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Resource Overview for the Defense Testing and Assessment Center

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Background



ASVAB/Testing Roles and Responsibilities

Defense Testing and Assessment Center (DTAC)*

 Provides research, development, and computer-based delivery for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and special purpose tests

United States Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM)

Conducts testing operations and applicant processing

Accession Policy (AP)

- Provides oversight of standards and applicable testing
- Provides joint-service oversight—policy and technical input through the Manpower Accession Policy Working Group (MAPWG)

DoD Services

- Maintains personnel research units that conduct research on new types of tests and on different Service-specific uses of existing tests
- Administers the in-service testing program

^{*}DTAC also provides computer-based test delivery and psychometric consultation for the Defense Language Testing program, which is funded by the language community

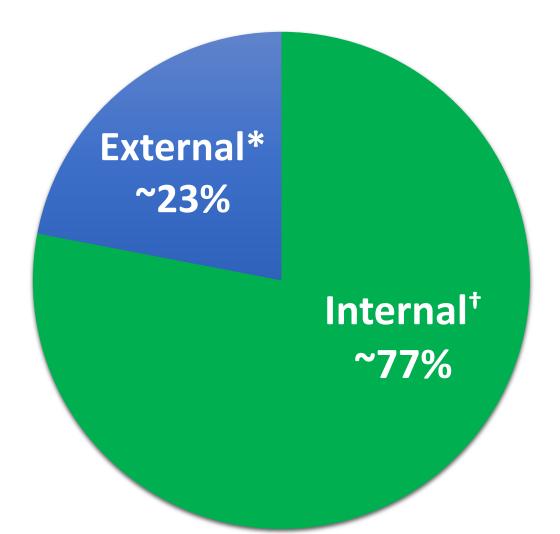
DTAC Funding



DTAC Funding Sources for FY24

Internal Sources

DPAC: Defense Personnel and Analytics Center/Office of People Analytics



External Sources

DLNSEO: Defense Language and National Security Education Office

DLIFLC: Defense Language Institute

Foreign Language Center

DLIELC: Defense Language Institute

English Language Center

USMEPCOM: United States Military

Entrance Processing Command

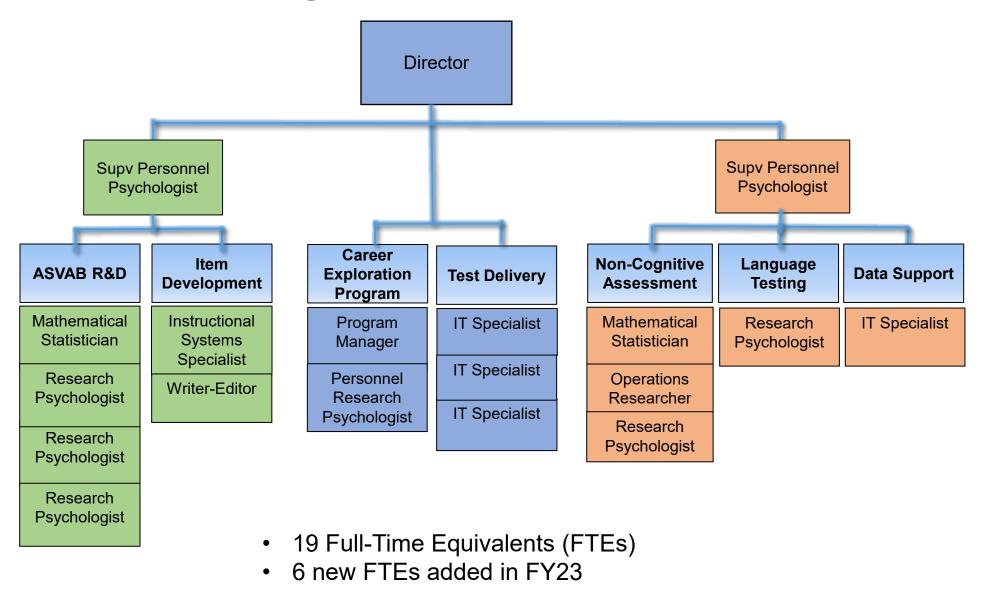
^{*}External = Funded outside of the DPAC/OPA program baseline budget

[†]Internal = Funded from within the DPAC/OPA program baseline budget

DTAC Staffing

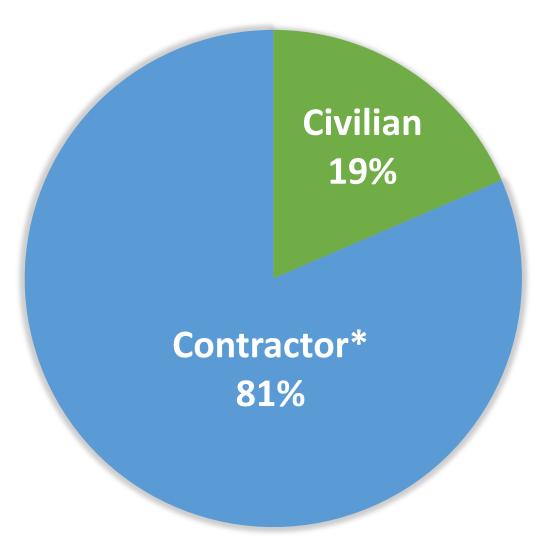


DTAC Organization Chart for FY24



All DTAC staff collaborate across divisions

DTAC Full-Time Equivalents



^{*}As of December 2023

DTAC Systems

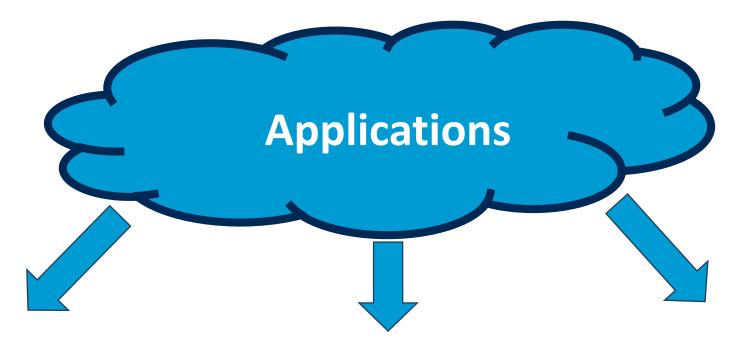


Systems

- Most IT services are provided by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)
 - DPAC/OPA has a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with DMDC
 - Hardware, software, network, helpdesk, and cybersecurity support all provided by DMDC
- DTAC maintains its own AWS cloud environment (called DPACS) for test delivery that is independent from DMDC IT systems*
 - DPACS was established in February 2021

^{*}DPACS has one dependency with DMDC due to the need to connect to a DMDC application for user authentication purposes.

Applications on the DPACS Cloud Platform



ASVAB

iCAT (test delivery)

iCAT-AR (authorization and reporting)

iCAT-DE (data extraction)

CEPTS (web service/CEP website)

WDI (web service/MIRS database)

WPDT (Windows Private Desktop)

Joint

COAL (Central Operator Application Login)

PTP (Personnel Testing Portal)

Language

WDLPT (test delivery)

DLPT-AR (authorization and reporting)

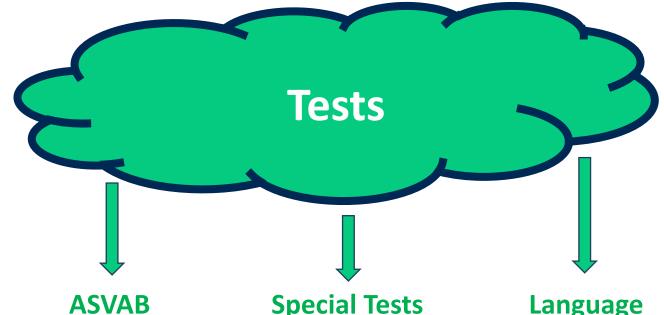
DLPT-DE (data extraction)

DCRS (constructed-response scoring)

DRWS (web service/service databases)

DTAT (DoD testing admin tool)

Tests Delivered on the DPACS Cloud Platform



ETP ASVAB

CEP iCAT

APT

PiCAT

Vtest

PV-ETP

AFCT

Special Tests

Coding Speed

Cyber Test

TAPAS

Mental Counters

Complex Reasoning*

Language

DLPT-Conventional

DLPT-CAT

ECL-CAT

Resident-ECL

ICPT

DLAB

^{*}Not yet available on the test delivery platform

Conclusions



Resources Health Status

- Funding: Current ASVAB funding levels are healthy
 - ASVAB funding at continued levels is integral to program health
- Staffing: Current DTAC staffing levels are healthy
 - DTAC has greatly benefited from the addition of six billets in FY23
- Systems: Current DTAC systems are healthy
 - DTAC has greatly benefited from its move to the DPACS cloud environment
 - Continued sufficient bandwidth to accommodate volume is integral to stable and reliable test delivery
 - DTAC is monitoring cloud volume and costs and exploring architecture enhancements to gain efficiency, in response to:
 - Rising cloud operating costs
 - Increasing transitions from paper-and-pencil administration to computer administration in the Career Exploration Program (CEP)
 - A push for further expansion of the CEP that will have implications for cloud volume and costs