) (*from Libya*): disbanded 31 BC, [Mark Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony)
* [Legio XXX *Classica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Legio_XXX_Classica&action=edit&redlink=1) (*Naval*): 48 BC–41 BC, [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar)

**Early Empire legions**

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_Empire_125.png)

The Roman empire and legions deployed in 125 AD, in the time of emperor [Hadrian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadrian).

Code for Roman provinces in the table:

* AEG [Aegyptus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aegyptus) (*Egypt*)
* AFR [Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Africa_proconsularis) (*Tunisia/Western Libya*)
* AQ [Aquitania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallia_Aquitania) (*SW France*)
* AR [Arabia Petraea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabia_Petraea) (*Jordan/Sinai*)
* BRIT [Britannia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Britain) (*England/Wales*)
* CAP [Cappadocia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cappadocia) (*Central/Eastern Turkey*)
* DC [Dacia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dacia) (*Romania/Serbia*)
* DLM [Dalmatia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalmatia_(Roman_province)) (*Croatia/Bosnia/Serbia*)
* GAL [Galatia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galatia) (*Central Turkey*)
* GI [Germania Inferior](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germania_Inferior) (*Netherlands/Rhineland*)
* GS [Germania Superior](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germania_Superior) (*Alsace-Lorraine/Rhineland*)
* HISP [Hispania Tarraconensis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispania_Tarraconensis) (*Central Spain*)
* IT [Italia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italia_(Roman_province)) (*Italy*)
* JUD [Judaea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iudaea_Province) (*Israel/Palestine*)
* MAUR [Mauretania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauretania) (*Western Maghreb*)
* MCD [Macedonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macedonia_(Roman_province)) (*Southern Balkans*-Greece)
* MI [Moesia Inferior](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moesia) (*Romania/Bulgaria*)
* MS [Moesia Superior](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moesia) (*Serbia*)
* NR [Noricum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noricum) (*Austria*)
* PAN [Pannonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pannonia) (*Hungary/Croatia/Slovenia*)
* RT [Raetia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raetia) (*Switzerland/Germany*)
* SYR [Syria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syria_(Roman_province)) (*Syria/Lebanon*)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Roman legions of the early Empire (units founded between 59 BC and 250 AD) | | | | | | |
| **Legion no. and title (cognomen)** | **Main legionary base** | **Emblem** | **Date founded/ founder** | **Date disbanded** | ***Castra legionaria* (legion bases)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions" \l "cite_note-legionaryfortresses.info-2) *\* = main base. Start date 31BC if unspecified*** | **Notes** |
| [I Adiutrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Adiutrix) | [Szőny](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sz%C5%91ny), Hungary | [Capricorn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capricorn_(astrology)) | 68 [Nero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nero) | 444 | 70-86 [Moguntiacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moguntiacum) (GS); 86–mid-5th century [Brigetio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sz%C5%91ny)\* (PAN) | "1st Auxiliary". Was *I classica* (raised from marines) |
| [I Germanica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Germanica) | [Bonn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonn), Germany | Bull | 48 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | 70 **DD** | to 16 BC HISP; c.5 BC-70 AD [Bonna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonn)\* (GI) | Disbanded for cowardice in [Batavi revolt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolt_of_the_Batavi) |
| [I Italica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Italica) | [Svishtov](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Svishtov), Bulgaria | Boar | 66 [Nero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nero) | post 400 | 70-early 5th century [Novae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Novae)\* (MI) | *prima Italica*:raised for aborted [Caucasus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caucasus) war |
| [I Macriana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Macriana_liberatrix) |  |  | 68 [Macer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucius_Clodius_Macer) | 69 **DD** | (Raised for mutiny against [Nero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nero) by Macer, gov of AFR) | *liberatrix*: "Liberator 1st". Disbanded by [Galba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galba) |
| [I Minervia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Minervia) | [Bonn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonn), Germany | [Minerva](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minerva) | 82 [Domitian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domitian) | post 300 | 82-4th century [Bonna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bonn)\* (GI) | "Minerva-revering 1st" |
| [I Parthica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Parthica) | [Sinjar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sinjar), Iraq | [Centaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centaur) | 197 [S. Severus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Septimius_Severus) | post 400 | 197-early 5th century [Nisibis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nisibis)\* (SYR) | Raised for Severus' Parthian campaign in 197 |
| [II Adiutrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Adiutrix) | [Budapest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Budapest), Hungary | Capricorn | 70 [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian) | 269+ | 70-87 BRIT; 87-106 MS; 106-min269 [Aquincum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquincum)\* (PAN) | "2nd Auxiliary." Ex-naval legion. |
| [II Augusta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Augusta) | [Caerleon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caerleon), Wales | Capricorn | pre 9 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 300 | to c.9 AD HISP; 43-74 BRIT; 74-min255 [Isca Augusta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isca_Augusta)\* (BRIT) | Failed to engage Boudica 60. c.395 at [Rutupiae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rutupiae) (BRIT) |
| [II Italica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Italica) | [Enns](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enns_(city)), Austria | She-Wolf | 165 [M Aurelius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Aurelius) | post 400 | 180-c.400 [Lauriacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enns_(city))\* (NR) | [Capitoline Wolf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capitoline_Wolf) Rome's national emblem |
| [II Parthica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Parthica) | [Castra Albana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Albana), Italy | Centaur | 197 [S. Severus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Septimius_Severus) | post 350 | 197-218 [Castra Albana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Albana) (IT); 218-34 [Apamea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apamea_(Syria)) (SYR); 238-c.300 [Castra Albana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Albana)(IT) | 4th century recorded at [Bezabde](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bezabde) (SYR) |
| [II Traiana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Traiana_Fortis) | [Alexandria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandria), Egypt | [Hercules](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hercules) | 105 [Trajan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan) | post 400 | 125-5th century [Nicopolis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicopolis)\* (AEG) | *secunda fortis* "Trajan's valliant 2nd" |
| [III Augusta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Augusta) | [Batna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batna_City), Algeria | [Pegasus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pegasus) | 43 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 350 | to 20 AD AFR; 20-75 [Ammaedara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ammaedara) 74-350+ [Lambaesis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lambaesis)\* (MAUR) | [Decimated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decimation_(Roman_army)) for cowardice in [Mauri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tacfarinas) war (18 AD) |
| [III Cyrenaica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Cyrenaica) | [Busra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Busra), Syria |  | 36 BC [M Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony) | post 400 | to 35 AD [Thebes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thebes,_Egypt) 35-125 [Alexandria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandria) AEG; 125-5th century [Bostra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bostra)\* AR | "3rd from [Cyrene](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyrene,_Libya)" |
| [III Gallica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Gallica) | [Abila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abila_(Decapolis)), Jordan | Two Bulls | 49 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | post 300 | 31 BC-4th century [Raphana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raphana)\* (SYR) | *tertia Gallica*: "3rd from Gaul" |
| [III Italica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Italica) | [Regensburg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regensburg), Germany | Stork | 165 [M Aurelius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Aurelius) | post 300 | 165-4th century [Castra Regina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regensburg)\* (RT) | Raised for war on [Marcomanni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcomanni) |
| [III Parthica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Parthica) | [Ra's al-'Ayn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ras_al-Ayn,_al-Hasakah), Syria | Bull | 197 [S. Severus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Septimius_Severus) | post 400 | 197-4th century [Resaena](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resaena)\* (SYR) | Raised for Severus' Parthian campaign in 197 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Legion no. and title (cognomen)** | **Main legionary base** | **Emblem** | **Date founded/ founder** | **Date disbanded** | ***Castra legionaria* (legion bases)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions" \l "cite_note-legionaryfortresses.info-2) *\* = main base. Start date 31BC if unspecified*** | **Notes** |
| [IV Flavia Felix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Flavia_Felix) | [Belgrade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belgrade), [Serbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serbia) | Lion | 70 [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian) | pre 400 | 86-4th century [Singidunum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Singidunum)\* (MS) | Vespasian's lucky 4th. Reformed *IV Macedon* |
| [IV Macedonica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Macedonica) | [Mainz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mainz), Germany | Bull | 48 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | 70 **DD** | to 43 AD HISP; 43-70 [Moguntiacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moguntiacum)\* (GS) | Disbanded in [Batavi revolt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Batavian_rebellion) |
| [IV Scythica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Scythica) | [Gaziantep](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaziantep), Turkey | Capricorn | 42 BC [M Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony) | post 400 | to 58 AD MS; 68-5th century [Zeugma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zeugma,_Commagene)\* (SYR) | *quarta scythica*: "Scythian-conquering 4th" |
| [V Alaudae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_V_Alaudae) | [Xanten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xanten), Germany | Elephant | 52 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | 87 **XX** | to 19 BC HISP; c.10 BC-70 AD [Castra Vetera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Vetera)\* (GI) | "Larks 5th" Feathers in helmet? XX by [Dacians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dacians) |
| [V Macedonica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_V_Macedonica) | [Turda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turda), Romania | Eagle | 43 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 500 | 6-101 [Oescus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oescus), 107-61 [Troesmis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Troesmis) (MI); 166-274 [Potaissa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Potaissa)\* (DC) | *quinta macedonica*: "5th from Macedonia" |
| [VI Ferrata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Ferrata) | [Galilee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galilee), Israel | She-Wolf | 58 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | 250+ **UF** | to 71 AD [Raphana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raphana) (SYR); 135-250+ [Caparcotna](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Caparcotna&action=edit&redlink=1)\* (JUD) | "Ironclad 6th". XX at [Battle of Edessa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Edessa) 260? |
| [VI Hispana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Hispana) |  |  | post 212 | 250+ **UF** | unknown | Only 1 record. XX at [Battle of Abrittus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Abrittus) 251? |
| [VI Victrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Victrix) | [York](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/York), England | Bull | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 400 | to 70 AD [Leon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Le%C3%B3n,_Spain) HISP; 71-122 GI; 122-c.400 [Eburacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eburacum)\* BRIT | "Victorious 6th" built [Hadrian's Wall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadrian%27s_Wall) 122-32 |
| [VII Claudia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VII_Claudia) | [Kostolac](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kostolac), [Serbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serbia) | Bull | 58 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | c.400 | to 9 AD GAL; 9-58 DLM; 58-c.400 [Viminacium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viminacium)\* (MS) | *septima Claudia*: title for crushing mutiny 42 |
| [VII Gemina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VII_Gemina) | [León, Spain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Le%C3%B3n,_Spain) |  | 68 [Galba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galba) | c.400 | 75-c.400 [Castra Legionis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Le%C3%B3n,_Spain)\* HISP | Raised in Hispania by Galba for march on Rome |
| [VIII Augusta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VIII_Augusta) | [Strasbourg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strasbourg), France | Bull | 59 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | post 371 | 45-69AD [Novae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Novae) MI; 69-86 [Mirebeau-sur-Bèze](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mirebeau-sur-B%C3%A8ze) GS; 86-371+ [Argentorate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentorate)\* GS | *octava Augusta*: |
| [IX Hispana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IX_Hispana) | [York](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/York), England | Bull | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | 132? 161? | to 13 BC HISP; 9-43 PAN?; 71-121 [Eburacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eburacum)\* BRIT; 121-130 [Nijmegen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nijmegen) GI? | *nona Hispana*: XX in Judaea (132)? XX by Parthians in Armenia (161) |
| [X Fretensis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_X_Fretensis) | [Jerusalem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem) | [Boar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boar) | 40 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 400 | to 25 BC JUD; 25 BC-66 AD SYR; 73-c.400+ [Hierosolyma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hierosolyma)\* | *fretum* = [Strait of Otranto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strait_of_Otranto), [Naulochus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Naulochus) 36 BC |
| [X Gemina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_X_Gemina) | [Vienna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vienna), Austria | Bull | 42 BC [Lepidus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Aemilius_Lepidus_(triumvir)) | post 400 | 30BC-63AD [Petavonium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petavonium) HISP; 63-68 [Carnuntum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnuntum) PAN; Petavonium 68-71 HISP; 71-103 [Noviomagus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ulpia_Noviomagus_Batavorum) GI; 103-c.400 [Vindobona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vindobona)\* PAN | Was [X Equestris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_X_Equestris), Caesar's "mounted" legion |
| [XI Claudia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XI_Claudia) | [Silistra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silistra), Bulgaria | [Neptune](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neptune_(mythology)) | 42 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 400 | to 71 AD DLM; 71-104 [Vindonissa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vindonissa) RT; 104-c.400 [Durostorum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Durostorum)\* MI | *undecima Claudia*: honoured by [Claudius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claudius) |
| [XII Fulminata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XII_Fulminata) | [Malatya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malatya), Turkey | Thunderbolt | 43 BC [Lepidus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Aemilius_Lepidus_(triumvir)) | post 400 | to 14 AD AEG; 14-71 [Raphana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raphana) (SYR); 71-c.400 [Melitene](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melitene)\* (CAP) | Thunderbolt 12th lost [aquila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquila_(Roman)) in [1st Jewish War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Jewish%E2%80%93Roman_War) |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Legion no. and title (cognomen)** | **Main** **legion base** | **Emblem** | **Date founded/** **founder** | **Date** **disband** | **Castra legionaria** (legion bases)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions" \l "cite_note-legionaryfortresses.info-2) *\* = main base. Start date 31 BC if unspecified* | **Notes** |
| [XIII Gemina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XIII_Gemina) | [Alba Iulia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alba_Iulia), Romania | Lion | 57 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | post 400 | 45-106 [Poetovio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poetovio) PAN 106-270 [Apulum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alba_Iulia)\* DC 270-400 MI | "Twinned 13th". Crossed [Rubicon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubicon) with [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) 49 BC |
| [XIV Gemina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XIV_Gemina) | [Petronell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petronell), Austria | Capricorn | 57 BC [Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) | post 400 | 9-43 [Moguntiacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moguntiacum) GS; 43-58 [Mancetter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mancetter) BRIT; 58-67 [Wroxeter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wroxeter) BRIT; 67-89 Balkans; 92-106 [Vindobona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vindobona) PAN; 106-c.400 [Carnuntum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnuntum)\* | Defeated [Boudica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boudica)'s Britons at [Watling Street](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Watling_Street) (60 AD) |
| [XV Apollinaris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XV_Apollinaris) | Saddagh, Turkey | [Apollo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apollo) | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | post 400 | 14-62 [Carnuntum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnuntum) PAN; 62-73 SYR 71-115 [Carnuntum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carnuntum) PAN; 115-c.400 [Satala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satala)\* CAP | "Apollo-revering 15th". Fought in [First Jewish War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Jewish%E2%80%93Roman_War) |
| [XV Primigenia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XV_Primigenia) | [Xanten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xanten), Germany | [Fortuna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fortuna) | 39 [Caligula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caligula) | 70 **XX** | 39-43 [Moguntiacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moguntiacum) (GS); 43-70 [Castra Vetera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Vetera)\* (GI) | Primigenia goddess of Fate. XX in [Batavi revolt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolt_of_the_Batavi) |
| [XVI Flavia Firma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XVI_Flavia_Firma) | [Samsat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samsat), Turkey | Lion | 70 [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian) | post 300 | 70-117 [Satala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satala) (CAP); 117-300+ [Samosata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samosata)\* SYR | "Vespasian's steadfast 16th". Reformed *XVI Gallica* |
| [XVI Gallica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XVI_Gallica) | [Mainz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mainz), Germany | Lion | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | 70 **DD** | to 43AD [Moguntiacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moguntiacum)\* (GS); 43-70 [Novaesium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuss)\* (GI) | Disbanded for cowardice in [Batavi revolt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolt_of_the_Batavi) |
| [XVII](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XVII) | [Xanten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xanten), Germany |  | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | 9 **XX** | to 15 BC AQ?; 15 BC-9 AD [Castra Vetera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Vetera)\* (GI) | Destroyed in [Teutoburg Forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Teutoburg_Forest), lost [aquila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquila_(Roman)) standard, never rebuilt |
| [XVIII](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XVIII) | [Xanten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xanten), Germany |  | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | 9 **XX** | to 15 BC AQ?; 15 BC-9 AD [Castra Vetera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Vetera)\* (GI) | Destroyed in [Teutoburg Forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Teutoburg_Forest), lost [aquila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquila_(Roman)) standard, never rebuilt |
| [XIX](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XIX) | [Xanten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xanten), Germany |  | 41 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | 9 **XX** | to 15 BC unknown; 15 BC-9 AD somewhere in GI | Destroyed in [Teutoburg Forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Teutoburg_Forest), lost [aquila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquila_(Roman)) standard, never rebuilt |
| [XX Valeria Victrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XX_Valeria_Victrix) | [Chester](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chester), England | Boar | 31 BC [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) | 250+ **UF** | to 9 AD [Burnum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burnum) DLM; 9-43 [Oppidum Ubiorum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oppidum_Ubiorum) GI; 43-55 [Camulodunum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camulodunum)\* BRIT; 55-66 [Burrium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burrium)\* BRIT; 66-78 [Viroconium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viroconium)\* BRIT; 78-88 [Inchtuthil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inchtuthil)\* BRIT; 88-250+ [Deva](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deva_Victrix)\* BRIT | *vigesima* named for [Messalla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Valerius_Messalla_Corvinus)? XX in [Allectus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allectus)' fall 296? |
| [XXI Rapax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XXI_Rapax) | [Windisch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windisch), Switzerland | Capricorn | 31 BC Augustus | 92 **XX** | 9-43 GI; 43-70 [Vindonissa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vindonissa)\* (RT); 70-89 GI; 89-92 PAN | "Predator 21st". XX by [Roxolani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roxolani) [Sarmatian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarmatian) tribe PAN |
| [XXII Deiotariana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XXII_Deiotariana) | [Alexandria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandria), Egypt |  | 48 BC | 132? 161? **XX** | to c.8 BC GAL; 8 BC-123 AD+ [Alexandria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandria)\* (AEG) | GAL king "[Deiotarus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deiotarus" \o "Deiotarus)'s 22nd". XX by Jewish rebels in 132? or by Parthians in Armenia in 161? |
| [XXII Primigenia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XXII_Primigenia) | [Mainz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mainz), Germany | [Hercules](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hercules) | 39 [Caligula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caligula) | post 300 | 39-c.300 [Moguntiacum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moguntiacum)\* (GS) | Raised for Caligula's German war |
| [XXX Ulpia Victrix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XXX_Ulpia_Victrix) | [Xanten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xanten), Germany | [Jupiter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jupiter_(mythology)) | 105 [Trajan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan) | post 400 | 105-22 DC; 122-c.400 [Castra Vetera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra_Vetera)\* (GI) | "[Trajan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan)'s victorious 30th" (M Ulpius Traianus) |

**Legend**

* **Legion number and title (cognomen)**

The numbering of the legions is confusing, since several legions shared the same number with others. Augustus numbered the legions he founded himself from I, but also inherited numbers from his predecessors. Each emperor normally numbered the legions he raised himself starting from I . However, even this practice was not consistently followed. For example, [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian) kept the same numbers as before for legions he raised from disbanded units. [Trajan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan)'s first legion was numbered XXX because there were 29 other legions in existence at the time it was raised; but the second Trajanic legion was given the sequential number II. XVII, XVIII and XIX, the numbers of the legions annihilated in the [Teutoburg Forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Teutoburg_Forest), were never used again. (These three legions are without titles, suggesting that in disgrace their titles may have been deliberately forgotten or left unmentioned.) As a result of this somewhat chaotic evolution, the legion's title became necessary to distinguish between legions with the same number.

Legions often carried several titles, awarded after successive campaigns, normally by the ruling emperor e.g. XII Fulminata was also awarded: *paterna* (fatherly), *victrix* (victorious), *antiqua* (venerable), *certa constans* (reliable, steadfast) and *Galliena* ([Gallienus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallienus" \o "Gallienus) '). *Pia fidelis* (loyal and faithful), *fidelis constans* and others were titles awarded to several legions, sometimes several times to the same legion. Only the most established, commonly used titles are displayed on this table.

The geographical titles indicate  
(a) the country a legion was originally recruited e.g. *Italica* = from Italy or  
(b) peoples the legion has vanquished e.g.*Parthica* = victorious over the [Parthians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthians)  
Legions bearing the personal name of an emperor, or of his *gens* (clan) (e.g. *Augusta*, *Flavia*) were either founded by that Emperor or awarded the name as a mark of special favour.

The title GEMINA means that two diminished legions have been combined to make one new one.

* **Main legionary base**

This shows the [*castra*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra) (base) where the legion spent the longest period during the Principate. Legions often shared the same base with other legions. Detachments of legions were often seconded for lengthy periods to other bases and provinces, as operational needs demanded.

* **Emblem**

Legions often sported more than one emblem at the same time, and occasionally changed them. Legions raised by Caesar mostly carried a bull emblem originally; those of Augustus mostly a Capricorn

* **Date disbanded**

For legions that are documented into the 4th century and beyond, we do not know when or how they were terminated. For legions disappearing from the record before 284, the reason (certain or likely) is given as:  
**XX** = annihilated in battle  
**DD** = disbanded in disgrace  
**UF** = unknown fate

* **Castra legionaria**

Indicates the bases (*castra*) and/or [provinces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_province) where the legion was based during its history, with dates.

* **Notes**

Contains points of note, including explanation of titles and details of a legion's fate.

Province names and borders are assumed throughout the Principate period as at 107 AD, during the rule of [Trajan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan), and after the annexation of [Dacia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dacia) and [Arabia Petraea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabia_Petraea). The map above shows provinces at the end of Trajan's reign, 117 AD. They are the same as in 107, except that Armenia and Mesopotamia have been annexed (they were abandoned soon after Trajan's death); and [Pannonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pannonia) has been split into two (the split occurred c. 107). In reality provincial borders were modified several times during the period 30 BC-284 AD: this explains any discrepancy with other sources, as to a legion's location at a particular date

**Late Empire legions**

Main article: [Late Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Late_Roman_army)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Scutum_Iovianorum_seniorum.svg)

Shield pattern of the [*palatina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palatina) legion of the [*Ioviani seniores*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jovians), according to the [*Notitia Dignitatum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notitia_Dignitatum).

[Diocletian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diocletian) reorganized the Roman army, in order to better counter the threat of the Germanic peoples of northern Europe as well as that of the Persians from the East. The army was formed by *border* and *field* units.

The *border* (*[limitanei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limitanei" \o "Limitanei)*) units were to occupy the [limes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limes), the structured border fortifications, and were formed by professional soldiers with an inferior training.

The *field* units were to stay well behind the border, and to move quickly where they were needed, with both offensive and defensive roles. Field units were formed by elite soldiers with high-level training and weapons. They were further divided into:

1. [*Scholae*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scholae_Palatinae): the personal guard of the Emperor, created by [Constantine I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constantine_I) to replace the [Praetorian Guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Praetorian_Guard);
2. [*Palatinae*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palatini_(Roman_military)): "palace troops" were the highest ranked units, created by [Constantine I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constantine_I) after he disbanded the Praetorian Guard, it was comprised originally of former guardsmen;
3. [*Comitatenses*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comitatensis): regular field units, some were newly formed, others were descended from Early-Empire legions;
4. [*Pseudocomitatenses*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudocomitatensis): these were *limitanei* units diverted into the field army and often kept there; some Early Empire legions became *pseudocomitatenses* units.

These units usually numbered between 300 and 2000 soldiers and some of them kept their original numbering schemes. The primary source for the legions of this era is the [*Notitia Dignitatum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notitia_Dignitatum), a late 4th-century document containing all the civil and military offices of both halves of the Roman Empire (revised in ca. 420 for the Western Empire).

* Legio I
  + [I *Armeniaca*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Armeniaca)
  + I *Flavia Constantia* (*reliable Flavian*): *comitatensis* unit under the command of the [*Magister militum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magister_militum) *per Orientis*
  + I *Flavia Gallicana Constantia* (*reliable Flavian legion from Gallia*): *pseudocomitatensis* under the command of the *Magister Peditum per Gallias*
  + I *Flavia Martis* (*Flavian legion devoted to Mars*): *pseudocomitatensis*
  + [I *Flavia Pacis*](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Legio_I_Flavia_Pacis&action=edit&redlink=1) (*Flavian legion of peace*): *comitatensis* under the command of the [*Magister Peditum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magister_Peditum)
  + I *Flavia Theodosiana*: *comitatensis*
  + I *Illyricorum* (*of the Illyrians*): stationed at the [Camp of Diocletian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_of_Diocletian) in [Palmyra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palmyra)
  + [I *Iovia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Iovia) (*devoted to Jupiter*): levied by Diocletian, stationed in [Scythia Minor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scythia_Minor)
  + [I *Isaura Sagittaria*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Isaura_Sagittaria) (*archers from Isauria*): *pseudocomitatensis* under the command of the [*Magister militum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magister_militum) *per Orientis*
  + I *Iulia Alpina*: *pseudocomitatensis* under the command of the *Magister Peditum* in [Italy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italia_(Roman_province))
  + I *Martia* possibly based near modern [Kaiseraugst](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaiseraugst)
  + [I *Maximiana Thaebanorum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_I_Maximiana) (*the Thebans of Maximianus*): *comitatensis* unit stationed near [Thebes, Egypt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thebes,_Egypt), and probably fighting in the [battle of Adrianople](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Adrianople)
  + I *Noricorum* (*of the Noricans*): stationed in [Noricum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noricum)
  + I *Pontica*
* Legio II
  + [II *Armeniaca*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Armeniaca)
  + II *Britannica*: *comitatensis* under *Magister Peditum*
  + [II *Flavia Constantia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Flavia_Constantia)*:* comitatensis *under the command of the* Magister Peditum
  + [II *Flavia Virtutis*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Flavia_Virtutis): *comitatensis* under the command of the *Magister Peditum*
  + [II *Herculia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Herculia) (*devoted to Hercules*): levied by Diocletian, stationed in Scythia Minor
  + [II *Isaura*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_II_Isaura)
  + II *Iulia Alpina*: *pseudocomitatensis* under the command of the *Magister Peditum*, in *Comes Illyricum* command
  + II *Felix Valentis Thebaeorum*: *comitatensis*
* Legio III
  + [III *Diocletiana*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Diocletiana)
  + [III *Flavia Salutis*](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Legio_III_Flavia_Salutis&action=edit&redlink=1): *comitatensis* under the command of the *Magister Peditum*
  + III *Herculea*: *comitatensis* under the command of the *Comes Illyricum*
  + [III *Isaura*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_III_Isaura)
  + III *Iulia Alpina*: *comitatensis* under the command of the *Magister Peditum* command in [Italy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italia_(Roman_province))
* Legio IV
  + [IV *Italica*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Italica)
  + [IV *Martia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_IV_Martia)
  + IV *Parthica*
* Legio V
  + [V *Iovia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_V_Iovia) (maybe the [*Jovians*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jovians))
  + V *Parthica*
* Legio VI
  + VI *Gemella*
  + VI *Gallicana*
  + [VI *Herculia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_VI_Herculia) (maybe the [Herculians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herculians))
  + VI *Hispana*
  + VI *Parthica*
* Legio XII
  + XII *Victrix*

**See also**

* ***[icon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Scutum_1.jpg)***[***Military of ancient Rome portal***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Military_of_ancient_Rome)
* [List of Roman auxiliary regiments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_auxiliary_regiments)
* [Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army)
* [Auxilia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxilia)
* [Roman legion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion)
* [Structural history of the Roman military](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_history_of_the_Roman_military)

**Notes**

 *Boyne, William (1968). A manual of Roman coins. p. 13.*

* 1.  *["Roman Legionary Fortresses"](http://www.legionaryfortresses.info/index.htm). www.legionaryfortresses.info.* [*Archived*](https://web.archive.org/web/20161220212308/http:/www.legionaryfortresses.info/index.htm) *from the original on 2016-12-20.*

**References**

**Primary sources**

* [*Notitia Dignitatum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notitia_Dignitatum) reports the military units and their locations at the beginning of the 5th century.

**Secondary sources**

* [*Oxford Classical Dictionary*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford_Classical_Dictionary)
* Keppie, Lawrence. *The Making of the Roman Army*, 1984 pp. 205–215
* Stephen Dando-Collins "Legions Of Rome"

**External links**

* [Legio X](http://www.legionx.pl) - Legio X Gemina (Equites) - "Viri Clarissimi"
* [Livius.org: List of Roman legions](http://www.livius.org/le-lh/legio/legions.htm)
* [A catalogue of Roman legions](http://www.davros.org/romans/legions.html)
* [Legio V Living History Group in Tennessee](https://web.archive.org/web/20080507205724/http:/web.utk.edu/~cohprima/)
* [Roman legions from Dacia (KML file)](http://bbs.keyhole.com/ubb/ubbthreads.php?ubb=download&Number=977551&filename=Roman%20castra%20from%20Romania.kmz)

A **Roman legion** (from [Latin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin) *legio* "military levy, [conscription](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conscription)", from *legere* "to choose") was a large unit of the [Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army).

In the early [Roman Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Kingdom) the "legion" may have meant the entire [Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army) but sources on this period are few and unreliable.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-1) The subsequent organization of legions varied greatly over time but legions were typically composed of around five thousand soldiers. During much of the [republican era](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Republic), a legion was divided into three lines of ten [maniples](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maniple_(military_unit)). In the late republic and much of the imperial period (from about 100 BC), a legion was divided into ten [cohorts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(Roman_military_unit)), each of six (or five) centuries. Legions also included a small [ala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ala_(Roman_allied_military_unit)) or cavalry unit. By the third century AD, the legion was a much smaller unit of about 1,000 to 1,500 men, and there were more of them. In the fourth century AD, [East Roman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Roman_army) [border guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border_guard) legions (*[limitanei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limitanei" \o "Limitanei)*) may have become even smaller. In terms of organisation and function, the republican era legion may have been influenced by the ancient Greek and Macedonian [phalanx](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phalanx).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-auto-2)

For most of the Roman Imperial period, the legions formed the Roman army's elite [heavy infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heavy_infantry), recruited exclusively from Roman citizens, while the remainder of the army consisted of [auxiliaries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxiliaries_(Roman_military)), who provided additional infantry and the vast majority of the Roman army's cavalry. (Provincials who aspired to [citizenship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_citizenship) gained it when [honourably discharged](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honesta_missio) from the [auxiliaries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxiliaries_(Roman_military))). The Roman army, for most of the Imperial period, consisted mostly of auxiliaries rather than legions.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-3)

Many of the legions founded before 40 BC were still active until at least the fifth century, notably [Legio V Macedonica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_V_Macedonica), which was founded by [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) in 43 BC and was in Egypt in the seventh century during the [Islamic conquest of Egypt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islamic_conquest_of_Egypt).

**Contents**

* [1 Overview of typical organization and strength](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Overview_of_typical_organization_and_strength)
* [2 History](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#History)
  + [2.1 Roman kings (to c.500 BC)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Roman_kings_(to_c.500_BC))
  + [2.2 Roman Republic (509–107 BC)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Roman_Republic_(509–107_BC))
  + [2.3 Late Republic (107–30 BC)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Late_Republic_(107–30_BC))
  + [2.4 Early Empire (27 BC–AD 200)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Early_Empire_(27_BC–AD_200))
  + [2.5 Late Empire (from 200 AD)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Late_Empire_(from_200_AD))
* [3 Legionary ranks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Legionary_ranks)
  + [3.1 Senior officers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Senior_officers)
  + [3.2 Centurions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Centurions)
  + [3.3 Lower ranks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Lower_ranks)
  + [3.4 Special duty posts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Special_duty_posts)
* [4 Pay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Pay)
* [5 Symbols](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Symbols)
* [6 Discipline](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Discipline)
  + [6.1 Minor punishments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Minor_punishments)
  + [6.2 Major punishments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Major_punishments)
* [7 Factors in the legion's success](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Factors_in_the_legion's_success)
* [8 See also](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#See_also)
* [9 References](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#References)
  + [9.1 Citations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Citations)
  + [9.2 Bibliography](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#Bibliography)
* [10 External links](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#External_links)

**Overview of typical organization and strength**

Main article: [Structural history of the Roman military](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_history_of_the_Roman_military)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_Legionaries-MGR_Lyon-IMG_1050.JPG)

Imperial Roman legionaries in tight formation, a relief from [Glanum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glanum), a Roman town in what is now [southern France](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_France) that was inhabited from 27 BC to 260 AD (when it was sacked by invading [Alemanni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alemanni))

Because legions were not permanent units until the [Marian reforms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marian_reforms) (c. 107 BC), and were instead created, used, and disbanded again, several hundred legions were named and numbered throughout Roman history. To date, about 50 have been identified. The Republican Legions were composed of levied men that paid for their own equipment and thus the structure of the Roman army at this time reflected the society, and at any time there would be four Consular Legions (with command divided between the two ruling Consuls) and in time of war extra Legions could be levied. Toward the end of the 2nd Century BC, Rome started to experience manpower shortages brought about by property and financial qualifications to join the army. This prompted Consul [Gaius Marius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaius_Marius) to remove property qualifications and decree that all citizens, regardless of their wealth or social class, were made eligible for service in the Roman army with equipment and rewards for fulfilling years of service provided by the state. The Roman army became a volunteer, professional and standing army which extended service beyond Roman citizens but also to non-citizens that could sign on as [*auxillia* (Auxiliaries)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxilia) and were rewarded [Roman citizenship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_citizenship) upon completion of service and all the rights and privileges that entailed. In the time of [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus), there were nearly 50 upon his succession but this was reduced to about 25–35 permanent standing legions and this remained the figure for most of the Empire's history.

The legion evolved from 3,000 men in the [Roman Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Republic) to over 5,200 men in the [Roman Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Empire), consisting of [*centuries*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centuria) as the basic units. Until the middle of the first century, ten [cohorts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(Roman_military_unit)) (about 5,000 men) made up a Roman Legion. This was later changed to nine cohorts of standard size (with six centuries at 80 men each) with the first cohort being of double strength (five double-strength centuries with 160 men each). By the third century AD, the legion was a much smaller unit of about 1,000 to 1,500 men, and there were more of them. In the fourth century AD, [East Roman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Roman_army) [border guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border_guard) legions (*[limitanei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limitanei" \o "Limitanei)*) may have become even smaller. In terms of organisation and function, the republican era legion may have been influenced by the ancient Greek and Macedonian [phalanx](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phalanx).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-auto-2)

A legion consisted of several [cohorts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(military_unit)) of heavy [infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infantry) known as [legionaries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legionary). It was almost always accompanied by one or more attached units of [auxiliaries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxiliaries_(Roman_military)), who were not Roman citizens and provided [cavalry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cavalry), ranged troops and [skirmishers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skirmisher) to complement the legion's heavy infantry. The recruitment of non-citizens was rare but appears to have occurred in times of great need; For example, Caesar appears to have recruited the [Legio V Alaudae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_V_Alaudae) mostly from non-citizen Gauls.

The size of a typical legion varied throughout the history of ancient Rome, with complements of 4,200 legionaries and 300 [equites](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equites) (drawn from the wealthier classes – in early Rome all troops provided their own equipment) in the republican period of Rome (the infantry were split into 10 [cohorts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(military_unit)) each of four [maniples](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maniple_(military_unit)) of 120 legionaries), to 5,200 men plus 120 auxiliaries in the imperial period (split into 10 cohorts, nine of 480 men each, plus the first cohort holding 800 men).

**History**

Main articles: [Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army), [Military history of ancient Rome](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_ancient_Rome), and [Structural history of the Roman military](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_history_of_the_Roman_military)

**Roman kings (to c.500 BC)**

Main article: [Early Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Roman_army)

In the period before the raising of the *legio* and the early years of the Roman Kingdom and the Republic, forces are described as being organized into [*centuries*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centuria) of roughly one hundred men. These centuries were grouped together as required and answered to the leader who had hired or raised them. Such independent organization persisted until the 2nd century BC amongst light infantry and cavalry, but was discarded completely in later periods with the supporting role taken instead by allied troops. The roles of century leader (later formalized as a [centurion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centurion)), [second in command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Optio) and [standard bearer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquilifer) are referenced in this early period.

Much Roman history of the era is shrouded in legend, but it is believed that during the reign of [Servius Tullius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Servius_Tullius), the [census](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Census) (from [Latin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin): *censeō* – accounting of the people) was introduced. With this all Roman able-bodied, property-owning male citizens were divided into five classes for military service based on their wealth and then organized into centuries as sub-units of the greater Roman army or *legio* (multitude). Joining the army was both a duty and a distinguishing mark of Roman citizenship; during the entire pre-Marian period the wealthiest land owners performed the most years of military service. These individuals would have had the most to lose should the state have fallen.

**Roman Republic (509–107 BC)**

Main article: [Roman army of the mid-Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army_of_the_mid-Republic)

At some point, possibly in the beginning of the [Roman Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Republic) after the [kings were overthrown](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Republic#Overthrow_of_the_kings), the *legio* was subdivided into two separate legions, each one ascribed to one of the two [consuls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_consul). In the first years of the Republic, when warfare was mostly concentrated on raiding, it is uncertain if the full manpower of the legions was summoned at any one time. In 494 BC, when three foreign threats emerged, the dictator [Manius Valerius Maximus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manius_Valerius_Maximus) raised ten legions which [Livy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Livy) says was a greater number than had been raised previously at any one time.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-4)

Also, some warfare was still conducted by Roman forces outside the legionary structure, the most famous example being the campaign in 479 BC by the clan army of gens Fabia against the Etruscan city of Veii (in which the clan was annihilated). Legions became more formally organized in the 4th century BC, as Roman warfare evolved to more frequent and planned operations, and the consular army was raised to two legions each.

In the Republic, legions had an ephemeral existence. Except for Legio I to IV, which were the consular armies (two per consul), other units were levied by campaign. Rome's Italian allies were required to provide approximately ten cohorts (auxilia were not organized into legions) to support each Roman Legion.

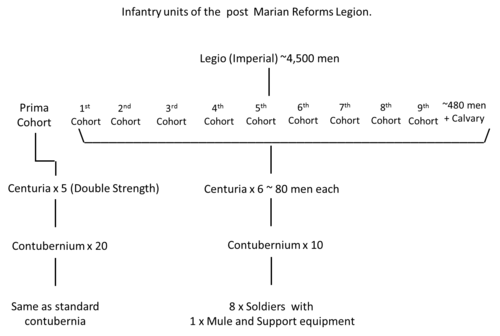
In the middle of the Republic, legions were composed of the following units:

* [*Equites*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equites) (cavalry): The [cavalry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cavalry) was originally the most prestigious unit, where wealthy young Roman men displayed their skill and prowess, laying the foundation for an eventual political career. Cavalry equipment was purchased by each of the cavalrymen and consisted of a round shield, helmet, body armour, sword and one or more [lances](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lance). The cavalry was outnumbered in the legion. In a total of *circa* 3,000 men, (plus the velites that normally enlarged the number to about 4,200), the legion only had around 300 horsemen, divided into 10 units (*[turmae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turma" \o "Turma)*) of 30 men. These men were commanded by [decurions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decurion_(military)). In addition to heavy cavalry, there would be the light cavalry levied from poor citizens and wealthy young citizens not old enough to be in the *hastati* or the *equites*. In battle, they were used to disrupt and [outflank](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flanking_maneuver) enemy infantry formations and to fight off enemy cavalry. In the latter type of engagement, they would often (though not always) dismount some or all of the horsemen to fight a stationary battle on foot, an unusual tactic for the time, but one that offered significant advantages in stability and agility in a time before [stirrups](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stirrup).[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-5)
* [*Velites*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velites) ([light infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_infantry)): The *velites* were mainly poorer citizens who could not afford to equip themselves properly. Their primary function was to act as [skirmishers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skirmishers) – javelin-throwers, who would engage the enemy early in order either to harass them or to cover the movement of troops behind them. After throwing their javelins, they would retreat through the gaps between the maniples, screened from the attack of the enemy by the heavy infantry lines. With the shortage of cavalry in the army of the early to mid Republican army, the [velites](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velites) were also used as scouts. They did not have a precise formal organization or formation.
* [Heavy infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heavy_infantry): This was the principal unit of the legion. The heavy infantry was composed of citizen legionaries that could afford the equipment composed of an iron helmet, shield, armour and [pilum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilum), a heavy javelin whose range was about 30 meters. After 387 BC, the preferred weapon for the hastati and principes was the [gladius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gladius), a short sword. Their hobnailed sandals (*[caligae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caligae" \o "Caligae)*) were also an effective weapon against a fallen enemy. Prior to the Marian reforms (see below), the heavy infantry was subdivided, according to experience, into three separate lines of troops:
  + The [*hastati*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hastati) (sing. *hastatus*) consisted of raw or inexperienced soldiers, considered to be less reliable than legionaries of several years' service. The Hastati were placed at the front for several reasons. One reason is the city of Rome could ill-afford to lose experienced soldiers, so they put the greenest soldiers at the front. If they survived, the Hastati/tus would gain invaluable experience. Another reason is if the newest soldiers succumbed to battle nerves and broke and tried to run, then there were experienced soldiers behind them to stiffen their resolve.
  + The [*principes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principes) (sing. *princeps*) These were the more experienced soldiers, often better equipped than the Hastati, and having more experience on the battlefield, they would take up the second line in the battle in the event the Hastati failed or fled. They were the second wave in an early Republican Legion before the military reforms of Marius.
  + The [*triarii*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triarii) (sing. *triarius*) were the veteran soldiers, to be used in battle only in extreme situations; they rested one knee down when not engaged in combat. The *triarii* served primarily as reserves or [barrier troops](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barrier_troops) designed to backstop the *hastati* and *principes*, and were equipped with long [*hastae*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hasta_(spear)) (spears) rather than the *pilum* and *gladius* (the *hastati* and *principes* stopped using spears in 387 BC). Thus armed, they fought in a [phalanx formation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phalanx_formation). The sight of an advancing armored formation of *triarii* legionaries frequently discouraged exultant enemies in pursuit of retreating *hastati* and *principes* troops. *Ad triarios redisse* – *To fall back upon the triarii* was a Roman [idiom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Idiom) – meaning to use one's last resort.

Each of these three lines was subdivided into (usually 10) chief tactical units called [maniples](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maniple_(military_unit)). A maniple consisted of two [centuries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centuria) and was commanded by the senior of the two [centurions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centurion). At this time, each century of hastati and principes consisted of 60 men; a century of triarii was 30 men. These 3,000 men (twenty maniples of 120 men, and ten maniples of 60 men), together with about 1,200 velites and 300 cavalry gave the mid Republican ("manipular") legion a nominal strength of about 4,500 men.

**Late Republic (107–30 BC)**

Main article: [Roman army of the late Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army_of_the_late_Republic)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Legion_Task_ORG.png)

Visual representation of the post Marian Reform Legion showing size and disposition for Infantry formations

*See also* [*List of Roman legions*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions) *for details of notable late Republican legions*  
*See also* [*Sub-Units of the Roman legion*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_army_unit_types#Sub-Units_of_the_Roman_legion)

The Marian reforms (of Gaius Marius) enlarged the centuries to 80 men, and grouped them into six-century "cohorts" (rather than two-century maniples). Each century had its own standard and was made up of ten units (*contubernia*) of eight men who shared a tent, a millstone, a mule and [cooking pot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cooking_pot).

Following the reforms of the general [Marius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaius_Marius) in the 2nd century BC, the legions took on the second, narrower meaning that is familiar in the popular imagination as close-order citizen heavy infantry.

At the end of the 2nd century BC, [Gaius Marius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaius_Marius) reformed the previously ephemeral legions as a professional force drawing from the poorest classes, enabling Rome to field larger armies and providing employment for jobless citizens of the city of Rome. However, this put the loyalty of the soldiers in the hands of their general rather than the State of Rome itself. This development ultimately enabled [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) to cross the [Rubicon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubicon) with an army loyal to him personally and effectively end the Republic.

The legions of the late Republic and early Empire are often called *Marian* legions. Following the [Battle of Vercellae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Vercellae) in 101 BC, Marius granted all Italian soldiers Roman citizenship. He justified this action to the Senate by saying that in the din of battle he could not distinguish Roman from ally. This effectively eliminated the notion of allied legions; henceforth all Italian legions would be regarded as Roman legions, and full Roman citizenship was open to all the regions of Italy. At the same time, the three different types of heavy infantry were replaced by a single, standard type based on the *Principes*: armed with two heavy javelins called *pila* (singular [*pilum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilum)), the short sword called *gladius*, chain mail (*[lorica hamata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lorica_hamata" \o "Lorica hamata)*), helmet and rectangular shield (*[scutum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scutum_(shield)" \o "Scutum (shield))*).

The role of allied legions would eventually be taken up by contingents of allied auxiliary troops, called *Auxilia*. *Auxilia* contained specialist units, engineers and pioneers, artillerymen and craftsmen, service and support personnel and irregular units made up of non-citizens, mercenaries and local militia. These were usually formed into complete units such as light cavalry, [light infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_infantry) or [*velites*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Velites), and labourers. There was also a [reconnaissance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reconnaissance) [squad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squad) of 10 or more light [mounted infantry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mounted_infantry) called [*speculatores*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speculatores) who could also serve as messengers or even as an early form of [military intelligence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_intelligence) service.

As part of the Marian reforms, the legions' internal organization was standardized. Each legion was divided into [*cohorts*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(military_unit)). Prior to this, cohorts had been temporary administrative units or tactical task forces of several maniples, even more transitory than the legions themselves. Now the cohorts were ten permanent units, composed of 6 centuries and in the case of the first cohort 12 centuries each led by a centurion assisted by an [*optio*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Optio). The cohorts came to form the basic tactical unit of the legions. Ranking within the legion was based on length of service, with the senior Centurion commanding the first century of the first cohort; he was called the [*primus pilus*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primus_pilus) (First Spear), and reported directly to the superior officers (legates and tribuni). All career soldiers could be promoted to the higher ranks in recognition of exceptional acts of bravery or valour. A newly promoted junior Centurion would be assigned to the sixth century of the tenth cohort and slowly progressed through the ranks from there.

Every legion had a large baggage train, which included 640 mules (1 mule for every 8 legionaries) just for the soldiers' equipment. To keep these baggage trains from becoming too large and slow, Marius had each infantryman carry as much of his own equipment as he could, including his own armour, weapons and 15 days' rations, for about 25–30 kg (50–60 pounds) of load total. To make this easier, he issued each legionary a cross stick to carry their loads on their shoulders. The soldiers were nicknamed *Marius' Mules* because of the amount of gear they had to carry themselves. This arrangement allowed for the possibility for the supply train to become temporarily detached from the main body of the legion, thus greatly increasing the army's speed when needed.

A typical legion of this period had 5,120 legionaries as well as a large number of camp followers, servants and slaves. Legions could contain as many as 6,000 fighting men when including the auxiliaries, although much later in Roman history the number was reduced to 1,040 to allow for greater mobility. Numbers would also vary depending on casualties suffered during a campaign; [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar)'s legions during his campaign in Gaul often only had around 3,500 men.

Tactics were not very different from the past, but their effectiveness was largely improved because of the professional training of the soldiers.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Centurio_70_aC_-_cropped.jpg)

A re-enactor as a Roman centurion, *c.* 70.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_legionaire_in_lorica_segmentata.jpg)

A re-enactor, showing a Roman [*miles*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legionary), (2nd century).

After the Marian reforms, and throughout the history of Rome's Late Republic, the legions played an important political role. By the 1st century BC, the threat of the legions under a [demagogue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demagogue) was recognized. [Governors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Governor) were not allowed to leave their provinces with their legions. When [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar) broke this rule, leaving his province of Gaul and crossing the [Rubicon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubicon) into Italy, he precipitated a [constitutional crisis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_crisis). This crisis and the [civil wars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Republican_civil_wars) which followed brought an end to the Republic and led to the foundation of the [Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Empire) under [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) in 27 BC.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_Empire_125.png)

The Roman empire under [Hadrian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hadrian) (ruled 117–38), showing the **legions** deployed in 125

**Early Empire (27 BC–AD 200)**

Main article: [Imperial Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_Roman_army)

*See* [*List of Roman legions of the early Empire*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions#Early_Empire_legions)  
*See also* [*Sub-Units of the Roman legion*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_army_unit_types#Sub-Units_of_the_Roman_legion)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman-legions-14-AD-Centrici-site-Keilo-Jack.jpg)

Map of Roman legions by 14 AD.Source: <http://f.hypotheses.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/1447/files/2014/05/Roman-legions-14-AD-Centrici-site-Keilo-Jack.jpg>

Generals, during the recent Republican civil wars, had formed their own legions and numbered them as they wished. During this time, there was a high incidence of *Gemina* (twin) legions, where two legions were consolidated into a single organization (and was later made official and put under a [legatus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legatus) and six duces). At the end of the civil war against [Mark Antony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Antony), Augustus was left with around fifty legions, with several double counts (multiple Legio Xs for instance). For political and economic reasons, Augustus reduced the number of legions to 28 (which diminished to 25 after the [Battle of Teutoburg Forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Teutoburg_Forest), in which 3 legions were completely destroyed by the [Germanics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germanics)).

Beside streamlining the army, Augustus also regulated the soldiers' pay. At the same time, he greatly increased the number of auxiliaries to the point where they were equal in number to the legionaries. He also created the [Praetorian Guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Praetorian_Guard) along with a permanent [navy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Navy) where served the *liberti*, or freed slaves. The legions also became permanent at this time, and not recruited for particular campaigns. They were also allocated to static bases with permanent [*castra*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra) *legionaria* (legionary fortresses).

Augustus' military policies proved sound and cost effective, and were generally followed by his successors. These emperors would carefully add new legions, as circumstances required or permitted, until the strength of the standing army stood at around 30 legions (hence the wry remark of the philosopher [Favorinus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Favorinus) that *It is ill arguing with the master of 30 legions*). With each legion having 5,120 legionaries usually supported by an equal number of auxiliary troops, the total force available to a legion commander during the [Pax Romana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax_Romana) probably ranged from 11,000 downwards, with the more prestigious legions and those stationed on hostile borders or in restive provinces tending to have more auxiliaries. Some legions may have even been reinforced at times with units making the associated force near 15,000–16,000 or about the size of a modern [division](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Division_(military)).

Throughout the [imperial](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Empire) era, the legions played an important political role. Their actions could secure the empire for a [usurper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_usurper) or take it away. For example, the defeat of [Vitellius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vitellius) in the [Year of the Four Emperors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Year_of_the_Four_Emperors) was decided when the [Danubian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danube) legions chose to support [Vespasian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vespasian).

In the empire, the legion was standardized, with symbols and an individual history where men were proud to serve. The legion was commanded by a [*legatus*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legatus) or *legate*. Aged around thirty, he would usually be a senator on a three-year appointment. Immediately subordinate to the legate would be six elected *military tribunes* – five would be staff officers and the remaining one would be a noble heading for the Senate (originally this tribune commanded the legion). There would also be a group of officers for the medical staff, the engineers, record-keepers, the *praefectus castrorum* (commander of the camp) and other specialists such as priests and musicians.

**Late Empire (from 200 AD)**

Main article: [Late Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Late_Roman_army)

See also: [List of Roman legions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_soldier_end_of_third_century_northern_province_-_cropped.jpg)

A re-enactor, portraying a legionary at the end of the 3rd century

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman-legions-212-AD-Centrici-site-Keilo-Jack.jpg)

Map of Roman legions by 212 AD.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-6)

In the [Later Roman Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Late_Antiquity), the number of legions was increased and the [Roman Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_establishment_of_the_Roman_empire) expanded. There is no evidence to suggest that legions changed in form before the [Tetrarchy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tetrarchy), although there is evidence that they were smaller than the paper strengths usually quoted. The final form of the legion originated with the elite *legiones palatinae* created by [Diocletian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diocletian) and the Tetrarchs. These were infantry units of around 1,000 men rather than the 5,000, including cavalry, of the old Legions. The earliest *legiones palatinae* were the *Lanciarii*, *Joviani*, [*Herculiani*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herculians) and *Divitenses*.[*[citation needed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed" \o "Wikipedia:Citation needed)*]

The 4th century saw a very large number of new, small legions created, a process which began under [Constantine II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constantine_II_(emperor)). In addition to the elite [*palatini*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palatini_(Roman_military)), other legions called [*comitatenses*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comitatenses) and [*pseudocomitatenses*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudocomitatenses), along with the [*auxilia palatina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxilia_palatina), provided the infantry of late Roman armies. The [Notitia Dignitatum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Notitia_Dignitatum) lists 25 *legiones palatinae*, 70 *legiones comitatenses*, 47 *legiones pseudocomitatenses* and 111 *auxilia palatina* in the field armies, and a further 47 *legiones* in the frontier armies.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-7) Legion names such as [*Honoriani*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honorius_(emperor)) and [*Gratianenses*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gratian) found in the Notitia suggest that the process of creating new legions continued through the 4th century rather than being a single event. The names also suggest that many new legions were formed from [*vexillationes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vexillatio) or from old legions. In addition, there were 24 vexillationes palatini, 73 vexillationes comitatenses; 305 other units in the Eastern limitanei and 181 in the Western limitanei.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-8)

According to the late Roman writer [Vegetius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vegetius)' [*De Re Militari*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_Re_Militari), each century had a [ballista](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ballista) and each cohort had an [onager](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Onager_(siege_weapon)), giving the legion a formidable siege train of 59 Ballistae and 10 Onagers, each manned by 10 *libritors* (artillerymen) and mounted on wagons drawn by oxen or mules. In addition to attacking cities and fortifications, these would be used to help defend Roman forts and fortified camps ([castra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra" \o "Castra)) as well. They would even be employed on occasion, especially in the later Empire, as [field artillery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_artillery) during battles or in support of river crossings.

Despite a number of reforms, the Legion system survived the fall of the [Western Roman Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Roman_Empire), and was continued in the [Eastern Roman Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Roman_Empire) until around 7th century, when reforms begun by Emperor [Heraclius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heraclius) to counter the increasing need for soldiers around the Empire resulted in the [Theme system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theme_system). Despite this, the Eastern Roman/Byzantine armies continued to be influenced by the earlier Roman legions, and were maintained with similar level of discipline, strategic prowess, and organization.

**Legionary ranks**

Aside from the rank and file legionary (who received the base wage of 10 [asses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/As_(coin)) a day or 225 [denarii](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denarius) a year), the following list describes the system of officers which developed within the legions from the Marian reforms (104 BC) until the military reforms of [Diocletian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diocletian#Economic_and_military_reforms) (c. 290).

**Senior officers**

* [***Legatus Augusti pro praetore***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legatus_Augusti_pro_praetore), **Imperial Legate**: The commander of two or more legions. The Imperial Legate also served as the [governor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_governor) of the province in which the legions he commanded were stationed. Of [Senatorial rank](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Senate), the Imperial Legate was appointed by the Emperor and usually held command for 3 or 4 years. In the present time, an Imperial Legate would be called a General.
* [***Legatus legionis***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legatus_legionis), **Legion Legate**: The overall legion commander. The post was usually filled by a [senator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Senate), appointed by the emperor, who held command for 3 or 4 years, although he could serve for a much longer period. In a [Roman province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_province) with only one legion, the legatus was also the provincial [governor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_governor). In such circumstances, the Legatus was dual-hatted as both Legion Legate and Imperial Legate. The Legion Legate also served as commander of the [auxiliary units](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxiliaries_(Roman_military)) attached to the legion though they were not formally a part of the legion's command structure.
* [***Tribunus laticlavius***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_tribune), **Broad Band Tribune**: Named for the broad striped tunic worn by men of senatorial rank, this tribune was appointed by the emperor or the Senate. Though generally young, he was more experienced than the tribuni angusticlavii, he served as second in command of the legion, behind the legate. Because of his age and inexperience he was not the actual second in command in battle, but if the legate died he would take command of the legion.
* [***Praefectus castrorum***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Praefectus_castrorum), **Camp Prefect**: The Camp Prefect was third in command of the legion. Generally he was a long serving veteran from a lower social status than the *tribunii* whom he outranked, and who previously had served as *primus pilus* and finished his 25 years with the legions. He was used as a senior officer in charge of training a legion, though he could also command a cohort of [auxiliaires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxilia).
* [***Tribuni angusticlavii***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_tribune), **Narrow Band Tribunes**: Each legion had five lower ranking tribunes, who were normally from the equestrian class and had at least some years of prior military experience. They often served the role of administrative officers.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-9) This tribunate was often a first, but optional, step in a young man's political career (see [cursus honorum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cursus_honorum)).[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-10)

**Centurions**

The rank of [centurion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centurion) was an officer grade that included many ranks, meaning centurions had very good prospects for promotion. The most senior centurion in a legion was known as the [*primus pilus*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primus_pilus) (first file or spear), who directly commanded the first century of the first [cohort](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(military_unit)) and commanded the whole first cohort when in battle. Within the second to tenth cohorts, the commander of each cohort's first century was known as a *pilus prior* and was in command of his entire cohort when in battle. The seniority of the pilus prior centurions was followed by the five other century commanders of the first cohort, who were known as *primi ordines*.

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Centurion_2_Boulogne_Luc_Viatour.jpg)

A historical reenactor in Roman centurion costume

The six centuries of a normal cohort, were, in order of precedence:

* The forward hastati (forward spears)
* The rear hastati (rear spears)
* The forward principes (forward principal line)
* The rear principes (rear principal line)
* The forward triarii (forward third line)
* The rear triarii (rear third line)

The centuries took their titles from the old use of the legion drawn up in three lines of battle using three classes of soldier. (Each century would then hold a cross-section of this theoretical line, although these century titles were now essentially nominal.) Each of the three lines is then sub-divided within the century into a more forward and a more rear century.

* [***Primus pilus***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primus_pilus), literally **First File**: The *Primus Pilus* was the commanding centurion of the first century, first cohort and the senior-most centurion of the entire legion. (Unlike other cohorts, the first cohort had only one javelin century, instead of a "front spear" and a "back spear" century). The primus pilus had a chance of later becoming a *Praefectus Castrorum*. When the primus pilus retired, he would most likely gain entry into the equestrian class. He was paid 60 times the base wage.
* *Pilus prior*: The "front file" centurions were the commanders of the 10 1st centuries within the legion, making them senior centurions of their respective cohorts. While the legion was in battle formation, the Pilus Prior was given command of their entire cohort. The Primus Pilus was also a Pilus Prior, and the most senior of all the centurions within the legion. These positions were usually held by experienced veteran soldiers who had been moved up within the ranks. This rank is subordinate to the Primus Pilus.
* *Primi ordines*: The "ranks of the first [cohort]" were the five centurions of the first cohort, and included the primus pilus. They, excluding the primus pilus, were paid 30 times the base wage. This rank is senior to all other centurions, save the primus pilus and pilus prior.
* *Other centurions*: Each legion had 59 or 60 centurions, one to command each century of the 10 cohorts. They were the backbone of the professional army and were the career soldiers who ran the day-to-day life of the soldiers and issued commands in the field. They were generally moved up from the ranks, but in some cases could be direct appointments from the emperor or other higher-ranking officials. The cohorts were ranked from the first to the tenth and the century within each cohort ranked from 1 to 6, with only five centuries in the first cohort (for a total of 59 centurions and the primus pilus). The century that each centurion commanded was a direct reflection of his rank: command of the 1st century of the first cohort was the highest, and the 6th century of the 10th cohort was the lowest. Paid ten times the basic wage*.*

**Lower ranks**

* [*Optio*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Optio): One for each centurion (59–60), they were appointed by the centurion from within the ranks to act as his second in command and were paid twice the basic wage. Equivalent to a modern [First Sergeant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Sergeant) or [Lieutenant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lieutenant).[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-CCW20-11)
* [*Tesserarius*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tesserarius): (Guard commander) One for each century. They acted as seconds to the Optios and were paid one and a half times the basic wage. Keeper of the watchword, administrative assistant to HQ Staff, third in command of a century. Equivalent to a modern [Staff Sergeant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Staff_Sergeant).
* [*Decurio*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decurion_(military)): Commanded a cavalry unit (*[turma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turma" \o "Turma)*) of 10 to 30 *eques legionis*.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-CCW20-11)
* [*Decanus*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decanus): Commanded a [*contubernium*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contubernium) or ten man tent party, eight soldiers and two non-combatants, equivalent to a [Sergeant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sergeant) or [Corporal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corporal). A group of four soldiers would be referred to as a [Quaternion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quaternion_(disambiguation)).

**Special duty posts**

* [*Aquilifer*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquilifer): A single position within the legion. The aquilifer was the legion's [standard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heraldic_standard)– or [*Aquila*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquila_(Roman)) (eagle)– bearer and was an enormously important and prestigious position. Losing the aquila was considered the greatest dishonor a legion could endure. This post therefore had to be filled with steady veteran soldiers, with an excellent understanding of the tactics of the legion. He was paid twice the basic wage.
* [*Signifer*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Signifer): Each century had a *signifer* (thus, there were 59 in a legion) and within each [cohort](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cohort_(military_unit)) the 1st century's *signifer* would be the senior. He was standard-bearer for the *centurial signum*, a spear shaft decorated with medallions and topped with an open hand to signify loyalty, which was a rallying point for the soldiers. In addition to carrying the *signum*, the *signifer* also assumed responsibility for the financial administration of the unit and functioned as the legionaries' banker. He was paid twice the basic wage.
* [*Cornicen*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornicen) (Horn blower): Worked hand in hand with the signifer drawing the attention of the men to the centurial signum and issuing the audible commands of the officers. He was paid twice the basic wage.
* [*Imaginifer*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imaginifer): A special position from the time of [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus) onwards. Carried the standard bearing the image of the Emperor as a constant reminder of the troops' loyalty to him. He was paid twice the basic wage.
* [*Immunes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immunes): Immunes were legionary soldiers who possessed specialized skills, qualifying them for better pay and excusing them from labour and guard work. [Engineers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Engineer), [artillerymen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artillerymen), [musicians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musician), clerks, [quartermasters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quartermaster), drill and weapons instructors, [carpenters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carpenter), [hunters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hunter), medical staff and [military police](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_police) were all immune soldiers. These men were still fully trained legionaries, however, and were called upon to serve in the battle lines when needed.
* [*Evocatus*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evocatus): A veteran of the Roman army who had earned his [military diploma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_military_diploma) for military service, but had chosen to re-enlist. They received double pay and were excluded from regular duties, such as manual labour.
* [*Duplicarius*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duplicarius): A special pay grade that could also be awarded regardless of rank, received double the basic pay.

**Pay**

From the time of [Gaius Marius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaius_Marius) onwards, legionaries received 225 [*denarii*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denarius) a year (equal to 900 [*Sestertii*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sestertius)); this basic rate remained unchanged until [Domitian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domitian), who increased it to 300 denarii. In spite of the steady inflation during the 2nd century, there was no further rise until the time of [Septimius Severus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Septimius_Severus), who increased it to 500 denarii a year. However, the soldiers did not receive all the money in cash, as the state deducted a clothing and food tax from their pay. To this wage, a legionary on active campaign would hope to add the booty of war, from the bodies of their enemies and as plunder from enemy settlements. Slaves could also be claimed from the [prisoners of war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P.O.W.) and divided amongst the legion for later sale, which would bring in a sizeable supplement to their regular pay.

All legionary soldiers would also receive a [*praemia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veterans%27_benefits) on the completion of their term of service: a sizeable sum of money (3,000 denarii from the time of [Augustus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Augustus)) and/or a plot of good [farmland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Farming_in_ancient_Rome) (good land was in much demand); farmland given to veterans often helped in establishing control of the frontier regions and over rebellious provinces. Later, under [Caracalla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caracalla), the *praemia* increased to 5,000 denarii.

**Symbols**

From 104 BC onwards, each legion used an [aquila](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquila_(Roman)) (eagle) as its standard symbol. The symbol was carried by an officer known as [aquilifer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aquilifer), and its loss was considered to be a very serious embarrassment, and often led to the disbanding of the legion itself. Normally, this was because any legion incapable of regaining its eagle in battle was so severely mauled that it was no longer effective in combat.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-Authors2015-12)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_soldiers_with_aquilifer_signifer_centurio_70_aC.jpg)

Reenacters portraying Roman legionaries of [Legio XV Apollinaris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_XV_Apollinaris).

In *Gallic War* (Bk IV, Para. 25), Julius Caesar describes an incident at the start of his first invasion of Britain in 55 BC that illustrated how fear for the safety of the eagle could drive Roman soldiers. When Caesar's troops hesitated to leave their ships for fear of the Britons, the aquilifer of the [tenth legion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legio_X_Gemina) threw himself overboard and, carrying the eagle, advanced alone against the enemy. His comrades, fearing disgrace, 'with one accord, leapt down from the ship' and were followed by troops from the other ships.

With the birth of the Roman Empire, the legions created a bond with their leader, the emperor himself. Each legion had another officer, called [imaginifer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imaginifer), whose role was to carry a pike with the *imago* (image, sculpture) of the emperor as [*pontifex maximus*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pontifex_maximus).

Each legion, furthermore, had a [*vexillifer*](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Vexillifer&action=edit&redlink=1) who carried a *vexillum* or *signum*, with the legion name and emblem depicted on it, unique to the legion. It was common for a legion to detach some sub-units from the main camp to strengthen other corps. In these cases, the detached subunits carried only the vexillum, and not the aquila, and were called, therefore, [*vexillationes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vexillatio). A miniature vexillum, mounted on a silver base, was sometimes awarded to officers as a recognition of their service upon retirement or reassignment.

Civilians could also be rewarded for their assistance to the Roman legions. In return for outstanding service, a citizen was given an arrow without a head. This was considered a great honour and would bring the recipient much prestige.

**Discipline**

Main article: [Roman military decorations and punishments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_military_decorations_and_punishments)

The military discipline of the legions was quite harsh. Regulations were strictly enforced, and a broad array of punishments could be inflicted upon a legionary who broke them. Many legionaries became devotees in the cult of the minor goddess [Disciplina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disciplina), whose virtues of frugality, severity and loyalty were central to their code of conduct and way of life.

**Minor punishments**

* **Castigatio** – being hit by the centurion with his staff or *animadversio fustium* (Tac. Annals I, 23)
* – *Reduction of rations* or to be forced to eat barley instead of the usual grain ration
* **Pecuniaria mulcta** – Reduction in pay, fines or deductions from the pay allowance
* – *Flogging* in front of the century, cohort or legion
* – *Whipping* with the [*flagrum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flagrum) (*flagellum*, *flagella*), or "short whip" – a much more brutal punishment than simple flogging. The "short whip" was used by slave volunteers, *volones*, who constituted the majority of the army in the later years of the Roman Empire.
* [**Gradus deiectio**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gradus_deiectio) – Reduction in rank
* [**Missio ignominiosa**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Missio_ignominiosa) – Dishonourable discharge
* – Loss of *time in service* advantages
* [**Militiae mutatio**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Militiae_mutatio&action=edit&redlink=1) – Relegation to inferior service or duties.
* [**Munerum indictio**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Munerum_indictio&action=edit&redlink=1) – Additional duties

**Major punishments**

* [*Fustuarium*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fustuarium) – a sentence for desertion or dereliction of duty. The legionary would be stoned or beaten to death by [cudgels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cudgel), in front of the assembled troops, by his fellow soldiers or those whose lives had been put in danger. Soldiers under sentence of *fustuarium* who escaped were not pursued but lived under sentence of banishment from Rome.
* [*Decimation*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decimation_(Roman_Army)) – a sentence carried out against an entire unit that had mutinied, deserted, or shown dereliction of duty. One out of every ten men, chosen by lots, would be beaten to death, usually by the other nine with their bare hands, who would be forced to live outside the camp and in some instances obliged to renew the military oath, the [*sacramentum*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sacramentum_(oath)).[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

**Factors in the legion's success**

[Play media](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/76/Villa-borg-2011-legionaere.ogv)

Reenactment: Training

[Montesquieu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montesquieu) wrote that "the main reason for the Romans becoming masters of the world was that, having fought successively against all peoples, they always gave up their own practices as soon as they found better ones."[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-13)

Examples of ideas that were copied and adapted include weapons like the [gladius](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gladius) (Iberians) and warship design (cf. Carthaginians' [quinquereme](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quinquereme)), as well as military units, such as [heavy mounted cavalry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cataphract) and [mounted archers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horse_archer) ([Parthians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthians) and [Numidians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numidians)).

* Roman organization was more flexible than those of many opponents. Over time, the legions effectively handled challenges ranging from cavalry, to guerrillas, and to siege warfare.
* Roman discipline (cf. [decimation (Roman army)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decimation_(Roman_army))), organization and systematization sustained combat effectiveness over a longer period. These elements appear throughout the legion in training, logistics, field fortification etc.
* The Romans were more persistent and more willing to absorb and replace losses over time than their opponents. Wars with Carthage and the Parthians and most notably, the campaigns against [Pyrrhus of Epirus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pyrrhus_of_Epirus), illustrate this.
* Roman leadership was mixed, but over time it was often effective in securing Roman military success.
* The influence of Roman military and civic culture, as embodied particularly in the heavy infantry legion, gave the Roman military consistent motivation and cohesion.[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]
* Strict, and more importantly, uniform discipline made commanding, maintaining, and replacing Roman legionaries a much more consistent exercise.
* Roman military equipment (cf. [Roman military personal equipment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_military_personal_equipment)), particularly armor, was more withstanding and far more ubiquitous, especially in the late Republican and Early Imperial era, than that of most of their opponents. Soldiers equipped with shields, helmets and highly effective body armor had a major advantage over warriors protected, in many cases, with nothing other than their shields, particularly in a prolonged engagement.
* Roman engineering skills were second to none in ancient Europe, and their mastery of both offensive and defensive siege warfare, specifically the construction and investiture of fortifications (cf. [sudis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudis_(stake)), [castra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castra)), was another major advantage for the Roman legions.
* Roman military training focused on the more effective thrusting of the sword rather than the slash.

**See also**

* ***[icon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Scutum_1.jpg)***[***Military of ancient Rome portal***](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Military_of_ancient_Rome)
* [Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army)
* [Early Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_Roman_army)
* [Roman army of the mid-Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_army_of_the_mid-Republic)
* [Marian Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marian_Roman_army)
* [Imperial Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_Roman_army)
* [Late Roman army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Late_Roman_army)
* [Auxiliaries (Roman military)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auxiliaries_(Roman_military))
* [List of Roman wars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_wars)
* [List of Roman battles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_battles)
* [List of topics related to ancient Rome](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_topics_related_to_ancient_Rome)
* [List of Roman legions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_legions)
* [List of Roman auxiliary regiments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Roman_auxiliary_regiments)
* [Military history of ancient Rome](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_history_of_ancient_Rome)
* [Structural history of the Roman military](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structural_history_of_the_Roman_military)
* For a more detailed analysis, as well as the Romans in battle, see the articles [Roman infantry tactics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_infantry_tactics) and [Roman military personal equipment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_military_personal_equipment).

**References**

**Citations**

 Cornell, T. J. (1995): The Beginnings of Rome

  *Manousos Kambouris, Spyros Bakas (2016).* [*"Greco-Macedonian influences in the manipular Legion system,"*](https://www.academia.edu/31286327/Greco-Macedonian_influences_in_the_manipular_Legion_system)*. ARCHAEOLOGY AND SCIENCE. 11 2015: 145–154.*

  Data in: Goldsworthy, Adrian (2003). Complete Roman Army. pp. 95–95; Holder, Paul (1980). Studies in the Auxilia of the Roman Army. pp. 86–96; Elton, Hugh (1996). Frontiers of the Roman empire. pp 123. See table in article "Auxiliaries (Roman military)" for compilation of this data.

  [Livy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Livy), [*Ab urbe condita*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ab_urbe_condita_(book)), 2.30

  Mccall, Jeremiah B. *The Cavalry of the Roman Republic: Cavalry Combat and Elite Reputations in the Middle and Late Republic.* (New York, Routledge, 2002) pp. 53ff

  [*"Map"*](http://f.hypotheses.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/1447/files/2014/05/Roman-legions-212-AD-Centrici-site-Keilo-Jack.jpg)*. .hypotheses.org.*

  Totals from summary of Notitia Dignitatum in Richardot, Philippe, *La fin de l'armée romaine 284–476* [3rd ed.] Economica, 2005. [ISBN](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Book_Number) [2-7178-4861-4](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/2-7178-4861-4).

  Jones, Later Roman Empire, pp. 1449–50

  Bowman, Garnsey, Rathbone (eds) *The Cambridge Ancient History, Volume 11* pp. 326–27

  Birley, Anthony R. *Septimius Severus: The African Emperor.* (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1989) p. 40

  Caesar's Civil War, Adrian Goldsworthy, [p. 20](https://books.google.com/books?id=zKTABZiThz4C&pg=PA20)

  *Several Authors (17 December 2015).* [*History of The Roman Legions: History of Rome*](https://books.google.com/books?id=OLQ2CwAAQBAJ&pg=PT1069)*. Self-Publish. pp. 1069–. GGKEY:DXPWT430TXP.*

* 1.  Montesquieu C., *Considerations on the Causes of the Greatness of the Romans and Their Decline*, Hacket, 1999, p. 24

**Bibliography**

* [*The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, Legions, history and location of](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/9781444338386.wbeah19101/full)
* *History of the Art of War. Vol 1. Ancient Warfare,* [*Hans Delbrück*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans_Delbr%C3%BCck)
* *Roman Warfare*, [Adrian Goldsworthy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian_Goldsworthy)
* [*A History of Warfare*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_History_of_Warfare), [John Keegan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Keegan)
* *The Roman Army* and *Greece and Rome at War*, [Peter Connolly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Connolly)
* *The Encyclopedia Of Military History: From 3500 B.C. To The Present. (2nd Revised Edition 1986)*, R. Ernest Dupuy, and Trevor N. Dupuy.
* *War*, Gwynne Dyer.
* *The Evolution of Weapons and Warfare*, Trevor N. Dupuy.
* [Flavius Vegetius Renatus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flavius_Vegetius_Renatus), *De Re Militari* (with English translation on-line)
* [Julius Caesar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_Caesar), *The Gallic War*
* William Smith, D.C.L., LL.D.: A Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities, John Murray, London, 1875.
* *The Punic Wars*, Adrian Goldsworthy.
* *Carnage and Culture*, Victor Davis Hanson
* *The Fall of the Roman Empire: The Military Explanation*, by [Arther Ferrill](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arther_Ferrill), 1988
* *The Complete Roman Army*, by [Adrian Goldsworthy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian_Goldsworthy)
* *The Military System Of The Romans*, by Albert Harkness
* *From the Rise of the Republic and the Might of the Empire to the Fall of the West*, by [Nigel Rodgers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigel_Rodgers)
* *The Roman Army at War 100 BC – AD 200* (Oxford, September 1998) by [Adrian Goldsworthy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian_Goldsworthy)
* *The Beginnings of Rome: Italy and Rome from the Bronze Age to the Punic Wars (c.1000-264 BC)* (Routledge 1995) by T. J. Cornell
* "Legion GmbH. Das Unternehmen Römische Armee" (Saarbrücken 2012) by Stefan Zehnter
* "Roman Infantry Tactics in the mid-Republic: A Reassessment"( Historia 63, 2014) by Michael J. Taylor
* [[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_legion#cite_note-14)

**External links**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/4/4a/Commons-logo.svg/30px-Commons-logo.svg.png | Wikimedia Commons has media related to [***Roman legion***](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Roman_legions). |

* [The Roman Army: A Bibliography (Dr. J. P. Adams)](http://www.csun.edu/~hcfll004/armybibl.html)
* [Augustan Legionaries](https://www.academia.edu/31883463/Augustan_Legionaries) – legions and legionaries in the age of Augustus
* [The Last Legion](https://www.academia.edu/32297118/The_Last_Legion) – the legions of the fifth to seventh centuries AD
* [*UNRV's Roman Military*](http://www.unrv.com/military.php)
* [Legio X](http://www.legionx.pl) – Legio X Gemina (Equites) – "Viri Clarissimi"
* *Addison, Bickham, Diamond, Thompson, Penny, Christian, Anthony, Steve (2008). Humanities Dimensions History. 20 Thrackray Road, Port Melbourne, Victoria 3207: Pearson Education Australia. p. 135.* [*ISBN*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Standard_Book_Number)[*978-0-7339-8924-7*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:BookSources/978-0-7339-8924-7)*.*

[Categories](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Category):

* [Military of ancient Rome](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Military_of_ancient_Rome)
* [Military units and formations of the Roman Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Military_units_and_formations_of_the_Roman_Empire)
* [Military units and formations of the Roman Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Military_units_and_formations_of_the_Roman_Republic)
* [Roman legions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Roman_legions)