

SAS® GLOBAL FORUM 2015

The Journey Is Yours

Does Class Rank Align with Future Potential?

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Abstract

Today, employers and universities alike must choose the most talented individuals from a large pool. However, it is difficult to determine whether a student's A+ in English means that he or she can write as proficiently as another student who writes as a hobby. As a result, there are now dozens of ways to compare individuals to one or another spectrum. For example, the ACT and SAT enable universities to view a student's performance on a test given to all applicants in order to help determine whether they will be successful. High schools use students' GPAs in order to compare them to one another for academic opportunities. The WorkKeys Exam enables employers to rate prospective employees on their abilities to perform day-to-day business activities. Rarely do standardized tests and in-class performance get compared to each other. We used SAS® to analyze the GPAs and WorkKeys Exam results of 285 seniors who attend the Phillip O Berry Academy. The purpose was to compare class standing to what a student can prove he knows in a standardized environment. Emphasis is on the use of PROC SQL in SAS® 9.3 rather than DATA step processing.

Objectives

- Evaluate school curriculum in relation to employment necessities
- Objectively identify correlations between classroom aptitude and WorkKeys results



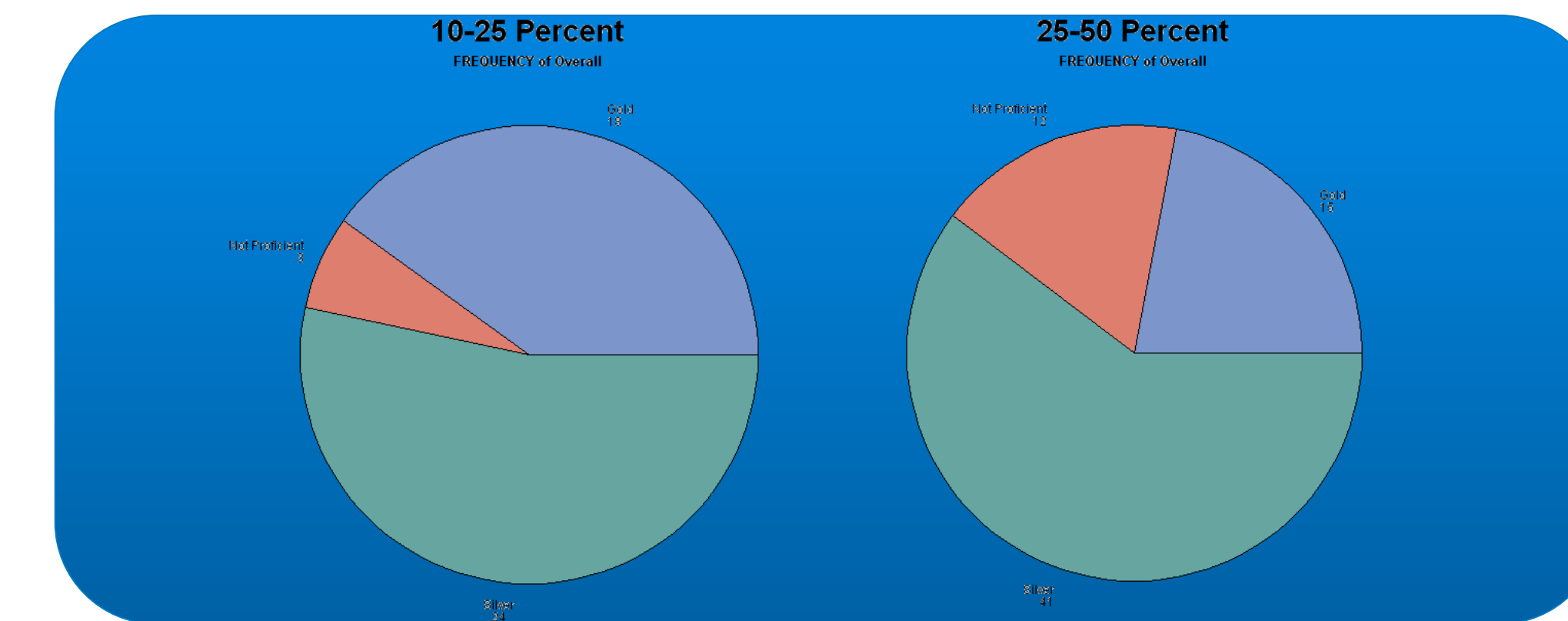
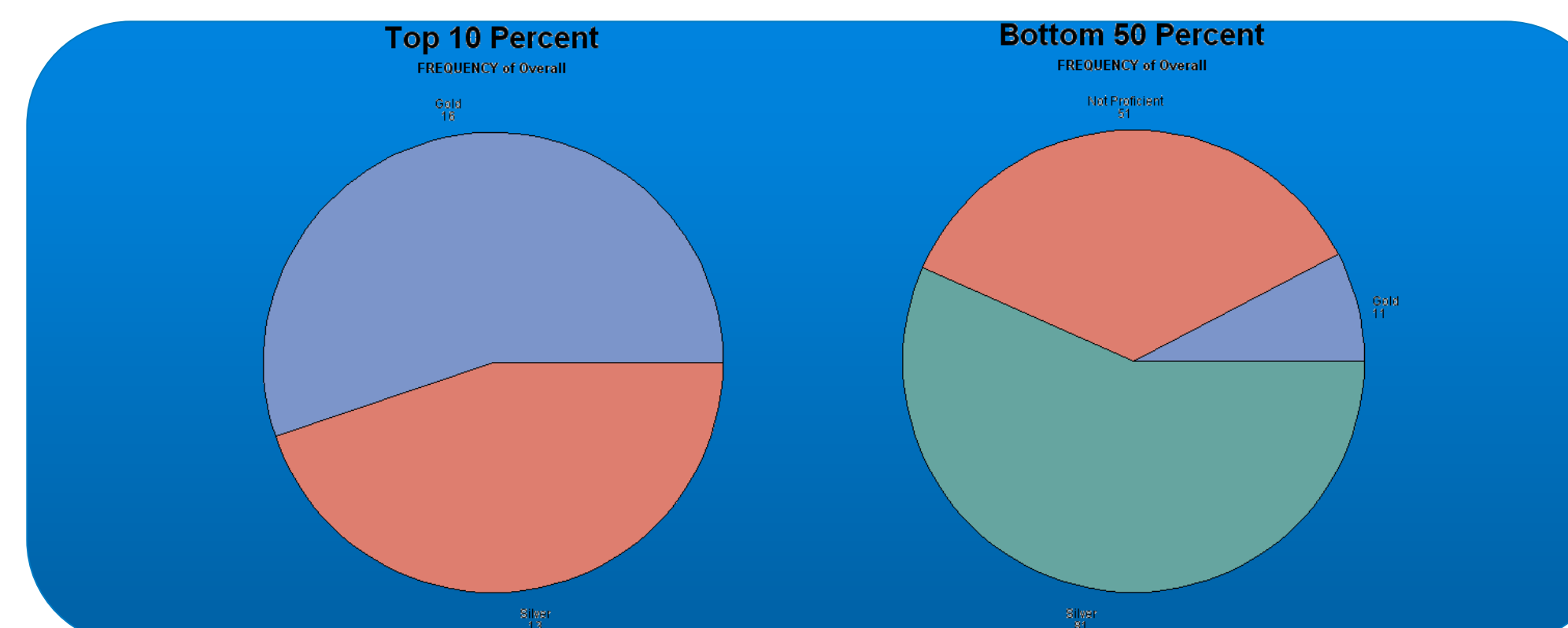
Methods

- Importing merging and analyzing class data
 - Used Proc SQL "Case...When" statements to create and merge data
 - Used Proc SQL "Select...When" to analyze the data set and create new data sets
- Display the data in a visual context
 - Used Proc GChart "Pie" procedure to produce pie charts



Results

- 100% of those in top 10 in their class received Career Readiness Certificate
- 35% of those in bottom half of their class were rated non proficient



Conclusions

- Class rank does correlate with WorkKeys results
- Class rank alone does not determine workforce potential

References

- Vansickle, Timothy R. *Work Keys Developing a Usable Scale for Multi-Level, Criterion-Referenced Assessments Highlighted*. N.p., n.d. Web.
- Stone, Deborah E. *APPLIED MATHEMATICS, LOCATING INFORMATION AND READING FOR INFORMATION OF THE WORKKEYS ASSESSMENTS: COMPARISON OF SCORES BY AGE, RACE, AND GENDER*. Auburn University, 15 Dec. 2007. Web.



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