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People Analytics Case Study

Daniel Pinedo | March 2020

Given the provided dataset, how can we increase:

series 7 exam pass rates?
efficiencies in the recruiting and training process?

This case study includes:

recommendations for above questions
summary of findings

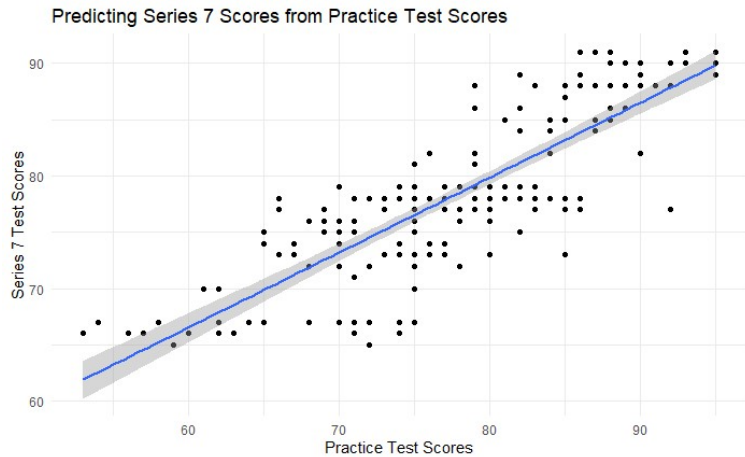
Case Study Highlights

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Question:

**How can we increase Series 7
exam passing rates?**

Potential answer:
Add more practice tests.
Practice test scores were the
greatest predictor of Series 7
exam scores.



03

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Technical explanation is below

Blue line is our prediction curve:

$$26.73 + 0.66x + SE = y$$

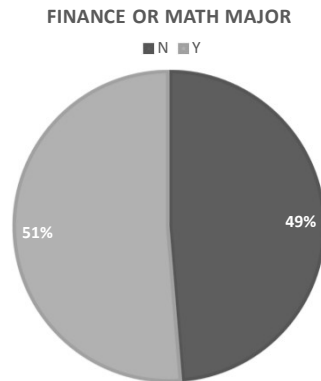
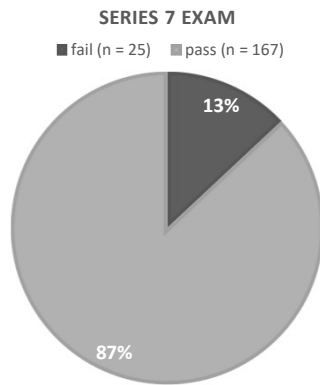
x = practice test scores

y = series 7 exam scores

Residual Standard Error = plus or minus 4 (gray area)

X accounted for 69% of the variance of y (adjusted r-squared)

Acceptable pass rate for prior
Series 6 and 63 Exams = 93%
(6% improvement needed)



Whether a new hire was a Finance or Math major
also predicted success on the Series 7 exam, but
did not account for much more prediction above
and beyond practice test scores

Additional Findings

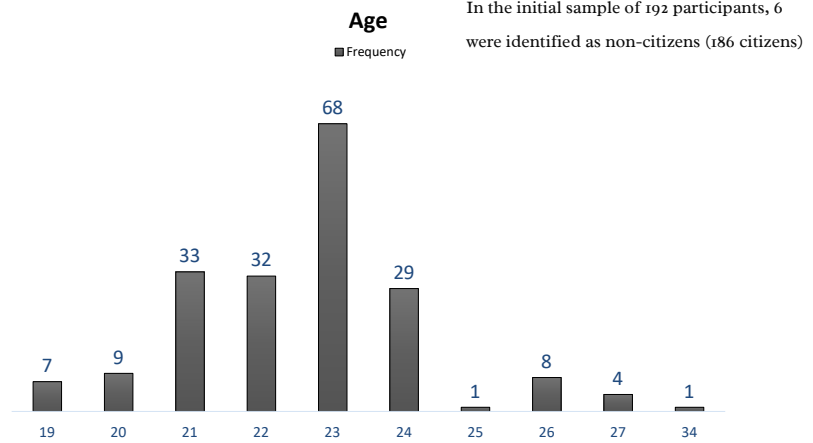
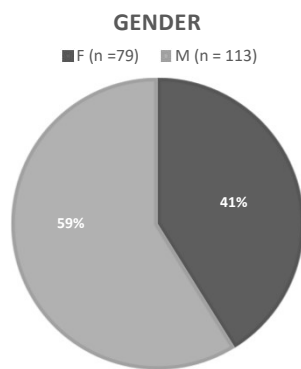
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Technical explanation is below:

Finance or math major explained an additional 4% of variance (from 69% with Practice test alone to 73%) of the scores on series 7 exam.

By itself (if no practice tests existed), being a finance or math major accounts for 32% of variance.

It's a stretch, but we could take the above to indicate that Practice tests alone are more than twice as predictive of passing the Series 7 as being a finance or math major that takes no practice tests. Putting practice tests together with being a finance or math major does predict passing a little better (6% better) than practice tests alone



Demographics

05

Question:

How can we increase efficiency in the recruiting and training process?

Reduction of failure rates

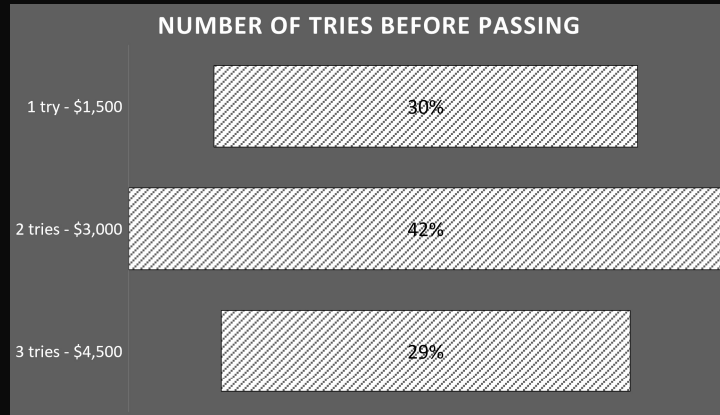
Since practice test scores predict Series 7 exam scores with a high level of confidence, we can reduce failure rates by implementing more practice tests

Cost projections

Current Training Costs	Efficient State (1 try)
\$2,984,375	\$1,500,000
Difference	Percent Difference
\$1,484,375	-49.7%

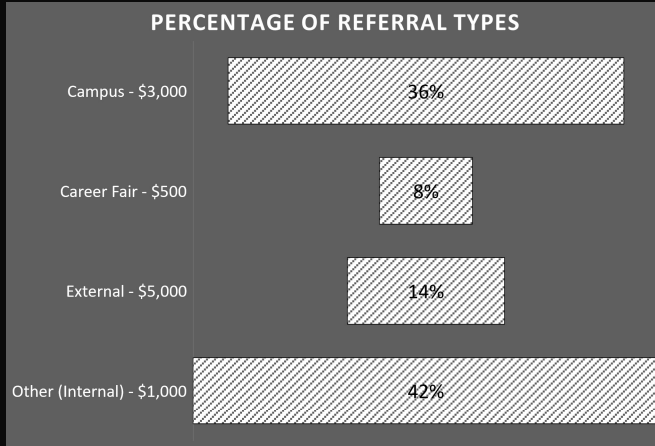
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Training Cost Efficiency

Cost projections are based on total new hire number of 1,000



Referral Cost Efficiency

Referral type did not predict success on the Series 7 exam.

Therefore, we may seek efficiencies here by simply reducing cost.

We may achieve this by eliminating external referrals (highest cost) and substituting career fair referrals (lowest cost).

Current Referral Costs	Efficient State
\$2,235,602	\$1,599,476
Difference	Percent Difference
\$636,126	-28.45%

Total new hires: 1000

Average Salary: \$50,000

Total Cost = Training + Referral Costs

	Current	With training efficiency only	With referral efficiency only	With both efficiencies
Total cost per new hire (Averaged)	\$5,220	\$3,736	\$4,584	\$3,099
As percentage of salary	10.44%	7.47%	9.17%	6.20%

Cost Summary

Thank you

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