

This page contains background information to assist in the interpretation of the attached tables and is organized into sections entitled DATA BASE, DEFINITIONS OF KEY PARAMETERS, and SIGNIFICANCE-TEST METHODOLOGY.

DATA BASE

The data base includes all honor cases initiated during the 1998 to 2003 time period. Those cases initiated by Professor Bloomfield were extracted from the main data base and analyzed separately. The main data base contains 285 cases and the Bloomfield data base contains 158 initiations. For each initiation, the actions taken by the Honor Committee during its treatment of the case (for example, accused or not, left admitting guilt or guilty or innocent) and demographic information regarding the student in question (for example, race, national origin, athletic status, gender) were compiled.

DEFINITIONS OF KEY PARAMETERS

Initiation rate: the number of initiations divided by the size of the population from which those initiations arose. For example, the 285 initiations over the five year period came from a total student population of 93,404. The initiation rate within the entire population is $0.0031 = 285 / 93404$.

Conviction rate: the number of cases with a guilty verdict divided by the number of accusations who did not leave admitting guilt. For example, the 285 initiations gave rise to 141 accusations and of those 34 left admitting guilt and 34 were found to be guilty. The conviction rate within the entire population is $0.32 = 34 / (141 - 34)$.

Guilt rate: the number of cases for which the accused left admitting guilt plus the number of guilty verdicts divided by the number of accusations. For example, the guilt rate within the entire population is $0.48 = (34 + 34) / 141$.

Expulsion rate: the number cases for which the accused left admitting guilt plus the number of guilty verdicts divided by the size of the population from which the cases arose. For example, the expulsion rate for the entire population is $0.00073 = (34 + 34) / 93404$.

Comparative rate ratios: for initiation rates, conviction rates, guilt rates, and expulsion rates, the rate for a sub-group divided by the rate for its associated majority group. For example, the comparative initiation rate ratio for African-Americans is the ratio of the initiation rate for African-Americans divided by the majority group with which it is associated. For example, the comparative initiation rate ratio for African-Americans is the initiation rate for African-Americans (0.007233) divided by the initiation rate for the Majority (0.002142), $3.38 = 0.007233 / 0.002142$. NOTE: the reported rates have been rounded in the presented tables but not in the actual calculations and, as a result, there may be apparent discrepancies in the calculations as illustrated by the above calculation. When using the reported figures, the comparative ratio is calculated as $3.43 = 0.0072 / 0.0021$ although the correct ratio is 3.38.

SIGNIFICANCE-TEST METHODOLOGY

The significance of any differences between observed rates was determined by the "t-test for differences between proportions." This test begins by combining the information as if there were no differences between the two populations and calculating the "pooled rate" (this is equivalent to assuming that the two rates come from populations with the same rate of incidence -- the null hypothesis). Because reported rates are estimates of an underlying "true population rate," there is uncertainty in those estimates. That uncertainty is captured in the "estimated standard error of the difference between two proportions" which can be calculated using the pooled rate and the size of each of population. The extent to which the observed differences differ from each other is measured relative to the standard error (the t-statistic) -- when the t-statistic is greater than two, the difference is deemed significant. The significantly different rates are highlighted (bolded) in the later spreadsheets.

Example: the difference in initiation rates between the Majority population and the African-American population

	Size of population	Number of initiations	Initiation rate
Majority	63,485	136	0.002142
African-American	7,604	55	0.007233

Pooled proportion = $0.00269 = (136 + 55) / (63485 + 7604)$

Standard error of the difference between two proportions = $0.0006282 = \text{square root} (0.00269 \times (1 - 0.00269) \times (1/63485 + 1/7604))$

t-statistic = $7.98 = (0.007233 - 0.002142) / .0006282$

NOTE: The t-statistic reported in the tables is 8.10 -- the difference is due to rounding in the calculation of the above 7.98 figure.

INITIATION RATES -- initiations/university population

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield	Significance-Aggregate			Significance-Bloomfield		
								n	pooled rate	t	n	pooled rate	t
Total	0.0026	0.0036	0.0033	0.0028	0.0030	0.0031	0.0794						
Majority	0.0023	0.0029	0.0020	0.0019	0.0016	0.0021	0.0785	63,485			1439		
African-	0.0062	0.0045	0.0132	0.0061	0.0063	0.0072	0.1027	7,604	0.0027	8.10	292	0.0826	0.48
Asian	0.0045	0.0098	0.0094	0.0083	0.0132	0.0091	0.0780	8,092	0.0029	10.97	141	0.0785	-0.02
US	n/a	n/a	0.0031	0.0020	0.0019	0.0023	0.0805	52,377			1875		
International	n/a	n/a	0.0071	0.0117	0.0154	0.0116	0.0603	4,218	0.0030	10.57	116	0.0794	-0.28
Non-athlete	0.0025	0.0034	0.0022	0.0026	0.0029	0.0027	0.0692	90,017			1719		
Athlete	0.0042	0.0089	0.0345	0.0076	0.0044	0.0118	0.1434	3,387	0.0031	9.41	272	0.0794	1.49
Male	0.0035	0.0046	0.0045	0.0033	0.0042	0.0040	0.1025	44,850			1015		
Female	0.0018	0.0025	0.0023	0.0022	0.0018	0.0021	0.0559	48,554	0.0030	-5.26	966	0.0798	-1.35

CONVICTION RATES -- guilty/(accused-LAG)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield	Significance-Aggregate			Significance-Bloomfield		
								n	pooled rate	t	n	pooled rate	t
Total	0.42	0.19	0.17	0.39	0.38	0.32	0.65						
Majority	0.36	0.11	0.11	0.45	0.25	0.27	0.70	48			20		
African-	0.25	0.00	0.14	0.50	0.33	0.24	0.50	21	0.26	-0.28	10	0.63	-0.38
Asian	0.75	0.40	0.50	0.17	0.50	0.45	0.50	29	0.34	1.60	2	0.68	-0.58
US	n/a	n/a	0.18	0.41	0.38	0.32	0.68	47			28		
International	n/a	n/a	0.00	0.33	0.38	0.35	0.33	20	0.33	0.25	3	0.65	-0.42
Non-athlete	0.47	0.21	0.20	0.40	0.40	0.35	1.00	91			16		
Athlete	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.33	0.00	0.13	0.27	16	0.32	-1.80	15	0.65	-1.51
Male	0.33	0.21	0.23	0.38	0.39	0.31	0.50	70			30		
Female	0.57	0.14	0.00	0.40	0.38	0.32	n/a	37	0.32	0.11	n/a	n/a	n/a

GUILT RATES -- (guilty plus LAG)/accused

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield	Significance-Aggregate			Significance-Bloomfield		
								n	pooled rate	t	n	pooled rate	t
Total	0.56	0.35	0.44	0.50	0.54	0.48	0.81						
Majority	0.46	0.27	0.27	0.54	0.40	0.40	0.85	58			41		
African-	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.67	0.67	0.47	0.67	30	0.42	0.63	15	0.80	-0.55
Asian	0.80	0.50	0.83	0.29	0.60	0.59	0.67	39	0.47	1.87	3	0.84	-0.85
US	n/a	n/a	0.42	0.50	0.58	0.49	0.84	63			55		
International	n/a	n/a	0.67	0.50	0.50	0.52	0.50	27	0.50	0.23	4	0.81	-0.59
Non-athlete	0.61	0.38	0.56	0.48	0.55	0.51	1.00	121			36		
Athlete	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.60	0.50	0.30	0.52	20	0.48	-1.76	23	0.81	-1.63
Male	0.50	0.31	0.50	0.56	0.58	0.50	0.66	96			44		
Female	0.67	0.40	0.29	0.40	0.44	0.44	n/a	45	0.48	-0.62	15	n/a	n/a

EXPLUSION RATES -- (guilty plus LAG)/university population

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield	Significance-Aggregate			Significance-Bloomfield		
								n	pooled rate	t	n	pooled rate	t
Total	0.00076	0.00049	0.00065	0.00074	0.00099	0.00073	0.02411						
Majority	0.00048	0.00024	0.00024	0.00055	0.00031	0.00036	0.02432	63,485			1439		
African-	0.00187	0.00064	0.00132	0.00271	0.00279	0.00184	0.03425	7,604	0.00052	5.34	292	0.02600	0.34
Asian	0.00259	0.00196	0.00314	0.00119	0.00517	0.00284	0.01418	8,092	0.00064	8.29	141	0.02342	-0.76
US	n/a	n/a	0.00058	0.00058	0.00062	0.00059	0.02453	52,377			1875		
International	n/a	n/a	0.00159	0.00274	0.00534	0.00332	0.01724	4,218	0.00080	6.05	116	0.02411	-0.18
Non-athlete	0.00079	0.00051	0.00056	0.00060	0.00097	0.00069	0.02094	90,017			1719		
Athlete	0.00000	0.00000	0.00300	0.00453	0.00147	0.00177	0.04412	3,387	0.00073	2.29	272	0.02411	0.82
Male	0.00089	0.00057	0.00113	0.00111	0.00163	0.00107	0.02857	44,850			1015		
Female	0.00063	0.00042	0.00021	0.00041	0.00040	0.00041	0.01967	48,554	0.00073	-3.73	966	0.02423	-0.46

COMPARATIVE INITIATION RATE RATIOS (sub-group/its major-group)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield
Total							
Majority							
African-							
American	2.69	1.52	6.71	3.23	3.84	3.38	1.31
Asian	1.96	3.34	4.79	4.41	8.11	4.27	0.99
US							
International	n/a	n/a	2.33	5.79	7.99	4.99	0.75
Non-athlete							
Athlete	1.68	2.63	15.84	2.92	1.51	4.34	2.07
Male	1.93	1.82	1.99	1.49	2.35	1.89	1.83
Female							

COMPARATIVE CONVICTION RATE RATIOS (sub-group/its major-group)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield
Total							
Majority							
African-							
American	0.69	0.00	1.29	1.10	1.33	0.88	0.71
Asian	2.06	3.60	4.50	0.37	2.00	1.66	0.71
US							
International	n/a	n/a	0.00	0.81	1.00	1.10	0.49
Non-athlete							
Athlete	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.83	0.00	0.36	0.27
Male	0.58	1.50	n/a	0.96	1.04	0.97	n/a
Female							

COMPARATIVE GUILT RATE RATIOS (sub-group/its major-group)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield
Total							
Majority							
African-							
American	1.08	0.92	0.92	1.24	1.67	1.18	0.78
Asian	1.73	1.83	3.06	0.53	1.50	1.49	0.78
US							
International	n/a	n/a	1.60	1.00	0.86	1.05	0.60
Non-athlete							
Athlete	0.00	0.00	0.40	1.25	0.92	0.59	0.52
Male	0.75	0.78	1.75	1.39	1.30	1.13	n/a
Female							

COMPARATIVE EXPULSION RATE RATIOS (sub-group/its major-group)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	1998-2003	Bloomfield
Total							
Majority							
African-							
American	3.91	2.68	5.59	4.93	8.97	5.08	1.41
Asian	5.41	8.25	13.30	2.16	16.65	7.85	0.58
US							
International	n/a	n/a	2.74	4.77	8.59	5.61	0.70
Non-athlete							
Athlete	0.00	0.00	5.37	7.49	1.51	2.57	2.11
Male	1.41	1.36	5.46	2.73	4.06	2.60	1.45
Female							