



75th AEROSPACE MEDICINE SQUADRON



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Hearing Conservation Program Management Challenges



U.S. AIR FORCE

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Purpose of Presentation



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- **Information on Hill AFB Hearing Conservation Program Management**
- **Stimulate Discussion on base Hearing Conservation Program procedures/metrics**
- **Improve Hill's program from information obtained from this group**



Initial Challenges



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- ***“I would rather have a root canal than have a hearing test”***



Marketing Hearing Conservation to our Patients



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- **Commander's Calls**
- **Safety Newsletters**
- **Shop Visits**
- **Individual counseling**



Initial Challenges



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- **HELP! I have no staff!**



What did I learn from this?



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- **Learn how to do all your Technician's duties too**
- **Learn challenges in doing the Tech's job well**
- **Learn who to turn to for help**
- **“Crisis Management” skills**
- **Making Appointments**
- **I learned to hound patients and supervisors of people who do not keep appointments**
- **I learned to hound supervisors to scheduled those PEGs that need hearing tests**



Meetings, Meetings and more Meetings



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- **Which meetings are value added?**
 - **AMC**
 - **OHWG**
 - **COHER**
 - **SHARE**
 - **AFOSH**
 - **AMDS Staff**



Metrics



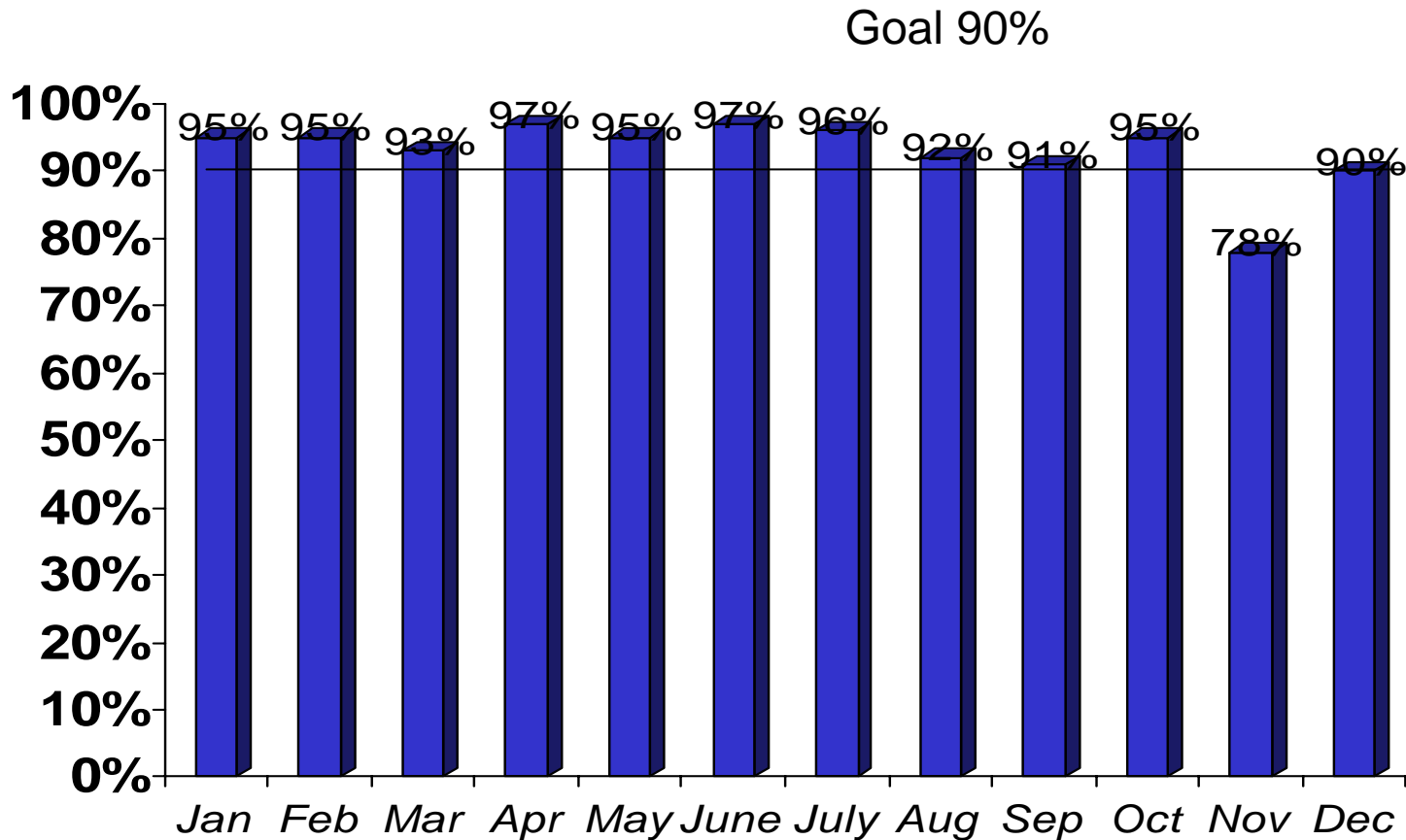
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Audiogram Completion Summary 2007



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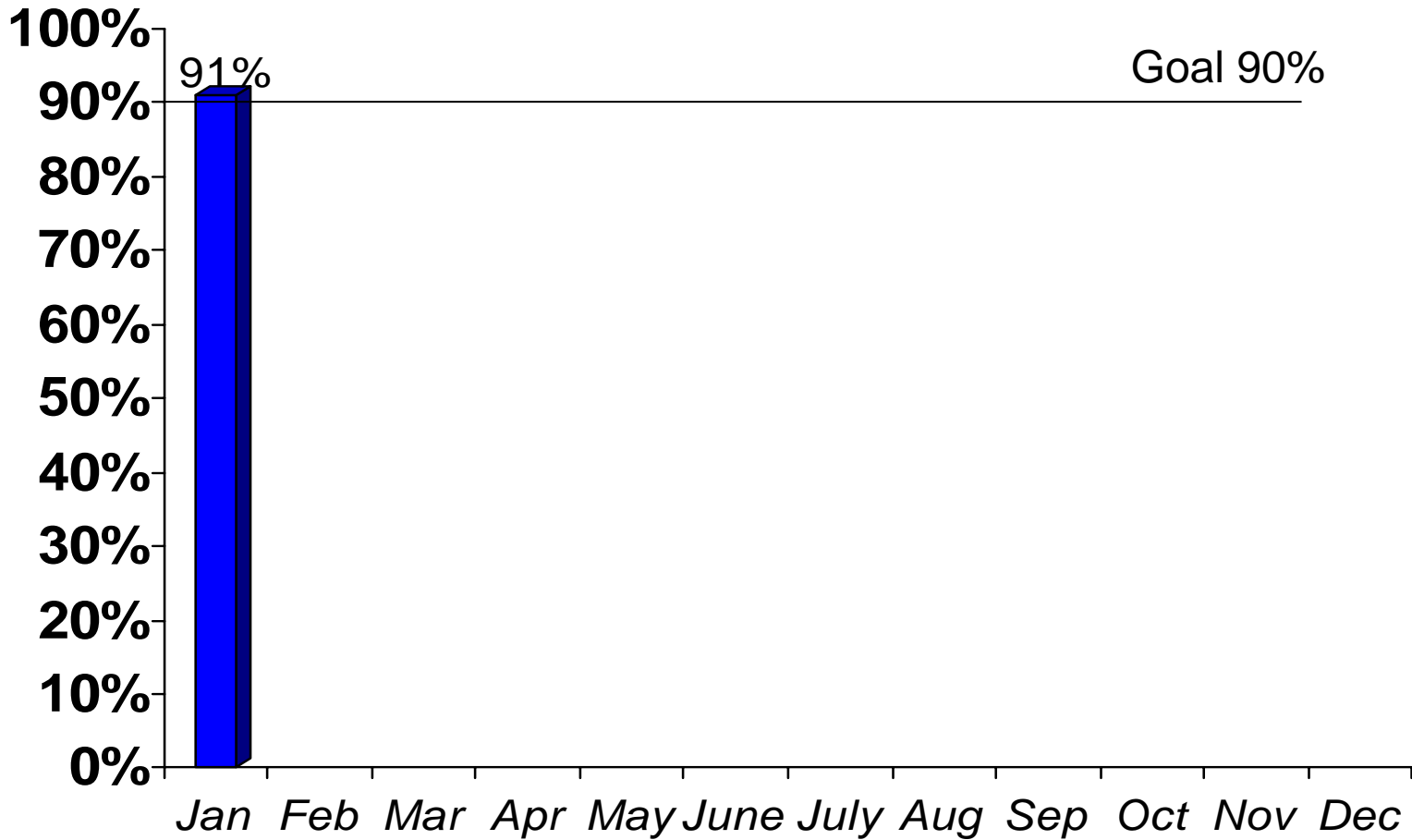
Prevent, Heal, Prepare...Deploy



Audiogram Completion Summary 2008



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“No-Shows”



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- **Most effective tracking mechanism?**
- **When does the percentage become an issue?**
- **How often should a worker be re-scheduled before more effort is “past point of diminishing returns?”**
- **Most importantly: besides us – *Who cares?***



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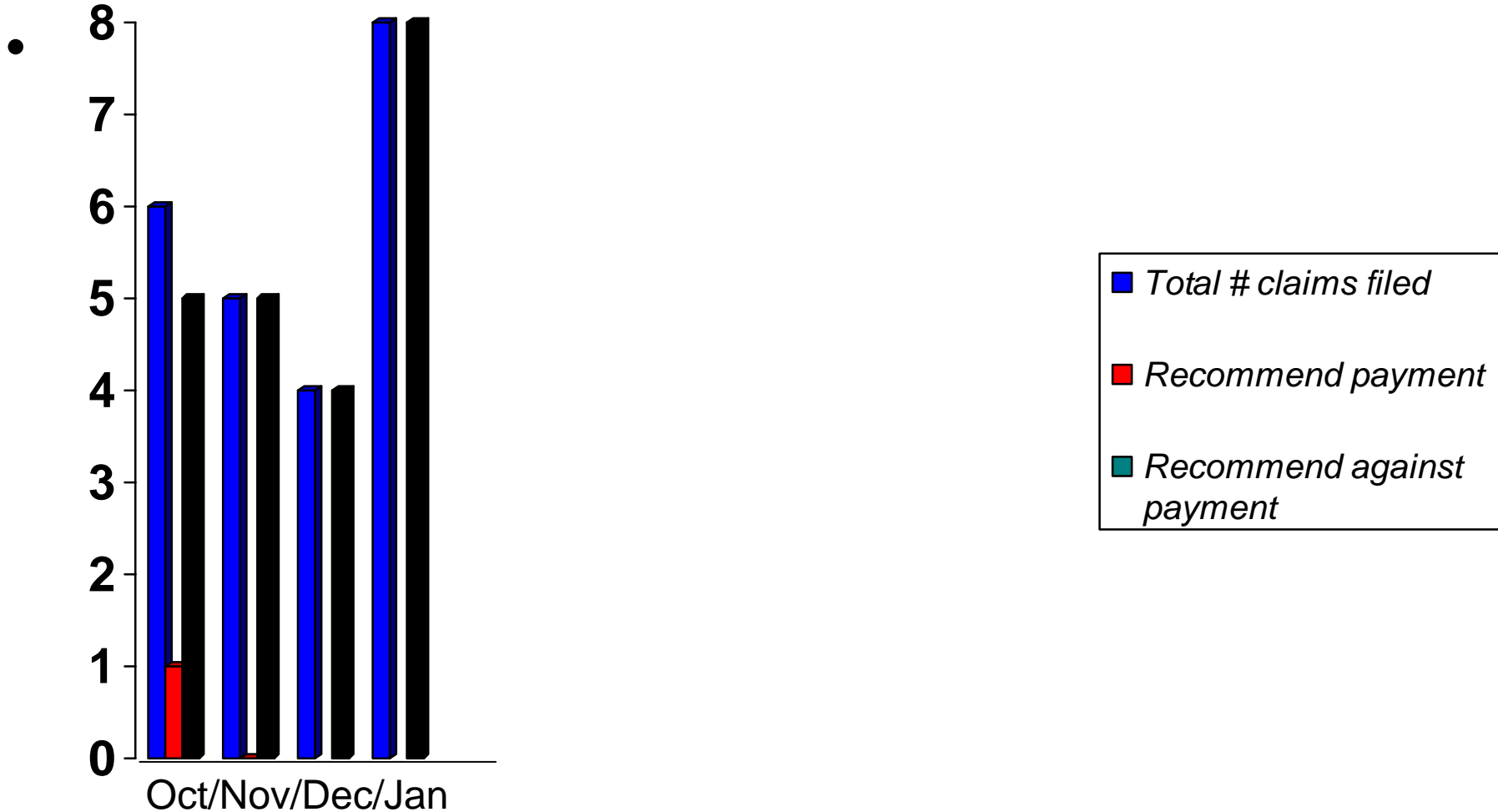
Office Symbol	Name	Date of No Show	2nd Missed Apt	Comments
388 EMS	xxx	6 Nov	15 Nov	No Show 6/15Nov/ No Show 11 Dec
388 EMS	xxx	14 Nov		No show 14 Nov/complete 26 Nov
388 EMS	xxx	14 Nov	26 Nov	No Show 14/26 Nov/complete 4 Dec
388 EMS	xxx	15 Nov	26 Nov	No Show 15/ 26 Nov/Complete 6 Dec
388 EMS	xxx	15 Nov		No Show 15 Nov/Complete 3 Dec



Worker's Compensation Claims for Hearing Loss FY 08



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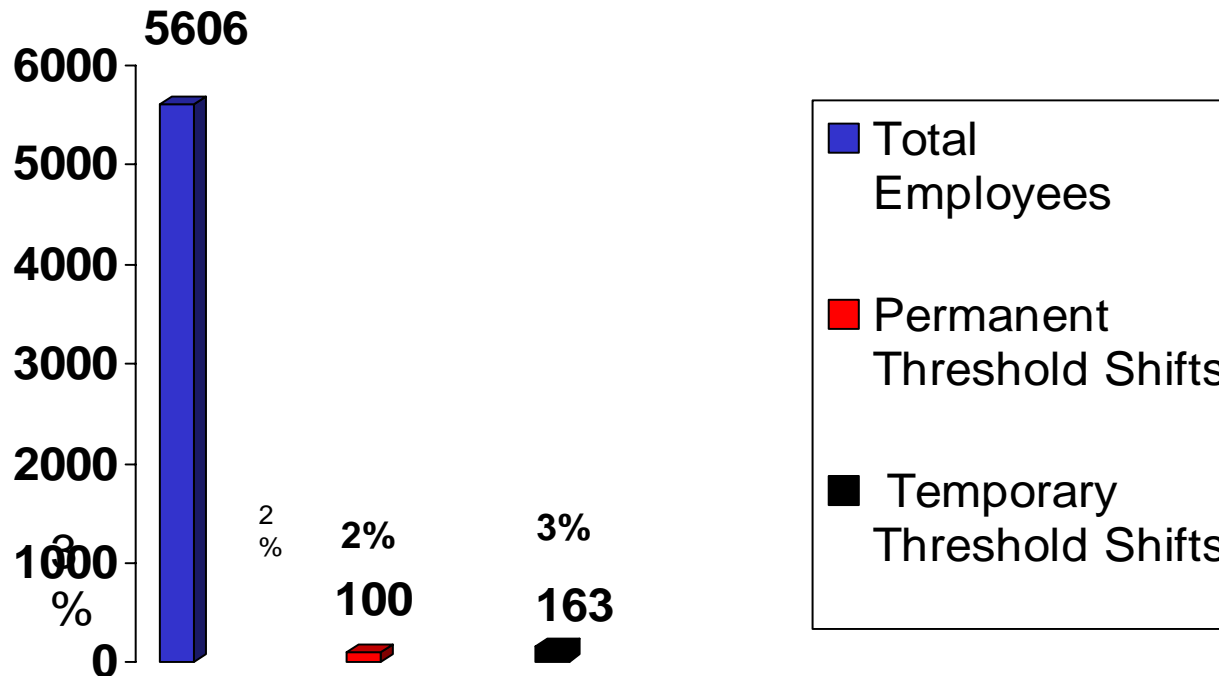




Threshold Shifts 2007



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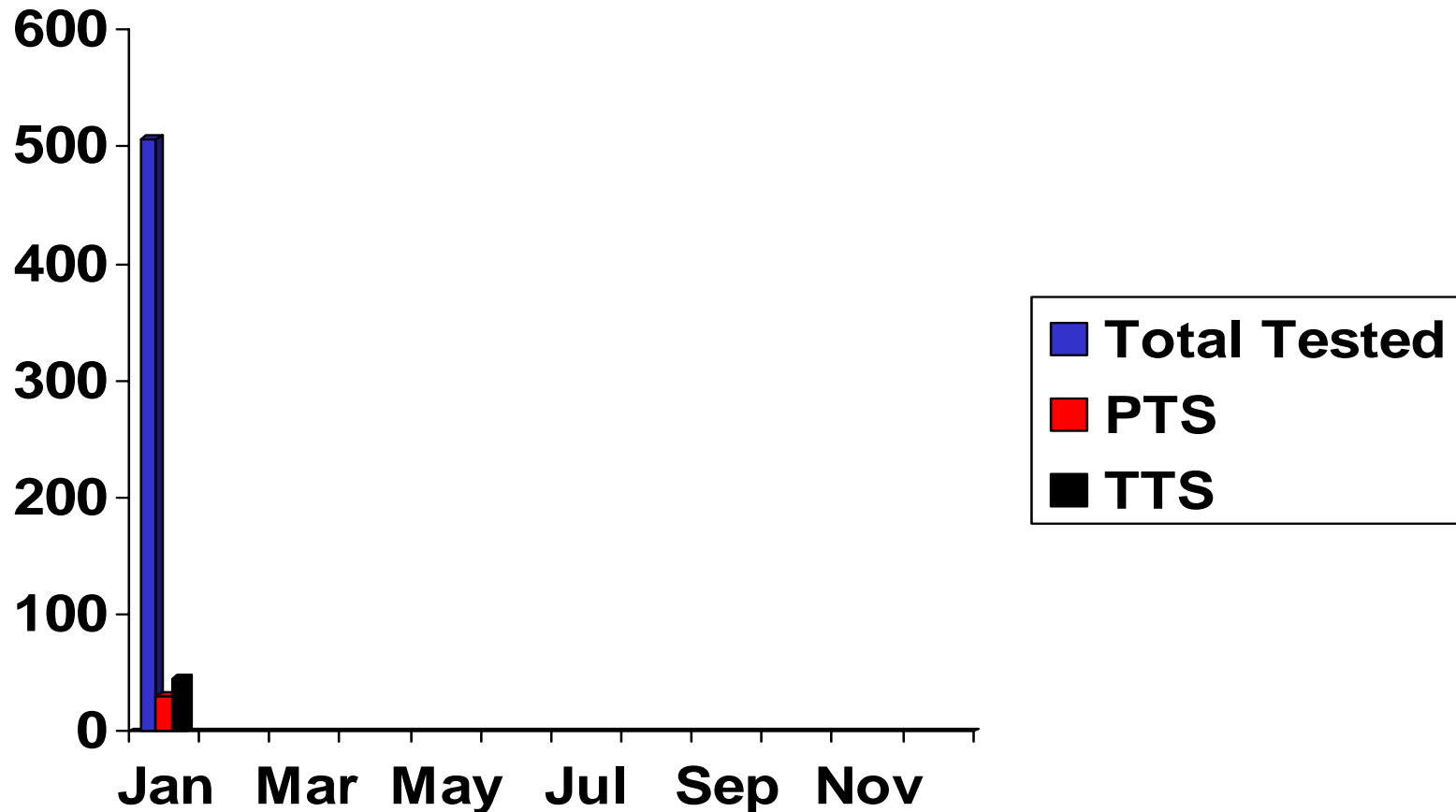
Number of PTS Decreased from 2006 by 199



Threshold Shifts 2008



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Shops with Highest Incidences of Threshold Shift



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- **Action Point 5% Temporary Threshold Shift**
- Flight Test Supervisors – 19%
- F-16/C-130 Radone Repair - 13%
- F-16 (Det 3) – 13%
- 388 AMXS Supervisors – 13%
- A-10 Bonding/Honeycomb – 11%
- Structural Maintenance - 9%
- Sheet Metal MFG – 8%
- HVAC – 7%
- Landing Gear Support – 7%
- Munitions Maintenance – 6%
- 4FS Avionics – 6%
- Avionics Electronics – 6%
- Power Production – 6%



Shop Visits 2008



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- **Shop Visits Target Shops with Highest Incidence of Threshold Shift**
 - **Shops Visited Jan:**
 - A 10 Shop
 - Advanced Composite





Question



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- **How can we determine the value of the shop visit without waiting 1 year until the next annual hearing exam?**



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- ***Discussion***
- ***Questions***
- ***Suggestions***