# Throughput of UWC students who did at least one semester of third-year Statistics 

 by

A minithesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Magister Scientiae in the Department of Statistics, Faculty of Science, University of the

Western Cape.


Supervisor: Prof. R. Blignaut RIR CND

Co-supervisor: Prof. D. Kotze

October 2005


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# Throughput of UWC students who did at least one 

## semester of third-year Statistics

## Keywords

Education

Throughput rate
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Completion rate
Pass rate
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First time entrants
Graduation


# Abstract <br> <br> Throughput of UWC students who did at least one <br> <br> Throughput of UWC students who did at least one <br> <br> semester of third-year Statistics 

 <br> <br> semester of third-year Statistics}

The study explores the completion rates (the number of years a student takes to complete a degree) of graduates at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) in South Africa. The graduates in the study all did at least one semester of statistics in their final year of study. The students' completion will be described with respect to school results and socio-demographics. Differences between students who finished their studies in the prescribed time of three years and those who took longer than the prescribed time will be highlighted.


Factors that aid or hinder students from successfully completing their studies in the prescribed time will be analyzed. An entry selection model will be developed to screen the students. This will assist with an enrolment strategy.

The most significant result found was that the political environment played the most significant role in throughput. The next significant result from the study showed that the grade 12 aggregate played a significant role in throughput. It is suggested that UWC be proactive in developing alternative methods of selecting students, since the
new Further Education Training (FET) school system, which will be implemented in 2006, will omit the grade 12 aggregate.

October 2005


## Declaration

I declare that Throughput of UWC students who did at least one semester of thirdyear Statistics is my own work, that it has not been submitted for any degree or examination in any other university, and that all the sources I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by complete references.


## List of tables

Table 2.1 Throughput and completion rate results of Cairncross's study ..... 7
Table 2.2 Throughput rate at HEIs nationwide ..... 9
Table 2.3 Scoring system used by the University of Pretoria ..... 11
Table 2.4 First-year level result versus Grade 12 mathematics grade of diploma course students in Veterinary Nursing ..... 12
Table 3.1 Table of variable names ..... 26
Table 4.1 List of home languages. ..... 28
Table 4.2 Grade 12 aggregates. ..... 30
Table 4.3 Mathematics symbols ..... 31
Table 4.4 Common scale symbols ..... 31
Table 4.5 Throughput versus predictor associations. ..... 35
Table 4.6 Probability of throughput given predictor ..... 36
Table 4.7 Predictor associations ..... 40
Table 4.8 Throughput logistic regression models for the seven predictors ..... 51
Table 4.9 Evaluations of predictive abilities of models ..... 54

## List of figures

Figure 4.1: Throughput of UWC students who did at least one semester of third-year Statistics ..... 31
Figure 4.2 Grade 12 aggregate distribution ..... 33
Figure 4.3 Decision tree aggregate model ..... 55


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## Abbreviations

| ASCII | American Standard Code for Information Interchange |
| :---: | :---: |
| CESM | Classification of Educational Subject Matter |
| CHE | Christian Higher Education |
| DoE | Department of Education |
| DVN | Diploma in Veterinary Nursing |
| EXCEL | Microsoft spreadsheet |
| FET | Further Education Training |
| HDI | Historically Disadvantaged Institutions |
| HE | Higher Education |
| HEIs | Higher Education Institutions |
| HWI | Historically White Institutions |
| ICS | Information and Communication Services |
| MPM | Mean percentage mark |
| PoE | Place-on-exam |
| PRN | Print file format |
| SAPSE | South African Post-Secondary Education |
| SAS | Statistical Analysis Systems |
| SAUVCA | South African Universities' Vice Chancellors' Association |
| SPSS | Statistical Package for Social Science |
| UWC | University of the Western Cape |

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## Contents

Title page .....
Keywords ..... ii
Abstract ..... iii
Declaration ..... v
List of tables ..... vi
List of figures ..... vii
Abbreviations ..... viii
Acknowledgements ..... ix
Contents ..... x
Chapter 1: Introduction ..... 1
1.1 Background to the study ..... 1
1.2 Statement of the problem ..... 2
1.3 Purpose of the study ..... 3
1.4 Aim of the study ..... 3
1.5 Research questions of the study ..... 3
1.6 Importance of the study ..... 4
1.7 Outline of the study ..... 5
Chapter 2: Literature review ..... 6
2.1 Demographic background ..... 8
2.2 School background ..... 11
2.3 Political environment ..... 14
Chapter 3: Research design and methodology ..... 15
3.1 Statement of the problem ..... 15
3.2 Aim of the study ..... 15
3.3 Objectives of the study ..... 15
3.4 Hypotheses ..... 16
3.5 Study design ..... 17
3.6 Study population ..... 17
3.7 Sample size ..... 19
3.8 Data collection ..... 19
3.9 Measurements ..... 21
3.10 Limitations of study ..... 25
3.11 Data analysis ..... 27
Chapter 4: Analyses and results ..... 28
4.1 Demographic background of students ..... 28
4.2 Third-year Statistics course ..... 29
4.3 Number of years to complete studies ..... 29
4.4 Grade 12 results ..... 29
4.4.1 Aggregate ..... 29
4.4.2 Mathematics ..... 30
4.5 Response variable ..... 31
4.6 Predictor variables ..... 32
4.7 Throughput associations ..... 33
4.7.1 Gender ..... 33
4.7.2 African ..... 33
4.7.3 English ..... 34
4.7.4 Aggregate ..... 34
4.7.5 Mathematics ..... 34
4.7.6 Immediately ..... 35
4.7.7 Year covariate ..... 35
4.8 Predictor associations ..... 37
4.8.1 Gender ..... 37
4.8.2 African ..... 38
4.8.3 English ..... 39
4.8.4 Aggregate and mathematics ..... 39
4.8.5 Immediately and year covariate ..... 40
4.9 Logistic regression of throughput - single predictors ..... 41
4.9.1 Gender model ..... 41
4.9.2 African mode ..... 42
4.9.3 English model ..... 44
4.9.4 Aggregate model ..... 45
4.9.5 Mathematics model ..... 46
4.9.6 Immediately model ..... 48
4.9.7 Year covariate model ..... 49
4.10 Logistic regression of throughput - many predictors ..... 52
4.10.1 Full logistic regression model ..... 52
4.10.2 Full logistic regression model without year covariate ..... 53
4.10.3 Stepwise logistic regression model ..... 53
4.11 Decision tree analysis ..... 54
4.11.1 Aggregate decision tree model ..... 54
4.12 Conclusion ..... 55
Chapter 5: Conclusion and recommendations ..... 56
5.1 Discussion of findings ..... 56
5.1.1 Gender factor ..... 56
5.1.2 Race factor ..... 56
5.1.3 Home language factor ..... 56
5.1.4 Grade 12 aggregate factor ..... 57
5.1.5 Grade 12 mathematics factor ..... 57
5.1.6 Entering UWC immediately after school factor ..... 57
5.1.7 Political environment (year covariate) factor ..... 58
5.2 Relevance of study ..... 59
5.3 Recommendation ..... 59
5.4 Limitation of study ..... 60
5.5 Further research ..... 60
Bibliography ..... 61
Appendices ..... 64
Appendix A A1 Frequencies of variables ..... 64
A2 Throughput associations ..... 70
A3 Predictor associations ..... 77
Appendix B B1 Gender logistic regression model ..... 98
B2 African logistic regression model ..... 101
B3 English logistic regression model ..... 103
B4 Aggregate logistic regression model ..... 105
B5 Mathematics logistic regression model ..... 107
B6 Immediately logistic regression model ..... 109
B7 Year covariate logistic regression model ..... 111
Appendix C C1 Full logistic regression model with all predictors ..... 113
Appendix D D1 Full logistic regression model without year covariate ..... 116
Appendix E E1 Logistic regression - stepwise selection model ..... 119

## Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background to the study

The Department of Education (DoE) restructured the higher education (HE) system in 2000 (Asmal, 1999). The restructuring caused universities to re-align themselves with the priorities of the Department of Education. In 2001 the Department of Education introduced its new five-year national plan for higher education. One of the priorities in the national plan was to increase undergraduate output to ensure that the current demand for high-level managerial and professional skills be met (Department of Education, 2001a).

This priority to increase undergraduate output (also known as undergraduate throughput) initiated the study described in this mini-thesis. This study explores the throughput rate of UWC students who did at least one semester of third-year level Statistics. Throughput is the number of undergraduates who complete their studies in the prescribed time (Cairncross, 1999). The throughput is one of the factors that the government uses for funding a university (Department of Education, 2001b).

The Department of Education has introduced a new funding formula which is applicable to all higher education institutions (HEIs). This new formula takes undergraduate output as a factor in determining the funding that a university will
receive (Department of Education, 2001b). The previous South African post-secondary education (SAPSE) formula was based on four criteria:

1. Student numbers - the overall number of students.
2. Area of study - for example humanities/science.
3. Student throughput - the pass rate.
4. Level of studies - honour's level is equal to two times the undergraduate level, master's level is three times the undergraduate level and doctoral level is equal to four times the undergraduate level.

The South Africa post-secondary education (SAPSE) funding formula favoured the historically-white institutions (HWI) more than the historically-disadvantaged institutions (HDI), which had high failure rates, few science students and low postgraduate student numbers (The Mail and Guardian, 1999).

### 1.2 Statement of the problem

The study will investigate the throughput of students who did at least one semester of third-year level Statistics in the Department of Statistics at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). Completion of undergraduate studies by a student in three consecutive years will be defined as successful throughput. The study explores factors that could contribute to students successfully completing their studies in the prescribed amount of time.

### 1.3 Purpose of the study

The school system under-prepares students for higher learning (Nair, 2002). This is worsened when they enter into higher institutions. In other words, it leads to low throughput rates. O' Connell (2004) indicated that UWC's throughput rate is $17 \%$ for the whole university. This study will describe the throughput rate of a subset of students from UWC and explore some factors that might contribute to throughput.

### 1.4 Aim of the study

The aim of the study was to explore the throughput rate of third-year Statistics students in the Department of Statistics and to model the probability of successful throughput with certain factors or predictor variables. The following factors were explored: gender, race, home language, Grade 12 aggregate, Grade 12 mathematics results, entering university directly after school and student registration before and after the 1994 elections in South Africa (first democratic election).

## UNIVERSITY of the <br> \subsection*{1.5 Research questions of the study}

The goal was to identify what factors influence successful throughput. Various modelling techniques were used to identify the factors that significantly predict successful throughput. Logistic regression and decision trees were used. The aim was, furthermore, to establish if the change in the political arena, specifically the change after the democratic elections in 1994, had an influence on successful throughput.

### 1.6 Importance of the study

By improving throughput, more skilled students will become quality scientists and employees. The benefits of increasing undergraduate output are:

1. More successful students will enter into the job market and promote UWC in their company profiles (as alumni).
2. More undergraduate students will be available from whom to recruit for postgraduate studies.
3. If students complete their studies in the prescribed time, they will save on tuition fees. The university will gain by earning its subsidy more quickly.
4. More funds will be forthcoming for research and postgraduate studies.

The information from this study can aid in improving enrolment strategies at UWC.


### 1.7 Outline of the study

The following topics will be dealt with in each chapter:
Chapter 2 is a literature review. In this chapter, the views of other researchers on throughput and the factors that contribute to it are expressed.

Chapter 3 describes the methodology: How the sample was collected, what population was of interest and what objectives were defined.

Chapter 4 presents the findings of the analysis. First, descriptive results are shown, followed by univariate and multivariate logistic regression analysis. Decision-tree results are summarized.

Chapter 5 discusses and interprets the findings. This chapter concludes with suggestions and recommendations.

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The next chapter will deal with the views of some scholars on the topic of throughput.

## Chapter 2

## Literature review

In the previous chapter, background information as to how the study evolved was described. In this chapter, literature on how others view the problem of throughput and what factors they believe contribute towards throughput will be shown. Different studies investigated different factors within specific programmes. To make the literature comparable, emphasis is placed on those factors that are important to this study. The chapter deals with the demographic background (gender, race and home language), school background (aggregate and mathematics) and the political environment under which the students studied.

Fraser and Killen (2003) use the term academic success to indicate that students are able to meet the assessment requirement of the programme in which they enroll; if these requirements can be met in the minimum time, that represents greater success than if subjects have to be repeated. Bitzer and Troskie-De Bruin (2004) argue that throughput and completion rates should not be seen as the only criteria of quality or the hallmark of high standards.

Cairncross (1999) investigated the fourth/final-year level Human Ecology students' throughput rates and completion rates. She defines throughput rate as "the number of students who pass through a period in the allocated time period" (p. 2). The throughput in the case of the Human Ecology students is the number of students who completed their studies in four years. She also defines completion rate as "the number of students
who complete their studies" (p. 3). She mentions that, historically, Grade 12 results are used to categorise students into those who qualify for degree courses and those who qualify for diploma courses. She refers to a student who leaves a course as a "dropout" (p. 2). She does recommend that dropout students be referred to as "early exits" (p. 2). Table 2.1 below summarises her findings in terms of the following categories - the overall findings (all the students together), the Human Ecology student registration for the years 1994 to 1996, the Human Ecology degree course and the Human Ecology diploma course.

Table 2.1 Throughput and completion rate results of Cairncross's study

|  | $\underline{\text { Overall }}$ | $\underline{1994}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1996}$ | Degree | Diploma |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Throughput rate | $37(33.9 \%)$ | $9(25.7 \%)$ | $12(32.4 \%)$ | $16(42.2 \%)$ | $38.8 \%$ | $16.7 \%$ |
| Completion rate | $18(16.5 \%)$ | $7(20 \%)$ | $11(29.7 \%)$ | $0(0 \%)$ | $17.6 \%$ | $12.5 \%$ |
| Dropout rate | $54(49.54 \%)$ | $19(54.3 \%)$ | $14(37.8 \%)$ | $21(56.8 \%)$ | $43.5 \%$ | $70.8 \%$ |

(Source: Cairncross, 1999)

Since the entrance requirements are different for a degree and a diploma, it can be seen that the throughput rates are higher for the degree course compared to the diploma course in Human Ecology. For the individual years of registration from 1994 to 1996, the throughput rates increased. In 1996 more than half of the students dropped out of the Human Ecology course. This means that all the students who remained in the course completed it in the prescribed amount of time. For the degree course (Grade 12 exemption) the throughput rates were more than double those of the diploma course. The dropout rate for the diploma course was higher than that observed for the degree course.

The quality and characteristics of students at different universities were investigated by Taylor and Harris (2002). They derived their data from the South African postsecondary education (SAPSE) information system. Those universities whose South African post-secondary education (SAPSE) databases were incomplete were excluded from their study; therefore, they could only include ten universities in their study. The ten universities are the University of Cape Town, the University of Durban-Westville, the University of the Orange Free State, the University of Port Elizabeth, Potchefstroom University for CHE, the University of Pretoria, Rand Afrikaans University, Rhodes University, the University of Stellenbosch, and the University of Zululand. Taylor and Harris (2002) define a university to be efficient if it complies with the following definition of efficiency: "Efficiency involves minimizing the inputs required to produce a given output or, conversely, maximizing the output from given inputs" (p. 184). The input measure for a university includes students, personnel and financial resources. The output is graduates and research production. Dawes P., Yeld N. and Smith M.J. (1999) state that the national enrolment goals will be linked to funding in future. Graduate output was a factor in the old funding system (SAPSE) and it will also be a factor in the new funding system.

### 2.1 Demographic background

Dawes et al. (1999) express the need to increase the participation rate of black Africans in higher education (HE). They mention that black Africans are being disadvantaged in the selection system for higher education because of unequal schooling (study under unfavourable and disadvantaged conditions). They mention that access and admission to higher education will become more difficult for black

Africans because more black Africans will enter with low aggregates. They encourage the investigation of race and gender to see if there is an increase in enrolment.

Nair (2002) defines throughput rate as "number of years used by many students to complete a degree or diploma" (p.98). Nair relates low throughput to underpreparedness due to the inadequate schooling system. Nair gives the national average of the throughput rate in HEIs in Table 2.2 as follows:

Table 2.2 Throughput rate at HEIs nationwide

| Throughput rate (\%) for population groups |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| African students | 8 |  |
| White students | 25 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | Throughput rate (\%) in key subject areas for African students |  |
| Engineering | 3 |  |
| Medicine | 9 |  |
| Natural Science | 12 |  |

(Source: Frank Meintjies: Deloitte Consulting, taken from Nair, 2002)

Lourens and Smit (2003) built a predictive model to predict the success of students in their first-year level of studies. Lourens and Smit (2003) used the following demographic background predictors - age of student, province of matriculation, Grade 12 aggregate, Grade 12 English symbol (defined as adequate or inadequate), ethnic group, gender, campus of study (Pretoria campuses versus satellite campuses), method of study (full-time versus part-time), financial aid (yes or no), marital status, type of accommodation (resident student or not) and classification of educational subject matter (CESM), i.e. major field of study, to describe the type of students entering Technikon Pretoria. Lourens and Smit (2003) divided the English grade symbols into two groups, namely, the "adequate" group - higher grade D symbols or better, the
standard grade - C symbols or better and the lower grade - B symbols or better. The rest were in the "inadequate" group. They made use of stepwise logistic regression to find the model with the most significant predictors. Lourens and Smit (2003) confirmed a relationship between school aggregate and first-year success rate. Lourens and Smit (2003) also found that a relationship does not exist for second and third-year successes. They used eight significant independent variables in the study to build two models. The first model consisted of all eight variables and the other model only consisted of the CESM category and the Grade 12 aggregate. They then compared the performance of the two models. They concluded that both models have more than a $70 \%$ predictive accuracy and that the Grade 12 aggregate and major field of study play an important role in terms of students' first-year success at Technikon Pretoria.

Van Rooyen (2001) found that English as a home language was a significant predictor of the bridging-year mean percentage mark (MPM). Agar (1991) confirmed that disadvantaged students found it difficult to express themselves in English. He found that $75.3 \%$ of students in a bridging programme at the University of the Witwatersrand attribute the difficulties of academic actualization to language barriers. Howie (2003) confirms these views, showing that pupils' English proficiency was a strong predictor of success in mathematics.

### 2.2 School background

Nair (2002) states that the government loses millions on students who fail at higher education institutions (HEIs) and also spends millions on a schooling system which produces school leavers who are under-prepared for higher education and the job market. Keeping this in mind, Botha A.E., McCrindle C.M.E. and Owen J.H. (2003) state:
"In the South African education system, students write a standardized, independently set, matriculation examination at the end of their school career (Grade 12). The results of this examination are used as the main criteria for admission to tertiary educational institutions. Subjects may be taken on two levels -higher grade and standard grade. A proposed new matriculation curriculum, however, will eliminate the difference between the standard and higher grades" (p. 132).

The Diploma in Veterinary Nursing (DVN) programme uses Grade 12 mathematics with its grades as a selection criterion (Botha et al., 2003).

Table 2.3 Scoring system used by the University of Pretoria

| Matriculation symbol | Higher grade | Standard grade |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| A (more than $80 \%)$ |  |  |
| B $(70-79 \%)$ | 5 | 4 |
| C $(60-69 \%)$ | 4 | 3 |
| D $(50-59 \%)$ | 3 | 2 |
| E $(40-49 \%)$ | 2 | 1 |
|  | 1 | 0 |

(Source: Botha, McCrindle \& Owen, 2003).

Botha et al. (2003) define the adjusted mark as "standard grade minus $10 \%$ " (see Table 2.3) and set the minimum of $40 \%$ of the adjusted mark for both higher grade and
standard grade. They used the Mann-Whitney non-parametric test to test for the difference between groups $(p$-value $=0.0097)$ and found that a statistically significant difference does exist in the adjusted mark obtained for Grade 12 mathematics between the groups that passed and failed the first-year veterinary nursing course. This means Grade 12 mathematics is related to success or failure of veterinary nursing students at tertiary level. They recommend that students with Grade 12 mathematics marks higher than $57 \%$ be given preference for admission to veterinary nursing courses. Therefore mathematics can be used as an admission criterion for enrolment for a veterinary nursing course.


Table 2.4 First-year level result versus Grade 12 mathematics grade of diploma course students in Veterinary Nursing

| Result | Higher grade | Standard grade |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | 12 |  |
| Fail | 48 | 26 |

(Source: Botha, McCrindle \& Owen, 2003)

Botha et al. (2003) found that no statistically significant relationship (Table 2.4 gives a Chi-square $p$-value $=0.1196$ ) exists between the grade of mathematics at matriculation level and the success or failure in the first-year level of study.

The following people oppose the view that Grade 12 mathematics is a significant factor in successful completion of tertiary education. Mitchell (1988) says that there is no significant difference between those students who did Grade 12 mathematics and those who did not do Grade 12 mathematics, with respect to an accounting degree,
excluding the quantitative courses. Bargate (1999) also found that Grade 12 mathematics did not play a significant role in overall academic performance.

Dawes et al. (1999), in their study, used the aggregate school score, which is the raw total of all the marks for all a student's school subjects. They then define a place-onexam ( PoE ) indicator by taking the individual aggregate school score for all the students at a particular school and assigning the indicator to that rank score. They give three reasons for the advantage of using the place-on-exam. Firstly, scores are compared within the same school, so students will not become victims of circumstances. Secondly, it can be used as a measure of relative merit for students without it being influenced by the examination system or internal assessments at the school. Thirdly, it is easy to use and interpret (Dawes et al., 1999). Dawes et al. (1999) say that in a study done by Stoker D.J., Engelbrecht C.S., Crowther N.A.S., Du Toit S.H.C. and Herbst A. (1986), it was found that aggregate score was the strongest single predictor of success at university. Dawes et al. (1999) also state that other South African studies done by Skuy M., Zolessi S., Mentis M., Fridjhon P. and Cockcroft K. (1996); Badenhorst F.D., Foster D.H. and Lea S.J. (1990) and Shochet (1985) support Stoker et al. (1986)s' findings, but they did not focus on race or gender. In some studies (Badenhorst et al., 1990; Shochet, 1985) in which race was investigated, the sample of Blacks was too small to deduce information regarding race as predictor. Where the sample size was large, the results between school examination and success at university were too complex to understand (Dawes et al., 1999).

Lourens and Smit (2003) found, in their study, that Grade 12 aggregate and major field of study were the most important predictors for the success of students in their firstyear level of study. They found, in their study, that only $20.96 \%$ (1016 out of 4848) of first-years passed all their subjects first time around.

### 2.3 Political environment

Taylor and Harris (2002) investigated the efficiency of the following universities: the University of Cape Town, the University of Durban-Westville, the University of the Orange Free State, the University of Port Elizabeth, Potchefstroom University for CHE, the University of Pretoria, Rand Afrikaans University, Rhodes University, the University of Stellenbosch, and the University of Zululand. Taylor and Harris (2002) found that the student numbers increased, from 1994 to 1997 for the ten universities, by an average of $4.7 \%$ (compound rate) per annum. They state that a university with high student numbers is generally associated with improved university efficiency. But the academic successes of students have no relationship to the efficiency of a university (Taylor \& Harris, 2002).


In the next chapter, the research design and methodology will be discussed.

## Chapter 3

## Research design and methodology

### 3.1 Statement of the problem

Completion of undergraduate studies by a student in three consecutive years will be defined as successful throughput in this study. The study explores factors or predictor variables that could contribute to students successfully completing their studies in the prescribed amount of time.

### 3.2 Aim of the study

The aim of the study was to model the probability of successful throughput with certain factors. The following factors were explored: gender, race, home language, Grade 12 aggregate, Grade 12 mathematics results, entering university directly after school and student registration before and after the 1994 elections in South Africa (first democratic election).

### 3.3 Objectives of the study

The objective of the study was to investigate the relationship between the factors (mentioned below) and successful throughput. The factors considered were: gender, race, home language, Grade 12 aggregate, Grade 12 mathematics results and time between school and university. Afterwards various modelling techniques (logistic regression and decision trees) were used to identify the factors that significantly predict successful throughput. The aim was, furthermore, to establish if the change in
the political arena, specifically the change after the democratic elections in 1994, had an influence on successful throughput.

### 3.4 Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were tested:

1. Females were more likely to complete their studies in the prescribed time than males.
2. African students were less likely to complete their studies in the prescribed time than non-African students.
3. Students who speak English as a home language were more likely to complete their studies in the prescribed time than non-English home language speaking students.
4. The throughput rate of students with Grade 12 aggregate symbols less than $60 \%$ was lower than those with Grade 12 aggregate symbols of $60 \%$ and above.
5. The throughput rate of students with Grade 12 mathematics symbols less than $60 \%$ was lower than those with Grade 12 mathematics symbols of $60 \%$ and above.
6. A relationship exists between throughput and a break between school and university studies.

### 3.5 Study design

The study design was a historical cohort (retrospective) study because historical student records were used. The cohorts under consideration were those who completed their studies within three years versus those who took longer than three years. The events like registration and completion of academic studies occurred prior to the start of the study.

### 3.6 Study population

The population for this study consisted of all students who had completed at least one semester of either Mathematical Statistics or Applied Statistics at the third-year level in the Department of Statistics at the University of the Western Cape. It did not matter if the student had failed the semester or repeated the semester in the next academic year. Students who registered for both semesters and obtained zero for both semesters were omitted from the study. The students who obtained zero for both semesters either did not deregister for the course or stopped attending lectures and completed no assignments, tests or exams. All transfer students from other institutions where omitted from the study. Transfer students, are students who have finished some of their subjects or academic year levels at an institution other than UWC, and then come and registered at UWC to continue their studies.

The entrance requirements for students to study Statistics at UWC are:

1. A matriculation exemption certificate issued by the Matriculation Board of the South African Universities' Vice Chancellors' Association (SAUVCA);
2. A pass of at least $40 \%$ in the higher grade or $50 \%$ in the standard grade examination for Mathematics; and
3. A pass of at least $40 \%$ in the higher grade or $50 \%$ in the standard grade examination for either Biology or Physical Science; or
4. An examination recognized by the Joint Matriculation Board for this purpose.

The duration of a B.Sc. degree in the Science Faculty at UWC is three years, with a time limit of five years for full-time study. Furthermore, the student has to obtain a minimum of 360 credits to obtain the degree. To major in Statistics, a student either starts in his/her first-year level with Statistics and then follows it through to third-year level, or starts in the second-year level and continues to third-year level. The option of starting from second-year level depends on the student passing first-year level university Mathematics (Science Faculty, 2004).

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In 1987 and 1990, UWC introduced Mathematical Statistics and Applied Statistics up to a third-year level, respectively. Both courses were divided into two semesters. Students should pass both semesters of Mathematical Statistics or Applied Statistics at third-year level to major in Statistics. The Applied Statistics course contained theoretical elements with its application, but less emphasis is placed on mathematical ability. In 2002, the two courses were combined for various reasons, none of which are
relevant for the purpose of this study. Data were collected for these two courses from 1975 to 2004.

### 3.7 Sample size

Data on all students who completed at least one semester of third-year Statistics were collected. In total, 409 students met the criteria for inclusion.

### 3.8 Data collection

Data for this study were historic (retrospective) and were collected from the university records. The data were extracted internally from the UWC's mainframe database (secondary source) without the need for a research instrument. The database is maintained by UWC's Information and Communication Services (ICS). All student data generated during the normal academic enrolment, such as registration, student marks, year of completion, year of graduation, et cetera, were captured. The data were then stored in an ORACLE mainframe student database. With the permission of ICS, any academic staff member can request information regarding his or her students for research purposes.

Requested data can either be in paper or electronic format. The data were electronically mailed as an attachment in a print file format (PRN). The data were then imported into EXCEL. The variable names were assigned in EXCEL; for example, the variable name studnum was assigned to the student numbers in all the EXCEL files. The data in the EXCEL files were then imported into SAS.

The subject code 381311 for the first semester and subject code 381321 for the second semester were used for the Mathematical Statistics course. The subject codes 172315 and 381315 for the first semester, and subject codes 172325 and 381325 for the second semester were used for the Applied Statistics course. The reason why Applied Statistics had two codes for each semester was that subject codes 172315 and 172325 were used from 1990 until 1996. After 1996, the subject codes were changed from 172315 and 172325 to 381315 and 381325 respectively. The following information was requested on students who did the above subjects: student number, student surname, student initials, third-year academic year, third-year Statistics exam mark, third-year Statistics supplementary exam mark, third-year Statistics exam comment and third-year Statistics supplementary exam comment.

The Grade 12 data for all the students who did at least one semester of third-year Statistics were requested as follows: year matriculated, Grade 12 exemption, Grade 12 aggregate (average), Grade 12 mathematics grades, Grade 12 mathematics symbols. The following academic year-level results were requested: final undergraduate academic year at UWC, degree code, degree name, academic year-level results. For these students, the following personal data were requested: sex of the student, race of the student, home language of the student and date of birth in yyyymmdd format. The year of first enrolment (variable name begyear) was extracted from the student number.

### 3.9 Measurements

In the study, the outcome of interest was successful throughput. Successful throughput meant that the student should have completed his/her undergraduate studies in three consecutive years from the year of first-time enrolment. Students who took more than three years to complete their studies or dropped out were considered as unsuccessful throughput students.

The throughput response indicator variable was called through. The categorical random variable through is a nominal scale measurement with discrete data. A ' $\mathbf{1}$ ' indicates that a student successfully completed his/her studies in three consecutive years, and a ' 0 ' indicates that a student did not complete his/her studies in three consecutive years. The category labels for the variable through were defined as $1=$ "THROUGHPUT" and $0=$ "NON-THROUGHPUT".

The following variables were needed to determine the throughput response variable: the variable endyear indicated one of the following events - the final year the student completed his/her undergraduate study at UWC or the year the student dropped out at UWC or the student is still currently in the system at UWC in 2004. All years were recorded as four digits, for example, 1997, in the study. The variable begyear indicated the year the student first enrolled at UWC. A new variable, compl, was computed by subtracting begyear from endyear. This new variable, compl, gives the number of years a student studied at UWC. The values for compl are discrete. If the value in compl was equal to ' 3 ', then the student finished his/her studies in the prescribed time of three years.

The demographic variables which describe the students in the population were the variable gender, indicating the sex of the students, and the variable race, indicating which race group a student belonged to. The categories were: 'COLOURED', 'AFRICAN', 'INDIAN' and 'WHITE'. The variable homelang indicated the language the student spoke at home. The categories were 'AFRIKAANS', 'ENG \& AFR', 'ENGLISH', 'NORTH SOTHO', 'SOUTH SOTHO', 'SWATI', 'TSONGA', 'TSWANA', 'VENDA', 'XHOSA', 'ZULU' and 'OTHER'. A category was created for people who spoke both English and Afrikaans at home since Afrikaans was one of the two official languages during apartheid and both languages were spoken in many homes. It was assumed that the Africans only spoke their African languages at home and not a mixture of, for example, Xhosa and English.

School background information, such as Grade 12 aggregate and Grade 12 mathematics, was used in the study. The variable agg_sym indicated the Grade 12 aggregate (average) symbol. The categories were: 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F'. The variable math $\_$grd indicated the Grade 12 mathematics grade category of higher grade or standard grade. The categories were: 'H' for higher grade and ' $\mathbf{S}$ ' for standard grade. The variable math_sym indicated the Grade 12 mathematics symbol. The categories were: 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F'. As the Grade 12 mathematics symbols are related to higher grade and standard grade, a common scale was needed for comparison purposes. The variable commonl was used to transform the Grade 12 mathematics grades and Grade 12 mathematics symbols to a common scale, namely, that an ' $\mathbf{A}$ ' on standard grade is equivalent to a ' $\mathbf{B}$ ' on higher grade; a ' $\mathbf{B}$ ' on standard
grade is equivalent to a ' $\mathbf{C}$ ' on higher grade, and so forth. The categories were: ' $\mathbf{A}$ ', ${ }^{\prime} \mathbf{B}$ ', ' $\mathbf{C}$ ', 'D', 'E', 'F' and 'G'.

A logistic regression model was built using the following predictor variables. The variable gender was included. The variable race was categorized as follows: all the African students were grouped into a category "AFRICAN" and the Coloured, White and Indian students were categorized as "NON-AFRICAN", which formed the new predictor variable african. The category labels were: $1=$ "AFRICAN" and $0=$ "NONAFRICAN". This categorical random variable african is a nominal scaled measurement which was included in the modelling procedure.

The predictor variable english was created with all the English home language speaking students and the English and Afrikaans (speaking both languages) home language speaking students in one group versus all the other home language speaking students into the alternative group. The category labels were: $1=$ "ENGLISH" and $0=$ "NON-ENGLISH". The categorical random variable english is a nominal scaled measurement.

The predictor variable agg_grp was created using the academic background of a student entering UWC. The student either had a Grade 12 aggregate symbol of $60 \%$ and above (that is C and above) or below $60 \%$ ( D and below). The category labels were: $1=" 60 \%$ AND ABOVE" (A, B and C) and $0=" B E L O W$ 60\%" (D, E and F). The categorical random variable agg_grp is an ordinal scaled measurement.

The predictor variable math grp was created using the commonl variable, which was divided into two groups. The student either had a Grade 12 mathematics symbol of $60 \%$ and above (that is C and above) or below $60 \%$ ( D and below). The category labels were: $1=" 60 \%$ AND ABOVE" ( $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}$ and C ) and $0=$ "BELOW 60\%" (D, E, F and G). The categorical random variable math $g r p$ is an ordinal scaled measurement.

The predictor variable immediate indicated that the student had either enrolled at UWC immediately after leaving school (if the variable imed yrs is equal to one or zero) or after some years (if the variable imed yrs is more than one). The variable imed yrs was the number of years between school and entrance into university. If imed_yrs was equal to zero, it meant that the student had matriculated in the same year he/she enrolled at UWC. For example, the student had failed a subject in Grade 12, written a supplementary exam the following year, and then matriculated while enrolled at UWC in that same year. The variable imed yrs was calculated by subtracting the year the student matriculated (variable matyear) from the year the student enrolled for the first time (variable begyear). The values of variable imed yrs are discrete. In the variable imed_yrs, ' 1 ' meant a student had entered UWC immediately after school; ' $\mathbf{2}$ ' meant a student had entered university after one year, and so on. The categories of variable immediate were: 1= "DIRECTLY AFTER SCHOOL" and 0= "NOT DIRECTLY AFTER SCHOOL". The categorical random variable immediate is a nominal scaled measurement.

The years of first registration were grouped into two groups, namely: pre-democratic versus post-democratic election years. In this study, the pre-democratic election years were from 1975 to 1994, and the post-democratic election years were from 1995 to 2001.The predictor variable year_cov indicates pre-democratic election years and postdemocratic election years. The categorical labels were: 1="POST-ELECTION YEARS" and $0=$ "PRE-ELECTION YEARS". The categorical random variable year_cov is an ordinal scaled measurement which was included in the modelling procedure as a covariate. See Table 3.1 for an overview of the variables in the study.

### 3.10 Limitations of the study

All academic years follow a calendar year. A student who finished in three and half years was recorded as finishing in four years. If a student repeated a subject, the highest mark obtained over all the years the student repeated the subject was recorded. Students who registered for both semesters but did not attend class, did not write examinations, and had no course mark for either semester were excluded from the study. Verification of the data was not required as it was requested from the UWC student database, which is assumed to be correct. There are cases where the information concerning Grade 12 results are missing, for example the Grade 12 aggregate. The study does not investigate the throughput of students who major in Statistics because the sample would then become too small for modelling purposes.

Table 3.1 Table of variable names


University of the
Western Cape

## Library


(WH (IIIRRAR)


Website: http://www.uwc.ac.za/library


Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: UN O8h20-22h00f the WESTERN CAPE

Wednesday:
09h20-22h00
Friday:
08h20-16h30
Saturday:
09h00-17h00

Extended hours during Exam times and vacation periods

> Private Bag X17,
> Bellville, 7535
> Cape Town, SA
> Tel: 0219592209
> Fax: 0219592659

## Services and Collections:

LEVEL 1
Auditorium LEVEL 2
Study Hall LEVEL 4
Interlibrary Loan LEVEL 5 Circulation desk

## Reserve Collection

Photocopying LEVEL 6 Information Services
(Faculty Librarians) Theses, Indexes and

Abstracts LEVEL 7
Multimedia Centre
Open Shelves LEVEL 8
Open Shelves LEVEL 9
Law Collection LEVEL 10 Periodicals Ha LEVELTITMIM


Government publications
UWC publications
WES LEVEL 33 CAPE
Postgraduate Resource Centre LEVEL 14
Open Shelves
Electronic Resources
The Library provides access, via its website,
to online databases, ejournals and other
web resources
http://www.uwc.ac.za/library
Library Information Literacy Programme The Library offers the following user education for students and staff:

- Databases Training
- Basic Search Skills Training
- Workshops for Postgraduates
- Workshops for Academic Staff
- Introduction to eResources.
and lots more!
You may contact a Faculty Librarian or the eResources and Training Librarian to book a place in one of our sessions.

Watch the library's website and
notice boards for more information.


### 3.11 Data analysis

The data requested were imported from a text file into Microsoft EXCEL. The SAS software was used to transform data into a format ready for analysis. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, frequencies and cross tabulations. Associations between nominal scaled variables were tested using Chi-Square or Fisher's Exact Tests. Models were built using logistic regression and decision trees.

In the next chapter, the analysis of the results will be reported.


## Chapter 4

## Analyses and results

### 4.1 Demographic background of students

The study consisted of 409 students who enrolled from 1975 to 2001 and who completed at least one semester of Statistics at third-year level (see Table A7, Appendix A). The study was comprised of 117 males ( $43.28 \%$ ) and 232 females (56.72\%) (see Table A1 in Appendix A). There were 230 African students (56.23\%), 156 Coloured students (38.14\%), 22 Indian students (5.38\%) and one White student (0.24\%) (see Table A2 in Appendix A). The most common home language spoken by students was Xhosa (32.52\%), followed by English and Afrikaans (22.49 + 8.56= $31.05 \%)$. The following languages were spoken the least, in decreasing order - Venda (1.96\%), Tonga (1.47\%) and Swati (1.22\%) (see Table 4.1 and Table A3 in Appendix A).

Table 4.1 List of home languages

| Home language | Frequency | Percentage |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Xhosa | 133 | 32.52 |
| English | 92 | 22.49 |
| Afrikaans | 51 | 12.47 |
| English and Afrikaans (both) | 35 | 8.56 |
| Tswana | 30 | 7.33 |
| South Sotho | 17 | 4.16 |
| Zulu | 12 | 2.93 |
| North Sotho | 12 | 2.93 |
| Other | 8 | 1.96 |
| Venda | 8 | 1.96 |
| Tsonga | 6 | 1.47 |
| Swati | 5 | 1.22 |

### 4.2 Third-year Statistics course

In the study, $205(50.12 \%)$ students registered for the Mathematical Statistics course and 204 (49.88\%) for the Applied Statistics course (see Table A21 in Appendix A). Of the 409 students, 361 ( $88.26 \%$ ) passed both semesters and majored in Statistics (see Table A23 in Appendix A). The students who did not major in Statistics (11.74\%) either failed both semesters (3.18\%) or passed only one semester of third-year Statistics (8.56\%) (see Table A22 in Appendix A).

### 4.3 Number of years to complete studies

More than $50 \%$ of the students $(29.83+24.45=54.28 \%)$ took between four and five years to complete their studies (see Table A9 in Appendix A). The average number of years they took to complete their studies was five years; the median was four years (see Table A10 in Appendix A).

### 4.4 Grade 12 results

### 4.4.1 Aggregate

Most students entered UWC with a ' $D$ ' aggregate (46.53\%) (see Table 4.2 and Table A12 in Appendix A). Of 404 students, 134 (33.18\%) students achieved an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above. From Table 4.2, it can be seen that 82 (20.3\%) students entered UWC with an aggregate below a D (less than $50 \%$ ).

Table 4.2 Grade 12 aggregates

| Symbol | Frequency | Percentage |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| A | 2 | 0.50 |
| B | 26 | 6.44 |
| C | 106 | 26.24 |
| D | 188 | 46.53 |
| E | 78 | 19.31 |
| F | 4 | 0.99 |

Note: Five missing values.

### 4.4.2 Mathematics

In the study, 198 students ( $48.89 \%$ ) had taken mathematics on the higher grade, and 207 students (51.11\%) had completed Grade 12 mathematics on the standard grade (note: four missing values) (see Table A14 in Appendix A). The majority of students entered UWC with an ' $E$ ' symbol in mathematics on the higher grade or a ' $D$ ' symbol on the standard grade (see Table 4.3). There were 32 students who entered UWC with symbols less than the requirement stipulated in the Science Faculty yearbook. Only 4 students had an 'A' symbol on the higher grade (see Table 4.3). The common scale was created for comparison purposes between the higher grade and the standard grade. An ' $A$ ' on the standard grade was set equivalent to a ' $B$ ' on the higher grade. There were 27 students who had an 'A' on the standard grade. These 27 students plus the 17 students with ' $B$ ' symbols on the higher grade add up to 44 students on the common scale. From Table 4.4, we can see that the majority of students (38.71\%) had an ' $E$ ' symbol on the common scale.

Table 4.3 Mathematics symbols

| Symbol | Higher grade count | Standard grade count |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| A | 4 | 27 |
| B | 17 | 38 |
| C | 26 | 45 |
| D | 58 | 64 |
| E | 92 | 24 |
| F | 0 | 8 |

Note: Six missing values.

### 4.5 Response variable

In the study of 409 students, 86 students (21.03\%) finished their studies successfully in the prescribed time of three years (see Table A11 in Appendix A). The other 323 students $(78.97 \%)$ either took more than three years to finish their studies or dropped out or are still currently registered (see Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1


### 4.6 Predictor variables

In this section, the distribution of the predictors will be described (see Table 4.5). The predictor variable african had 230 African students (56.23\%) and 179 non-African students (43.77\%) (see Table A4 in Appendix A). There were 127 English home language speaking students ( $31.05 \%$ ) and 282 non-English home language speaking students (68.95\%) (see Table A5 in Appendix A). From Figure 4.2, it can be seen there were 134 students ( $33.17 \%$ ) who had a Grade 12 aggregate of $60 \%$ and above, and 270 students ( $66.83 \%$ ) who had a Grade 12 aggregate below $60 \%$ (note: 5 missing values) (see Table A13 in Appendix A). There were 112 students (27.79\%) who had a common-scale Grade 12 mathematics symbol of $60 \%$ and above, and 291 students (72.21\%) who had a Grade 12 mathematics symbol below $60 \%$ (note: 6 missing values) (see Table A18 in Appendix A). There were 238 students (58.19\%) who entered UWC immediately after school, and 171 students (41.81\%) who had a break of some years before they enrolled at UWC (see Table A20 in Appendix A). There were 213 students (52.08\%) who enrolled at UWC for the first time after the 1994 democratic election, and 196 students (47.92\%) who were enrolled for the first time before the 1994 democratic election (see Table A8 in Appendix A).

Figure 4.2


II LI II A II C II II
4.7 Throughput associations (refer to Table 4.6)

### 4.7.1 Gender

The rate of successful throughput, given it was a female, was $30 / 177$ (16.95\%) compared to the rate of successful throughput, given that it was a male, was 56/232
(24.14\%). The throughput among gender did not differ at a $5 \%$ level of significance (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=3.1246 ; p$-value $=0.0771$ ) (see Table A24 in Appendix A).

### 4.7.2 African

The probability of successful throughput, given an African, was $40 / 230$ (17.39\%), and the probability of successful throughput, given a non-African, was 46/179 (25.70\%). Non-African students had a significantly higher throughput rate compared to African students (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=4.1831 ; p$-value $=0.0408$ ) (see Table A25 in Appendix A).

### 4.7.3 English

Only 36 of 127 English-speaking students (28.35\%) were successful in completing their studies in the prescribed time of three years, compared to 50 of 282 non-Englishspeaking students ( $17.73 \%$ ) who had completed their studies in the prescribed time of three years. The English-speaking students had a significantly higher throughput rate compared to the non-English students $\left(\right.$ Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=5.9428 ; p$-value $\left.=0.0148\right)$ (see Table A26 in Appendix A).

### 4.7.4 Aggregate

The probability of successful throughput, given the students' aggregate symbol was $60 \%$ and above, was $43 / 134(32.09 \%)$ versus the probability of successful throughput, given the students' symbol was below $60 \%$, was $43 / 270$ ( $15.93 \%$ ). The students with an aggregate symbol of $60 \%$ and above had a significantly higher throughput rate than those students who had an aggregate symbol below $60 \%$ (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=$ 13.9637; p-value $=0.0002$ ) (see Table A27 in Appendix A).


### 4.7.5 Mathematics

In the $60 \%$-and-above group for mathematics, the rate of successful throughput was 32/112 (28.57\%) and the rate for the below-60\% group was 53/291 (18.21\%). The throughput rate of students whose symbols were $60 \%$ and above for mathematics was significantly higher than those who had below $60 \%$ for mathematics on a common scale (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=5.2138 ; p$-value $\left.=0.0224\right)$ (see Table A28 in Appendix A).

### 4.7.6 Immediately

The rate of successful throughput of the student who entered UWC immediately after school was 44 out of 238 ( $18.49 \%$ ) compared to the rate of successful throughput of those who did not enter UWC immediately after school, which was 42 out of 171 $(24.56 \%)$. The break between school and university did not significantly influence the throughput rate (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=2.2108 ; \mathrm{p}$-value $=0.1370$ ) (see Table A29 in Appendix A).

### 4.7.7 Year covariate

The probability of successful throughput of those who registered after the 1994 election was $61 / 213$ ( $28.64 \%$ ) compared to the probability before the 1994 election, which was $25 / 196(12.76 \%)$. The throughput rate increased significantly after the 1994 elections (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=15.5076 ;$ p-value $=<0.0001$ ) (see Table A30 in Appendix A).

Table 4.5 Throughput versus predictor associations

| Predictor | Chi-square p-value | Conclusion |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year covariate | $<0.0001$ | Significant |
| Aggregate | 0.0002 | Significant |
| English | 0.0148 | Significant |
| Mathematics | 0.0224 | Significant |
| African | 0.0408 | Significant |
| Gender | 0.0771 | Non-significant |
| Immediately | 0.1370 | Non-significant |

Note: The conclusion column is based upon a significance level of $5 \%$.

Table 4.5 is a summary of the Chi-square p-values of all the predictors. As can be seen, the highest significant predictor with successful throughput was the Year
covariate, followed by the Aggregate predictor. The predictors Gender and Immediately were not significantly related to successful throughput. The table below gives a global view of throughput cross tabulated with all the predictors.

Table 4.6 Probability of throughput given predictor
(refer to Tables A24 to Table A30 in Appendix A)


Note: 1. All the percentages in brackets are row percentages.
2. * Significant at a $5 \%$ level.
3. ** Significant at a $1 \%$ level.

### 4.8 Predictor associations

### 4.8.1 Gender

The Gender predictor variable was highly significant with the African predictor variable (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=10.9705 ; p$-value $=0.0009$ ) (see Table A31 in Appendix A). From Table A31, it can be seen that there were more black female students.

A significant association exists between Gender and Aggregate (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=$ 4.5884; p-value $=0.0322$ ) (see Table A33 in Appendix A). There were 143 males (62.45\%) and 127 female ( $72.57 \%$ ) who had an aggregate below $60 \%$. There were 86 males (37.55\%) and 48 females ( $27.43 \%$ ) who had an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above.

Gender with the Mathematics predictor was highly significantly associated (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=11.1790 ; p$-value $=0.0008$ ) (see Table A34 in Appendix A). In the category of $60 \%$ and above, there were more males (34.36\%) than females (19.32\%).


The gender difference between those who entered UWC immediately after school and those who did not was significant (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=9.2142 ; \mathrm{p}$-value $=0.0024$ ) (see Table A35 in Appendix A). More females (66.67\%) than males (51.72\%) enrolled at UWC directly after school.

### 4.8.2 African

A highly significant difference between the African and the non-African who speak the English language at home can be seen (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=223.605$; p-value $=<0.0001$ ). (see Table A37 in Appendix A). There are only two non-Africans who speak English at home.

The Aggregate and African predictors are highly significantly associated with each other (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=94.2142 ; \mathrm{p}$-value $=<0.0001$ ) (see Table A38 in Appendix A). Most of the African students in the study attained an aggregate below 60\% (196 out 404 students). There were 105 non-African students who had an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above compared to only 29 African students.

Mathematics was also significantly associated with the African predictor (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=45.5008 ; \mathrm{p}$-value $=<0.0001$ ) (see Table A39 in Appendix A). The majority of African students (194 out of 403 students) had a mathematics result on the common scale below $60 \%$.


The difference between African and non-African students entering UWC immediately after school was highly significant (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=12.9939 ; p$-value $=0.0003$ ) (see Table A40 in Appendix A). More African students (49.57\%) than non-African students $(31.84 \%)$ did not enter UWC directly after school. Sixty-eight percent of nonAfrican and 50.43\% African students entered UWC immediately after school.

### 4.8.3 English

The English predictor with Aggregate was highly significantly associated (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=40.2588 ; \mathrm{p}$-value $=<0.0001$ ) (see Table A42 in Appendix A). More nonEnglish home language speaking students (213 out of 404 students) entered UWC with an aggregate below $60 \%$.

The difference between English and non-English home language speaking students, when comparing their mathematics results on a common scale, was significant (Chisquare test, $\chi^{2}=8.2615 ; p$-value $=0.0040$ ) (see Table A43 in Appendix A). More nonEnglish home language speaking students (212 out of 403) had results below $60 \%$ for mathematics on the common scale.

### 4.8.4 Aggregate and mathematics

The Aggregate and Mathematics predictors were highly significantly related to each other (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=55.6667 ; p$-value $=<0.0001$ ) (see Table A46 in Appendix A). More than fifty percent (222 out of 398) of the students in the study had an aggregate below $60 \%$ and were in the below- $60 \%$ group for mathematics. In the below- $60 \%$ aggregate group, there were five times more students who had below $60 \%$ for mathematics compared to the students who had $60 \%$ and above on the common scale for mathematics. In the $60 \%$-and-above aggregate group, there was not much difference between those who had a mathematics result below $60 \%$ compared to those who had $60 \%$ and above.

### 4.8.5 Immediately and Year covariate

The association between the predictor Immediate and the Year covariate was significant (Chi-square test, $\chi^{2}=4.0702 ; \mathrm{p}$-value $=0.0436$ ) (see Table A51 in Appendix A). In the era after the 1994 elections, 134 students enrolled directly after school at UWC, compared to the 104 students who entered in the era before the 1994 elections. The enrolment of students not entering UWC directly after school, dropped from 92 students (in the era before 1994) to 79 students (in the era after 1994). Table 4.7 is a summary of all the predictor associations.

Table 4.7 Predictor associations
(refer to Table A31 to Table A51 in Appendix A)

| Chi-square <br> p-value | Gender | African | English | Aggregate | Mathematics | Immediately | Year <br> covariate |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Gender |  | $0.0009^{* *}$ | 0.1333 | $0.0322^{*}$ | $0.0008^{* *}$ | $0.0024^{* *}$ | 0.0780 |
| African |  |  | $<0.0001^{* *}$ | $<0.0001^{* *}$ | $<0.0001^{* *}$ | $0.0003^{* *}$ | 0.1010 |
| English |  |  |  | $<0.0001^{* *}$ | $0.0040^{* *}$ | 0.0487 | 0.5019 |
| Aggregate |  |  |  |  | $<0.0001^{* *}$ | 0.6095 | 0.4781 |
| Mathematics |  |  |  |  | 0.1994 | 0.1089 |  |
| Immediately |  |  |  |  | $0.0436^{*}$ |  |  |
| Year <br> covariate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Note: 1. * Significant at a $5 \%$ level.
2. ${ }^{* *}$ Significant at a $1 \%$ level.

Table 4.7 is a summary of Chi-square p-values of the predictor associations. The predictor Gender was significantly associated with the predictors African, Aggregate, Mathematics and Immediately. The predictor African was significantly associated with the predictors English, Aggregate, Mathematics and Immediately. The predictor English was significantly associated with the predictors Aggregate, Mathematics and Immediately. The predictor Aggregate was highly significantly associated with Mathematics. The predictor Immediately and the Year covariate were highly significantly associated with each other.

### 4.9 Logistic regressions of throughput - single predictors

In the next section, a logistic regression model for each predictor variable was built. Each model was evaluated by the percentage observations correctly predicted by the model. All models were evaluated at a probability threshold of 0.22 for comparison purposes.

### 4.9.1 Gender model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B1 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using Gender as a predictor was:
$\ln$ [odds of throughput given Gender] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$

$$
=-1.3671-0.2220 * \text { gender }
$$

Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation, we get the odds:
$\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.3671-0.2220 * \text { gender })}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.3671)} * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.2220 * \text { gender })}$.
The odds of successful throughput, given it was a female (gender $=1$ ), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.3671)} * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.2220 * 1)}=0.2548 * 0.8009=0.204$ (i.e. $30 / 147$ from Table 4.8), and the odds of successful throughput, given that it was male (gender $=-1$ ), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.3671)} * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.2220 *-1)}=0.2548 * 1.2486=0.318$ (i.e. $56 / 176$ from Table 4.8).

Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput, given a male, was higher.

Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability $p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.3671-0.2220 * \text { gender })}\right)^{-1}$. Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput, given it was a female (gender $=1$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.3671-0.2220 * 1)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5891)}\right)^{-1}=(1+4.8993)^{-1}=(5.8993)^{-1}=0.1695$,
and the estimated probability of successful throughput, given it was a male (gender $=-1$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-\left(-1.3671-0.2220^{*-1}\right)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.1451)}\right)^{-1}=(1+3.1426)^{-1}=(4.1428)^{-1}=0.2414$

The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6. Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we see the estimated probability of successful throughput for a male was higher.

The Gender model correctly predicted $49.6 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.16 , the model correctly predicted only $21 \%$ of the observations.

### 4.9.2 African model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B2 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using African as a predictor was:
$\ln$ [odds of throughput given African] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$

$$
\text { WAV } \mathrm{F} \subset T \mathrm{C}=-1.0616-0.4964 * \text { african. }
$$

Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation we get the odds:

$$
\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.0616-0.4964 * \text { african })}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.0616) *} \mathrm{e}^{(-0.4964 * \text { african })}
$$

The odds of successful throughput, given it was an African (african = 1), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.0616) *} \mathrm{e}^{\left(-0.4964 *^{1}\right)}=0.3459 * 0.6087=0.211$ (i.e. $40 / 190$ from Table 4.8) and the odds of successful throughput, given that it was non-African (african $=0$ ), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.0616)} * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.4964 * 0)}=0.3459$ (i.e. $46 / 133$ from Table 4.8).

Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput, given a non-African, was higher.

Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability

$$
p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.0616-0.4964 * \text { african })}\right)^{-1} .
$$

Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput, given it was an African (african =1), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.0616-0.4964 * 1)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5584)}\right)^{-1}=(1+4.7512)^{-1}=(5.7512)^{-1}$ $=0.1739$
and the estimated probability of successful throughput, given it was a non-African (african $=0$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.0616-0.4964 * 0)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.0617)}\right)^{-1}=(1+2.8913)^{-1}=(3.8913)^{-1}$ $=0.2570$.

The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6. Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we see the estimated probability of successful throughput for a non-African student was higher.

The African model correctly predicted $57.7 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.16 , the model correctly predicted only $21 \%$ of the observations.

### 4.9.3 English model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B3 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using English as a predictor was:
$\begin{aligned} \ln \text { [odds of throughput given English] } & =\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right] \\ & =-1.5347+0.6074 * \text { english } .\end{aligned}$
Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation, we get the odds:

$$
\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5347+0.6074 * \text { english })}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5347)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.6074 * \text { english })}
$$

The odds of successful throughput, given it was an English (english=1), was
$\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5347)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.6074 * 1)}=0.2155 * 1.8357=0.396$ (i.e. $36 / 91$ from Table 4.8), and the odds of successful throughput, given that it was a non-English (english=0), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5347)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.6074 * 1)}=0.2155$ (i.e. $50 / 232$ from Table 4.8). Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput for an English speaking student was higher.

Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability

$$
p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5347+0.6074 * \text { english })}\right)^{-1} .
$$

Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput, given it was an English (english=1), was

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5347+0.6074 * 1)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-0.9273)}\right)^{-1}=(1+2.5277)^{-1}=(3.5277)^{-1} \\
& =0.2835,
\end{aligned}
$$

and the estimated probability of successful throughput, given that it was a non-English (english=0), was

$$
\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5347+0.6074 * 0)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5347)}\right)^{-1}=(1+4.64)^{-1}=(5.64)^{-1}=0.1773 .
$$

The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6. Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we see the estimated probability of successful throughput for an English speaking student was higher.

The English model correctly predicted $65.5 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.16 , the model correctly predicted only $21 \%$ of the observations.

### 4.9.4 Aggregate model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B4 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using Aggregate as a predictor was:
$\ln$ [odds of throughput given Aggregate] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$

$$
=-1.6637+0.9141 * \text { agg_grp }
$$

Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation we get the odds:

$$
\left.\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{\left(-1.6637+0.9141 * \text { agg } \_g r p\right)}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.6637}\right) * \mathrm{e}^{\left(0.9141 * \text { agg } \_g r p\right)}
$$

The odds of successful throughput, given an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above (agg_grp $=$ 1), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.6637)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.9141 * 1)}=0.1894 * 2.4945=0.473$ (i.e. $43 / 91$ from Table 4.8), and the odds of successful throughput, given an aggregate below 60\% (agg_grp $=0$ ), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.6637)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.9141 * 0)}=0.1894$ (i.e. $43 / 227$ from Table 4.8).

Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput, given that the Aggregate was $60 \%$ and above, was higher.

Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability

$$
p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.6637+0.9141 * \text { agg } g r p)}\right)^{-1} .
$$

Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput, given an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above (agg $g r p=1$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-\left(-1.6637+0.9141^{* 1}\right)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-0.7497)}\right)^{-1}=(1+2.1164)^{-1}=(3.1164)^{-1}=0.3209$, and the estimated probability of successful throughput, given an aggregate below $60 \%$ (agg_grp $=0$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.6637+0.9141 * 0)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.6637)}\right)^{-1}=(1+5.2788)^{-1}=(6.2788)^{-1}$ $=0.1593$.

The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6. Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we observed that the estimated probability of successful throughput for an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above was higher.

The Aggregate model correctly predicted $66.8 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.14 , the model correctly predicted only $21.3 \%$ of the observations.

### 4.9.5 Mathematics model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B5 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using Mathematics as a predictor was:
$\ln$ [odds of throughput given Mathematics] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$

$$
=-1.5020+0.5857 * \text { math_grp } .
$$

Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation, we get the odds:

$$
\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{\left(-1.5020+0.58577^{\text {math_grp })}\right.}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5020)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.5857 * \text { math_grp })} .
$$

The odds of successful throughput, given mathematics was $60 \%$ and above, (math grp $=1)$ was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5020)} * \mathrm{e}^{(0.5857 * 1)}=0.2227 * 1.7962=0.4$ (i.e. $32 / 80$ from Table 4.8), and the odds of successful throughput, given mathematics was below $60 \%$ ( math $g r p=0$ ), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.5020)} * \mathrm{e}^{\left(0.5857^{*} 0\right)}=0.2227$ (i.e. $53 / 238$ from Table 4.8). Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput, given mathematics was $60 \%$ and above, was higher.

Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability $p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-\left(-1.5020+0.5857 \text { * math }^{\text {grp }}\right)}\right)^{-1}$.

Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput, given mathematics was $60 \%$ and above ( math_grp $=1$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-\left(-1.5020+0.5857{ }^{*} 1\right)}\right)^{-1}$
$=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-0.9163)}\right)^{-1}=(1+2.5)^{-1}=(3.5)^{-1}=0.2857$,
and the estimated probability of successful throughput, given mathematics was below $60 \%$ ( math $g r p=0$ ), was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5020+0.5857 * 0)}\right)^{-1}$
$=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.5020)}\right)^{-1}=(1+4.4907)^{-1}=(5.4907)^{-1}=0.1821$
The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6.
Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we observed that the estimated probability of successful throughput for mathematics at $60 \%$ and above was higher.

The Mathematics model correctly predicted $67 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.16 , the model correctly predicted only $21.1 \%$ of the observations.

### 4.9.6 Immediately model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B6 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using Immediately as a predictor was:
$\ln$ [odds of throughput given Immediately] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$

$$
=-1.1221-0.3615 * \text { immediate } .
$$

Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation, we get the odds:
$\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.1221-0.3615 * \text { immediate })}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.1221) * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.3615 * \text { immediate })} .}$

The odds of successful throughput given entering UWC directly after school $($ immediate $=1)$ was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.1221)} * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.3615 * 1)}=0.3256 * 0.6966=0.227$ (i.e. $44 / 194$ from

Table 4.8), and the odds of successful throughput, given not entering UWC directly after school (immediate $=0$ ), was $\mathrm{e}^{(-1.1221)} * \mathrm{e}^{(-0.3615 * 0)}=0.3256$ (i.e. $42 / 129$ from Table 4.8). Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput, given not entering UWC directly after school, was higher.

Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability $p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.1221-0.3615 * \text { immediate })}\right)^{-1}$

Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput, given entering UWC directly after school (immediate $=1$ ), was $\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-\left(-1.1221-0.3615^{*} 1\right)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.4837)}\right)^{-1}=(1+4.4092)^{-1}=(5.4092)^{-1}$ $=0.1849$,
and the estimated probability of successful throughput, given not entering UWC directly after school (immediate $=0$ ), was

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-\left(-1.1221-0.3615^{*} 0\right.}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.1221)}\right)^{-1}=(1+3.0713)^{-1}=(4.0713)^{-1} \\
& =0.2456
\end{aligned}
$$

The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6. Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we see the estimated probability of successful throughput for not entering UWC directly after school was higher.

The Immediately model correctly predicted $57.7 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.18 , the model correctly predicted only $21 \%$ of the observations.

### 4.9.7 Year covariate model (refer to Table 4.8 and Table B7 in Appendix B)

The logistic regression model for throughput using the Year covariate as a predictor was: $\ln$ [odds of throughput given Year covariate $]=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$
WESTERN =-1.9228+1.0098* year_cov

Taking the exponential both sides in the above equation, we get the odds:

$$
\frac{p}{1-p}=\mathrm{e}^{\left(-1.9228+1.0098 * \text { year } r_{-} \text {cov }\right)}=\mathrm{e}^{(-1.9228)} * \mathrm{e}^{(1.0098 * \text { year_cov })}
$$

The odds of successful throughput for enrolments after the 1994 election (year_cov $=1$ ) was
$\mathrm{e}^{(-1.9228)} * \mathrm{e}^{(1.0098 * 1)}=0.1462 * 2.7451=0.401$ (i.e. $61 / 152$ from Table 4.8), and the odds of successful throughput for enrolments before 1994 election (year_cov $=0$ ) was
$\mathrm{e}^{(-1.9228)} * \mathrm{e}^{(1.0098 * 0)}=0.1462$ (i.e. $25 / 171$ from Table 4.8). Comparing the above two odds, we see that the odds of successful throughput, given post-election, was higher. Making $p$ the subject of the formula, we get the estimated probability $p=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.9228}\right.$ $+1.0098 *$ year_cov $\left._{-}\right)^{-1}$

Thus, the estimated probability of successful throughput for enrolments after 1994 election (year_cov $=1$ ) was $\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.9228+1.0098 * 1)}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-0.9130)}\right)^{-1}$ $=(1+2.4918)^{-1}=(3.4918)^{-1}=0.2864$,
and the estimated probability of successful throughput for enrolments before the 1994 election (year_cov $=0$ ) was
$\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.9228+1.0098 * 0}\right)^{-1}=\left(1+\mathrm{e}^{-(-1.9228)}\right)^{-1}=(1+6.8401)^{-1}=(7.8401)^{-1}=0.1275$
The above two estimated probabilities correspond to the row percentages in Table 4.6. Comparing the above two estimated probabilities, we observed that the estimated probability of successful throughput for enrolments after the 1994 election was higher.

The Year covariate model correctly predicted $56.7 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.12 , the model correctly predicted only $21 \%$ of the observations. Table 4.8 for gives a summary of all the single predictor variables.

Table 4.8 Throughput logistic regression models for the seven predictors
(refer to Table B1 to Table B7 in Appendix B)


Note: 1. Males are equal to -1 because the variable gender is a string variable.
2. Odds Ratio (OR) is Odds of throughput divided by Odds of nonthroughput.

After having evaluated the individual predictor models, the next step was to use either all or some of the predictors in one model. Three models were evaluated: the full model with all predictor variables, the full model without the Year covariate and the stepwise selection model.

### 4.10 Logistic regression of throughput - many predictors

### 4.10.1 Full logistic regression model

$\ln$ [odds of throughput given all the predictors] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$
$=-2.5021-0.1942 *$ gender $+0.2054 *$ african $+0.5922 *$ english +
$0.68869 *$ agg_grp $+0.4032 *$ math_grp $-0.4343 *$ immediate $+1.1449 *$ year_cov

From the p-values of the parameters, it was seen that only the intercept
$(<0.0001)$, the aggregate $(0.0256)$ and the year_cov $(<0.0001)$ were significant in the full model (see Table C1 Appendix C).
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The full model correctly predicted $68.3 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.04 , the model correctly predicted only $21.4 \%$ of the observations (see Table C1 in Appendix C). In the next model, the Year covariate was removed to evaluate the effect it had on the full model.

### 4.10.2 Full logistic regression model without the year covariate

$\ln$ [odds of throughput given all predictors without the Year covariate] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$
$=-1.9869-0.186 *$ gender $+0.3801 *$ african $+0.6022 *$ english +
0.8117 * agg_grp $+0.2545 *$ math $g r p-0.2899 *$ immediate.

From the p-values of the parameters, it was seen that only the intercept ( $<0.0001$ ) and Aggregate (0.0071) were significant in the model (see Table D1 Appendix D).

The model correctly predicted $64.1 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 .
For a probability level of 0.06 , the model correctly predicted only $21.4 \%$ of the observations (see Table D1 in Appendix D). In the next model, the stepwise selection method was applied to select the best variables for the model.

### 4.10.3 Stepwise logistic regression model

$\ln$ [odds of throughput given aggregate and year_cov predictors] $=\ln \left[\frac{p}{1-p}\right]$
$=-2.2755+0.9374 *$ agg_grp $+0.9964 *$ year_cov

The model correctly predicted $76.1 \%$ of the observations at a probability level of 0.22 . For a probability level of 0.08 , the model correctly predicted only $21.4 \%$ of the observations (see Table E1 in Appendix E).

Table 4.9 Evaluations of predictive abilities of models

| Model | \% Correctly predicted |
| :--- | :---: |
| Stepwise selection model <br> (with only Year covariate and Aggregate) | 76.1 |
| Full model | 68.3 |
| Mathematics | 67 |
| Aggregate | 66.8 |
| Year covariate | 56.7 |
| English | 65.5 |
| Full model without Year covariate | 64.1 |
| African | 57.7 |
| Immediately | 57.7 |
| Gender | 49.6 |

Note: All models evaluated at probability threshold of 0.22

Table 4.9 gives a summary of all the models. The model with only the Year covariate and the Aggregate was the best model to predict throughput. In the following section, the decision tree analysis technique was applied as an alternative way of determining which predictors to include in the model to predict successful throughput.

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### 4.11 Decision Tree Analysis

### 4.11.1 Aggregate Decision Tree model

The throughput of a student who had an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above was $38.8 \%$ for the training model and $20.4 \%$ for the validation data set, compared to the throughput of a student who had an aggregate of below $60 \%$, which was $13.4 \%$ for training data and $21.6 \%$ for the validated data set. The validations' modelling throughput for the predictor Aggregate was similar for both validation datasets. The huge difference between the validation and training data sets indicates the instability of the model. The reason for the instability was too few data observations. However, it is interesting to
note that the Aggregate predictor was selected although the model is unstable and no statistical interpretation can be inferred from it (see Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3 Decision tree aggregate model


### 4.12 Conclusion

The decision tree analysis and the stepwise logistic regression both selected the Aggregate predictor as a factor that affected successful throughput. In the following chapter, the findings of Chapter 4 will be discussed and interpreted.

## Chapter 5

## Discussion and Recommendation

### 5.1 Discussions of findings

In this thesis, an investigation into how certain factors influence throughput was undertaken. Throughput is the number of students who complete their university studies in the prescribed time. This thesis does not explore the financial and social influences on throughput. The thesis looks at factors like gender, race, home language, Grade 12 aggregate, Grade 12 mathematics, entering UWC immediately after school and the political environment prior and after 1994.

### 5.1.1 Gender factor

Gender does not play a significant role when investigating throughput. In the study, a significant increase in the number of African female students who enrolled for Statistics was observed.


### 5.1.2 Race factor

Race is a factor that influences throughput. More non-African students than African students are finishing their studies in the prescribed time.

### 5.1.3 Home language factor

Home language influences throughput. More non-English students are not finishing their studies in the prescribed time. This shows that if the medium of instruction is
different from the students' home language, it can play a role in influencing how long students take to finish their studies.

### 5.1.4 Grade 12 aggregate factor

The Grade 12 aggregate is the most significant factor influencing throughput. This finding is also confirmed in a study conducted by Lourens and Smit (2003). The aggregate is a factor that should be considered when selecting students, as a higher aggregate relates to better throughput.

### 5.1. 5 Grade 12 mathematics factor

Mathematics should be made a prerequisite for subjects where calculation and abstract thinking is necessary. The issue is: at what level should students have passed mathematics to be selected for a science subject? This also has enrolment implications in that if the mathematics prerequisite is set too high, the student enrolment in science will drop significantly. If the mathematics prerequisite is set too low, more students with low grades will apply to study in the Science Faculty. Students with low grades in Grade 12 mathematics will take longer to grasp concepts, which will influence the time they take to finish their studies.

### 5.1.6 Entering UWC immediately after school factor

The impact on throughput of students in the study enrolling at UWC directly after Grade 12 was also investigated. It was found that a short break between school completion and university enrolment does not influence the throughput. In fact, the
throughput was better for students who did not enter university immediately after school. The reason could be that older students are more serious about their studies.

### 5.1.7 Political environment (year covariate) factor

The political environment is one factor which is not often considered in academic studies. It was found that the political change of 1994 did have an impact on throughput. The throughput rate doubled after the 1994 election. However, the intake of students who did at least one semester of third-year Statistics only increased by 17 students after the 1994 election until 2001. The throughput rate doubled most probably because students saw a post-Grade 12 qualification as a means to a brighter future in South Africa.


A logistic regression model was built using the abovementioned factors. It was found that the Grade 12 aggregate and the political environment were the most significant variables to distinguish between students completing their studies in the prescribed time and students taking more that three years. The students in this study were categorized into two groups: those with a Grade 12 aggregate of $60 \%$ and above, and those with a Grade 12 aggregate below $60 \%$. The students who had an aggregate of $60 \%$ and above had a significantly improved throughput rate compared to those with an aggregate below $60 \%$. The goal is to enroll more students with aggregates higher than $60 \%$ so that the throughput rate can be increased.

### 5.2 Relevance of study

In the study, a model was developed that took into account certain factors that influence university throughput. The model and factors could assist with university policies regarding student selection. Furthermore, minimizing study years would result in students entering the workforce quicker and becoming economically active at an earlier stage. Students could also start sooner with postgraduate studies after successful completion of undergraduate studies.

### 5.3 Recommendation

As aggregate is an important measure of success at university, it should possibly be retained in the Further Education Training (FET) school system to be implemented in 2006. The new FET system measures a student's performance per subject on a scale of one to five, without an aggregate. Universities should be proactive in formulating new selection criteria systems. A new selection process should be put in place to determine if learners are capable of studying at higher education institutions (HEIs). The entrance requirement for mathematics should also be more strictly enforced to select the best students. It sounds unfair to those students who obtained low grades due to the specific school environment, but higher education institutions cannot repeat the work that the school system should have covered. The responsibility rests on the school teachers and the learners to ensure that learners who want to enroll at university be informed of their choices and how to achieve their goals.

### 5.4 Limitations of study

The sample was not representative of all the students at UWC as the study was limited to students majoring in Statistics. Historical data was used which was limited to what was on the UWC database. No data were available on students' socio-economic factors, such as financial constraints, mode of transport to university, adequate place to study, and so forth.

### 5.5 Further research

The study could be replicated to include all students at UWC. Future research could possibly investigate how financial, social and academic factors influence throughput. An interesting question to ask would be: Is South Africa producing enough graduates to meet the labour market demands in terms of specific skills?

In other words, are the targets set by the Department of Education met in terms of graduate output for the new century?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { UNIVERSITY of the } \\
& \text { WESTERN CAPE }
\end{aligned}
$$

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## APPENDIX A

## A1 Frequencies of variables




| Table A9 | compl | Frequency | Percent | Cumulative Frequency | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 3 | 87 | 21.27 | 87 | 21.27 |
|  | 4 | 122 | 29.83 | 209 | 51.10 |
|  | 5 | 100 | 24.45 | 309 | 75.55 |
|  | 6 | 42 | 10.27 | 351 | 85.82 |
|  | 7 | 20 | 4.89 | 371 | 90.71 |
|  | 8 | 14 | 3.42 | 385 | 94.13 |
|  | 9 | 8 | 1.96 | 393 | 96.09 |
|  | 10 | 6 | 1.47 | 399 | 97.56 |
|  | 11 | 3 | 0.73 | 402 | 98.29 |
|  | 12 | 2 | 0.49 | 404 | 98.78 |
|  | 14 | 1 | 0.24 | 405 | 99.02 |
|  | 17 | 2 | 0.49 | 407 | 99.51 |
|  | 18 | 1 | 0.24 | 408 | 99.76 |
|  | 26 | 1 | 0.24 | 409 | 100.00 |



Note: Student 2005379 studied three years but did not complete his studies. He repeated his second year and was refused re-entry. Thus 87-1 = 86 students who completed their studies.

AGG_SYM

| AGG_SYM | Frequency | Percent | Cumulative <br> Frequency | Cumulative <br> Percent |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| A | 2 | 0.50 | 2 | 0.50 |
| B | 26 | 6.44 | 28 | 6.93 |
| C | 106 | 26.24 | 134 | 33.17 |
| D | 188 | 46.53 | 322 | 79.70 |
| E | 78 | 19.31 | 400 | 99.01 |
| F | 4 | 0.99 | 404 | 100.00 |
|  |  |  |  |  |



| MATH_GRD (MATH_GRD) |  | MATH_SYM (MATH_SYM) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frequency <br> Percent <br> Row Pct <br> Col Pct | A | B | C | D | E | F | Total |
| H | 4 | 17 | 26 | 58 | 92 | 0 | 197 |
|  | 0.99 | 4.22 | 6.45 | 14.39 | 22.83 | 0.00 | 48.88 |
|  | 2.03 | 8.63 | 13.20 | 29.44 | 46.70 | 0.00 |  |
|  | 12.90 | 30.91 | 36.62 | 47.54 | 79.31 | 0.00 |  |
| S | 27 | 38 | 45 | 64 | 24 | 8 | 206 |
|  | 6.70 | 9.43 | 11.17 | 15.88 | 5.96 | 1.99 | 51.12 |
|  | 13.11 | 18.45 | 21.84 | 31.07 | 11.65 | 3.88 |  |
|  | 87.10 | 69.09 | 63.38 | 52.46 | 20.69 | 100.00 |  |
| Total | 31 | 55 | 71 | 122 | 116 | 8 | 403 |
|  | 7.69 | 13.65 | 17.62 | 30.27 | 28.78 | 1.99 | 100.00 |



| Table A19 | imed_yrs | Frequency | Percent | Cumulative Frequency | Cumulative Percent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 | 238 | 58.19 | 238 | 58.19 |
|  | 1 | 75 | 18.34 | 313 | 76.53 |
|  | 2 | 30 | 7.33 | 343 | 83.86 |
|  | 3 | 30 | 7.33 | 373 | 91.20 |
|  | 4 | 15 | 3.67 | 388 | 94.87 |
|  | 5 | 7 | 1.71 | 395 | 96.58 |
|  | 6 | 5 | 1.22 | 400 | 97.80 |
|  | 7 | 2 | 0.49 | 402 | 98.29 |
|  | 8 | 2 | 0.49 | 404 | 98.78 |
|  | 10 | 2 | 0.49 | 406 | 99.27 |
|  | 14 | 1 | 0.24 | 407 | 99.51 |
|  | 15 | 1 | 0.24 | 408 | 99.76 |
|  | 70 | 1 | 0.24 | 409 | 100.00 |



## A2 Throughput associations

## Table A24

Association of Throughput by GENDER





| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 133 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.0275 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.9847 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | 0.0122 |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.0501 |
| Sample Size $=409$ |  |


Throughput agg_grp

| Frequency |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent |  |  |  |
| Row Pct |  |  |  |
| Col Pct | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BELOW } 60 \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 60 \% \text { AND } \\ & \text { ABOVE } \end{aligned}$ | Total |
| NON - THROUGHPUT | 227 | 91 | 318 |
|  | 56.19 | 22.52 | 78.71 |
|  | 71.38 | 28.62 |  |
|  | 84.07 | 67.91 |  |
| THROUGHPUT | 43 | 43 | 86 |
|  | 10.64 | 10.64 | 21.29 |
|  | 50.00 | 50.00 |  |
|  | 15.93 | 32.09 |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Total } & 270 & 134 & 404\end{array}$ |  |  |  |
|  | 66.83 | 33.17 | 100.00 |


| Statistics for Association of Throughput by agg_grp <br> Statistic <br> DF <br> Value <br> Prob |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Chi-Square | 1 | 13.9637 | 0.0002 |
|  | Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square | 1 | 13.3920 | 0.0003 |
|  | Continuity Adj. Chi-Square | 1 | 13.0157 | 0.0003 |
|  | Mantel-Haenszel Chi-Square |  | $13.9292$ | 0.0002 |
| Phi Coefficient$0.1859$ |  |  |  |  |
| Contingency Coefficient 0.1828 <br> Cramer's V 0.1859 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Fisher's Exact Test |  |  |  |  |
| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) 227 <br> Left-sided Pr <= F 0.9999 |  |  |  |  |
| Table Probability (P) 1.244E-04 |  |  |  |  |
| Two-sided $\mathrm{Pr}<=\mathrm{P}$ 2.801E-04 |  |  |  |  |
| Effective Sample Size $=404$ |  |  |  |  |





## A3 Predictor associations

## Table A31

## Association of GENDER by african

GENDER (GENDER) african



GENDER(GENDER) english

| Frequency <br> Percent <br> Row Pct <br> Col Pct | NON-ENGL ISH | ENGLISH | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FEMALE | 129 | 48 | 177 |
|  | 31.54 | 11.74 | 43.28 |
|  | 72.88 | 27.12 |  |
|  | 45.74 | 37.80 |  |
| MALE | 153 | 79 | 232 |
|  | 37.41 | 19.32 | 56.72 |
|  | 65.95 | 34.05 |  |
|  | 54.26 | 62.20 |  |
| Total | 282 | 127 | 409 |
|  | 68.95 | 31.05 | 100.00 |



Statistics for Association of GENDER by english

| Statistic | DF | Value | Prob |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Chi-Square | 1 | 2.2542 | 0.1333 |
| Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square | 1 | 2.2704 | 0.1319 |
| Continuity Adj. Chi-Square | 1 | 1.9420 | 0.1635 |
| Mantel-Haenszel Chi-Square | 1 | 2.2486 | 0.1337 |
| Phi Coefficient | 0.0742 |  |  |
| Contingency Coefficient | 0.0740 |  |  |
| Cramer's V |  | 0.0742 |  |
|  |  |  |  |



| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 129 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.9466 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.0814 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | 0.0280 |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.1608 |

            Sample Size \(=409\)
    | agg_grp | GENDER (GENDER ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frequency |  |  |  |
| Percent |  |  |  |
| Row Pct |  |  |  |
| Col Pct | FEMALE | MALE | Total |
| BELOW 60\% | 127 | 143 | 270 |
|  | 31.44 | 35.40 | 66.83 |
|  | 47.04 | 52.96 |  |
|  | 72.57 | 62.45 |  |
| 60\% AND ABOVE | 48 | 86 | 134 |
|  | 11.88 | 21.29 | 33.17 |
|  | 35.82 | 64.18 |  |
|  | 27.43 | 37.55 |  |
| Total | 175 | 229 | 404 |
|  | 43.32 | 56.68 | 100.00 |



Effective Sample Size $=404$
Frequency Missing $=5$

| math_grp | GENDER(GENDER) |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Frequency <br> Percent |  |  |  |
| Row Pct |  |  |  |
| Col Pct |  |  |  |$\quad$ FEMALE | Total |
| :--- |
| BELOW 60\% |



| immediate | GENDER (GENDER ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frequency |  |  |  |
| Percent |  |  |  |
| Row Pct |  |  |  |
| Col Pct | FEMALE | MALE | Total |
| NOT DIRECTLY AFT | 59 | 112 | 171 |
| ER SCHOOL | 14.43 | 27.38 | 41.81 |
|  | 34.50 | 65.50 |  |
|  | 33.33 | 48.28 |  |
| DIRECTLY AFTER S | 118 | 120 | 238 |
| CHOOL | 28.85 | 29.34 | 58.19 |
|  | 49.58 | 50.42 |  |
|  | 66.67 | 51.72 |  |
| Total | 177 | 232 | 409 |
|  | 43.28 | 56.72 | 100.00 |


|  | The FREQ Procedure |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Statistics for Association Statistic | of | iate by Value | NDER Prob |
|  | Chi-Square | 1 | 9.2142 | 0.0024 |
|  | Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square | 1 | 9.2988 | 0.0023 |
|  | Continuity Adj. Chi-Square | 1 | 8.6103 | 0.0033 |
|  | Mantel-Haenszel Chi-Square | 1 | 9.1917 | 0.0024 |
|  | Phi Coefficient |  | -0.1501 |  |
| Contingency Coefficient 0.1484 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Cramer's V |  | -0.1501 |  |



## Fisher's Exact Test



| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 59 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.0016 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.9992 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | $7.959 E-04$ |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.0025 |

Association of year_cov by GENDER

| year_cov | GENDER (GENDER ) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frequency <br> Percent <br> Row Pct <br> Col Pct | FEMALE | MALE | Total |
| PRE-ELECTION YEA | 76 | 120 | 196 |
| RS | 18.58 | 29.34 | 47.92 |
|  | 38.78 | 61.22 |  |
|  | 42.94 | 51.72 |  |
| POST-ELECTION YE | 101 | 112 | 213 |
| ARS | 24.69 | 27.38 | 52.08 |
|  | 47.42 | 52.58 |  |
|  | 57.06 | 48.28 |  |
| Total | 177 | 232 | 409 |
|  | 43.28 | 56.72 | 00.00 |




| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 76 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.0481 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.9688 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | 0.0169 |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.0896 |





| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 54 |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | $1.448 \mathrm{E}-58$ |  |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 1.0000 |  |
|  |  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | $1.443 \mathrm{E}-58$ |  |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | $1.448 \mathrm{E}-58$ |  |
| Sample Size $=409$ |  |  |






| Fisher's Exact Test |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 97 |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | $1.344 \mathrm{E}-11$ |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 1.0000 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | $1.072 \mathrm{E}-11$ |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | $1.734 \mathrm{E}-11$ |
| Effective Sample Size $=403$ |  |
| Frequency Missing $=6$ |  |



| year_cov | african |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frequency |  |  | Total |
| Percent |  |  |  |
| Row Pct |  |  |  |
| Col Pct | $\begin{aligned} & \text { NON-AFRI } \\ & \text { CAN } \end{aligned}$ | AFRICAN |  |
| PRE-ELECTION YEA | 94 | 102 | 196 |
| RS | 22.98 | 24.94 | 47.92 |
|  | 47.96 | 52.04 |  |
|  | 52.51 | 44.35 |  |
| POST-ELECTION YE | 85 | 128 | 213 |
| ARS | 20.78 | 31.30 | 52.08 |
|  | 39.91 | 60.09 |  |
|  | 47.49 | 55.65 |  |
| Total | 179 | 230 | 409 |
|  | 43.77 | 56.23 | 100.00 |




| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 94 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.9591 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.0617 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | 0.0208 |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.1109 |

Sample Size $=409$




| Fisher's Exact Test |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 213 |  |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 1.0000 |  |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | $3.876 \mathrm{E}-10$ |  |
|  |  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | $2.960 \mathrm{E}-10$ |  |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | $4.708 \mathrm{E}-10$ |  |
| Effective Sample Size $=404$ |  |  |
| Frequency Missing $=5$ |  |  |




| Fisher's Exact Test |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) | 212 |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.9984 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.0033 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | 0.0017 |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.0056 |
| Effective Sample Size $=403$ |  |
| Frequency Missing $=6$ |  |




WEST

| Cell (1, 1) Frequency (F) | 127 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Left-sided Pr <= F | 0.9817 |
| Right-sided Pr >= F | 0.0307 |
|  |  |
| Table Probability (P) | 0.0124 |
| Two-sided Pr <= P | 0.0518 |

Sample Size $=409$





| agg_grp year_cov |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\left.$Frequency <br> Percent <br> Row Pct  <br> Col Pct $\quad$PRE-ELEC\right\rvert\,  <br> TION YEST-ELE CTION YE$\quad$ Tot |  |  |  |  |  |
| BELOW 60\% 131 139 <br>  32.43 34.41 <br>  48.52 51.48 <br>  68.59 65.26 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $60 \%$    <br>  60 74 134 <br>  14.85 18.32 33. <br>  44.78 55.22  <br>  31.41 34.74  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total $191 \quad 213 \quad 404$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $47.28 \quad 52.72 \quad 100.00$ <br> Frequency Missing $=5$ <br> The FREQ Procedure <br> Statistics for Association of agg_grp by year_cov <br> Statistic <br> DF <br> Value <br> Prob |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Chi-Square } & 1 & 0.5032 & 0.4781 \\ \text { Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square } & 1 & 0.5038 & 0.4778\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Continuity Adj. Chi-S | quare |  |  | 0.5462 |
| Mantel-Haenszel Chi-Square 1 0.5020 0.4786 <br> Phi Coefficient 0.0353   <br> Contingency Coefficient  0.0353  <br> Cramer's V 0.0353   |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fisher's Exact Test |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) 131 <br> Left-sided Pr <= F 0.7924 <br> Right-sided Pr >= F 0.2733 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Table Probability (P) 0.0657 <br> Two-sided $\mathrm{Pr}<=\mathrm{P}$ 0.5258 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ```Effective Sample Size = 404 Frequency Missing = 5``` |  |  |  |  |  |



| math_grp year_cov |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frequency <br> Percent  <br> Row Pct  <br> Col Pct $\quad$    <br>  PRE-ELEC POST-ELE Tot <br>  TION YEA CTION YE  <br> RS ARS   |  |  |  |  |  |
| BELOW 60\% 130 161 291 <br>  32.26 39.95 72.21 <br>  44.67 55.33  <br>  68.42 75.59  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $60 \%$ AND ABOVE 60 52 112 <br>  14.89 12.90 27.79 <br>  53.57 46.43  <br>  31.58 24.41  |  |  |  |  |  |
|    <br> Total 190 213 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $47.15 \quad 52.85 \quad 100.00$ <br> Frequency Missing $=6$ <br> The FREQ Procedure <br> Statistics for Association of math_grp by year_cov <br> Statistic <br> DF <br> Value <br> Prob |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{llll}\text { Chi-Square } & 1 & 2.5695 & 0.1089\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio Chi-Square $1 \quad 2.5672 \quad 0.1091$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Continuity Adj. Chi-S |  | 2. | 249 | 0.1358 |
| Mantel-Haenszel Chi-Square 1 2.5632 0.1094 <br> Phi Coefficient -0.0799   <br> Contingency Coefficient  0.0796  <br> Cramer's V -0.0799   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fisher's Exact Test |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cell (1,1) Frequency (F) 130 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Left-sided Pr <= F 0.0680 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Right-sided Pr >= F 0.9567 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Table Probability (P) 0.0247 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Two-sided Pr <= P 0.1195 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ```Effective Sample Size = 403 Frequency Missing = 6``` |  |  |  |  |  |



## Appendix B

## B1 Gender logistic regression model

Table B1

GENDER
The LOGISTIC Procedure

Model Information

| Data Set | COM.ALL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Response Variable | through |
| Number of Response Levels | 2 |
| Number of Observations | 409 |
| Model | binary logit |
| Optimization Technique | Fisher's scoring |



Model Fit Statistics

|  | Intercept <br> Only | Intercept <br> and <br> Covariates |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Criterion | 422.708 | 421.534 |
| AIC | 426.722 | 429.562 |
| SC | 420.708 | 417.534 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 3.1735 | 1 | 0.0748 |
| Score | 3.1246 | 1 | 0.0771 |
| Wald | 3.0960 | 1 | 0.0785 |

Type III Analysis of Effects
Wald

| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| GENDER | 1 | 3.0960 | 0.0785 |



Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses

29.6 Somers' D 0.106

Percent Discordant 19.0 Gamma 0.218
Percent Tied $\quad 51.4 \quad$ Tau-a $\quad 0.035$
Pairs
27778
0.553

Wald Confidence Interval for Adjusted Odds Ratios

| Effect | Unit | Estimate | 95\% Confidence Limits |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GENDER FEMALE vs MALE | 1.0000 | 0.641 | 0.391 | 1.052 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Classification Table

| ProbLevel | Correct |  | Incorrect |  | Percentages |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Non- |  | Non- |  | Sensi- | Speci- | False | False |
|  | Event | Event | Event | Event | Correct | tivity | ficity | POS | NEG |
| 0.160 | 86 | 0 | 323 | 0 | 21.0 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 79.0 | . |
| 0.180 | 56 | 147 | 176 | 30 | 49.6 | 65.1 | 45.5 | 75.9 | 16.9 |
| 0.200 | 56 | 147 | 176 | 30 | 49.6 | 65.1 | 45.5 | 75.9 | 16.9 |
| 0.220 | 56 | 147 | 176 | 30 | 49.6 | 65.1 | 45.5 | 75.9 | 16.9 |
| 0.240 | 0 | 147 | 176 | 86 | 35.9 | 0.0 | 45.5 | 100.0 | 36.9 |
| 0.260 | 0 | 323 | 0 | 86 | 79.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | . | 21.0 |



## B2 African logistic regression model

Table B2
AFRICAN
The LOGISTIC Procedure

Model Information

Data Set
Response Variable
Number of Response Levels
Number of Observations Model
Optimization Technique

COM. ALL
through
2
409
binary logit
Fisher's scoring


Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 4.1546 | 1 | 0.0415 |
| Score | 4.1831 | 1 | 0.0408 |
| Wald | 4.1409 | 1 | 0.0419 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

|  | DF | Estimate | Standard <br> Error | Chi-Square | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Parameter | DF |  |  |  |  |
| Intercept | 1 | -1.0616 | 0.1710 | 38.5221 | $<.0001$ |
| african | 1 | -0.4964 | 0.2440 | 4.1409 | 0.0419 |


|  | Odds Ratio Estimates |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: |
|  | Point | 95\% Wald |  |
| Effect | Estimate | Confidence Limits |  |
| african | 0.609 | 0.377 | 0.982 |

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses



## B3 English logistic regression model

Table B3

ENGLISH
The LOGISTIC Procedure

## Model Information

Data Set
Response Variable
Number of Response Levels
Number of Observations
Model
Optimization Technique

Response Profile


Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 5.7270 | 1 | 0.0167 |
| Score | 5.9428 | 1 | 0.0148 |
| Wald | 5.8484 | 1 | 0.0156 |

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates


Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses


## B4 Aggregate logistic regression model

```
Table B4
    AGGREAGTE
The LOGISTIC Procedure
Model Information
\begin{tabular}{ll} 
Data Set & COM.ALL \\
Response Variable & through \\
Number of Response Levels & 2 \\
Number of Observations & 404 \\
Model & binary logit \\
Optimization Technique & Fisher's scoring
\end{tabular}
\begin{tabular}{ccr} 
& Response Profile \\
Ordered & & \\
Value & through & Total \\
1 & THROUGHPUT & Frequency \\
2 & NON-THROUGHPUT & 318 \\
Probability modeled is through='THROUGHPUT ' .
\end{tabular}
```

NOTE: 5 observations were deleted due to missing values for the response or explanatory variables

Model Convergence Status

Convergence criterion (GCONV=1E-8) satisfied.


Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 13.3920 | 1 | 0.0003 |
| Score | 13.9637 | 1 | 0.0002 |
| Wald | 13.4973 | 1 | 0.0002 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates


Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses


## B5 Mathematics logistic regression model

Table B5

MATHEMATICS
The LOGISTIC Procedure

## Model Information

Data Set
Response Variable
Number of Response Levels
Number of Observations
Model
Optimization Technique

COM.ALL
through
2
403
binary logit
Fisher's scoring

Response Profile


NOTE: 6 observations were deleted due to missing values for the response or explanatory variables

Model Convergence Status

Convergence criterion (GCONV=1E-8) satisfied


Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 4.9927 | 1 | 0.0255 |
| Score | 5.2138 | 1 | 0.0224 |
| Wald | 5.1337 | 1 | 0.0235 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

|  |  |  | Standard <br> Error | Chi-Square |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | Pr > ChiSq

Odds Ratio Estimates

Point
Effect
Estimate
95\% Wald
Confidence Limits
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { math_grp } & 1.796 & 1.082 & 2.981\end{array}$

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses

| Percent Concordant | 28.2 | Somers' D | 0.125 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent Discordant | 15.7 | Gamma | 0.285 |
| Percent Tied | 56.1 | Tau-a | 0.042 |
| Pairs | 27030 | c | 0.562 |
| Wald Confidence Interval for Adjusted Odds Ratios |  |  |  |
| Effect | Unit | Estimate | $95 \%$ Confidence Limits |
| math_grp | 1.0000 | 1.796 | 1.082 |

Classification Table

| Prob |  | Non- |  | Non- |  | Sensi- | Speci. | False | False |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Level | Event | Event | Event | Event | Correct | tivity | ficity | POS | NEG |
| 0.160 | 85 | 0 | 318 | 0 | 21.1 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 78.9 | . |
| 0.180 | 32 | 0 | 318 | 53 | 7.9 | 37.6 | 0.0 | 90.9 | 100.0 |
| 0.200 | 32 | 238 | 80 | 53 | 67.0 | 37.6 | 74.8 | 71.4 | 18.2 |
| 0.220 | 32 | 238 | 80 | 53 | 67.0 | 37.6 | 74.8 | 71.4 | 18.2 |
| 0.240 | 32 | 238 | 80 | 53 | 67.0 | 37.6 | 74.8 | 71.4 | 18.2 |
| 0.260 | 32 | 238 | 80 | 53 | 67.0 | 37.6 | 74.8 | 71.4 | 18.2 |
| 0.280 | 0 | 238 | 80 | 85 | 59.1 | 0.0 | 74.8 | 100.0 | 26.3 |
| 0.300 | 0 | 318 | 0 | 85 | 78.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 |  | 21.1 |

## B6 Immediately logistic regression model

IMMEDIATELY
The LOGISTIC Procedure

Model Information

| Data Set | COM.ALL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Response Variable | through |
| Number of Response Levels | 2 |
| Number of Observations | 409 |
| Model | binary logit |
| Optimization Technique | Fisher's scoring |



Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 2.1916 | 1 | 0.1388 |
| Score | 2.2108 | 1 | 0.1370 |
| Wald | 2.1990 | 1 | 0.1381 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

|  |  |  | Standard <br> Error | Chi-Square | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Parameter | DF | Estimate |  |  |  |
| Intercept | 1 | -1.1221 | 0.1777 | 39.8951 | $<.0001$ |
| immediate | 1 | -0.3615 | 0.2438 | 2.1990 | 0.1381 |


|  | Odds Ratio Estimates |  |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
|  | Point | 95\% Wald |
| Effect | Estimate | Confidence Limits |
| immediate | 0.697 | 0.432 |

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses

| Percent Concordant | 29.3 | Somers' D | 0.089 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Percent Discordant | 20.4 | Gamma | 0.179 |  |
| Percent Tied | 50.2 | Tau-a | 0.030 |  |
| Pairs | 27778 | c | 0.544 |  |
| Wald Confidence Interval for Adjusted Odds Ratios |  |  |  |  |
| Effect | Unit | Estimate | $95 \%$ Confidence Limits |  |
| immediate | 1.0000 | 0.697 | 0.432 | 1.123 |

Classification Table


## B7 Year covariate logistic regression model

Table B7

YEAR COVARIATE
The LOGISTIC Procedure

## Model Information

Data Set
Response Variable
Number of Response Levels
Number of Observations
Model
Optimization Technique


Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 15.9555 | 1 | $<.0001$ |
| Score | 15.5076 | 1 | $<.0001$ |
| Wald | 14.8161 | 1 | 0.0001 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

|  |  |  | Standard <br> Error | Chi-Square |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | Pr > ChiSq


|  | Odds Ratio Estimates |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Point | 95\% Wald |  |
| Effect | Estimate | Confidence Limits |  |
| year_cov | 2.745 | 1.641 | 4.590 |

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses


| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Prob } \\ & \text { Level } \end{aligned}$ | Correct$\qquad$ NonEvent Event |  | Incorrect <br> Non- |  | Percentages <br> i- Speci- |  |  | False | False |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Event | Event | Correct | tivity | ficity | POS | NEG |
| 0.120 | 86 | 0 | 323 | 0 | 21.0 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 79.0 |  |
| 0.140 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.160 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.180 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.200 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.220 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.240 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.260 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| 0.280 | 61 | 171 | 152 | 25 | 56.7 | 70.9 | 52.9 | 71.4 | 12.8 |
| . 300 | 0 | 323 | 0 | 86 | 9. | 0.0 | 00.0 |  |  |

## Appendix C

## C1 Full logistic regression model with all predictors



The LOGISTIC Procedure

Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 38.7262 | 7 | $<.0001$ |
| Score | 38.1826 | 7 | $<.0001$ |
| Wald | 34.0935 | 7 | $<.0001$ |

Type III Analysis of Effects

Wald


Odds Ratio Estimates

|  | Point <br> Estimate | $95 \%$ Wald <br> Confidence Limits |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Effect | FEMALE vs MALE | 0.678 | 0.393 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses

| Percent Concordant | 69.4 | Somers' D | 0.417 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Percent Discordant | 27.7 | Gamma | 0.429 |
| Percent Tied | 2.9 | Tau-a | 0.140 |
| Pairs | 26605 | c | 0.708 |
| Wald Confidence Interval for Adjusted Odds | Ratios |  |  |


| Effect | Unit | Estimate | $95 \%$ Confidence Limits |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| GENDER | FEMALE vs MALE | 1.0000 | 0.678 | 0.393 |
| african | 1.0000 | 1.228 | 0.515 | 2.169 |
| english | 1.0000 | 1.808 | 0.816 | 4.008 |
| agg_grp | 1.0000 | 1.987 | 1.087 | 3.632 |
| math_grp | 1.0000 | 1.497 | 0.827 | 2.710 |
| immediate | 1.0000 | 0.648 | 0.378 | 1.109 |
| year_cov | 1.0000 | 3.142 | 1.806 | 5.466 |


| Prob Level |  | Correct |  | Incorrect |  | Percentages |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Non- |  | Non- |  | Sensi- | Speci- | False | False |  |
|  | Event | Event | Event | Event | Correct | tivity | ficity | POS | NEG |  |
|  | 0.040 | 85 | 0 | 313 | 0 | 21.4 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 78.6 |  |
|  | 0.060 | 85 | 16 | 297 | 0 | 25.4 | 100.0 | 5.1 | 77.7 | 0.0 |
|  | 0.080 | 78 | 56 | 257 | 7 | 33.7 | 91.8 | 17.9 | 76.7 | 11.1 |
|  | 0.100 | 77 | 61 | 252 | 8 | 34.7 | 90.6 | 19.5 | 76.6 | 11.6 |
|  | 0.120 | 73 | 105 | 208 | 12 | 44.7 | 85.9 | 33.5 | 74.0 | 10.3 |
|  | 0.140 | 67 | 114 | 199 | 18 | 45.5 | 78.8 | 36.4 | 74.8 | 13.6 |
|  | 0.160 | 66 | 158 | 155 | 19 | 56.3 | 77.6 | 50.5 | 70.1 | 10.7 |
|  | 0.180 | 63 | 169 | 144 | 22 | 58.3 | 74.1 | 54.0 | 69.6 | 11.5 |
|  | 0.200 | 53 | 173 | 140 | 32 | 56.8 | 62.4 | 55.3 | 72.5 | 15.6 |
|  | 0.220 | 51 | 221 | 92 | 34 | 68.3 | 60.0 | 70.6 | 64.3 | 13.3 |
|  | 0.240 | 49 | 224 | 89 | 36 | 68.6 | 57.6 | 71.6 | 64.5 | 13.8 |
|  | 0.260 | 44 | 228 | 85 | 41 | 68.3 | 51.8 | 72.8 | 65.9 | 15.2 |
|  | 0.280 | 36 | 249 | 64 | 49 | 71.6 | 42.4 | 79.6 | 64.0 | 16.4 |
|  | 0.300 | 36 | 265 | 48 | 49 | 75.6 | 42.4 | 84.7 | 57.1 | 15.6 |
|  | 0.320 | 30 | 266 | 47 | 55 | 74.4 | 35.3 | 85.0 | 61.0 | 17.1 |
|  | 0.340 | 27 | 272 | 41 | 58 | 75.1 | 31.8 | 86.9 | 60.3 | 17.6 |
|  | 0.360 | 19 | 280 | 33 | 66 | 75.1 | 22.4 | 89.5 | 63.5 | 19.1 |
|  | 0.380 | 18 | 285 | 28 | 67 | 76.1 | 21.2 | 91.1 | 60.9 | 19.0 |
|  | 0.400 | 17 | 286 | 27 | 68 | 76.1 | 20.0 | 91.4 | 61.4 | 19.2 |
|  | 0.420 | 12 | 288 | 25 | 73 | 75.4 | 14.1 | 92.0 | 67.6 | 20.2 |
|  | 0.440 | 12 | 298 | 15 | 73 | 77.9 | 14.1 | 95.2 | 55.6 | 19.7 |
|  | 0.460 | 11 | 302 | 11 | 74 | 78.6 | 12.9 | 96.5 | 50.0 | 19.7 |
|  | 0.480 | 11 | 302 | 11 | 74 | 78.6 | 12.9 | 96.5 | 50.0 | 19.7 |
|  | 0.500 | 11 | 303 | 10 | 74 | 78.9 | 12.9 | 96.8 | 47.6 | 19.6 |
|  | 0.520 | 5 | 305 | 8 | 80 | 77.9 | 5.9 | 97.4 | 61.5 | 20.8 |
|  | 0.540 | 5 | 307 | 6 | 80 | 78.4 | 5.9 | 98.1 | 54.5 | 20.7 |
|  | 0.560 | 5 | 312 | 1 | 80 | 79.6 | 5.9 | 99.7 | 16.7 | 20.4 |
|  | 0.580 | 5 | 312 | 1 | 80 | 79.6 | 5.9 | 99.7 | 16.7 | 20.4 |
|  | 0.600 | 5 | 312 | 1 | 80 | 79.6 | 5.9 | 99.7 | 16.7 | 20.4 |
|  | 0.620 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
|  | 0.640 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
|  | 0.660 | 0 | 313 | 0 | 85 | 78.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | . | 21.4 |

## Appendix D

## D1 Full logistic regression model without year covariate

NOTE: 11 observations were deleted due to missing values for the response or explanatory
variables
Data Set
Response Variable
Number of Response Levels
Number of Observations
Model
Optimization Technique
COM. ALL
through
2
398
binary logit
Fisher's scoring


Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 20.7879 | 6 | 0.0020 |
| Score | 21.5206 | 6 | 0.0015 |
| Wald | 20.2251 | 6 | 0.0025 |

Type III Analysis of Effects

Wald

| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| GENDER | 1 | 1.8955 | 0.1686 |
| african | 1 | 0.7634 | 0.3823 |
| english | 1 | 2.3136 | 0.1282 |
| agg_grp | 1 | 7.2464 | 0.0071 |
| math_grp | 1 | 0.7415 | 0.3892 |
| immediate | 1 | 1.2009 | 0.2731 |

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

| Parameter | Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates |  |  |  |  | Pr > ChiSq |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | FEMALE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | DF | Estimate | Standard <br> Error | Chi-Square |  |  |
| Intercept |  | 1 | -1.9869 | 0.4812 | 17.0510 |  | <. 0001 |
| GENDER |  | 1 | -0.1860 | 0.1351 | 1.8955 |  | 0.1686 |
| african |  | 1 | 0.3801 | 0.4350 | 0.7634 |  | 0.3823 |
| english |  | 1 | 0.6022 | 0.3959 | 2.3136 |  | 0.1282 |
| agg_grp |  | 1 | 0.8117 | 0.3015 | 7.2464 |  | 0.0071 |
| math_grp |  | 1 | 0.2545 | 0.2955 | 0.7415 |  | 0.3892 |
| immediate |  | 1 | -0.2899 | 0.2645 | 1.2009 |  | 0.2731 |


|  | Point <br> Estimate | 95\% Wald |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Effect |  | Confide | Limits |
| GENDER FEMALE vs MALE | 0.689 | 0.406 | 1.171 |
| african | 1.462 | 0.623 | 3.431 |
| english | 1.826 | 0.840 | 3.968 |
| agg_grp | 2.252 | 1.247 | 4.066 |
| math_grp | 1.290 | 0.723 | 2.302 |
| immediate | 0.748 | 0.446 | 1.257 |

## The LOGISTIC Procedure

Association of Predicted Probabilities and Observed Responses

| Percent Concordant | 63.0 | Somers' D | 0.308 |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| Percent Discordant | 32.2 | Gamma | 0.323 |
| Percent Tied | 4.8 | Tau-a | 0.104 |
| Pairs | 26605 | c | 0.654 |

Wald Confidence Interval for Adjusted Odds Ratios

| Effect | Unit | Estimate | $95 \%$ Confidence Limits |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| GENDER | FEMALE vs MALE | 1.0000 |  |  |
| african |  | 0.689 | 0.406 | 1.171 |
| english | 1.0000 | 1.462 | 0.623 | 3.431 |
| agg_grp | 1.0000 | 1.826 | 0.840 | 3.968 |
| math_grp | 1.0000 | 2.252 | 1.247 | 4.066 |
| immediate | 1.0000 | 1.290 | 0.723 | 2.302 |
| lin | 1.0000 | 0.748 | 0.446 | 1.257 |

## Classification Table

|  | Correct |  | Incorrect |  |  | Percentages |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{array}{r} \text { Prob } \\ \text { Level } \end{array}$ | Event | NonEvent | Event | Non- <br> Event | Correct | Sensi- <br> tivity | Speci- <br> ficity | $\begin{aligned} & \text { False } \\ & \text { POS } \end{aligned}$ | False <br> NEG |
| 0.060 | 85 | 0 | 313 | 0 | 21.4 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 78.6 |  |
| 0.080 | 85 | 4 | 309 | 0 | 22.4 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 78.4 | 0.0 |
| 0.100 | 85 | 4 | 309 | 0 | 22.4 | 100.0 | 1.3 | 78.4 | 0.0 |
| 0.120 | 80 | 53 | 260 | 5 | 33.4 | 94.1 | 16.9 | 76.5 | 8.6 |
| 0.140 | 67 | 62 | 251 | 18 | 32.4 | 78.8 | 19.8 | 78.9 | 22.5 |
| 0.160 | 63 | 138 | 175 | 22 | 50.5 | 74.1 | 44.1 | 73.5 | 13.8 |
| 0.180 | 56 | 149 | 164 | 29 | 51.5 | 65.9 | 47.6 | 74.5 | 16.3 |
| 0.200 | 46 | 210 | 103 | 39 | 64.3 | 54.1 | 67.1 | 69.1 | 15.7 |
| 0.220 | 42 | 213 | 100 | 43 | 64.1 | 49.4 | 68.1 | 70.4 | 16.8 |
| 0.240 | 40 | 229 | 84 | 45 | 67.6 | 47.1 | 73.2 | 67.7 | 16.4 |
| 0.260 | 29 | 233 | 80 | 56 | 65.8 | 34.1 | 74.4 | 73.4 | 19.4 |
| 0.280 | 27 | 253 | 60 | 58 | 70.4 | 31.8 | 80.8 | 69.0 | 18.6 |
| 0.300 | 25 | 264 | 49 | 60 | 72.6 | 29.4 | 84.3 | 66.2 | 18.5 |
| 0.320 | 22 | 268 | 45 | 63 | 72.9 | 25.9 | 85.6 | 67.2 | 19.0 |
| 0.340 | 16 | 275 | 38 | 69 | 73.1 | 18.8 | 87.9 | 70.4 | 20.1 |
| 0.360 | 15 | 284 | 29 | 70 | 75.1 | 17.6 | 90.7 | 65.9 | 19.8 |
| 0.380 | 15 | 289 | 24 | 70 | 76.4 | 17.6 | 92.3 | 61.5 | 19.5 |
| 0.400 | 8 | 293 | 20 | 77 | 75.6 | 9.4 | 93.6 | 71.4 | 20.8 |
| 0.420 | 8 | 305 | 8 | 77 | 78.6 | 9.4 | 97.4 | 50.0 | 20.2 |
| 0.440 | 8 | 307 | 6 | 77 | 79.1 | 9.4 | 98.1 | 42.9 | 20.1 |
| 0.460 | 0 | 307 | 6 | 85 | 77.1 | 0.0 | 98.1 | 100.0 | 21.7 |
| 0.480 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.500 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.520 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.540 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.560 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.580 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.600 | 0 | 312 | 1 | 85 | 78.4 | 0.0 | 99.7 | 100.0 | 21.4 |
| 0.620 | 0 | 313 | 0 | 85 | 78.6 | 0.0 | 100.0 | . | 21.4 |

## Appendix E

## E1 Logistic regression - stepwise selection model

Table E1
STEPWISE SELECTION MODEL The LOGISTIC Procedure

Model Information

| Data Set | COM.ALL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Response Variable | through |
| Number of Response Levels | 2 |
| Number of Observations | 398 |
| Model | binary logit |
| Optimization Technique | Fisher's scoring |



NOTE: 11 observations were deleted due to missing values for the response or explanatory
variables

Stepwise Selection Procedure


Step 0. Intercept entered:

Model Convergence Status<br>Convergence criterion (GCONV=1E-8) satisfied.

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates

|  | DF | Estimate | Standard <br> Error | Wald <br> Chi-Square | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Intercept | 1 | -1.3036 | 0.1223 | 113.5892 | $<.0001$ |

Residual Chi-Square Test

| Chi-Square | DF | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 38.1826 | 7 | $<.0001$ |

## Analysis of Effects Not in the Model

Step 1. Effect year_cov entered:

Model Convergence Status


Model Fit Statistics

|  | Intercept <br> and |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Criterion | Only | Covariates |
|  |  | 414.842 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0

| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Likelihood Ratio | 14.9448 | 1 | 0.0001 |
| Score | 14.4664 | 1 | 0.0001 |
| Wald | 13.8429 | 1 | 0.0002 |

Type III Analysis of Effects

Wald

| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| year_cov | 1 | 13.8429 | 0.0002 |



Residual Chi-Square Test

| Chi-Square | DF | Pr > ChiSq |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 24.4097 | 6 | 0.0004 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Effects in Model

|  | Wald |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| year_cov | 1 | 13.8429 | 0.0002 |

Analysis of Effects Not in the Model

|  | Score |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
|  |  |  |  |
| GENDER | 1 | 5.5714 | 0.0183 |
| african | 1 | 6.1982 | 0.0128 |
| english | 1 | 6.9592 | 0.0083 |
| agg_grp | 1 | 13.9054 | 0.0002 |
| math_grp | 1 | 6.8947 | 0.0086 |
| immediate | 1 | 3.1519 | 0.0758 |

Step
2. Effect agg_grp entered:


| Test | Chi-Square | DF | Pr $>$ ChiSq |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Likelihood Ratio | 28.3427 | 2 | $<.0001$ |
| Score | 27.9470 | 2 | $<.0001$ |
| Wald | 25.8763 | 2 | $<.0001$ |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Type III Analysis of Effects

|  | Wald |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| agg_grp | 1 | 13.4390 | 0.0002 |
| year_cov | 1 | 13.5511 | 0.0002 |


| Parameter | Analysis of Maximum Likelihood Estimates |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | DF | Estimate | Standard Error | Wald <br> Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| Intercept | 1 | -2.2755 | 0.2530 | 80.9047 | <. 0001 |
| agg_grp | 1 | 0.9374 | 0.2557 | 13.4390 | 0.0002 |
| year_cov | 1 | 0.9964 | 0.2707 | 13.5511 | 0.0002 |

Odds Ratio Estimates




Analysis of Effects in Model

|  | Wald |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Effect | DF | Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| agg_grp | 1 | 13.4390 | 0.0002 |
| year_cov | 1 | 13.5511 | 0.0002 |

The LOGISTIC Procedure

Analysis of Effects Not in the Model

| Effect | DF | Score <br> Chi-Square | Pr > ChiSq |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: |
| GENDER | 1 | 3.8083 | 0.0510 |
| african | 1 | 0.6413 | 0.4233 |
| english | 1 | 2.3402 | 0.1261 |
| math_grp | 1 | 1.8141 | 0.1780 |
| immediate | 1 | 3.3946 | 0.0654 |

NOTE: No (additional) effects met the 0.05 significance level for entry into the model.


