Recidivism Evaluation of DYC Committed Youth Discharged in Fiscal Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012

January 1, 2014

Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Children, Youth and Family Services Division of Youth Corrections

Working with Colorado Communities to Achieve Justice

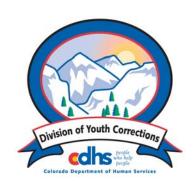


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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year, on January 1st, the Colorado Department of Human Services submits recidivism results for youth who have discharged from the Division of Youth Corrections (DYC).

Youth Studied~

Over the span of FY 2011-12, six hundred fifty five (655) youth discharged from the Division. This report provides one-year follow-up recidivism rates for the cohort of 655 youth. In FY 2010-11, seven hundred ninety three (793) youth discharged from the DYC. This report also provides two-year follow-up recidivism rates for these 793 youth.

One year recidivism rates~

For the cohort of 655 youth, 28.7% had a recidivist offense within one year of their discharge date. Although last year's study produced a low recidivism rate (15.8%), this most recent recidivism rate (28.7%) is more consistent with past years.

Two year recidivism rates~

This is the inaugural year for reporting recidivism rates beyond the one-year follow-up period. For the cohort of 793 youth, 43% had a recidivist offense within two years of their discharge date.

Risk Reduction~

The DYC examines two important variations of risk reduction, and both variations produced positive results.

The first form of risk reduction compares each youth's commitment offense to their most serious recidivism offense, if the youth recidivated at all. Of the cohort examined, 11% re-offended with a lesser offense than their commitment offense, and another 71% did not re-offend at all (during the one-year follow-up period). Adding these two percentages together, the Division was successful in reducing the level of criminal behavior for 82% of the 655 youth discharged in FY 2011-12.

The second form of risk reduction utilizes the Colorado Juvenile Risk Assessment (CJRA) to measure changes in youth risk levels (low, moderate, high) from time of commitment to time of discharge. At time of commitment, 88% of youth were categorized as being in the high risk level category (to recidivate); at time of discharge, 62% were in the high risk level category. These risk level reductions, coupled with CJRA domain-specific risk score reductions, indicate that services provided to youth during their time with the DYC are effectively reducing their likelihood to recidivate in the future.

National Comparison~

Seven other states are comparable to Colorado, with similar definitions and measures of juvenile recidivism. Of the eight total states, Colorado's rate (28.7%) appears to be the fourth lowest recidivism rate in the nation. The three lowest rates belong to Maryland (18.7%), Louisiana (19.2%) and Maine (21.8%).

INTRODUCTION

Legislative Request for Information (RFI) Details

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) prepares an annual recidivism report on committed youth who have discharged from the Division. The current report is submitted in response to one legislative request for information and one statutorily required report:

1) Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Corrections, FY 2013-14, Request for Information (RFI) Item 11; pursuant to the request for information submitted to the Governor by the Colorado Joint Budget Committee. The text of this Legislative Request for Information reads:

The Division is requested to continue its efforts to provide outcome data on the effectiveness of its programs. The Division is requested to provide to the Joint Budget Committee, by January 1 of each year, an evaluation of Division placements, community placements, and nonresidential placements. The evaluation should include, but not be limited to, the number of juveniles served, length of stay, and recidivism data per placement.

2) Section 19-2-411.5, C.R.S., the legislation authorizing the construction and operation of the Ridge View Youth Services Center. This legislation specifies that:

On an annual basis, the department of human services shall calculate the recidivism rate for committed juveniles in the custody of the department of human services who complete the program offered by the facility. In calculating the recidivism rate, the department of human services shall include any juvenile who commits a criminal offense, either as a juvenile or as an adult, within three years after leaving the facility. The department of human services shall report the recidivism rate to the general assembly.

New In This Report

- 1) The most important and interesting findings will take precedent, while the other more historical/traditional/trend data will be available in table format, and reside in the report appendices. Prior year's reports will serve as reference material, if additional information is desired. In addition, previous reports purposely re-iterated findings and statements in various sections of the report (i.e., executive summary, introduction, and section one). In an effort to be more concise, this will no longer be the practice. Such information will only be reported once throughout the report.
- 2) The Division is focusing solely on post-discharge recidivism for this year's report. Post-discharge recidivism refers to offending that happens after a youth has discharged from DYC. This is the

main outcome measure utilized by most juvenile justice agencies across the nation. It is the one measure that gauges how well a youth is able to re-integrate into the community, and remain crime-free, without a justice agency's oversight and services. Having low rates of post-system recidivism is what all juvenile justice agencies strive for.

The Division will continue to closely monitor pre-discharge recidivism (offending that happens during a youth's commitment and parole time) results internally, but findings related to this type of recidivism will not be included in this report.

- 3) This is the first year that DYC will look at recidivism rates beyond the one-year follow-up time period. In all prior studies, youth were tracked for 365 days¹ beyond their discharge date from DYC. This report contains a one-year and a two-year recidivism rate. In subsequent years, the Division plans to report one, two, and three-year recidivism rates. The intent of this approach is to develop a more comprehensive understanding of recidivism rates and the trajectory of outcomes over time, then utilize this information to influence policy decisions.
- 4) Aside from recidivism rates, another focus of this report will be on risk reduction. While recidivism is almost exclusively the key outcome measure used to gauge success when working with justice-system involved youth, other types of intermediate measures can indicate whether or not youth leave the custody of agencies, such as DYC, better than when they arrived. These intermediate risk reduction measures can scientifically show that the criminal risk juvenile offenders pose to society has been reduced. These intermediate measures (risk reduction), when coupled with outcome measures (recidivism rates), lend a more holistic view of agency success.
- 5) Although not new this year, this serves as a reminder that last year's report (released January 1, 2013) was the first DYC recidivism report to utilize a new definition of recidivism. The Division now defines recidivism as a new adjudication or conviction resulting from a misdemeanor or felony offense, within the prescribed follow-up time period(s). Please reference past reports for historical definitions.

DEFINITION OF RECIDIVISM

The Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Corrections defines recidivism as a new adjudication or conviction resulting from a misdemeanor or felony offense, within the prescribed follow-up time period(s).

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¹ 366 days in a leap year.

METHODOLOGY

How does DYC track youth after they have discharged?

The Division utilizes data from the Colorado State Judicial Department (Judicial) to determine whether or not a youth has committed a recidivist act. So, while youth are not physically tracked, they are tracked through the judicial data that is shared with DYC.

The Process of Record Matching

Due to several safeguards related to confidentiality and data-sharing, the Division and the Office of the State Court Administrator developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) specifically related to this annual study. This MOU serves as a data-sharing agreement that grants DYC permission to utilize the adjudication/conviction information (extracted from Judicial's data system) for purposes of identifying recidivists.

The Value of Information Sharing

Currently, it is not an easy endeavor to ensure that youth records across state data systems match accurately. State agencies across Colorado are lacking a unique person identifier (number or code that is unique to an individual) to facilitate access to records across information systems. In other words, the data systems of separate state agencies cannot "talk" to each other. This is problematic for many reasons and from many perspectives. From a simple DYC recidivism report perspective, it means that many staff hours are dedicated to hand-matching youth from DYC's data system (TRAILS) to youth that may or may not appear in State Judicial's data system (ECLIPSE). Although a portion of this matching process is automated, through the use of a formula or algorithm (that looks at name elements, gender, and date of birth elements), this process is seriously hindered by different spellings of names in the two systems, name mis-spellings, data entry errors, hyphenated last names, and aliases. All of these examples provide an obstacle to accurately matching youth records across systems. Without carefully and manually checking, the likelihood of having records not match up at all is high, and this would provide a false negative. In this study, a false negative would infer that a specific youth did not recidivate, when in fact, he or she may have, but those records were entered under a different name, alias, or date of birth in the Judicial system.

Efforts to Help State Data Systems "talk"

The Colorado Integrated Criminal Justice Information System² (CICJIS) does aid in this purpose of helping justice-related agencies and their data systems communicate, but to a limited extent. Other attempts to streamline Colorado justice agency data-sharing, in a more automated fashion, were made in the late 1990's and early 2000's; however, the unique person identifier component never came to fruition.

² C.R.S. 16-20.5-101.5 is the legislation that enabled the creation of CICJIS.

One promising project on the horizon is the CDHS Interoperability Plan, which includes a component focused on developing a master client index (matching) process that would "match" youth across multiple systems (TRAILS, CHATS³, ASCES⁴). This plan component, if completed successfully, would certainly improve operations within CDHS, and could potentially serve as a platform to implement across departments in the future.

Additionally, progress, in the broader arena of agency data-sharing, has been made as well. The Colorado Children and Youth Information Sharing (CCYIS) Collaborative Initiative⁵ has made strides to minimize the barriers of information sharing by implementing the "Guidelines for Juvenile Information Sharing." This collaboration has finalized a standardized "Authorization – Consent to Release Information" form, which would ideally be completed only once by a youth or adult client and accepted by all state agencies, systems, and initiatives which serve children, youth and families⁶. This CCYIS group is also taking an active role in the development of a "master client index", the previously described component of the CDHS Interoperability Plan.

ONE-YEAR FOLLOW-UP: RECIDIVISM RATES

Recidivism Trends

Eight years of DYC recidivism rates are displayed in Figure 1. Although last year's study produced a low recidivism rate (15.8%), this most recent recidivism rate (28.7%) is more consistent with past years. It is important to contextualize these rates over time, and a more long-term look confirms that the past three recidivism studies have shown the lowest recidivism rates DYC has experienced.

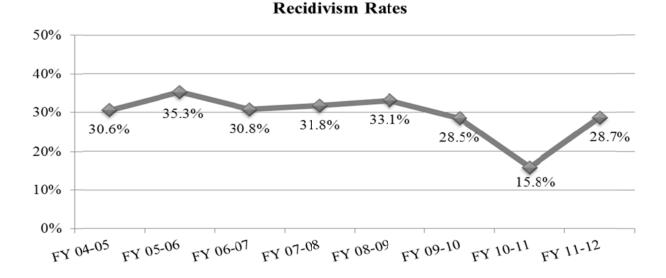
³ Child Care Automated Tracking System (CHATS)

⁴ Automated Child Support Enforcement System (ASCES)

⁵ CCYIS Website: http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251639782979; Email: info@CCYIS.org

⁶ This includes Child Welfare, Division of Youth Corrections, Senate Bill 91-94, HB 1451 Collaborative Management Program, health, schools and other education professionals, juvenile assessment centers, probation, courts, mental health and substance abuse providers, Guardian Ad Litem, Court Appointed Special Advocates, district attorneys, defense council, family advocate organizations, etc.

Figure 1: Recidivism Trends



Funnel to Recidivism

Over the span of fiscal year (FY) 2011-12, six hundred fifty five (655) youth discharged from the Division. Most youth discharged directly from parole status (94%, n=617), but some youth did not have the opportunity to be on parole status at all (6%, n=38)⁷. In general terms, discharging from DYC, means that a youth has completed both their commitment sentence and their six-month (minimum) time on parole.

At this time, DYC does not have the ability to say how many of these individual youth had law enforcement contact, within a year of discharging, which did not result in an arrest. Similarly, DYC does not have access to juvenile arrest data, to report youth re-arrest rates in the 365 days following their discharge date. Both of these data points would be beneficial, if accurate and reliable⁸, and would allow a more detailed picture to be drawn about criminal involvement post-DYC.

Important data that is available includes filing and adjudication information. Of the 655 youth in this study census, 233 (35.6%) received new charges/filings within a year of discharging. Amongst these 233 youth, there were a total of 972 filings, which averages out to be 4.2 filings (charges) per youth. Many youth, when arrested, are charged with more than one offense. In fact, the previous sentence

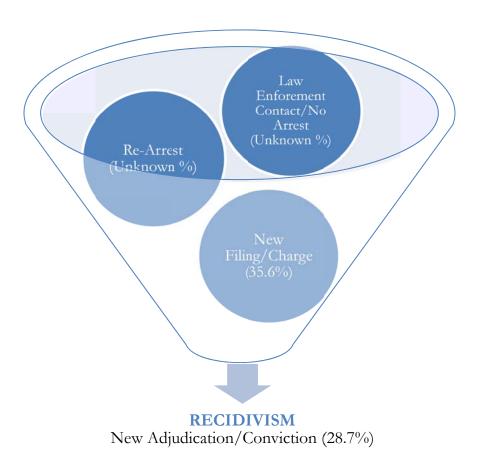
⁷ There are several reasons why a youth wouldn't have the opportunity to serve parole time before discharging, including, but not limited to: having a sentence terminated by the court, death, turning 21 years of age while in an institution or while on escape status, being transferred to the adult system prior to parole (i.e., DYC "failure"). In addition, it is important to note that several youth also serve all mandatory parole time *in a facility/program*, and therefore don't serve parole time at all *in the community*. These youth often receive a new commitment to DYC, and are "discharged" directly back into a new DYC commitment.

⁸ Colorado arrest data obtained through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and reported out by the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) have significant limitations.

indicates that, on average, when a youth is arrested and subsequently filed upon, he/she is charged with four (legally) separate offenses.

Of the 233 youth that were charged with a new offense, 188 were found guilty of one or more offenses. Nearly twenty-nine percent of the discharge cohort were found guilty of an offense (188/655= 28.7%). Of the 188 found guilty, there were a total of 380 guilty offenses. This means, on average, each recidivator was found guilty of 2.0 offenses within a year of discharging. When an individual is found guilty of an offense, it is either termed an adjudication (if charged as a juvenile) or a conviction (if charged as an adult). In this particular cohort, 16% were adjudications and 84% were convictions (when looking at the total number of guilty records; n=380). It makes sense that such a high percentage of adjudications were convictions, as the average age of youth at discharge (for this cohort) is 18.9 years of age. Once a youth reaches 18 years of age, he or she is considered an adult and prosecuted as such.

Figure 2: Funnel to Recidivism



Risk Reduction

Reducing the overall rates of recidivism is an important outcome measure for the Division of Youth Corrections. However, it is also important to consider intermediate measures when evaluating the effectiveness of the Division's treatment programs and approach. Two distinct intermediate measures, both related to risk reduction, are addressed in this section. The first measure examines a youth's committing offense versus their recidivist offense. The second measure examines Colorado Juvenile Risk Assessment (CJRA) related risk levels and risk scores.

The concept of risk reduction is borrowed from the medical literature. It is a relatively new and innovative way of looking at risk, and the medical literature often uses this view when researching and reporting on topics such as AIDS prevention, smoking cessation, and drunk driving reduction. Originally risk was viewed as a black and white concept, whereas individuals were seen as either risky or not risky. However, the risk reduction approach allows for shades of gray in between black and white, or varying levels of risk for individuals. An example of this approach, outside the juvenile justice arena, would be the issue of drunk driving. Most interventions for this behavior do not attempt to convince individuals to stop or reduce alcohol intake, but instead prefer to convince individuals not to drive under the influence of alcohol. Success, in this example, is not measured by how many individuals refrain from drinking in the future, but rather by how many individuals refrain from driving while drunk in the future.

Committing Offenses vs. Recidivist Offenses

The following analysis examines the most serious offense type for which a youth is committed to the DYC for (committing offense) and compares it to the most serious recidivist offense that occurs during the one year follow-up period⁹. One caveat, in relation to committing offense, is that youth often opt into the plea bargaining process. This is important because, in these instances, a youth's official DYC committing offense is the plead-down offense, and does not reflect the more serious crime that he or she was originally arrested for.

All 655 clients discharged from DYC were originally sentenced to DYC following a felony or misdemeanor adjudication. Of the 655, seventy-one percent (71.3%; n=467) did not recidivate in the twelve months following discharge. Eleven percent (11.0%; n=72) of youth re-offended with a lesser offense than the offense they were originally committed for. Adding these two percentages together, the Division was successful in reducing the level of criminal behavior for 82.3% (71.3%+11.0%=82.3%) of youth discharged in FY 2011-12. The remaining eighteen percent (17.7%) either had no change in offense severity (4.4%; n=29) or exhibited more serious criminal behaviors following discharge (13.3%; n=87).

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⁹ For a complete table of recidivist offenses (by offense type and class), see Table C in the Appendix.

13.3%

No Change in Offense Level

4.4%

71.3%

Decrease in Level
(lesser offense)

Increase in Level
(more serious offense)

Figure 3: Offense Level Risk Reduction

Colorado Juvenile Risk Assessment (CJRA) Results

Additional intermediate measures of risk reduction are produced using CJRA information. Every youth committed to the DYC is assessed for criminogenic risk, needs, and protective factors, both from a static¹⁰ and dynamic¹¹ perspective, utilizing the CJRA instrument.

The CJRA is used to initially assess, and periodically reassess risk of recidivism at specified points in time during a youth's time with DYC. Reassessment of risk and protective factors at critical junctures during a youth's sentence allows assessment staff, client managers, and Multi-Disciplinary Teams to accurately gauge risk of recidivism, and inform treatment decisions on the youth's most current needs. Each youth's path along the commitment continuum of care is different. Therefore, the number of CJRA reassessments required for each youth is dependent upon their individual treatment path, case plan, and needs.

For nearly every youth, one final CJRA re-assessment is completed upon discharge from DYC. This final risk assessment is called a youth's "discharge CJRA." Of the 655 youth, ninety-one percent (90.7%; n=594) had a valid discharge CJRA. Valid, in this instance, means that the assessment occurred within 90 days of their discharge date. Although a youth is assessed several times throughout their commitment to DYC, the youth's last CJRA is what is given the most weight in regard to predicting future recidivism. Research indicates that a youth's most recent risk assessment is the most predictive of future re-offending behavior¹². Instruments used to predict outcomes are most valid when the span of time between assessment and outcome are short. In addition, assessments are a measuring tool; the more often it's measured, the more likely that information

¹⁰ Static risk is based on historical data and cannot be improved with treatment.

¹¹ Dynamic risk is based on a youth's current living and social factors and can be targeted by treatment goals during commitment to reduce risk.

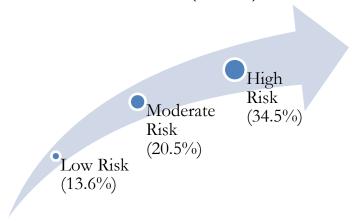
¹² Heilbrun, Kirk, Naomi Goldstein, and Richard Redding (2005). Juvenile Delinquency: Prevention, Assessment, and Intervention (pg. 219). Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press.

related to the youth is known. For these reasons, the results described below are arrived at by using discharge CJRAs in conjunction with new adjudication/conviction information.

Overall Risk Level (Risk to Recidivate)

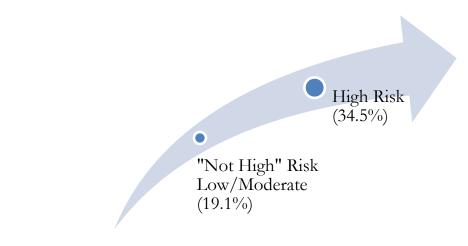
Overall risk level at time of discharge was predictive of recidivism. Both a three-level and a two-level risk categorization system were employed, and both systems were predictive of recidivism¹³. The three-level system results show that youth assessed as being low risk recidivate at a rate of 13.6%, while moderate risk youth recidivate at a rate of 20.5%, and high risk youth recidivate at a rate of 34.5%.

Figure 4: CJRA Risk Levels and Recidivism (3-Levels)



A simpler two-level risk categorization system shows that youth assessed as being "not high" risk recidivate at a rate of 19.1%, while high risk youth recidivate at a rate of 34.5%.

Figure 5: CJRA Risk Levels and Recidivism (2-Levels)



¹³ X²=16.825, df=2, p>0.01 (three-level); X²=16.027, df=1, p>0.01 (two-level)

How many youth start out at DYC being high risk, and are mitigated to moderate or low risk? Or, the reverse, how many start out at DYC being low or moderate risk, and are aggravated to high risk?

At time of commitment, 12% of this cohort (n=68) were low or moderate risk; 88% were high risk (n=490). For this same cohort, at time of discharge, 38% were assessed as being low or moderate risk (n=209); 62% were high risk (n=349).

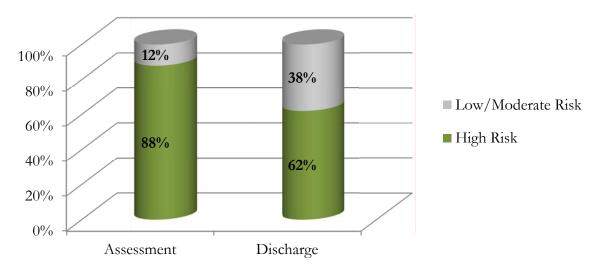


Figure 6: CJRA Overall Risk Level Changes

Figure 7 illustrates the aggregated change in overall risk level, for this cohort of youth that discharged in FY 2011-12. The first box shows that 26.3% of youth were mitigated to lower risk levels. This means that 147 youth (of 558¹⁴) went from high risk to low/moderate risk. The second box shows that the vast majority of youth's (72.6%; or 405 youth) risk levels did not change from commitment to discharge. It's important to note that this second box contains 62 initially low/moderate risk youth who remained low/moderate, and 343 initially high risk youth who remained high risk.

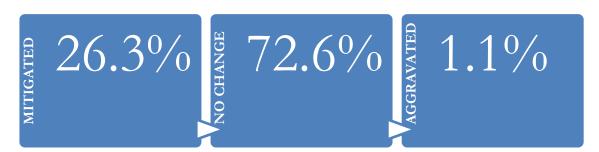


Figure 7: CJRA Risk Level Changes (mitigated, no change, aggravated)

¹⁴ Not 655, due to 97 youth not having two valid CJRA assessments: one at the time of commitment, and one at the time of discharge.

This particular finding is important as it relates to the "do no harm" philosophy. The Division is not only interested in reducing risk, but also not increasing the risk of lower level offenders. It would be an unintended and unfortunate consequence for a youth's risk level to increase while under DYC's custody. Unfortunately this does occur, but only for 1.1% of the cases (specifically for 6 youth in this cohort), as the third box illustrates. These six youth started out as low/moderate risk and discharged being high risk to recidivate.

Domain Risk Level

This next topic requires a slight shift in focus, as domain risk levels are examined, as opposed to overall risk level (previous topic), in relation to recidivism results. Youth committed to DYC have treatment plans developed that specifically address their individual criminogenic needs, in an effort to reduce their overall likelihood of re-offending. The CJRA is rooted in the following 12 criminogenic domains:

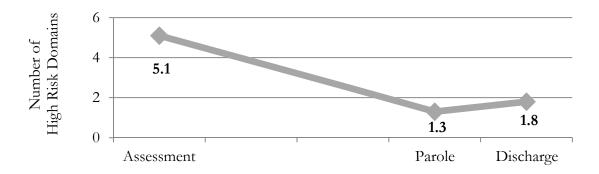
1. C1	riminal History	7. Living Arrangements (Family)
2. G	ender	8. Substance Abuse
3. Sc	chool	9. Mental Health
4. U	se of Free Time	10. Attitudes and Behaviors
5. E	mployment	11. Aggression
6. Re	elationships	12. Skills (Social Proficiency)

Of the twelve CJRA domains, DYC focuses treatment plans on eight of those (shaded above). These eight domains are most amenable to change. The four other domains are either not amendable to treatment interventions (Gender, Criminal History; these are static in nature), or are not applicable to the residential DYC environment (Use of Free Time, Employment).

Reductions in Risk Factors Over Time

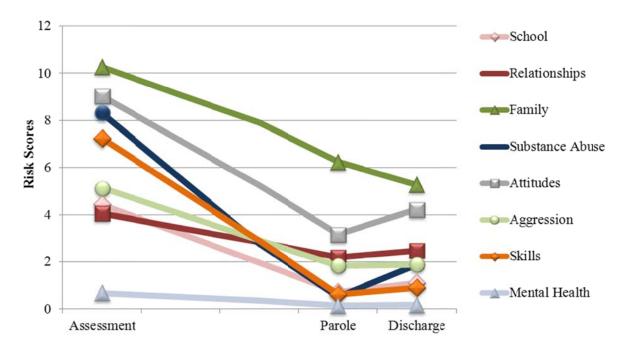
The CJRA analysis in this section focuses on CJRA risk scores at three main points in time: initial assessment, at time of parole, and at time of discharge. On average, youth in this cohort were committed to DYC and assessed as being high risk on 5.1 domains (of the 8 domains). At time of parole, this average decreases to being high risk on 1.3 domains, and at time of discharge is slightly higher at 1.8 domains (see Figure 8).

Figure 8: Number of High Risk CJRA Domains Over Time



All eight (8) domains most amenable to change showed statistically significant reductions in risk, from time of assessment to time of discharge, for this cohort of youth. This is illustrated in Figure 9. Between parole and discharge, there is an increase in risk scores for select domains. The shift in risk scores, during this period of time, helps to illustrate the difficulties associated with transitioning youth back into the community and their exposure to anti-social influences. For these reasons and more, it is anticipated that some portion of the domain risk reductions achieved, from time of assessment to time of parole, are not maintained when youth leave the structured and predictable setting of residential commitment and return to their community on parole. However, overall, the youth in this cohort show significant reduction in risk during their time with the DYC.

Figure 9: Change in Domain Risk Scores Over Time



Increases in Protective Factors Over Time

Although the literature states that more gains (in reducing recidivism) are made by addressing risk than improving assets, bolstering a youth's positive attributes and resources can certainly be beneficial in the long run. There were five domains 15 that showed significant increases in protective factor scores, from time of assessment to time of discharge. These five domains were: relationships, substance abuse, attitudes and behaviors, aggression, and skills. Protective factors in the school and family domains did not change significantly; and protective factors in the mental health domain were reduced significantly—the opposite direction of what is intended. However, this mental health domain outcome is likely an artifact of the three protective factor questions in this domain: two of which specifically ask if a youth is taking medication; and one regarding the attendance of mental health treatment. If a youth's client manager does not have reason to believe the youth will continue taking medication and/or attending mental health treatment (for any multitude of reasons), answers to these items may vary.

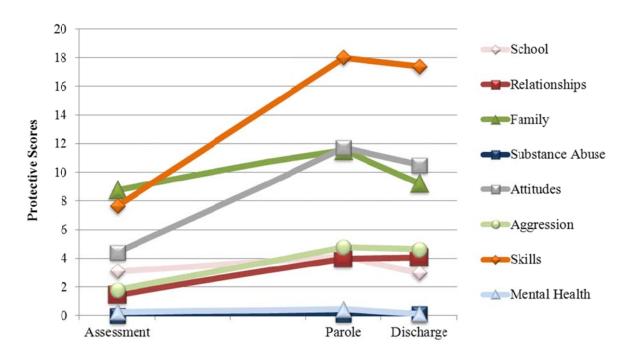


Figure 10: Change in Domain Protective Scores Over Time

How Predictive (of Recidivism) are Individual Domains?

There were eight (8) CJRA domains, at time of discharge, that were predictive of recidivism. Six (6) of those are current domains, and two (2) are historic¹⁶. These predictive domains, along with the recidivism rates by risk level, are illustrated in Table 1.

¹⁵ This is out of the eight (8) domains that DYC examines annually—those most amenable to change.

¹⁶ See the Appendix "Quick Reference Tables" for statistical significance figures.

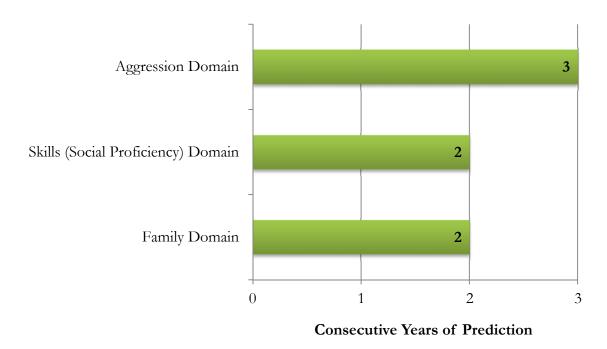
Table 1: CJRA Domains and Recidivism Rates by Risk Level

CJRA Domain		#	Recidivism Rate by Risk Level		
		#	Not High Risk	High Risk	
	Relationships	6b	22.4%	38.4%	
	Family	7b	24.8%	39.3%	
Current/	Substance Abuse	8b	25.9%	48.7%	
Dymanic	Attitudes & Behaviors	10	22.5%	37.1%	
	Aggression	11	25.0%	36.8%	
	Skills	12	26.1%	48.6%	
Historic/	Criminal History	1	20.8%	30.9%	
Static	Family History	7a	21.4%	31.5%	

Consistently Predictive Domains

The three (3) CJRA domains depicted below have been predictive of recidivism for the past two cohorts of discharged youth (utilizing a one-year follow-up period). The Skills domain and the Family domain have been consistently predictive for the past two cohorts of DYC discharged youth. The Aggression domain is the only domain that has been consistently predictive for the past three cohorts.

Figure 11: Consistently Predictive CJRA Domains



CJRA Domains and Odds Ratios

The use of odds ratios allow for a specific type of group comparison to be made. An odds ratio, for purposes of this report, can be interpreted as the amount of increased risk for recidivism, when comparing one group to another. The two groups compared for this section were: 1) youth who score high risk on individual CJRA domains and 2) youth who don't score high risk on individual CJRA domains.

Table 2 displays various odds ratios, and explains how each odds ratio can be interpreted.

Table 2: Odds Ratios and Meanings

Odds Ratio	0 - 0.9	1.0	1.1 - 2.9	3.0+
(Risk Direction)	Decreased Risk		Increased Risk	
General Meaning	Decreased Risk	No Decreased or Increased Risk	Increased Risk (Predictive)	Increased Risk (Strongly Predictive)
Meaning for this	Not Applicable to	Recidivism Risk is the same for both groups	One group is at Significantly Increased Risk of Recidivism	One group is at Acutely Increased Risk of Recidivism
Recidivism Study	this Study	Same odds of Recidivating	S <i>ignificantly</i> higher odds of Recidivating	Acutely higher odds of Recidivating

Figure 12 illustrates several important findings, utilizing odds ratios analyses with CJRA data. The odds ratios (OR) are the white figures shown inside the green bars in Figure 12. The results for each domain are explained one-by-one, in the following paragraph.

Youth who score high risk on the discharge CJRA dynamic domain Relationships are twice as likely to recidivate within one year post discharge compared to those youth who do not score high risk (OR 2.2¹⁷). Youth who score high risk on the dynamic domain Family are two times as likely to recidivate within 1 year post-discharge compared to youth who do not score high risk (OR 2.0).

¹⁷ All Confidence Intervals for these Odds Ratios are reported in this footnote. Confidence Intervals are used to help estimate the Odds Ratio (the white figures shown in Figure 10). Since an Odds Ratio is just an estimate using statistics, the Confidence Intervals help to refine that estimate by relaying the interval in which the true "Odds Ratio" is most likely to lie. Relationships, 95% CI 1.5-3.1; Family, 95% CI 1.3-2.9; Substance Abuse, 95% CI 1.7-4.4; Aggression, 95% CI 1.2-2.5; Skills, 95% CI 1.6-4.4.

Youth who score high risk on the dynamic domain Substance Abuse are almost three times as likely to recidivate within a year of discharging, compared to youth who do not score high risk (OR 2.7). Youth who score high risk on the dynamic domain Aggression are 1.8 times as likely to recidivate within one year post-discharge, compared to youth who do not score high risk on this domain (OR 1.8). Youth who score high risk on the dynamic domain Skills are two and a half times as likely to recidivate within one year post-discharge, compared to youth who do not score high risk on this domain (OR 2.7). The CJRA domains of School, Mental Health, and Attitudes & Behaviors were not found to be predictive of recidivism for this discharge cohort.

Increased Odds of Recidivism by CJRA Domain

Figure 12: CJRA Odds Ratios Analysis

3.0 Significant & Predictive (>1.0) 2.7 2.7 2.0 2.2 2.0 **Odds Ratio** 1.8 1.0 0.0 Relationships Substance Skills Family Aggression Abuse (Social Proficiency)

Which Domains are MOST predictive of recidivism?

The above odds ratios were modeled individually; meaning the effect of each CJRA domain on recidivism was examined independently. All CJRA domains were also modeled together using a multiple logistic regression model to predict which domains are the most predictive of recidivism, when all the domains are considered (School, Relationships, Family, Substance Abuse, Mental Health, Aggression, and Skills). One multiple logistic regression model was fit for males, and one was fit for females, in an effort to identify differences in predictive factors by gender. Those results, by gender, are described below and illustrated in Figure 13.

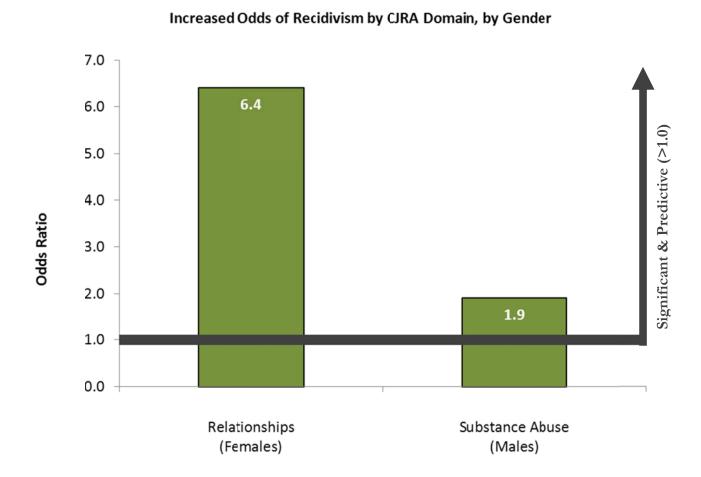
Males

Males who score high risk on the dynamic domain Substance Abuse are two times as likely to recidivate within one year post-discharge, compared to males who do not score high risk (OR 1.9)¹⁸ when all other CJRA dynamic domains are considered (School, Relationships, Family /Current Living Arrangements, Alcohol and Drugs, Mental Health, Aggression, and Skills).

Females

Females who score high risk on the dynamic domain Relationships are six times as likely to recidivate within one year post-discharge, compared to females who do not score high risk (OR 6.4)¹⁹ when all other CJRA dynamic domains are considered (School, Relationships, Family /Current Living Arrangements, Alcohol and Drugs, Mental Health, Aggression, and Skills).

Figure 13: CJRA Odds Ratios Analysis by Gender



¹⁸ Males and Substance Abuse, 95% CI 1.1-3.3.

¹⁹ Females and Relationships, 95% CI 1.2-34.5.

This finding supports the advantage of gender-responsive treatment. More specifically, the female-responsive treatment approach, which indicates that programming and services that focus on positive and healthy relationship development is best practice for delinquent females²⁰.

INVESTIGATIVE SPOTLIGHTS

Spotlight: Trauma and Recidivism

As shown in Table 3, trauma may be a risk factor for recidivism. Several sources of trauma were found to increase one's likeliness of recidivating. Trauma was defined as having a history of sexual abuse, neglect, physical abuse, or verbal abuse on the History/Current Victimization section of the initial Colorado Client Assessment Record (CCAR) completed during a youth's commitment assessment.

Table 3: Trauma and Recidivism

Trauma Indication & Type	n	Recidivists		
No Trauma	273	27%		
Trauma	382	30%		
No Sexual Victimization	527	31%		
Sexual Victimization	128	21%*		
Not Victim of Neglect	377	24%		
Victim of Neglect	278	35%*		
Not Victim of Physical Abuse	449	27%		
Victim of Physical Abuse	206	32%		
Not Victim of Verbal Abuse	484	30%		
Victim of Verbal Abuse	171	26%		
* p-value <0.05, which indicates statistical significance				

Trauma, in general, was not predictive of post-discharge recidivism. Although more youth with a trauma history did recidivate, it was not found to be statistically significant. However, several trauma sources were found to be predictive of post-discharge recidivism.

²⁰ Meeting the Needs of Juvenile Female Offenders, training program manual (2004). National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

Greene, P., & Associates (1998). Guiding Principles for Promising Female Programming. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

Interestingly, youth with a history of sexual victimization were less likely than youth without a history of sexual victimization to recidivate (21% vs. 31%, p=0.03). Youth with a history of neglect were more likely to recidivate than their counterparts without a history of neglect (35% vs. 24%, p<0.01). Histories of physical abuse or verbal abuse were not found to predict recidivism.

Spotlight: TBI and Recidivism

A traumatic brain injury was defined as indicating the youth had a traumatic brain injury (TBI) on the Disabilities section of the CCAR completed during a youth's commitment assessment.

Table 4: TBI and Recidivism

TBI Indication	n	Recidivists		
No Known Traumatic Brain Injury	593	28%		
Known Traumatic Brain Injury	62	40%*		
* p-value <0.05, which indicates statistical significance				

Youth with a known TBI were much more likely to recidivate than youth without a known TBI (40% vs. 28%, p=0.03). In other words, two out of five youth with a known TBI, recidivated within a year of discharging from DYC. There are several issues associated with having a traumatic brain injury that would explain the elevated recidivism rates for these youth, including impulsivity and impaired cognitive skills, just to name a few.

Spotlight: Is the Amount of Time that a Youth Spends in Secure Placement Related to Recidivism?

The amount of time that a youth spends in secure placement (calculated as a percentage of total residential length of service) was not found to be related to recidivism. For this analysis, the cohort was divided into four groups, based on the percentage of time each youth spent in secure placement. These four groups were: less than 7%, between 8% and 24%, between 25% and 74%, and more than 75%. The results revealed that each of the four groups recidivate at similar rates. These results infer that higher percentages of time spent in secure placement, by itself, do not make youth more likely to recidivate—for this cohort.

Table 5: Time Spent in Residential Placement and Recidivism

Percent of Total Residential Time Spent in Secure Placement	Recidivism Rate
7% or less	30.1%
Between 8% and 24%	28.0%
Between 25% and 74%	29.9%
75% or more	26.8%

These results are contrary to the common belief that prolonged periods of time spent in secure residential placement have detrimental effects on youth outcomes. Although not significant, youth in this cohort who spent the least amount of time in secure placement (7% or less of total residential time) had the highest recidivism rate—30.1%, whereas youth who spent the most amount of time (75% or more of total residential time) had the lowest recidivism rate—26.8%.

TWO-YEAR FOLLOW-UP: RECIDIVISM RATES

Why track youth longer than one year?

Tracking youth for a period of one year, to capture re-offending behavior, is standard across many juvenile justice agencies. However, to more accurately determine long term success, it is important to extend this follow-up period. The Department has decided to track discharged youth for three years following discharge. This will allow for a one-year recidivism rate, as well as cumulative two-year and three-year rates. This report contains a one-year and a two-year recidivism rate. In subsequent years, DYC plans to report out a three-year recidivism rate as well.

Many states across the U.S. also report out recidivism rates with various follow-up periods. The Department's decision to extend the tracking period to two and three years post-discharge will allow for some limited national comparison as it relates to long term agency success with juvenile offenders.

Will recidivism rates increase as follow-up periods are extended?

Yes, rates will undoubtedly increase with longer follow-up periods. There are several different reasons for this, and those reasons are explained individually below. Before beginning this year's study, the Department was already prepared and cognizant of the fact that two and three-year follow-up periods will (and do) result in higher recidivism rates. In preparation for this rate increase, DYC attempted to generate an estimate of rates associated with longer follow-up periods. In doing this, the recidivism studies of seven (7) other states with comparable recidivism definitions were examined, and it was determined that four of the seven states report out on two- and three-year recidivism rates. An average of those four states' percent increases (from the one-year rate to the two-year rate) were then applied to Colorado's one-year rate. Using this method, Colorado's 16% one-year rate for discharge cohort FY 2010-11 was estimated to increase to 26% using a two-year follow-up period, and then further increase to 33% using a three-year follow-up period.

Time-At-Risk (actual increases)

Time-at-risk increases when follow-up periods are extended. Increased time-at-risk results in the detection of more re-offending behavior, and therefore higher recidivism rates. For example, in a one-year follow-up period, a youth has 365 days at-risk, or one year's opportunity to re-offend. However, in a two-year follow-up period, that same youth has twice as much time-at-risk, and double the opportunity to re-offend (730 days). It is anticipated that with increased time-at-risk, more youth recidivate.

Capturing Missing Case Findings/More Complete Data (artificial increases)

For various reasons²¹, the data DYC receives from Judicial each year is not 100% complete. Many youth, especially those with high profile cases, are filed upon (charged with a crime) in one fiscal year, and are not adjudicated or convicted of those crimes until the following year. Case findings (i.e., guilty, not guilty) can come days, months, or even years following a filing. For this reason, each year's data contains open cases with missing findings. Youth who had open cases with missing findings during the one-year follow-up period are not considered to be recidivists---as the definition of recidivism is a new adjudication or conviction (therefore a finding is necessary to determine whether or not a youth recidivated). Although these youth are not captured as recidivists in year-one, they will most likely be captured with extended follow-up periods. When data is more complete, more adjudication and convictions are captured, and this artificially increases recidivism rates.

Two-Year Recidivism Results

Reporting recidivism rates by cohort, for varying follow-up periods, is a concrete way to look at the same group of youth and their outcomes over time. The FY 2010-11 cohort (n=793) has now been tracked for two years following their discharge. The one-year recidivism rate for this cohort is 15.7% (astoundingly low) and their two-year rate is 43.3%. This is a marked increase for which there may be a variety of reasons for; including both actual and artificial increases explained prior. However, other possible explanations include changes in policing, criminal laws/codes, prosecuting, sentencing, local practice and policy (i.e., District Attorney filing practices, the availability of diversion options, etc.), and actual increases in criminal behavior. It is extremely difficult to determine how much, if at all, any of the aforementioned factors contributed to the increase seen from year one to year two, with the 793 youth. By the time next year's report in released, DYC will have tracked this same group of youth for three consecutive years, and will be able to report out a three-year recidivism rate.

The FY 2011-12 cohort (n=655) has only been tracked for one year following discharge. Their one-year recidivism rate was 28.7%, and their two-year rate will be available in next year's report.

Table 6: Recidivism Rates by Cohort

Youth Discharge Cohort	One-Year Recidivism Rate	Two-Year Recidivism Rate	Three-Year Recidivism Rate
FY11-12 cohort (n=655)	28.7%	n/a*	n/a
FY10-11 cohort (n=793)	15.7%	43.3%	n/a*

^{*}rates TBD; available in next year's report

²¹ Reasons for incomplete data can include: incomplete court proceedings and late data entry.

NATIONAL COMPARISONS

A cursory review of recidivism measures used by other states' juvenile justice system has found that there are seven states considered comparable to Colorado's definition. Table 7 lists the states that were found to be comparable, and lists their respective recidivism rates in ascending order. It is important to acknowledge that juvenile corrections populations and systems are unique; and even if recidivism definitions appear similar, nuances may exist that are unknown at this time.

Of the eight states listed, Colorado's rate of 29% (28.7%) appears to be the fourth lowest recidivism rate in the nation. The three lowest rates belong to Maryland (18.7%), Louisiana (19.2%) and Maine (21.8%). Several other states (not shown in Table 7) with similar definitions were also examined, like Missouri and North Dakota; however, specific definitional differences were found that prevented a true rate comparison. For instance, both Missouri and North Dakota define recidivism as "a return to the juvenile or adult correctional system," based on a new adjudication or conviction. Using this definition, individuals that received a new adjudication/conviction, but were sentenced to probation as a result (rather than the juvenile or adult correctional agencies) would not be counted as recidivists—as probation is overseen by the courts, not the correctional agencies. The DYC counts all individuals with new adjudications/convictions as recidivists, regardless of which justice system they end up sentenced to. This example serves as a reminder to interpret the rate comparisons shown below with caution, as recidivism definitions may not be an exact match.

Table 7: National Comparisons

States with Comparable Juvenile Recidivism Measures				
State	One-Year Recidivism Rate	Two-Year Recidivism Rate	Three-Year Recidivism Rate	
Maryland	19%	36%	46%	
Louisiana	19%	38%	42%	
Maine	22%	37%	39%	
Colorado	29%	43%	TBD	
Idaho*	30%	N/A	N/A	
Virginia	36%	56%	67%	
District of Columbia*	37%	N/A	N/A	
Florida*	41%	N/A	N/A	

^{*}State only tracks youth for a one-year follow-up period.

The following table only looks at states that track youth beyond the one year mark. It serves to compare states, by the percent growth in recidivism rates. The first column is a calculated

percentage increase from the one-year follow-up rate to the two-year follow-up rate. The second column is a calculated percentage increase from the one-year follow-up rate to the three-year follow-up rate. For example, Colorado's one-year rate is 28.7%, and the two-year rate is 43.3%. This is a 50.9% increase from year one to year two ((43.3%-28.7%)/28.7% = 50.9%). Out of the five states shown in Table 8, Colorado has the lowest percent growth in recidivism rate from year one to year two. Maryland and Louisiana have the highest percent growth from year one to year two, 90.4% and 95.3%, respectively. However, mathematically, those with lower base rates (one-year recidivism rates) will naturally have higher percent growth.

Table 8: National Comparison (Recidivism Rate Growth)

State	% growth 1-2 yr	% growth 1-3 yr
Colorado	50.9%	TBD
Virginia	56.6%	87.9%
Maine	70.6%	78.9%
Maryland	90.4%	143.3%
Louisiana	95.3%	118.2%
Average	72.8%	107.1%

RIDGE VIEW RESULTS

This section reports recidivism and other outcome information for the 163 youth discharged from the DYC between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012, who were placed at Ridge View Youth Services Center (RVYSC) for more than 90 days during their commitment to the Division, and who stayed at RVYSC for at least two-thirds (66%) of their total residential commitment period. The criteria for, and breakdown of, the three cohorts are illustrated below.

Figure 14: Configuration of the Three Cohorts

MALE COHORT BREAKDOWN Spent at least 90 days at Ridge View Ridge View Cohort AND N=163 Spent at least 66% of total residential LOS at Ridge View Spent at least 90 days at Ridge View "Shared" Cohort BUT N=78 Did not spend 66% of total residential LOS at Ridge View State & Contract Spent less than 90 days Placement Cohort at Ridge View N = 332

FY 2011-12 Male Discharges (N=573)

The Ridge View cohort is compared with all other males discharged from DYC during this same time period who did not spend time at RVYSC (n=332) and to a shared group of males that spent 90 days or more at RVYSC, but did not stay at the program for at least 66% of their total residential LOS (n=78).

FY 2011-12 cohort comparisons (one-year rates)

Statistically, these recidivism rates do not differ by cohort. In other words, the small differences in rates shown are most likely due to chance, not meaningful differences. Figure 15, shows that the recidivism rates for RVYSC youth (29.4%) were statistically comparable to the recidivism rates for State and Contract Placement males (31.3%), and the Shared group of males (30.8%). Note that the overall male recidivism rate for this group of FY 2011-12 discharges was 30.7% (176/573).

Figure 15: Recidivism Rates by Cohort

FY 2011-12 Male Discharges (N=573) Post-Discharge Recidivism

	RECIDIVISTS	NON- RECIDIVISTS	
Ridge View Cohort	29.4%	70.6%	
N=163	N=48	N=115	
"Shared" Cohort	30.8%	69.2%	
N=78	N=24	N=54	
State & Contract Placement Cohort N=332	31.3% N=104	68.7% N=228	
ALL MALES	30.7%	69.3%	
N=573	N=176	N=397	

*No Statistically Significant Differences

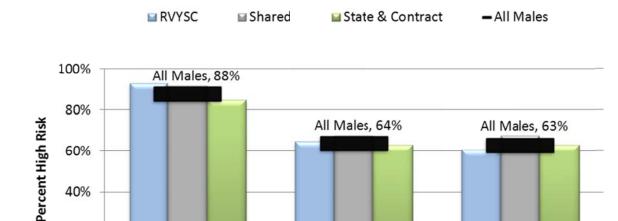
CJRA Risk Level Results

At time of commitment²², RVYSC youth were high on 5.43 domains of the CJRA (on average), as compared to 5.16 domains for Shared youth, and 5.00 domains for other DYC males²³. When looking at CJRA domain differences between cohorts, four domains highlight true (statistically significant) differences between the cohorts. The State & Contract Placement cohort was highest risk in the mental health domain, and the RVYSC cohort was highest risk in the following three domains: 1) School, 2) Relationships, and 3) Criminal History.

Risk Reduction Over Time:

Which cohort of youth showed the highest risk reduction during their time with DYC?

Statistically, each of the 3 cohorts reduced risk roughly to the same extent. No statistical significant differences were found. In other words, roughly the same percentage of youth were high risk at assessment, high risk at parole, and high risk at discharge for youth in the RVYSC cohort, Shared cohort, and State & Contract cohort. The black bars in Figure 16 illustrate that 88% of all males in this discharge cohort (all 3 cohorts combined) were high risk to recidivate at time of initial assessment. This percentage decreases to 64% being high risk at time of parole, and 63% high risk at time of discharge. This is an outcome that should be celebrated equally, regardless of cohort.



65%

68%

Parole

63%

61%

68%

Discharge

63%

Figure 16: Risk Reduction Over Time by Cohort

93%

92%

Assessment

85%

20%

0%

²² Examining each youth's initial CJRA at time of commitment, during the assessment period.

²³ F=5.020, df=2, p<0.01 (ANOVA)

FY 2010-11 cohort comparisons (one-year and two-year rates)

Both, the one-year and the two-year, recidivism rates by cohort do not differ significantly. Table 9 illustrates this in more detail below. The row in gray shading contains the one-year results of males discharged in FY 2011-12. The two rows with no shading contain the one-year and two-year results of males discharged in FY 2010-11.

Table 9: Cohort Recidivism Rates

Recidivism Rates	Ridge View	Shared	State & Contract Placement	TOTAL (All Males)
One-Year Rate (FY11-12 cohort)	29.4%	30.8%	31.3%	30.7%
One-Year Rate (FY10-11 cohort)	18.7%	24.5%	14.7%	17.2%
Two-Year Rate (FY10-11 cohort)	45.5%	55.3%	43.4%	45.6%

APPENDIX

Quick Reference Tables

Table A: Factors Significantly Predictive of Recidivism (FY 2011-12 Discharge Cohort)

Variable/Factor	Categories	Recidivism Rate
Gender ²⁴	Male	30.7%
	Female	14.6%
CJRA ²⁵ Overall Risk	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	19.1%
Level (at Discharge)	High Risk	34.5%
CJRA Relationships	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	22.4%
Domain Dynamic	High Risk	38.4%
CJRA Family Domain	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	24.8%
Dynamic	High Risk	39.3%
CJRA Substance Abuse	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	25.9%
Domain Dynamic	High Risk	48.7%
CJRA Attitudes &	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	22.5%
Behaviors Domain	High Risk	37.1%
CJRA Aggression	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	25.0%
Domain	High Risk	36.8%
CIDA Strilla Domain	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	26.1%
CJRA Skills Domain	High Risk	48.6%
CJRA Criminal History	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	20.8%
Domain Static	High Risk	30.9%
CJRA Family History	Low/Moderate Risk (Not High)	21.4%
Domain Static	High Risk	31.5%
Sex Offense (SO)	Not Requiring SO Treatment	30.0%
Specific Treatment ²⁶	SO Treatment Required	18.1%
Pre-Discharge Offense ²⁷	No Pre-Discharge Offense	24.8%
	Pre-Discharge Offense	37.0%
Parole LOS ²⁸	Non-Recidivists: 6.7 months	N/A
rarole LOS	Recidivists: 7.6 months	N/A

²⁴ Gender: X²=9.065, df=1, p>0.01

²⁵ CJRA: Overall Risk Level, X²=16.027, df=1, p>0.01; Relationships, X²=17.760, df=1, p>0.01; Family, X²=12.026, df=1, p>0.01; Substance Abuse, X²=16.829, df=1, p>0.01; Attitudes and Behaviors, X²=15.197, df=1, p>0.01; Aggression, X²=8.840, df=1, p>0.01; Skills (Social Proficiency), X²=15.149, df=1, p>0.01; Criminal History, X²=4.927, df=1, p>0.05; Family History, X²=5.806, df=1, p>0.05

²⁶ SO: X²=4.481, df=1, p>0.05

²⁷ Pre-Discharge Offense: X²=10.389, df=1, p>0.01

²⁸ Parole LOS: **F**=6.451, df=1, p>0.05

Table B: Factors Not Significantly Predictive of Recidivism (FY 2011-12 Discharge Cohort)

Variable/Factor	Categories	Recidivism Rate
Ethnicity ²⁹	Minority	28.7%
Zemicity	White	28.7%
	Central	26.4%
DYC Management	Northeast	34.1%
Region	Southern	26.7%
	Western	27.4%
Prior Adjudications	Non-Recidivists: 1.9	N/A
,	Recidivists: 2.1	N/A
Age at	Non-Recidivists: 14.64	N/A
First Adjudication	Recidivists: 14.35	N/A
Prior Detention	One	30.3%
Admissions	Two or More	28.2%
Prior Commitments	None	28.1%
	One or More	40.6%
Mental Health	Prof. Intervention NOT Required	29.3%
Treatment Need Levels	Prof. Intervention Required	28.3%
Substance Abuse	Prevention	26.1%
Treatment Need Level	Intervention	28.8%
Treatment Need Level	Treatment	29.1%
DYC Escapes	None	25.7%
DTC Escapes	One or More	31.7%
DYC Escapes	Non-Recidivists: 0.96	N/A
D1C Escapes	Recidivists: 1.10	N/A
	Zero	28.3%
Recommitments	One	31.1%
	Two or More	29.2%
Recommitments	Non-Recidivists: 0.22	N/A
Kecommitments	Recidivists: 0.23	N/A
Number of Placements	Non-Recidivists: 4.7	N/A
During Commitment	Recidivists: 4.5	N/A
Residential LOS	Non-Recidivists: 18.2 months	N/A
Residential LOS	Recidivists: 18.7 months	N/A

-

²⁹ No group differences were found in any categorical breakdown of ethnicity.

Table C: Adjudication/Conviction Types and Dispositions³⁰

	divist Offense hort; Recidivist n=188)	Percent
	Person	14.9%
M . C .	Property	21.3%
Most Serious	Drug	5.3%
Felony	Weapon	1.6%
Adjudication/	Escape	2.7%
Conviction Type	Identity	4.8%
	Sex Registration	2.1%
	Other	1.1%
	Person	11.2%
	Property	13.3%
	Drug	3.2%
Most Serious	Weapon	1.6%
Misdemeanor	Escape	0.0%
Adjudication/	Identity	1.1%
Conviction Type	Sex Registration	1.6%
	DWI/DUI	3.7%
	Obstruction	4.3%
	Protection Order	2.7%
	Other	3.7%
	F2	1.1%
	F3	6.9%
	F4	19.7%
Mr. (C.	F5	17.0%
Most Serious	F6	9.0%
Offense Class	M1	20.7%
	M2	13.8%
	M3	5.9%
	M	5.9%
Type of		
Adjudication/	Criminal/Adult	84.0%
Conviction	Delinquency/Juvenile	16.0%
(Most Serious)	1 7.3	
Disposition on Most		
Serious	Guilty	93.1%
Adjudication/	Deferred	6.9%
Conviction		

 30 The rates presented in this table <u>are not</u> recidivism rates. The rates sum to 100% and depict post-discharge adjudication breakdowns in each area.

Table D

RIDGE VIEW SECTION RESULTS		Ridge View	Shared Youth	State and Contract Placement
		N=163	N=78	N=332
Recidivism Rate		29.4%	30.8%	31.3%
SIGNIFICANT COHORT	DIFFERENCES ³¹			
CJRA Domains	Average Number of High Risk Domains (per youth)	5.4	5.2	5.0
Ethnicity*	African-American Hispanic White Other	28.8% 38.0% 31.9% 1.2%	20.5% 38.5% 37.2% 3.8%	15.1% 35.2% 46.7% 3.0%
Number of Prior Placements*	Average Number of Prior Placements	1.4	1.6	2.1
Number of Placements During Commitment*	Average Number of Commitment Placements	3.8	6.5	4.3
Number of Detention Admissions*	Zero to Two Three or More	19.6% 80.4%	17.9% 82.1%	28.0% 72.0%
Number of Prior Adjudications*	None One Two or more	19.0% 28.2% 52.8%	14.1% 30.8% 55.1%	31.0% 27.7% 41.3%
Age at Commitment	Average Age (in Years)	16.8	16.6	16.9
Commitment Offense*	Person Property Drug Weapon Other	36.8% 50.3% 6.1% 2.5% 4.3%	32.1% 52.6% 6.4% 3.8% 5.1%	46.4% 37.3% 7.5% 1.5% 7.2%
Mental Health Treatment Need Levels	Prof. Intervention Required Prof. Intervention NOT Required	45.4%	46.2%	58.1%
Length of Service*	Average Number of Months in Residential Treatment	17.3	24.7	17.4
* indicates statistical signi	ficance, p-value <0.05			

³¹ The rates presented in this section of the table <u>are not</u> recidivism rates. The rates sum to 100% and depict cohort descriptives.

Potential Spotlight Investigated: Secure Need Factors and Recidivism [Nothing Significant Found]

Potential Spotlight Investigated: Gender, Ethnicity and Recidivism [Nothing Significant Found---see below]

Figure A: Recidivism by Gender and Ethnicity

