PAROLE DECISION-MAKING

SUPPLEMENTAL
REPORT SEVEN

THE OPERATIONAL USE OF AN EXPERIENCE TABLE

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SUMMARY

Since one objective of the Parole Decision-Making project is the development of experience tables for operational use by the United States Board of Parole to aid in individual case decision-making, this report describes the interaction of parole board members and project staff in the development of an experience table acceptable to the parole board for operational use. In addition, it describes the development of a research design to test the impact of the presentation of the experience table upon paroling decisions, the implementation of this design, and the initial evaluation of results.

The results of this seven and one-half month experiment appear to indicate that the provision of an experience table:

- --Influenced the parole board members' clinical risk estimates (primarily in cases in which the statistical score was lower than expected).

- --Increased the relationship between statistical score and decision (in terms of time held). A similar result was produced merely by focusing the parole board member's attention upon the parole risk issue by having them complete clinical risk estimates.

- --Increased, rather than decreased, the average time held for all but the best risk cases, although the experience table scores were generally higher (more favorable) than the parole board members' clinical estimates.

- --Increased the agreement of clinical risk estimates between pairs of parole board members considering the same case, but did not reduce the proportion of decision disagreements (split votes).

- --Did not affect the subjective ease-difficulty rating given the decision.

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THE OPERATIONAL USE OF AN EXPERIENCE TABLE

Although a large number of studies completed since the early part of this century have been aimed at the development of statistical aids for parole selection, the results of these efforts have found little use in practice. This situation is not unique in the world of correctional research and administration, and considerable attention now is being focused upon issues of research utilization.

If the research product is not "selling," perhaps a clue should be taken from market research by asking how the product should be modified (or, how it should be packaged) in order to meet the perceived needs of practitioners and be put to use. There is still considerable interest in statistical aids for parole selection, and one aim of the Parole Decision-Making project is to develop an experience table for operational use by the United States Board of Parole. An important feature of the project is its collaborative nature which provides an opportunity for the joint examination of this issue by the decision-makers and research staff. Also, the project includes an implementation component and procedures for its evaluation. This report describes the initial phase of these efforts.

The Experience Table

Although the major thrust of the project involves the development and analysis of a large data base of information on cases currently appearing before the parole board (a prospective sample) and the subsequent comparison of a number of predictive measures, one project goal was to provide the parole board with a useful predictive measure as quickly as possible. Therefore, two retrospective random samples of parolees (for whom two years of follow-up were available)[1] were drawn. The fiscal year 1968 sample contained 255 adult male cases; the fiscal year 1966 sample contained 60 adult male cases. Since these samples were quite small, it was decided that it would be more appropriate to attempt to validate an existing experience table rather than to attempt to develop a new one at this stage.

The first experience tables tested were two forms of the California base expectancy measure (61A and 61B), which were developed by use of multiple regression and have shown considerable stability on samples of

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[1]For a further description of these samples and data collection procedures, see Singer, Susan M., and Gottfredson, D. M., Development of a Data Base for Parole Decision-Making, Report Number One, Davis, California: Parole Decision-Making Project, National Council on Crime and Delinquency Research Center, June, 1973.

California adult offenders over a number of years.[2]
These measures showed validity with federal adult offen-
ders about equal to that shown for California offenders;
and form 61B (shown in Appendix A), which had a
point biserial correlation of .31 between scores and
parole outcome, became the initial experience table pre-
sented to the United States Board of Parole for considera-
tion. The parole board members, however, expressed a
lack of confidence in this device on two major grounds.
First, they were reluctant to rely upon a measure which
contained only seven factors (the multiple regression
method causes overlapping or intercorrelated factors
to drop out, and most factors predictive of parole
performance have considerable overlap). Second, they
were concerned that this measure was "static" in that
it took into account only factors known at time of
admission to prison; it did not give any weight to
institutional performance or parole plans. This objec-
tion had been expressed also by parole board members attend-
ing an experience table workshop at the first national
meeting conducted by the project in June, 1971, who
had argued that a predictive device considering "dynamic

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[2]Gottfredson, D. M., and Ballard, K. B., Jr., The
Validity of Two Parole Prediction Scales: An Eight-
Year Follow-up Study, Vacaville, California: Institute
for the Study of Crime and Delinquency, 1965.

factors," particularly institutional progress, would obtain more support.[3] The Members of the United States Parole Board then suggested development of an experience table using a larger number of factors and preferably including variables concerning institutional behavior and reflecting aspects of the parole plan.

Concurrently, the results of several comparisons of predictive devices by other researchers became available. Wilbanks and Hindelang, in a study of Texas parole data, indicated that the older Burgess method (using a large number of equally weighted factors) performed as well on validation samples as did the multiple regression or predictive attribute analysis methods.[4] Although the Burgess method showed a lower correlation on the construction sample, it had much less "shrinkage" when applied to a new (validation) sample than the other methods.[5] A study by

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[3]Hoffman, P. B., and Goldstein, H. M., Do Experience Tables Matter? Report Number Four, Davis, California: Parole Decision-Making Project, National Council on Crime and Delinquency Research Center, June, 1973.

[4]For a discussion of this issue, see Wilkins, L. T., Gottfredson, D. M., Hoffman, P. B., Pasela, G. E., Brown, W. H., Development of Experience Tables: Some Comparative Methods, Report Number Twelve, Davis, California: Parole Decision-Making Project, National Council on Crime and Delinquency Research Center, June, 1973.

[5]For a discussion of this issue, see Wilkins, L. T., The Problem of Overlap in Experience Table Construction, Report Number Three, Davis, California: Parole Decision-Making Project, National Council on Crime and Delinquency Research Center, June, 1973.

Simon on British probation data, which compared several

multivariate methods for combining variables, similarly

concluded that, for practical purposes, there was little

difference in power among them.[6]

Therefore, a Burgess type predictive device was pre-

pared. The 1968 retrospective sample of 255 persons was

used to identify predictive attributes. The 1966 retro-

spective sample, cont   ·ı 60 persons, was then used to

remove all items that did not predict in the expected

direction. Twenty items remained. A predictive score

ranging from 0 to 20 was then formed by giving one point

to each positive attribute and zero to each negative at-

tribute. The percentages of successes/failures for each

score group were then calculated for each sample (point

biserial correlations of .53 for the 1968 sample and .44

for the 1966 sample were obtained). A line of best fit

(least squares) was drawn, using the combined sample to

provide a predictive estimate for each score (see Appendix

B). The experience table produced is shown in Appendix C.

The nature of this device was explained to the pro-

ject's scientific advisory committee[7] and to the full pa-

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[6]Simon, Francis, H., "Statistical Methods of Making
Prediction Instruments," Journal of Research in Crime and
Delinquency, 9(1):46-53, 1972.

[7]A scientific advisory committee was included as part
of this project. This committee consisted of three mem-
bers chosen by the Parole Board and three chosen by the
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

role board. Both groups reacted favorably. A plan to provide this experience table for a random sample of parole board decisions and a research design for examining the effects of the provision of this information upon the decisions also were approved.

Research Design

Three 10 percent samples of current adult/male parole or reparole considerations (not revocation or en banc decisions) were initially selected. A fourth 10 percent sample was added later. Choosing all cases appearing for parole consideration whose prison identification numbers ended in four particular digits (with one digit assigned to each group) provided a device assumed to approximate random selection (identification numbers are sequentially assigned.)

For Group A the parole board members were provided with an experience table placed in the folder prior to case consideration (Appendix D illustrates the coding procedures for this device). Each parole board member reviewing the case was asked to complete independently a response form containing three items (see Appendix E). In order to insure independent responses, parole board members were asked to seal their responses in envelopes provided before passing the case to the next board member. Item one requested the parole board member to "adjust" the experi-

ence table prediction, if necessary, in light of his clinical case assessment. Item two asked each parole board member to record his recommended decision. Item three requested each parole board member to rate the subjective ease-difficulty of the decision on a scale.

For Group B no experience table was provided. However, each parole board member considering the case was asked to give his clinical estimate of the subject's likelihood of favorable parole outcome, decision recommendation, and ease-difficulty rating on a response form. Appendix F illustrates this response form. As In Group A, each member was asked to seal his response in a provided envelope.

For Group C no experience table was provided nor were response forms included. That is, these cases were processed in the customary manner.

For Group D an experience table was provided in each case folder. However, no response forms were included. This sample was added to investigate the effect of the experience table presentation independently of the possible effect produced by requiring the parole board members to complete response forms.

Collection of the Data

Case folders for Group A and D were separated from the remaining folders at the time of docketing by parole

board clerical staff. These folders were collected daily by project staff, experience table scores were calculated and placed in the folder along with response forms and envelopes (Group A only), and the cases were returned to the parole board within one business day. A label was placed on the outside of each folder to indicate that an experience table was enclosed. Group B cases had questionnaires and envelopes placed in the folders by the secretary of the first parole board member to consider the case. A label also was placed on the outside of each folder in this group to indicate that response forms were enclosed. Group C cases had no experience table or forms placed in them and were not labeled.

Folders for all four groups were collected daily by project staff after the final decision by the parole board members. For cases in which the experience table was not presented, it was calculated by project staff at this point. A tally sheet (see Appendix G) was then completed for all cases.

Groups A (N = 575), B (N = 477), and C (N = 956), are each 10% samples of parole consideration decisions[8] concerning adult male offenders made from November 1, 1971, to June 15, 1972. Group D is a 10% sample (N = 173), collected from

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[8]Not including revocation hearings or en banc decisions.

March 1 through June 15, 1972. Group C also includes
cases from the other groups in which parole clerical
staff failed to provide the initial processing required
and, thus, is considerably larger than the other groups.
Mean experience table scores, average time continued,
and correlations between these scores and time held were
examined and found not significantly different between
not processed Group A, B, and D cases and Group cases.
Therefore, it was concluded that nonprocessed cases were
not biased in this respect and might be treated as addi-
tional Group C cases.

Several data collection problems were encountered.
Although a meeting was held with parole board clerical
and secretarial staff in advance of the data collection
to enlist their assistance, and several meetings were
held during the data collection phase, a number of cases
(N = 272) were processed without experience table or re-
sponse forms (particularly Group B cases). It may be seen
that Group B contains a smaller number of cases than one
would expect from equal random samples. Apparently, vaca-
tion leaves (particularly during the Christmas holiday
period) caused reallocation of work responsibilities so
that a number of cases were processed by staff unfamiliar
with the project. A second, lesser problem resulted from
individual parole board members in some cases neglecting

to complete the response forms (N = 86).

<u>Research Question #1: Did the Provision of an Experi-
ence Table Affect the Parole Board Members' Clinical
Case Estimates?</u>

The provision of an experience table did appear
to affect the clinical estimates of the parole board
members. Clinical case estimates were significantly
closer to statistical estimates when the experience
table was provided. The correlation between the sta-
tistical risk estimates and clinical risk estimates
were .74 when the statistical risk estimates were given
(Group A) and .53 when the statistical estimates were
not given (Group B). This difference is statistically
significant at the 0.0001 level (Table 1).

The average absolute difference between clinical
and statistical predictions was reduced from 17.25 when
the statistical estimates were not given (Group B) to
12.46 when the statistical estimates were given (Group
A). This difference is statistically significant at
the 0.0001 level (see Table 1).

The average (mean) statistical estimates for Group
A (70.1) and Group B (71.1) were similar. The average
clinical estimate for Group B (60.9) was about 10 points
lower. Since the clinical estimates for Group A were
closer to and more highly correlated with the statistical

Table I

ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL AND
STATISTICAL ESTIMATES OF RISK

	Group A	Group B
Correlation between clinical and statistical prediction	.7403	.5329
Number of observations	1209	986
Chance probability of observed difference	<.0001*	
Mean absolute difference between clinical and statistical prediction	12.464	17.252
Number of observations	1209	986
Chance probability of observed difference	<.001**	

*Test statistic used was Z difference based on Fisher's r to Z transformation.

**Test statistic used was the t test for independent means.

estimates, it was expected that the average clinical estimate for Group A would also be higher. This did not occur. The average clinical estimate for Group A (60.5) was almost identical to that of Group B. On the average, the parole board members appear to view probable case outcomes in a more pessimistic light than experience warrants and to retain this pessimism even when experience table scores are presented.

There was also evidence that the parole board members were more reluctant to revise a clinical estimate upward (in the light of a more favorable statistical estimate) than to revise it downward (when a less favorable statistical estimate was presented to them). Table II shows that the clinical estimates exceeded the statistical estimates more frequently when the statistical estimate was not given.

Table II
ASSOCIATION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CLINICAL AND
STATISTICAL ESTIMATES AND EXPERIMENTAL GROUPS

| Group | Differences in Estimates | | | | Total |
| | Statistical Higher than Clinical | | Clinical Higher than Statistical | | |
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
A Statistical estimate given and clinical requested	976	79.5	251	20.5	1227
B Clinical estimate only	725	72.8	271	27.2	996
TOTAL	1701	76.5	522	23.5	2223

$\chi^2 = 13.557$, df = 1
Chance probability of observed frequencies, given no association <.001

Research Question #2: Did the Provision of the Experience Table Affect the Parole Board's Decisions?

The correlations between statistical risk estimates (experience table scores) and decision outcome (time continued)[9] indicate that the provision of the experience tables did affect the parole board's decision-making. The correlations for Groups A (-.30)[10] and D (-.35), which had experience tables presented, are significantly higher than Group C (-.18), in which decisions were made in the customary manner (Table III). It is also noted that the correlations for Group B (-.29), in which no experience table was presented but clinical estimates were requested, was also significantly higher than that of Group C. It appears that the relation between experience table scores and decision outcomes was increased both by the presentation of the experience table and by the focus upon the "risk" issue engendered by the request for clinical "risk" estimates.

Table III
RELATION BETWEEN EXPERIENCE TABLE SCORES AND DECISION OUTCOMES

	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Correlation between statistical prediction score and decision	-.3039	-.2921	-.1762	-.3525

[9] In months, with parole treated as zero time continued.

[10] Correlations are negative since an increase in the probability of favorable outcome is associated with a decrease in time continued.

Table III continued

	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Number of observations	575	477	956	173
*Chance probability of observed difference from Group C	<.01	<.05		<.025

*Test statistic used was Z difference based on Fisher's r to Z transformation.

To investigate whether the presentation of the experience table score affected the parole/do not parole decision, point biserial correlations were computed (Table IV). No significant differences between the groups were found (Table IV). This indicates that while the estimate of parole risk affects the time to be served decision, the decision to parole or not to parole at any given point is only indirectly related to this issue.

Table IV
RELATION BETWEEN STATISTICAL PREDICTIONS
AND PAROLE DECISION OUTCOMES

	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Point biserial correlation between statistical prediction score and parole/no parole	.1884	.2061	.1218	.1338
Number of observations	575	477	956	173
*Chance probability of observed difference from Group C	>.6	>.1		>.8

*Test statistic used was Z difference based on Fisher's r to Z transformation.

An interesting feature was noted in relation to the actual time continued. The average continuance given the cases with the experience score presented or clinical

estimates requested (Groups A, B, and D) were significantly longer than the control group (Group C), as displayed in Table V. Contrary to expectations (as statistical scores were generally higher than clinical scores), focusing the parole board members' attention upon the issue of "risk" either by presenting the experience table or by requesting a clinical judgment (or both) appears to have increased the average time continued by about 1.5 months for the three groups.

Specifically, it may be seen that the average continuances in Groups A and D, in which the experience table score was very high (17-20), were slightly shorter (by about .5 months) than for these cases in Group C. However, for cases in which the experience table score was either average (8-16) or low (1-7), the average continuances were longer (by 1.8 and 3.0 months respectively).

Table V
ASSOCIATION OF STATISTICAL PREDICTIVE SCORES AND TIME CONTINUED

		Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Low statistical predic-	n	78	62	131	28
tion score (1-7)	X̄	11.398	12.274	8.824	12.929
	S.D.	8.327	8.802	7.318	8.636
Average statistical	n	431	337	710	125
prediction score (8-16)	X̄	9.568	8.216	7.477	8.280
	S.D.	8.637	7.786	7.530	8.258
High statistical pre-	n	66	58	115	20
diction score (17-20)	X̄	4.197	5.828	4.635	4.000
	S.D.	4.990	5.215	5.226	4.091

Table V continued

		Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
For all prediction scores Groups combined	n	575	477	956	173
	X̄	9.200	8.453	7.320	8.538
	S.D.	8.464	7.830	7.338	8.264
*Chance probability of observed difference from Group C		<.001	<.01		<.05

*Test statistic was t-test for independent means.

Research Question #3: Did the Provision of an Experience Table Decrease the Proportion of Split Decisions?

It was hypothesized that the presentation of an experience table might reduce the proportion of cases in which disagreements among the parole board members (split votes) occurred by bringing their parole risk estimates closer together. Although it was found that the provision of the experience table reduced the average absolute difference between clinical estimates for pairs of parole board members considering the same case (see Table VI), a result statistically significant at the .05 level, no reduction in the proportion of split votes occurred. Table VII displays the proportion of split votes in the four groups.

Table VI
ABSOLUTE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PAIRS OF
PAROLE BOARD MEMBERS CONSIDERING THE SAME CASES

	Group A	Group B
Number of pairs	165	87

Table VI continued

	Group A	Group B
Mean difference between estimates	12.96	16.15
*Chance probability of observed difference	<.025	

*These samples are smaller since the analysis was completed during the course of the experiment. Test statistic was t-test for independent means.

Table VII
SPLIT VOTES

	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Number of split votes	71	50	62	27
Percent of split votes	21%	17%	16%	16%
Total number of decisions	346	303	389	174

$\chi^2 = 3.53$, df = 3; no significant difference.

Thus, it may be concluded that the somewhat greater agreement as to parole prognosis did not reduce the number of disagreements among the parole board members as to the appropriate decision for particular cases.

Research Question #4: Did the Provision of an Experience Table Affect the Subjective Ease-Difficulty of the Decision?

The average (mean) ease-difficulty scores for Group A (14.2; N = 262) table and Group B (14.5; N = 153) showed no significant differences (see Table VIII). Subdivision of the groups by decision type (parole/continue/continue to expiration) also revealed no significant differences

between these groups. Therefore, it may be concluded that the provision of the experience table did not affect the subjective ease-difficulty of the decision.

Table VIII
EASE-DIFFICULTY RATINGS
FOR GROUPS A & B

	Group A	Group B
Number of ratings	262	153
Mean rating	14.2	14.5

S.D. = 8.2, 8.3 respectively; t = .476, df = 413, no significant difference.

It may be that the task for both groups focused the decision-maker's attention upon the "evaluator" frame of reference and that this focus affected the ease-difficulty rating equally for both groups. Further confirmation would require a sample of ease-difficulty ratings for an additional group with no reference to prediction of parole outcome. However, during the course of the experiment, interviews with several parole board members indicated that some confusion existed as to the meaning of the ease-difficulty scale (and also that there was some concern as to the length of time required to complete the response forms). Consequently, it was decided to terminate this phase of the study.[11]

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[11]Effective March 1, 1972, this scale was deleted from all response forms.

Conclusions

The provision of .an experience table:

1. Influenced the parole board members' clinical risk estimates .(primarily in cases in which the statistical score was lower than expected).

2. Increased the relationship between statistical score and decision (in terms of time held). A similar result was produced merely by focusing the parole board members' attention upon the parole risk issue by having them complete clinical risk estimates.

Although the experience table scores were generally higher (more favorable) than the parole board members' clinical estimates, the average time held increased rather than decreased for all but the best risk cases.

3. Increased the agreement of clinical risk estimates between pairs of parole board members considering the same case but did not reduce the proportion of decision disagreements (split votes).

4. Did not affect the subjective ease-difficulty rating given the decision.

Suggestions for Further Research

The data base provided by this experiment will at a later date enable comparisons of the accuracy of clinical, statistical and clinical (given statistical) judgments. Furthermore, should the presentation of an experience table

score be implemented on a regular basis, it would be important to monitor the apparently increased relationship between statistical score and decision time continued to see whether it is maintained, or whether the results found in this study are merely a function of what has been termed the "Hawthorne effect."

APPENDIX A

Base Expectancy Score (Form 61B)
(after Gottfredson, et al.)

	IF		ADD
a.	arrest free 5 or more years		16 _0_
b.	no history of any opiate use		13 _13_
c.	no family criminal record		8 _8_
d.	commitment offense not checks or burglary		13 _13_
e.	age at commitment times 0.6		_16_
f.	add 21 for all cases		21 _21_
g.	subtotal (a+b+c+d+e+f)	subtotal	_71_
h.	aliases -3 times number		_- 0_
i.	prior incarcerations -5 times number		_- 0_
j.	subtotal (h+i)	subtotal	_- 0_
k.	Base Expectancy Score = g+j	BE =	_71_

Percentage of Group
with Favorable Outcomes
after Two (2) Years

Base Expectancy Score

92-100	---------------------------	87%
73- 91	---------------------------	76%
63- 72	---------------------------	64%
44- 62	---------------------------	53%
34- 43	---------------------------	49%
15- 33	---------------------------	29%
0- 14	---------------------------	14%

Experience with similar offenders indicates that the above subject belongs in a group in which 64% are found in the favorable category after two years.

BEST FIT (LEAST SQUARES) LINE FOR EXPERIENCE TABLE SCORES

Experience Table Scores (Form PDM 1A)
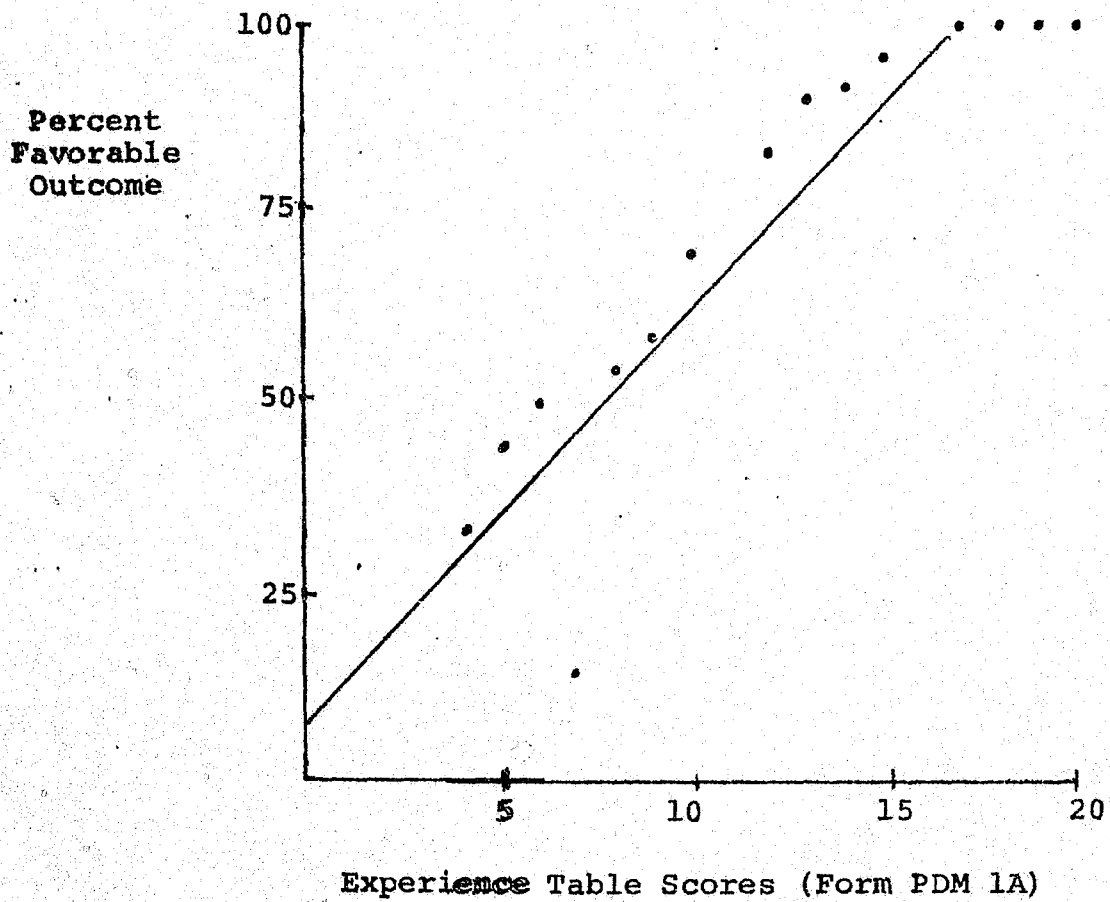
Case Name _____   Register Number _____

EXPERIENCE TABLE (Form PDM 1A) ADULT OFFENDERS

·Salient Features ·

	IF	Score +1, otherwise score 0
1.	No auto theft convictions	_____
2.	Present offense: homicide, theft except vehicle, other fraud, alcohol laws violations, counterfeiting, or selective service	_____
3.	Not property offense	_____
4.	Victimless offense	_____
5.	No burglary conviction	_____
6.	New court commitment (not parole violator)	_____
7.	No probation or parole revocations	_____
8.	First commitment or more than five years free since first commitment	_____
9.	No prior commitment of more than six months	_____
10.	Not more than two prior sentences	_____
11.	No prior incarcerations	_____
12.	No prior juvenile delinquency convictions	_____
13.	Employed in last two years of civilian life greater than 25% of time, or student, or unknown or physically unemployable	_____

14. Employed more than one year,
    or unknown   _____

15. Minimum custody, work release,
    or unknown   _____

16. No escape history   _____

17. No known prison punishment   _____

18. No prior mental hospital confinement   _____

19. Plans to live with wife and/or
    children   _____

20. Parole advisor obtained   _____

                              Total score   _____

Experience with similar offenders indicates that the above

subject belongs to a group in which ___ % are found in the

favorable outcome category after two years.

BASE EXPECTANCY COMPUTATION CHART

Raw Score	% Favorable Outcome	Raw Score	% Favorable Outcome
0	9%	9	56%
1	14%	10	62%
2	19%	11	67%
3	25%	12	72%
4	30%	13	78%
5	35%	14	83%
6	41%	15	88%
7	46%	16	94%
8	51%	17+	98%

APPENDIX D

EXPERIENCE TABLE (Form PDM 1A) ADULT OFFENDERS

Coding Procedures

IF

1. No Auto Theft Convictions --

   A (+1) indicates that the subject has no prior auto
   theft convictions and is not now serving a sentence
   for auto theft. An auto theft conviction by a mili-
   tary court would not be counted here (since it is
   not counted on the PDM code sheet as an auto theft)
   unless it is the instant offense. This item is
   based on PDM coding procedures.

2. Present Offense: homicide, theft except vehicle,
   other fraud, alcohol laws violations, counterfeiting,
   or selective service --

   A (+1) is given if the instant offense is any of the
   offenses listed above. If the instant conviction in-
   cludes one offense which is listed and one which is
   not, a score of 0 should be given.

   Example: Subject is serving concurrently for counter-
   feiting and escape.

3. Not Property Offense --

   Score (+1) only if the instant offense is one other
   than the following: unarmed robbery; burglary; theft
   or larceny except vehicle; vehicle theft; forgery,
   fraud, larceny by check; other fraud; counterfeiting.
   If the instant conviction includes one offense which
   is listed and one which is not, a score of 0 should
   be given.

   Example: Subject is serving time for possession of a
   weapon (+1), and burglary (0) -- code 0.

4. Victimless Offense --

   Score (+1) if the instant offense is one of the follow-
   ing: rape, statutory; prostitution and pandering; nar-
   cotic drug law violation; alcohol law violation; immi-
   gration law violation; selective service law violation.

Any other offense is scored (0). Again, if two of-
fenses are involved and one is listed here and one
is not, code (0).

5. No Burglary Conviction --

A (+1) indicates that the subject has no prior bur-
glary convictions and is not now serving a sentence
for burglary. A burglary conviction by a military
cout would not be counted here (since it is not
counted on the PDM code sheet as a burglary convic-
tion) unless it is the instant offense.

6. New Court Commitment (not parole violator) --

The subject is given a (+1) if he is a new court com-
mitment, a return from study-observation, or a proba-
tion violator. If subject is a parole or mandatory
release violator, his score is (0).

7. No Probation or Parole Revocations --

If the subject has a probation or parole revocation
from any type of sentence (juvenile, local, state,
federal) including the instant commitment, the score
is (0). A warrant or detainer for parole violation
which is on file and has yet to be executed does not
count as a revocation.

8. First Commitment or More than Five Years Free Since
First Commitment --

If the instant confinement is the first for the sub-
ject, or if he has been "free" (not confined in a
prison or jail) for a period of more than 5 years at
some time since his first confinement, the score is
(+1).

If subject began serving the federal sentence in a
state institution concurrent with a state sentence
(and it is his first commitment or he has been free
for five years) and then is paroled from the state
sentence to the federal sentence, the commitment to
the state prison would not be counted here and the
score would be (+1).

But if the subject first began serving the federal
sentence after being paroled from the state, the state
commitment would be counted here and the score would
be (0). This includes military confinement of 90 days
or more.

If the subject was given a split sentence and is now returned as a probation violator, his score is (0) (unless he was on probation for more than 5 years)..

These are the same rules which are used in coding the PDM code sheet.

9. No Prior Commitment of More than Six Months --

If the subject has no sentences for which he served more than six months, his score is (+1). Military commitments are included.

If the subject has served any time on the instant offense prior to the most recent date of admission (i.e., has been returned as a probation violator on a split sentence; returned as a parole violator or mandatory release violator; returned from an appeal after serving time on sentence) he will receive a (+1) if this is his first commitment.

10. Not More than Two Prior Sentences --

Subject must have no more than two prior sentences to be scored (+1). The instant conviction is not included. Any prior military convictions for civilian or military offenses are not counted in this item.

11. No Prior Incarcerations --

The subject must not have any periods of incarceration -- civilian, or military over 90 days -- to be scored (+1). Incarcerations include confinement in juvenile institutions, jails, prison camps and farms, state and federal reformatories and prisons, and military brigs in which subject was confined for more than 90 days.

12. No Prior Juvenile Delinquency Convictions --

To be scored (+1), the subject must not have received any convictions as a juvenile for juvenile offenses (i.e., incorrigibility, truancy). Conviction as a juvenile for an offense such as burglary is not a juvenile delinquency conviction.

13. Employed in Last Two Years of Civilian Life Greater than 25% of Time, or Student, or Unknown or Physically Unemployable --

If the subject was employed for six months or more
during the last two years in which he was free of
incarceration and military obligations, score him
(+1).

If nothing is known about his employment, score is
(+1).

14. Employed More than One Year, or Unknown --

If subject was employed on any one job for more than
one year, his score is (+1). If no information can
be found, the score is also (+1).

15. Minimum Custody, Work Release, or Unknown --

If subject is in minimum custody, or on work release,
or his custody classification is unknown, his score
is (+1). Any other custody classification is scored
(0).

16. No Escape History --

If subject has no record of escapes or attempted es-
capes from any type of police custody or institutional
confinement, he is scored (+1). Do not include es-
capes from mental hospitals. Do include escapes from
military brigs.

17. No Known Prison Punishment --

If the Experience Table is computed at the time of
first coding by PDM staff, count any prison punish-
ment since date of admission. If the Experience Table
is computed on a repeat coding, include only prison
punishment which occurred since the time of the pre-
vious coding.

Prison punishment refers to: loss of privileges; se-
gregation; loss of status or good time; any other de-
privation. Do not count reprimands and dismissals.

If subject has a clear record (no punishment during
the time period coded) score is (+1).

18. No Prior Mental Hospital Confinement --

If subject has had no mental hospital confinement, his
score is (+1). If subject has been or is confined to
a mental hospital, mental ward in prison, or was con-
fined for mental problems in the military, code (0).

19. Plans to Live with Wife and/or Children --

If the subject's planned living arrangement after release from prison is with his wife and/or his children, his score is (+1).

All others receive a score of (0).

20. Parole Advisor Obtained --

For the Experience Tables being completed now by PDM staff before the Parole Board makes a decision and signs the case, this item indicates whether or not the subject has named a person to serve as his Parole Advisor (other than USPO). If an Advisor is obtained, score is (+1).

For coding purposes on the PDM code sheet, this item is coded as follows. If the subject has not been granted parole at this hearing, "Parole Advisor Obtained" is coded "not applicable." The subject may have a proposed Parole Advisor but, if he is not paroled, this is not coded. If subject was granted parole at this hearing, the item would be coded either "yes" or "no."

This should be taken into consideration for any B.E.'s which are computed directly from the code sheet.

EXPERIENCE TABLE RESPONSE FORM

Case Name _____   Register Number _____

1. CLINICAL EVALUATION

   In this particular case, you may have the impression
   that the BE score is "too high," "too low," or "about
   right." Please circle a number on the scale below to
   adjust the base expectancy to your impressions for
   this particular case. The 100 at the right of the
   scale represents certainty of favorable parole out-
   come. The 0 at the left of the scale represents cer-
   tainty of unfavorable parole outcome. The center of
   the scale represents the point at which either favor-
   able or unfavorable outcome is equally likely.

   0   5   15   25   35   45   55   65   75   85   95   100
      Very Low   Low   Average   High   Very High

2. DECISION   Parole _____

                   Continue _____ months for reconsideration

                   Continue to expiration _____

3. EASE-DIFFICULTY SCALE

   Please place an (X) on the scale below to indicate the
   relative ease or difficulty of this decision. The ex-
   treme left end of the scale represents the easy or ob-
   vious decision. The extreme right end of the scale
   represents an extremely difficult decision.

   very   very
   easy   difficult
              Ease of Decision

4. Initials of Parole Board Member _____

CONTROL CASE   FORM B

Case Name _____   Register Number _____

   TO BOARD MEMBERS: THIS IS A CONTROL CASE -- PLEASE
   COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SEAL IN THE ATTACHED ENVELOPE.

1. Please circle a number on the scale below to indicate
    your impression of this individual's chances of favor-
    able outcome, if paroled. The 100 at the extreme right
    of the scale represents certainty of favorable parole
    outcome. The 0 at the extreme left of the scale repre-
    sents certainty of unfavorable parole outcome. The cen-
    ter of the scale represents the point at which either
    favorable or unfavorable outcome is equally likely.

       0   5   15   25   35   45   55   65   75   85   95   100
          Very Low   Low   Average   High   Very High

2. Recommended Decision: Parole_____

                           Continue_____ months for reconsi-
                           deration

                           Continue to expiration_____

3. Please place an (X) on the scale below to indicate the
    relative ease or difficulty of this decision. The ex-
    treme left end of the scale represents the easy or ob-
    vious decision. The extreme right end of the scale
    represents an extremely difficult decision.

    very   very
    easy   difficult
              Ease of Decision

4. Initials of Parole Board Member_____

APPENDIX G

TALLY SHEET FORMAT

Card Number: a sequential number

Register Number: the prisoner's I.D. number

Sequence Number: 1, 2, or 3, depending upon whether
                                 questionnaires were received for
                                 that case from 1, 2, or 3 members

Member Number: designates the parole board member
                                 completing the form

BE Score: raw BE score

BE Statistical: statistical BE prediction

BE Clinical: parole board member's clinical
                                 estimate

Recommended Decision: not used in this analysis -- indi-
                                 cates the parole board member's re-
                                 commended decision from 00 (immediate
                                 parole) to 12 (hold twelve months) to
                                 15 (hold 15 months), etc.

Actual Decision: parole immediately = 00; parole in
                                 one month = 01, hold 2 months or pa-
                                 role in 2 months = 02, hold 10 months
                                 = 10, etc.

Decision Type: 1 = parole, 2 = continue to fixed
                                 date, 3 = continue to expiration

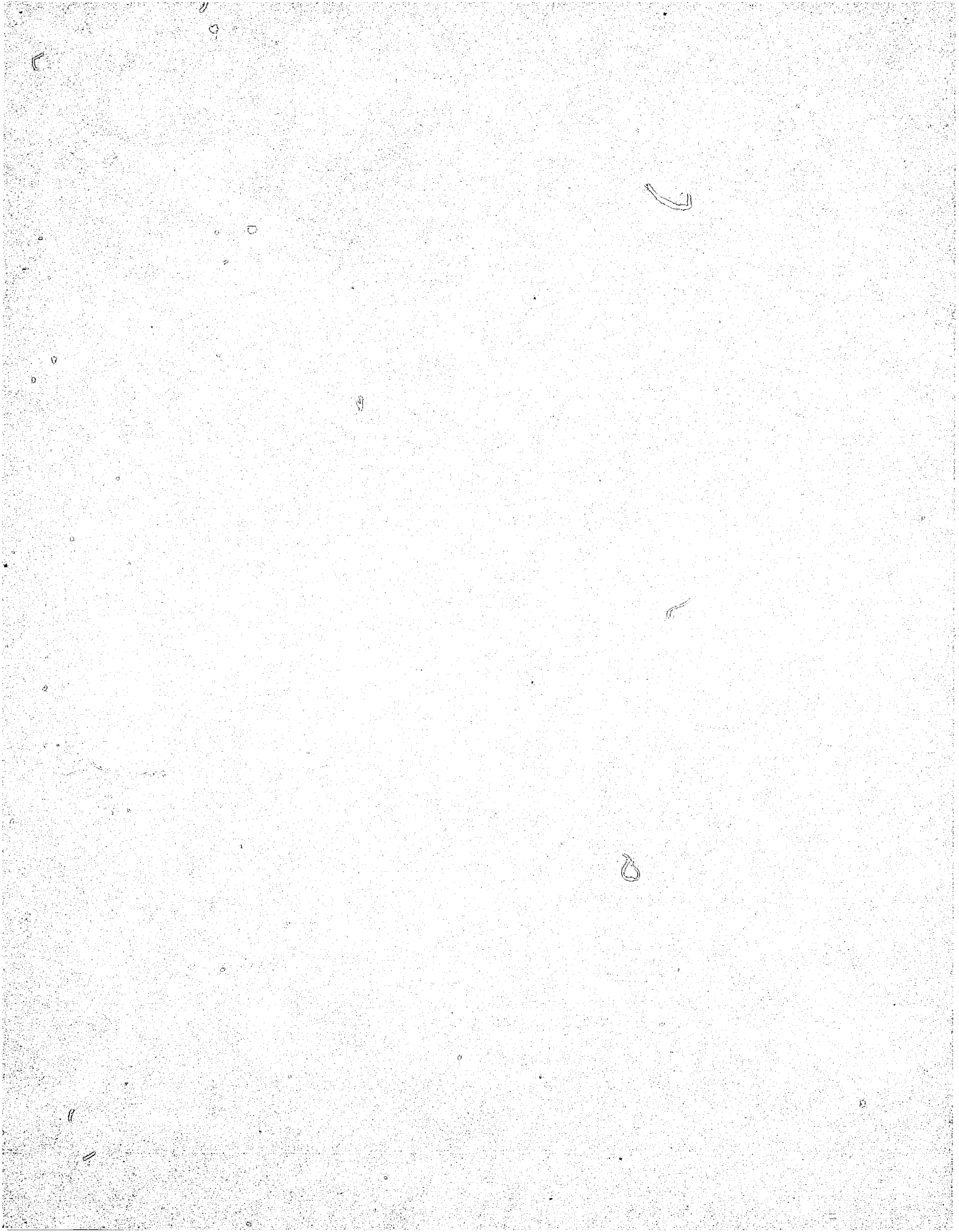Ease-Difficulty: easiest = 00; most difficult = 40.

Deck Number: 11 = sample A -- experimental cases
                                 with statistical BE given to parole
                                 board members

                                 33 = sample B -- parole board members
                                 requested to complete clinical BE only

                                 55 = sample C -- no forms in case fold-
                                 er - cases processed in routine manner

                                 77 = sample D -- statistical BE only -
                                 no forms in case holder

END