# Measuring and Acting on a Dropout Ratio

SEEP AGM October 2005

Sean Kline

# Underlying Rationale for Use of a Ratio

To help make decisions that improve an institution's social and/or financial bottom line

### Caution

Need to reconcile intuition, theory and popular notion with practical experience and evidence

### Management Uses

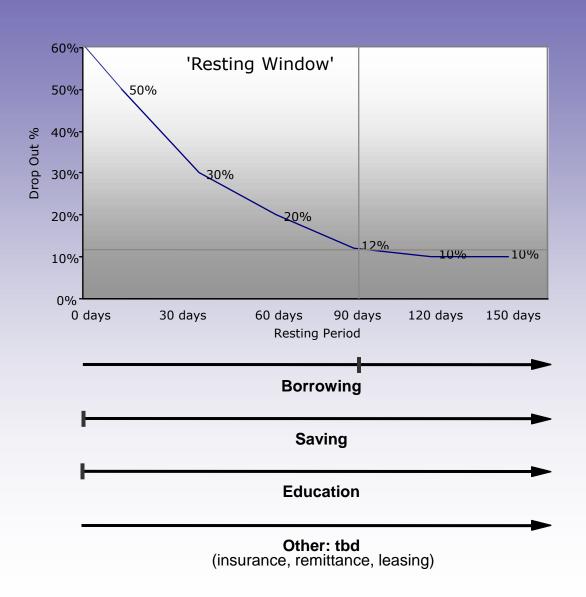
#### Some documented uses

- Financial and outreach projections—e.g., Microfin
- Data mining—historical data to better understand the dynamic between clients and institution—MFC, Prizma
- Identify 'Red Flag' that needs follow up—CARD, SEF
- Internal benchmarking—branches, products, loan officers
- Internal basis for incentives for staff
- Other?

#### Some that seem intuitive on surface, but are more problematic than they may seem...

- Product development
- Normative judgments about
  - Institutions
  - Products

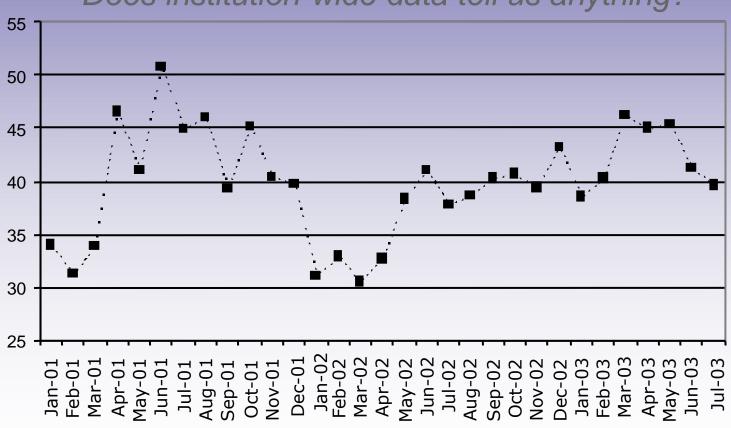
## Defining a 'Resting Window'



# Some Examples of Loan Data For Discussion

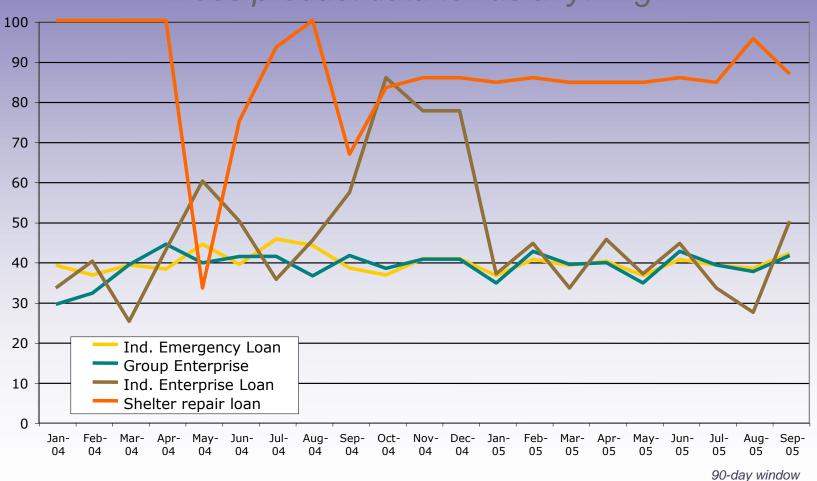
### Analysis In Aggregate

#### Does institution-wide data tell us anything?



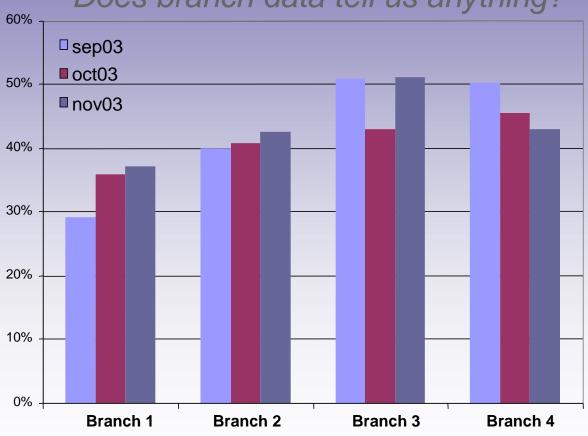
## Analysis *By Product*

Does product data tell us anything?



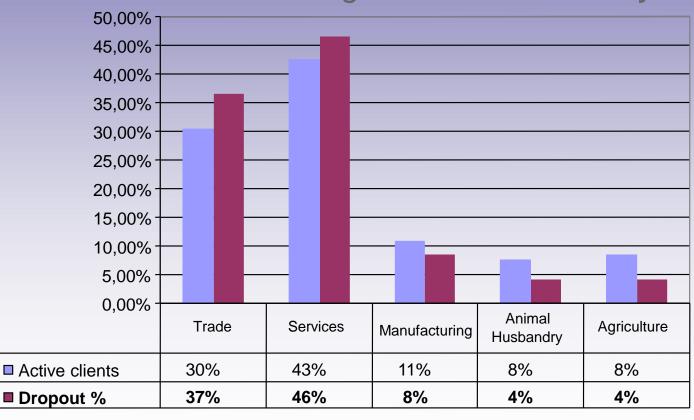
## Analysis *By Branch*

#### Does branch data tell us anything?



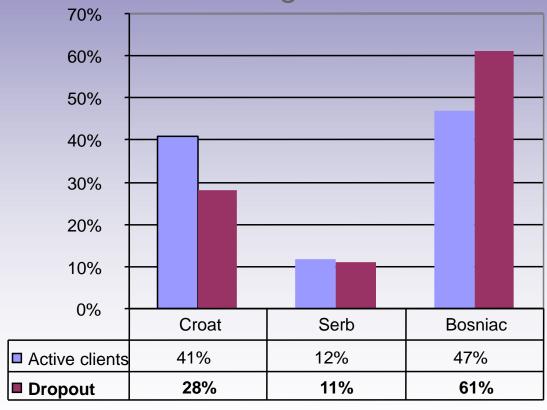
## Analysis Understanding Segments

#### Does business segment data tell us anything?



## Analysis Understanding Outreach

Does social status segment data tell us anything?



### Challenges to Use

#### Overall...

- Difficult to capture—regularly, easily and consistently—w/out automation
- Difficult to compare w/others—relative measure
- Indirect—difficult to know what it is really reflecting
- Discrete—difficult to use for trend analysis

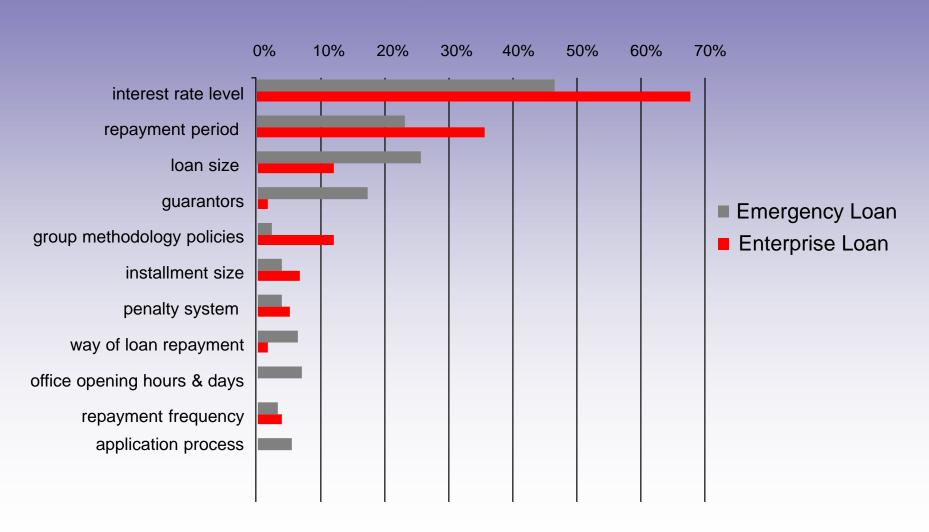
#### In isolation...

- General—difficult for regular decision-making
- Questionable indicator of loyalty
- May undermine understanding of complex 'black box'

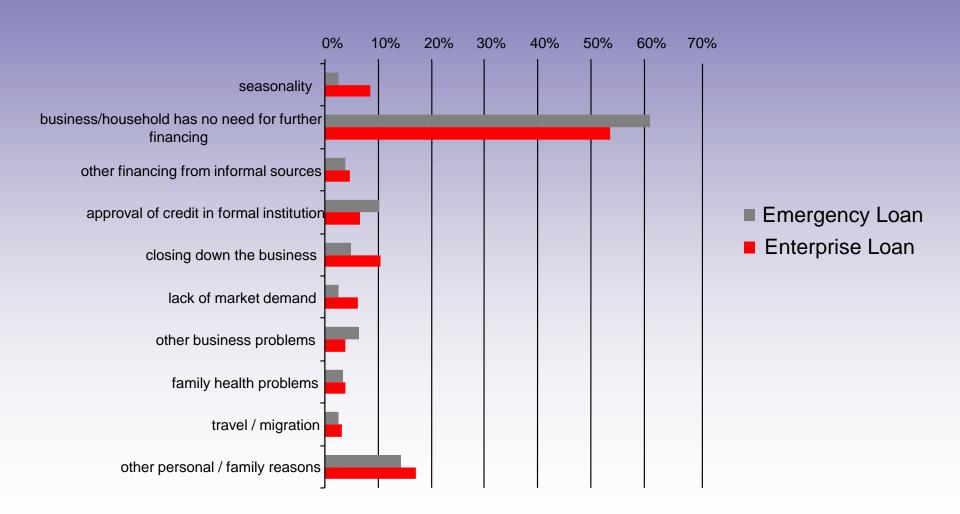
#### Almost always need more...

- Periodic exit interviews
- Focus groups
- Mini surveys
- ... And all help to identify problems that lead to dropout while helping MFIs listen to clients, more generally.

# Reasons Cited by Clients for Leaving—Internal



# Reasons Cited by Clients for Leaving—External



# Caution again about the value of this ratio...

A seemingly intuitive measure of something is, in isolation, a questionable measure of anything