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AUTHOR Wetzel, Susan
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ABSTRACT

The demographic and evaluative data from a follow-up mail survey of 2,194 graduates (1975-76) of twelve Pennsylvania community colleges are presented with emphasis on Delaware County Community College (DCCC). Statewide findings included the following: (1) the median age was 25.2, but students over 30 represented 20.6%; (2) 52.9% were female; (3) 96.4% were Caucasian, but one college had 54.7% black graduates; (4) 95% were Associate Degree graduates; (5) median years to completion were 2.8; (6) median GPA was 2.8 to 3.0; and (7) most graduates were full-time enrollees. Questions on occupational outcomes yielded these results: 40% were employed and 28% did not have work nor planned to look for work; of those employed, 77.1% of DCCC graduates considered their present job as having career potential; the mean annual wage statewide was \$10,363, compared to DCCC with \$8,905; and 82.6% of DCCC graduates were working in fields related to their study area. Questions on long-range educational plans revealed that 47.5% of all graduates had applied for admission to another educational program and of these 92.4% had the bachelor's degree as a goal. Data are presented primarily in graphic form with comparisons made between all twelve colleges. (RT)

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STUDENT OUTCOMES SURVEY

FOR

1975-76 PROGRAM COMPLETERS

PART I



DELAWARE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MEDIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Susan Wetzel
MSPR
March 1977

ED145905

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STUDY TITLE: Student Outcomes Questionnaire for Program Completers

PURPOSE: To determine the current and long run educational and occupational plans and activities of program completers at Pennsylvania Community Colleges

SAMPLE: All 1973-76 Graduates of Pennsylvania Community Colleges

PROCEDURES: A 25-item questionnaire developed by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems was mailed to 1975-76 graduates of community colleges statewide. The questionnaire consists of 24 closed item and 1 open ended questions. Statewide, 2657 graduates responded. The names of the community colleges used in this analysis and the number responding in each are as follows:

Delaware County Community College	209
Westmoreland County Community College	205
Montgomery County Community College	197
Lehigh County Community College	109
Bucks County Community College	400
Harrisburg Area Community College	380
Community College of Philadelphia	420
Northampton County Area Community College	259
Reading Area Community College	15
Total included in this analysis	2194

RESULTS: The areas of information elicited by this questionnaire may be categorized as demographic and evaluative data.

Part I of this report summarizes the results of the individual items for DCCC and the other community colleges listed above.

This section presents the results chiefly in graph and tabular form

Part II provides an analysis of the instrument within DCCC and is analyzed by sex, age, curriculum, and GPA of the respondents.

Both parts of this analysis are for the purposes of summary and comparison. Inferences as to the causes of observed differences will be the subject of future analysis.

Questions 1 to 6 of the Outcomes Questionnaire elicit demographic data only. The purpose of these questions is to provide data for future analysis by subgroups and to provide a general description of the population in question.

Figure 4 represents the median age of the respondents in the community colleges included in this study. The figure also shows that of the four community colleges in this area, DCCC has a higher mean age than the other three, especially Montgomery County Community College. The homogeneous standard

deviations add to the comparability of these means. Figure 1 presents graphically the frequency distribution of ages at DCCC. Students over 30 represent 20.6% of the program completers.

Figure 5 represents the percentage of completers by sex. At DCCC, 52.9% of graduates were female, while 47.1% were male. Figures 5-A and 5-B represent the distribution by sex and for all Pennsylvania community colleges included in this survey.

The area distribution by Civil Rights category is presented in Figures 6 and 6-A along with the total breakdown for DCCC. The only community college in this analysis with a majority not in the White, Non-Hispanic category is Community College of Philadelphia, where 54.7% of the graduates were black. All other community colleges report less than 10% of the graduates in any minority classification.

Questions 7a to 11 of the survey concern the degree or certificate the respondents are now receiving. 99.5% or 208 of the 209 graduates of DCCC received Associates Degrees (Figure 7). The only school with a higher percentage is Reading Area Community College, where all of the 15 graduates received Associates Degrees (Figure 7-A).

Figure 8 represents the median years to program completion for the respondents. While the DCCC median is the same as the State, examining the means and standard deviations show that the distribution of graduates clusters closer to 2.8 years to completion for DCCC than the State as a whole. One possible reason for this dispersion is that DCCC has a higher percentage of students entering DCCC with transfer credits than the State as a whole (Figure 9) and a lower percentage of students who attend only on a part-time basis. All of these factors effect the length of enrollment for a student.

The median Grade Point Average for the 11 colleges and the State median is presented in Figure 10. DCCC graduates have the lowest median GPA in the State, with Montgomery County having the highest in this area. The variability among these measures is small with only Montgomery County representing a significant departure from the norm. Figure 10-A graphs the distribution of grades for DCCC.

Of the DCCC program completers, only 7.8% were students on a part-time basis (Figure 11). Most graduates were full-time students only; however, 42.2% reported that they attended both on a part-time and full-time basis. The percentage in these three categories for the entire State is presented in Figure 11-A.

The third part of the Student Outcomes Questionnaire is designed to gather information about the current and long-run occupational plans of program completers. 42.6% of DCCC graduates have secured a job by the time they have graduated, and 27.2% do not have a job nor plan to look for a job (Figures 12-A and

12-B). This item (question 12) does not ascertain circumstances surrounding the response elicited in this question.

Item 14 attempts to measure the feelings of those who currently hold jobs about those jobs. Figure 14-A represents the percentage of graduates who regard their current jobs as temporary until a better job can be found. Figure 14-B presents those who regard their present job as a means to earn money for another activity. Only 8.4% of the DCCC program completers view their job in this way, as compared with 26.5% of Bucks County Community College graduates. 77.1% of DCCC graduates consider their present job to have possible or definite career potential. This percentage is the highest of all the community colleges included in this analysis. Figures 13 and 13-A graphs the percentage for all community colleges included in this study.

Of those who currently have a job, Question 15 asks the gross wage expected on this job. Figure 15 represents the median salary for all community colleges in this analysis and the mean salary for DCCC, Bucks County, Montgomery County, Harrisburg Area, and the State. The median is regarded as the more reliable measure in this instance because of the large variability in standard deviations. Only Montgomery County has a standard deviation which allows the two means to be compared on this variable.

Figures 16-A and 16-B represent the relationship of present job to college curriculum for those currently holding jobs. 17.4% of DCCC graduates hold jobs not related to their field of study, while 82.6% are working in jobs that are somewhat or directly related to their major field. The percentage of those holding jobs in each of these categories is represented in Figure 17.

The fourth section of this survey concerns current and long run educational plans and activities. Figure 18-A represents those who have applied for admission to another degree program subsequent to DCCC, with 45.4% of DCCC ranking lower than the State average and lowest of the area community colleges.

The percentage of those who have not applied nor intend to apply within the next year are graphed in Figure 19-B. 33.2% of DCCC have no intention of applying to another program within the year following their graduation. In order to make meaningful comparisons among institutions, information as to the number enrolled in occupational vs. transfer programs would be necessary.

Of those who have applied to other programs, 95.7% of DCCC graduates have applied to programs granting Bachelor's or higher degrees. (Figure 19)

85.7% of DCCC program completers who applied to other institutions were admitted at the time of completion of the questionnaire. Figure 20 shows this to be slightly higher than the State average but lower than the other area community colleges. Figure 21 represents the immediate plans of program completers for DCCC and the State by graphically representing the proportions of each with full-time jobs and those applying to other schools.

The final part of the survey deals with the contribution of DCCC to the respondent's growth in the six areas listed. Results of these items are presented in Tables 23 and 24.

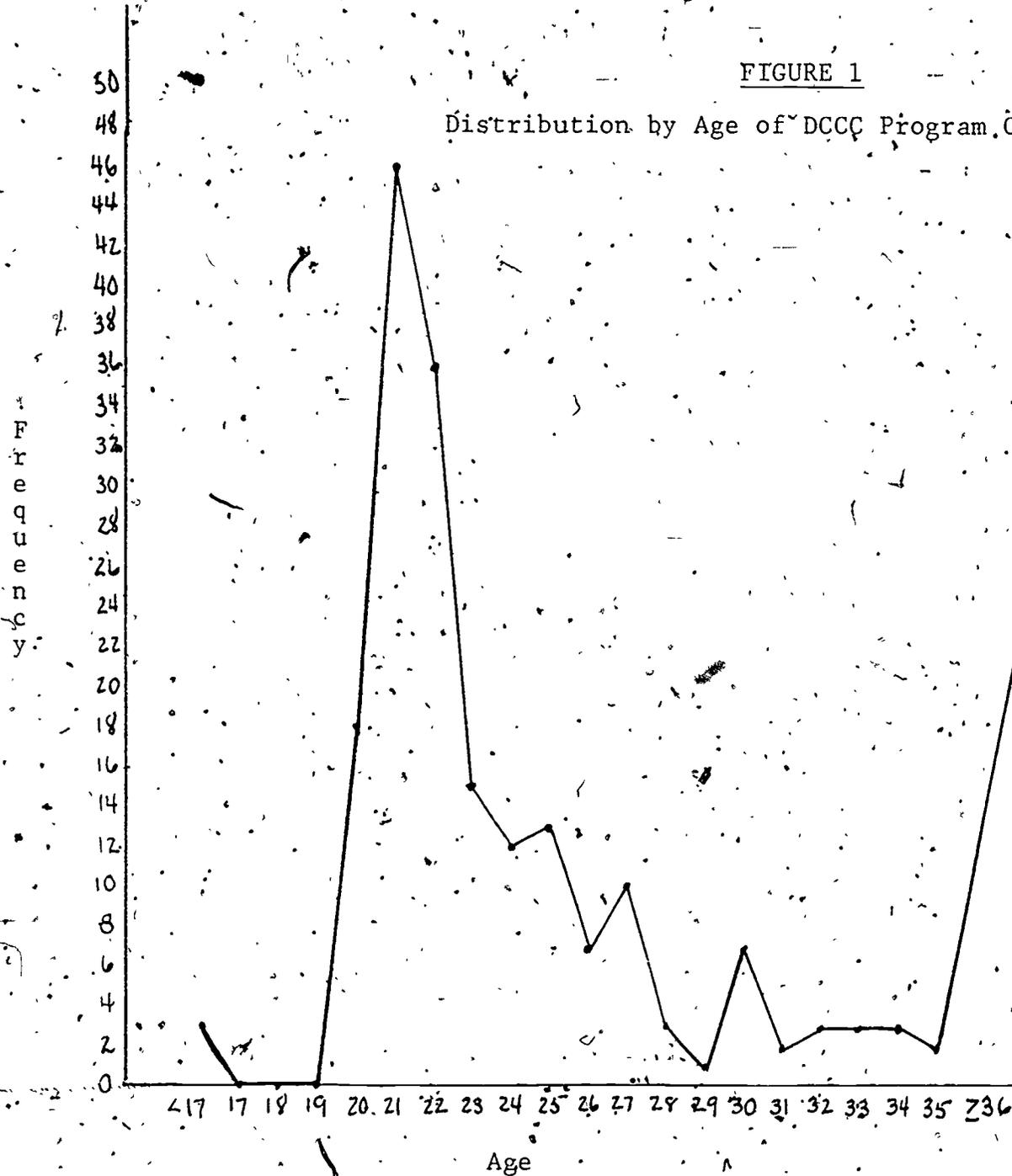
The final survey item is an open ended question asking for comments and suggestions from the graduates. Comments from DCCC graduates will be included in Part II of this report.

List of Participating Colleges

- DCCC - Delaware County Community College
- BCCC - Bucks County Community College
- MCCC - Montgomery County Community College
- HACC - Harrisburg Area Community College
- CCP - Community College of Philadelphia
- CCAC - Community College of Allegheny County
- RACC - Reading Area Community College
- WCCC - Westmoreland County Community College
- CCBC - Community College of Beaver County
- LCCC - Lehigh County Community College
- NCACC - Northampton County Area Community College

FIGURE 1

Distribution by Age of DCCC Program Completers



Age

FIGURE 4

Median Age of Program Completers
All Pennsylvania Community Colleges

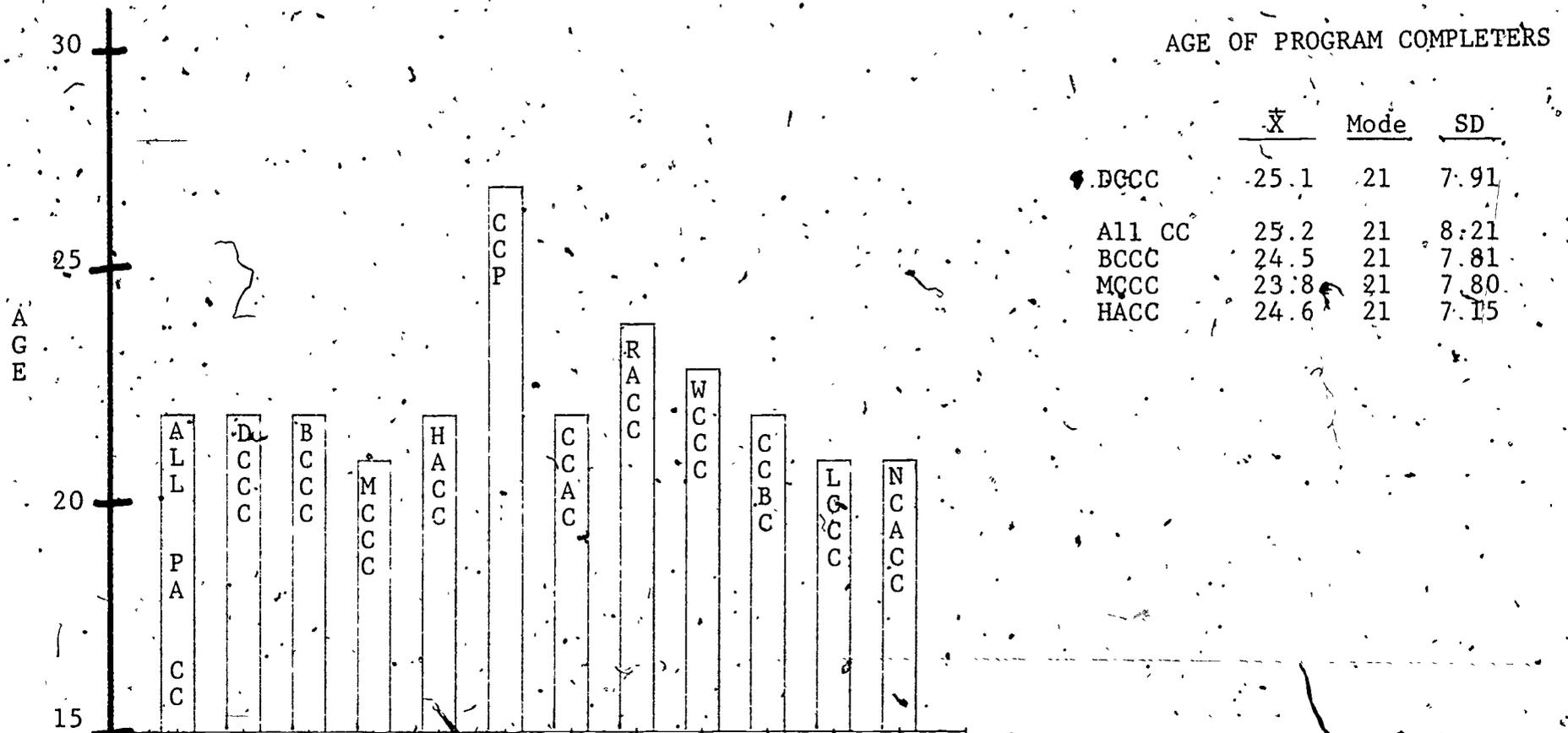


FIGURE 5

Percentage of Male & Female Program Completers

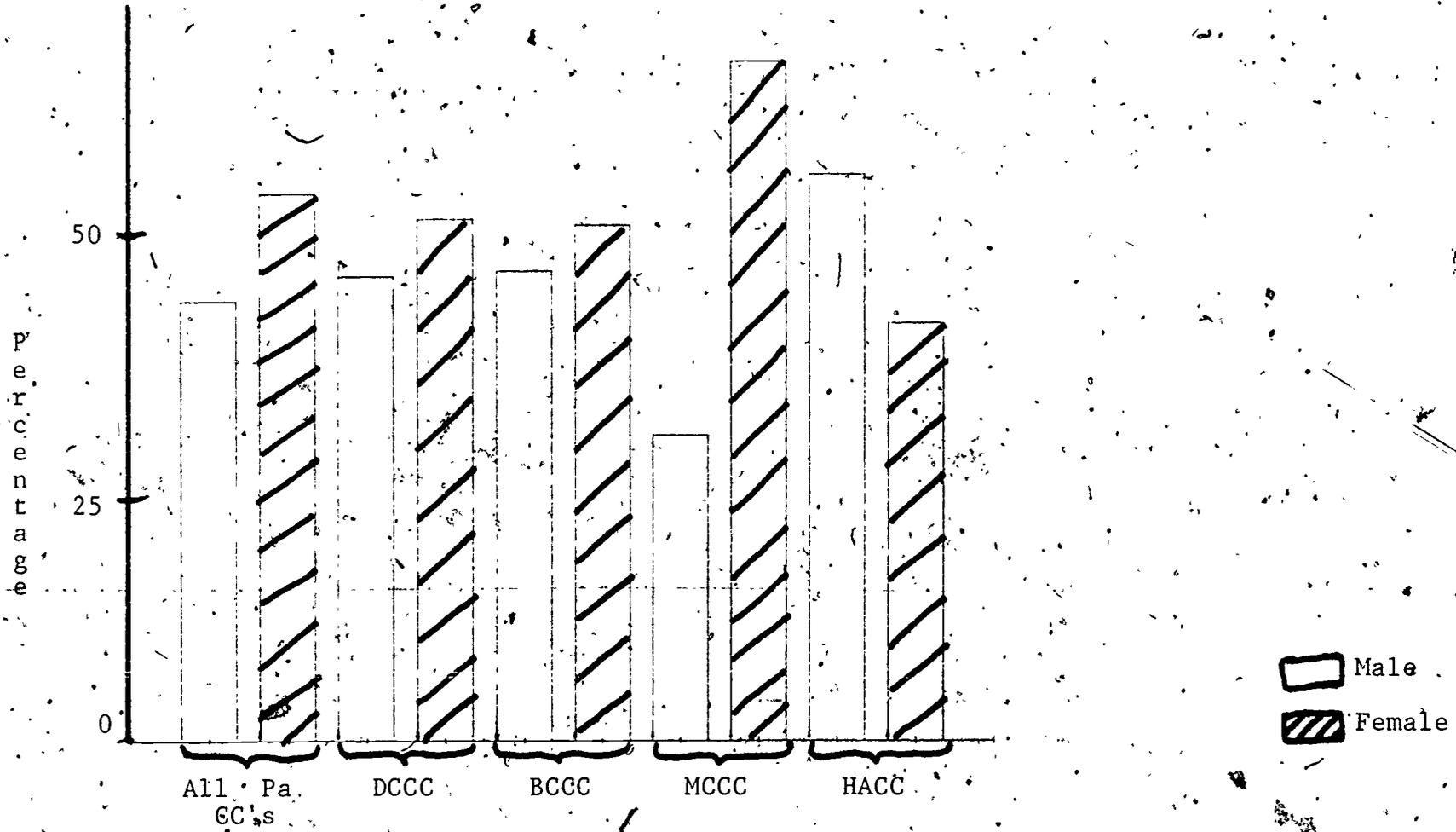


FIGURE 5-A

Percentage of Female Program Completers

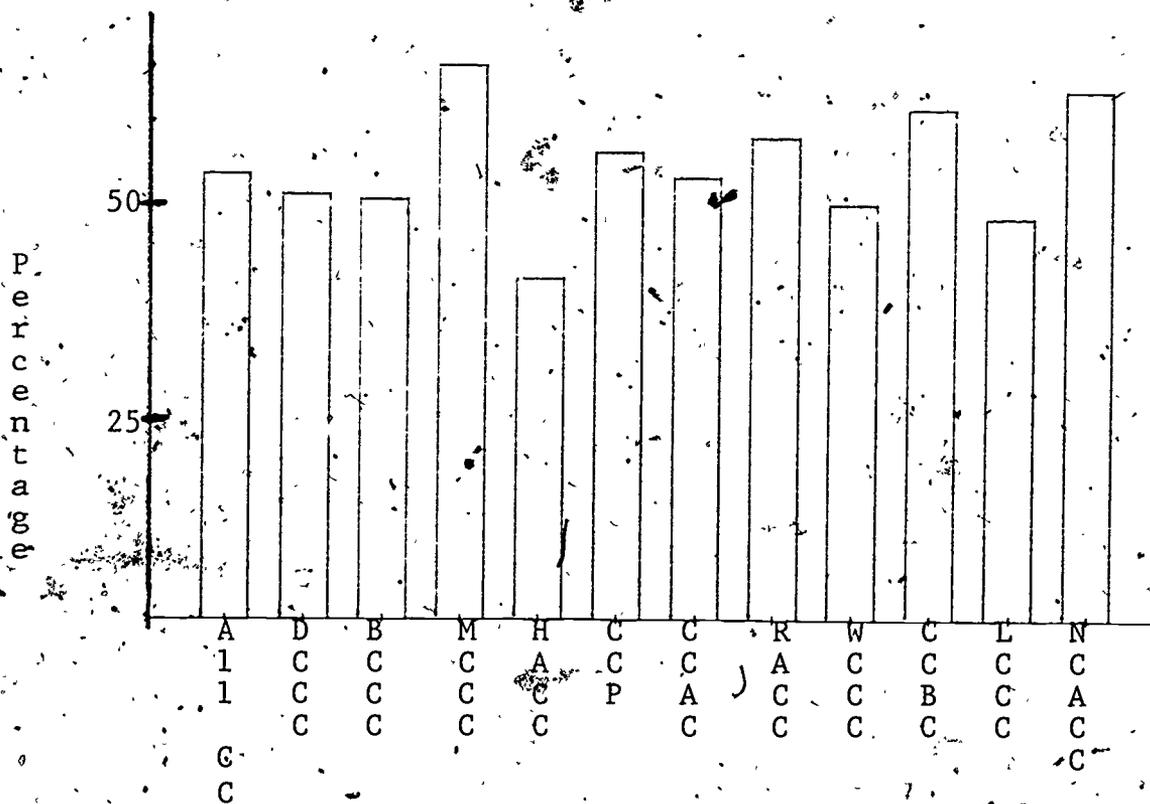


FIGURE 5-B

Percentage of Male Program Completers

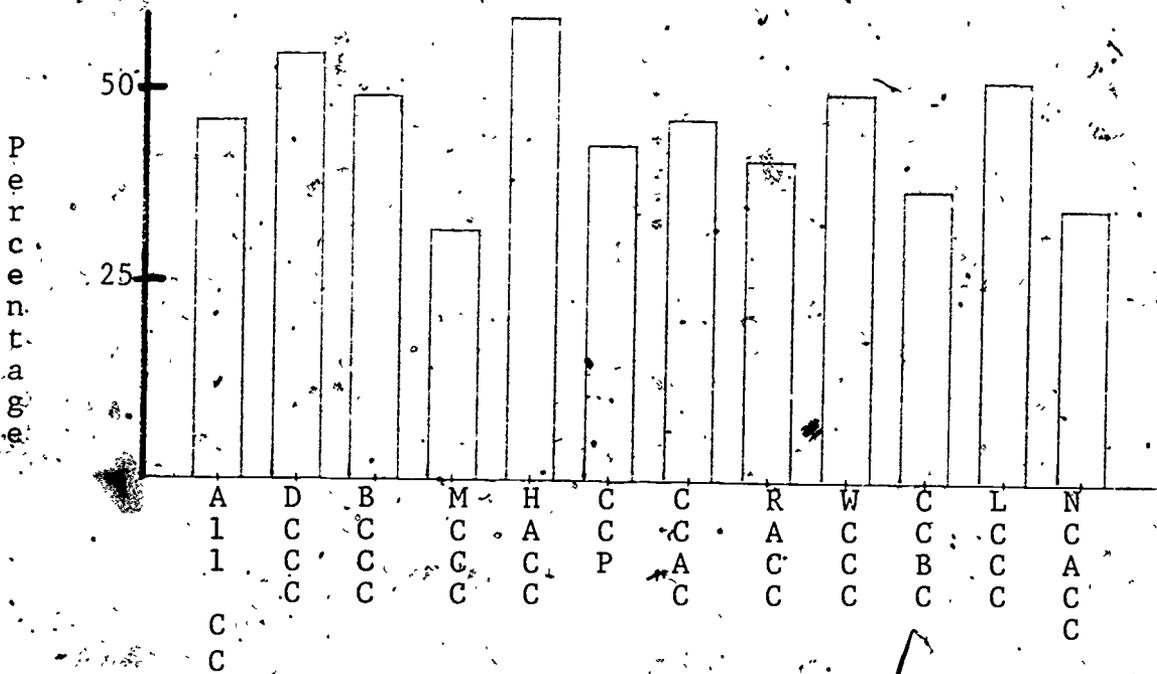
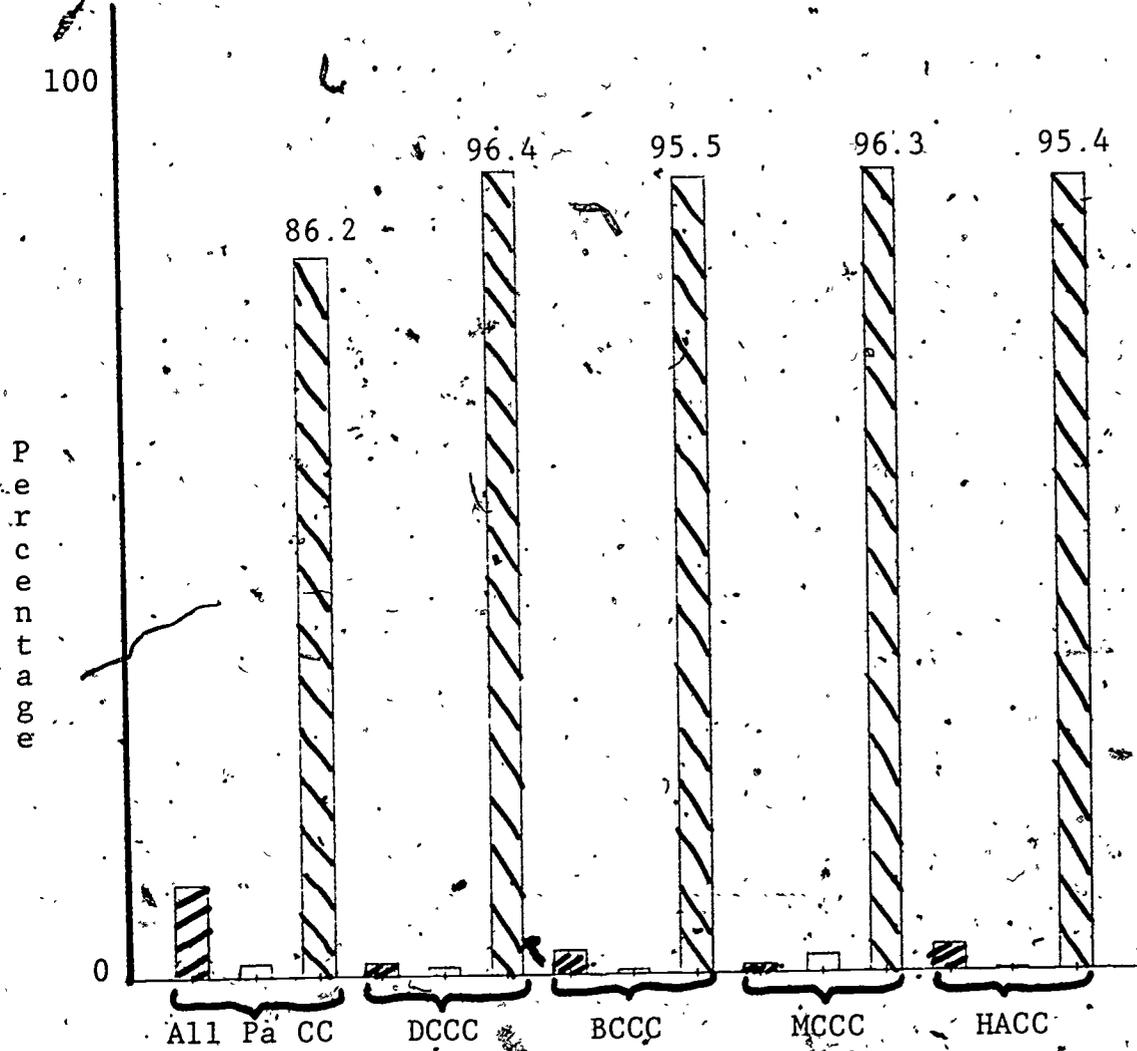


FIGURE 6

Civil Rights Category *

DCCC Civil Rights Category



Category

%

American Indian, Alaska Native	0
Asian, Pacific Islander	1.0
Black, Negro	1.6
Hispanic	1.0
White, not Hispanic	96.4

-  Black, Negro
-  Hispanic
-  White, Not Hispanic

Only three (3) civil rights categories have been included, percentage of other categories are too small to be represented graphically. 17

FIGURE 6-A

Percentage of Program Completers Indicating Other Than White, Non-Hispanic Civil Rights Category

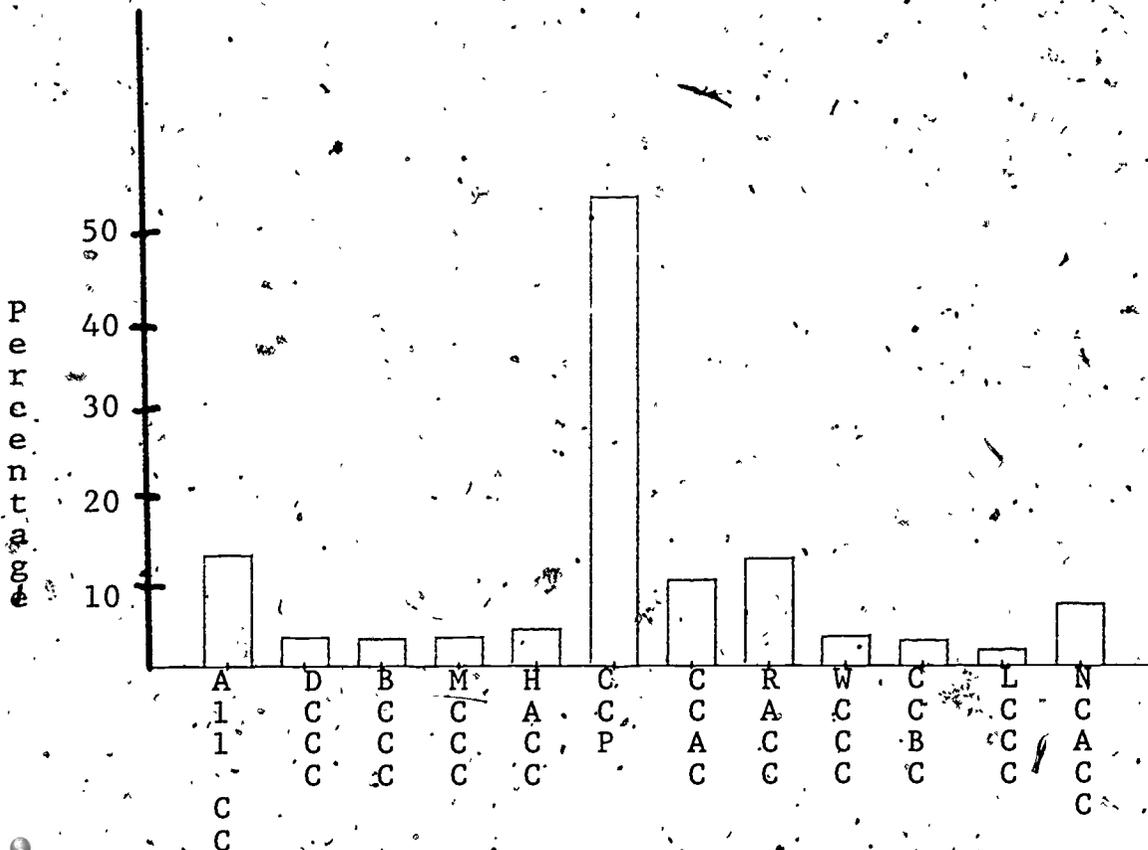


FIGURE 7

Type of Degree or Certificate

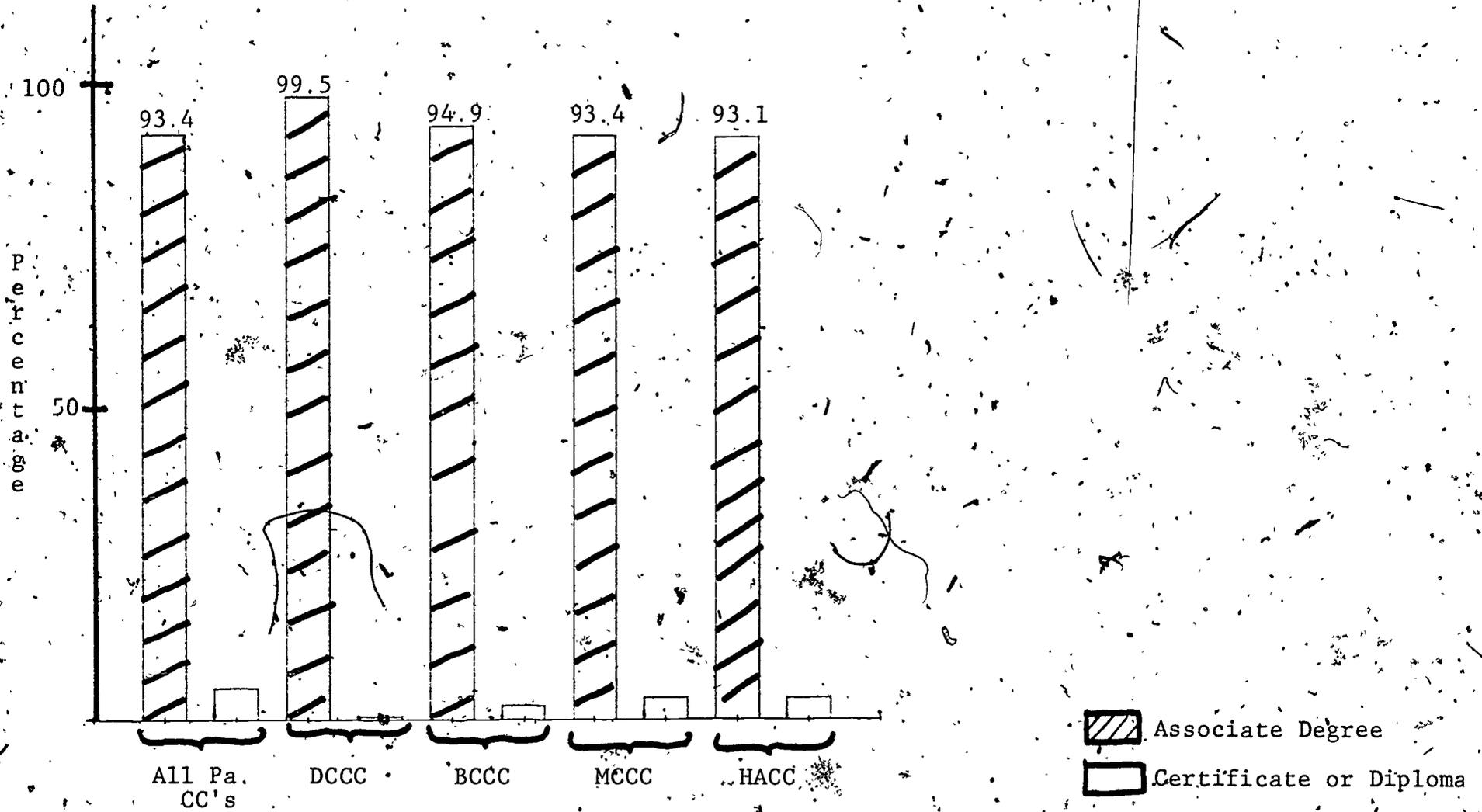


FIGURE 7-A

Percentage of Program Completers
Receiving Associate Degrees

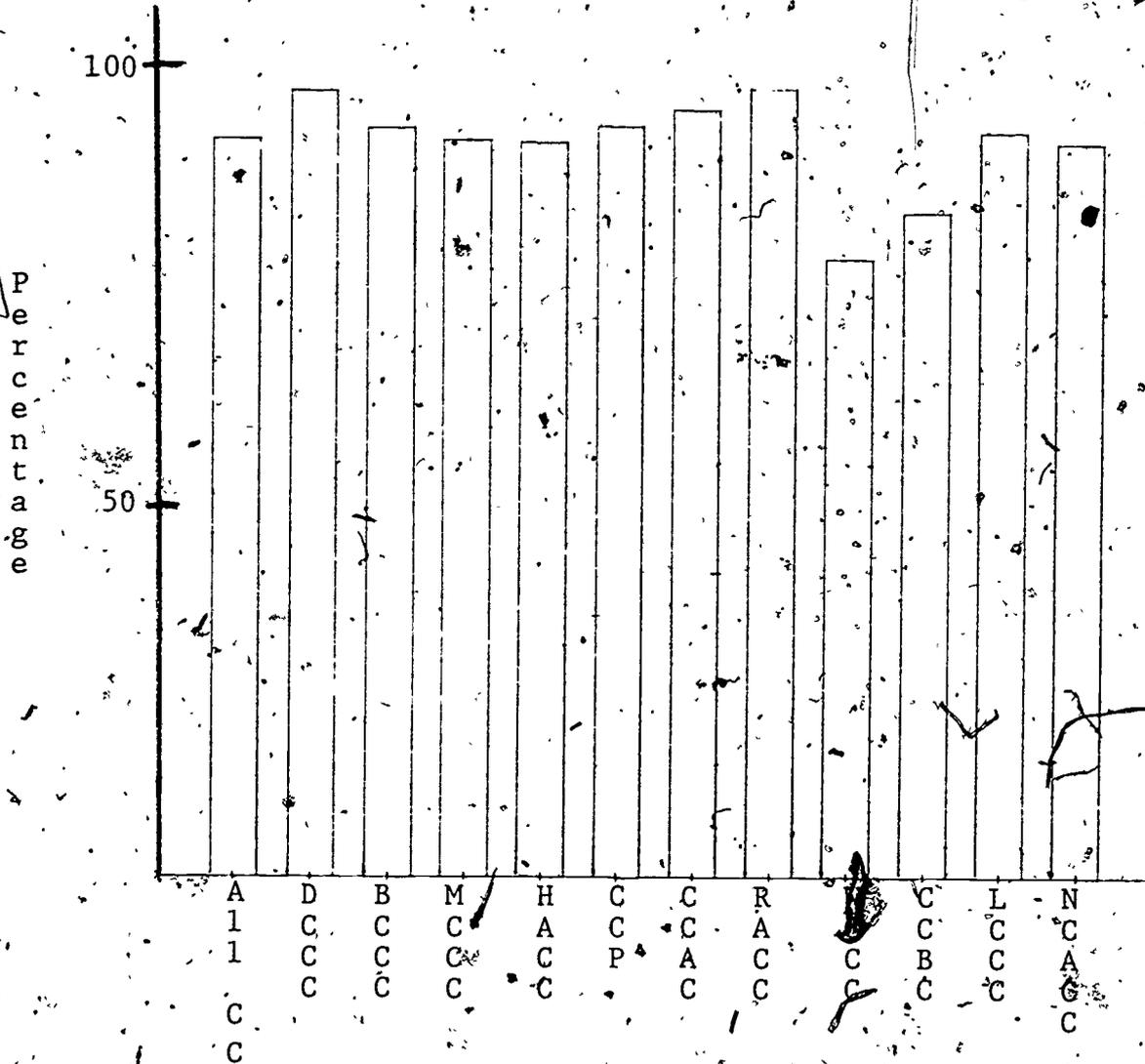
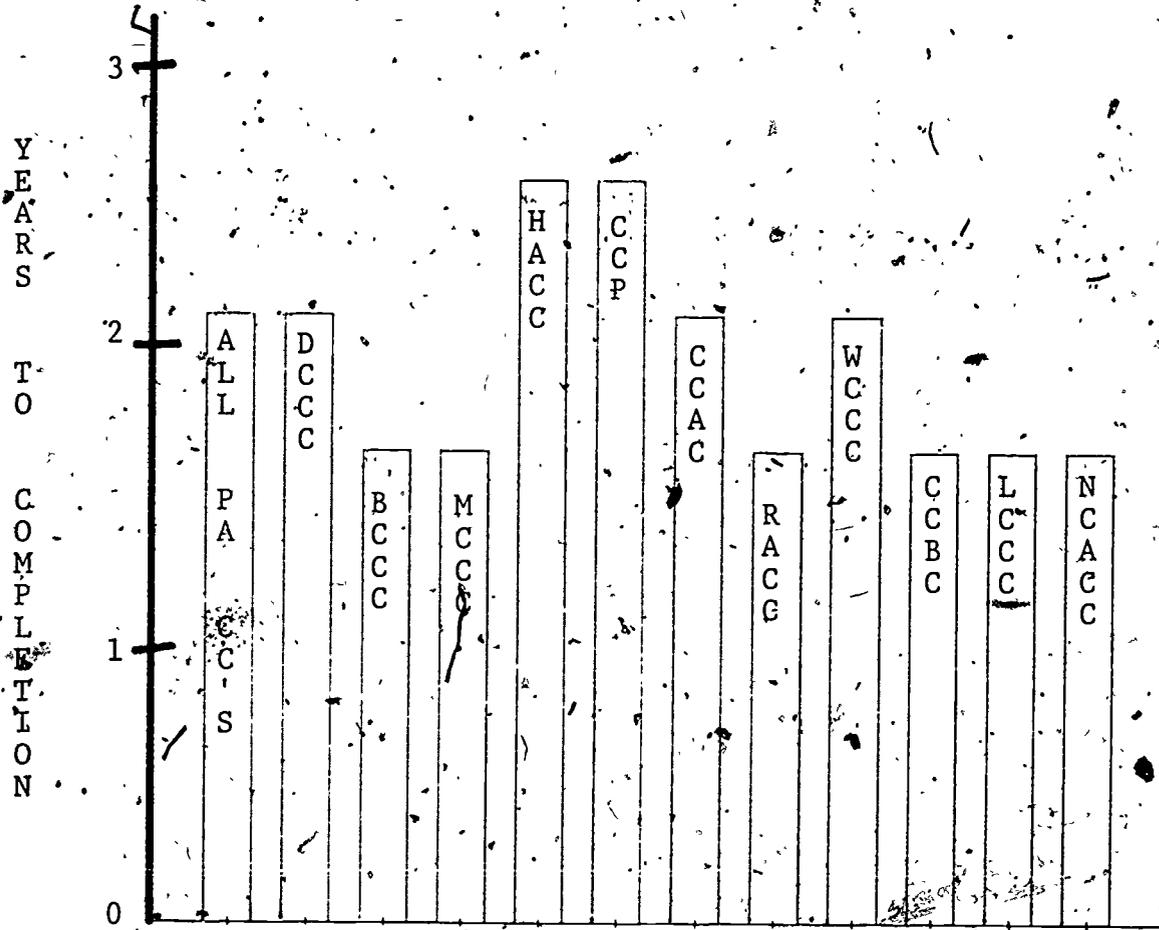


FIGURE 8

Median Years To Program Completion



	\bar{X}	SD	Median
DCCO	2.8	1.33	2.25
All CC	2.8	2.59	2.25
BCCC	2.9	4.02	1.75
MCCC	2.4	1.08	1.75
HACC	3.2	1.91	2.75

FIGURE 9

Percentage of Students Entering with Transfer Credits

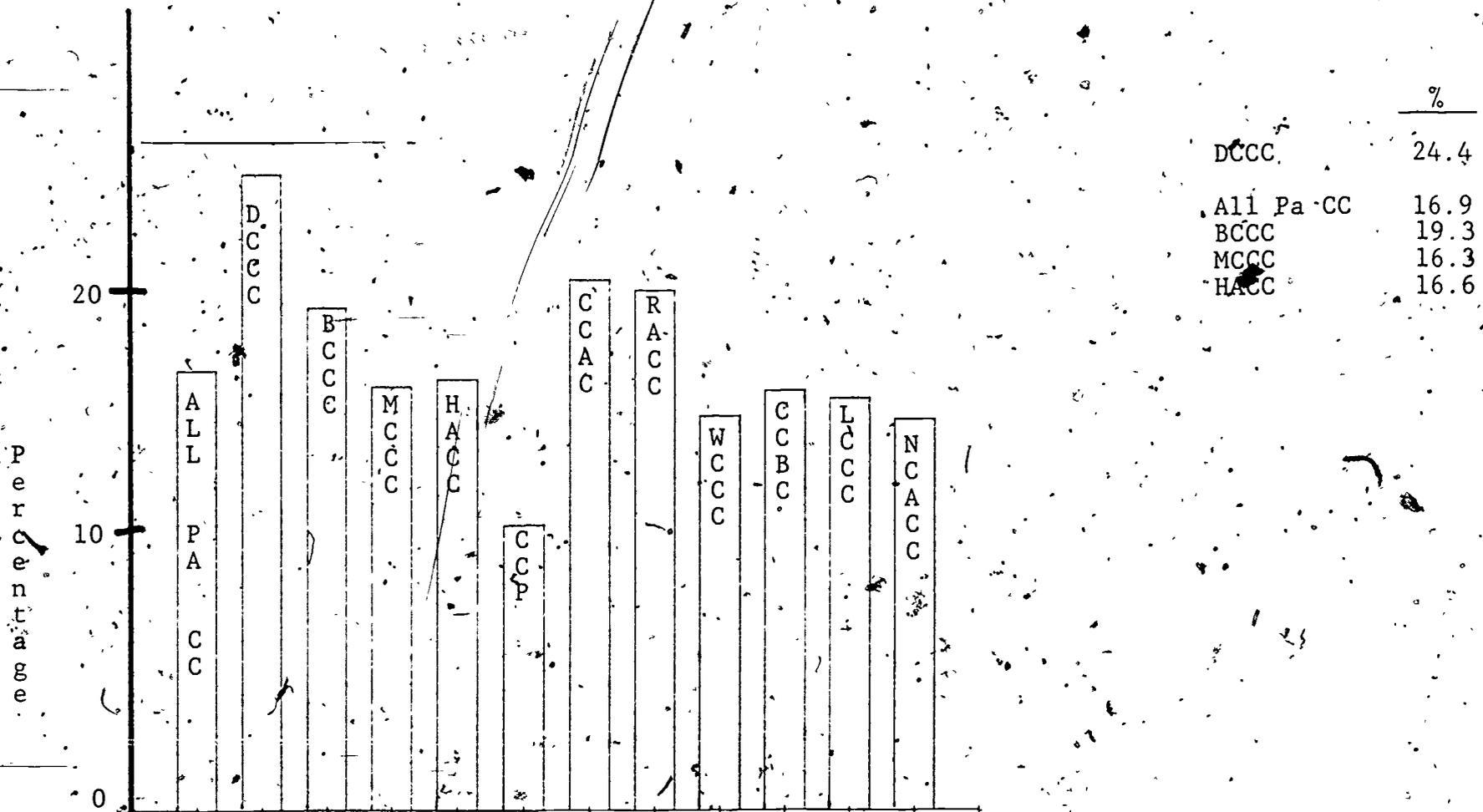
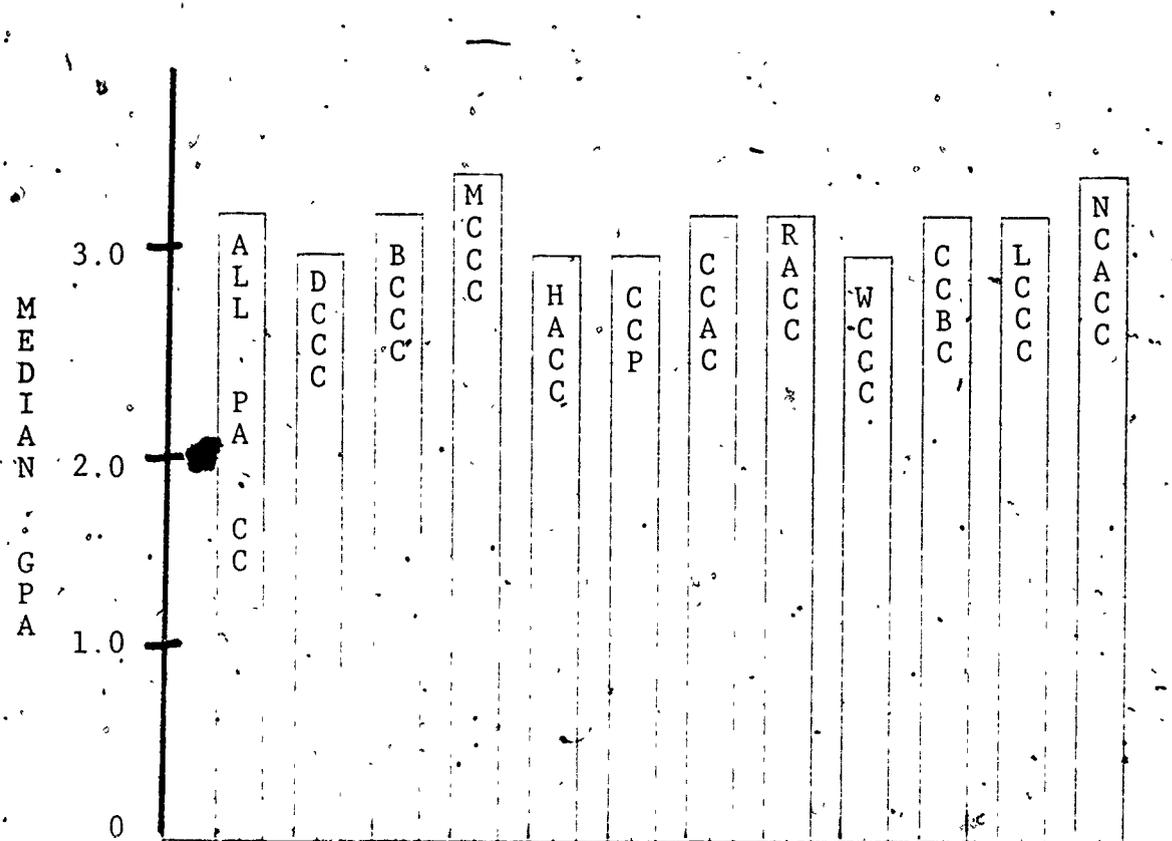


FIGURE 10

Median Grade Point Average (GPA)



	\bar{X}	SD	Median
DCCC	3.0	.45	2.9
All Pa CC	3.0	.49	3.1
BCCC	3.0	.70	3.1
MCCC	3.2	.46	3.3
HACC	2.9	.45	2.9

FIGURE 10-A

GPA Distribution for DCCC Program Completers

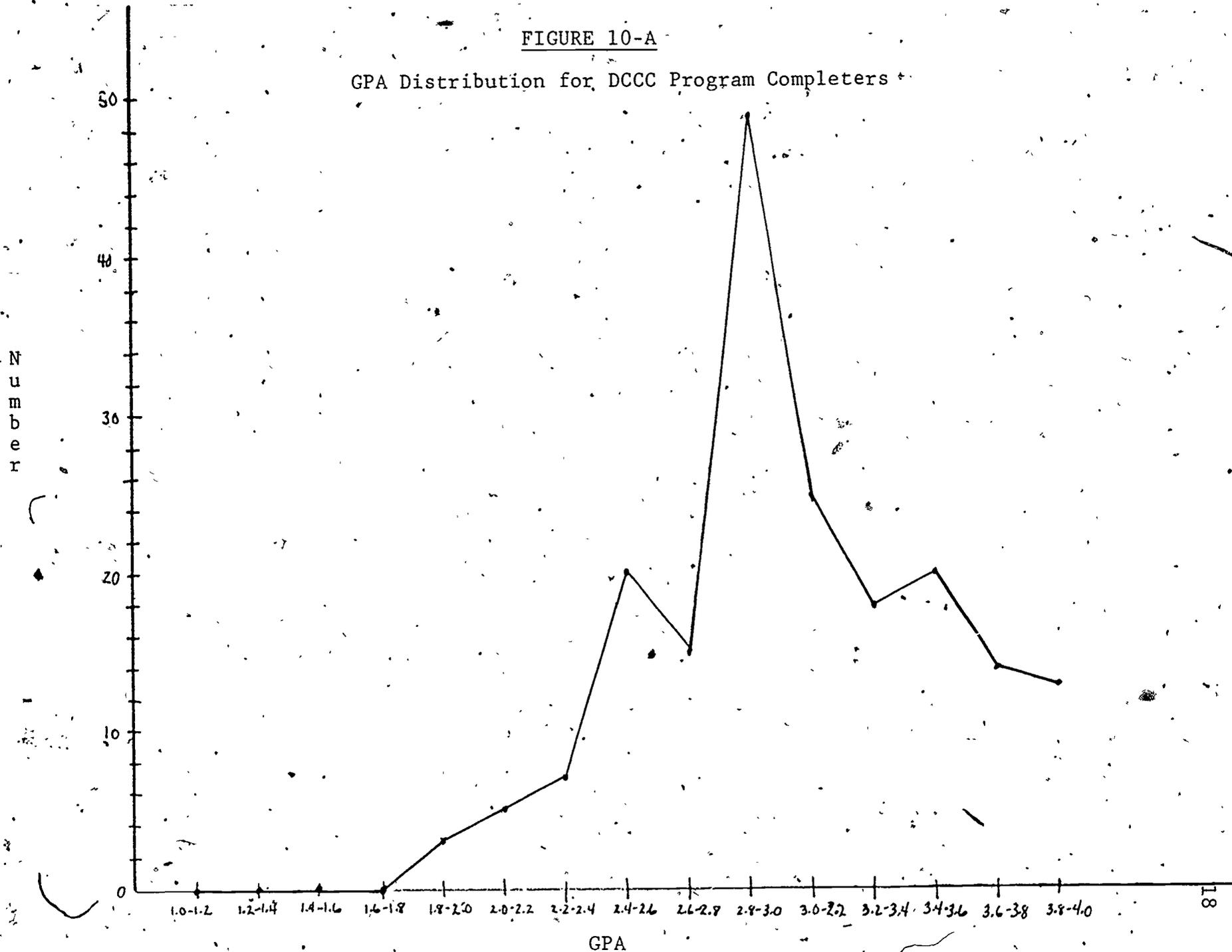
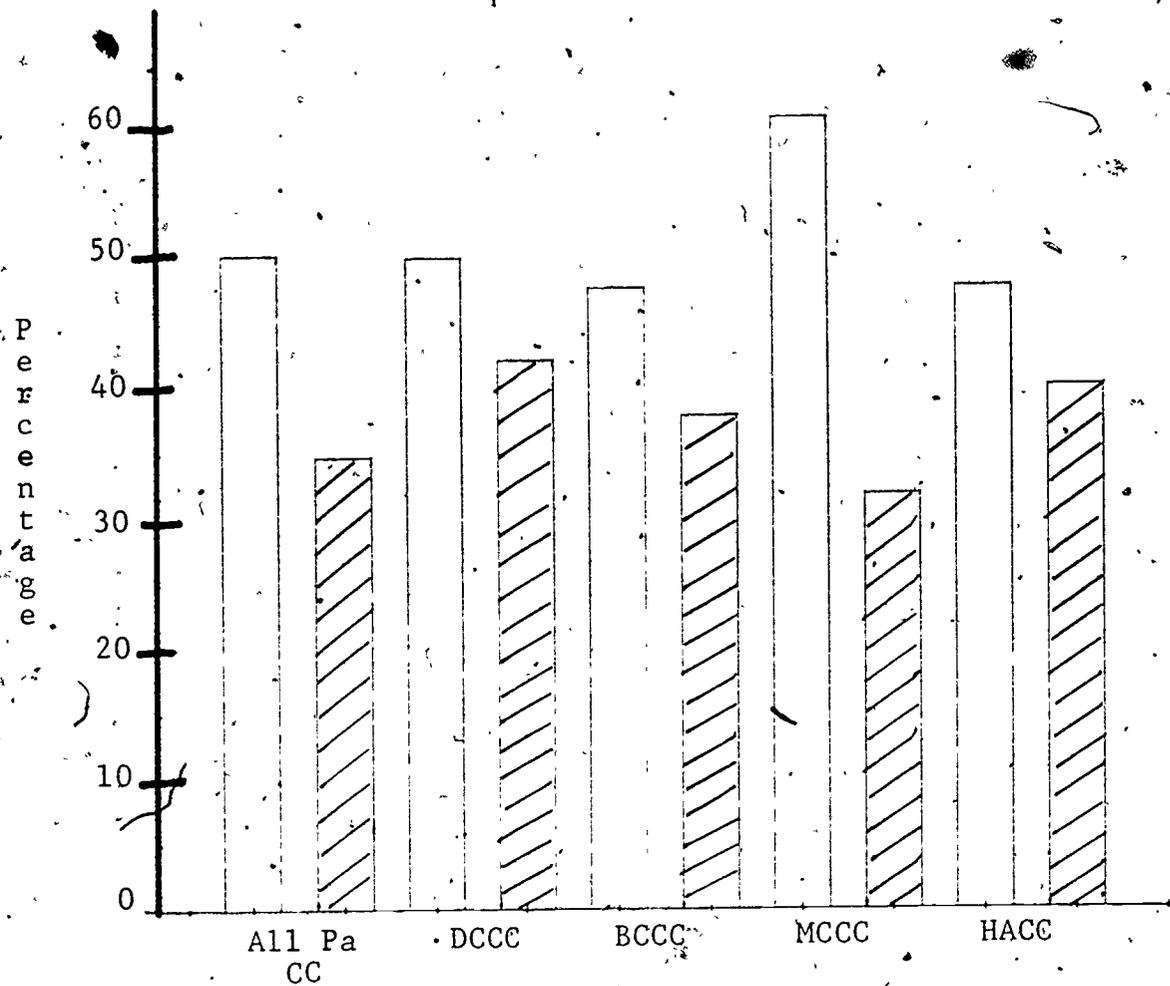


FIGURE 11

Percentage Enrolled as Only Full-time or
a Combination of Full-time and Part-time



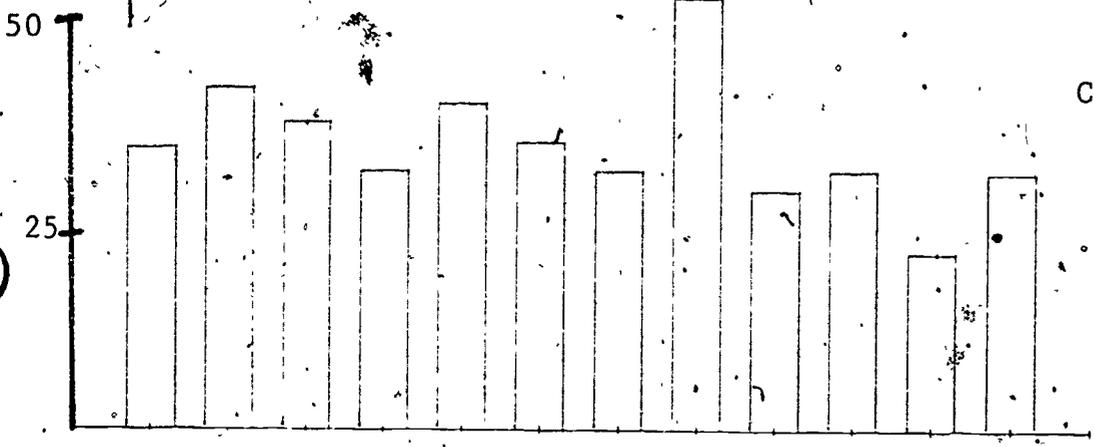
	#	%
Full-time only	102	50.0
Part-time only	16	7.8
Full-time & Part-time	86	42.2
No Response	5	2.4

Full-time Only
 Enrolled as both Full-time & Part-time

FIGURE 11-A

Characteristics of Enrollment

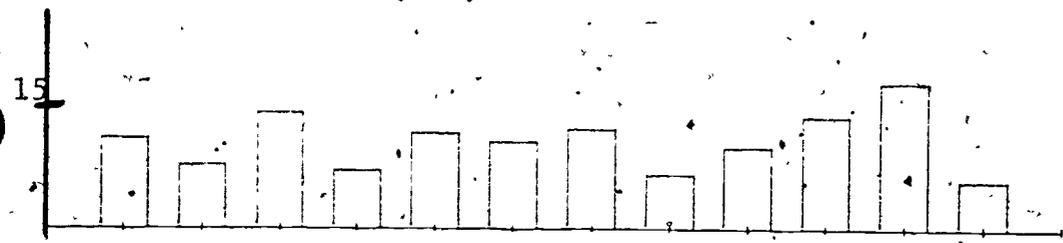
1



1

Represents % of program completers who attended both part- and full-time

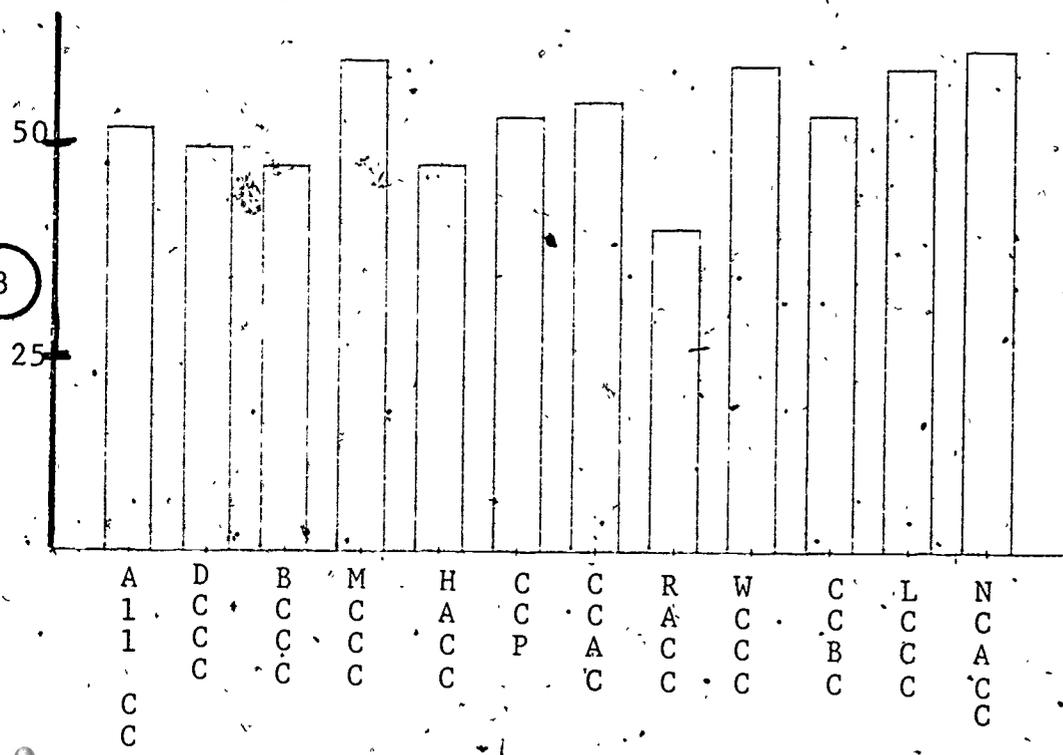
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2

Represents % of program completers who attended only part-time

3

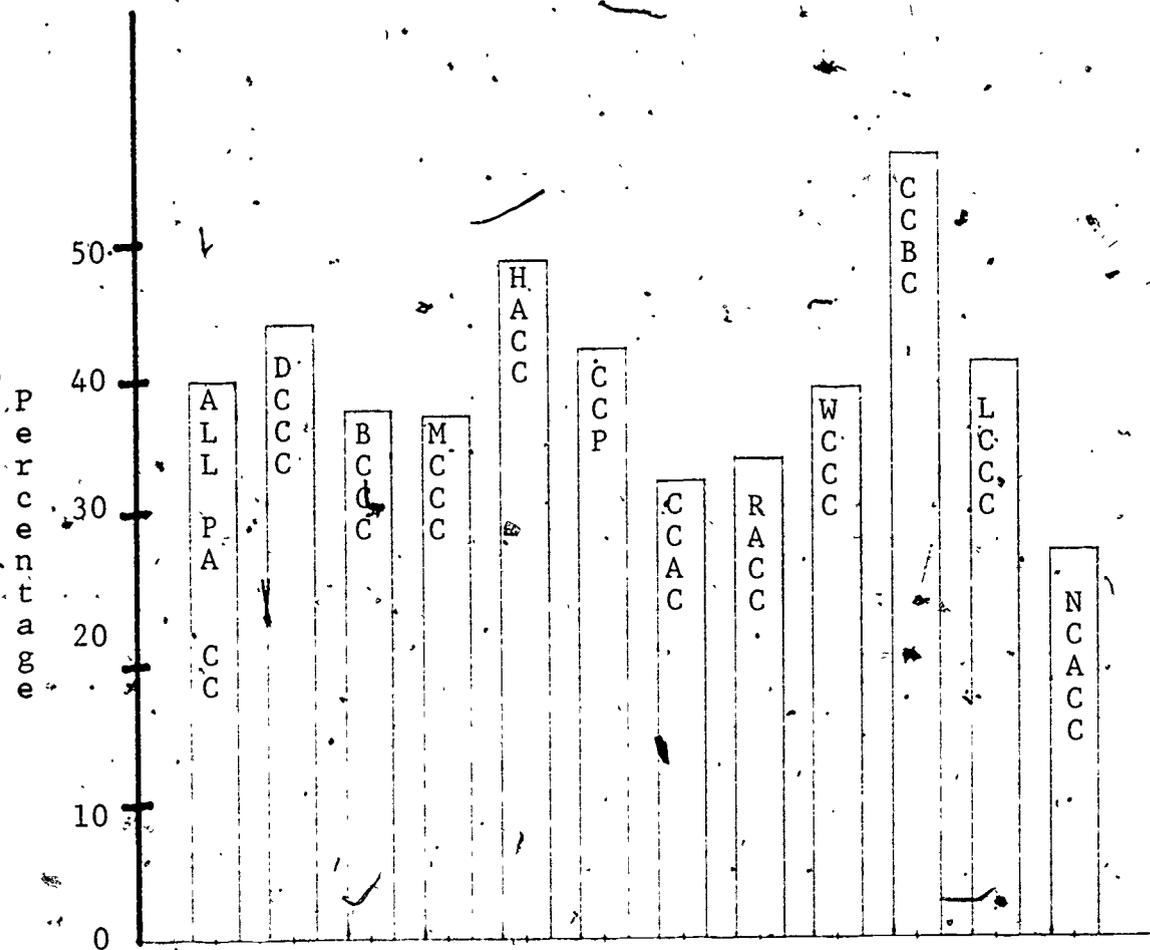


3

Represents % of program completers who were only full-time students

FIGURE 12-A

PROGRAM COMPLETERS WHO CURRENTLY HAVE JOBS



12. Are you currently working at or have you secured a full-time job (35 hours or more a week) in which you plan to work once you complete your current degree or certificate program here?

- Yes
- No, but I am looking for one
- No, but I intend to look for one within the next 6 months
- No, and I do not intend to look for one within the next 6 months

FIGURE 12-B

Percentage of Program Completers Who Do Not Have A Job and Do Not Plan To Look For A Job

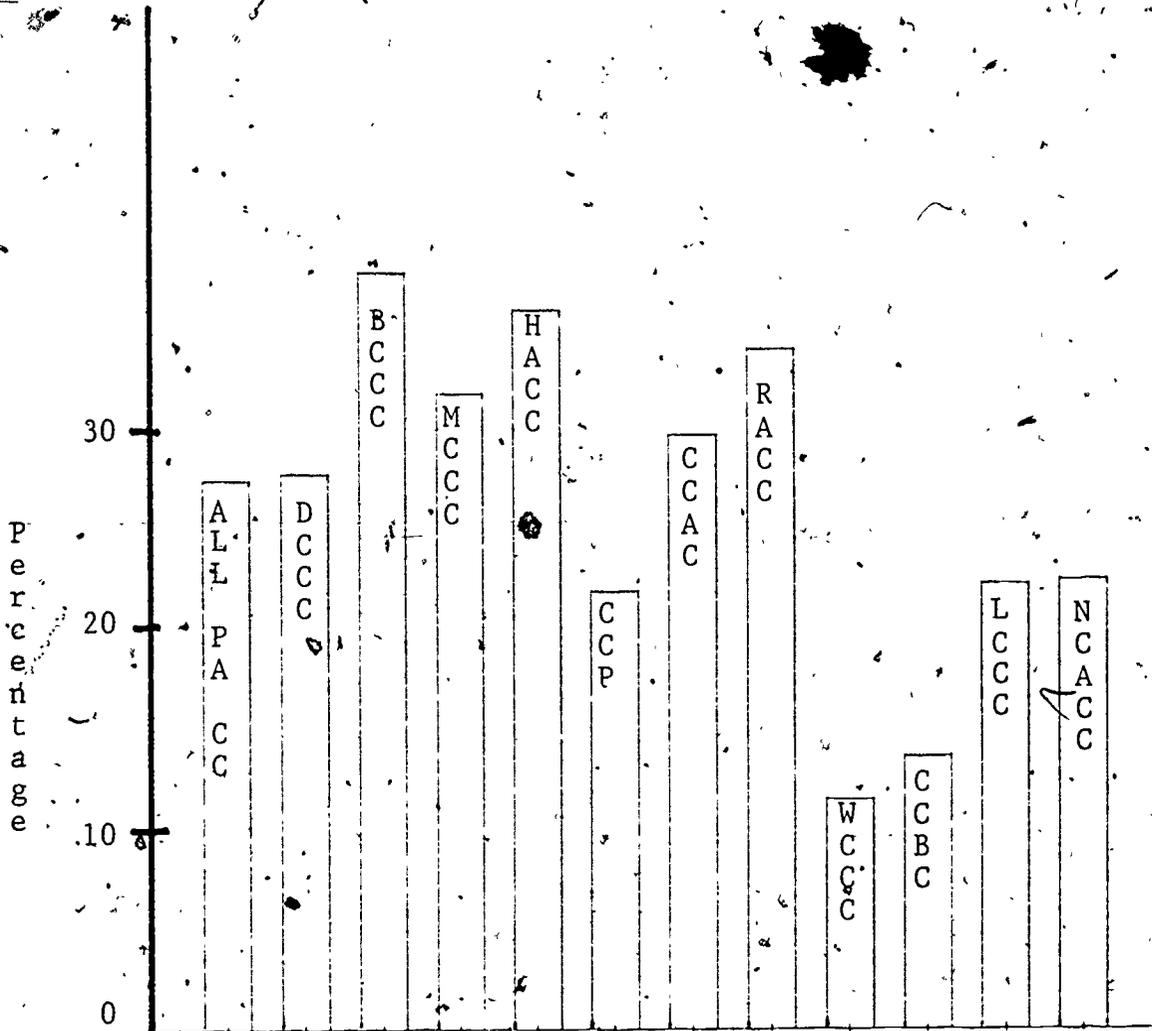
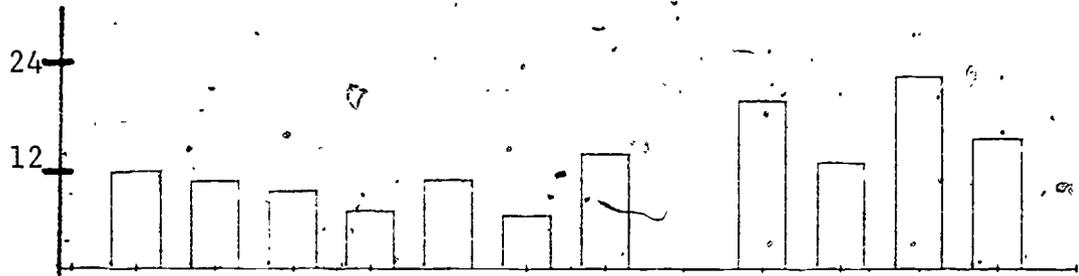


FIGURE 13

Percentage Who Regard Job as Temporary

1

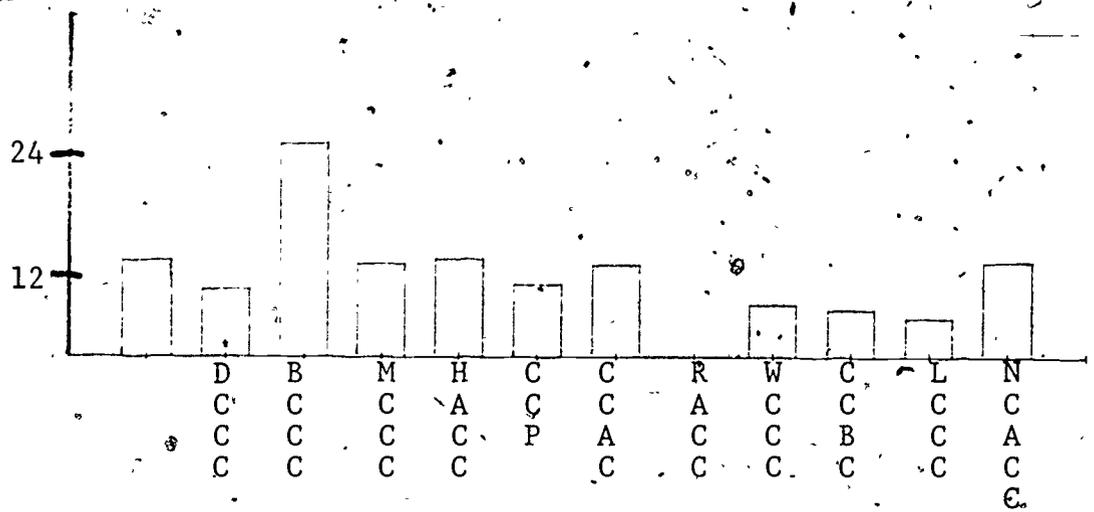


1

Percentage who regard job as temporary until something better can be found

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2



2

Percentage who regard job as a means to earn money to do something else

FIGURE 13-A.

Percentage Regarding Present Job as One
With Possible or Definite Career Potential

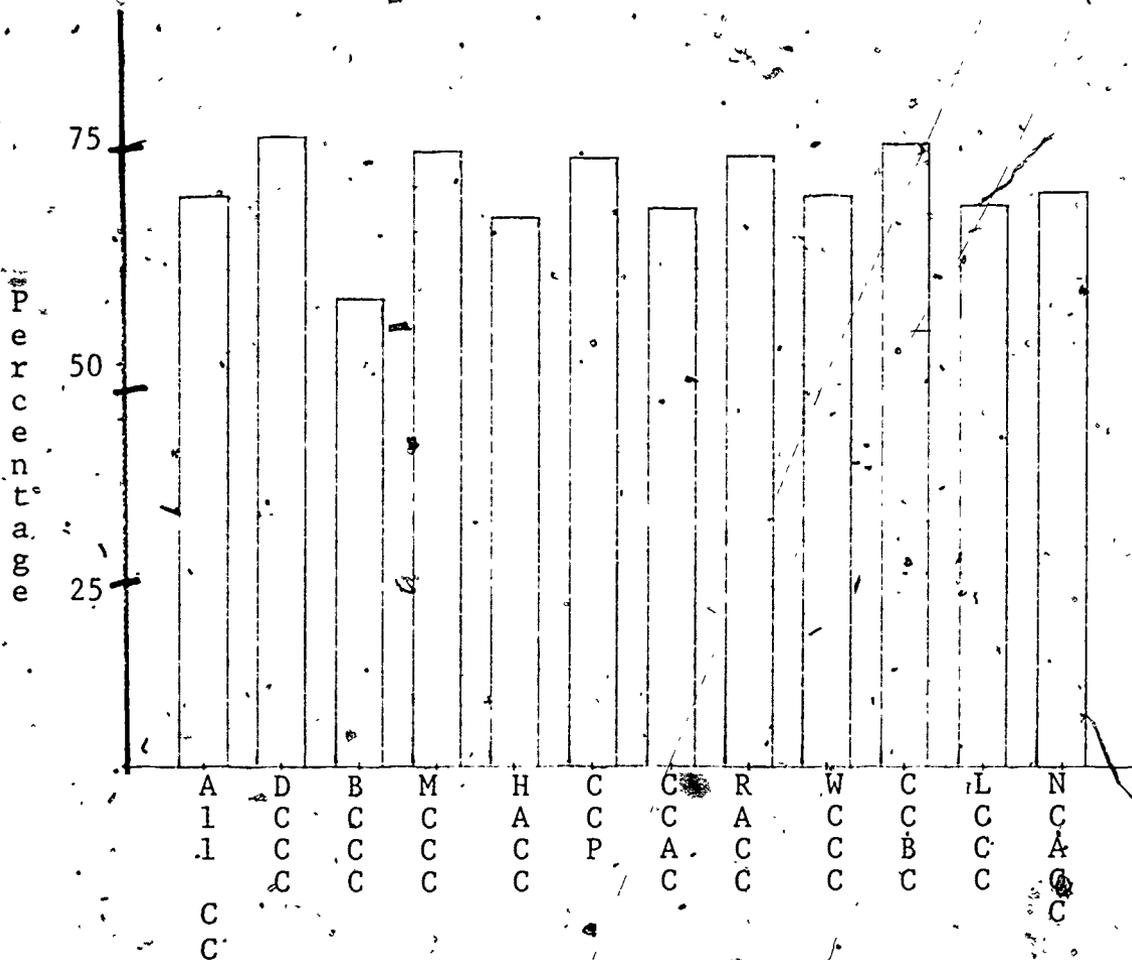
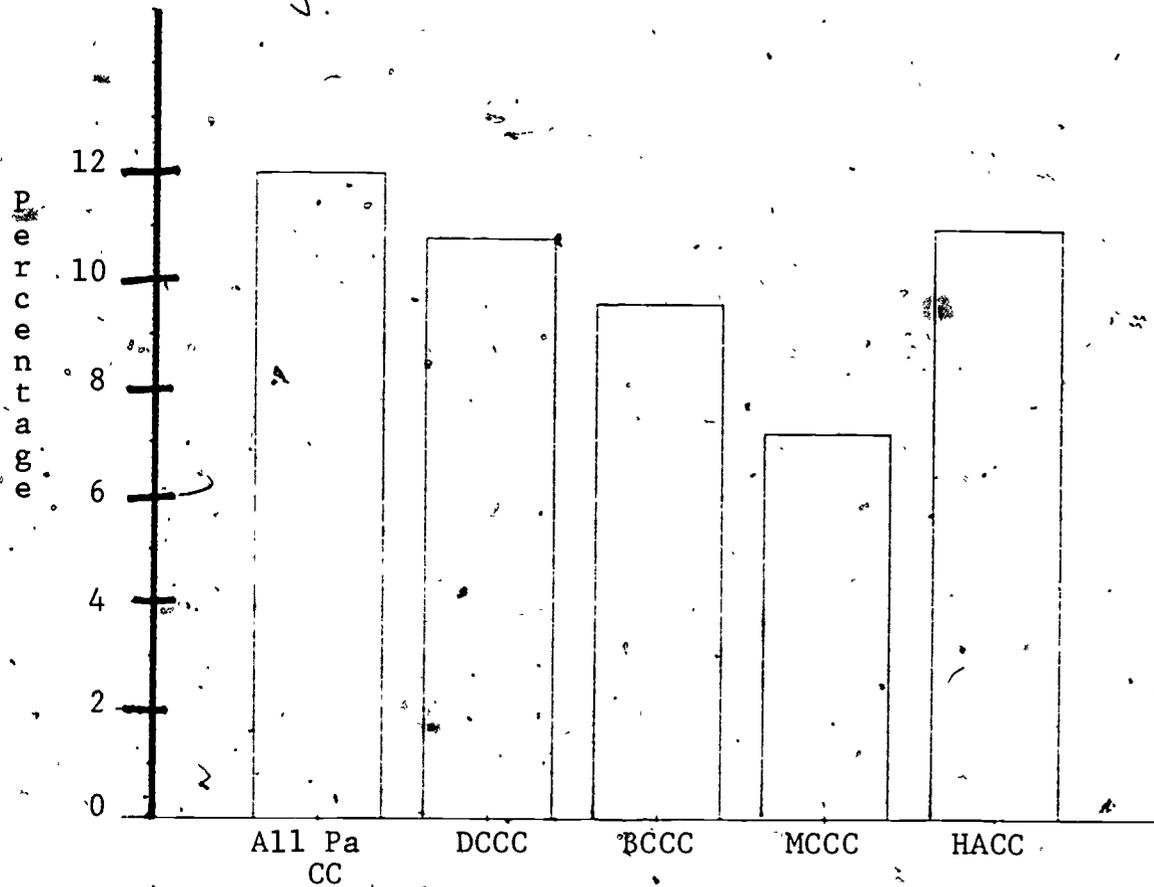


FIGURE 14-A

Percentage Who Regard Present Job as Temporary



14. Which of the following statements best describes how you regard this job at this time?

- Temporary job until a better one can be found
- Temporary job while waiting to report to a new job
- Temporary job to earn money to do something else
- Job with possible career potential
- Job with definite career potential
- Other

FIGURE 14-B

Percentage Regarding Job as Means to Earn Money to do Something Else

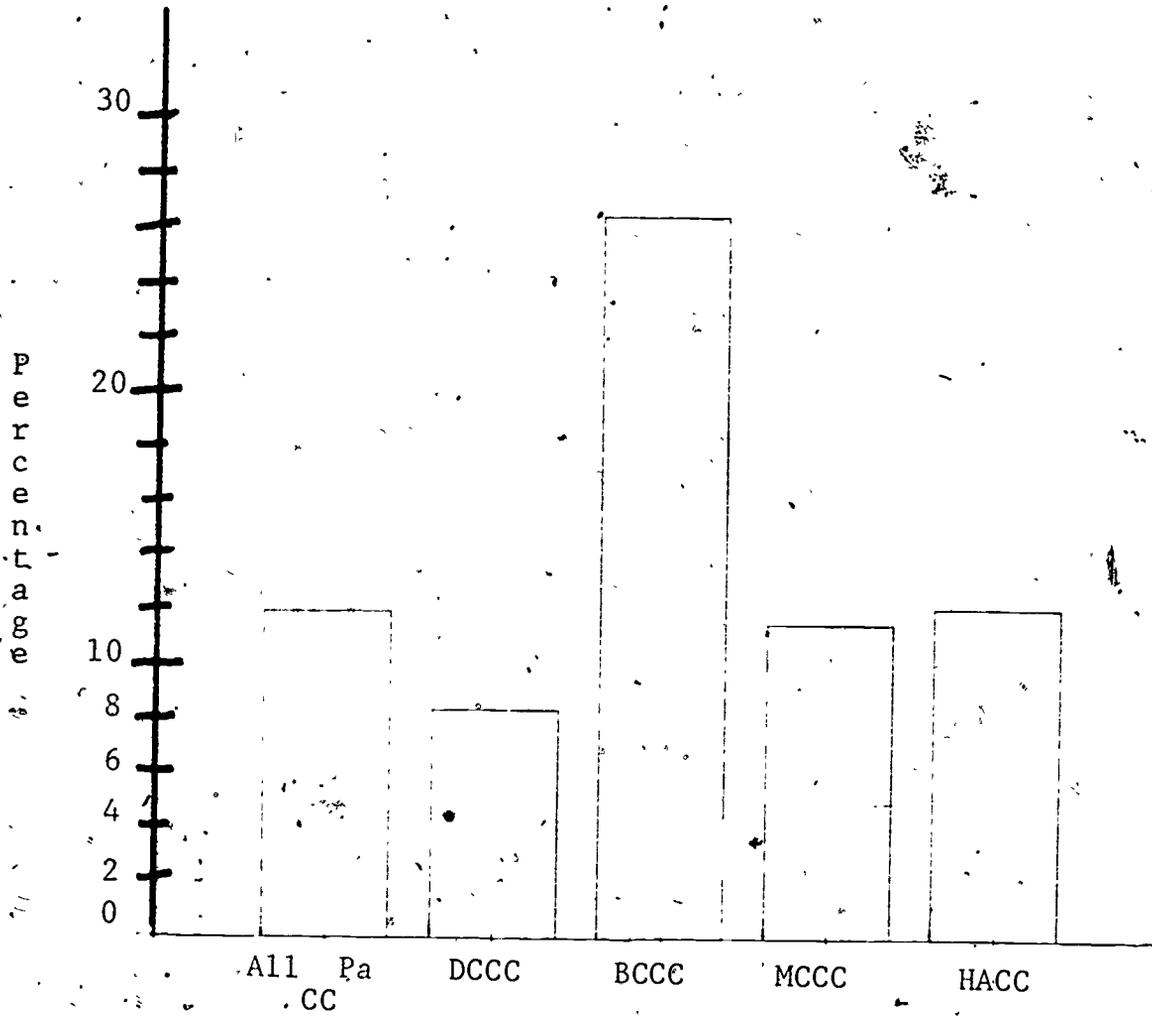


FIGURE 14-C

Percentage Regarding Job as a Position
With Possible or Definite Career Potential

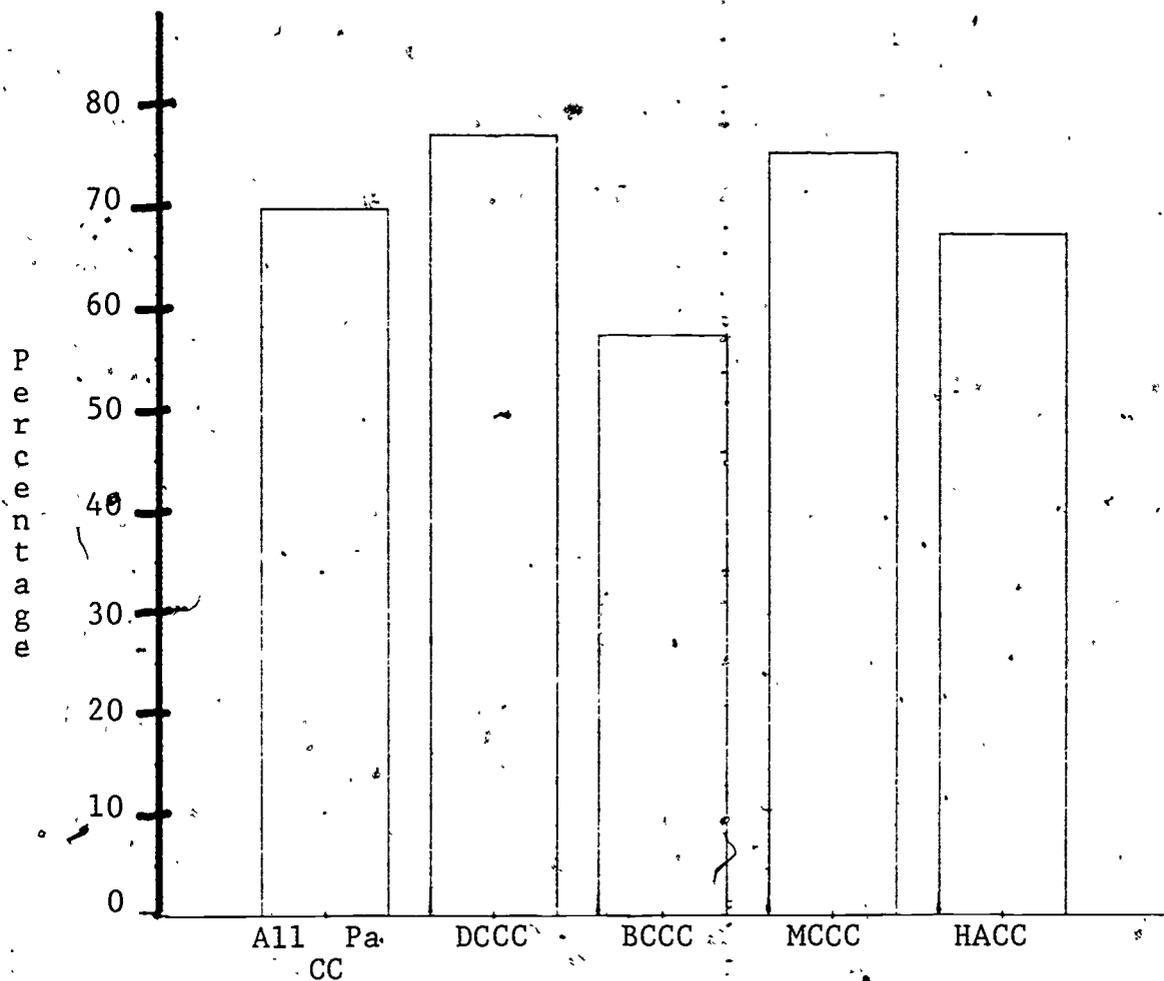
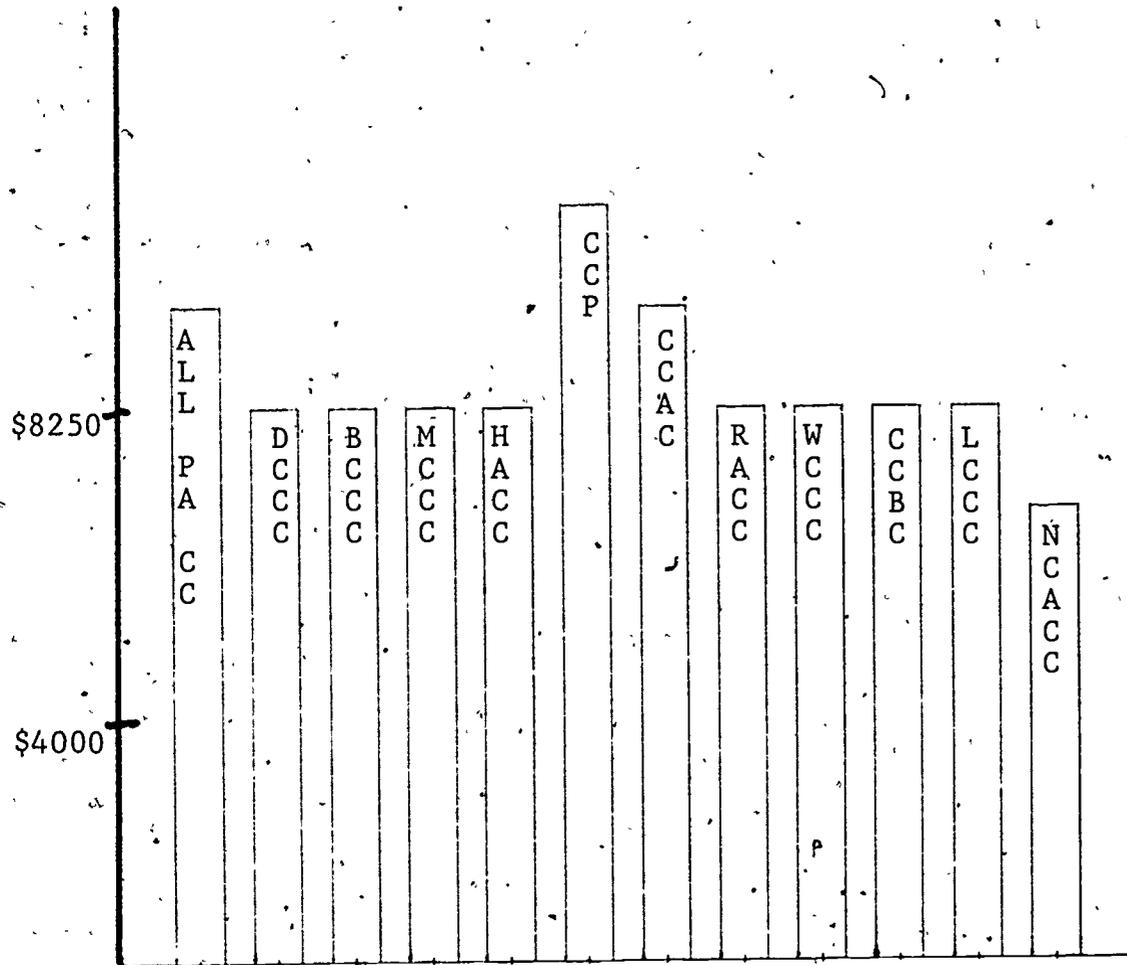


FIGURE 15

Median Annual Salary of Program Completers

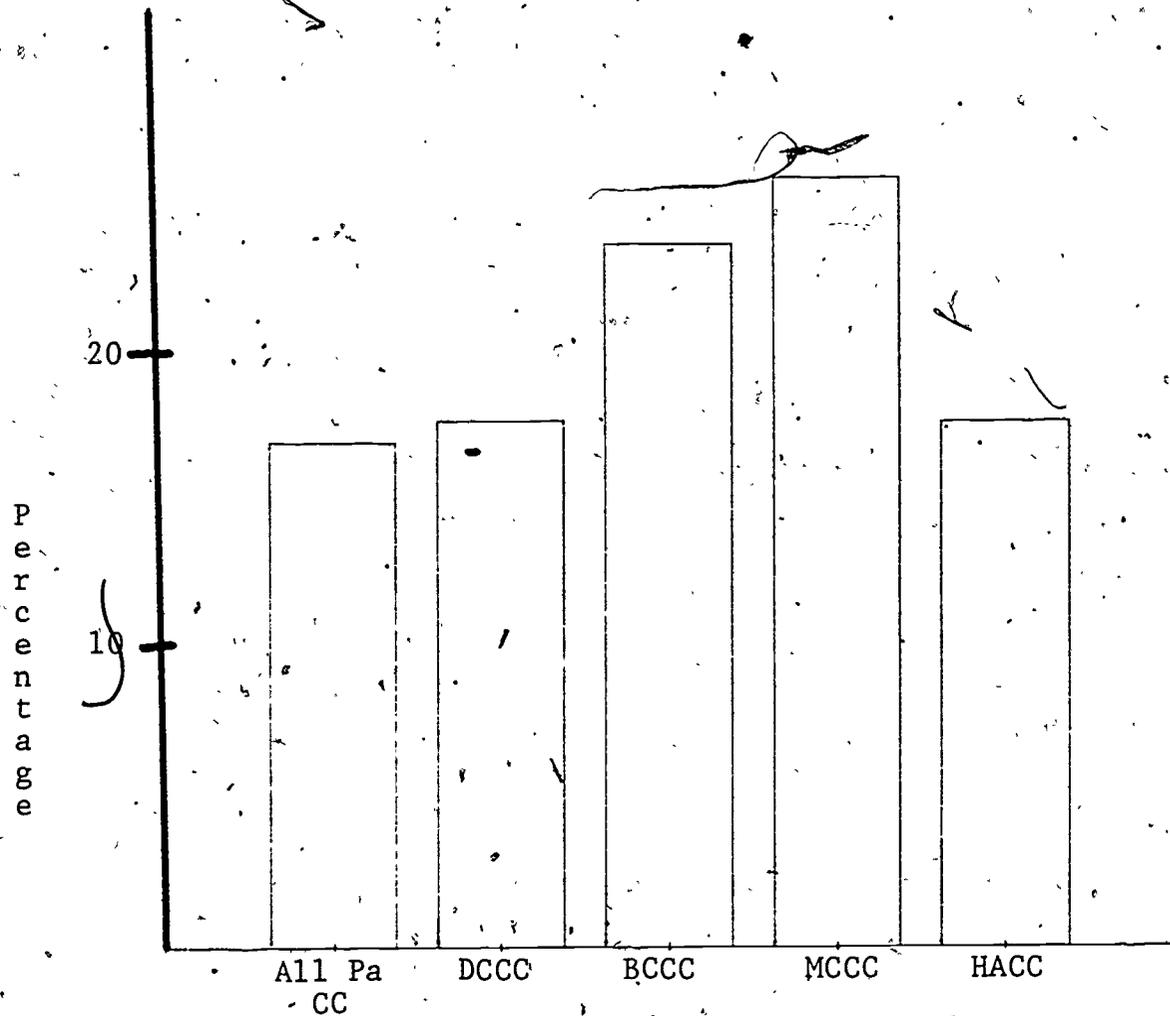


Mean Annual Salary

	\bar{X}	SD
DCCC	\$ 8905	\$ 3086
All PA CC	10363	8279
BCCC	11378	12002
MCCC	9195	3461
HACC	10201	7746

FIGURE 16-A*

Percentage Holding Jobs Not Related
To Major Field of Study



16. To what extent is this job related to the field of study for the degree or certificate you are receiving?

- Not related
- Somewhat related
- Directly related

FIGURE 16-B

Percentage With Jobs Somewhat or Directly Related
to Major Field

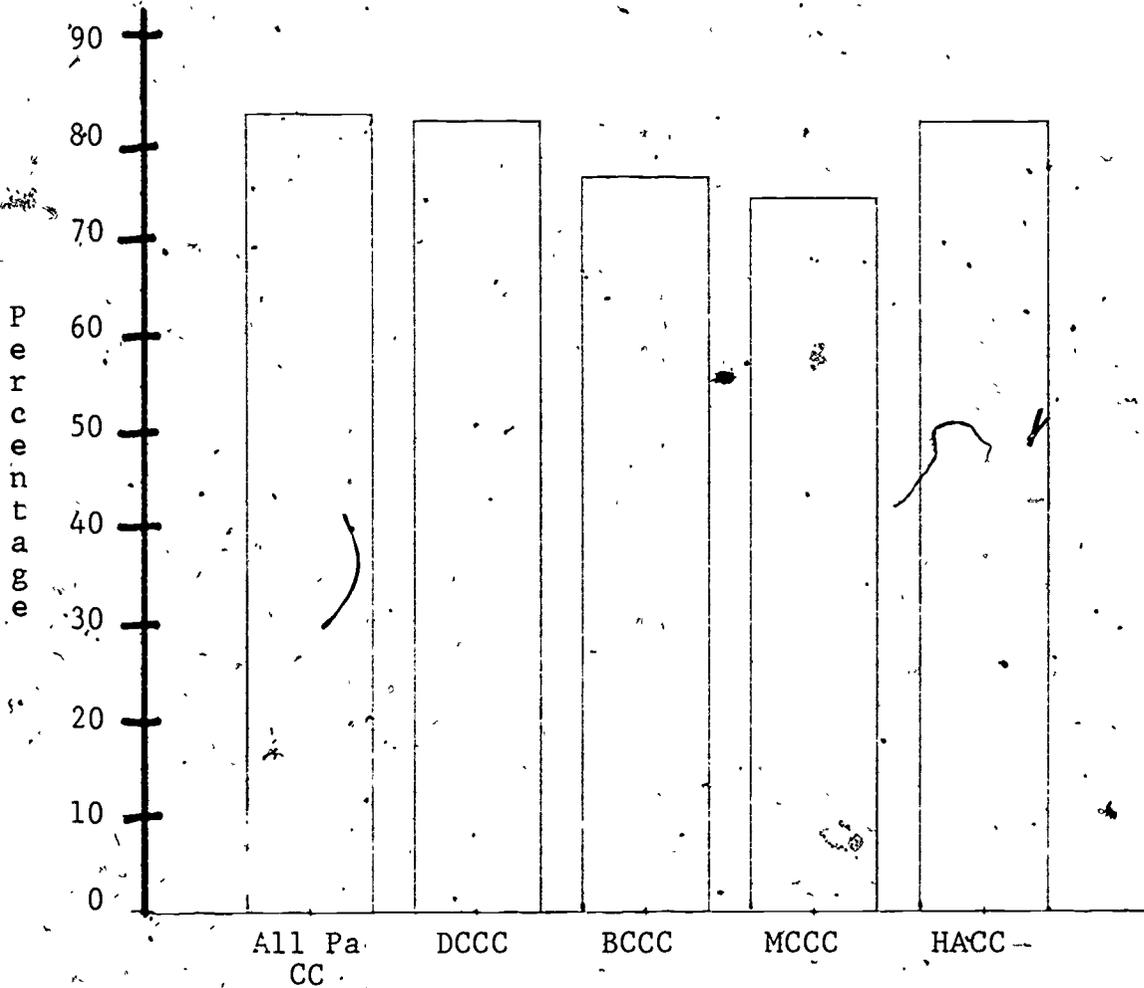


FIGURE 17

Extent to Which Job is Related to Field of Study

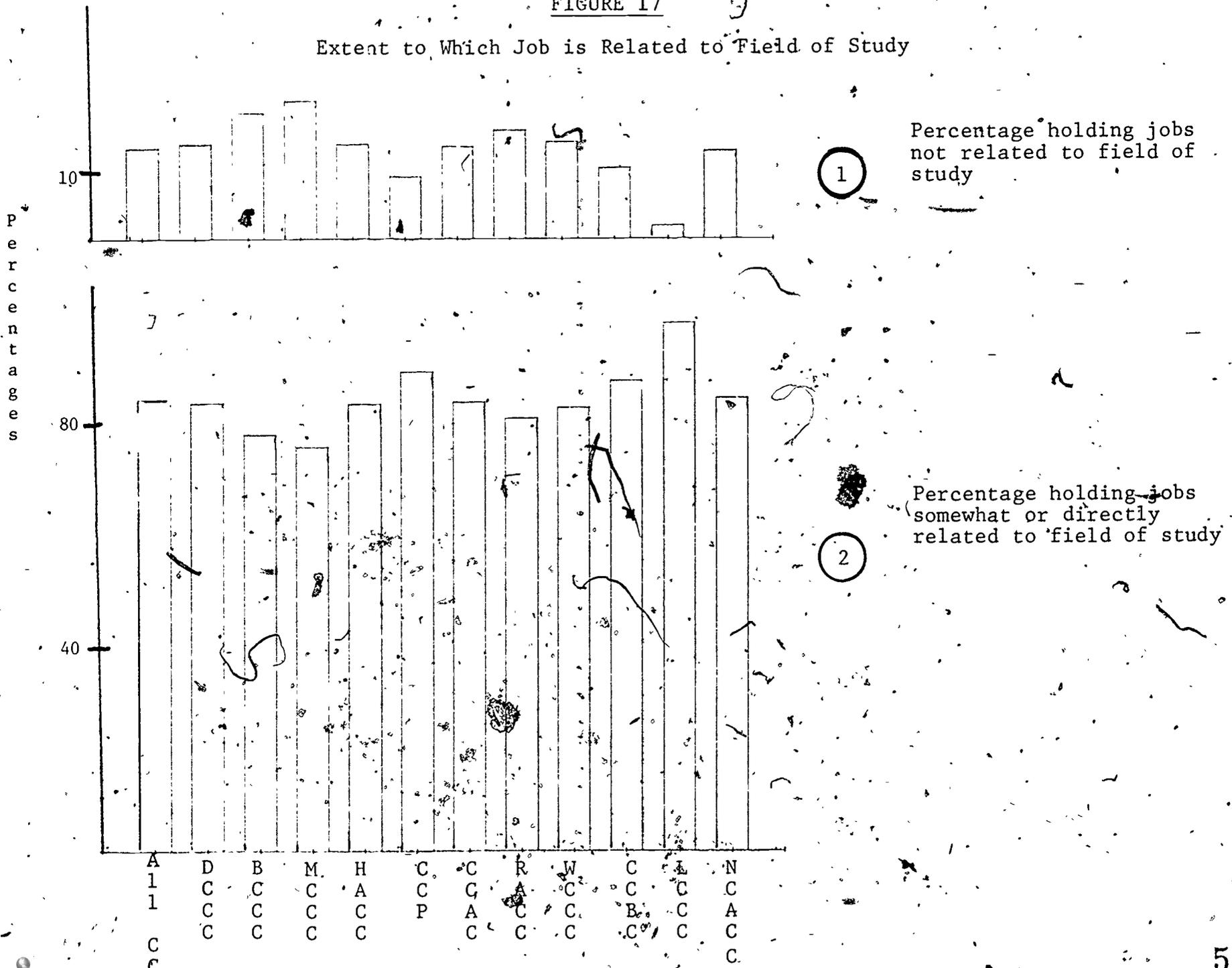
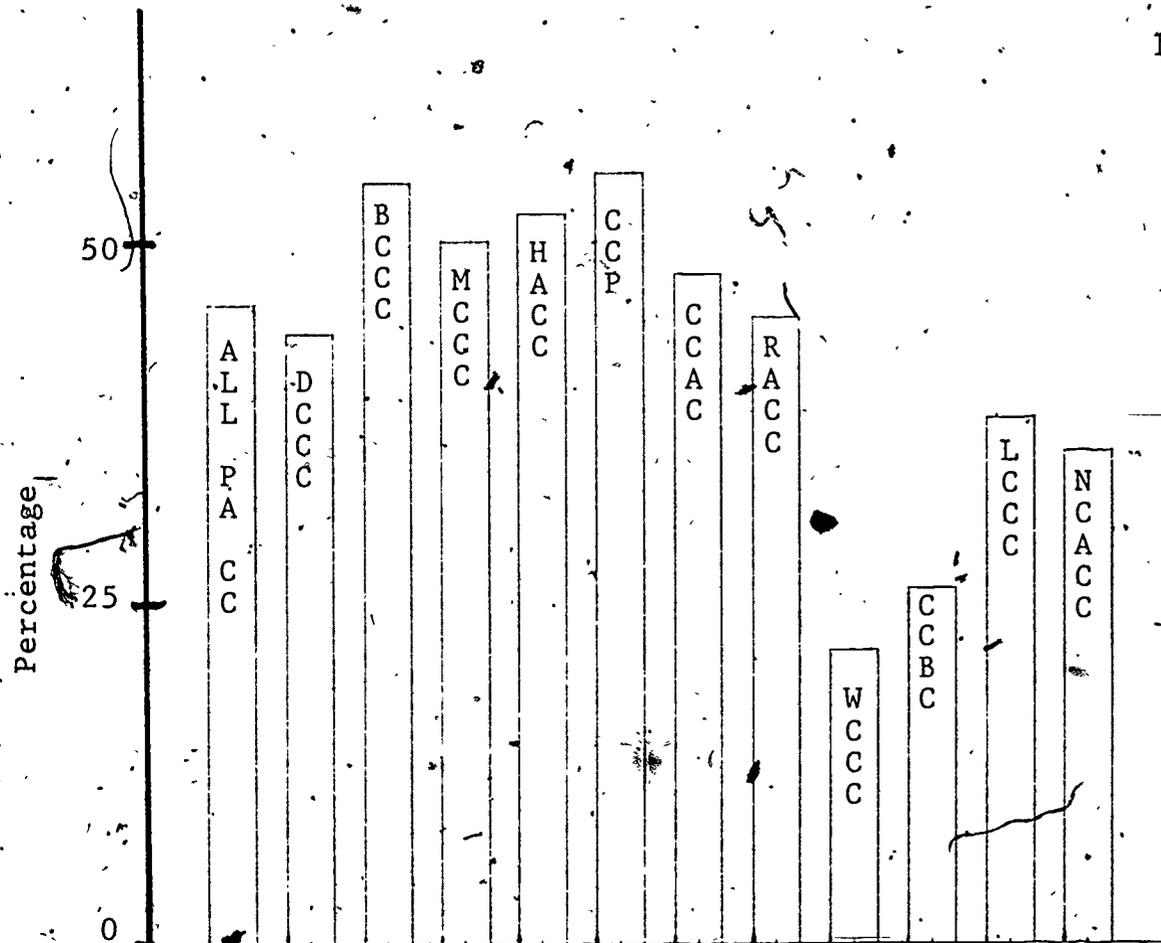


FIGURE 18-A

Percentage Applying To Another Program After Graduation



18. Have you applied for admission to one or more educational programs (either here or at another school) which would result in your earning another degree or certificate?

- Yes, I have applied.
- No, but I intend to apply within the next year.
- No, and I do not intend to apply within the next year.

FIGURE 18-B

Percentage Who Have Not Applied To Another Program After DCCC

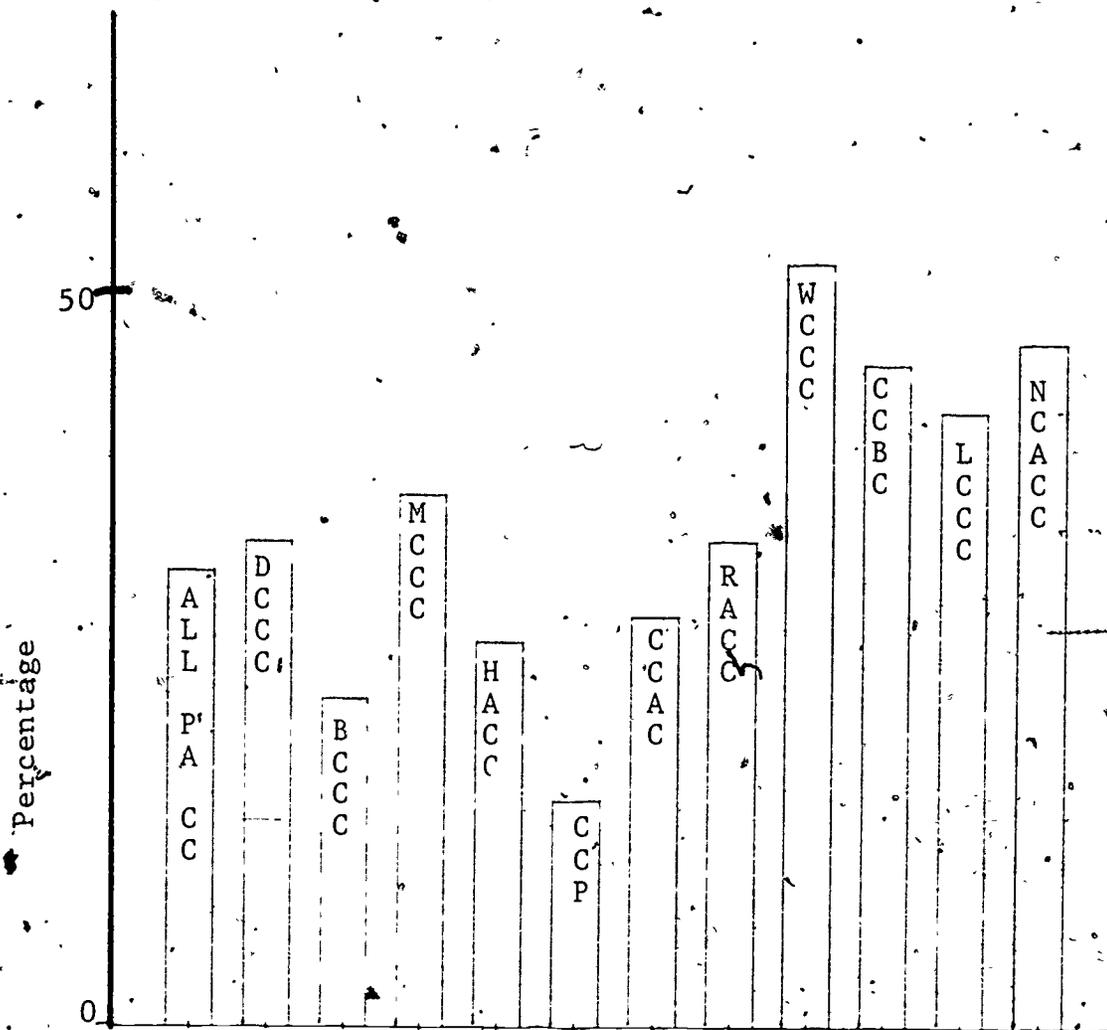
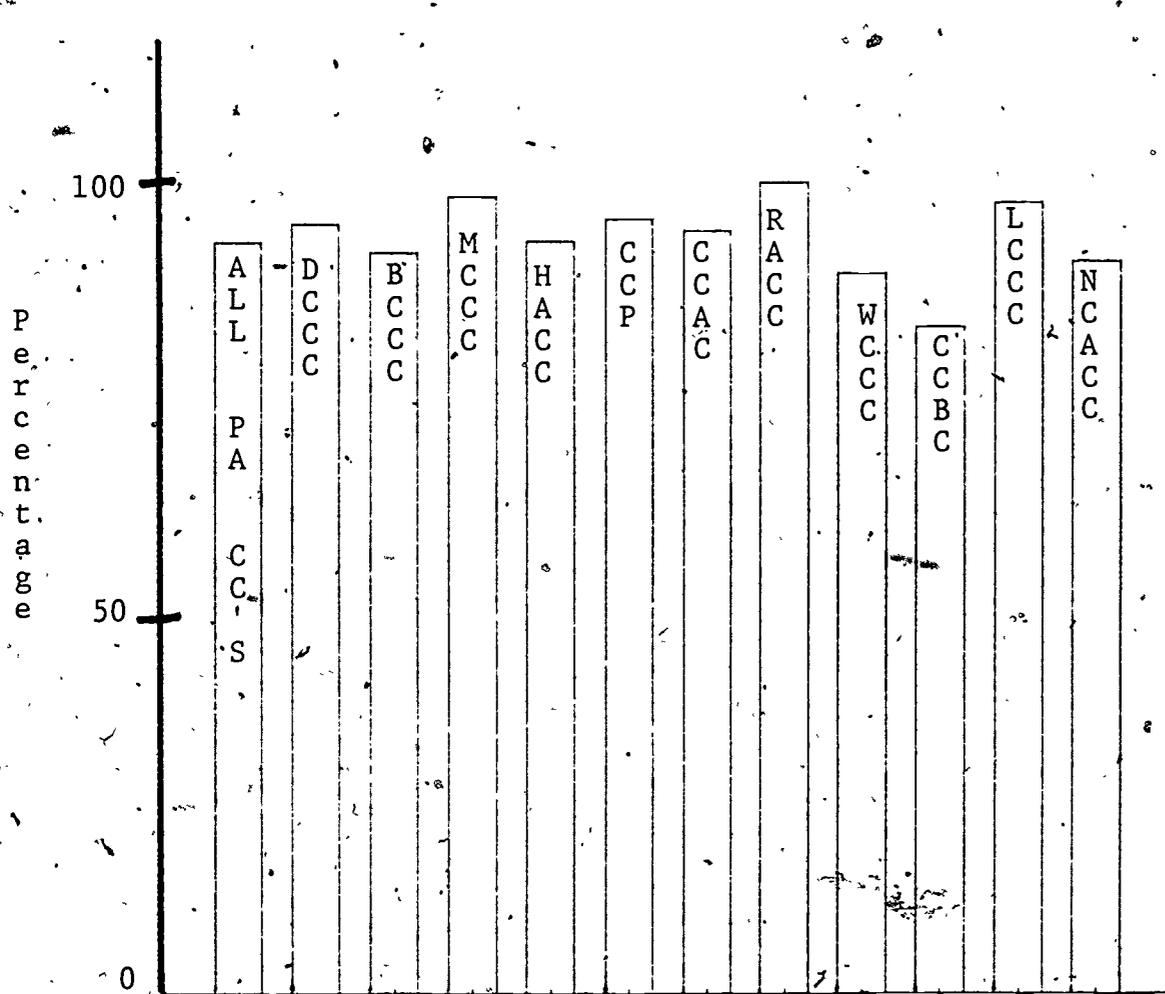


FIGURE 19

Percentage Applying to a Bachelor's Degree
Or Higher Degree Program

DCCC - Type of
Program Applied For



DCCC - Type of Program Applied For	#	%
Certificate	1	1.1
Diploma	2	2.2
Associate Degree	1	1.1
Bachelors Degree	85	92.4
Masters Degree	1	1.1
Professional Degree	1	1.1
Other	1	1.1

FIGURE 20

Percentage of Program Completers Who Applied To Another Educational Program & Were Admitted

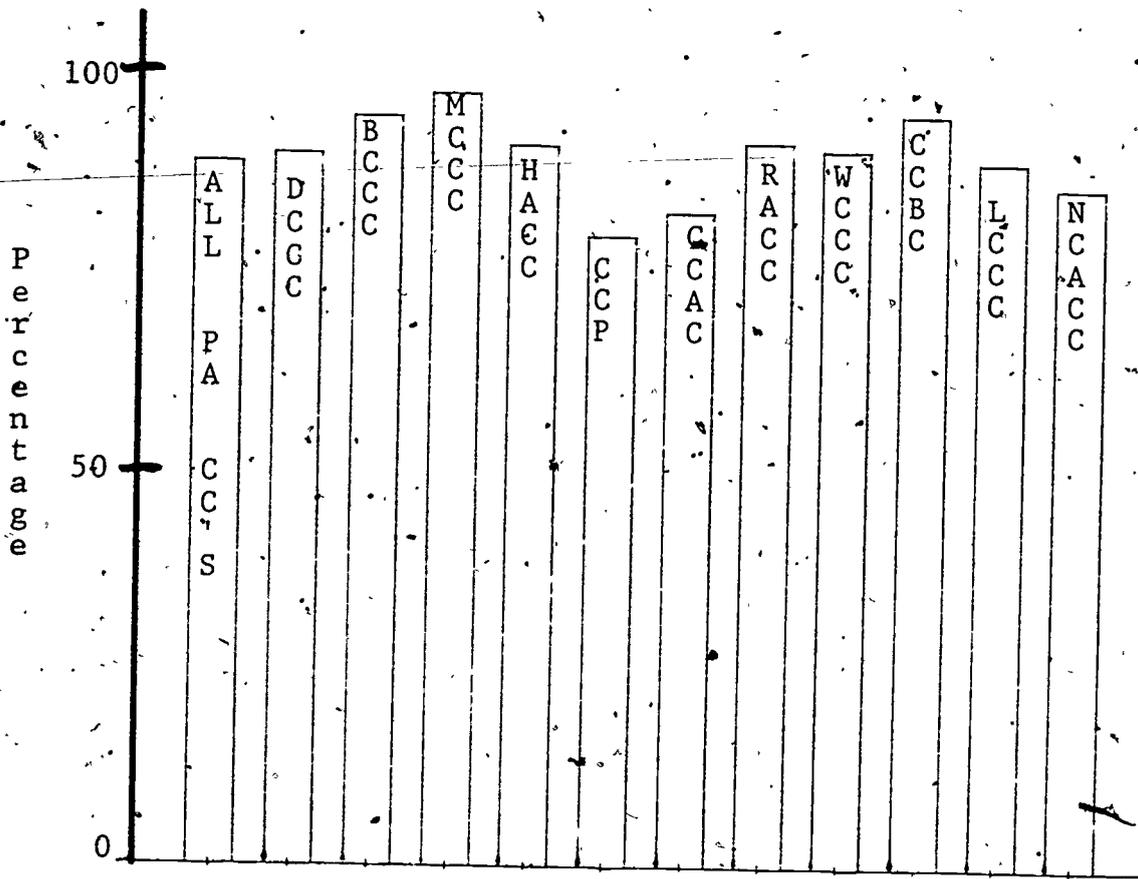
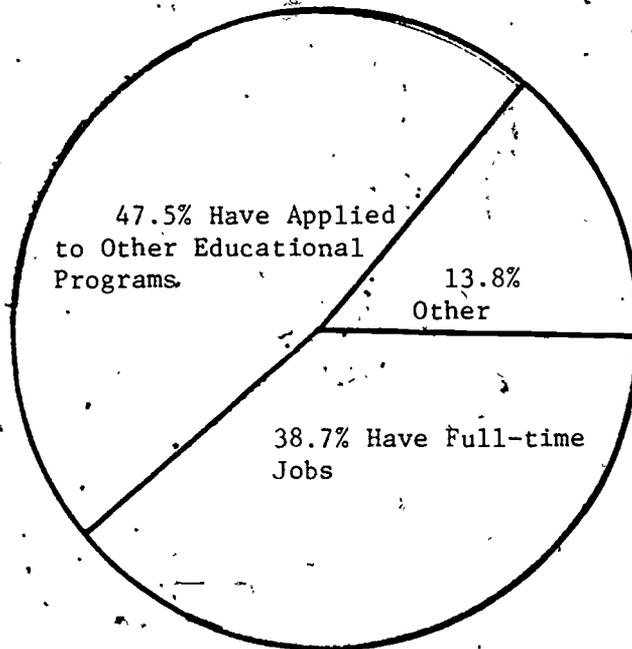
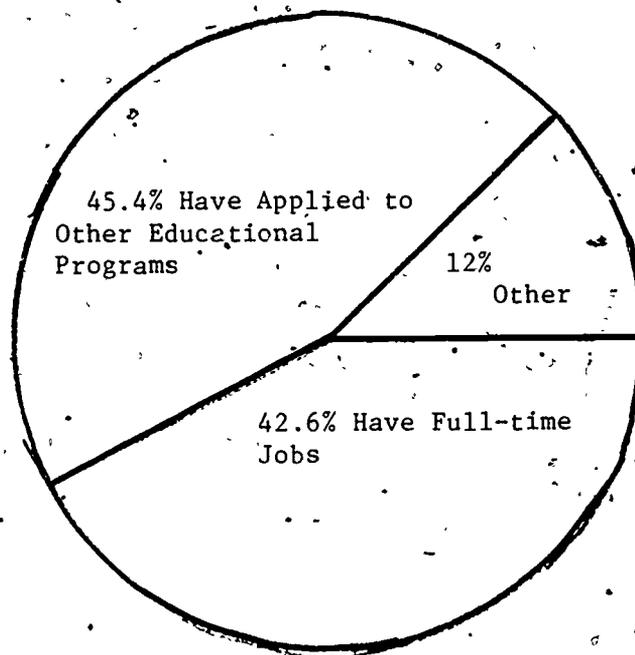


FIGURE 21

Immediate Plans of Program Completers



ALL PENNSYLVANIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES



DELAWARE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

23. There are many reasons for pursuing education, some of which are listed below. In thinking over your educational experience, how much do you think this institution contributed to your progress in each area? (Check the appropriate box to the right of each category.)

		No Progress (1)	Little Progress (2)	Moderate Progress (3)	Much Progress (4)	Very Much Progress (5)	\bar{X}
DCCC STATE	1681 A. <i>Intellectual Growth.</i> Your ability to understand and use concepts and principles from several broad areas of learning.	.5	.5	28.7	45.5	24.9	3.9
		.5	2.8	30.3	45.3	21.2	3.8
	1691 B. <i>Social Growth:</i> Your understanding of other people and their views; your experience in relating to others.	1.9	6.8	31.9	33.3	26.1	3.7
		1.7	7.2	29.2	37.7	24.2	3.8
	1701 C. <i>Aesthetic and Cultural Growth:</i> Your awareness and appreciation of the literature, music, art, and drama of your own culture and of others.	6.3	23.1	35.6	20.7	14.9	3.1
		9.2	22.1	34.3	20.9	23.5	3.1
1711 D. <i>Educational Growth.</i> Your understanding of a particular field of knowledge; your preparation for further education.	.5	2.4	19.0	42.9	35.1	4.1	
	.2	2.1	19.3	41.5	36.8	4.1	
1721 E. <i>Vocational and Professional Growth.</i> Your preparation for employment in a particular vocational or professional area.	5.6	11.7	26.4	28.9	27.4	3.6	
	3.4	10.8	25.1	32.7	28.1	3.7	
1731 F. <i>Personal Growth:</i> Your development of attitudes, values, beliefs, and a particular philosophy of life; your understanding and acceptance of yourself as a person; your ability to be realistic and adaptable and to make decisions about your own future.	1.4	7.2	21.6	34.1	35.6	4.0	
	2.0	7.0	22.4	35.7	32.9	3.9	

TABLE 23

24. How important is that progress to you? (Check the appropriate box to the right of each category.)

			Of No Importance (1)	Of Little Importance (2)	Of Moderate Importance (3)	Of Much Importance (4)	Of Very Much Importance (5)	
DCCC STATE	1741 A	<i>Intellectual Growth:</i> Your ability to understand and use concepts and principles from several broad areas of learning.	0 .2	0 .5	12.9 13.2	41.6 38.7	45.5 47.5	4.3 4.3
	1751 B	<i>Social Growth:</i> Your understanding of other people and their views; your experience in relating to others.	0 .3	1.0 1.4	10.2 12.7	34.5 33.5	54.4 52.0	4.4 4.4
	1761 C	<i>Aesthetic and Cultural Growth:</i> Your awareness and appreciation of the literature, music, art, and drama of your own culture and of others.	1.9 2.3	7.7 9.5	35.6 33.0	27.4 28.1	27.4 27.1	3.7 3.7
	1771 D	<i>Educational Growth:</i> Your understanding of a particular field of knowledge; your preparation for further education.	0 .1	0 .6	8.6 7.3	30.6 29.1	60.8 62.9	4.5 4.5
	1781 E	<i>Vocational and Professional Growth:</i> Your preparation for employment in a particular vocational or professional area.	2.0 .7	2.0 1.5	9.8 7.9	24.4 27.1	62.0 62.8	4.4 4.5
	1791 F	<i>Personal Growth:</i> Your development of attitudes, values, beliefs, and a particular philosophy of life; your understanding and acceptance of yourself as a person; your ability to be realistic and adaptable and to make decisions about your own future.	.5 .3	.5 .8	8.2 7.5	22.6 23.4	68.3 67.9	4.6 4.6

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TABLE 24

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