

# Second Chance Act Adult Demonstration Projects Performance Measurement Data

Second Chances and Safer Communities Conference  
Thursday, May 24, 2012



**BJA**

Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

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## **This session is designed to:**

- Discuss the value of good performance data
- Explain how BJA uses performance data
- Elicit feedback from grantees
- Review performance measurement results
- Discuss common errors made
- Offer suggestions on data collection
- Discuss revisions to measures

# Why Are Performance Measures Important?

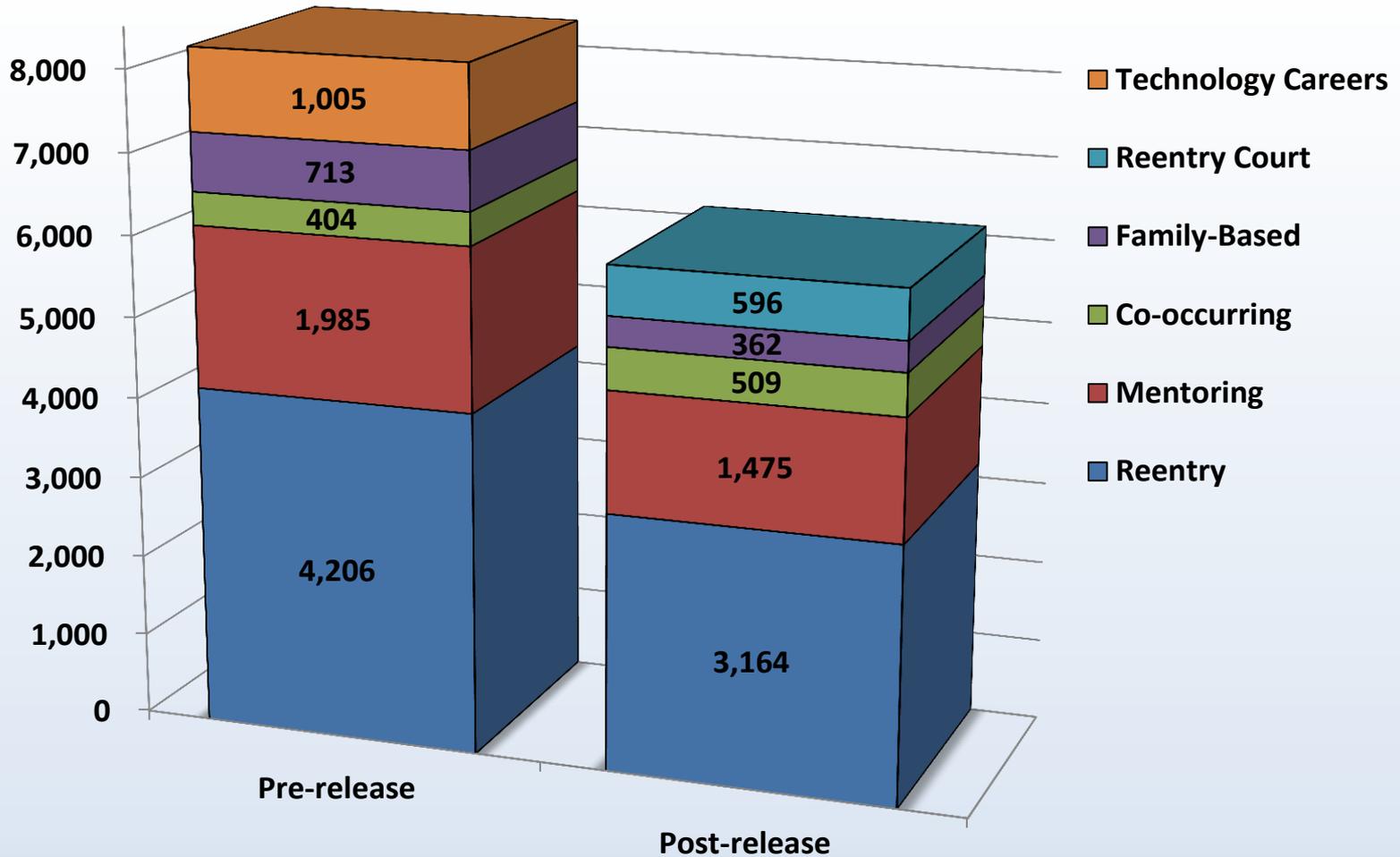
- Link people and dollars to performance
- Link programs and resources to results
- Help to justify continued funding
- Provide targeted technical assistance
- Improve program performance



# Second Chance Act Program Accomplishments

- December 2009 through June 2011
  - Reentry and Mentoring Programs admitted 15,911 participants
- In Fiscal Year 2010
  - 4 SCA grant programs received awards and started reporting in July 2011
- Since July 2011
  - All grant programs admitted 8,313 participants to pre-release services and 6,106 to post-release services

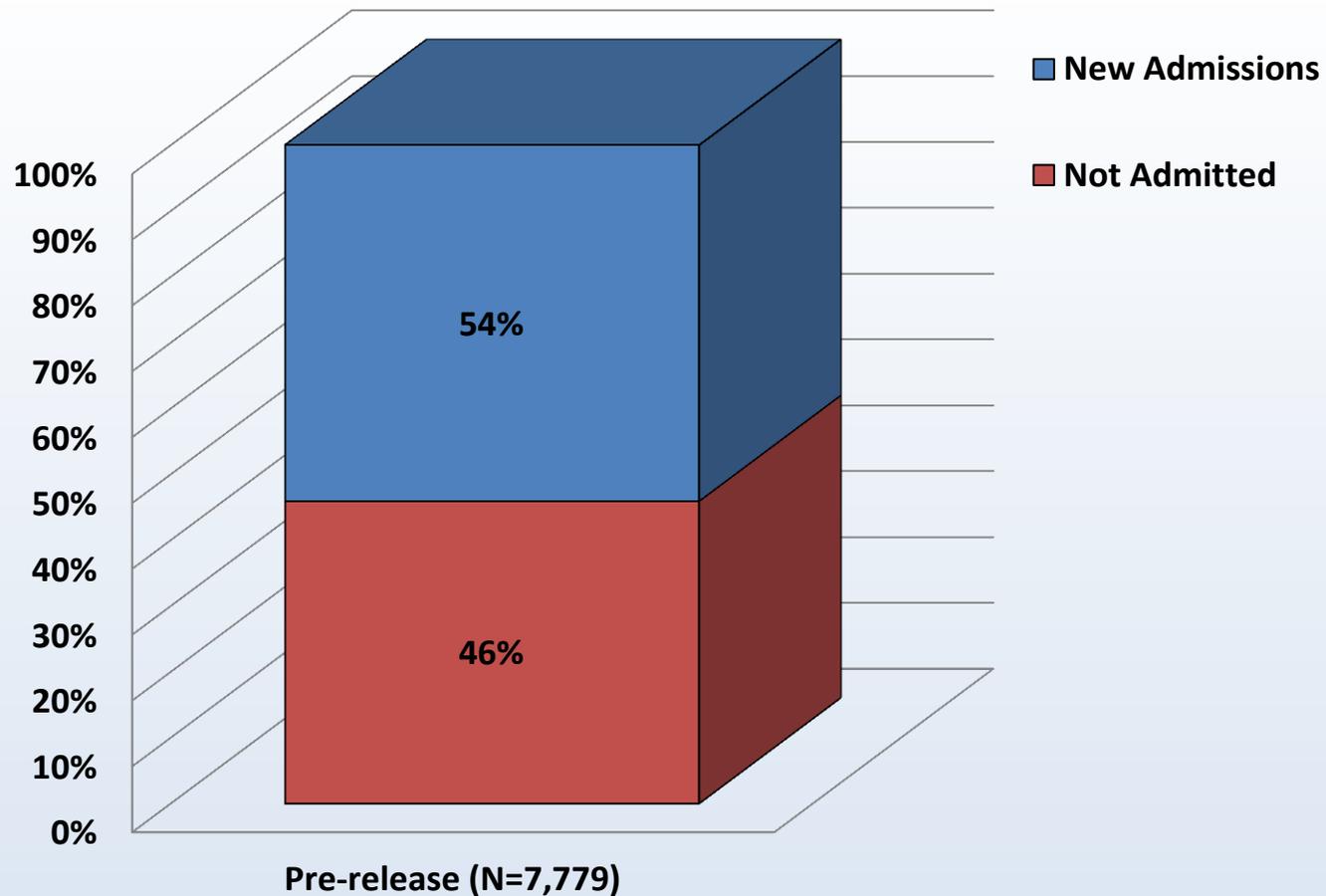
# Second Chance Act, Participant Admissions from July to December 2011



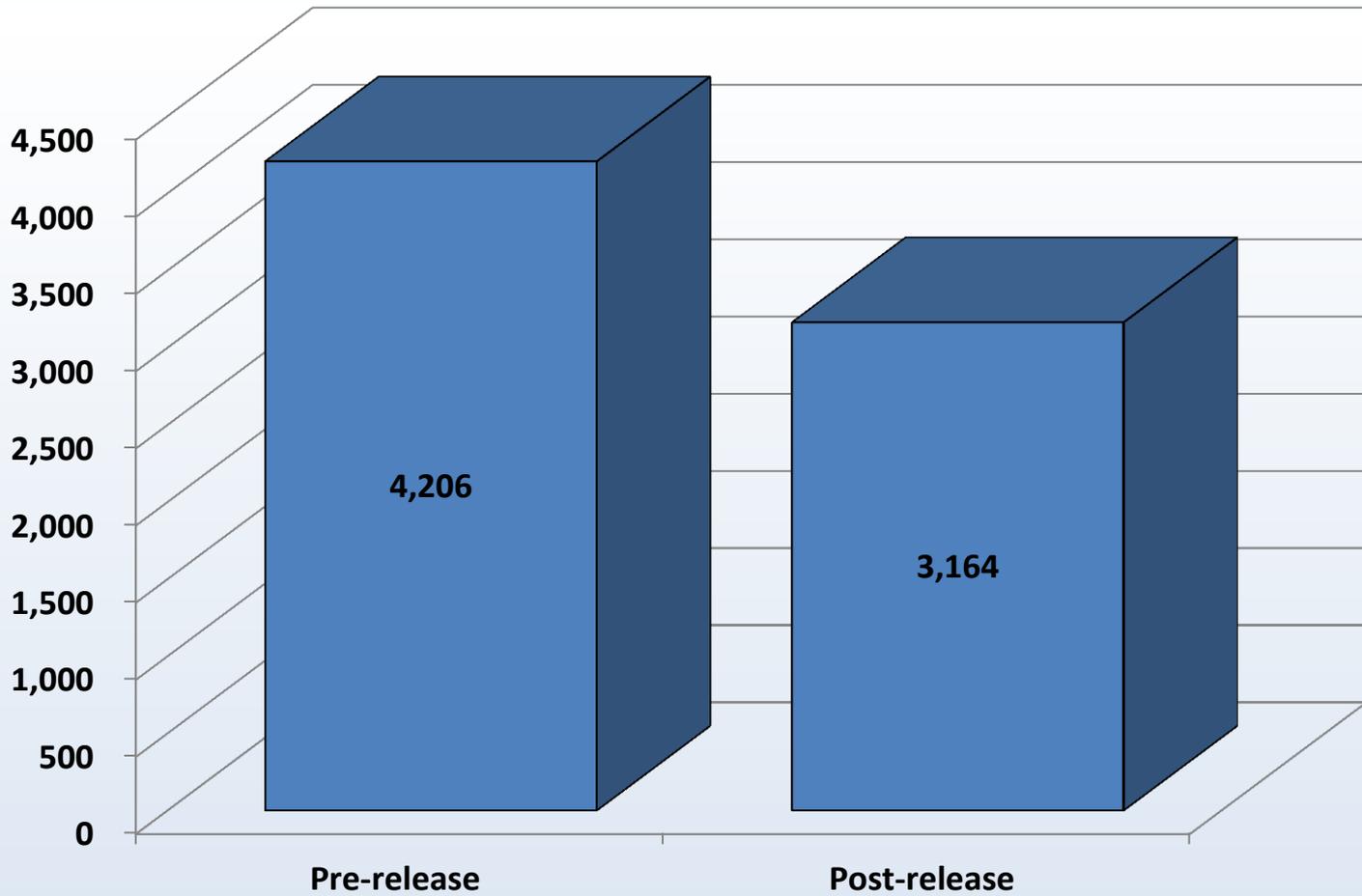
# Performance Measurement Data from July to December 2011

- Adult Demonstration Performance Categories
  - Screening
  - Participant Characteristics
  - Demographic Information
  - Risk Assessment Activities
  - Service Enrollment
  - Successful Completion Rates

# Participants Admitted to the Reentry Program of Those Eligible

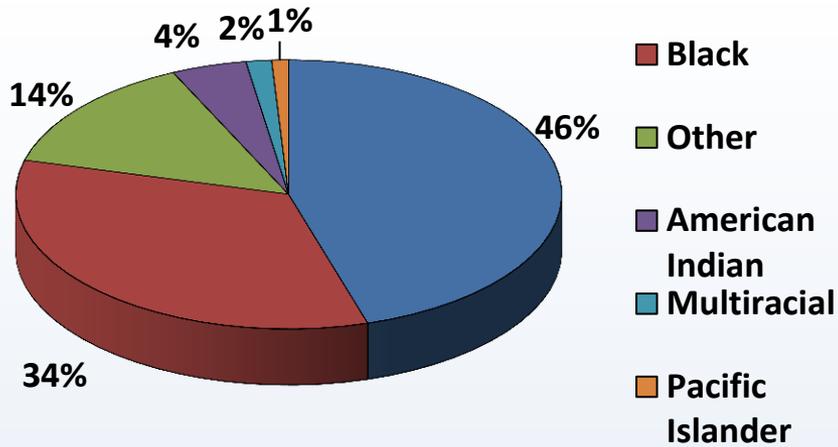


# New Admissions

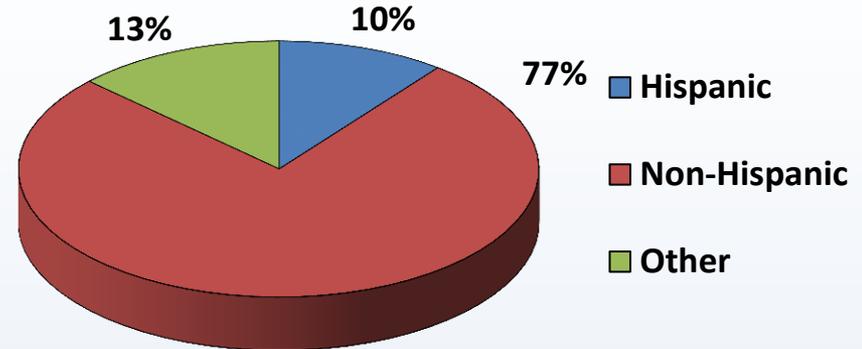


# Demographic Characteristics

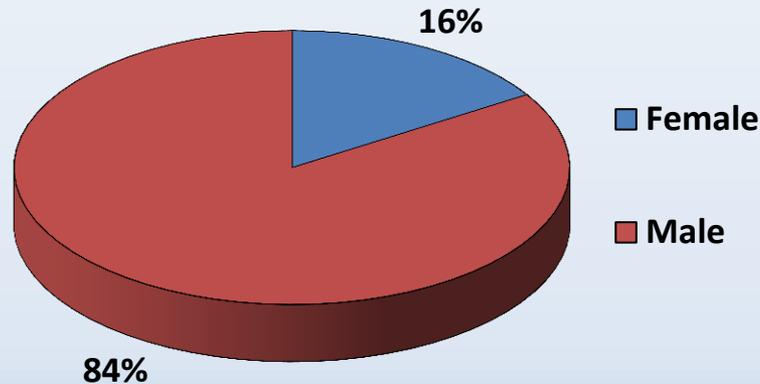
## Race



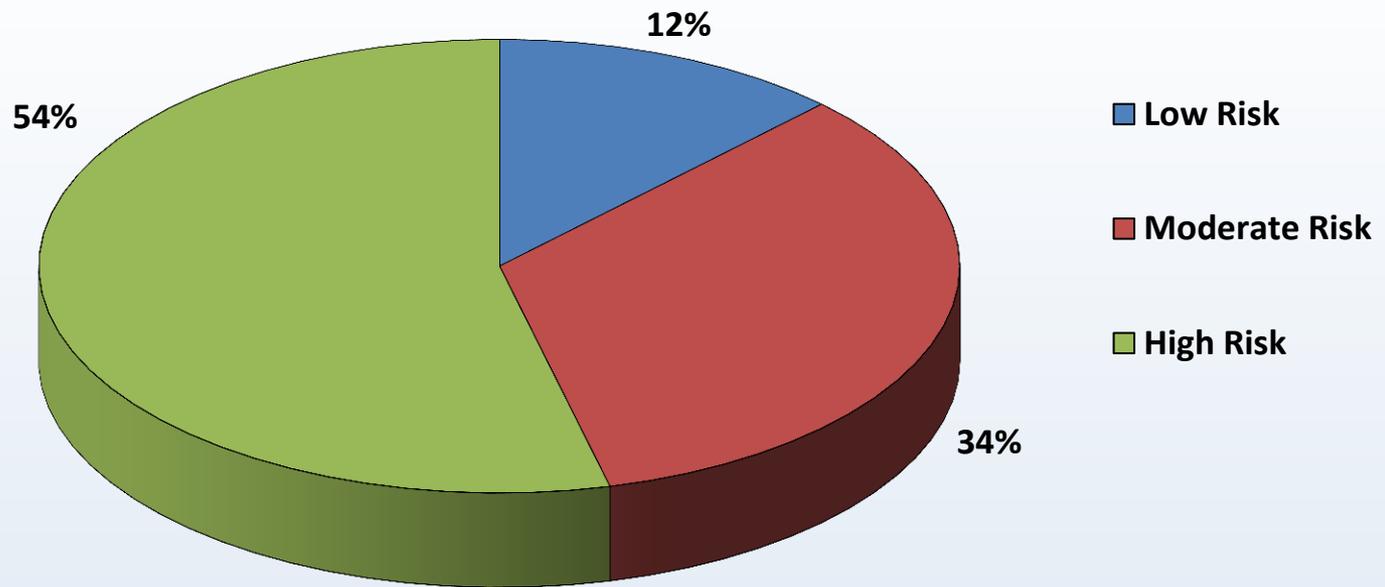
## Ethnicity



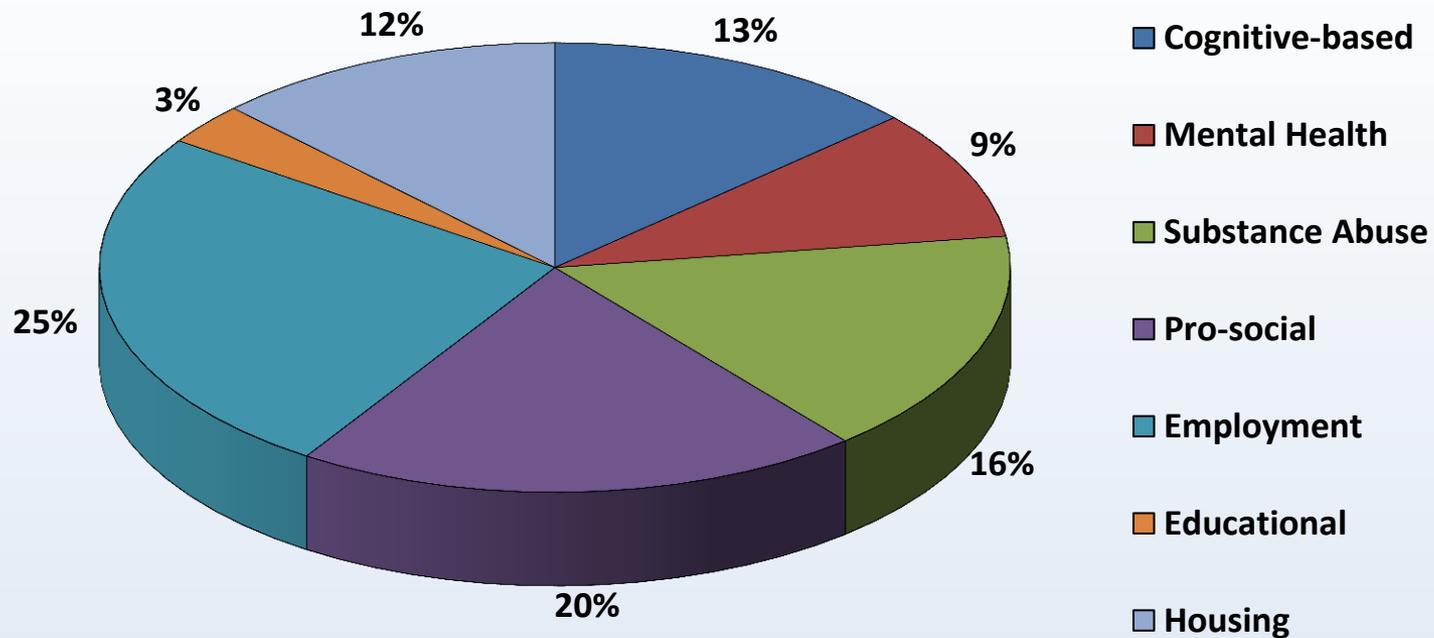
## Gender



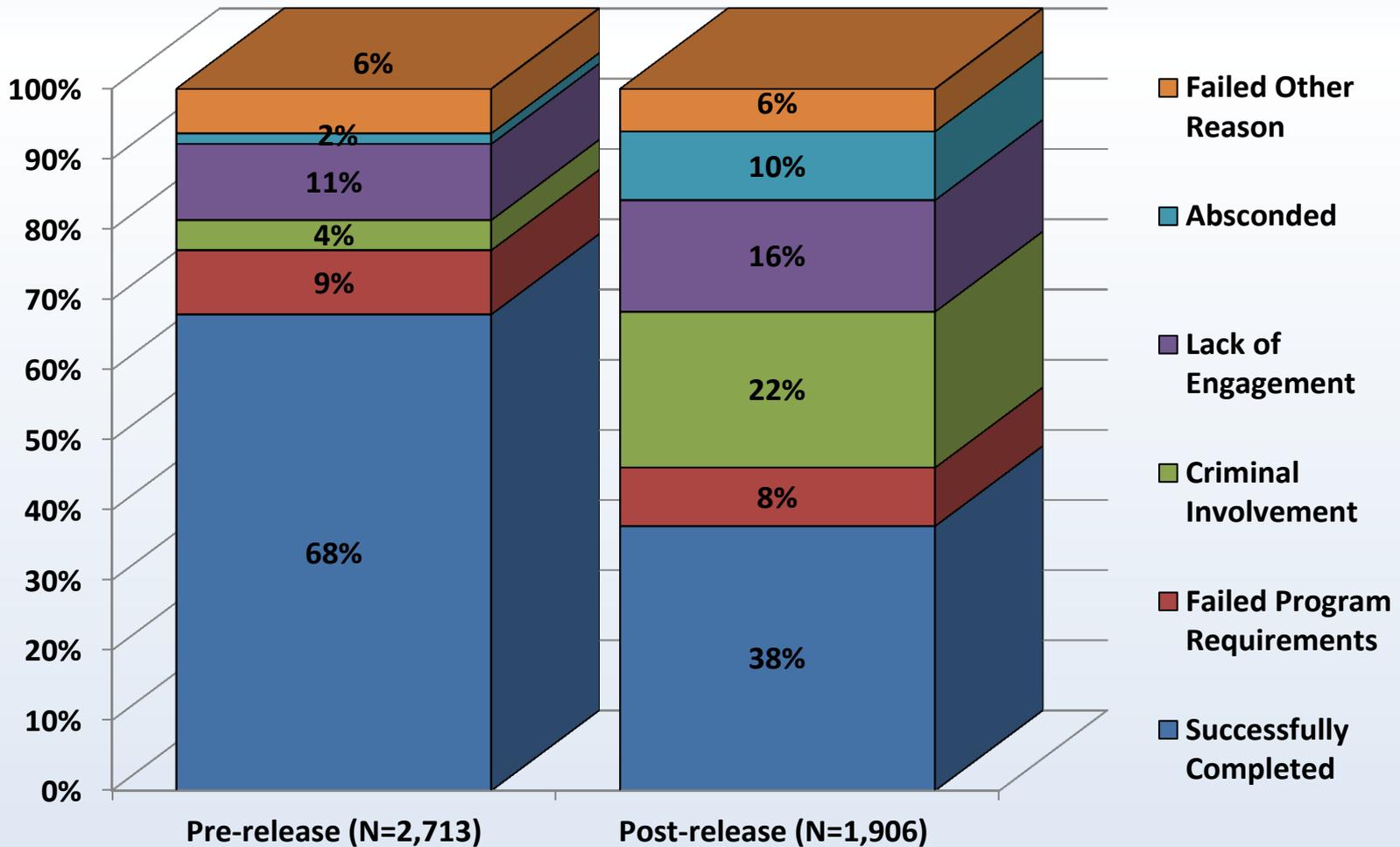
# Risk Assessment Characteristics



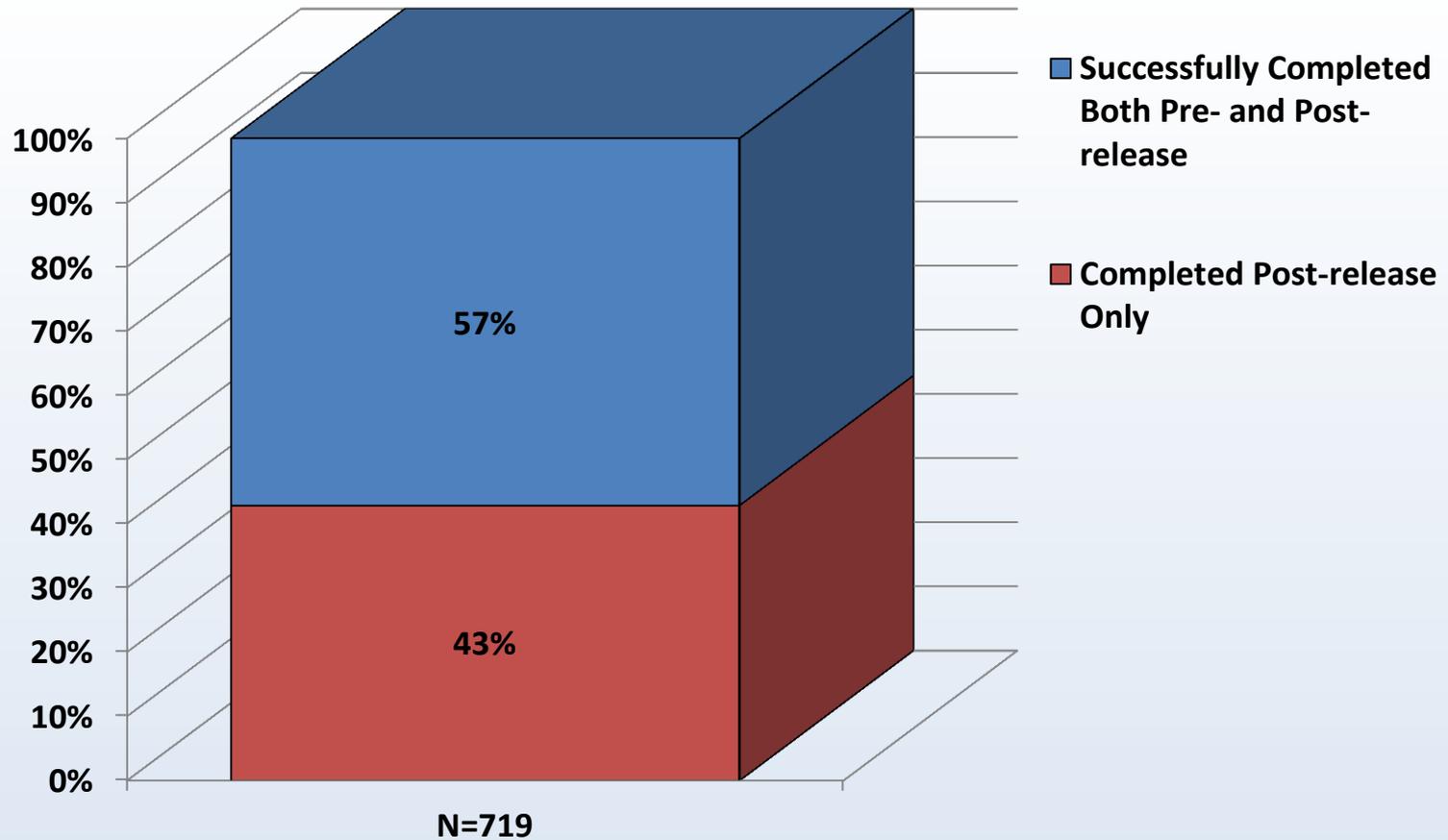
# Post-Release Service Enrollment from October to December 2011



# Successful Completion Rates



# Successful Completion of Both Pre- and Post-Release Services



# Common Reporting Issues

- Questions about becoming operational
- Reporting all activities
- Reporting of baseline recidivism data
- New participants versus total participants
- Risk assessment data
- Incompletes—avoid “other” category
- Employment and housing outcomes
- Recidivism data

## Tips to Help Improve the Data

- Dedicate staff to coordinate the data
- Ensure appropriate staff participate in PMT trainings
- Add relevant data collectors to additional contacts
- Review definitions of each performance measure
- Review, edit, and validate data
- Be mindful of the validation alerts
- Contact the PMT Help Desk (1-888-252-6867) with questions

# Upcoming Revisions

- Reduce reporting burden
  - Pro-social Services
  - Staff Measures
  - Assessed as Needing Services
  - Some Pre- or Post-release Questions
- Report recidivism measures less frequently

# Questions?

BJA's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) Web site:

<https://www.bjaperformancetools.org>

**Help Desk:**

**Toll-free: 1 (888) 252-6867**

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