

II/xx Early Citizen Republican 509-390 BC
All Reg Co; Hilly; Sea

<i>Exercitum urbanum</i>				
<i>Equites:and Sex Suffragia (retinue)</i>	CvMo/e	1-3	1-6	2-9
Dismount the above	SpM		any	
<i>The Legion in phalanx: Classis:</i>				
1st Class Roman Citizens	SpHo	2-6	4-12	6-18
Upgrade to Veteran hoplites	SpHe		0 to 1/3	
2nd & 3rd Class Roman Citizens (lighter armed hoplites)	SpMo	4-12	8-24	12-36
<i>The Legion in phalanx: Infra classem:</i>				
4th Class Roman Citizens (light infantry)	SpLo	0-6	2-12	4-18
5th Class Roman Citizens (slingers)	SgLo/i	0-4	0-8	0-12
Independent Allies (* minima apply only if any Latin allies are used)				
Latin Cavalry *	CvMi	1-4	2-8	3-12
Latin Infantry armored hoplite style *	SpH/M all i	2-12	4-16	8-32
Convert the above to light infantry	SpLo/i		up to 1/4	
Italian Hill Tribes	SpMB/L	0-10	0-16	0-24

This list reflects the Roman army organization since the beginning of the Republic, by 510/9 BC, until the early 4th c. This includes the Etruscan and Veii wars, the sack of Rome and the raising of Roman military power in Italy.

The coming of the Republic had little impact on the social classes instituted by *Servius Tullius* – the king before the last – including the centuries that formed the *Exercitum urbanum* of the *Senatus Populusque Romanus (S.P.Q.R.)* «Senate Republic and the People of Rome».

The social reforms of the late monarchy pretended to abolish the ancient *gens* and *curia* class system based on ethnic differences, replacing it with the 6 class *census*, which relied on the place of residence and personal wealth. These changes allowed for the assembly of a more efficient and flexible military force. The hoplite centuries were formed by the *classis* wealthy enough to buy the heavy equipment, others belonging to the *infra classem*.

The mainstay of the phalanx was the hoplite, designated after its shield, the *hoplon*. The early Roman soldiers were equipped and organized most like Greek hoplites.

The Roman army of the period was mainly a militia force until the introduction of pay (from 404 BC) except that the cavalry was state subsidized from an earlier date. The militia was aggressive in combat but prone to disobey orders. A few citizens were trained to fight in formation and were gathered in special ‘veteran’ cohorts, as their skills would be wasted if they were mixed with among the regular rank and file. The army was further divided in the elder and youth, the first sallying in campaign and the last serving as city garrisons.

Accordingly to the sources each *census* class formed a line in combat. Yet here it is assumed that the 4th and 5th classes blended together as skirmishers.

The Republic brought the legion and later the maniple system more adapted to the mountainous terrain of Italy, which required greater flexibility. The changes in the army were accelerated by the defeat to the Gauls in *Allia* and the ensuing sack of Rome (390 BC) with the result that the phalanx was definitely abandoned.

Initially there were 40 centuries (theoretically 100 men strong) which could be reinforced by up to an extra 20 when necessary. This was an interim solution before the creation of another legion, which did not occur before 400 BC.

The reforms were progressively introduced during the second half of the 4th c., with an important role attributed to the great Roman hero *Flurius Camillus*.

The early army included a maximum of six cavalry centuries, known as the *Sex Suffragia*, yet later 12 new centuries, *the equites*, were assembled by the state governors. In the field the cavalry could be placed by the centre of the phalanx leading a charge, in the flanks or often in reserve. The riders could dismount to fight on foot, yielding a shield (*parma*) smaller than that of the infantry.

The allied contingents were usually formed by Latins or mountain peoples like the Hernici. During the Republic these enjoyed some independence and could decide about their participation in the war, resulting often a decline in commitment and discipline. The cavalry proportion in the Latin allied forces could be higher than in the Roman’s.

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