



INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYSES

## **DATAWorks 2020 Poster: Overarching Tracker**

Heather Wojton Project Leader

Caitlan Fealing

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#### For more information:

Heather Wojton, Project Leader  
[hwojton@ida.org](mailto:hwojton@ida.org) • 703-845-6811

Robert R. Soule, Director, Operational Evaluation Division  
[rsoule@ida.org](mailto:rsoule@ida.org) • (703) 845-2482

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INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE ANALYSES

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## Executive Summary

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The attached poster was developed for the 2020 DATAWorks. It describes IDA's Overarching Tracker, and it will be presented during the poster session.

Since 2009, OED has conducted annual assessments of reliability (the Overarching Tracker) to allow our department to collect metadata related to the Test Plans, Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs), and Test Reports that we sign. The information received from the survey includes an overview of: the number of reports, developmental testing (DT) data, operational testing (OT) data, Modeling and Simulation (M&S), testing ranges, and test outcomes (suitability, reliability, availability, maintainability, and survivability). These data allow us to provide DOT&E with progress updates upon request rather than only at the end of a fiscal year.

Each year the survey is updated to include questions that reflect DOT&E's evolving priorities. Specifically, since 2016, the survey included questions to address rapid acquisition pathways, test size, reasons for effectiveness and suitability limitations, and test range utilization.

In Fiscal Year 2019, DOT&E completed 104 total actions across 77 unique programs (23 TEMPs, 47 Test

Plans, and 34 Test Reports). The actions indicate that DOT&E's involvement in the test planning typically results in an improved allocation of resources. In the past two Fiscal years, DOT&E has focused on shifting towards larger ACAT ID and IC programs, which demonstrate a greater focus on using DT data for OT evaluation. In addition, many programs used Integrated Testing and Modeling and Simulation to further implement their goal of improving operational testing. One result of the improved strategy is that DOT&E identified Human-System Interactions that degraded system performance in 21% of FY2019 OT reports, indicating that it is still possible to make progress with these systems.

Overall, data from the Overarching Tracker shows trends of more efficient testing that allows for fewer tests and an increased use of empirically-vetted surveys in Test Plans to improve validity.



# Caitlan Fealing

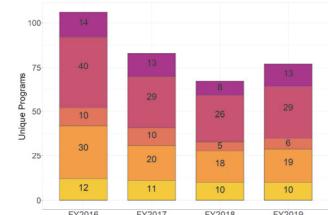
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## Overview

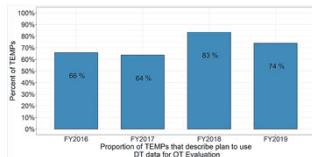
Since 2009, IDA's Operational Evaluation Division (OED) has used an Overarching Tracker survey to collect metadata from its researchers related to DOT&E Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPS), Test Plans, and Test Reports.

Besides enabling OED to quickly generate progress reports upon request, the tracker data provides more accurate information about systems for our sponsors, and enables us to identify our own strengths and areas that need improvement.

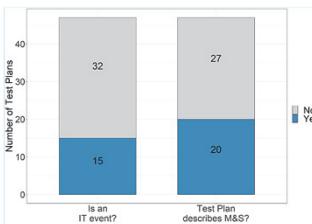
DOT&E's focus has shifted towards larger programs (ACAT ID and IC)



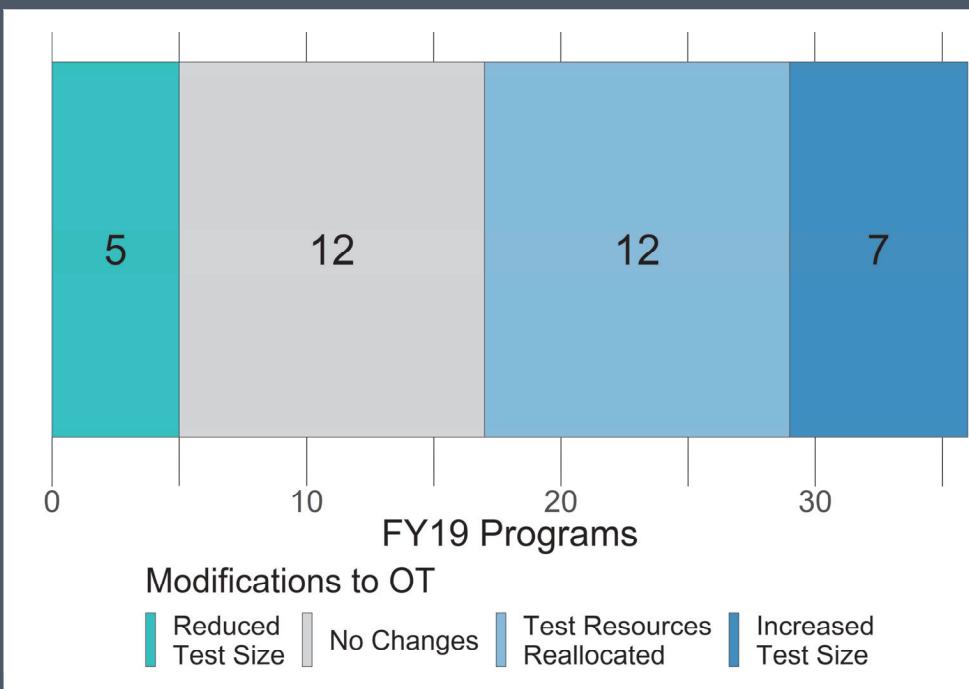
An increased percentage of TEMPs are using Developmental Testing (DT) data for Operational Testing (OT) evaluation



Many programs used Integrated Testing (IT) and Modeling and Simulation (M&S) as part of their Operational Testing Approach



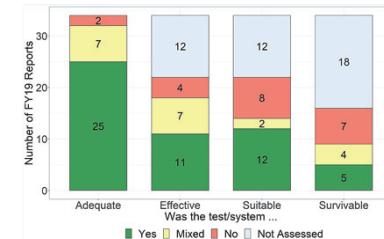
# IDA tracks the impact of DOT&E policies and guidance on test strategies and outcomes



In 80% of cases, DOT&E involvement in test planning for FY19 programs did not increase test resource requirements

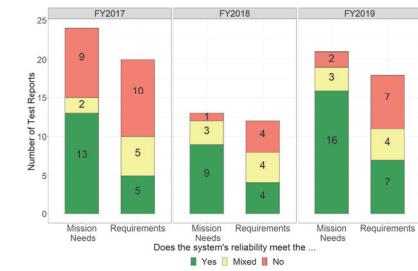
DOT&E found most programs to be at least partially adequate, effective, and suitable

Survivability is only metric where less than 50% of evaluated systems were found unsatisfactory

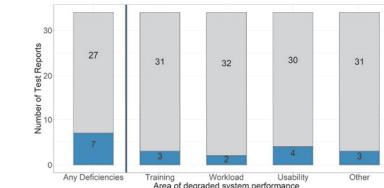


\*Nearly all programs that did not assess one of these measures were early test events (Pre-IOT). Similarly, some systems were deemed to have insufficient data to definitively conclude if the system meets the requirements for the evaluation.

System reliability meets mission needs more often than it meets test requirements



Seven of 34 reports (21%) indicated there were Human-System Interaction (HSI) deficiencies that degraded system performance



## Future Initiatives

- Increase design of experiments (DOE) implementation in Test Plans to increase efficiency.
- Continue and increase early DOT&E involvement in testing, including use of DT data in OT evaluation.
- Increase the use of empirically-vetted surveys in OT evaluation to improve HIS.

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a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) Wojton, Heather M	b. TELEPHONE NO. (Include Area Code) (703) 845-6811	c. Department of Defense
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All questions concerning this poster: Overarching Tracker, please contact Heather Wojton, 703-845-6811. After security review, please contact Danny Ray, (703) 845-6704, dray@ida.org or Raynetta Rivers, (703) 845-2048, rrivers@ida.org

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