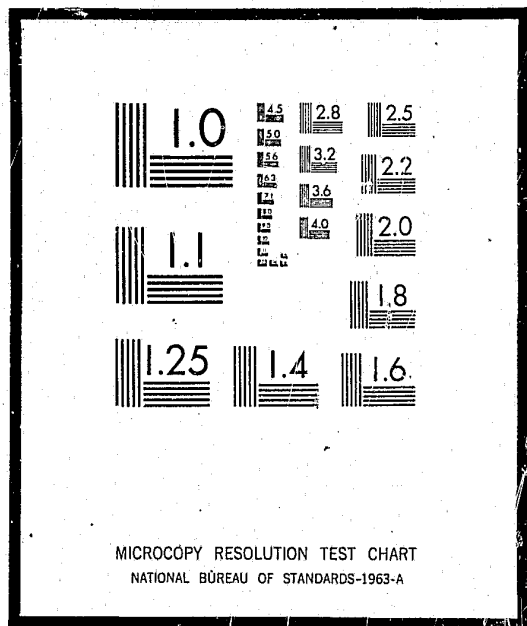


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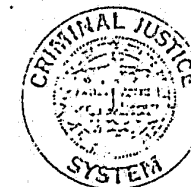
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
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STATE OF TENNESSEE
LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNING AGENCY
SUITE 205, CAPITOL HILL BUILDING
301 SEVENTH AVENUE, NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219



PROJECT
EVALUATION

PROJECT NUMBER: 324A-74-9.02-H-4, 166A-73-9.02-H-6
PROJECT TITLE: Classification & Treatment

PROJECT DIRECTOR: Robert Morford
JURISDICTION: Dept. of Correction
DATE EVALUATED: April/75

PROJECT PERIOD: FROM TO 12/13/75
EVALUATOR(S): Linda Myers, Ramon Sanchez-Vinas

TYPE OF PROJECT: () ORIGINAL, (X) CONTINUATION
IF CONTINUATION, PREVIOUS PROJECT NUMBERS: 103A-70-9.02-05, 217A-72-9.02-05, 34A-72-9.02-VIC

PERSON(S) CONTACTED DURING EVALUATION: Robert Morford, Evans Fine
NAME: Robert Morford, Evans Fine
CONNECTION WITH PROJECT: Project Director, Assistant Director - Classification

Institutional Treatment Directors
Wardens - Adult Male Institutions

Project status at the time evaluation conducted:
() initial stages of implementation - not fully operational
(X) fully operational
() close to completion
() completed

- What were the project objectives:
1. Successfully provide rehabilitative services to inmates so that they may return to society as productive citizens.
 2. Provide treatment services
 3. Continue program to a re-entry phase
 4. Reduce inmate-staff ratio through use of time and labor saving techniques

Rate the project in terms of achievement of objectives:
() results exceeding expectations
() generally successful
(X) partially successful
() more unsuccessful than successful
() unsuccessful

26178
Evaluation

Comments: 1973 Federal Funds-\$200,000 - 1974 Federal Funds-\$200,000
The actual classification process works well; however, follow up and implementation of recommendations is less than satisfactory.

Classification and Treatment Evaluation

The Reception and Diagnostic Center for male inmates is located within the walls of the Tennessee State Prison. This Center was instituted in 1970 for the purpose of placing inmates in the various correctional institutions by the most effective means of classification and diagnosis possible. Every person processed through the Reception Center is given a battery of aptitude, medical and psychological tests designed to aid in the determination of an appropriate treatment program. The Reception Center is structured to provide capabilities for receiving, housing, clothing, fingerprinting and photographing newly admitted persons.

During fiscal year 1973-74, 1,617 men were processed through the Reception Center. This represented 11.4% increase over the admission rate of the previous fiscal year. Of the number of men classified, approximately 70% were first offenders and the remaining 30% had served at least one prior felony conviction (not necessarily in Tennessee).

Figures 1 and 2 depict commitment data in two ways: 1) A comparison by region of commitments made for 1972-73 and 1973-74, 2) a comparison of commitment data for 1972-73 and 1973-74 and the impact on the five year average commitment rate by regions.

In this evaluation an effort has been made to assess projects impact on both the correctional system and the clientele, the inmate. This effort has taken the form of two separate studies: 1) To determine the classification units processing time, and 2) to determine and follow up at the various institutions, the degree to which classification recommendations are actually implemented.

Processing Time:

In order to determine the length of time a man spends in the classification stage of his experience, several residents were asked to keep diary records of their activities during classification as well as the number of days spent in the unit. In addition, staff members were interviewed at length to determine task time allocations.

From this study it was determined that the classification processing time was excessive - approximately 50 days. It was further recognized that the interviewing phase of classification was a single factor contributing most to the excessive delay.

A further dimension of this study involved interviewing institutional staff to obtain their opinion as to the utility of the classification information. It was determined that the psychological and sociological profiles rank equal in importance as to the most useful information, with the FBI RAP sheet a distant third.

FIGURE 1

COMPARISON OF 1972-73 AND 1973-74 COMMITMENTS BY REGION

<u>REGION</u>	<u>1972-73</u>	<u>1973-74</u>	<u>NO. ⁺ (or)</u>	<u>% ⁺ (or)</u>
Memphis - Delta	246	290	+44	+17.9
West Tennessee	188	189	+1	-
South Central	92	116	+24	+26.1
Mid-Cumberland	286	315	+29	+10.1
Upper-Cumberland	37	51	+14	+37.8
South East	192	233	+41	+21.4
East Tennessee	277	305	+28	+10.1
First Tennessee	<u>114</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>+4</u>	<u>+3.5</u>
TOTAL	1,432	1,617	+185	+12.9

FIGURE 2

COMPARISON OF 1972-73 AND 1973-74 5-YEAR AVERAGE*

COMMITMENT RATES BY REGION

REGION	1972-73	1973-74	NO. (\pm or)
Memphis - Delta	288.0	285.0	-3.0
West Tennessee	163.8	176.8	+13.0
South Central	78.2	88.4	+10.2
Mid-Cumberland	317.8	322.0	+4.2
Upper-Cumberland	49.0	50.0	+1.0
Southeast	205.8	207.4	+1.6
East Tennessee	256.2	279.4	+23.2
First Tennessee	121.8	117.8	-4.0
TOTAL	1,480.6	1,526.8	+46.2

*The 5-year average commitment rate is figured by totaling the annual commitments, by region, for a five year period and dividing by 5.

Classification Recommendation Follow-Up:

A basic assumption of diagnosis and classification programs is assessing a person's needs and deficiencies to determine treatment programming - only then can useful recommendations be made as to how an inmate should spend his time during incarceration.

For the past two years a card file for some follow-up has been in existence which, presumably, would allow for adequate assessment of the degree to which classification recommendations were actually being implemented. This follow-system as a whole has not worked well. Such information as was available provided a sample of approximately 30% (378) of the actual follow-up data that would have existed had the system worked as designed.

The data obtained from the card follow-up system provided the following results:

Percent placed in recommended programs	18%
Percent not placed in recommended programs	63%
Incomplete information	19%

It would appear, on the basis of above data, that chance probability would be as effective a method of implementing classification recommendations as the present system. It was decided, however, that the above data was inadequate to provide a firm foundation for making remedial recommendations. For this reason, an additional follow-up study was designed.

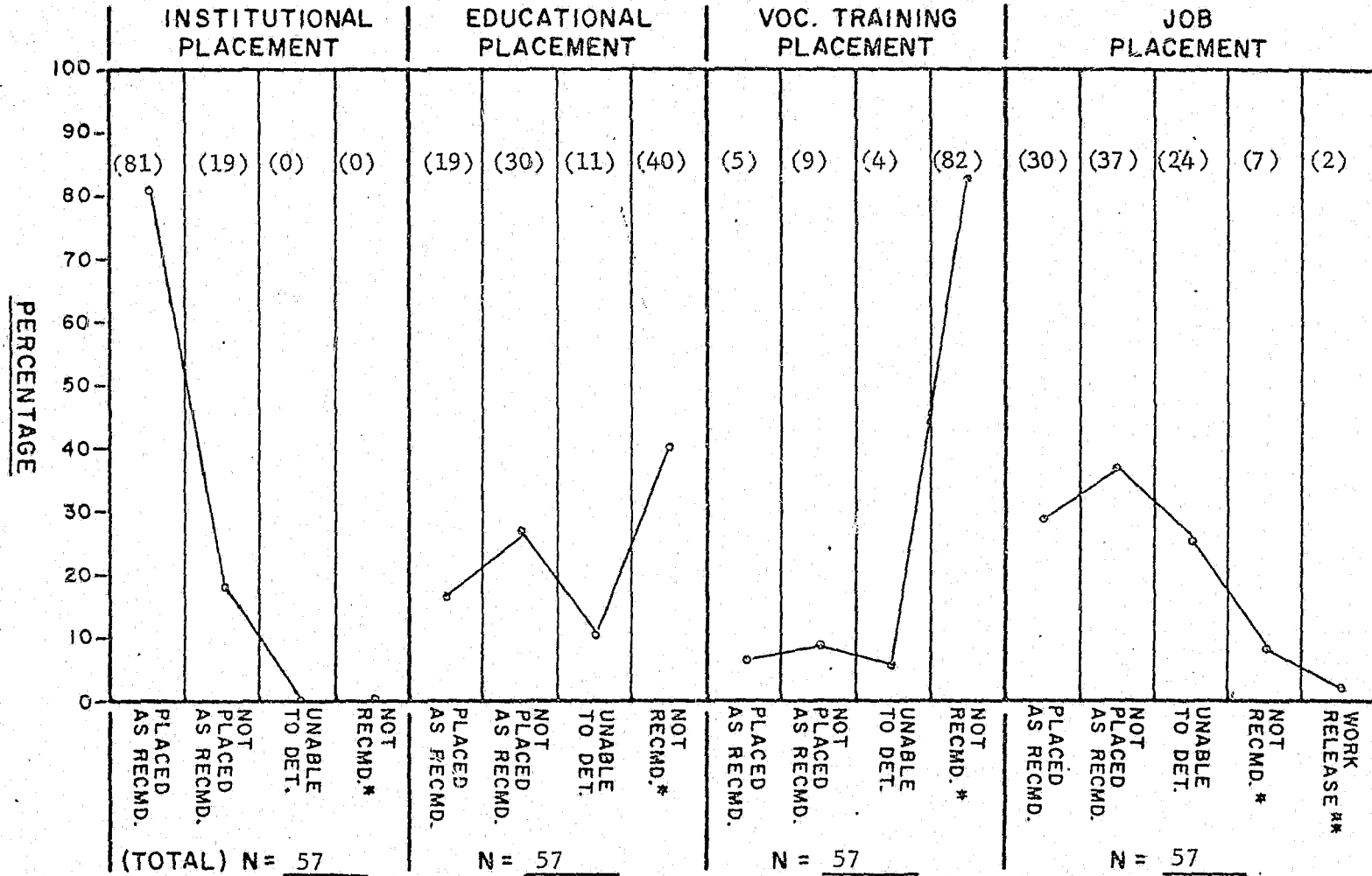
The second follow-up study was designed and implemented in March, 1975. This study consisted of a 10% sample randomly selected from those persons institutionalized for fiscal year 1974. Individual files were pulled from the central office filing system and a summary sheet prepared denoting information as to the inmate's institutional placement, educational program, vocational program, job placement, and counseling needs. The summary form left space for the institution to provide follow-up information on the same data elements. These summary sheets were then sent out to the last known institution of any given inmate. Of the 161 summary sheets sent, 142 or 88% were returned to the Central Office providing the requested information.

Findings from questionnaires returned from the main prison indicate that 81% of the inmates there were placed as recommended by diagnosis and classification while the remaining 19% were not placed as recommended. At Fort Pillow, 72% of the inmates were placed as recommended while 28% were not placed as recommended. Turney Center received 95% of the people recommended to be placed in that institution while only 5% went to a different institution. (See figures 3, 4, and 5).

The positive relationship between recommendation and actual placement did not carry through into the other elements for which information was

FIGURE 3
MAIN PRISON

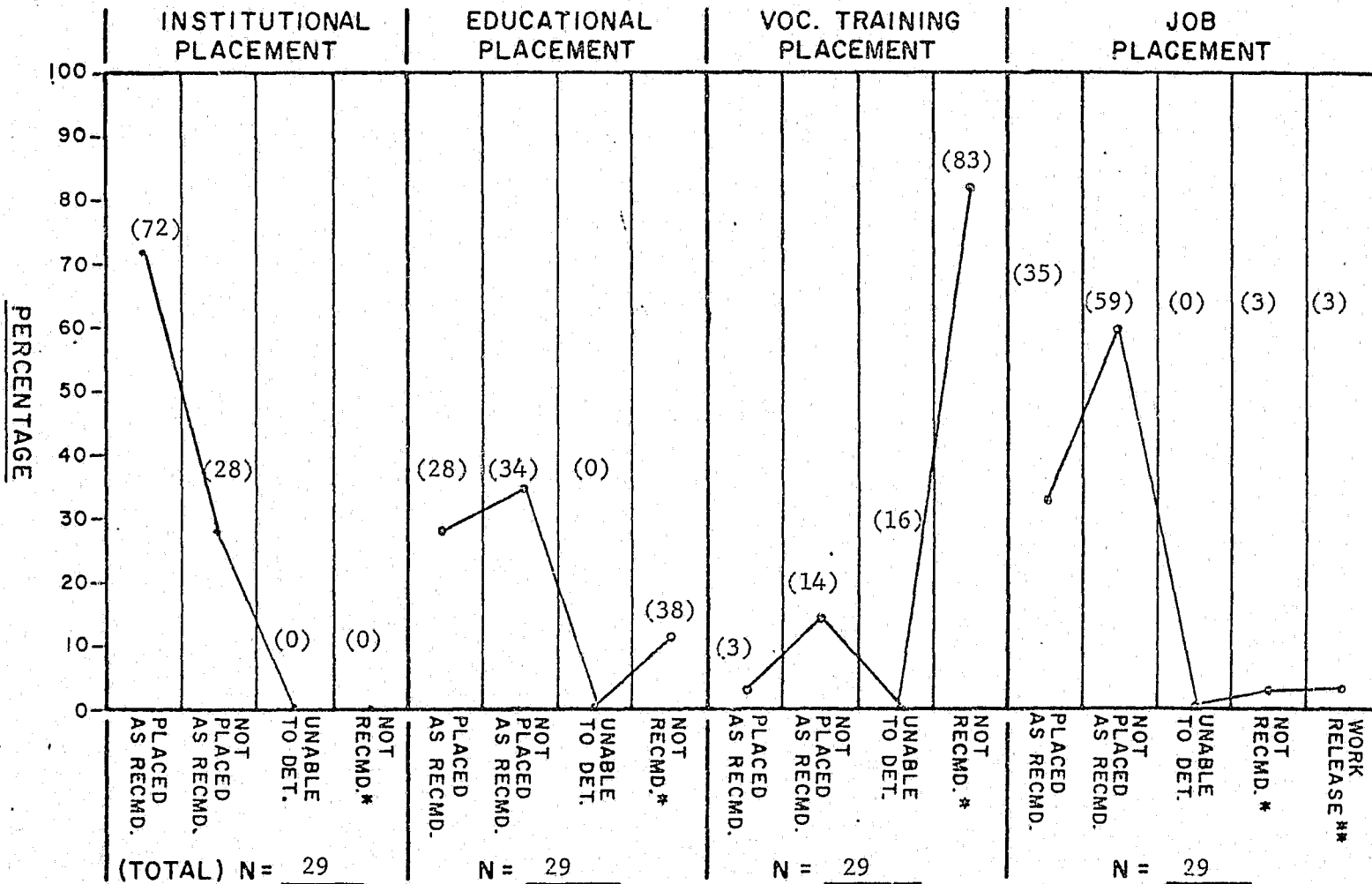
DIAGNOSIS & CLASSIFICATION FOLLOW - UP
PLACEMENT SUMMARY - FY1974



* ALL RESPONSES CATAGORIZED AS "DEFERRED" WERE TABULATED UNDER "NO RECOMMENDATION".
** FOR THOSE PLACES LISTING BOTH A JOB PLACEMENT AND WORK RELEASE, JOB PLACEMENT IS TABULATED, WHERE NO JOB PLACEMENT IS LISTED BUT WORK RELEASE CHECKED WORK RELEASE IS TABULATED.

FIGURE 4
FORT PILLOW

DIAGNOSIS & CLASSIFICATION FOLLOW-UP
PLACEMENT SUMMARY-FY1974



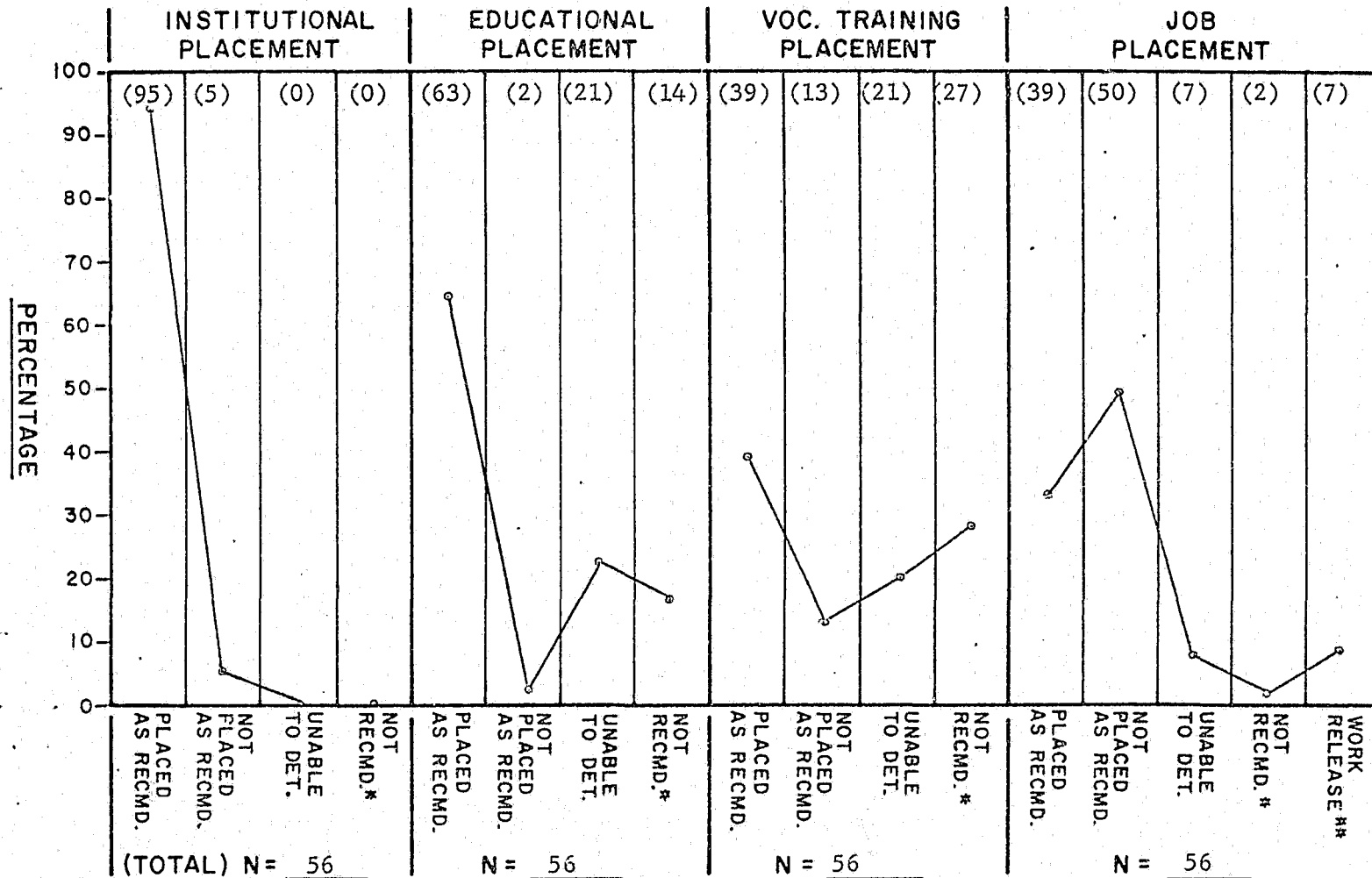
* ALL RESPONSES CATAGORIZED AS "DEFERRED" WERE TABULATED UNDER "NO RECOMMENDATION"

** FOR THOSE PLACES LISTING BOTH A JOB PLACEMENT AND WORK RELEASE, JOB PLACEMENT IS TABULATED, WHERE NO JOB PLACEMENT IS LISTED BUT WORK RELEASE CHECKED WORK RELEASE IS TABULATED.

FIGURE 5

TURNER CENTER

DIAGNOSIS & CLASSIFICATION FOLLOW - UP
PLACEMENT SUMMARY - FY1974



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gathered in the study. For example, in the main prison, 19% of the inmates recommended for specific educational programs received that educational program while 30% were placed in programs other than those recommended. In 11% of the cases, educational placement was unable to be determined due to inadequate records; while in 40% of the cases no specific recommendations for education were made. In Fort Pillow 28% received recommended educational programs while 34% were placed in programs other than those for which they were recommended or not placed in programs at all. Thirty-eight (38%) per cent of the cases in Fort Pillow had no recommendation for education. Turney Center shows the highest correlation between recommended placement in education and actual placement: 63% were placed as recommended, 2% not placed as recommended, 21% unable to determine on the basis of the files, and 14% received no specific educational recommendation.

There is even less of a correlation between recommended vocational training programs and actual received programs. In the main prison, 5% of those receiving vocational training recommendations were placed in the recommended programs, while 9% were not placed as recommended, 4% - unable to determine, and 82% had no specific recommendation made. In Fort Pillow, 3% were placed in vocational training programs as recommended, 14% were not placed as recommended and 83% received no specific recommendations. In Turney Center 39% received vocational training as recommended, 13% were not placed as recommended, 21% - unable to determine, and 27% received no specific recommendation.

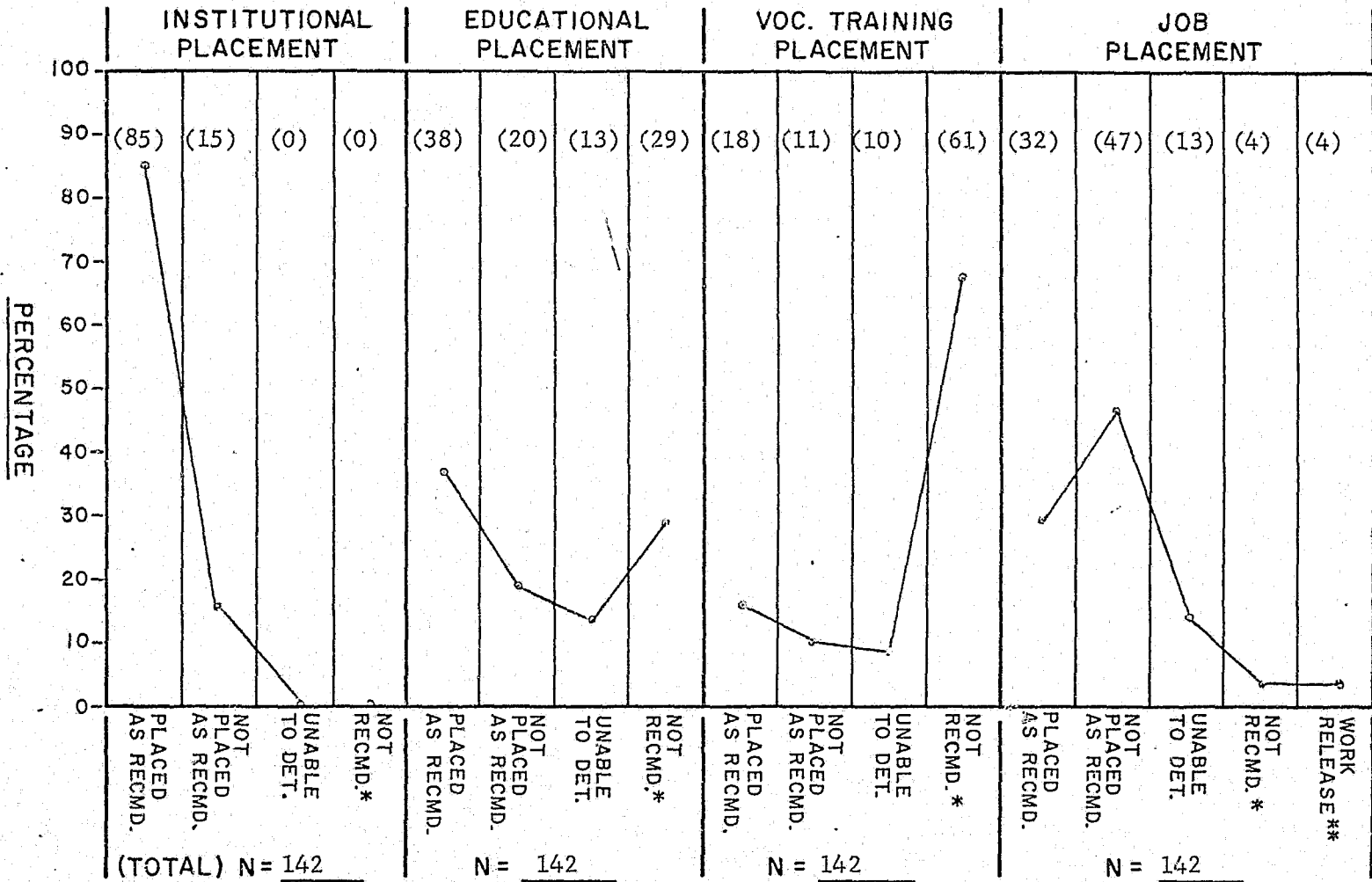
From the examination of job placement statistics it appears that the likelihood of a man being placed on the job for which he was recommended was extremely slim. At the main prison, 30% of the inmates sampled were placed on jobs recommended, 37% were placed on jobs other than were recommended, in 24% of the cases data was unable, 7% of the cases received no recommendation, and 2% of the cases were placed on work relief. At Turney Center 34% were placed in jobs for which they were recommended, 50% were placed in jobs for which they were not recommended, 7% - unable to determine, 2% received no specific recommendation, and 7% were placed on work release.

Overall figures show that 85% of the persons recommended for an institution were placed in that particular institution. Educational placements as recommended ranked only 38% while 20% were placed in programs for which they were not recommended, 13% - unable to determine, and in 29% of the cases no specific educational recommendations were made. In only 18% of the cases where people were recommended for vocational training did they receive the training for which they were recommended, while in 11% of the cases they received other vocational training; 10% of the cases - unable to determine; and 61% of the cases had no specific vocational training recommendations made. In only 32% of the sample were people placed on jobs for which they were recommended while in 47% of the sample people were placed in jobs other than those for which they were recommended, 13% - unable to determine, 4% had no specific recommendation made, and 4% were placed on work release. (See figure 6).

FIGURE 6

COMPOSITE - ADULT MALE INSTITUTIONS

DIAGNOSIS & CLASSIFICATION FOLLOW - UP
PLACEMENT SUMMARY - FY1974



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Problems:

One of the major problems identified as a result of this evaluation was the lack of adequate information with which to track an inmate's progress through the correctional system. One can only be led to believe that should the 10-13% of inmates for whom information was unavailable come before the parole board, their files would inadequately document the scope of their participation in institutional programs and counseling, and, then, possibly bias any parole recommendation that might ensue.

Another problem that might be noted is in the interpretation of job placement information. It must be pointed out that, at the main prison, for instance, there is a 30% unemployment rate; hence, any job placement recommendations would be more than likely unrealistic. The same thing is true at both Fort Pillow and Turney Center, only to a lesser degree.

Considering the classification process whereby detailed recommendations are made, yet are unenforceable at the institutional level, a problem is identified regarding the appropriate time and place to map out an inmate's treatment program. It appears that, with the multitude of other functions being provided by the Diagnosis and Classification Staff, adequate planning for and determination of available institutional programs is just not feasible, therefore, the bulk of the recommendation sheets reviewed by the researchers showed little correlation between recommendation and actual placement in a program.

Recommendations:

1. Administrative action should be taken to insure that all institutional progress of an inmate is periodically and adequately recorded in his institutional file.
2. Some thought should be given to revising the philosophical approach to Diagnosis & Classification. It might be more appropriate for the Classification Center to recommend only security rating and institution while leaving counseling, educational, vocational, and employment decisions to be made at the inmate's assigned institution. If this approach is pursued, consideration should be given to establishing a contracting arrangement for an inmate's institutional program between the inmate, the institution, and the Parole Board. Contracting would provide a sound basis for parole decisions to be made, providing records reflect the inmate's programs. Contracting allows an inmate to participate in program and placement decisions which directly affect him, and would, in all likelihood, provide a more valid approach to institutional programming than assignment to various programs at the classification level. Contracting might be tried on a pilot basis for a specified period while traditional D & C recommendations were continued. A comparison could then be made of the two approaches and administrative decision made on the basis of the results.

END