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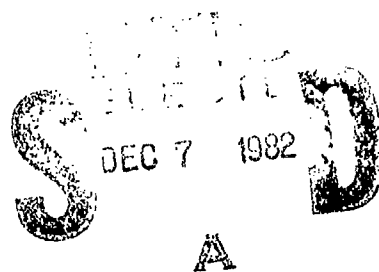
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TECHNICAL REPORT 131

**AN ASSESSMENT OF NAVAL
ROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE
IN POST-ACCESSION TRAINING**

OCTOBER 1982

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TRAINING ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION GROUP
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32813

Technical Report 131

AN ASSESSMENT OF NAVAL ROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE
IN POST-ACCESSION TRAINING

Edward A. Heidt
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October 1982

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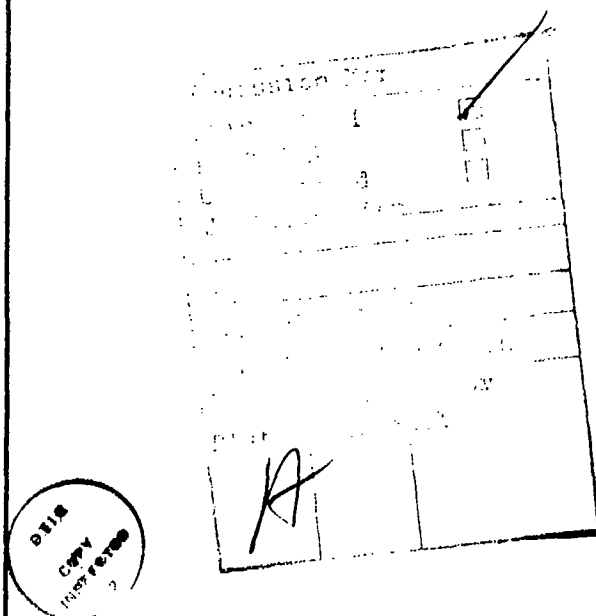
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the baccalaureate degree in either a technical or scientific field or an academic major of interest to the Navy. In addition, specific Naval Science courses must also be completed.

This study addresses the relationship of technical preparation to performance in post-accession training programs. It also provides a general assessment of the effectiveness of the NROTC program.

Specific initiatives undertaken in support of this study were:

- design and develop a comprehensive management information system by and through which pertinent data could be identified, tracked, and analyzed;
- evaluate NROTC graduate performance in post-accession (follow-on) training;
- identify academic knowledges required to support entry into post-accession training.



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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

The offices of the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV), the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), and the Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) have recently focused considerable attention on the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) program and on the post-accession performance of its graduates. The following issues have been of particular concern:

- . effect of "technical" preparation on performance in post-accession professional training programs
- . identification of valid criteria by which to assess NROTC unit viability
- . establishment of an optimum number and mix of host institutions
- . identification and selection of host institutions for future NROTC units
- . participation and preparation of minority group members in the NROTC program.

The study reported here addresses the relationship of technical preparation to performance in post-accession training programs; in so doing, it also provides a general assessment of the effectiveness of the NROTC program.

NROTC is one of the two major programs by which regular officers are commissioned for service in the U.S. Navy. The NROTC program, offered through host colleges and universities, requires enrolled midshipmen to complete all institutional requirements for the baccalaureate degree in either a technical or scientific field or an academic major of interest to the Navy. In addition, specific "Naval Science" courses, usually taught by active duty officers assigned to the host institution, must also be completed. The ultimate goal is the thorough preparation of a future Naval officer for his or her initial assignment after commissioning.

During the past several decades, the sophistication and complexity of the U.S. Navy have increased dramatically. Increases in technological complexity in general, application of nuclear power to Naval propulsion systems, and increasing use of advanced technology in Naval weapons and operations have resulted in substantial changes to the amount and kinds of preparation required by incoming officers. Technically-oriented academic programs (i.e., major fields of study in engineering, natural science, mathematics, computer science, operations analysis) are now required of nearly all students who enroll in the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA) or NROTC scholarship programs. The increased requirement for technical training is also reflected in the increased number of newly commissioned officers attending post-accession training programs en route to their first operational assignments; technical emphasis in post-accession training, particularly in warfare specialties (surface, sub-surface, aviation), has greatly expanded. A review of current officer retention data and emerging billet requirements, particularly at mid- and senior-grades, appears to support this emphasis on technical preparation. NROTC and USNA programs commission most regular Navy officers; graduates of

other programs (e.g., Officer Candidate School) receive commissions in the Naval Reserve. Historically, the retention percentage of regular Navy officers has been higher than that of reserve officers. Consequently, the requirement that most NROTC and USNA students major in a technical field appears to offer the Navy the greatest potential for maintaining qualified incumbents in technically oriented mid- and senior-grade level billets.

However, other factors affecting officer accessions have emerged to complicate this emphasis on technical preparation. Post-Vietnam attitudes toward military service have not been positive. Both the nation's declining birthrate and the institution of an all-volunteer force (AVF) have reduced the availability of military officer accession program entrants. The technical preparation requirement of officer accession programs may also contribute to a reduction in the number of eligible individuals who apply for these programs.

Moreover, the requirement for current levels of technical preparation has not yet been fully validated. Such a validation is particularly important to demonstrate that such requirements are related to performance in follow-on training and in subsequent billet assignments. Technical programs of study take longer to complete, cost more, and make qualified graduates more competitive for career alternatives outside military service. This last characteristic contributes significantly to the attrition of skilled Navy personnel.

Among NROTC host colleges and universities, the question of technical preparation can be argued from an additional perspective. Elimination of the technical major requirement (also referred to as the "80-20" requirement because 80 percent of entering NROTC midshipmen are required to enroll in technical majors) is expected to expand an institution's student selection base, which, in turn, would permit greater flexibility in selection of higher quality students. A broadened accession base also provides a greater opportunity for minority accessions, a long-term goal of both the military and university communities. Further, more student flexibility in selection of a major field of study would permit consideration of a greater number of potential NROTC host institutions which might not now have sufficient student base or curricula to support the requirement for technical preparation.

BACKGROUND

In 1976, the CNO established the policy that requires 80 percent of incoming NROTC scholarship students to enroll in technical majors. Technical majors are defined by CNET to include engineering, mathematics, natural and physical sciences, computer science, and operations analysis (CNETINST 1533.12A). All NROTC scholarship students, regardless of major, are expected to take, at a minimum, calculus, calculus-based physics, and two additional technically-oriented electives. (Nonscholarship students are encouraged to meet this same minimum requirement.) In addition, all NROTC students must complete required Naval Science courses, most of which include some technical material.

Host institution reaction to the 80-20 policy has centered about the validity of the requirement for increased numbers of NROTC graduates with technical majors, the future of NROTC units at nontechnically-oriented host

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institutions, and the potential benefits of an expanded selection base which might result were the 80-20 requirement lifted. In February 1979, the Association of NROTC Colleges and Universities, in conjunction with CNET, submitted to the SECNAV a proposed revision to current NROTC scholarship program curriculum requirements. This revised curriculum requires completion of upgraded and expanded technical "core" requirements by all NROTC scholarship students in lieu of the 80 percent technical major requirement and was designed to satisfy both Navy needs and Association concerns. A copy of those revised curricula requirements is found in appendix A.

The Association proposal also suggested that the revised curriculum be evaluated through a pilot program to be offered at representative host institutions. An evaluation plan to support this proposal was developed by the Training Analysis and Evaluation Group (TAEG) and accompanied the Association submission to SECNAV (Heidt, Zajkowski, and Hodak (1979)). The evaluation was designed to assess the impact of the pilot program on NROTC and institutional accession patterns and to determine the adequacy of preparation provided to graduating students by this revised curriculum. Of added benefit was the potential use of the data obtained during the pilot program to address other NROTC program issues.

In June 1980, the SECNAV approved implementation of the proposed pilot program; in April 1981, the evaluation plan was approved. Following a period of time to advertise its availability, the pilot program will be implemented during the school year 1982-83 (class of 1986) and evaluated during the subsequent 6-year period. During this time, all NROTC scholarship students enrolled at participant institutions will be required to complete all "core" curriculum requirements but may select any major field of study.

In order to accurately assess the full impact of the core curriculum when implemented, a requirement exists to develop information describing the relationship between the current NROTC academic program and the performance of NROTC graduates during post-accession training. In addition to forming the bulk of the baseline data against which pilot program data will be compared, this information will provide a general assessment of the effectiveness of the current NROTC program. Moreover, the Management Information System (MIS) developed to process and store information on NROTC student performance during this initial effort would be applicable to subsequent pilot program data storage and analysis requirements. By letter, dated 12 December 1979, the CNET tasked the TAEG to initiate the assessment effort which this document reports.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to establish and describe the relationship between the NROTC officer accession program and the performance of NROTC graduates in post-accession (follow-on) training. Specific initiatives undertaken in support of this purpose included the following:

- design and develop a comprehensive management information system by and through which pertinent data could be identified, tracked, and analyzed

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- . evaluate NROTC graduates' performance in post-accession (follow-on) training
- . identify academic knowledges required to support entry into post-accession training.

APPROACH

The approach used to satisfy the requirements of this study was relatively straightforward. Three primary steps were involved:

Step 1. Design and Develop a Management Information System. This step required identification of all pertinent data elements for the system, establishment of tracking and analysis procedures, and review and integration of software/hardware capabilities to ensure a system that would serve the study's purpose. Section II outlines this process and describes the management information system that evolved. A detailed description of the system, user instructions, and examples of system application, are being developed for separate publication. A list of pertinent data elements is found in appendix B.

Step 2. Identify Data Sources and Acquire Data. The various data required for entry into the MIS are maintained in various formats by different commands and activities. A complete list of data source commands and/or activities is included in appendix B. Most data were acquired by formal request made through normal chains of command; in some cases, specific data were developed locally. Tape-to-tape exchanges were made wherever possible; in those cases, when only hard copy information was available, manual translation for ADP entry was accomplished.

Step 3. Analyze Data. Data obtained and entered in the MIS were tabulated and analyzed using standard statistical packages. Frequency counts, computation of means, cross tabulations among data sets, and correlation and regression routines were conducted as appropriate for each major post-accession training program to identify significant relationships among the various preparation and performance data elements. Study conclusions are based on analyses of results obtained.

Throughout the study, a concerted effort was made to identify and use all available sources of information. Historical data in the form of documented studies, reports, and surveys were reviewed, both to suggest possible avenues of exploration and to provide the background against which current data might be assessed. Similarly, communication links were established with other military service activities and/or individuals involved in studies of similar or related topics. A detailed review of applicable literature reporting these efforts may be issued under separate cover; reference material pertinent to this study is contained in the list of references.

ORGANIZATION OF THIS REPORT

In addition to this introduction, this report contains seven additional sections and three appendices. Section II describes the management information system designed and developed for this study in anticipation of the

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pilot program. Information and data demonstrating the relationships between NROTC preparation and post-accession performance are presented, by post-accession training program, in sections III through VII; a synopsis of findings introduces each of these sections. Section VIII summarizes all data and provides a concluding assessment.

Appendix A contains the revised "core" curriculum to be offered at selected NROTC institutions beginning in the fall of 1982. Appendix B lists the data elements included in the supporting MIS and the sources from which these data were obtained. Appendix C contains a listing of NROTC institutional descriptors which were also developed for use in data analysis.

SECTION II

THE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

The accomplishment of the tasks that supported this project required the acquisition, storage, and analysis of a large amount of information. The accumulation of even greater amounts of similar information will be required to accomplish the objective of the pilot program evaluation plan. Most of this information has been, or will be, provided piecemeal, in data sets of varying size. To manage these data, a project-oriented, computer-based management information system (MIS) has been developed. This section provides an overview of the MIS structure and introduces the major variables on which the analyses presented in subsequent sections of this report are based.

SYSTEM STRUCTURE

The project MIS had to be able to accommodate multiple sources of current and historical data. CNET maintains its own NROTC computer-based tracking and record keeping system which contains information on the entry, throughput, and graduate parts of the NROTC accession pipeline. Recruiting command data sources provided entry information to the MIS; separate data sources for each of the post-accession training programs provided data describing the performance of NROTC program graduates enrolled in "follow-on" training. Information from NROTC-specific, fleet feedback programs was also included. Accommodating different hardware and software configurations among reporting activities was a major effort in consolidating information. This effort was further complicated by the fact that records at some activities differed in format and/or style according to the age of the data: more recent data might be available on magnetic tape but earlier information had been maintained in handwritten records. At several follow-on schools, internal grading policy had also changed over time, requiring the development of equivalency tables for different grading schemes.

The MIS was designed to be compatible with the CNET NROTC Automated Data System (ADS), a computer-based system now on line in support of NROTC program management and evaluation. In the short term, data from the NROTC ADS is expected to become the primary source of information for pilot program tracking and evaluation; future plans call for the assimilation of the project MIS and supporting software by the NROTC ADS.

Figure 1 outlines the major MIS data flow relationships developed for this study. Both current and historical data sources are shown. The following paragraphs identify major contributors to the project MIS and briefly describe the information obtained from each source. Specific data elements from each contributor are listed in appendix B.

NAVAL RECRUITING COMMAND. Historical data describing past selections and placement of applicants in the various NROTC units were obtained from the Naval Recruiting Command (NRC). Much of this information is now available through the NROTC ADS. Data elements from these source files describe most of the biographic and demographic information on individual applicants. Such information is useful both to provide background information on NROTC program selectees and to monitor the characteristics of the applicant population from which they were selected.

NROTC PROJECT MIS SOURCE RELATIONSHIPS

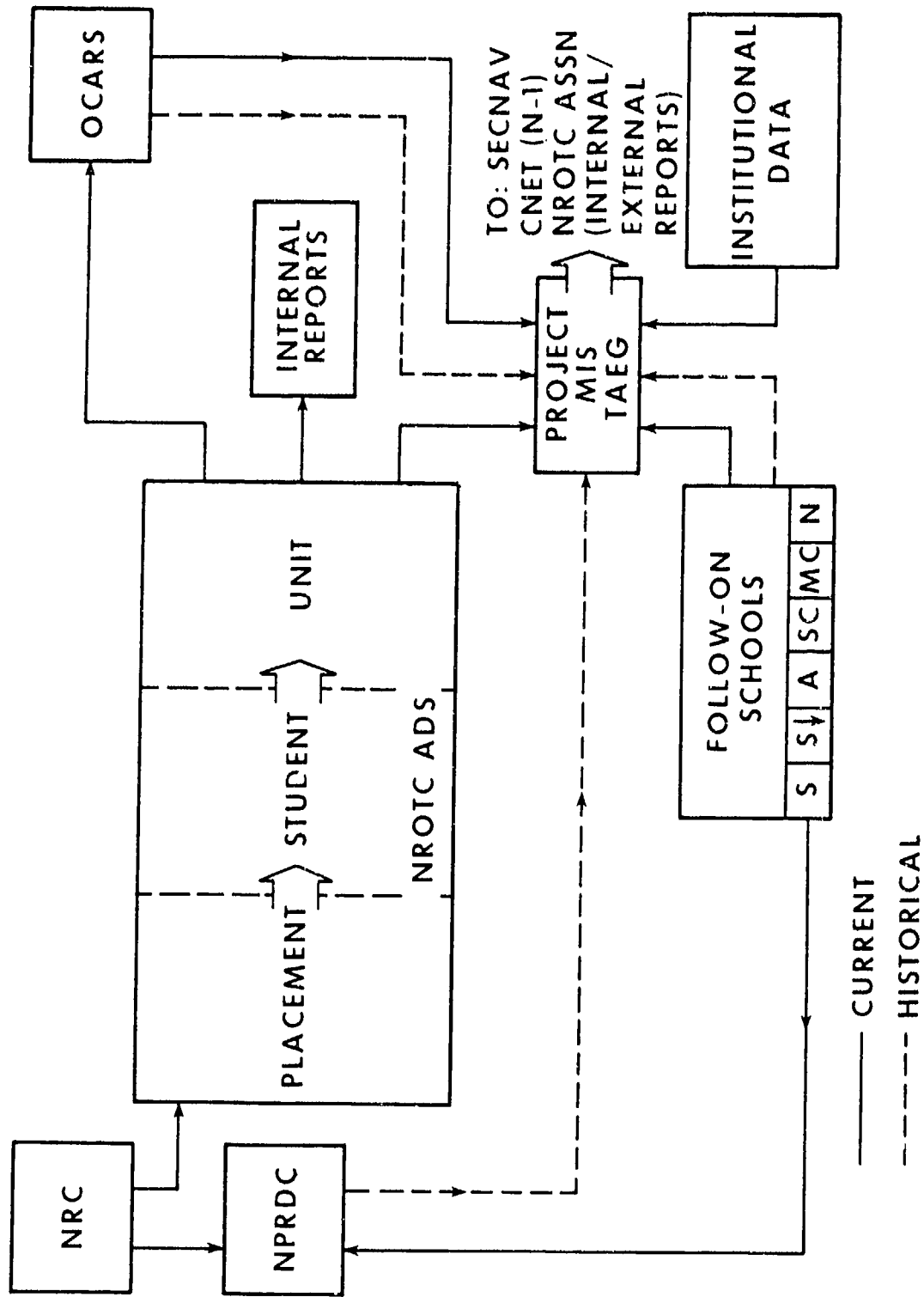


Figure 1. TAEg MIS Source/System Relationships

NAVY PERSONNEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER. A substantial amount of research in areas related to the NROTC program is ongoing at the Navy Personnel Research and Development Center (NPRDC). Studies completed or underway address the development and refinement of predictors of performance at NROTC entry and/or analyses of performance in follow-on programs by minority group members. Data developed for use in those studies were made available to this project and were used in reference and validation tasks.

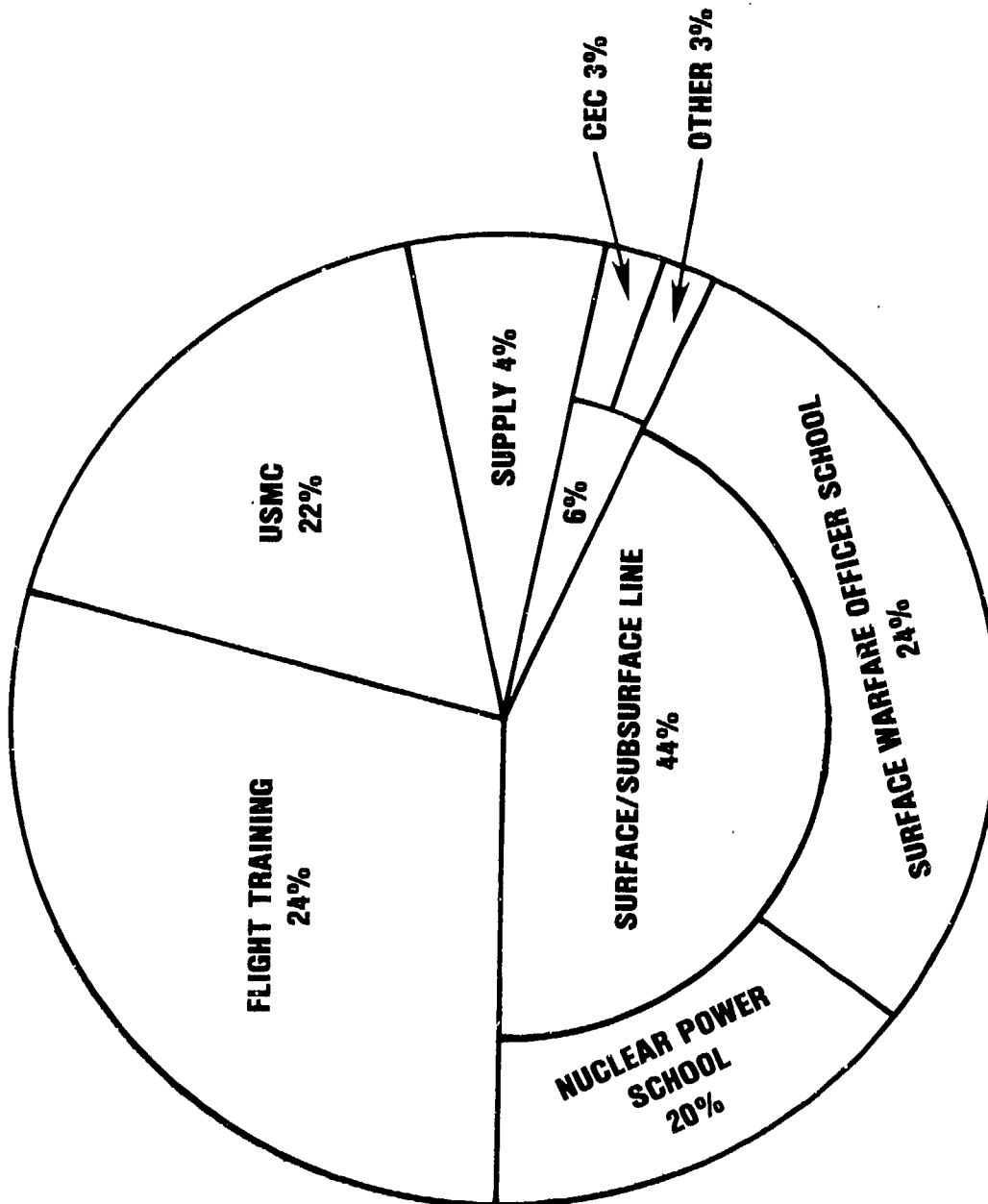
NROTC AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEM (ADS). This new, computer-based system is now the primary repository for NROTC student, military, and academic data. In addition, it contains a substantial amount of the biographical information, historically originated by NRC, as well as cost and staffing data on each NROTC unit. The ADS, located at CNET headquarters in Pensacola, Florida, is currently expanding its capabilities and will include university and Naval Science course grades, military aptitude scores, college majors, and information needed to monitor unit accession patterns. Because of its recent implementation, little historical (baseline) information was available to the current study from the NROTC ADS; however, the ADS is designed to provide most of the future information requirements about students in the NROTC program. These data will be used in conjunction with performance data obtained from follow-on programs. Additional technical and format information on the NROTC ADS is contained in the NROTC ADS User's Manual.

NAVAL MILITARY PERSONNEL COMMAND (NMPC) OFFICER CANDIDATE ACCOUNTING AND RECORDKEEPING SYSTEM (OCARS). NMPC maintains official records on all officer candidates enrolled in Navy accession pipelines. Input to this system is provided by individual program offices. Prior to the implementation of the NROTC ADS, NROTC input was provided as hard copy for keypunch and entry into OCARS. The implementation of the NROTC ADS will automate the information transfer process and should increase the OCARS reliability and currency.

Because it was begun in 1975, the OCARS contains some historical data pertinent to this project. Where appropriate and available, these data were transferred from OCARS to the TAEG MIS. The availability of the NROTC ADS should obviate the requirement for an OCARS input to the TAEG MIS, although future OCARS data might be useful for validation purposes.

FOLLOW-ON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. Data were obtained for five major officer post-accession training program areas: surface, subsurface, aviation, nuclear power, and supply. Excluding Marine Option students, these five program areas encompass about 95 percent of all the initial follow-on training for NROTC graduates conducted by the Navy (see figure 2). Data from remaining Navy and/or Marine Corps programs could be added at a later time if desired.

Data obtained from follow-on activities describes the performance of the NROTC graduate and usually adds to his/her biographical data as well. Criterion variables (performance data) normally included some combination of final grade point average, class standing and/or module test scores. Because data formats differ among source activities, the development of equivalency tables was necessary before students from different follow-on programs could be compared.



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Figure 2. NROTC Graduate Assignments to Warfare/Staff Corps Specialty

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Additional specific information on the data acquisition process used for each follow-on program is included in later sections of this report where it applies.

INSTITUTIONAL DATA. Information describing the characteristics of participating host NROTC institutions was derived from review of institution catalogs and commercially published documentation. Information about each institution included size, public or private control, institutional type (e.g., multiversity; letters, arts, sciences (LAS); technical), geographic location, and various characteristics of student populations. Additional institutional descriptors may be added as necessary. More detailed information on pilot program institutions will be obtained directly from the institutions as necessary.

SYSTEM APPLICATION

Although the project data base to support the NROTC pilot program resides at TAEG, the hardware and services of the Florida University Computer System are used to perform data analysis and print reports. Entry to high capacity units located on the Gainesville and/or Orlando campuses is gained through TAEG's WANG 2200 series mini computer system. Study data are entered locally, programs are transmitted to one of the larger systems for processing, and results are printed at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

Locally developed software packages are used to merge the various files of source data. The commercially available Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (Nie, Hull, Jenkins, Steinbrenner, and Best, 1975) is used for data analysis. Coordination among the various data sources is maintained on a relatively frequent basis to provide data updates.

SYSTEM CAPABILITY

The TAEG MIS that has emerged in support of this project promises to be a powerful management and analytic tool. Current use of the MIS, in support of current NROTC projects or anticipated in support of the pilot program core curriculum evaluation, includes the development of statistical information on individual units and institutions grouped according to selected characteristics. Management evaluations of these data will assist program managers to make curricular and program decisions. Other potential uses of the TAEG MIS include:

- providing support for the evaluation of NROTC units, and the performance of NROTC graduates, in situations/assignments other than immediate post-accession training
- serving as a data base to be used in assessing NROTC unit viability
- supporting the feedback of information to post-accession training activities to aid in review/revision of their follow-on training programs.

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DATA ELEMENTS

Although there are unique data elements available which describe special characteristics of a particular data set, variables common to all programs were identified and used to provide a basis for intra- and inter-program evaluations. The standard elements, or system variables, included:

- . SSN: the social security number of each NROTC graduate was used to identify and/or group all computer analyses.
- . Class: identifies the post-accession program class, by number or year of enrollment in which the NROTC graduate was first enrolled. Normally, this data element included the year of enrollment and the sequential number of the class begun during that year (e.g., SWOS class no. 7905 would be the 5th class to begin Surface Warfare Basic School during Fiscal Year (FY) 1979).
- . College: the institution/NROTC unit location from which the NROTC student graduated and/or was commissioned. Fifty-five colleges or universities are identified.
- . Major: the NROTC graduate's primary field of academic study while enrolled at the baccalaureate level at the college. For the current study, only the final major, or major of record, has been identified; in developing additional data for the pilot program evaluation, changes to major fields of study will be monitored. A total of 98 majors were coded and referred to by name. Where these data are unavailable, the majors are listed as "missing." If an identified major does not have a corresponding numerical code, it is identified for discussion purposes as "other."
- . Technical/nontechnical major: groups major fields of study so as to distinguish between those in a "technical area" (e.g., science, engineering, math) and those that are not technically oriented (e.g., social sciences, education, business). CNETINST 1533.12A provides guidance on the assignment of a major field of study to one of these categories.
- . Grade point average (GPA): an average of all grades obtained during a specified portion of the post-accession training period. Although this number usually indicates a final assessment of performance, in some cases it may reflect performance over some portion of curriculum. A GPA may be computed on the basis of either a 4.0 or 100 point scale.
- . Standing: the relative position of an NROTC student to all others regardless of accession source in his/her class upon graduation from post-accession training. A standing may be based solely on GPA or on a combination of factors usually including GPA. For purposes of the current study, standing is shown in deciles (e.g., top 10%, second 10%).

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- Attrition: an indicator that the NROTC graduate did not complete his post-accession study program. As currently coded, this variable does not distinguish among reasons for attrition.
- Setback: an indicator that the NROTC graduate was removed from his original class and re-enrolled in a class convened at some later date. This action permits a student to retake certain material which may have caused difficulty and/or accommodates students whose programs of study are interrupted for various non-academic reasons as well (e.g., sickness, home difficulty). As currently coded, this variable does not distinguish among reasons for setback.

In addition to these common data elements, a set of institutional descriptors was also developed for use in data analysis. These characteristics were applicable to all post-accession programs analyzed and include the following variables/elements:

- Rank: a level of competitiveness among institutions based on college entry requirements and percent of applicants accepted for entry. This variable has been extracted from Barron's Profiles of American Colleges (1977) and includes the following comparative levels:

<u>RANK</u>	<u>SAT/ACT AVG</u>	<u>% ACCEPTED</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1	675-800/28+	top 10-20%	Most competitive
2	600-675/26+	top 20-30%	Highly competitive
3	550-600/23+	top 30-50%	Very competitive
4	450-550/21+	top 50%	Competitive
5	less than 450/21	top 75%	Less competitive
6	NA	NA	No entry requirements

- Type: describes the primary academic thrust of the institution as (1) multipurpose university, (2) technical institution, (3) letters, arts, sciences (LAS).
- Environment: describes the environmental location of the institution as (1) suburban, (2) urban, (3) rural.
- Geographic location: identifies the general geographic location of the institution as (1) Northeast, (2) West, (3) Midwest, (4) Southeast.
- Control: describes the institution in terms of fiscal and/or regulatory control, as (1) public, (2) private, (3) Roman Catholic.
- Coeducational status: identifies those institutions whose undergraduate enrollments are primarily male.
- Size: describes the numbers of students at the institution as (1) less than 5,000, (2) 5-10,000, (3) 10-15,000, (4) 15-20,000, (5) greater than 20,000.

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- Salary: compares institutions in terms of their average salaries paid to faculty members as (1) high, (2) average, (3) lower than average.
- Ethnic: identifies those institutions whose undergraduate enrollments are primarily composed of minority race/ethnic group members.

Appendix C contains a listing of NROTC institutions categorized by these descriptors.

SECTION III

NROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE AT SURFACE WARFARE OFFICER SCHOOL

SYNOPSIS

The performance of NROTC graduates at SWOS Basic is described by criterion-based test (CT) scores achieved in 21 subject areas and by attrition and setback data. Using manually obtained project data describing 1,139 cases, NROTC graduates entering SWOS Basic classes during FY 1977 - FY 1980 achieved a mean CT score (GPA) of 3.50 (S.D. = .49; 4.0 scale) and attrition and setback rates of 2.9 percent and 7.9 percent, respectively. Validation data obtained independently from SWOS for 1,758 NROTC graduate accessions for the same period showed a comparable CT GPA of 3.44, but significantly higher attrition (6.0 percent) and somewhat lower setback (5.8 percent) rates. CT scores grouped by NROTC unit attended (college or university), academic major, and class year produced GPAs ranging from 3.08 to 3.77; however, the small number of cases for some schools and majors suggest that these data may not be truly representative. By class year, NROTC accession performance has been relatively consistent.

The level of preparedness for NROTC accessions may be more directly indicated by scores on pretests (PT) administered on entry and covering the same 21 subject areas. Data on 1,758 NROTC accessions provided by SWOS show an average NROTC PT score of 1.98. This score is .08 below the mean for nearly 5,000 SWOS students representing all accession sources. Project data describing pretest performance show an average PT score of 1.58 (S.D. = .92, N = 1,071), somewhat lower than that found by SWOS review. This discrepancy, as well as differences between project and other data on attrition and setback, suggest areas for future MIS refinement. No project data for other accession source pretest scores were obtained and comparison among such data was not possible.

Comparisons of PT and CT scores and setback rates between NROTC graduates grouped by technical or nontechnical majors show that students with technical backgrounds average higher scores on all PT and CT subject areas. The significant differences between group averages in engineering and other technical areas was expected; however, NROTC accessions with technical backgrounds also attained significantly better CT scores in several Navy specific subject areas (e.g., Watchstanding, Rules of the Road, Maneuvering Board, Navigation). Attrition data were insufficient for comparisons between these two groups, but the setback rate for technical majors was about half that of nontechnical majors.

Comparisons among NROTC accessions grouped by characteristics of their institution show that graduates of schools with higher entry requirements perform better than graduates of schools with less rigid entry standards by all measurement criteria. Consistent with this finding, students from institutions with lower faculty salaries and/or predominately minority student populations also do less well than their counterparts. Attrition and setback data support these findings: among minority institution graduates, attrition and setback rates were five times that of graduates of nonminority schools.

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Graduates of institutions emphasizing technical preparation and accessions from predominately male institutions also demonstrated higher levels of performance. Largest numbers of technical accessions came from competitive, smaller, predominately male institutions and the Northeast.

BACKGROUND

NROTC graduates commissioned as surface line officers and assigned to surface ship billets receive initial post-accession training at the Surface Warfare Officer School Basic (SWOS Basic) course offered at either Newport, Rhode Island, or San Diego, California. SWOS Basic is the first in a sequence of courses that prepare such officers for specific duty assignments as they progress through the various stages of this warfare specialty. The SWOS Basic course provides students with a foundation in surface warfare fundamentals which is essential for qualification as a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO). The course, roughly 16 weeks in length, is taught by Navy personnel, most of whom are already qualified in the surface warfare specialty.

The SWOS Basic curriculum is comprised of the instructional units shown in table 1. The basis for evaluation of an officer's performance and the achievement of each unit's learning objectives is a criterion-referenced examination system applied through the administration of a series of different types of tests. Knowledge tests, performance tests, and subjective evaluations all contribute to the evaluation process. For units 1-21, diagnostic pretests (PT) are administered on entry to identify those subject areas in which a student may require additional study; criterion-based unit tests (CT) are administered at the end of each unit to ensure completion of learning objectives; comprehensive tests (CX) are administered after completion of a predetermined number of units to assess a student's cumulative performance during training. A mean performance standard of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale (80 percent) has been established for all CTs to ensure a final performance achievement average of 75 percent of the established objectives. For units 1 (Maneuvering Board required standard 3.0), 5 (Rules of the Road, required standard 3.2), and 6 (Navigation, performance test, required standard 3.0), specific test score requirements must be met or the test must be repeated until prescribed standards are reached. An attainment standard of 3.0 for each CX is also a course requirement. For units 22-25, which emphasize the practical application or practice of shiphandling/tactical operations, a subjective assessment of "hands on" performance is made.

Performance data for units 1-21 were acquired for use in the current analysis. Data on the practice units (22-25) were not considered appropriate for use in the current study and were not obtained. To provide an overall mean entry level score (AVGPT), individual PT unit scores were equally weighted and averaged; to provide a combined, end-of-course assessment criterion (GPA), individual CT unit test scores were averaged, again assuming equal value for each unit's score. These means, together with individual unit CT and PT scores, attrition data, and setback data were used as performance criteria in analyzing NROTC graduate performance at SWOS. All of the major variables described in section II were used as independent/moderator variables with the exception of "class standing," for which no data were available.

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TABLE 1. SWOS BASIC COURSE UNIT DESCRIPTION

UNIT NO.	TITLE	UNIT NO.	TITLE
1	Maneuvering Board & Tactics	15	Inspections & Safety
2	Watchstanding & Seamanship	16	Material Management
3	CIC Watch Officer	17	Steam Propulsion & Auxiliary System
4	External Communications	18	Diesel & Gas Turbine Propulsion
5	Rules of the Road	19	Engineering Administration and Records
6	Navigation	20	Damage Control (Phase I)
7	Naval Ordnance	21	Damage Control (Phase II)
8	Antisubmarine Warfare	*22	Professional Development
9	Surface Combat Operations	*23	Ship Simulator/Underway Training Craft
10	Mine and Amphibious Warfare	*24	Underway Training
11	Inport Watch Officer	*25	Tactical Training/Underway Training Craft
12	Personnel Organization & Administration		
13	Human Resources Management		
14	Shipboard Training and Administration		

*Practical application units, not part of CT/CX testing format; no data acquired.

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Data describing 18 variables for 1,139 NROTC graduates were developed from course records and college background information. Data were acquired for the period beginning with class 7602 (the second class of FY 1976) through class 8004. Both East and West Coast schools are represented in the data base. Most of the data were retrieved from handwritten records and manually entered into the TAEG MIS; in those few instances where data were available in computer compatible formats, direct tape-to-tape transfer of information was accomplished.

Some cautions with respect to the data base are appropriate. First, not all data sets describing individual cases were complete; thus, analyses are based on the number of cases (N) for which specific data were actually obtained. When more than one variable is included in an analysis, the variable with the smallest N determined the total number of cases used for analysis. Where appropriate, the effect of variations in N is discussed in the text. A profile of SWOS Basic course data obtained and used to describe course characteristics and student performance is provided in table 2. The number of missing observations for each variable is included in that profile.

It should also be noted that some course or curriculum revisions were made during the period for which data were obtained. Accordingly, equivalency tables were developed and applied to data from earlier classes to produce a standard data set reflective of current conditions (FY 1980-1981). Where necessary, reorganization of unit sequence was accommodated in the same manner. The software programs by which these translations were accomplished have been retained for future use.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

The total amount of raw data acquired by TAEG to support both this analysis and the development of baseline information for future comparison is extensive. Similarly, the number of variables included in the data set permit a wide variety of combinations for review and comparison. Because of space constraints, some selectivity in data presentation has been exercised. Data describing NROTC graduate performance in general terms or responding to certain specific issues are presented in the text of this report. When necessary for clarity or completeness, more specific data and/or supporting analyses are provided as appendices; still other information, of interest but not directly pertinent to the current effort, has been retained by the TAEG and is available through the NROTC program manager.

NROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE AT SWOS BASIC. Based on data acquired for this project, the performance of NROTC graduates at SWOS Basic is most simply described by the mean GPA for all cases containing a complete set of CT scores: 3.496 (4.0 scale, S.D. = .49, N = 959). Tables 3 through 5 break this performance variable into component parts. Individual NROTC unit performance is described by mean GPA, standard deviation, variance, and N in table 3; unit GPAs ranged from 3.09 (S.D. = .99, N = 12) to 3.77 (S.D. = .15, N = 9). Tables 4 and 5 provide similar statistics for performance grouped by major fields of study and class years, respectively. Figure 3 depicts the trend in GPA performance as a function of class. Although somewhat variable at the outset, NROTC graduate performance at SWOS Basic has

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TABLE 2. SWOS BASIC COURSE PROFILE DATA

VARIABLE NAME	CATEGORIES	NUMBER OF USABLE CASES (%) *	MISSING CASES (%) *
Class		1,138 (100)	1
College (units)		1,106 (97.1)	33 (2.9)
Major		969 (85.1)	170 (14.9)
	Technical	509 (44.7)	
	Nontechnical	460 (40.4)	
Attrite		1,138 (100)	1
	Nonattrite	1,106 (97.2)	
	Attrite	32 (2.8)	
Setback		1,138 (100)	1
	Nonsetback	1,051 (92.4)	
	Setback	87 (7.6)	
Institutional Characteristics:		1,106 (97.1)	33 (2.9)
Barron's Ranking	Most Competitive	7 (0.6)	
	Highly Competitive	116 (10.2)	
	Very Competitive	241 (21.2)	
	Competitive	611 (53.6)	
	Less Competitive	90 (7.9)	
	Noncompetitive	41 (3.6)	
Environment	Suburban	537 (47.1)	
	Urban	475 (41.7)	
	Rural	94 (8.3)	
Control	Public	861 (75.6)	
	Private	148 (13.0)	
	Catholic	97 (8.5)	
Location	NE	244 (21.4)	
	W	228 (20.0)	
	MW	228 (20.0)	
	SE	406 (35.6)	
Coed Status	Coed	1,029 (90.3)	
	Male only	77 (6.8)	
Student Population	Predominately Majority	1,033 (90.7)	
	Predominately Minority	73 (6.4)	

*May not total 100 percent due to rounding.

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TABLE 2. SWOS BASIC COURSE PROFILE DATA (continued)

VARIABLE NAME	CATEGORIES	NUMBER OF USABLE CASES (%)*	MISSING CASES (%)*
Type	University	859 (75.4)	
	Technical	142 (12.4)	
	LAS	105 (9.2)	
Salary	High Faculty Salary	454 (39.9)	
	Avg Faculty Salary	227 (19.9)	
	Low Faculty Salary	425 (37.3)	
	Pay (AAUP)** Top 20%	224 (23.1)	
	20-40%	357 (36.8)	
	40-60%	175 (18.1)	
	60-80%	213 (22.0)	
Size	Less than 5,000	268 (24.2)	
	5,000 - 10,000	346 (31.3)	
	10,000 - 15,000	156 (14.1)	
	15,000 - 20,000	157 (14.2)	
	Over 20,000	179 (16.2)	

*May not total 100 percent due to rounding.

**AAUP = American Association of University Professors.

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TABLE 3. MEAN SWOS GPA BASED ON COMBINED CT SCORES BY NROTC UNIT

COLLEGE/ INSTITUTION	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AUBURN	3.49	0.74	0.55	26
U C BERKELEY	3.71	0.08	0.01	3
UCLA	3.11	1.04	1.08	11
CITADEL	3.51	0.26	0.07	53
U COLORADO	3.66	0.25	0.06	9
CORNELL	3.74	0.23	0.05	16
DUKE	3.58	0.22	0.05	14
U FLORIDA	3.49	0.25	0.06	26
FLORIDA A&M	3.40	0.21	0.04	17
GEORGIA TECH	3.60	0.18	0.03	26
HOLY CROSS	3.50	0.36	0.13	17
U IDAHO	3.48	0.22	0.05	13
IIT	3.78	0.15	0.02	9
U ILLINOIS	3.18	1.06	1.13	11
IOWA ST	3.50	0.19	0.04	13
JACKSONVILLE U	3.55	0.23	0.05	14
U KANSAS	3.38	0.96	0.92	15
MAINE MARITIME	3.59	0.19	0.03	18
MARQUETTE	3.31	0.81	0.65	20
MIT	3.60	0.24	0.06	7
MIAMI U OHIO	3.43	0.84	0.70	21
U MICHIGAN	3.62	0.28	0.08	18
U MINNESOTA	3.56	0.16	0.02	11
U MISSISSIPPI	3.31	0.91	0.82	16
U MISSOURI	3.53	0.25	0.06	19
U NEBRASKA	3.51	0.16	0.03	7
U NEW MEXICO	3.54	0.21	0.04	17
U N CAROLINA	3.47	0.20	0.04	10
NORTHWESTERN	3.61	0.14	0.02	8
NOTRE DAME	3.60	0.17	0.03	20
OHIO ST	3.47	0.20	0.04	17
U OKLAHOMA	3.14	1.20	1.45	9
OREGON ST	3.59	0.15	0.02	16
PENN ST	3.58	0.21	0.04	46
U PENNSYLVANIA	3.56	0.27	0.07	17
PRAIRIE VIEW	3.09	0.99	0.97	12
PURDUE	3.44	0.80	0.64	22
RPI	3.55	0.17	0.03	30
RICE	3.61	0.22	0.05	4
U ROCHESTER	3.29	1.04	1.09	24
SAVANNAH ST	3.50	0.22	0.05	6
U S CAROLINA	3.44	0.19	0.04	18
USC	3.51	0.15	0.02	14
SOUTHERN A&M	3.29	0.23	0.05	14
TEXAS A&M	3.50	0.20	0.04	33
TEXAS	3.47	0.76	0.58	24
TULANE	3.63	0.19	0.04	13
U UTAH	3.24	1.09	1.19	11
VANDERBILT	3.57	0.29	0.09	22
VILLANOVA	3.57	0.18	0.03	31
U VIRGINIA	3.63	0.25	0.06	21
U WASHINGTON	3.62	0.13	0.02	15
U WISCONSIN	3.52	0.18	0.03	8
SUNY MARITIME	3.61	0.23	0.05	24
VMI	3.40	0.16	0.03	23
Average	3.496	0.49	0.24	959

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TABLE 4. COMBINED SWOS MEAN GPA BY MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AGRICULT	3.49	0.23	0.05	5
FORESTRY	3.44	0.38	0.14	3
MISC AGR	3.47	0.0	0.0	1
SCIENCES	3.52	0.21	0.05	23
BIOL SCI	3.58	0.19	0.04	12
BOTANY	3.59	0.26	0.07	4
BACTERIO	3.22	0.0	0.0	1
ZOOLOGY	3.60	0.16	0.03	7
ETOMOLO	3.54	0.23	0.05	2
MISC BIO	3.44	0.71	0.50	29
OPTOMETR	3.70	0.0	0.0	1
MISC MED	3.60	0.0	0.0	1
GEOLOGY	3.67	0.15	0.02	10
NAUT SCI	3.51	0.11	0.01	3
OPS RSCH	3.38	0.0	0.0	1
METEORL	3.18	1.30	1.69	8
CHEMISTRY	3.55	0.27	0.07	25
BIOCHEM	3.80	0.0	0.0	1
OCEANOGRAPHY	3.61	0.25	0.06	8
METALLUR	3.47	0.10	0.01	2
MATH	3.54	0.19	0.04	34
PHYSICS	3.58	0.22	0.05	16
PHYS SCI	3.62	0.21	0.04	4
CIV ENG	3.63	0.21	0.04	29
AGRI ENG	3.55	0.0	0.0	1
COMP SCI	3.37	0.83	0.69	20
NAV ARCH	3.60	0.16	0.03	27
NUC ENG	3.62	0.24	0.06	24
INDS ENG	3.63	0.20	0.04	16
CHEM ENG	3.54	0.23	0.05	29
ELEC ENG	3.55	0.23	0.05	58
MECH ENG	3.58	0.21	0.04	54
AERO ENG	3.66	0.13	0.02	8
ARCHITCT	3.93	0.0	0.0	1
ENGINEER	3.44	0.84	0.71	19
FRGN AFF	3.59	0.21	0.04	18
POLY SCI	3.42	0.63	0.40	68
INDS ART	3.13	1.11	1.24	10
HISTORY	3.56	0.23	0.05	51
INDS MGT	3.85	0.0	0.0	1
PERS ADM	3.44	0.26	0.07	2
PSYCHOL	3.48	0.20	0.04	13
ANTHROPL	3.56	0.12	0.01	2
ARCHEOL	3.56	0.0	0.0	1
ECONOMICS	3.43	0.70	0.49	28
ACCOUNTG	3.49	0.31	0.09	8
GEOGRAPH	3.51	0.24	0.06	11
BUS ADM	3.48	0.48	0.23	76
FINANCE	3.59	0.23	0.05	8
PHYS ED	3.43	0.15	0.02	4
EDUCATION	3.13	1.08	1.16	11
JOURNL	3.53	0.26	0.07	11
SOC SCI	3.56	0.34	0.12	12
FINE ARTS	3.20	1.03	1.07	12
ENGLISH	3.49	0.24	0.06	20
LANGUAGE	3.55	0.31	0.10	8
PHILOSOPHY	3.39	0.13	0.02	3
NOT ELSEWHERE				
CLASSIFIED	3.00	1.34	1.81	13
Average	3.50	0.50	0.25	883

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TABLE 5. COMBINED MEAN GPA BY CLASS

CLASS	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
8004	3.47	0.16	0.03	51
8003	3.46	0.18	0.03	37
8002	3.45	0.21	0.04	34
8001	3.50	0.21	0.04	91
7906	3.55	0.15	0.02	94
7905	3.58	0.68	0.47	73
7904	3.52	0.19	0.03	63
7903	3.46	0.24	0.06	18
7902	3.38	0.63	0.39	35
7901	3.42	0.62	0.39	36
7805	3.44	0.27	0.07	29
7804	3.56	0.22	0.05	45
7803	3.77	0.18	0.03	29
7802	3.64	0.25	0.06	38
7801	3.78	0.19	0.04	42
7706	3.48	0.57	0.33	44
7705	3.53	0.27	0.07	22
7704	3.65	0.31	0.10	38
7703	3.08	1.19	1.42	32
7702	3.18	1.06	1.12	43
7701	3.47	0.58	0.34	48
7602	3.75	0.20	0.04	46
Average	3.50	0.52	0.27	987

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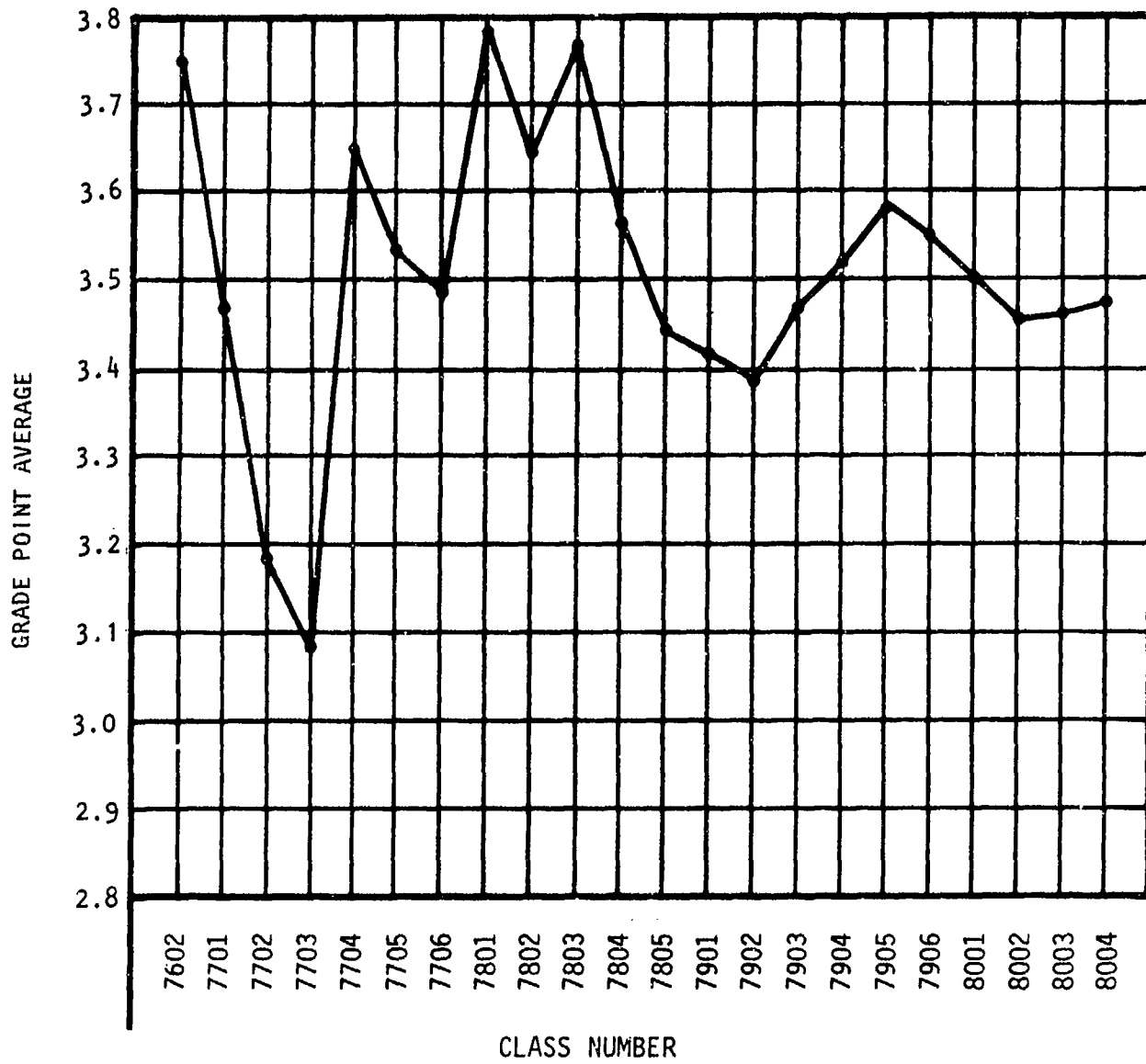


Figure 3. NROTC SWOS Basic Performance Trend as Measured by Class GPA

leveled off to an approximation of the mean unit (CT) GPA. When graphed by fiscal year group (figure 4), the lack of variation in GPA among classes is clear and, with the exception of the higher GPA in FY 1978, performance has been relatively consistent.

A second perspective on NROTC graduate performance at SWOS Basic can be gained by review of attrition and/or setback data. Project data (N = 1,106 cases) show a combined attrition of 2.9 percent and an overall setback rate of 7.9. Tables 6, 7, and 8 provide more specific attrition and setback data, grouped by institution, SWOS Basic class number, and major field of study, respectively.

GPA and attrition/setback performance indicators derived from project data were compared with historical data developed independently by SWOS Basic staff. These comparisons permitted the identification of potential problem areas in data acquisition and provided an initial indication of the accuracy of project data. Data prepared by SWOS Basic School for classes 76T01-8003 (FY 1977 - FY 1980) described 1,758 cases and showed that NROTC graduates had attained a cumulative GPA of 3.438. Using these same data, attrition and setback rates were 7.39 and 5.8 percent, respectively. The similarity of cumulative GPAs derived independently, indicates that the TAEG MIS use of CT scores for computing GPA, and the accuracy of those derived scores, are satisfactory. However, the substantial difference in Ns between the two data sets suggests that some SWOS Basic data were missed by TAEG during its manual retrieval process. The relatively lower attrition percentages derived from project data indicate that a substantial proportion of those missing cases may have reflected attrites or setbacks. This deficiency may have been partly due to class records for attrites or setbacks which were kept separately, or discarded at an earlier time, or omitted from project data files because they lacked useful information. For example, project data (table 7) show no attrites until FY 1979. Comparisons of attrition and setback percentages using only FY 1979 and FY 1980 data do narrow the difference somewhat; however, remaining discrepancies are sufficient to warrant a more careful approach to attrition and setback in future data acquisition efforts. Project identification of future attrites and setbacks should be made easier by use of computerized performance records now available for current SWOS Basic classes.

NROTC GRADUATE PREPAREDNESS FOR SWOS BASIC. All students entering SWOS Basic are administered a diagnostic pretest, the content of which reflects major source program (NROTC, USNA, OCS) curriculum objectives. The pretest assesses the level of students' knowledge and their readiness for course material and identifies specific subject areas where individual students need remedial work and/or counseling. Like the CT examinations, these pretests are administered and scored to show performance in each of the 21 curricular areas shown in table 1 (page 22).

Table 9 provides the average of pretest scores (AVGPT) achieved by NROTC graduates for whom data were available by NROTC unit. AVGPT scores ranged from 1.02 (4.0 scale, S.D. = .80, N = 16) to 2.7 (4.0 scale, S.D. = .27, N = 3); the overall AVGPT was 1.57 (S.D. = .92, N = 1,071). Performance scores for each of the 21 curricular areas, cumulatively and by unit, have

———— TAEg data (N=938)
 - - - - - SWOSCOLCOM data (N=1619)

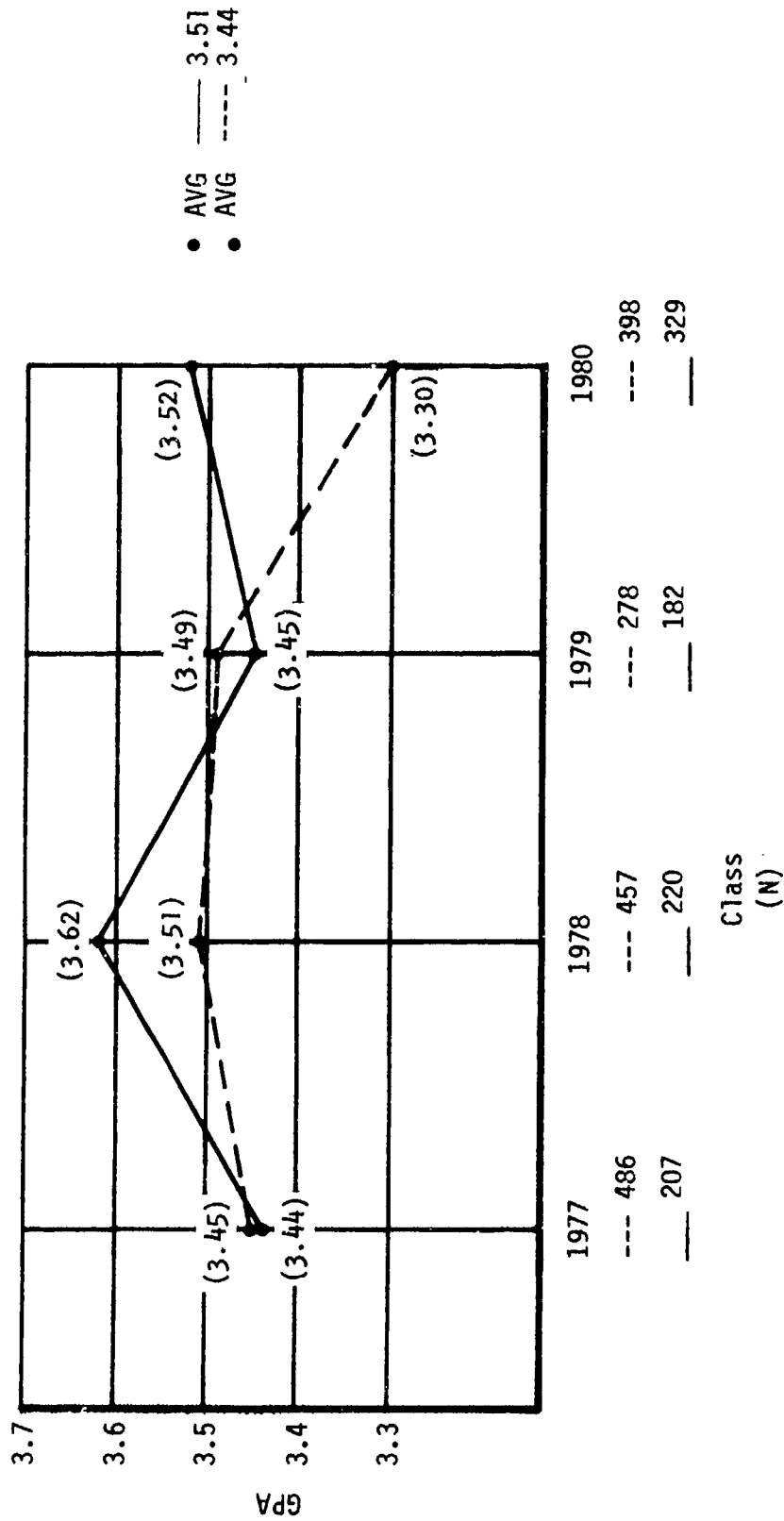


Figure 4. NROTC SWOS Basic Performance Trend as Measured by Year Group

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TABLE 6. ATTRITION/SETBACK FOR NROTC GRADUATES BY NROTC UNIT*

COLLEGE	TOTAL N	NO. ATTRITES	PERCENT	NO. SETBACKS	PERCENT
CITADEL	60	1	1.7	7	11.7
U COLORADO	11	1	9.1	1	9.1
CORNELL	18			1	5.5
U FLORIDA	28			2	7.1
FLORIDA A&M	21			4	19.0
HOLY CROSS	17	1	5.9	1	5.9
U IDAHO	14	1	7.1		
IOWA ST U	14			1	7.1
KANSAS	17	1	5.9	1	5.9
MARQUETTE	23			2	8.7
MIAMI U OHIO	21			1	4.8
U MISSOURI	20	1	5.0	2	10.0
U NEW MEXICO	17	1	5.9		
U N CAROLINA	11	1	9.1	1	9.1
NORTHWESTERN	9			1	11.1
OHIO ST.	17			2	11.8
OKLAHOMA	9			1	11.1
OREGON ST.	16			1	6.2
PENN ST.	46			1	2.2
PRAIRIE VIEW	16	2	12.5	6	37.5
PURDUE	29	4	13.8		
U ROCHESTER	27	1	3.7		
SAVANNAH ST.	11	2	18.2	5	45.4
U S CAROLINA	40	1	2.5	21	52.5
SOUTHERN A&M	25	6	24.0	8	32.0
TEXAS A&M	33			2	6.1
TEXAS	25	1	4.0		
TULANE	14	1	7.1		
UTAH	12	1	8.3		
VANDERBILT	24			2	8.3
WASHINGTON	18	1	5.6	1	5.6
SUNY MARITIME	25			1	4.0
VMI	25	2	8.0	3	12.0
UNKNOWN	35	2		8	
MISSING	32			32	
Totals	1,106	32	2.89	87	7.87

*Does not include colleges/universities who show neither attrition nor setback.

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TABLE 7. ATTRITION/SETBACK FOR NROTC GRADUATES BY CLASS

CLASS	TOTAL N	NO. ATTRITES	PERCENT	NO. SETBACKS	PERCENT
7602	50			2	4.0
7701	58			8	13.8
7702	47			6	12.8
7703	58			22	37.9
7704	43			4	9.3
7705	22			1	4.5
7706	53			1	1.9
7801	45			3	6.7
7802	40			2	5.0
7803	33			4	12.1
7804	46	1	2.2	3	6.5
7805	33	3	9.1		
7901	39				
7902	39			1	2.6
7903	18			3	16.7
7904	68	1	1.5	4	5.9
7905	75	2	2.7	3	4.0
7906	104	4	3.8	3	2.9
8001	98	6	6.1	2	2.0
8002	39	4	10.3	6	15.4
8003	41	1	2.4	4	9.8
8004	51			5	9.8
UNKNOWN	38	10	26.3		
Totals	1,138	32	2.8	87	7.64

TABLE 8. ATTRITION/SETBACK FOR NROTC GRADUATES BY MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY*

CLASS	N	NO. ATTRITES	PERCENT	NO. SETBACKS	PERCENT
FORESTRY	3	1	33.3		
SCIENCES	23			2	8.7
BIOL SCI	13			1	7.7
BACTERIOLOGY	1			1	100.0
MISC BIOLOGY	30			1	3.3
METEOROLOGY	8			1	12.5
CHEMISTRY	26			1	3.8
MATH	38			2	5.3
PHYSICS	16			2	12.5
CIV ENG	32			1	3.1
COMP SCI	20			1	5.0
INDUS ENG	16			1	6.3
CHEM ENG	29			1	3.4
ELEC ENG	63	2	3.2	3	4.8
MECH ENG	61	2	3.3	1	1.6
ELEX ENG	3			1	33.3
FOREIGN AFF.	18			1	5.6
POLY SCI	75			3	4.0
IND ARTS	10			1	10.0
HISTORY	55	1	1.8	2	3.6
PSYCHOLOGY	16	1	6.3	1	6.3
ECONOMICS	32			2	6.3
ACCOUNTING	9			1	11.1
GEOGRAPHY	15	1	6.7	1	6.7
BUSINESS ADMIN	98	2	2.0	23	23.5
EDUCATION	12			2	16.7
JOURNALISM	11			2	18.2
SOC SCI	14	1	7.1	2	14.3
FINE ARTS	14			2	14.3
ENGLISH	22			1	4.5
UNKNOWN	15			4	26.7
Totals	969	11	1.1	68	7.0

*Does not include majors that show neither attrition nor setback.

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TABLE 9. AVERAGE PRETEST SCORES BY NROTC UNIT

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AUBURN	1.20	1.06	1.13	31
UC BERKELEY	2.66	0.26	0.07	3
UCLA	1.74	0.96	0.93	11
CITADEL	1.60	0.94	0.88	60
U COLORADO	1.55	1.06	1.12	11
CORNELL	1.83	0.82	0.66	18
DUKE	1.70	0.81	0.66	15
U FLORIDA	1.52	0.91	0.83	28
FLORIDA A&M	1.36	0.98	0.96	21
GEORGIA TECH	1.65	0.80	0.63	26
HOLY CROSS	1.70	0.73	0.54	17
U IDAHO	1.93	0.65	0.42	14
IIT	2.16	0.39	0.15	9
U ILLINOIS	1.64	0.88	0.78	11
IOWA ST	1.13	0.98	0.96	14
JACKSONVILLE U	1.16	1.03	1.06	17
U KANSAS	1.93	0.87	0.75	17
MAINE MARITIME	2.12	0.60	0.36	18
MARQUETTE	1.31	1.06	1.13	23
MIT	2.01	0.32	0.10	7
MIAMI U OHIO	1.62	0.88	0.78	21
U MICHIGAN	1.80	0.99	1.00	19
U MINNESOTA	1.53	1.07	1.14	12
U MISSISSIPPI	1.35	0.85	0.72	17
U MISSOURI	1.31	0.96	0.92	20
U NEBRASKA	2.18	0.33	0.11	7
U NEW MEXICO	1.90	0.59	0.34	17
U N CAROLINA	1.86	0.43	0.18	11
NORTHWESTERN	1.68	0.76	0.58	9
NOTRE DAME	1.56	0.79	0.63	20
OHIO ST	1.84	0.72	0.52	17
U OKLAHOMA	1.06	1.00	1.01	9
OREGON ST	2.06	0.70	0.49	16
PENN ST	1.47	0.95	0.91	46
U PENNSYLVANIA	1.89	0.66	0.44	17
PRAIRIE VIEW	1.02	0.80	0.63	16
PURDUE	1.43	0.95	0.91	29
RPI	1.71	0.84	0.71	32
RICE	1.75	0.38	0.14	4
U ROCHESTER	1.44	0.93	0.86	27
SAVANNAH ST	1.13	1.09	1.20	11
U S CAROLINA	1.86	1.11	1.23	40
USC	1.91	0.64	0.40	14
SOUTHERN A&M	1.59	0.75	0.57	25
TEXAS A&M	1.57	0.96	0.92	33
TEXAS	1.44	1.01	1.02	25
TULANE	2.06	0.69	0.47	14
U UTAH	1.91	0.98	0.96	12
VANDERBILT	1.57	0.97	0.95	24
VILLANOVA	1.17	0.92	0.85	37
U VIRGINIA	1.90	0.71	0.50	21
U WASHINGTON	1.86	0.77	0.59	18
U WISCONSIN	1.20	1.11	1.22	10
SUNY MARITIME	1.76	0.77	0.59	25
VMI	1.67	0.79	0.62	25
Average	1.569	0.92	0.84	1,071

been calculated, but because of space constraints, they are not presented here. Table 10 shows the average pretest scores achieved for each of the 21 curricular areas and indicates variability about those scores. Tables 11 and 12 provide AVGPT scores by major field of study and class. Data on NROTC unit performance in specific pretest subject areas were developed but have been retained locally because of space constraints.

PREPARATION AND PERFORMANCE DIFFERENCES BASED ON TECHNICAL AND NONTECHNICAL MAJOR FIELDS OF STUDY. A major component of the core curriculum evaluation will focus on identification and assessment of differences in performance, if any, between NROTC graduates who completed technical majors and graduates who completed nontechnical programs of study. During the current study, data were acquired to describe SWOS student performance in terms of this variable. Table 13 and figure 5 summarize these data.

Table 13 shows both technical and nontechnical group GPAs for each of the 21 areas of instruction for both pretest and criterion test administrations. Figure 5 depicts these data graphically. As is evident from these data, the scores of graduates with technical majors were equal to or higher than those of graduates with nontechnical majors on all 21 curricular areas of both PT and CT tests. In pretest performance, the difference in scores between these groups was statistically significant ($p > .01$) for 8 of the 21 units of instruction; statistical significance between group CT scores was found in 13 of the 21 units compared. However, one should use caution in interpreting these findings since absolute differences in average scores may be too small to be of any practical significance.

Table 14 and figures 6 and 7 present variance data. Pretest variances are generally larger than those computed for CT test scores. Within the pretest data, differences in variance between technical and nontechnical majors tend to occur primarily in Engineering/Damage Control areas (units 16-21), but there is no easily interpreted pattern and differences between variances are apparently not significant. For criterion test scores, however, the mean variability of performance for nontechnically trained students is about twice that of students with technical majors ($p > .01$, $df = 480$). As in pretest scores, nontechnical majors produced a greater variation among CT scores in Engineering/Damage Control areas than did technical majors; differences in CT variance for External Communication (unit 4), Rules of the Road (unit 5), and Navigation (unit 6) were also evident.

Data describing the effect of a technical/nontechnical background on attrition or setback were also acquired for review. Attrite data were not available in sufficient numbers to be useful; a total of only 11 cases was identified for both groups. However, available setback data showed that NROTC graduates with a nontechnical background were more than twice as likely to be set back than were their counterparts from a technical background. Of 509 technically trained students, 20 (3.9 percent) were setback; of 460 nontechnical students, 48 (10.4 percent) were setback. This difference is statistically significant at $p > .001$ level of confidence ($\chi^2 = 14.69$ with 1 df).

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TABLE 10. CURRICULAR AREA AVERAGE PRETEST SCORES

UNIT NO.	TITLE	AVGPT SCORE (N=1160)	VARIANCE
1	Maneuvering Board & Tactics	1.32	1.21
2	Watchstanding & Seamanship	1.94	1.71
3	CIC Watch Officer	1.70	1.41
4	External Communications	1.24	.93
5	Rules of the Road	1.45	1.28
6	Navigation	1.55	1.18
7	Naval Ordnance	1.27	1.31
8	Anti-Submarine Warfare	1.11	1.22
9	Surface Combat Operations	1.42	1.13
10	Mine and Amphibious Warfare	1.37	1.11
11	Inport Watch Officer	1.86	1.55
12	Personnel Organization and Administration	1.59	1.06
13	Human Resources Management	1.92	1.57
14	Shipboard Training and Administration	1.59	1.20
15	Inspections and Safety	1.34	1.24
16	Material Management	1.45	1.36
17	Steam Propulsion and Auxiliary Systems	1.66	1.36
18	Diesel and Gas Turbine Propulsion and Auxiliary Systems	1.54	1.38
19	Engineering Administration and Records	1.73	1.40
20	Damage Control (I)	1.58	1.22
21	Damage Control (II)	1.78	1.57

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TABLE 11. AVERAGE PRETEST SCORES BY MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AGRICULT	1.72	0.98	0.97	5
FORESTRY	1.21	1.09	1.18	3
MISC AGR	1.78	0.0	0.0	1
SCIENCES	1.56	0.88	0.77	23
BIOL SCI	1.61	0.81	0.65	13
BOTANY	0.46	0.92	0.85	4
BACTERIO	0.0	0.0	0.0	1
ZOOLOGY	1.32	0.99	0.98	7
ETOMOLO	2.37	0.37	0.14	2
MISC BIO	1.46	1.06	1.12	30
OPTOMETR	2.52	0.0	0.0	1
MISC MED	1.56	0.0	0.0	1
GEOLOGY	1.80	0.87	0.75	10
NAUT SCI	2.53	0.31	0.09	3
OPS RSCH	2.14	0.0	0.0	1
METEORL	1.45	1.27	1.61	8
CHEMISTRY	1.75	0.82	0.67	26
BIOCHEM	1.99	0.0	0.0	1
OCEANOGRAPHY	1.33	1.13	1.27	8
METALLUR	1.20	1.70	2.89	2
MATH	1.55	0.89	0.80	38
PHYSICS	1.83	0.97	0.94	16
PHYS SCI	2.32	0.20	0.04	4
CIV ENG	1.39	0.97	0.94	32
AGRI ENG	1.81	0.0	0.0	1
COMP SCI	1.76	0.95	0.91	20
NAV ARCH	1.85	0.82	0.67	28
NUC ENG	1.49	0.92	0.85	26
INDS ENG	1.94	0.85	0.72	16
CHEM ENG	1.69	0.74	0.54	29
ELEC ENG	1.65	0.78	0.61	63
MECH ENG	1.67	0.96	0.91	61
ELEX ENG	0.61	1.05	1.11	3
AERO ENG	2.17	0.34	0.12	8
ARCHITECT	1.78	0.0	0.0	1
ENGINEER	1.99	0.74	0.55	20
FRGN AFF	1.77	0.88	0.77	18
POLY SCI	1.52	0.88	0.77	75
PUB ADM	1.70	0.71	0.51	5
INDS ART	1.23	1.07	1.14	10
HISTORY	1.54	0.90	0.81	55
INDS MGT	1.63	0.0	0.0	1
PERS ADM	2.08	0.39	0.15	2
PSYCHOL	1.82	0.78	0.61	16
ANTHROPL	2.10	0.56	0.31	2
ARCHEOL	2.53	0.0	0.0	1
ECONOMICS	1.54	0.91	0.83	32
ACCOUNTG	1.51	0.61	0.38	9
GEOGRAPH	1.79	0.99	0.98	15
BUS ADM	1.31	1.01	1.01	98
FINANCE	1.66	0.72	0.52	8
PHYS ED	1.30	1.09	1.19	4
EDUCATION	1.74	0.90	0.82	12
JOURNL	1.69	0.75	0.56	11
SOC SCI	1.35	1.12	1.27	14
FINE ARTS	0.72	0.89	0.79	14
ENGLISH	1.71	0.81	0.65	20
LANGUAGE	1.77	0.77	0.60	8
PHILOSOPHY	1.64	0.29	0.08	3
NOT ELSEWHERE	1.38	0.89	0.79	15
CLASSIFIED				
Average	1.58	0.91	0.84	966

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TABLE 12. AVERAGE PRETEST SCORES BY CLASS

CLASS	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
7602	1.48	0.51	0.28	50
7701	1.20	0.85	0.73	58
7702	0.20	0.52	0.27	47
7703	0.15	0.45	0.21	58
7704	0.27	0.60	0.33	43
7705	1.80	0.42	0.17	22
7706	1.50	0.92	0.84	53
7801	1.80	0.66	0.44	45
7802	(NO DATA)		-	(40)
7803	1.59	0.93	0.86	33
7804	2.05	0.42	0.18	46
7805	1.87	0.71	0.50	33
7901	1.96	0.74	0.55	39
7902	1.72	0.77	0.59	39
7903	2.15	0.36	0.13	18
7904	1.92	0.75	0.56	68
7905	2.12	0.48	0.23	75
7906	1.86	0.69	0.47	104
8001	2.06	0.49	0.24	98
8002	1.97	0.48	0.23	39
8003	2.00	0.49	0.24	41
8004	2.04	0.49	0.24	51
MISSING/UNK	2.17	0.30	0.09	38
Average	1.60	0.92	0.85	1,098

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TABLE 13. COMPARISON OF MEANS BETWEEN TECHNICAL AND NONTECHNICAL MAJORS ON SWOS BASIC PRETEST AND CRITERION TESTS

<u>PRETEST</u>		<u>UNIT</u>	<u>CRITERION TEST</u>	
TECH (N=509)	NONTECH (N=460)		TECH (N)	NONTECH (N)
1.48	1.23*	1	3.58 (481)	3.45 (426)*
2.20	1.88*	2	3.62 (481)	3.57 (406)*
1.76	1.68	3	3.49 (481)	3.39 (407)*
1.31	1.20	4	3.56 (457)	3.48 (375)*
1.52	1.45	5	3.53 (472)	3.47 (399)*
1.64	1.51	6	3.54 (472)	3.41 (399)*
1.28	1.24	7	3.52 (477)	3.49 (402)
1.14	1.08	8	3.49 (469)	3.46 (397)
1.50	1.37	9	3.59 (475)	3.40 (392)*
1.45	1.34	10	3.59 (475)	3.56 (415)
1.96	1.82	11	3.68 (472)	3.60 (403)
1.64	1.53	12	3.46 (467)	3.46 (313)
2.04	1.88	13	3.52 (475)	3.47 (416)
1.66	1.54	14	3.46 (472)	3.43 (402)
1.44	1.27	15	3.53 (472)	3.50 (316)
1.58	1.38*	16	3.54 (469)	3.47 (396)*
1.83	1.51*	17	3.50 (469)	3.30 (396)*
1.78	1.37*	18	3.50 (474)	3.34 (402)*
1.85	1.63*	19	3.68 (466)	3.60 (389)*
1.66	1.49*	20	3.50 (473)	3.40 (398)*
1.95	1.69*	21	3.56 (467)	3.47 (389)*
1.660	1.498*	AVG	3.542 (481)	3.458 (405)*

* $p > .01$

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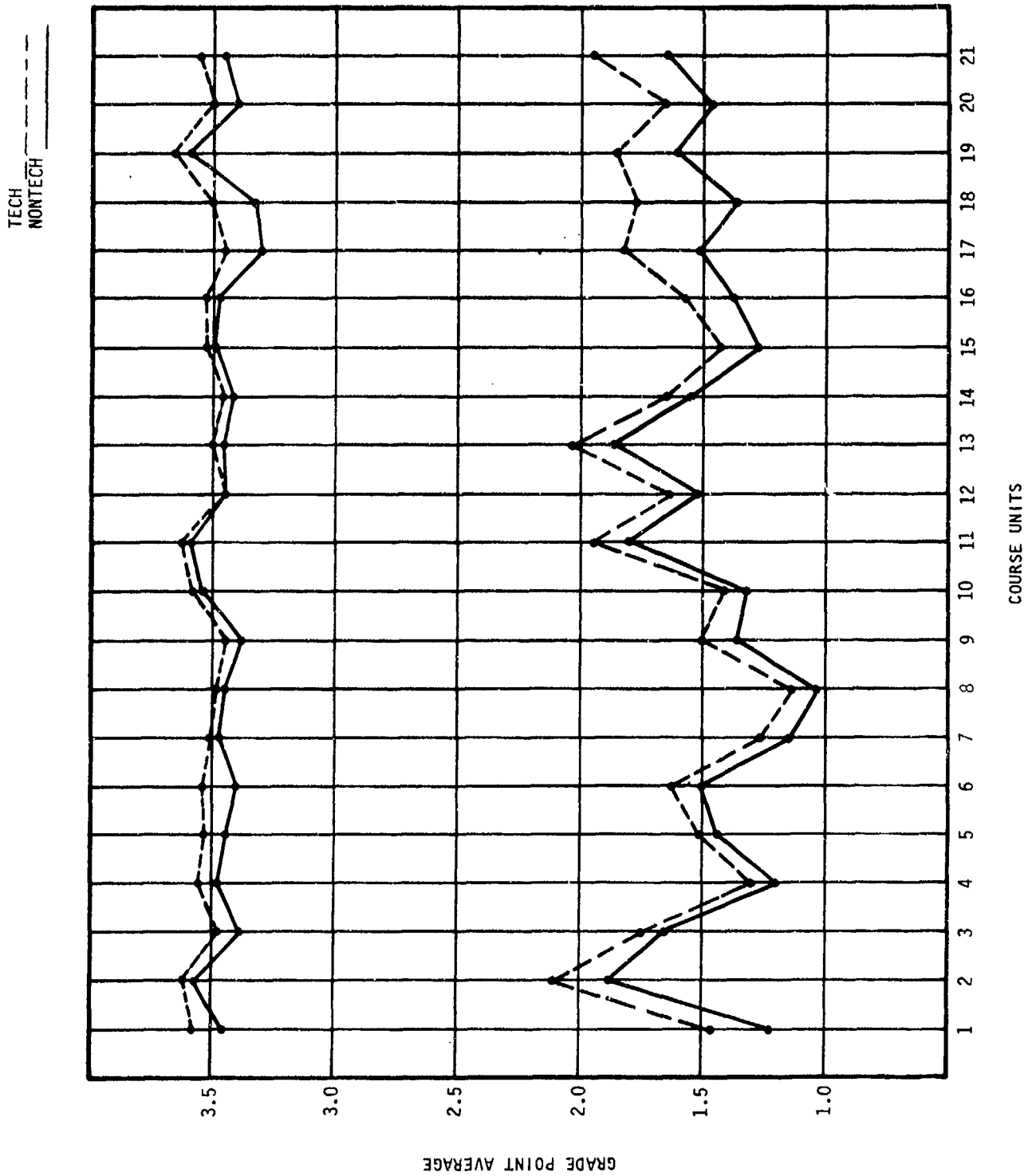


Figure 5. A Graphic Comparison of PT and CT Mean GPAs for Technical and Nontechnical Majors

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TABLE 14. COMPARISON OF VARIANCE BETWEEN TECHNICAL AND NONTECHNICAL MAJORS USING PRETEST AND CRITERION TEST DATA

<u>PRETEST</u>			<u>UNIT</u>	<u>CRITERION TEST</u>		
TECH (N=509)	TOTAL (N=969)	NONTECH (N=460)		TECH (N=481)	TOTAL (N=886)	NONTECH (N=405)
1.32	1.24	1.12	1	.14	.16	.17
1.64	1.73	1.81	2	.06	.06	.05
1.37	1.41	1.45	3	.11	.11	.11
.97	.93	.89	4	.08	.10	.12
1.29	1.27	1.26	5	.08	.09	.09
1.14	1.19	1.24	6	.08	.10	.11
1.31	1.31	1.31	7	.09	.10	.09
1.18	1.20	1.23	8	.08	.08	.09
1.13	1.14	1.14	9	.08	.09	.09
1.08	1.12	1.16	10	.05	.06	.06
1.50	1.55	1.60	11	.05	.05	.05
.99	1.03	1.07	12	.06	.06	.06
1.46	1.56	1.67	13	.08	.09	.10
1.11	1.17	1.24	14	.07	.07	.08
1.30	1.25	1.18	15	.08	.08	.07
1.36	1.31	1.24	16	.06	.06	.06
1.41	1.36	1.25	17	.10	.13	.15
1.44	1.39	1.27	18	.09	.11	.13
1.16	1.17	1.17	19	.04	.05	.06
1.15	1.18	1.19	20	.06	.07	.07
1.56	1.58	1.58	21	.07	.08	.10
.818	.836	.844	AVG	.179	.247	.324

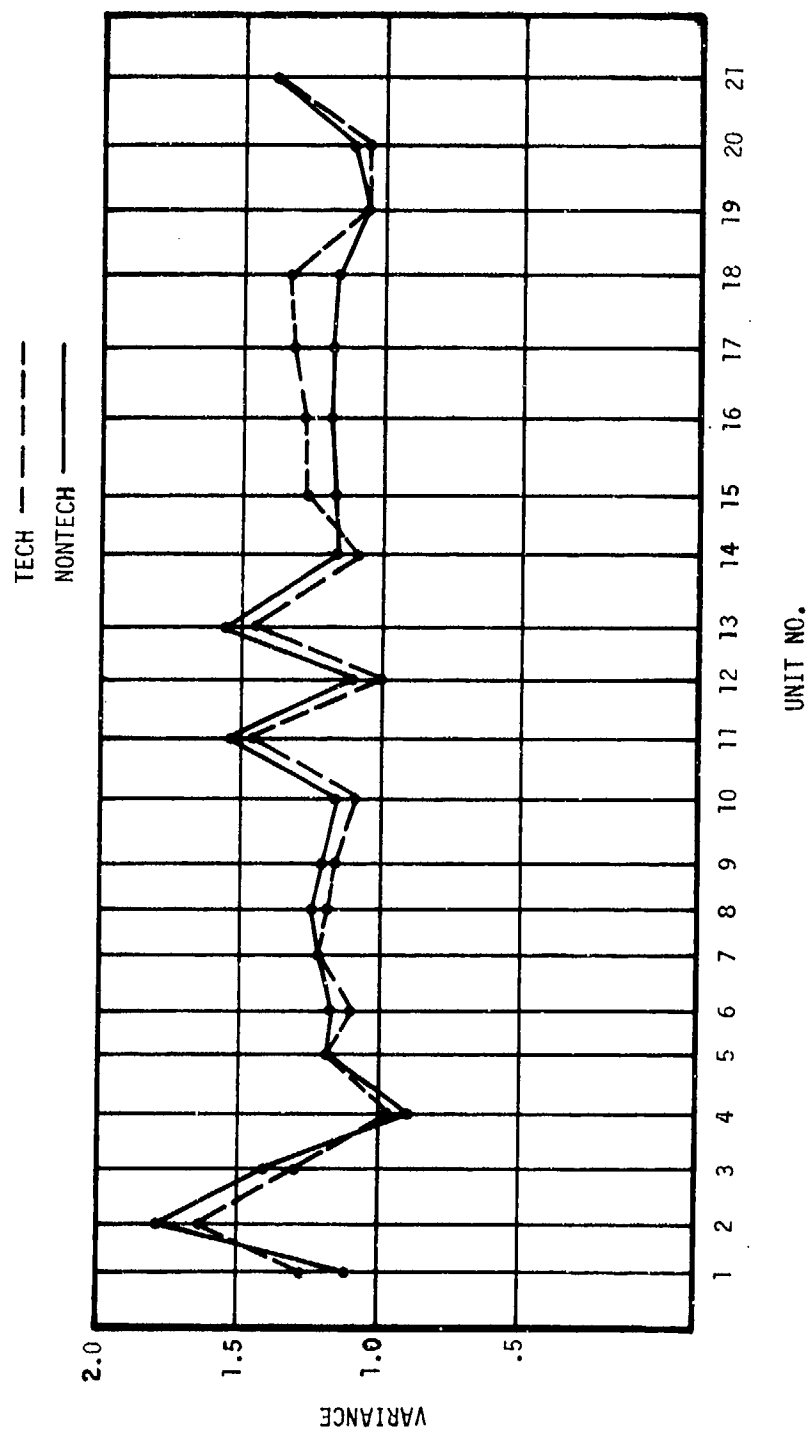


Figure 6. Comparison of Variances of Mean Pretest Scores Between Technical and Nontechnical Majors

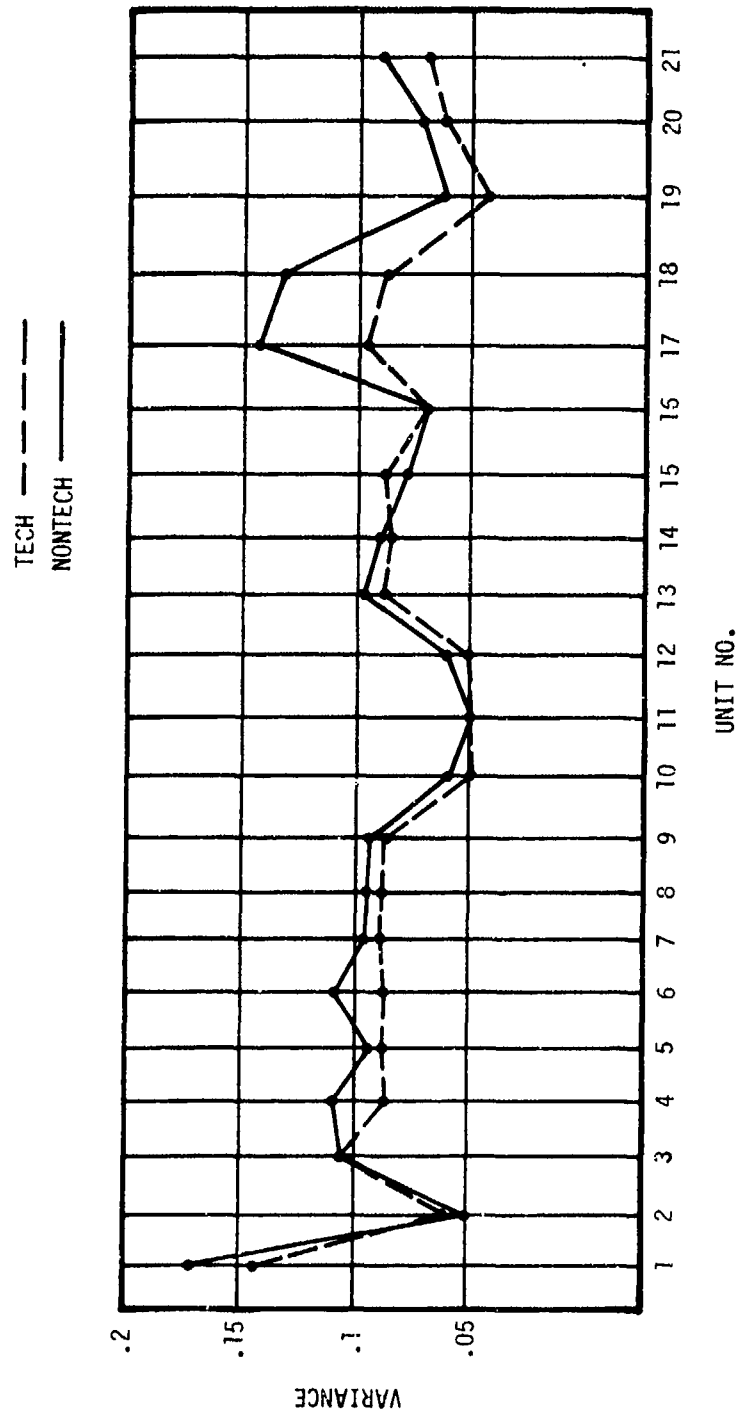


Figure 7. Comparison of Variances of Mean CT Scores Between Technical and Nontechnical Majors

INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES. Average PT and CT scores of NROTC graduates were also computed using institutional characteristics as a means of grouping data. The methodology by which institutions were assigned to specific categories or ratings for each characteristic is described in appendix C. Tables 15 and 16 summarize PT and CT performance data for all categories of each institutional variable.

Differences among category PT mean scores were significant for five of the nine institutional variables. Mean scores of graduates representing different levels of "competitiveness" as defined by Barron's Profiles of American Colleges (1977) were ordered sequentially; graduates of the most competitive institution achieved the highest entering average PT score. Graduates of institutions whose primary focus is on technical preparation achieved significantly better PT scores than did their counterparts from predominately LAS or multi-use university settings, although none of the scores were particularly noteworthy. Significant differences also were found to exist among the categories comprising "size," coeducation," and "salary" variables.

For institutions characterized by "high," "average," or "low" faculty salaries, data showed graduates of institutions rated as "low" in salary did not score as well on entry tests. To verify this relationship, a special variable was defined and institutional assignments made to reflect faculty salary ranks established by the American Association of University Professors. The results of AVGPT scores derived for four categories of this special variable are shown in table 17. Differences between groups (with graduates of lower salaried school faculties scoring lowest) were significant at the $p > .01$ level ($F = 4.366$, $df = 3$).

Significant differences in mean CT scores among categories comprising each institutional characteristic were found for only two variables: (1) the differences in mean scores among the competitive ranks of the Barron's scale continued in essentially the same order and (2) a significant difference in mean CT scores achieved by representatives of predominately minority vs. predominately majority institutions sharpened an obvious but not statistically significant difference found between AVGPT scores. The differences between categories of these two variables were not totally unexpected in that the four institutions having a predominantly minority enrollment are assigned four of the five places that make up the "less competitive" scale ranking. For other variables, no significant differences among category mean scores were found.

Data were also tabulated to describe the relationship of technical or nontechnical background within institutional characteristics. Table 18 summarizes these data tabulations. For only three (salary, control, and ethnic) of the nine institutional descriptors were the obtained frequencies of technical/nontechnical percentages not significantly different ($p > .01$) from expected frequencies. For those six variables demonstrating differences, the difference among college "ranks" may be the most important: it indicates that proportionately more nontechnically-trained students come from lower-ranking institutions.

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TABLE 15. AVERAGE PT SCORES GROUPED BY INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY	MEAN PT SCORE (N)	REMARKS
Institutional Rank (Based on entry requirements and proportion of applicants accepted)	Most Competitive	2.10 (7)	$p > .01$
	Highly Competitive	1.79 (116)	
	Very Competitive	1.69 (241)	
	Competitive	1.46 (611)	
	Less Competitive	1.45 (90)	
	Noncompetitive	1.93 (41)	
Environment	Suburban	1.55 (537)	Difference not statistically significant
	Urban	1.57 (475)	
	Rural	1.59 (94)	
Type	University	1.53 (859)	$p > .01$
	Technical	1.80 (142)	
	LAS	1.49 (105)	
Faculty Salary	High	1.59 (454)	$p > .01$
	Avg	1.69 (227)	
	Low	1.47 (425)	
Size	Less than 5K	1.57 (268)	$p > .01$
	Less than 10K	1.58 (346)	
	Less than 15K	1.73 (156)	
	Less than 20K	1.30 (157)	
	Greater than 20K	1.61 (179)	
Ethnic Composition	Nonminority	1.58 (1,033)	Difference not statistically significant
	Minority	1.33 (73)	
Coeducation Status	Coed	1.54 (1,029)	$p > .01$
	Male Only	1.86 (77)	
Geographic Location	NE	1.62 (244)	Difference not statistically significant
	W	1.64 (228)	
	MW	1.59 (228)	
	SE	1.47 (406)	
Control	Public	1.56 (861)	Difference not statistically significant
	Private	1.73 (148)	
	Catholic	1.38 (97)	
	Mean AVGPT	1.56 (1,106)	

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TABLE 16. PERFORMANCE CT SCORES BY INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY	MEAN CT SCORE (N)	REMARKS
Rank (Based on entry requirements and proportion of applicants accepted)	Most Competitive	3.60 (7)	$p > .01$
	Highly Competitive	3.61 (110)	
	Very Competitive	3.53 (227)	
	Competitive	3.48 (538)	
	Less Competitive	3.37 (66)	
	Noncompetitive	3.44 (39)	
Environment	Suburban	3.49 (478)	Difference not statistically significant
	Urban	3.50 (421)	
	Rural	3.50 (89)	
Type	University	3.48 (761)	Difference not statistically significant
	Technical	3.57 (137)	
	LAS	3.51 (90)	
Faculty Salary	High	3.51 (418)	Difference not statistically significant
	Avg	3.54 (213)	
	Low	3.45 (357)	
Size	Less than 5K	3.51 (238)	Difference not statistically significant
	Less than 10K	3.52 (315)	
	Less than 15K	3.50 (148)	
	Less than 20K	3.47 (125)	
	Greater than 20K	3.45 (162)	
Ethnic Composition	Nonminority	3.51 (939)	$p > .01$
	Minority	3.30 (49)	
Coeducational Status	Coed	3.49 (914)	Difference not statistically significant
	Male Only	3.56 (74)	
Geographic Location	NE	3.55 (230)	Difference not statistically significant
	W	3.46 (212)	
	MW	3.48 (211)	
	SE	3.49 (335)	
Control	Public	3.49 (761)	Difference not statistically significant
	Private	3.52 (139)	
	Catholic	3.50 (88)	
	Mean CT	3.50 (988)	

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TABLE 17. AVERAGE PT SCORES ACHIEVED BY GRADUATES AS A FUNCTION OF
AAUP FACULTY SALARY LEVELS

SALARY LEVEL	AVGPT MEAN	VARIANCE	N
*Top 20%	1.73	.67	251
20-40%	1.57	.82	410
40-60%	1.47	.99	200
60-80%	1.46	.88	245
Totals Average	1.56	.84	1106

*Includes institutions listed separately in top 5 percent.

TABLE 18. TABULATIONS OF INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS BY TECHNICAL/NONTECHNICAL PREPARATION

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY	PERCENT OF TECHNICAL (N=509)/NONTECHNICAL (N=460)	REMARKS
Rank	Most Competitive	85.7/14.3 (7)	$p > .01$
	Highly Competitive	66.7/33.3 (102)	
	Very Competitive	57.7/42.3 (215)	
	Competitive	49.1/50.9 (540)	
	Less Competitive	43.5/56.5 (69)	
	Noncompetitive	44.4/55.6 (36)	
Environment	Suburban	48.2/51.8 (461)	$p > .01$
	Urban	54.5/45.5 (422)	
	Rural	66.3/33.7 (86)	
Type	University	48.7/51.3 (747)	$p > .01$
	Technical	78.6/21.4 (131)	
	LAS	46.2/53.8 (91)	
Salary	High	52.4/47.6 (397)	
	Medium	60.5/39.5 (205)	
	Low	48.2/51.8 (367)	
Control	Public	52.6/47.4 (761)	
	Private	59.1/40.9 (127)	
	Catholic	42.0/58.0 (81)	
Geography	NE	62.9/37.1 (213)	$p > .01$
	W	47.3/52.7 (205)	
	MW	54.1/45.9 (196)	
	SE	48.5/51.5 (335)	
Ethnic	Nonminority	53.0/47.0 (914)	
	Minority	45.5/54.5 (55)	
Coed	Yes	51.1/48.9 (898)	$p > .01$
	Male	70.4/29.6 (71)	
Size	Less than 5K	59.3/40.7 (236)	$p > .01$
	Less than 10K	54.9/45.1 (295)	
	Less than 15K	51.4/48.6 (140)	
	Less than 20K	40.9/59.1 (137)	
	Greater than 20K	49.1/50.9 (161)	

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Other items of interest suggested by a comparison of technical/non-technical frequencies for institutional variables were:

- . rural institutions tend to produce a higher proportion of technical graduates
- . LAS-oriented institutions produce technical and nontechnical graduates in roughly the same proportion as do universities; technical institutions, of course, produce a preponderance of technically trained graduates
- . the West, Midwest, and Southeast were about evenly split in their production of technical and nontechnical graduates; however, more than 60 percent of the graduates from institutions in the Northeast were technically trained
- . differences in frequency of technical graduates as a function of institution size were significant; however, the data do not show any consistent pattern that should be explored.

Attrite and setback percentages for each of the various categories within institutional characteristics were also tabulated. The variables "size," "environment," and "coeducational status" exhibited percentages of setbacks and attrites similar to those exhibited by the total sample; similarly, obtained values for institutional "type," "salary," "methods of control," and "geographic location" approximated the mean percentage of attrites. However, the frequency of attrites/setbacks for "institutional ranking" and "ethnic composition" categories differed significantly for both criteria, and "salary," "method of control," and "geography" variables provided different setback ratios than those of the group as a whole.

Table 19 shows attrition and setback percentages by category for institutional characteristics. Both attrite and setback percentages describing "rank" and "ethnic composition" variables were different from mean ratios. For "rank," the less competitive the institution, the greater the percentage of attrites or setbacks; for "ethnic," institutions whose student populations are predominately minority showed higher attrition/setback. These findings are mutually supportable in that four of the five institutions comprising the "less competitive" category enroll predominately minority students. Among other institutional characteristics, significant differences between the percentages of attrites or setbacks expected and those observed were not found, although some differences were observed. A tabulation of setbacks by salary levels showed that institutions characterized by relatively low faculty salaries produced three times the number of setbacks of the other categories under this variable. Public institutions also demonstrated a setback rate three times greater than private or catholic institutions. Significant differences based on geographic location, size, and type were also obtained for attrition/setback percentages.

TABLE 19. TABULATION OF ATTRITION/SETBACK FREQUENCIES BY INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS (N=1,106)

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY	ATTRITION (N=32) Number/%	SETBACK (N=87) Number/%
Rank	Most Competitive	0/0	0/0
	Highly Competitive	0/0	2/1.7
	Very Competitive	5/2.1	6/2.5
	Competitive	15/2.5	53/8.7
	Less Competitive	11/12.2*	23/25.6*
	Noncompetitive	1/2.4	3/7.3
Environment	Suburban	21/3.9	39/7.3
	Urban	8/1.7	41/8.6
	Rural	3/3.2	7/7.4
Type	University	26/3.0	0/8.1
	Technical	2/1.4	4/2.8
	LAS	4/3.8	13/12.4
Salary	High	11/2.4	20/4.4
	Medium	3/1.3	11/4.8
	Low	18/4.2	56/13.2*
Control	Public	29/3.4	81/9.4*
	Private	2/1.4	3/2.0
	Catholic	1/1.0	3/3.1
Geography	NE	2/.8	4/1.6
	W	9/3.9	15/6.6
	MW	6/2.6	10/4.4
	SE	15/3.7	58/14.3*
Ethnic*	Nonminority	22/2.2	64/6.2
	Minority	10/13.7*	23/31.5*
Coed	Coed	30/2.9	83/8.1
	Male	2/2.6	4/5.2
Size	Less than 5K	8/3.0	29/10.8
	Less than 10K	10/2.9	15/4.3
	Less than 15K	2/1.3	11/7.1
	Less than 20K	5/3.2	26/16.6*
	Greater than 20K	7/3.9	6/3.4

* $p > .01$

SECTION IV

NROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE AT SUPPLY CORPS SCHOOL

SYNOPSIS

In the Supply Corps School Basic Qualification Course (BQC), a sample of 490 NROTC graduates achieved a mean grade point average of 88.65 (100 point scale; passing score = 75) during the period FY 1976-1979. This GPA placed 49.2 percent of NROTC graduates in the top half of the BQC when compared to graduates from all accession sources. Reading test scores showed an average grade level achievement of 14.77.

GPA and reading test scores of students classified by technical or non-technical major were not significantly different. Class standings were achieved as follows: 54.1 percent of technical majors (N = 98) stood in the top half of their class; 49.1 percent of nontechnical majors (N = 391) achieved that same level of performance.

Among institutional characteristics reviewed, the rank order of categories classified on the basis of Barron's competitive criteria was sequential (i.e., those from the highest rank attained the highest GPA), but these differences in GPA were not statistically significant. Similarly, although differences did occur between institutions grouped by predominate ethnic and sex composition, these were not significant probably because of the low Ns in the samples. Multiversity NROTC graduates and NROTC graduates from private institutions did produce significantly higher GPAs than did graduates from other categories of these two institutional variables.

Insufficient attrition and/or setback data were available to permit use of these data for performance assessment or for comparison between subgroups.

INTRODUCTION

NROTC graduates who are commissioned Supply Corps Officers receive initial, post-baccalaureate preparation for this staff corps through the Basic Qualification Course (BQC), Navy Supply Corps School, Athens, Georgia. The BQC provides job-related instruction in each of the major areas to which a supply officer may be assigned for his/her initial tour of duty.

The BQC curriculum consists of (1) a set of instructional units that comprise a core knowledge requirement for all students and (2) additional specialized instructional units. All students complete the core requirement and after receiving notification of their prospective assignment, complete additional preparation in those special instruction units that correspond to prospective billet assignment. Table 20 identifies the units which make up the required core and lists the six areas for which additional instructional units have been prepared.

TABLE 20. BQC CORE UNITS AND AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

<u>CORE REQUIREMENTS</u>	
<u>UNIT</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
1	DISBURSING MANAGEMENT
2	SUPPLY MANAGEMENT
3	LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT
4	RACE RELATIONS
5	AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING
6	(MARINE CORPS OFFICERS ONLY)
7	FOOD SERVICE
8	RETAIL OPERATIONS
<u>Specialization Area</u>	<u>Emphasis Units</u>
Submarine	2,3,7
Mechanized Stores	3,5, Mechanized Supply*
Mechanized Stores (Aviation)	3,5, Mechanized Supply*, Aviation Supply*
Assistant Supply, Service	1,3,7,8
Independent Supply Duty	1,2,3,7,8
Line Transferees	1,2,3,7

*Units applicable only to specialized area shown.

The Core portion of the curriculum lasts approximately 15 weeks; specialization training for prospective billets may require up to 10 additional weeks. Achievement of course objectives are evaluated by means of objective examinations graded on a scale of 1 - 100. All end-of-course objectives must be attained while maintaining a grade average of 75.

To derive a final performance grade in the BQC, units in the core portion of the curriculum are weighted and averaged to obtain a cumulative score for that part of the curriculum; units of instruction that make up a specialization area are weighted equally and averaged to obtain a cumulative grade for the specialized instruction. A final course grade is computed by averaging the cumulative core and specialization area grades.

The data set, which forms the basis for the evaluation of NROTC graduate performance at BQC, consists of the variables identified in section II of this report with the following modifications:

- . A reading score, based on administration of the California (series) Reading Test at entry into BQC, was obtained for most students in the sample. Scores on this test represent reading and comprehension ability measures and are expressed in academic years; the maximum score is 16.
- . Entering students at BQC are asked to estimate their overall college grade point average; this score was also obtained for most students in the sample. However, because these scores are only estimates, care must be taken in interpreting any results based on the use of this variable.

Four hundred and ninety cases were acquired for use in assessing performance. These cases include almost all NROTC graduates who attended the BQC during the period 1975 to 1979 for whom data were available.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

Tables 21, 22, and 23 provide basic descriptive information about NROTC graduate performance at BQC. Table 21 includes the final grade point averages, standard deviations, and variances for students grouped by NROTC unit. The cumulative average grade for the entire sample was 88.65 (S.D. = 4.52, 100 point scale). Tables 22 and 23 provide similar statistics for cases grouped by major field of study (where N is greater than 10) and class year. Figure 8 shows the performance trend indicated by GPA for sequential class years.

Table 24 summarizes mean reading scores grouped by academic year. The average reading score achieved was 14.77 years (S.D. = 1.32; N = 256). Mean reading scores, grouped by undergraduate institution, ranged from 12.72 years to 15.7 years; however, because only a small number of cases represented each school (N = 1 through 9), these scores have not been displayed in this report.

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TABLE 21. SUPPLY BASIC QUALIFICATION COURSE MEAN GPA BY NROTC UNIT

INSTITUTION	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AUBURN	88.78	7.23	52.24	4
UCLA	89.01	4.26	18.11	10
CITADEL	86.06	4.16	17.30	17
U COLORADO	93.10	2.96	8.78	2
CORNELL	86.54	3.01	9.04	4
DUKE	91.87	4.20	17.61	10
U FLORIDA	87.56	6.02	36.22	6
FLORIDA A&M	85.82	7.65	58.45	5
GEORGIA TECH	85.67	5.61	31.47	10
HOLY CROSS	88.55	1.57	2.48	7
U IDAHO	87.66	3.32	11.00	10
U ILLINOIS	90.68	0.0	0.0	1
IOWA ST	88.80	4.04	16.30	11
JACKSONVILLE U	85.50	4.25	18.10	9
U KANSAS	85.31	2.74	7.49	5
MARQUETTE	92.05	4.80	23.01	7
MIAMI U OHIO	89.54	4.62	21.34	9
U MICHIGAN	89.72	6.94	48.13	4
U MINNESOTA	89.42	0.36	0.13	3
U MISSISSIPPI	86.90	2.51	6.30	11
U MISSOURI	92.74	4.25	18.10	4
U NEBRASKA	90.57	2.11	4.44	5
U NEW MEXICO	89.36	4.62	21.31	6
U N CAROLINA	90.48	3.77	14.23	7
NORTHWESTERN	90.80	3.98	15.87	4
NOTRE DAME	87.82	2.87	8.26	13
OHIO ST	88.59	5.21	27.10	14
U OKLAHOMA	88.74	1.45	2.10	4
OREGON ST	88.51	3.88	15.09	7
PENN ST	88.85	4.13	17.03	16
U PENNSYLVANIA	92.79	5.41	29.28	4
PRAIRIE VIEW	87.07	5.71	32.66	7
PURDUE	89.68	3.94	15.54	4
RPI	89.69	4.04	16.36	6
RICE	90.51	2.53	6.42	3
U ROCHESTER	91.07	3.21	10.29	12
SAVANNAH ST	82.40	0.0	0.0	1
U S CAROLINA	87.42	5.41	29.24	11
USC	96.08	1.31	1.71	2
SOUTHERN A&M	84.50	3.70	13.72	3
TEXAS A&M	89.47	1.93	3.72	10
TEXAS	91.02	2.69	7.24	3
TULANE	89.74	5.59	31.28	6
U UTAH	88.66	0.87	0.76	3
VANDERBILT	91.79	4.56	20.77	11
VILLANOVA	87.88	4.25	18.03	20
U VIRGINIA	88.56	4.79	22.96	14
U WASHINGTON	89.46	5.47	29.91	5
U WISCONSIN	90.36	0.36	0.13	3
SUNY MARITIME	86.31	0.0	0.0	1
VMI	79.80	0.11	0.01	2
Average	88.63	4.54	20.57	371

TABLE 22. BQC PERFORMANCE BY MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY (N $\geq$ 10)

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
MISC BIO	86.60	3.72	13.88	10
MATH	89.14	4.01	16.11	22
COMP SCI	89.48	3.85	14.81	13
POLY SCI	89.04	5.15	26.52	23
HISTORY	87.59	4.18	17.43	26
INDS MGT	85.58	5.82	33.84	11
PSYCHOL	90.79	3.13	9.81	11
ECONOMICS	88.92	4.75	22.58	46
ACCOUNTG	89.31	4.37	19.12	59
BUS ADM	88.50	4.25	18.23	133
FINANCE	89.07	2.74	7.49	13
ENGLISH	87.20	4.26	18.19	10
Average	88.53	4.51	20.34	378

TABLE 23. BQC PERFORMANCE BY CLASS YEAR

CLASS YEAR	MEAN GPA	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
1975	88.96	4.75	22.53	94
1976	87.87	4.06	16.51	102
1977	89.17	3.97	15.77	97
1978	86.59	8.03	64.52	78
1979	88.77	4.50	20.25	78
Average	88.41	5.19	26.91	449

TABLE 24. NROTC MEAN READING SCORES BY ACADEMIC YEAR

YEAR	MEAN	S.D.	VARIANCE	N
1979	14.93	.90	.803	76
1978	14.82	.95	.911	76
1977	14.59	1.78	3.18	99

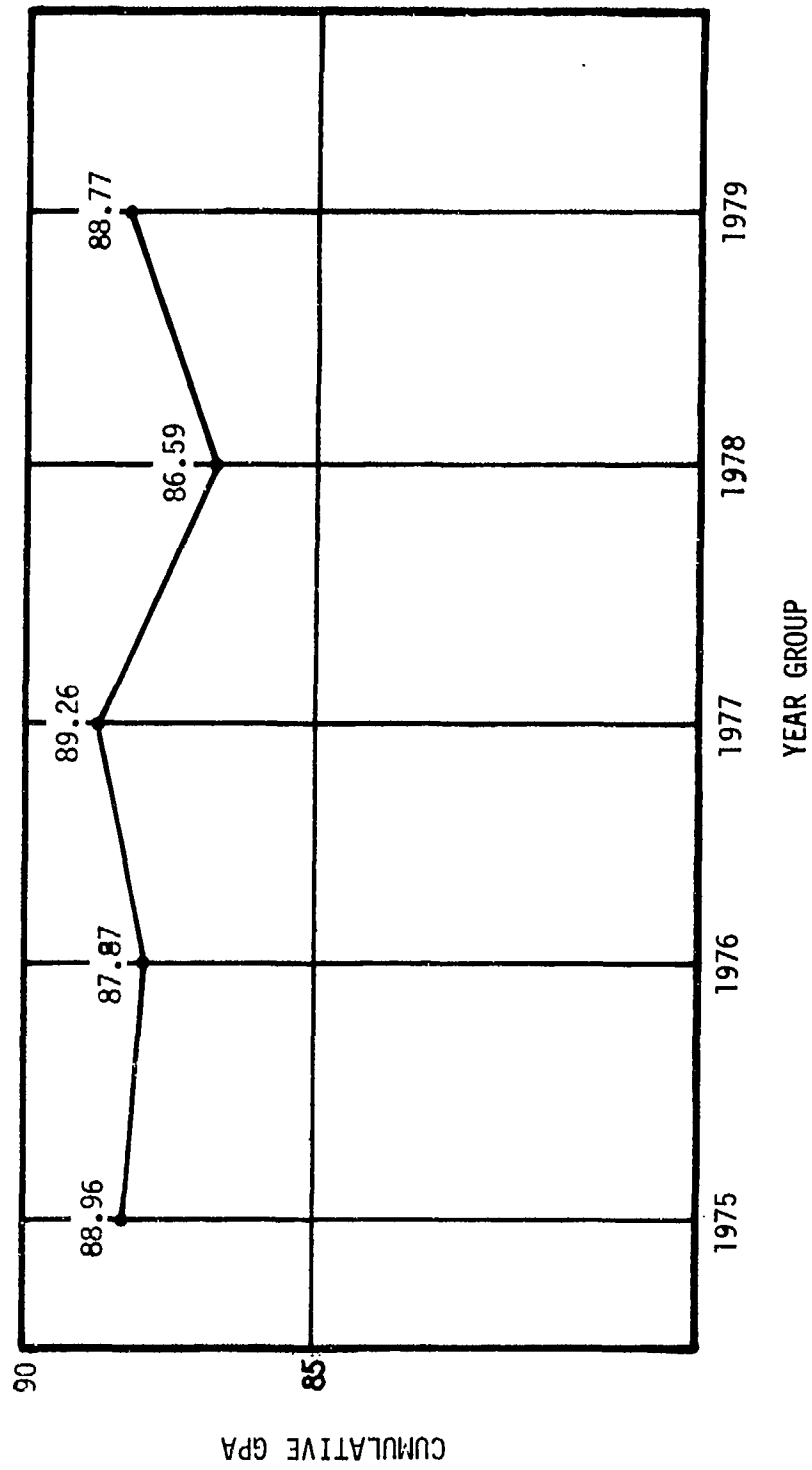


Figure 8. Performance Trend as Indicated by Sequential Class/Years

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Reading scores were also grouped by major field of study. Again, the small number of cases representative of each category do not justify their being included in this report. The data are on file in the TAEG MIS and are available through the NROTC program manager.

A summary of student reported college undergraduate GPAs by class year is presented in table 25. The overall college GPA was 2.97 (S.D. = .467; N=489). Again, however, because of small Ns and a lack of control in data acquisition, data describing college GPA by institution and major are not presented.

Using GPA as the indicator of performance, table 26 and figures 9 and 10 depict class standing of NROTC graduates in the BQC. The upper and lower limits of each decile were derived from data from all accession sources, but table 26 only shows NROTC number and percentages in each decile by class year. Figure 9 shows performance trends for the top 20 percent, the bottom 20 percent, and the top half of each year's cases.

Information describing the standings of graduates grouped by NROTC host institution was also developed. Because of the relatively low number of cases available for each school, these data have not been included in the report.

Attrition and setback data for BQC were insufficient for use as performance indicators. Only two attrites and nine setbacks were identified among all cases reviewed.

PERFORMANCE DIFFERENCES BASED ON TECHNICAL AND NONTECHNICAL MAJORS. The duties incumbent in Supply Officer billets involve logistics, material purchase, payroll and finance, and/or similar tasks often related to the general area of business administration. These duties normally do not require technical preparation, but both technical and nontechnical backgrounds are found among NROTC graduates assigned to the BQC. It is, therefore, appropriate that performance differences, if any, characteristic of a technical preparation be identified.

A comparison of mean GPAs and reading levels achieved by each of these two groups shows no significant difference in performance:

	<u>Technical Background</u>	<u>Nontechnical Background</u>
GPA	88.506 (N = 97)	88.554 (N = 387)
Reading	14.859 (N = 68)	14.809 (N = 181)

A breakdown of performance by standing (rank in class) is shown in table 27. Among NROTC graduates, 54.1 percent (N=98) of technical majors were in the top half of their classes; 49.1 percent (N=391) of nontechnical majors were among the top 50 percent of their peers.

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TABLE 25. MEAN UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE GPA BY CLASS YEAR*

YEAR	MEAN	S.D.	VARIANCE	N
1975	3.05	.42	.169	96
1976	2.92	.47	.219	102
1977	3.00	.60	.367	101
1978	2.93	.46	.214	78
1979	2.87	.47	.225	78

*Data provided by students.

TABLE 26. CLASS STANDING BY GPA FOR NROTC GRADUATES

Class (N)	DECILE N/%									
	TOP 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	BOTTOM 10%
1975 (94)	8/8.5	10/10.6	11/11.7	8/8.5	11/11.7	14/14.9	10/10.6	8/8.5	5/5.3	9/9.6
1976 (102)	5/4.9	6/5.9	12/11.8	7/6.9	11/10.8	14/13.7	10/9.8	12/11.8	14/13.7	11/10.8
1977 (97)	3/3.1	14/14.4	15/15.5	8/8.2	15/15.5	9/9.3	8/8.2	5/5.2	9/9.3	11/11.3
1978 (78)	10/12.8	5/6.4	7/9.0	5/6.4	7/9.0	12/5.4	4/5.1	5/6.4	16/20.5	7/9.0
1979 (78)	8/10.3	9/11.5	7/9.0	9/11.5	10/12.8	4/5.1	6/7.7	9/11.5	10/12.8	6/7.7
TOTALS (449)	34/7.6	44/9.8	52/11.6	37/8.2	54/12.0	53/11.8	38/8.5	39/8.7	54/12.0	44/9.0

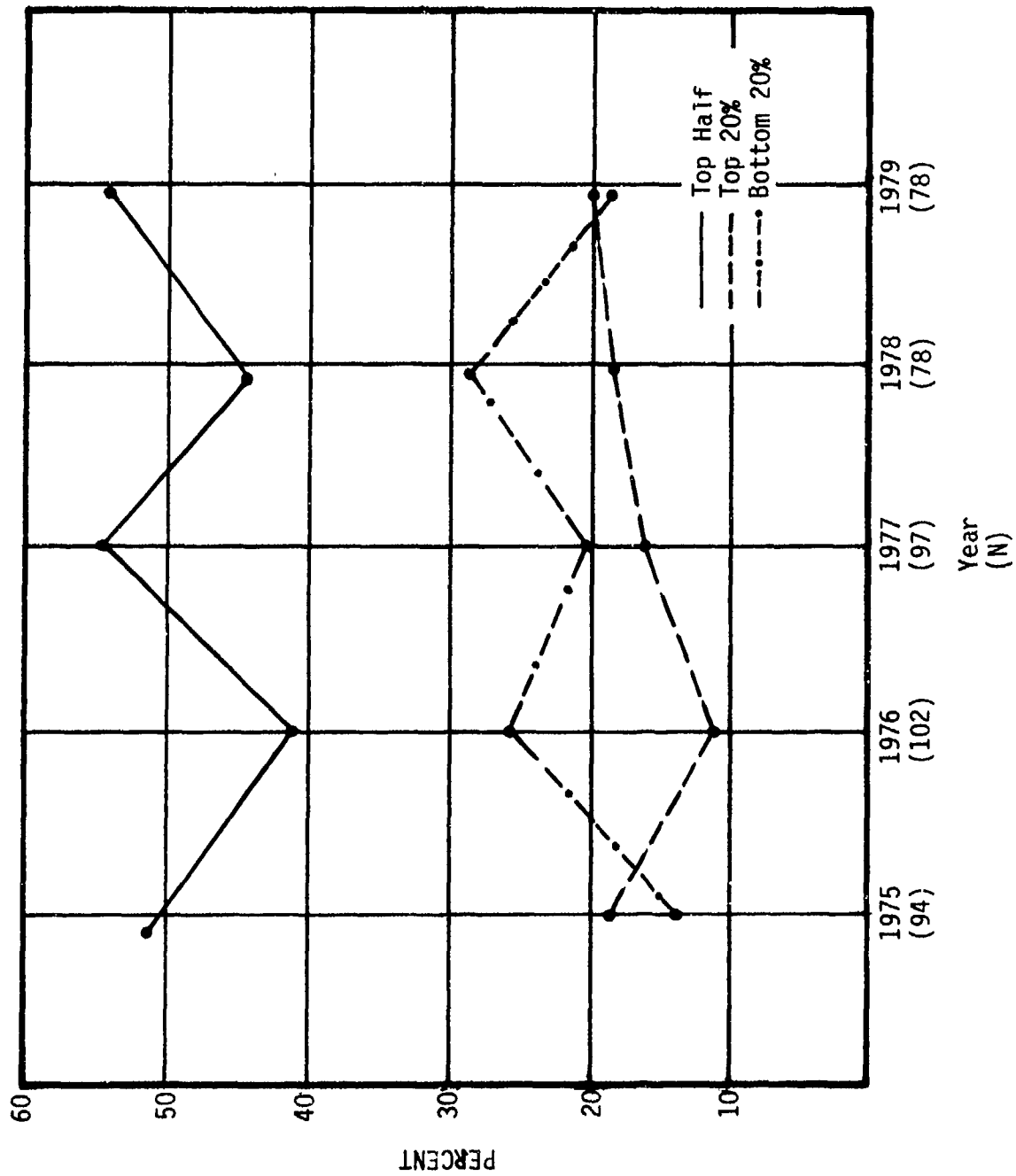


Figure 9. Performance Trend by Class for Top and Bottom 20 Percent of NROTC Graduates

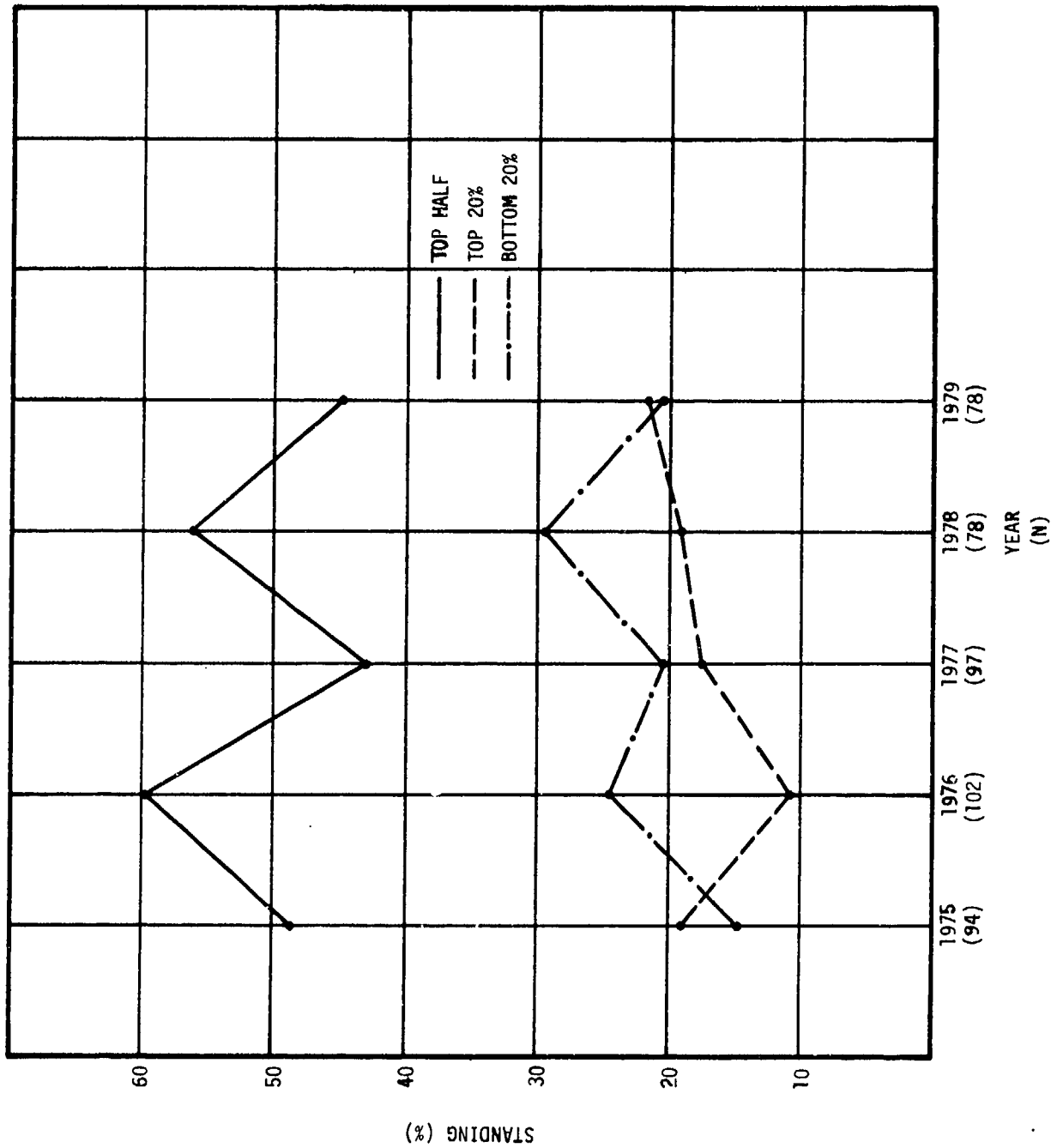


Figure 10. Performance Trend by Class using Rank or Class

TABLE 27. A COMPARISON OF RANK IN CLASS BETWEEN NROTC GRADUATES IN
TECHNICAL AND NONTECHNICAL MAJORS

	TOP 10%	CLASS STANDING										BOTTOM 10%	ROW TOTAL
		2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th				
TECHNICAL	8 8.2%	9 9.2%	11 11.2%	9 9.2%	16 16.3%	12 12.2%	6 6.1%	8 8.2%	11 11.2%	8 8.2%	8 8.2%	98 20.0%	
NONTECHNICAL	31 7.9%	40 10.2%	46 11.8%	29 7.4%	46 11.8%	46 11.8%	33 8.4%	35 9.0%	43 11.0%	42 10.7%	391 80.0%		
TOTAL	39 8.0%	49 10.0%	57 11.7%	38 7.8%	62 12.7%	58 11.9%	39 8.0%	43 8.8%	54 11.0%	50 10.2%	489 100.0%		

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Too few individuals exited BQC classes prior to graduation to assess the impact of technical vs. nontechnical preparation on attrition or setback.

INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES. The performance of NROTC graduates as measured by GPA and reading scores was tabulated for all categories of each institutional variable identified in section II of this report. Results of these tabulations are presented in table 28.

Differences in GPAs among institutions grouped by Barron's competitive criteria were not found to be significant. GPAs based on faculty salary categories roughly parallel these rank data (i.e., higher salary = higher mean GPA), and here also differences in mean GPA are not statistically significant.

Students from "multiversity" institutions achieved GPAs significantly higher than those achieved by technical or LAS emphasis schools ($F = 8.27$, $p > .01$). When grouped by the predominant ethnic composition of the student body, performances are indicated by a minority student GPA of 85.90 (S.D. = 5.69, $N = 16$) and a majority student GPA of 88.75 (S.D. = 4.45, $N = 355$). Similarly, graduates of coeducational institutions achieved a higher GPA (88.70, S.D. = 4.5, $N = 368$) than did all-male institutional graduates (81.97, S.D. = 3.76, $N = 3$). For both characteristics, however, the low number of cases in minority and all-male categories suggests that inferences using these data be made with caution. Students from private schools (GPA = 91.123, S.D. = 4.12, $N = 48$) did significantly better than those from either public (88.221, S.D. = 4.57, $N = 276$) or catholic schools (88.582, S.D. = 3.89, $N = 47$). Categories of institutional environment, size and geographical location had little impact on mean GPAs achieved.

Significant differences among reading scores as a function of college rank and ethnic composition were similar to those found among GPAs; however, no other institutional variable produced significant differences in reading scores among its categories. College GPAs, as reported by students, did not differ significantly among categories of any institutional characteristic. No attrition or setback data were available to permit assessment of institutional characteristics by these criteria.

TABLE 28. BQC PERFORMANCE BY INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

INSTITUTION CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY	MEAN	GPA		N	READING SCORE		
			S.D.			MEAN	S.D.	N
Barron's Ranking	Highly Competitive	89.97	4.42	45		15.27	.39	22
	Very Competitive	89.30	4.34	90		15.12	.64	34
	Competitive	88.24	4.44	190		14.55	1.02	88
	Less Competitive	86.85	5.54	22		13.11	1.70	11
	Noncompetitive	88.32	4.53	24		14.72	.50	11
Environment	Suburban	88.20	4.39	179		14.64	1.81	83
	Urban	89.22	4.72	159		14.91	.85	69
	Rural	88.11	4.22	33		13.75	1.89	14
Type	University	89.01	4.45	318		14.65	1.61	141
	Technical	86.35	5.39	19		14.73	1.01	10
	LAS	86.32	3.87	34		14.93	.63	15
Salary	High	82.29	4.42	164		14.87	1.00	79
	Average	88.34	4.41	71		14.98	.57	30
	Low	87.99	4.66	136		14.25	.22	57
Size	Less Than 5K	87.51	4.95	69		14.44	1.35	34
	Less Than 10K	88.55	4.47	148		14.83	1.07	62
	Less Than 15K	89.12	4.43	48		14.97	.54	20
	Less Than 20K	89.07	4.54	45		14.67	1.00	19
	Greater Than 20K	89.36	4.16	61		14.46	2.71	31
Ethnic	Majority	88.75	4.45	355		14.76	1.46	158
	Minority	85.90	5.69	16		13.00	1.79	8
COED	Coed	88.68	4.50	368		14.69	1.52	162
	All Male	81.97	3.76	3		14.05	1.31	4
Geography	NE	89.05	3.98	70		15.06	.91	34
	W	88.86	3.98	83		14.37	1.41	41
	MW	89.27	4.26	84		14.85	.65	35
	SE	87.86	5.19	134		14.56	2.13	56
Control	Public	88.19	4.57	276		14.50	1.69	126
	Private	91.18	4.12	48		15.31	.41	21
	Catholic	88.58	3.89	47		15.16	.47	19

SECTION V

NROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE AT SUBMARINE OFFICER BASIC COURSE

SYNOPSIS

Two hundred ninety-six NROTC graduates assigned to the Submarine Officer Basic Course (SOBC) between 1978 and 1980 attained a mean GPA of 81.99 (100 point scale; passing score = 70). Although GPAs were well above the minimum passing score, there was a decline in performance during this period. Adjusted data show 49.6 of NROTC graduates scored in the top 50 percent of their class when compared to all other students.

Data on preparatory field of study were available for approximately half the total sample. Of these, only one-sixth were nontechnical majors. Nontechnical students did less well by GPA (79.72 to 81.16) and significantly less well in rank in class (26.1 percent vs. 54 percent in top half).

Attrition/setback data were insufficient for analysis as performance criteria; institutional variables had no effect on GPAs or class standing.

INTRODUCTION

The Submarine Officer Basic Course is the initial, post accession, sub-surface warfare training program undertaken by NROTC graduates selecting assignment to submarines. Approximately 12 weeks in length, the SOBC curriculum includes submarine-oriented topics such as control and weapons systems, sensors, communications, navigation, supply, and quality assurance. Completion of this course is a necessary prerequisite for qualification in submarines. All nuclear-trained officers assigned to submarines must complete the SOBC, but not all submarine-designated officers will complete nuclear power training. Graduates of other schools (e.g., Supply Corps) assigned to submarines will usually complete SOBC. When two courses are required for a specific assignment aboard submarines, the sequence of courses is optional and is usually governed by availability of seats in the pertinent courses.

The evaluation process for SOBC is relatively straightforward. Students are graded on the basis of academic/practical performance in specific subject areas. These grades are weighted (generally proportional to the amount of time spent on each topic) and averaged to obtain a cumulative performance indicator, or course GPA. A grade of 70 on a 100 point scale is passing.

For purposes of the current assessment, NROTC graduate performance was described by the final course GPA and by standing in class. Variables used as a basis for grouping and comparisons were those listed in section II of this report, modified as follows:

- no representatives of predominately minority institutions were found among those cases identified for analysis
- attrition/setback data were not obtained in numbers sufficient for use as measures of performance.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

Data describing 300 SOBC cases were obtained. Not all cases contained data describing all variables; thus, the specific numbers of cases used in subsequent analyses may vary. All cases containing the necessary data elements were used in each analysis.

The average GPA computed was 81.99 (S.D. = 3.85, N = 296). Tables 29, 30, and 31 display GPAs, standard deviations, and variances by NROTC unit, major field of study, and class, respectively. The small number of cases for many of the groups render specific comparisons almost impossible. GPA performance trends as a function of sequential class GPA and annual mean GPA for the period 1978-1980 are shown in figure 11. Available data show that mean GPA slightly declined during this time.

Relative standing in class was also used to describe the performance of NROTC graduates in SOBC. Unfortunately, the Ns for cells resulting from grouping standings in class by class number are small; however, they offer an opportunity to examine relative distributions and identify potential trends in the data.

Figure 12 displays information on class standing as measured by decile rank. The matrix shows the number of cases falling into each cell; both numbers and percentages are used to describe column totals. Approximately 45.6 percent (N = 135) NROTC graduates ranked in the top half of their class when compared to all students in class. Data obtained for class 7807 show all 23 NROTC graduates ranked in the bottom 10 percent of their class. This information is not consistent with other data and may reflect errors in the manual data collection or data entry into the MIS. Accordingly, a second summary was developed excluding data from class 7807. Summary numbers and percentages for deciles without class 7807 are shown separately at the bottom of figure 12. In this second summary, approximately 49.6 percent of NROTC graduates ranked in the top half of their SOBC class.

THE EFFECT ON PERFORMANCE OF TECHNICAL/NONTECHNICAL BACKGROUND. Performance comparisons were made between NROTC graduates whose major field of study was in a technical area and those whose majors were nontechnical. For the roughly 50 percent of the original SOBC cases containing such data, graduates with technical backgrounds achieved a GPA = 81.16 (S.D. = 3.22, N = 115); graduates with nontechnical backgrounds earned a mean GPA of 79.72 (S.D. = 3.43, N = 23). The difference between these group means is not statistically significant. However, as shown in figure 13, 54 percent of technical graduates were in the top half of their respective classes, a figure double that achieved by nontechnical graduates.

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS. Table 32 summarizes the mean GPAs as a function of each category of the institutional characteristics identified in section II. None of the variables demonstrated significantly different mean GPAs among their respective categories. Similarly, frequency distributions of class standing were not significantly affected by any of the institutional characteristics identified in table 32.

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TABLE 29. SOBC PERFORMANCE BY NROTC UNITS

COLLEGE	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AUBURN	83.56	2.96	8.76	4
U C BERKELEY	81.15	2.87	8.23	5
UCLA	82.50	0.70	0.50	2
CITADEL	79.00	0.0	0.0	1
U COLORADO	84.55	3.48	12.13	5
CORNELL	81.91	2.70	7.28	8
DUKE	86.08	2.60	6.77	3
U FLORIDA	78.96	3.40	12.17	7
GEORGIA TECH	80.82	2.45	6.01	11
HOLY CROSS	79.50	4.04	16.33	4
U IDAHO	83.50	1.73	3.00	4
IIT	81.75	0.0	0.0	1
U ILLINOIS	83.50	0.71	0.50	2
IOWA ST	88.00	0.0	0.0	1
JACKSONVILLE U	84.12	3.0	9.03	2
U KANSAS	81.00	0.0	0.0	1
MAINE MARITIME	83.62	3.71	13.78	2
MARQUETTE	82.12	3.94	15.52	4
MIT	81.55	4.15	17.26	5
MIAMI U OHIO	76.00	0.0	0.0	1
U MICHIGAN	82.20	3.07	9.45	10
U MINNESOTA	82.83	4.25	18.08	3
U MISSISSIPPI	78.00	0.0	0.0	1
U MISSOURI	85.83	4.25	18.08	3
U NEBRASKA	85.06	3.63	13.18	4
U NEW MEXICO	83.33	3.71	13.76	6
U N CAROLINA	82.33	1.53	2.33	3
NORTHWESTERN	81.45	3.52	12.41	5
NOTRE DAME	83.50	0.0	0.0	1
OHIO ST	82.44	3.07	9.43	4
U OKLAHOMA	79.00	12.73	162.00	2
OREGON ST	82.41	2.65	7.04	6
PENN ST	81.98	3.67	13.45	14
U PENNSYLVANIA	81.08	3.56	12.64	3
PURDUE	84.65	2.92	8.55	5
RPI	83.61	2.49	6.20	11
RICE	86.25	5.17	26.75	6
U ROCHESTER	81.69	3.86	14.89	4
U S CAROLINA	81.45	3.78	14.26	5
USC	80.25	3.59	12.91	4
TEXAS A&M	82.25	2.85	8.12	5
TULANE	81.87	4.05	16.39	4
UTAH	82.50	1.06	1.12	2
VANDERBILT	84.00	4.60	21.20	4
VILLANOVA	79.44	2.93	8.59	4
U VIRGINIA	85.30	2.52	6.35	5
U WASHINGTON	79.17	3.02	9.14	6
U WISCONSIN	80.50	2.38	5.66	4
SUNY MARITIME	87.00	0.0	0.0	1
VMI	78.67	3.7	14.33	3
Average	82.32	3.65	13.35	211

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TABLE 30. SOBC PERFORMANCE BY MAJOR FIELDS OF STUDY

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
HUSBANDRY	76.25	0.0	0.0	1
BIOL SCI	80.67	2.52	6.33	3
MISC BIO	83.00	0.0	0.0	1
OPTOMETR	78.00	0.0	0.0	1
MISC MED	82.00	5.6	32.00	2
CHEMISTRY	79.85	4.60	21.14	7
CERAMICS	78.00	0.0	0.0	1
MATH	82.89	3.15	9.89	11
PHYSICS	83.57	2.23	4.96	7
CIV ENG	79.75	2.99	8.92	4
NAV ARCH	84.33	3.51	12.33	3
NUC ENG	81.37	2.99	8.94	13
INDS ENG	78.67	1.58	2.33	3
CHEM ENG	80.58	3.96	15.72	12
ELEC ENG	80.87	3.10	9.66	23
MECH ENG	80.82	2.35	5.51	17
AERO ENG	84.00	0.0	0.0	1
METL ENG	80.50	2.12	4.50	2
ENGINEER	80.12	4.13	17.06	4
INDS MGT	80.00	0.0	0.0	1
ECONOMICS	78.00	0.0	0.0	1
ACCOUNTG	81.20	2.5	6.7	5
BUS ADM	77.42	3.0	9.0	6
FINANCE	81.75	0.0	0.0	1
ENGLISH	80.50	4.9	24.50	2
MAJOR Not Else- where Classified	81.00	4.24	18.00	6
Average	80.92	3.29	10.81	138

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TABLE 31. SOBC PERFORMANCE BY CLASS

CLASS	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
8004	81.23	1.96	3.85	13
8003	79.25	1.83	3.35	8
8002	88.00	0.0	0.0	1
8001	79.85	4.53	20.55	20
7908	81.04	3.24	10.49	23
7907	80.46	3.62	13.08	61
7906	82.50	2.15	4.63	12
7905	81.33	4.16	17.33	3
7904	80.80	6.26	39.20	5
7903	80.70	3.37	11.34	10
7902	78.43	3.41	11.61	7
7901	82.12	2.84	8.07	19
7807	80.75	3.54	12.51	23
7806	84.77	3.33	11.08	34
7805	84.87	2.08	4.32	16
7804	84.50	0.71	0.50	2
7803	84.18	2.54	6.45	7
7802	84.42	3.62	13.11	23
7801	85.61	3.53	12.48	9
Average	81.99	3.85	14.83	296

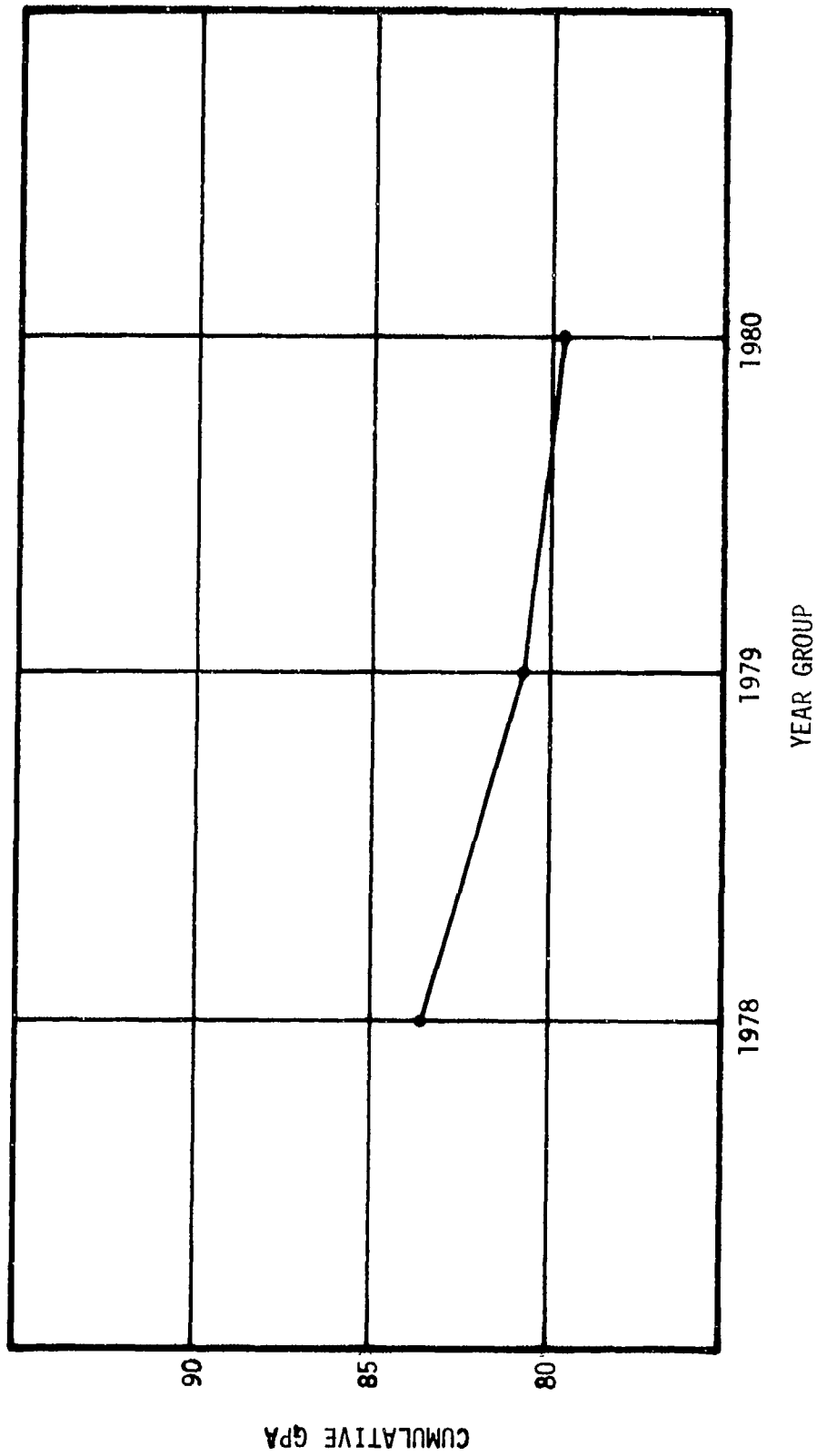


Figure 11. Performance Trend by Class Based on GPA

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CLASS STANDING (DECILES)

Class No.	Top 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	Bottom 10%	Total
04			2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	13
03				1	1	3	1	1	1		8
02		1									1
8001	1	2		1	1	2	3	3	5	2	20
08	2	1	3	5	2	2	4	3	1		23
07	7	5	7	7	7	4	7	7	7	3	61
06	1	2	2	3	1	2			1		12
05		1					1	1			3
04		2	1			1				1	5
03	1		1	1	2	2				3	10
02						1		2	2	2	7
7901	1	2	1	2	2	3	1	2	4	1	19
07										23	23
06	5	4	1	6	2	3	1	5	2	5	34
05		1	1	3	1	2	2	3		3	16
04			1		1						2
03		1		1	1	1		1	1	1	7
02	7		2	3	2	4	1	1	1	2	23
7801	3	1	3			1				1	9
Total number	28	23	25	34	25	33	23	31	26	48	296
Percent	9.5	7.8	8.4	11.5	8.4	11.1	7.8	10.5	8.8	16.2	
	10.3	8.4	9.2	12.5	9.2	12.1	8.4	11.4	9.5	9.2	273*

* Percent excludes class 7807.

Figure 12. Matrix of Number of Students in Each Decile of Class Standing by Class Year

CLASS STANDING IN DECILES

	Top 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	Bottom 10%
Background Technical (N = 115)	$\frac{11}{9.6}$	$\frac{10}{8.7}$	$\frac{14}{12.2}$	$\frac{16}{13.9}$	$\frac{11}{9.6}$	$\frac{11}{9.6}$	$\frac{12}{10.4}$	$\frac{16}{13.9}$	$\frac{9}{7.8}$	$\frac{5}{4.3}$
Nontechnical (N = 23)	$\frac{1}{4.3}$	$\frac{1}{4.3}$	0	$\frac{2}{8.7}$	$\frac{2}{8.7}$	$\frac{2}{8.7}$	$\frac{3}{13.0}$	$\frac{3}{13.0}$	$\frac{5}{21.7}$	$\frac{4}{17.4}$
Totals (N = 138)	$\frac{12}{8.7}$	$\frac{11}{8.0}$	$\frac{14}{10.1}$	$\frac{18}{13.0}$	$\frac{13}{9.4}$	$\frac{13}{9.4}$	$\frac{15}{10.9}$	$\frac{19}{13.8}$	$\frac{14}{10.1}$	$\frac{9}{6.5}$

Figure 13. Cross Tabulation of Class Standing by Technical/Nontechnical Background

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TABLE 32. SOBC PERFORMANCE BY INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS	CATEGORY	MEAN GPA	S.D.	N	REMARKS
Rank	Most Competitive	81.55	4.15	5	N.S.*
	Highly "	83.60	3.54	41	
	Very "	81.56	3.19	62	
	Competitive	82.12	3.90	90	
	Less Competitive	83.33	3.71	6	
	Noncompetitive	83.44	3.32	9	
Environment	Suburban	82.19	4.17	87	N.S.
	Urban	82.40	3.28	106	
	Rural	82.45	3.31	20	
Type	University	82.44	3.73	172	N.S.
	Tech	82.01	3.22	34	
	LAS	80.75	3.88	7	
Salary	High	82.45	3.75	106	N.S.
	Average	82.10	3.32	31	
	Low	82.23	3.69	76	
Size	Less than 5K	82.92	4.15	38	N.S.
	Less than 10K	82.22	3.36	73	
	Less than 15K	81.79	3.24	29	
	Less than 20K	82.98	4.17	33	
	Greater than 20K	81.76	3.51	40	
Coed Status	Coed	82.34	3.64	206	N.S.
	All Male	81.71	4.19	7	
Geography Location	NE	81.97	3.38	56	N.S.
	W	82.41	3.99	58	
	MW	82.98	3.42	45	
	SE	82.03	3.76	54	
Control	Public	82.33	3.57	154	N.S.
	Private	82.76	3.89	46	
	Catholic	80.60	3.53	13	
Technical Background	Technical	81.16	3.22	115	N.S.
	Nontechnical	79.72	3.43	23	

*N.S. = not significant.

SECTION VI

NROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE AT NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL

SYNOPSIS

Data obtained to describe NROTC graduate performance at the academic portion of Nuclear Power School post-accession training show a remarkably homogeneous student body. The mean cumulative GPA achieved was 3.22 (S.D. = .25, N = 504) for students during classes between 1976 and 1980; annual GPAs varied from this mean by only .02. 49.1 percent of NROTC graduates stood in the top half of all class graduates; attrition was 8.5 percent.

Although technically prepared students (cumulative GPA = 3.22, N = 287) generally did slightly better than students with a nontechnical background (cumulative GPA = 3.16, N = 15), differences were usually not significant. However, only a few cases existed to represent students without technical preparation. Nontechnically prepared students suffered twice as many attritions.

Although several significant differences existed between selected categories of institutional variables, on the whole, few differences of practical significance were found. Data sufficient to describe performances of representatives of predominately minority schools were not acquired.

INTRODUCTION

An officer's qualification for assignment to billets involving nuclear power is predicated upon successful completion of a thorough and rigorous post-accession training program. The training is provided in separate, but related, parts: (1) approximately 24 weeks of academic instruction is completed at the Nuclear Power School, Orlando, Florida, to provide background and to establish a common level of knowledge about nuclear power principles and practices and (2) approximately the same amount of time is used for application and practice of that knowledge on an operational prototype at one of several nuclear reactor sites. For the present study, performance was assessed only in terms of the academic instruction part of nuclear power training.

The course of academic instruction in nuclear power is essentially the same for prospective officers for both nuclear submarines and nuclear surface ships. Course content is built around the following basic subject areas:

- Mathematics (MATH)--topics from algebra, trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and calculus develop logic and analytical skill and support specific areas of the Nuclear Power School curriculum
- Physics (PHYS)--principles of mechanics, electrostatics, electrodynamics, and techniques of solving problems in classical and nuclear-related physics

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- Heat Transfer and Fluid Flow (HTFF)--energy transfer, fluid flow conversions, application of thermodynamics and hydraulics necessary to understand design criteria, operating procedures and limitations of a reactor plant
- Electrical Engineering (EE)--basic electrical theory as it relates to power distribution systems and electronics to support understanding of instrumentation
- Chemistry, Materials, and Radiological Fundamentals (CMRF)--principles of general chemistry necessary to understand corrosion and corrosion control associated with a naval reactor plant; familiarization with materials used in naval nuclear reactor plant operations; the properties of radiation, its potential hazards, the rules for behavior in radiation areas; equipment and methods for measuring radiation
- Reactor Dynamics/Core Characteristics (RD/CC)--fundamentals of reactor kinetics, dynamic reactor behavior and control, and integrated reactor plant behavior in the subpower range; application of basic principles learned in Reactor Dynamics, Materials, and Aspects of Reactor Plant Operations to core design
- Aspect of Reactor Plant Operations (ARPO)--application of fundamental principles to operational situations; safety considerations in operations.

By and large, nuclear power training for officers is voluntary and no undergraduate major field of study has been established as a prerequisite for entry. These conditions might normally be expected to lead to a fairly broad spectrum of performance levels in various backgrounds; in fact, the opposite is true. Nearly all entrants to nuclear power training have completed undergraduate study in a technical field (e.g., engineering, math). More important, however, the selection procedures used to choose among volunteers have resulted in a cadre of uniformly qualified officers. NROTC program graduates selected for nuclear power training have undergone the same screening process as all other entrants; thus, although they may represent diverse kinds of undergraduate institutions, their preparation and performance levels tend toward a uniform quality.

Assessment of NROTC graduate performance at Nuclear Power School is based on grade point averages obtained for each of the primary content areas just identified. In addition, student scores achieved on a comprehensive examination (COMP), administered at the completion of academic training, are used as a measure of performance. A cumulative GPA based on all of these components has been computed and is used as the primary basis for comparison.

Other variables, both descriptive and criterion, include those identified in section II, with the following modifications:

- no data representative of predominately minority institutions are included in the sample

. setback data were not available.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

A total of 544 cases provided data for review. These data show a mean GPA for NROTC graduates at Nuclear Power School of 3.22 (S.D. = .25, N = 504). Tables 33, 34, and 35 provide breakdowns of this performance by NROTC unit and major field of undergraduate study. For NROTC units, average GPAs ranged from 2.88 (S.D. = .16, N = 3) to 3.46 (S.D. = .23, N = 8), but Ns were small for a number of schools. The range of GPAs for major fields of study (with N = 10) extended between 3.30 (S.D. = .22, N = 39) and 3.12 (S.D. = .21, N = 11). Viewed by class year, GPAs remain remarkably stable. Table 35 and figure 14 display GPAs as a function of sequential class and class year.

NROTC graduate standings in class were converted to deciles and used as a second measure of performance. Profiles based on standing were computed for each NROTC unit, major, and class. A composite profile of 497 cases is shown in table 36. Slightly less than 50 percent of NROTC students were in the top half of their classes when compared to all students in those classes.

Attrition data obtained during the project show an NROTC graduate attrition rate of 8.5 percent (N = 544; 46 attrites). Attrition data were developed for NROTC graduates grouped by NROTC unit, major field of study, and class. Because of the low number of cases for most unit and major subgroups, these data are not included here. Attrition by class year is given in table 37. No setback data were available.

PERFORMANCE BASED ON TECHNICAL/NONTECHNICAL BACKGROUND. The vast majority of Nuclear Power School entrants arrive with a background in a technical area of study (e.g., engineering, science, math, physics). Although the Nuclear Power course is "technical" in its emphasis, no requirement exists for such a background; thus, a small percentage of entering students have majored in business, the social sciences, or liberal arts. The performances of technical and nontechnical groups were compared using the same criteria that had been applied to the total sample. Caution should be exercised in interpreting the results of these comparisons because of the relatively small Ns available to describe the nontechnical NROTC graduate.

Tables 38, 39, and 40 compare the performance of NROTC graduates grouped by technical-nontechnical background. Although graduates with technical backgrounds achieved slightly higher GPAs in most academic areas for which data were available, the cumulative difference between these two groups was not statistically significant. Among specific academic areas, math (MATH) and heat transfer/fluid flow (HTFF) units showed the greatest differences between scores of these two groups.

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TABLE 33. NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE BY NROTC UNIT

COLLEGE	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
AUBURN	3.24	0.21	0.04	12
UC BERKELEY	3.25	0.34	0.12	7
UCLA	3.33	0.25	0.06	4
CITADEL	3.04	0.31	0.10	4
U COLORADO	3.35	0.24	0.06	10
CORNELL	3.27	0.21	0.05	15
DUKE	3.41	0.13	0.02	8
U FLORIDA	3.19	0.22	0.05	15
GEORGIA TECH	3.15	0.25	0.06	37
HOLY CROSS	3.17	0.24	0.06	8
U IDAHO	3.33	0.19	0.04	7
IIT	3.20	0.25	0.06	13
U ILLINOIS	3.28	0.23	0.05	9
IOWA ST	3.22	0.24	0.06	7
JACKSONVILLE U	2.88	0.16	0.03	3
U KANSAS	3.15	0.34	0.12	5
MAINE MARITIME	2.91	0.07	0.01	2
MARQUETTE	3.31	0.15	0.02	4
MIT	3.25	0.28	0.08	13
MIAMI U OHIO	3.05	0.13	0.02	5
U MICHIGAN	3.19	0.22	0.05	24
U MINNESOTA	3.32	0.18	0.03	4
U MISSISSIPPI	3.02	0.01	0.00	2
U MISSOURI	3.26	0.26	0.07	9
U NEBRASKA	3.35	0.27	0.07	5
U NEW MEXICO	3.18	0.21	0.04	9
U N CAROLINA	3.27	0.29	0.08	6
NORTHWESTERN	3.11	0.30	0.09	11
NOTRE DAME	3.16	0.33	0.11	12
OHIO ST	3.21	0.24	0.06	10
U OKLAHOMA	3.21	0.14	0.02	5
OREGON ST	3.24	0.25	0.06	20
PENN ST	3.35	0.18	0.03	21
U PENNSYLVANIA	3.07	0.31	0.09	9
PURDUE	3.38	0.30	0.09	6
RPI	3.34	0.25	0.05	22
RICE	3.46	0.23	0.05	8
U ROCHESTER	3.28	0.29	0.09	7
U SO CAROLINA	3.22	0.20	0.04	5
USC	3.03	0.21	0.04	9
TEXAS A&M	3.31	0.13	0.02	12
TEXAS	3.19	0.28	0.08	8
TULANE	3.14	0.29	0.09	9
U UTAH	3.29	0.28	0.08	7
VANDERBILT	3.14	0.25	0.06	14
VILLANOVA	3.02	0.22	0.05	10
U VIRGINIA	3.18	0.26	0.07	14
U WASHINGTON	3.22	0.20	0.04	12
U WISCONSIN	3.15	0.31	0.09	7
SUNY MARITIME	3.04	0.0	0.0	1
VMI	3.08	0.29	0.08	11
AVERAGE	3.22	0.25	0.06	504

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TABLE 34. NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE BY
MAJOR FIELD OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
BIOL SCI	3.35	0.20	0.04	2
BACTERIO	3.06	0.0	0.0	1
MISC BIO	3.04	0.38	0.14	4
OPTOMETR	3.59	0.0	0.0	1
MISC MED	3.38	0.28	0.08	3
GEOLOGY	3.26	0.15	0.02	2
OPS RSCH	3.13	0.06	0.00	2
METEORL	3.23	0.55	0.30	2
CHEMISTRY	3.12	0.21	0.04	11
CERAMICS	3.32	0.04	0.00	2
MATH	3.20	0.27	0.07	20
PHYSICS	3.25	0.27	0.07	22
CIV ENG	3.17	0.28	0.08	11
NAV ARCH	3.19	0.22	0.05	4
NUC ENG	3.30	0.22	0.05	39
INDS ENG	3.08	0.26	0.07	4
CHEM ENG	3.27	0.24	0.06	26
ELEC ENG	3.24	0.26	0.07	54
MECH ENG	3.17	0.22	0.05	47
AERO ENG	3.14	0.31	0.10	5
METL ENG	3.08	0.24	0.06	3
ENGINEER	3.07	0.29	0.08	7
POLY SCI	2.76	0.0	0.0	2
ENGLISH	3.21	0.21	0.04	2
MAJOR Not Else- where Classified	3.22	0.34	0.12	11
Average	3.21	0.25	0.06	287

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TABLE 35. NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE BY CLASS

CLASS	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
8003	3.26	0.26	0.07	14
8002	3.01	0.22	0.05	2
8001	2.91	0.0	0.0	1
7908	3.16	0.19	0.04	29
7907	3.21	0.25	0.06	46
7906	3.27	0.28	0.08	48
7905	3.37	0.11	0.01	3
7904	3.12	0.21	0.04	12
7903	3.19	0.20	0.04	10
7901	3.21	0.27	0.07	15
7807	3.24	0.30	0.09	19
7806	3.24	0.26	0.07	71
7805	3.14	0.25	0.06	14
7803	3.19	0.08	0.01	3
7802	3.38	0.09	0.01	6
7801	3.14	0.02	0.00	2
7709	3.19	0.26	0.07	21
7708	3.20	0.28	0.08	31
7707	3.21	0.27	0.07	42
7706	3.10	0.37	0.13	5
7705	3.18	0.0	0.0	1
7704	3.32	0.12	0.01	7
7703	3.30	0.07	0.00	5
7702	3.11	0.29	0.08	12
7701	3.24	0.27	0.08	29
7608	3.23	0.23	0.05	39
7607	3.11	0.34	0.11	3
7606	3.14	0.37	0.13	3
7605	3.25	0.22	0.05	7
7604	3.11	0.22	0.05	5
Average	3.21	0.29	0.08	505

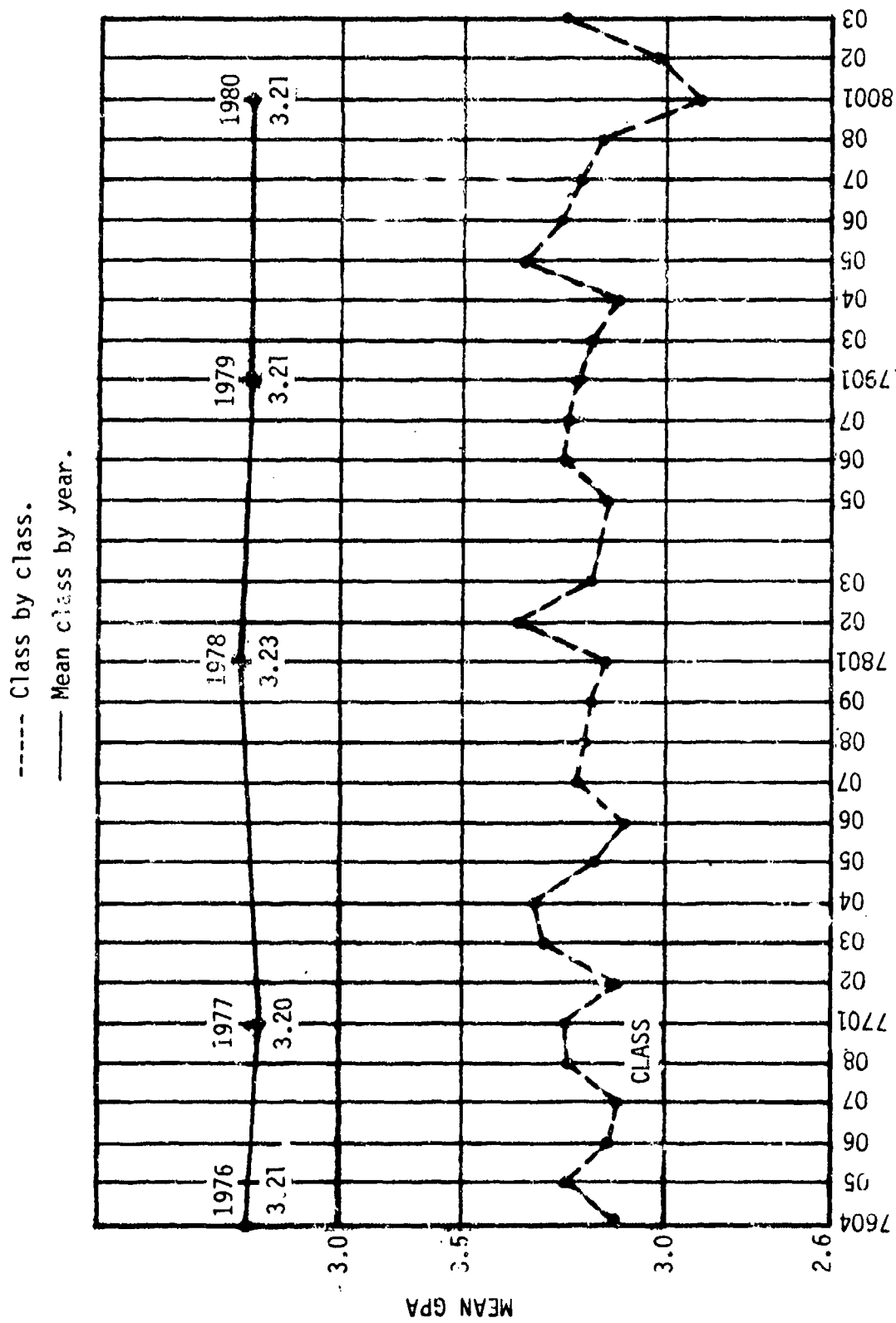


Figure 14. Performance Trend by Class/Year As Indicated by Mean GPA

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TABLE 36. NROTC GRADUATE PROFILE BASED ON STANDING IN CLASS

	CLASS STANDING									
	TOP 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	BOTTOM 10%
N	46	45	49	54	49	51	52	45	44	62
%	9.3	9.1	9.9	10.9	9.9	10.3	10.5	9.1	8.9	12.5

TABLE 37. NROTC GRADUATE ATTRITION FROM NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL
BY CLASS YEAR

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	TOTAL
No. Attrites	3	13	14	14	2	46
%	5.0	7.9	11.1	8.0	11.1	8.46
N	60	164	126	176	18	544

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TABLE 38. GPA COMPARISONS FOR TECHNICAL/NONTECHNICAL BACKGROUND

CONTENT AREA	<u>BACKGROUND</u>	
	TECHNICAL (N)	NONTECHNICAL (N)
MATH	3.14 (303)	2.83 (20)
PHYS	3.29 (287)	3.08 (17)
HTFF	3.13 (299)	2.88 (20)
EE	3.18 (279)	3.09 (16)
CMRF	3.23 (274)	3.11 (15)
RD/CC	3.25 (275)	3.24 (15)
ARPO	3.19 (273)	3.21 (15)
COMP	3.12 (272)	3.12 (15)
CUMULATIVE GPA	3.22 (272)	3.16 (15)

TABLE 39. CROSS TABULATION OF TECHNICAL/NONTECHNICAL BACKGROUND BY STANDING IN CLASS AT NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL

BACKGROUND	CLASS STANDING									
	TOP 10%	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	BOTTOM 10%
TOTALS										
TECHNICAL										
N	20	26	24	31	23	29	28	25	24	34
(%)	(7.6)	(9.8)	(9.1)	(11.7)	(8.7)	(11.0)	(10.6)	(9.5)	(9.1)	(12.9)
										264 (94.6)
NONTECHNICAL										
N	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	0	2	3
(%)	(6.7)	(13.3)	(13.3)	(6.7)	(6.7)	(13.3)	(6.7)	(0)	(13.3)	(20.0)
										15 (5.4)
TOTAL										
N	21	28	26	32	24	31	29	25	26	37
(%)	(7.5)	(10.0)	(9.3)	(11.5)	(8.6)	(11.1)	(10.4)	(9.0)	(9.30)	(13.3)
										279 (100)

TABLE 40. ATTRITION AS A FUNCTION OF TECHNICAL BACKGROUND

	GRADUATE	ATTRITE	TOTAL
TECHNICAL $\frac{N}{\%}$	264 (86.6)	41 (13.4)	305
NONTECHNICAL $\frac{N}{\%}$	15 (75.0)	5 (25.0)	20
TOTAL	279 (85.8)	46 (14.2)	325

A comparison of technical preparation by standing in class supports the GPA findings. Although decile comparisons produced varied results, 46.9 percent of technical (N = 264) and 46.7 percent of nontechnical (N = 15) graduates ranked in the top half of their respective classes when compared to all students. In terms of attrition data available for technical/non-technical graduates, students who majored in nontechnical areas were about twice as likely to attrite as those with technical majors. The percentages of class standing and attrition in these tables are different from previous information due to the reduced number of cases for which data describing major field of study were available.

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS. GPA and attrite data were also examined as a function of institutional characteristics. The results of that compilation are presented in table 41. All variables were present in these data except no data were available on minority institutions. Measured against the criterion of cumulative GPA, no significant difference existed among the various categories of any of the institutional variables. Using attrition as a criterion, schools classified predominately as Liberal Arts institutions, small in size and/or Catholic showed significantly higher attrition rates than did the other categories describing each of those characteristics.

GPA's were also used as yardsticks for comparing the various categories of each institutional variable. Of the 64 comparisons computed (8 institutional variables, 8 academic subject/comprehensive exam GPA's), five were significant: students representing the LAS category of institutional type scored significantly lower in both MATH and HTFF subject areas; institutions whose student body is predominately male achieved significantly lower GPA's in math and physics; and data grouped by type of institutional control show representatives of Catholic institutions did less well in HTFF.

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TABLE 41. NUCLEAR POWER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE WHEN GROUPED BY INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA			
		MEAN GPA	SD	N	% ATTRITES
INSTITUTION RANK	MOST COMPETITIVE	3.25	.28	13	7.1
	HIGHLY COMPETITIVE	3.26	.27	87	7.5
	VERY COMPETITIVE	3.18	.25	174	7.7
	COMPETITIVE	3.22	.24	201	8.7
	LESS COMPETITIVE	3.18	.21	9	18.2
	NONCOMPETITIVE	3.23	.27	20	13.6
ENVIRONMENT	SUBURBAN	3.21	.25	230	8.5
	URBAN	3.21	.26	244	8.7
	RURAL	3.31	.20	30	6.3
TYPE	UNIVERSITY	3.22	.25	390	6.1
	TECHNICAL	3.20	.27	99	14.3
	LAS	3.08	.26	15	26.3
SALARY	HIGH	3.22	.26	229	8.1
	AVERAGE	3.20	.26	99	11.0
	LOW	3.22	.24	176	7.5
SIZE	LESS THAN 5K	3.22	.28	97	16.7
	LESS THAN 10K	3.20	.26	170	7.8
	LESS THAN 15K	3.19	.25	80	6.0
	LESS THAN 20K	3.25	.23	71	5.4
	GREATER THAN 20K	3.24	.24	86	4.4
COEDUCATION STATUS	COED	3.22	.25	477	7.3
	MALE	3.12	.26	27	25.7
GEOGRAPHY	NE	3.24	.26	108	12.3
	W	3.25	.24	127	5.2
	MW	3.21	.25	124	9.2
	SE	3.17	.25	145	7.7
CONTROL	PUBLIC	3.22	.24	368	7.4
	PRIVATE	3.21	.28	102	7.3
	CATHOLIC	3.14	.27	34	22.0
	MEAN	3.22	.253	504	

SECTION VII

NROTC GRADUATE PERFORMANCE IN AVIATION TRAINING

SYNOPSIS

Data were available to describe the performance of pilots only in Aviation Preflight Indoctrination (API) and Primary Flight training portions of the aviation follow-on training pipeline. As in other post-accession programs, NROTC graduates scored at or near the average of all students. The mean of Navy Standard Scores (NSS) in API was 51.6 (S.D. = 7.52; N = 2,174); in Primary Flight the mean NSS was 51.23 (S.D. = 7.37; N = 1,380). The 3-year trend 1977-1979 for API based on these data was slightly up; the trend for Primary Flight was slightly down.

Students from technical backgrounds (majors) did better in both API and Primary Flight than did students with less technical preparation. In API, technical student NSS average for API was 54.69 (N = 649) while the nontechnical student NSS was 50.79 (N = 779); in Primary Flight the NSS scores were 63.2 (N = 387) to 50.12 (N = 424). Additional comparisons of entry test and math/physics exemption test scores between these two groups showed some differences in specific categories; however, the small number of cases involved for many categories make such differences suspect. Using attrition as an indicator of performance, students with nontechnical backgrounds attrited at a significantly greater rate than did students with technical preparation.

When scores achieved by NROTC unit representatives were compared on the basis of institutional characteristics, the variables Rank, Type, and Ethnic Predominance produced significant differences in API score, physics and math exemption scores, and attrition. For categories of Rank, the more competitive the institution, the higher the score; for Type, institutions emphasizing LAS scored lowest. Between schools where student bodies were of predominately majority or minority ethnic groups, the latter did less well; however, the low number of cases included in the minority group suggests these results should be interpreted with caution.

INTRODUCTION

An NROTC graduate selected for aviation training may, upon commissioning, follow one of a number of different training "pipelines" in completing qualifications for that warfare specialty. Depending on the specific designator being acquired (e.g., Pilot, Naval Flight Officer (NFO)) students may be required to complete a series of preparatory experiences consisting of both "hands-on" and academic "classroom" training. Figure 15 displays the general structure of aviation training pipelines; each step after aviation preflight can be further differentiated on the basis of different airplane types, specific mission, and/or equipment configurations.

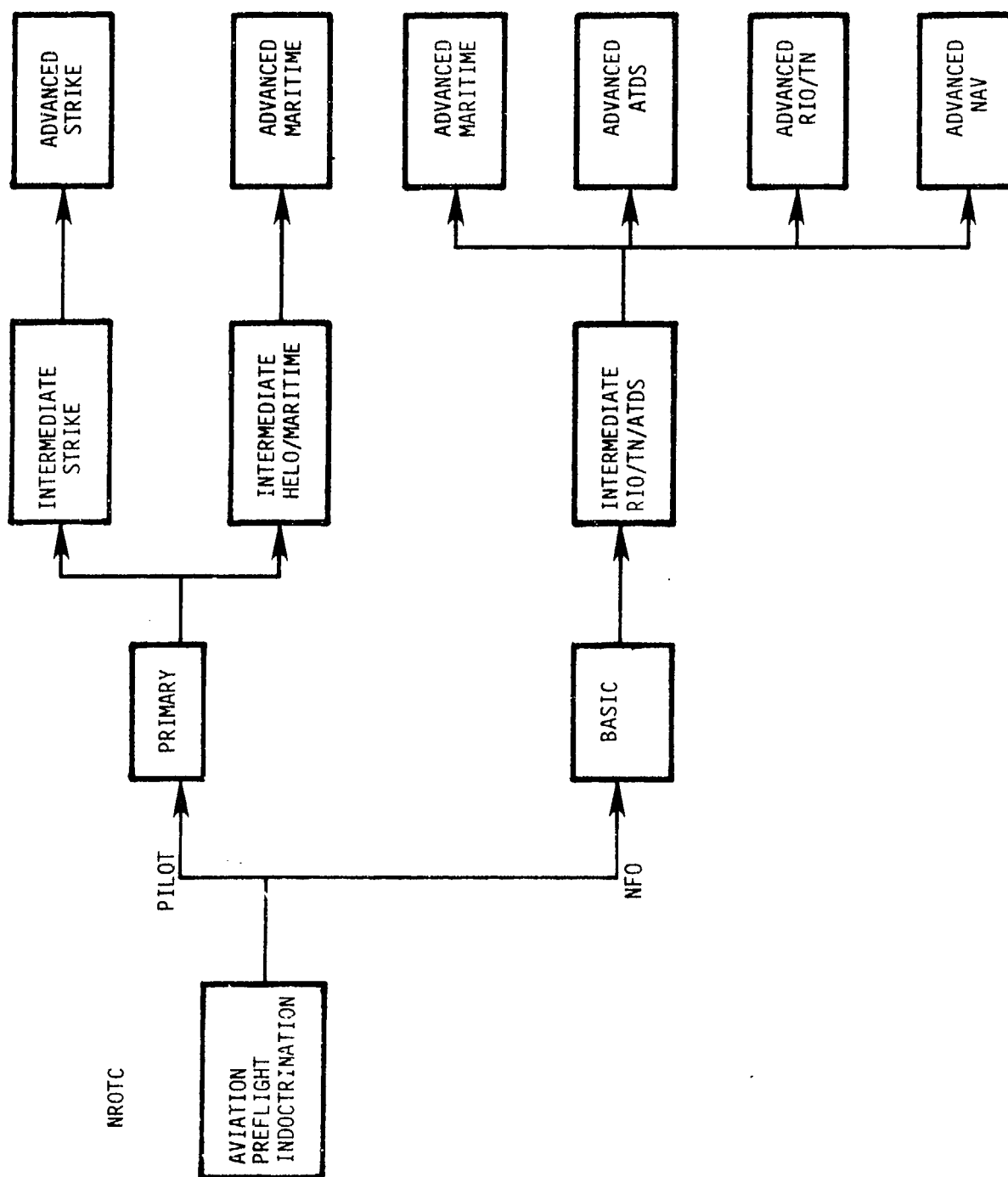


Figure 15. Simplified Diagram of Pilot/Naval Flight Officer Training Pipelines

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The complexity and specific nature of post-accession, aviation training pipelines severely restricts the applicability of generalized performance measures for NROTC graduates. Therefore, the primary focus of this study was performance during Aviation Preflight Indoctrination (API), a part of the pipeline which all NROTC graduates must undergo.

API consists of approximately 6 weeks of classroom and physical training conducted at the Naval Aviation Schools Command, Pensacola, Florida. Primary subject areas include basic air navigation, basic aerodynamics, and basic aircraft engines; sea and land survival is also taught. All potential aviation-oriented designators must complete API.

Evaluations conducted during this period of training are of two types: (1) graded exercises in three primary subject areas are averaged to obtain a mean "academic" indicator and (2) "pass-fail" criteria are used to demonstrate satisfactory completion of sea and land survival training segments. This latter assessment is separate from subject area grades. Designator-specific command equivalency tables are then applied to pilot and NFO API grades to develop a standard score.

Although both pilots and NFOs undergo essentially the same preflight indoctrination, the data reported here are only for pilots. Although no data on NFO training were available for the present study, it is anticipated that future NFO data will be included in the data base when they are acquired.

Data for pilots reflect training conducted at two separate locations, each emphasizing preparation using a different aircraft. Performance data describing NROTC graduates assigned to pilot training pipelines were acquired from the Human Factors Data Bank maintained by the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory in Pensacola, Florida. Specific pilot performance measures used included:

- . a mean grade point average (GPA) for API
- . a mean GPA for primary (pilot) training, with the recognition that although these marks are based on similar syllabi, inferences based on them must be carefully drawn because of the use of different training platforms
- . individual scores on mechanical comprehension tests, spatial apperception tests, aviation qualification tests, and math/physics exemption examinations taken at entry.

Independent variables consisted of those listed in section II of this report, with the following modification:

- . no setback data were available
- . some additional data describing sex/race were available and were included where possible.

PRESENTATION OF DATA

For the discussion which follows, the data base includes the entire population wherever possible. However, caution should be used in interpreting data which relates certain background variables to performance in API and Primary Flight training. The Ns used in computing these data are often based on sample sizes which are less than that of the entire population. These data will be identified by inclusion of the N along with the mean. This difference in sample sizes is the result of merging different data bases in which there was not a direct correspondence of data elements. Nevertheless, the data should be sufficiently accurate for the identification of trends. Performance data are restricted to grades obtained in API and Primary Flight training. Attrition data, however, apply to the entire flight training pipeline for each class.

The mean API Navy standard score for all available cases was 51.60 (S.D. = 7.52, N = 2,174). Table 42 displays mean API standard scores and standard deviations for each NROTC unit for which representative data are available. These averages are based on Navy standard scores (mean = 50, S.D. = 10). The combined average of all unit scores is 53.34 (S.D. = 6.97, N = 840). Tables 43 and 44 provide similar statistics grouped by major field of study and class year. The trend in API Navy standard scores for sequential class years is slightly upward.

The mean Navy standard score in Primary Flight training for all cases was 51.23 (S.D. = 7.37, N = 1,380). Tables 45, 46, and 47 show the average Primary Flight training Navy standard score as a function of NROTC unit, major field of study, and class year, respectively, for available data. The trend in Primary Flight scores for sequential class years is slightly down.

Table 48 summarizes API and Primary Flight scores as a function of technical vs. nontechnical undergraduate majors. A summary of spatial apperception, math, and physics scores by unit and technical/nontechnical major are contained in tables 49 and 50. While there was a significant difference noted between some of these scores, the sample sizes were so small as to render these differences uninterpretable. However, a stepwise regression analysis which related the math, Spatial Apperception Test (SAT), and physics scores to student scores in API and in Primary Flight training showed that math scores accounted for 43 percent and 29 percent of the variance, respectively. Adding SAT and physics scores to the prediction equation accounted for relatively small amounts of additional variance.

Requirements for remediation in math or physics, as indicated by tests taken on entry, were not related to university characteristics. While there was a significant relationship between these scores and ethnic background, the small sample size for categories of ethnic background makes this relationship unreliable.

Attrition from class years 1977-1979, throughout the entire air training pipeline, was 45.1 percent. No data were available to discriminate among reasons for attrition. The only variable which showed a statistically

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TABLE 42. AVERAGE API NAVY STANDARD SCORE BY NROTC UNIT

COLLEGE	MEAN	STD DEV	N
AUBURN	53.27	6.74	31
U C BERKELEY	57.26	4.81	18
UCLA	54.60	5.97	19
CITADEL	47.956	6.27	46
U COLORADO	54.69	5.27	26
CORNELL	59.14	3.30	14
DUKE	58.92	5.16	8
U FLORIDA	52.20	6.82	22
FLORIDA A&M	45.48	8.21	9
GEORGIA TECH	55.93	6.13	19
HOLY CROSS	50.15	7.90	11
U IDAHO	56.73	3.87	10
IIT	53.33	5.29	7
U ILLINOIS	53.76	9.26	7
IOWA ST	53.24	6.26	15
JACKSONVILLE U	51.12	5.69	23
LOUISVILLE	50.38	8.94	14
U KANSAS	52.44	8.74	15
MAINE MARITIME	58.08	5.42	4
MARQUETTE	53.90	5.90	14
MIT	64.67	1.15	3
MIAMI U OHIO	52.93	4.46	18
U MICHIGAN	58.87	4.65	10
U MINNESOTA	52.03	7.96	11
U MISSISSIPPI	48.96	6.73	14
U MISSOURI	53.62	5.83	21
U NEBRASKA	52.28	7.98	6
U NEW MEXICO	56.45	4.79	17
N C CENTRAL	44.44	2.22	3
U N CAROLINA	56.85	4.74	13
NORTHWESTERN	54.31	8.09	12
NOTRE DAME	55.27	5.66	21
OHIO ST	56.02	4.82	14
U OKLAHOMA	47.40	6.91	10
OREGON ST	51.36	6.28	23
PENN ST	54.77	5.54	25
U PENNSYLVANIA	49.67	8.69	8
PRAIRIE VIEW	37.67	6.66	3
PURDUE	55.56	4.01	18
RPI	55.54	3.47	16
RICE	50.61	8.13	6
U ROCHESTER	54.60	5.70	16
U S CAROLINA	51.98	7.73	20
USC	52.63	8.74	19
SOUTHERN A&M	30.67	0.0	1
TEXAS A&M	53.60	7.10	39
TEXAS	56.36	6.76	14
TULANE	50.92	7.88	13
U UTAH	53.27	5.96	5
VANDERBILT	55.35	6.46	17
VILLANOVA	50.68	6.50	24
U VIRGINIA	55.37	5.88	25
U WASHINGTON	59.66	3.57	18
U WISCONSIN	51.44	5.67	9
SUNY MARITIME	55.50	5.80	4
VMI	48.11	8.21	12
Average	53.34	6.97	840

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TABLE 43. AVERAGE API NAVY STANDARD SCORE BY MAJOR

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	N
AGRICULT	43.00	0.0	1
FORESTRY	52.12	5.76	23
MISC AGR	47.47	7.68	10
SCIENCES	53.84	6.71	91
BIOL SCI	50.30	7.19	27
ANIM GEN	52.00	0.0	1
ZOOLOGY	52.58	4.65	7
MISC BIO	52.50	17.68	2
MEDICINE	56.81	4.86	7
GEOLOGY	53.38	7.52	8
OPS RSCH	57.50	2.12	2
METEORL	62.33	0.0	1
CHEMISTRY	53.50	5.58	6
BIOCHEM	53.00	5.66	2
CERAMICS	59.00	0.0	1
MATH	53.42	6.1	24
PHYSICS	56.91	5.96	11
PHYS SCI	52.62	6.57	84
CIV ENG	53.69	4.91	13
COMP SCI	51.94	6.68	15
NAV ARCH	57.00	8.00	5
NUC ENG	56.00	0.00	1
ORD ENG	59.00	4.24	2
INDS ENG	53.42	3.97	8
CHEM ENG	53.50	0.71	2
ELEC ENG	56.53	5.56	19
MECH ENG	57.88	4.96	24
ELEX ENG	40.00	0.0	1
COMM ENG	43.00	0.0	1
AERO ENG	56.19	6.31	55
METL ENG	57.00	0.0	1
ARCHITCT	53.12	5.59	8
ENGINEER	55.93	5.49	220
FRGN AFF	48.39	13.81	6
POLY SCI	48.79	7.18	19
PUB ADM	42.20	9.04	5
INDS ART	50.07	9.51	10
HISTORY	52.33	7.09	18
INDS MGT	52.43	3.78	7
PERS ADM	38.00	0.0	1
PSYCHOL	50.04	6.19	66
ANTHROPL	49.50	4.95	2
ECONOMICS	53.64	8.11	14
ACCOUNTG	53.97	6.41	13
GEOGRAPH	49.50	12.02	2
BUS ECON	57.50	6.36	2
BUS ADM	51.90	7.03	234
PHYS ED	50.66	8.58	35
EDUCATION	49.60	7.90	34
JOURNL	50.48	10.37	9
LAW	51.00	0.0	1
STAT	47.00	0.0	1
SOC WORK	46.00	0.0	1
SOC SCI	50.07	7.60	207
FINE ARTS	50.42	3.59	4
ENGLISH	50.96	7.89	39
CLASSIC	45.50	16.26	2
MAJOR Not Else- where Classified	50.74	8.74	13
Average	52.56	7.22	1,428

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TABLE 44. AVERAGE API NAVY STANDARD SCORE BY CLASS

CLASS	MEAN	STD DEV	VARIANCE	N
7900	52.56	6.94	48.11	687
7800	51.34	7.46	55.62	754
7700	50.97	8.10	65.58	733
Average	51.60	7.55	57.00	2,174

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TABLE 45. AVERAGE PRIMARY FLIGHT NAVY STANDARD SCORE BY UNIT

COLLEGE	MEAN	STD DEV	N
AUBURN	53.77	5.74	22
U C BERKELEY	52.59	6.38	13
UCLA	52.98	6.77	11
CITADEL	48.54	7.67	22
U COLORADO	51.98	6.62	18
CORNELL	56.03	5.36	9
DUKE	60.22	6.69	4
U FLORIDA	50.90	4.52	13
FLORIDA A&M	48.58	4.51	6
GEORGIA TECH	55.04	3.29	13
HOLY CROSS	52.83	7.06	9
U IDAHO	55.31	6.65	8
IIT	50.47	5.50	5
U ILLINOIS	54.70	6.49	5
IOWA ST	52.76	6.84	12
JACKSONVILLE	49.78	6.03	17
LOUISVILLE	52.54	3.47	9
U KANSAS	55.56	4.14	12
MAINE MARITIME	55.01	1.97	2
MARQUETTE	53.48	7.52	5
MIT	59.11	1.13	3
MIAMI U OHIO	51.16	6.92	14
U MICHIGAN	56.07	4.48	8
U MINNESOTA	52.40	7.68	6
U MISSISSIPPI	45.66	8.80	10
U MISSOURI	52.67	5.81	15
U NEBRASKA	49.92	9.50	5
U NEW MEXICO	56.82	3.24	14
N C CENTRAL	48.00	14.63	2
U N CAROLINA	53.49	7.00	9
NORTHWESTERN	53.45	7.80	10
NOTRE DAME	55.42	6.52	12
OHIO ST	54.28	3.53	7
U OKLAHOMA	46.76	10.55	6
OREGON ST	49.97	5.08	13
PENN ST	54.52	5.74	16
U PENNSYLVANIA	47.02	12.81	2
PRAIRIE VIEW	46.72	3.49	2
PURDUE	55.49	4.75	13
RPI	55.72	5.15	11
RICE	52.64	2.84	5
U ROCHESTER	56.13	2.06	11
U S CAROLINA	51.15	8.31	16
USC	53.64	5.57	10
TEXAS A&M	50.75	7.05	29
TEXAS	52.87	6.82	7
TULANE	54.10	2.67	4
U UTAH	52.41	7.01	4
VANDERBILT	55.28	5.74	8
VILLANOVA	51.85	8.74	13
U VIRGINIA	54.20	5.62	13
U WASHINGTON	56.06	5.90	9
U WISCONSIN	49.37	3.35	3
VMI	48.89	6.58	7
Average	52.74	6.54	532

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TABLE 46. AVERAGE PRIMARY FLIGHT NAVY STANDARD SCORE BY COLLEGE MAJOR

MAJOR	MEAN	STD DEV	N
AGRICULT	43.94	0.0	1
FORESTRY	47.88	5.64	12
MISC AGR	51.70	3.85	6
SCIENCES	52.69	5.78	51
BIOL SCI	51.66	6.71	22
ANIM GEN	47.67	0.0	1
ZOOLOGY	52.03	4.03	7
MISC BIO	60.39	0.0	1
MEDICINE	53.34	5.07	4
GEOLOGY	53.22	6.79	8
OPS RSCH	54.88	5.08	2
CHEMISTRY	51.01	8.63	6
BIOCHEM	57.62	0.0	1
CERAMICS	57.65	0.0	1
MATH	53.49	6.32	22
PHYSICS	56.38	6.20	9
PHYS SCI	51.06	7.12	41
CIV ENG	54.42	6.03	12
COMP SCI	55.13	3.86	4
NAV ARCH	59.38	2.88	3
NUC ENG	50.60	0.0	1
ORD ENG	59.60	4.55	2
INDS ENG	52.68	7.62	6
CHEM ENG	49.30	0.59	2
ELEC ENG	55.28	6.24	15
MECH ENG	57.31	3.56	21
ELEX ENG	49.47	0.0	1
COMM ENG	46.96	0.0	1
AERO ENG	54.32	6.82	33
METL ENG	51.22	0.0	1
ARCHITCT	54.50	5.45	6
ENGINEER	52.52	5.92	103
FRGN AFF	53.22	7.78	4
POLY SCI	47.33	7.13	15
PIJB ADM	47.56	4.96	4
INDS ART	45.74	8.36	6
HISTORY	51.85	8.01	11
INDS MGT	54.46	6.38	6
PERS ADM	53.93	0.0	1
PSYCHOL	48.94	8.48	32
ANTHROPL	54.84	3.47	2
ECONOMICS	56.96	3.68	11
ACCOUNTG	57.86	4.76	11
GEOGRAPH	52.10	9.24	2
BUS ECON	58.45	1.95	2
BUS ADM	50.88	6.05	122
PHYS ED	49.62	6.60	19
EDUCATION	49.48	4.43	21
JOURNL	52.74	5.17	6
LAW	44.31	0.0	1
STAT	45.78	0.0	1
SOC WORK	53.71	0.0	1
SOC SCI	48.31	7.14	100
FINE ARTS	48.34	8.39	2
ENGLISH	48.55	7.64	18
CLASSIC	55.61	0.0	1
MAJOR NOT ELSEWHERE			
CLASSIFIED	53.31	4.54	6
Average	51.59	6.72	811

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TABLE 47. AVERAGE PRIMARY FLIGHT NAVY STANDARD SCORE
BY SEQUENTIAL CLASS YEAR

CLASS	MEAN	STD DEV	N
7900	49.18	6.76	219
7800	50.88	6.91	585
7700	52.37	7.83	576
Average	51.24	7.37	1,380

TABLE 48. AVERAGE API AND PRIMARY FLIGHT NAVY STANDARD SCORES
BY TECHNICAL VS. NONTECHNICAL MAJORS

	MEAN	API STD DEV	N	MEAN	PRIMARY FLIGHT STD DEV	N
Technical	54.69	6.27	649	53.20	6.20	387
Nontechnical	50.79	7.5	779	50.12	6.85	424

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TABLE 49. MEAN SPATIAL APPERCEPTION TEST, PHYSICS,
AND MATH SCORES IN API BY COLLEGE

COLLEGE	SAT		PHYSICS		MATH	
	MEAN	STD DEV	MEAN	STD DEV	MEAN	STD DEV
AUBURN	12.90	3.04	55.87	7.07	50.91	8.01
U C BERKELEY	12.59	3.34	58.36	5.60	53.07	8.99
UCLA	10.74	2.67	57.00	4.16	54.46	8.63
CITADEL	10.36	3.34	52.37	6.89	48.67	10.57
U COLORADO	12.08	3.20	57.96	4.04	57.52	5.88
CORNELL	10.40	2.44	59.55	4.32	60.09	5.70
DUKE	12.11	3.26	60.33	2.16	57.67	8.29
U FLORIDA	11.04	3.04	55.94	4.09	51.44	8.21
FLORIDA	9.30	3.06	44.75	10.42	37.62	6.44
GEORGIA TECH	11.79	3.26	57.94	7.25	58.94	8.60
HOLY CROSS	10.00	3.69	54.12	7.51	52.75	9.13
U IDAHO	11.90	3.14	60.00	3.00	59.86	7.73
IIT	9.29	1.98	57.50	4.65	54.00	8.52
U ILLINOIS	11.43	4.65	57.20	4.76	58.60	8.02
IOWA ST	11.36	3.13	56.73	6.51	56.36	6.74
JACKSONVILLE U	11.26	3.11	54.56	5.00	50.33	7.87
LOUISVILLE	10.07	3.34	55.67	5.91	55.08	8.37
U KANSAS	12.27	2.79	53.92	7.81	54.00	8.60
MAINE MARITIME	12.00	1.63	62.00	1.41	59.50	0.71
MARQUETTE	10.00	3.40	57.00	4.08	56.50	7.68
MIT	14.67	4.16	62.50	0.71	62.50	4.95
MIAMI U OHIO	11.06	2.98	55.86	6.98	52.71	9.50
U MICHIGAN	11.40	2.72	58.43	4.76	54.86	6.52
U MINNESOTA	12.00	2.00	57.25	2.19	53.38	7.11
U MISSISSIPPI	13.07	2.43	52.55	6.28	51.36	8.45
U MISSOURI	12.23	3.24	55.73	4.56	55.87	7.67
U NEBRASKA	14.67	3.27	53.50	6.56	54.50	7.90
U NEW MEXICO	12.41	3.32	58.31	3.97	56.62	9.90
N C CENTRAL	13.00	4.36	44.00	11.31	44.50	6.36
U N CAROLINA	12.08	3.04	58.83	2.98	56.75	5.75
NORTHWESTERN	12.00	3.16	56.10	6.17	53.70	8.52
NOTRE DAME	12.24	3.14	58.64	3.67	57.18	10.52
OHIO ST	13.50	2.47	59.89	3.62	56.44	7.80
U OKLAHOMA	13.70	2.95	51.57	6.50	46.43	7.57
OREGON ST	11.87	3.15	52.62	7.82	48.31	7.00
PENN ST	10.08	4.00	55.82	6.22	53.65	11.37
U PENNSYLVANIA	10.75	2.49	49.50	13.13	49.00	11.92
PRAIRIE VIEW	13.00	4.36	39.00	15.56	33.50	9.19
PURDUE	11.06	2.94	58.43	2.93	61.21	3.77
RPI	11.56	2.99	59.20	3.61	58.00	7.47
RICE	12.17	1.17	59.50	3.79	54.50	5.20
U ROCHESTER	11.94	2.77	56.50	6.70	58.90	5.70
U S CAROLINA	12.00	2.97	56.85	3.36	54.54	8.16
USC	12.10	4.33	54.00	7.99	52.00	10.60
SOUTHERN A&M	13.00	0.0	--	--	--	--
TEXAS A&M	12.13	3.48	56.56	5.11	53.63	8.58
TEXAS	13.07	3.29	58.57	4.65	59.71	6.15
TULANE	12.69	2.78	57.67	4.32	52.50	14.43
U UTAH	12.20	2.28	52.80	8.04	52.80	9.78
VANDERBILT	13.61	3.58	58.50	3.92	53.50	8.27
VILLANOVA	12.00	3.50	54.88	5.82	53.00	7.45
U VIRGINIA	12.52	2.71	58.31	3.09	57.15	7.97
U WASHINGTON	13.47	3.56	58.23	3.76	57.15	8.31
U WISCONSIN	11.56	2.96	55.20	3.77	52.20	16.21
SUNY MARITIME	9.25	2.22	56.00	0.0	50.00	0.0
VMI	11.23	3.70	50.60	9.50	49.00	11.85
Average	11.78	3.26	56.12	6.20	54.02	9.04

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significant relationship to attrition was technical or nontechnical undergraduate major ($X^2 = 15.73$, $p > .001$). Fifty-five percent of nontechnical majors attrited while 45.3 percent of the technical majors attrited. The total N of 1,456 would seem to assure that this is a reasonably reliable result; however, conclusions as to the importance of academic preparation in this difference should be inferred with care.

API, physics, and math exemption scores and attrition data for institutional variables are provided in table 51. Institutional rank (competitiveness) data continue to reflect scores that parallel rank; NROTC graduates representing institutions with a strong LAS emphasis and those from institutions in the SE geographic area performed less well than their counterparts in other categories of these variables. A consistently lower performance by students from schools with less than 5,000 students was also observed. Differences noted between schools with predominately minority or majority student populations were also observed but should be viewed with caution because of the low number of cases available to describe minority schools.

TABLE 50. SPATIAL APPERCEPTION TEST, PHYSICS, AND MATH SCORES IN API BY TECHNICAL OR NONTECHNICAL MAJOR

	SAT		PHYSICS		MATH	
	MEAN	STD DEV	MEAN	STD DEV	MEAN	STD DEV
Technical	12.01	3.34	57.71	5.18	56.47	7.79
Nontechnical	11.81	3.08	51.97	7.97	50.45	9.51
Average	11.90	3.20	54.62	7.40	53.24	9.25

TABLE 51. AVIATION POST-ACCESSION PERFORMANCE BY INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY* (N)	MEAN API(NSS)	PHYSICS EXEMPTION SCORE	MATH EXEMPTION SCORE	PERCENT ATTRITES
<u>Rank</u>					
	Most Competitive (3)	64.67	62.50	62.50	66.7
	Highly Competitive (89)	55.34	58.00	56.57	38.5
	Very Competitive (198)	55.18	57.70	55.88	45.0
	Competitive (485)	52.30	55.42	53.12	45.9
	Less Competitive (3)	50.42	51.91	48.0	38.7
	Noncompetitive (35)	53.84	56.00	54.96	37.1
<u>Environment</u>					
	Suburban (456)	52.97	55.94	53.86	43.8
	Urban (342)	53.72	56.37	54.22	45.0
	Rural (42)	54.33	56.10	54.17	45.2
<u>Type</u>					
	University (695)	53.70	56.29	54.23	42.8
	Technical (65)	54.62	57.68	56.95	51.5
	LAS (80)	49.17	53.37	49.85	52.5
<u>Salary</u>					
	High (325)	54.09	56.80	55.00	44.4
	Average (174)	53.49	56.33	54.33	50.9
	Low (341)	52.55	55.39	52.97	41.0

*Ns shown apply to API and may vary slightly for other columns.

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TABLE 51. AVIATION POST ACCESSION PERFORMANCE BY INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY* (N)	MEAN API(NSS)	PHYSICS EXEMPTION SCORE	MATH EXEMPTION SCORE	PERCENT ATTRITES
<u>Size</u>					
	Less than 5K (157)	50.67	54.07	50.36	51.3
	Less than 10K (219)	54.08	56.78	55.52	46.8
	Less than 15K (150)	52.94	55.26	53.31	42.1
	Less than 20K (163)	53.79	56.59	54.26	34.1
	Greater than 20K (151)	54.95	57.54	56.01	46.7
<u>Coeducational Status</u>					
	Coed (813)	53.39	56.14	54.05	43.8
	Male (27)	52.04	55.25	52.50	60.7
<u>Geography</u>					
	NE (125)	54.19	56.46	55.55	48.4
	W (239)	54.00	56.22	53.92	42.9
	MW (189)	54.18	56.85	55.77	38.9
	SE (287)	51.87	55.42	52.35	47.3
<u>Control</u>					
	Public (660)	53.35	56.06	53.91	43.2
	Private (110)	53.75	56.60	54.48	47.2
	Catholic (70)	52.62	55.97	54.45	50.0
<u>Ethnic</u>					
	Nonminority (827)	53.51	56.34	54.32	44.1
	Minority (13)	42.54	43.60	36.80	57.1

SECTION VIII

SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF DATA

This section provides an overview of the data presented in sections III through VII. Several issues of importance related to the performance of NROTC graduates are also presented.

Table 52 provides an overall summary of the performance of NROTC graduates at each of the Navy's initial post-accession training programs. Cells in this matrix showing incomplete or unavailable data should be targeted for special emphasis in future data acquisition efforts. Based on these data, NROTC graduates appear to have demonstrated a consistently satisfactory level of performance in the post-accession training programs reviewed. Cumulative mean GPAs are well above established pass/fail scores and show minimal deviation from computed or school-estimated GPA for students from all accession programs. Because grading differs, at the five follow-on programs, comparison of GPA by program should be avoided; translations between 4.0 and 100 point scales are not always exact. The development of Navy standard scores, as used to describe performance in aviation post-accession training, may provide a means of more accurate comparison.

TABLE 52. A PERFORMANCE MATRIX FOR NROTC GRADUATES
BY POST-ACCESSION TRAINING

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	SWOS (N=1,138)	SUPPLY CORPS (N=449)	SUB SCHOOL (N=296)	NUCLEAR POWER (N=544)	AVIATION (N=2,174)
Cumulative GPA	3.50	88.65	81.99	3.22	51.60*
% Attrite	2.81	Insufficient Data	Insufficient Data	8.50	51.2
% Setback	7.64	Insufficient Data	Insufficient Data	Data Unavail.	Data Unavail.
Reading Score Grade Level	Data Unavail.	14.77	Data Unavail.	Data Unavail.	Data Unavail.
Class Standing (% in top half)	Data Unavail.	49.2	49.6	49.1	Data Unavail.
Trend in GPA	Steady	Steady	Slight Down	Steady	Slight Up

*Navy standard score.

Findings describing the class standing of NROTC graduates as compared to other accession program graduates are consistent with GPA results. Assuming a normal representation of aptitude among NROTC graduates in post-accession training, approximately half would be expected to stand in the top 50 percent of their respective classes. This expectation was verified. Trends, measured by class year, show steady or only slight up or down movement of GPAs/class standing over time.

The attrition and setback data in this study for SWOS Basic and the attrition data for Nuclear Power School and Aviation Preflight are more equivocal in that data from separate, independently obtained studies are not in complete agreement with those reported here. These data must, therefore, be viewed cautiously. Also, data do not discriminate among the various categories usually associated with attrition or setback (e.g., academic, aptitude, physical) for any post-accession program; thus, specific inferences about attrition/setback based on purely academic grounds are not possible.

At project start, reading scores were expected to be available for use as both performance and moderator variables. However, such scores were available only for Supply Corps Basic School students. In the future, use of reading scores will be possible on a much larger scale as a comprehensive testing program is initiated at all NROTC units.

Table 53 summarizes the performance of NROTC graduates grouped by technical/nontechnical major field of undergraduate academic study at the various follow-on schools. In almost every comparison, using GPA or class standing criteria, persons with technical backgrounds performed better, although in many cases the practical difference between scores was so small as to be negligible. Attrition data (and setback data where available) show significantly greater losses per class among nontechnically trained students. The consistency of these data suggest that the trend is valid, even though the absolute level of performance reflected may not be precise.

A variety of institutional data was used to compare the performance of NROTC graduates in each post-accession training program. Among these variables, Rank (based on Barron's competitive levels of entering students), Type (multiversity, technical emphasis, liberal arts emphasis) and Ethnic Predominance were most likely to evoke consistent differences in performance during post-accession training. In general, the higher the ranking of an institution, the better the performance of its graduates; technical institution graduates did better, liberal arts institution graduates did less well; graduates of institutions with predominately minority student bodies demonstrated poorer performance than did their counterparts from predominately white institutions. An overview of institutional variables which appear to relate to performance in post-accession training is provided by table 54.

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TABLE 53. SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL/NONTECHNICAL GROUP PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	TECHNICAL MAJOR (N)	NONTECHNICAL MAJOR (N)
<u>SWOS</u>		
Pretest GPA	1.66 (509)	1.50 (460)
CT GPA	3.54 (481)	3.46 (405)
% Attrite	Insufficient data	Insufficient data
% Setback	3.9 (509)	10.4 (460)
<u>Supply</u>		
GPA	88.51 (97)	88.33 (387)
Reading Grade Level	14.85 (68)	14.81 (181)
Class Standing	54.1* (98)	49.1* (391)
<u>Sub School</u>		
GPA	81.16 (116)	79.72 (23)
Class Standing	54.0* (115)	26.0* (23)
<u>Nuclear Power School</u>		
GPA	3.22 (272)	3.16 (15)
Class Standing	46.9* (264)	46.7* (15)
% Attrite	13.4 (305)	25.0 (20)
<u>Aviation</u>		
API NSS	55.69 (649)	50.79 (779)
Primary Flight NSS	53.20 (387)	50.12 (424)
Physics Exemption Test	57.71	51.97
Math Exemption Test	56.47	50.45
% Attrition	44.8** (653)	55.0** (803)

*Percent in top half.

**Throughout entire pipeline.

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TABLE 54. MATRIX OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES* AMONG INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES BY POST-ACCESSION TRAINING

INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES	SWOS		SUPPLY CORPS		SUB SCHOOL	NUCLEAR POWER	AVIATION
	AVG PT	AVG CT	GPA	READ			
Rank	X	X		X			X
Environment							
Type	X		X				X
Salary	X						
Size							
Coeducational Status	X						
Geographic Location							X
Control			X				
Ethnic Predominance		X		X**			X**

*All significant differences are reported at $p > .01$.
 **Relatively low number of cases (N).

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Areas for improvement in the effort to acquire and analyze data describing NROTC graduate performance in post-accession training include:

- . developing attrition and setback information for those follow-on programs where it is not currently available and measuring the accuracy of these data where they are available
- . developing class standing data for SWOS and aviation post-accession programs
- . using recently implemented NROTC comprehensive test data, including reading scores and comprehensive test scores, to provide additional indication of NROTC graduate performance
- . reducing the number of institutional variables reviewed to assess impact on post-accession performance to include competitive ranking, institutional type, and ethnic predominance.

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APPENDIX A

NROTC CORE CURRICULUM COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The NROTC Core Curriculum consists of the requirements/courses listed below. Students enrolled under this program may select any major field of study leading to the baccalaureate degree. In addition to those requirements/courses normally associated with the degree program chosen, the student will complete the following as part of, or in addition to, that program:

- American Military Affairs (1 semester/term)
- Calculus (1 year)
- Physics (1 year; calculus based)
- Three of the following (1 semester/term each):

- Applied Mathematics
- Advanced Statistics
- Computer Science
- Additional Science

- English (1 year)
- Modern Foreign Language (1 semester/term; mandated by Congress)

Table A-1 provides a comparison of the current requirements levied on NROTC students and those of the "core" curriculum pilot program.

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TABLE A-1. COMPARISON OF CORE AND PRESENT CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENT	CORE	PRESENT
Major	Any	80% technical 20% of interest to Navy
Naval Science Courses	X	X
American Military Affairs	X	X
National Security Policy		X
Calculus (1 Year)	X	X
Physics (1 Year; Calculus Based)	X	X
English (1 Year)	X	
*Modern Foreign Language (1 Term)	X	X
Other Course Requirements	3 of 4 listed	2 approved by PNS

*Congressional mandate for all DOD scholarship programs.

APPENDIX B

DATA ELEMENTS LIST BY SOURCE

NROTC ADS (current)

Active Duty Status (shows previous branch of service)	Initial Major
Alien Status	Last Name
Attrition Cause	Leave of Absence Indicator
Attrition Date	Middle Initial
Birth Date	Nuclear Candidate
Calculus/Physics (shows completion)	Officer Candidate Date of Commitment
Changes Option (between Navy/ Marine Corps options)	Option Code (Select Navy or Marine Corps)
Class	Physical Fitness Test Score
College Program (College vs. Scholarship programs)	Physical Status
Cross Enrollment	Probation Status
Cruise (projected cruise year)	Race
Designator Choices	SAT Composite Score (includes ACT equivalent)
Designator Code (prospective)	SAT Math Score (includes ACT equivalent)
End of Obligated Service (EOS) Date	SAT Verbal Score (includes ACT equivalent)
Enrollment Date	School Code (university/college attending)
Estimated Commissioning Date	Selection Code
Ethnic Group	Selection Scale
Final Major	Sex
First Name	Social Security Number
Former Program Code	
Home State	

NRC (current)

Age	Eagle Scout
SAT (Verbal, Math, Composite)	Boy's/Girl's State
ACT English	NJROTC
Math	NROTC
Social Science	National Honor Society
Natural Science	Academic Awards/Medals
Selection Code	Class Rank
College Assigned	College Major Desired
Rank in (H.S.) Class	SVIB
Class Size (H.S.)	Officer Potential _____
H. S. Rating	Overall Index
Interview	College GPA
College Choices	
Military Dependent	
School Officer	
Varsity Athletics	

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NPRDC (historical) Data elements included in NROTC ADS.

OCARS (historical) Data elements included in NROTC ADS.

Follow-on Schools (historical; current)

<u>SWOS</u>	<u>SUB</u>	<u>NUC</u>	<u>Supply</u>	<u>Air</u>
GPA	GPA	GPA	GPA	API
PT (1-21)		Special	Standing	Primary Flight
CX (1-21)		Subjects (1-8)	Reading	Physics Exempt
CT (1-21)		Standing		Math Exempt
				Math Exempt

Institutional Data

Rank	Coed Composition
Environ	Size
Type	Ethnic Composition
Salary	
Control	
Geography	

APPENDIX C

INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES/ASSIGNMENT

Table C-1 lists those institutions assigned to each of the categories identified in the column header. The following key describes the numbers assigned.

<u>Geography</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Environment</u>
1 - Northwest	1 - Multipurpose University	1 - Suburban
2 - West	2 - Technical (primary)	2 - Urban
3 - Midwest	3 - LAS (primary)	3 - Rural
4 - Southeast		

<u>Control</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Ethnic/Coeducational Status</u>
1 - public	1 - high	M - predominate minority enrollment
2 - private	2 - average	Male - predominate male enrollment
3 - Catholic	3 - low	

<u>Size</u>	<u>Rank</u>
1 - less than 5,000 students	1 - most competitive
2 - 5-10,000 students	2 - highly competitive
3 - 10-15,000 students	3 - very competitive
4 - 15-20,000 students	4 - competitive
5 - greater than 20,000 students	5 - less competitive
	6 - noncompetitive

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TABLE C-1. NUMERICAL CODES FOR INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES

COLLEGE	GEO	RANK	ENVIR	TYPE	SAL	CONTROL	SIZE	ETHNIC/ COED
Auburn	4	4	1	1	3	1	4	
U C Berkeley	2	3	2	1	1	1	4	
UCLA	2	4	1	1	1	1	5	
Citadel	4	4	1	3	2	1	1	
U Colorado	2	4	1	1	3	1	4	
Cornell	1	2	2	1	1	1	3	
Duke	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	
U. Florida	4	4	1	1	3	1	5	
Florida A&M	4	5	2	1	3	1	1	M
Georgia Tech	4	3	2	2	3	1	2	
Holy Cross	1	3	2	3	1	3	1	
U. Idaho	2	4	3	1	3	1	2	
IIT	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	Male
U Illinois	3	3	2	1	1	1	5	
Iowa St	3	3	1	1	2	1	1	
Jacksonville	4	4	2	3	3	1	1	
U Kansas	3	6	1	1	3	1	3	
Maine Maritime	1	3	3	2	2	1	2	Male
Marquette	3	4	2	1	3	3	2	
MIT	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	
Miami U Ohio	3	4	1	1	1	1	3	
U Michigan	3	3	1	1	1	1	2	
U Minnesota	3	4	2	1	1	1	5	

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TABLE C-1. NUMERICAL CODES FOR INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES (continued)

COLLEGE	GEO	RANK	ENVIR	TYPE	SAL	CONTROL	SIZE	ETHNIC/ COED
U Mississippi	4	4	1	1	3	1	2	
U Missouri	3	4	1	1	3	1	2	
U Nebraska	3	6	2	1	3	1	5	
U New Mexico	2	5	2	1	3	1	4	
U N Carolina	4	3	1	1	1	1	5	
Northwestern	3	2	2	1	1	2	2	
Notre Dame	3	3	1	1	2	3	2	
Ohio St.	3	6	2	1	2	1	5	
U Oklahoma	2	4	1	1	3	1	4	
Oregon St.	2	4	2	1	3	1	3	
Penn St.	1	4	3	1	1	1	2	
U Penn	1	2	2	1	2	2	3	
Prairie View	2	5	3	1	3	1	1	M
Purdue	3	4	1	1	1	1	5	
RPI	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	
Rice	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	
U Rochester	1	3	2	1	1	2	2	
Savannah St.	4	5	1	3	3	1	1	M
U S Carolina	4	4	2	1	3	1	4	
USC	2	4	1	1	2	2	3	
Southern A&M	4	5	1	1	3	1	2	M
Texas A&M	2	4	1	1	3	1	3	
Texas	2	4	2	1	2	1	5	
Tulane	4	3	2	1	3	2	2	

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TABLE C-1. NUMERICAL CODES FOR INSTITUTIONAL VARIABLES (continued)

COLLEGE	GEO	RANK	ENVIR	TYPE	SAL	CONTROL	SIZE	ETHNIC/ COED
U Utah	2	4	2	1	3	1	4	
Vanderbilt	4	3	2	1	1	2	1	
Villanova	1	4	1	1	1	3	2	
U Virginia	4	2	1	1	1	1	2	
U Washington	2	3	1	1	2	1	5	
U Wisconsin	2	3	2	1	1	1	5	
SUNY Maritime	1	4	1	2	1	1	1	Male
VMI	4	4	1	2	1	1	1	Male

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