

Second Chance Act Technology Careers Program 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?

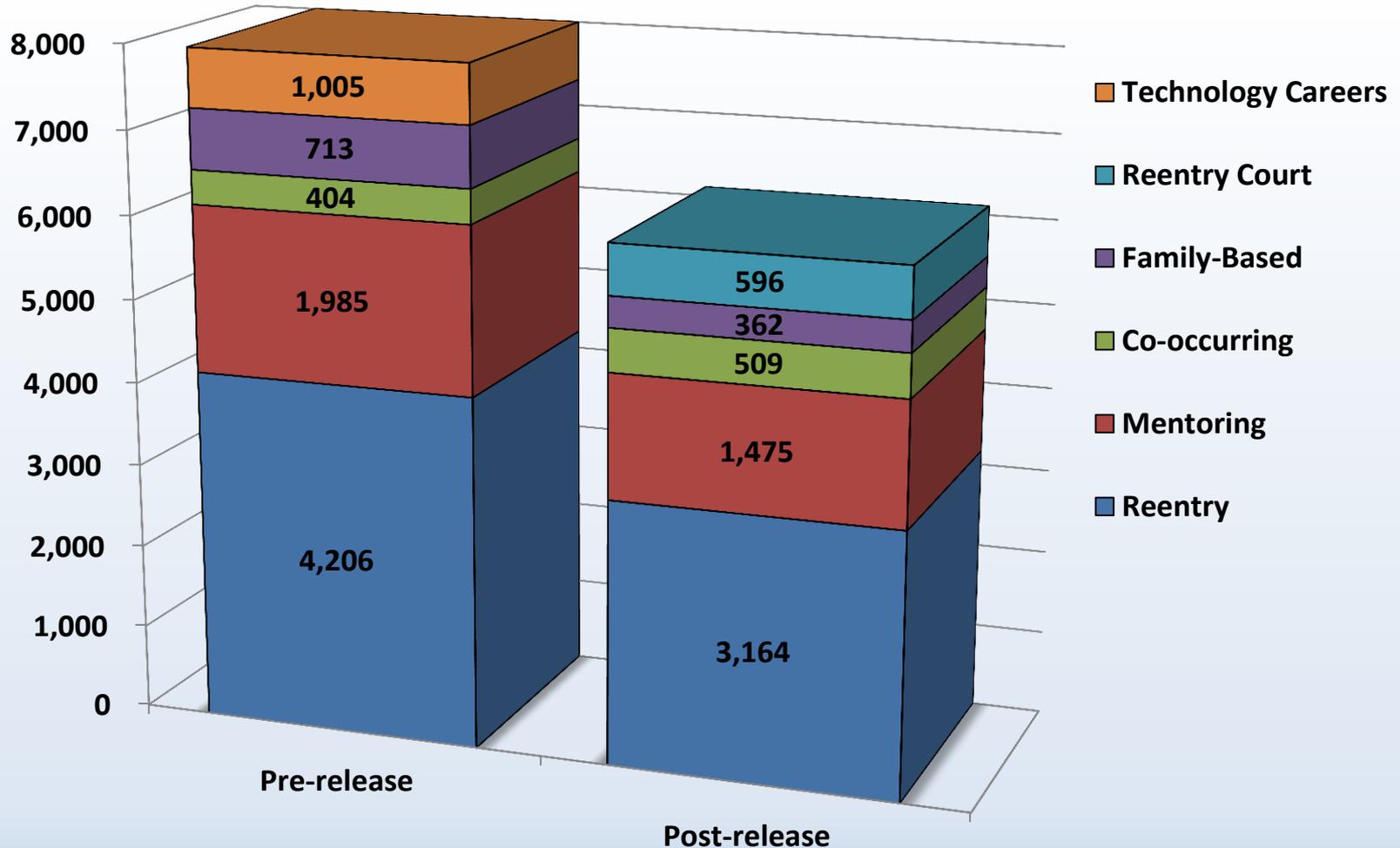
- Link people and dollars to performance
- Link programs and resources to results
- Help to justify continued funding
- Provide targeted technical assistance
- Improve program performance



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

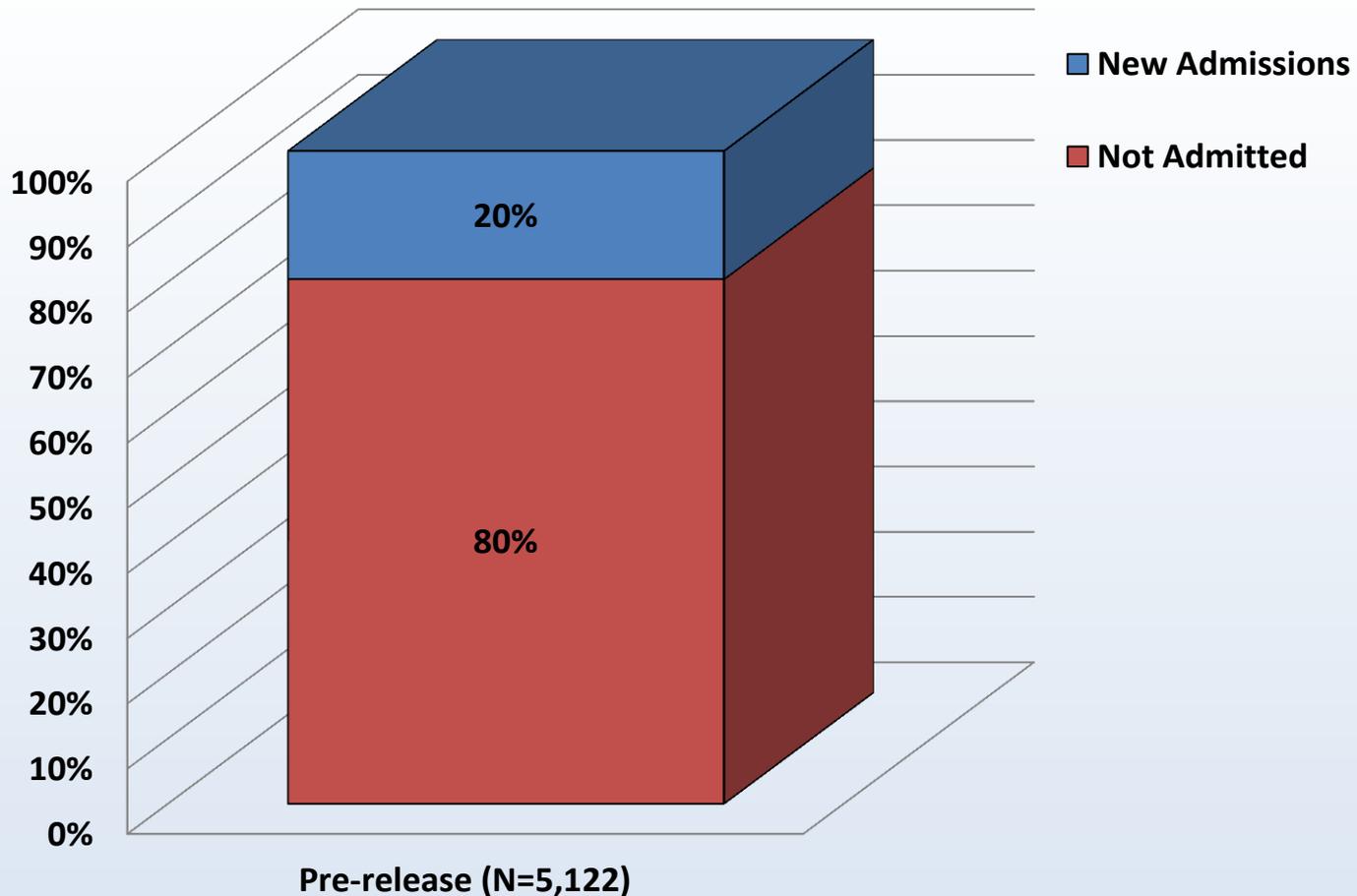
Second Chance Act, Participant Admissions from July to December 2011



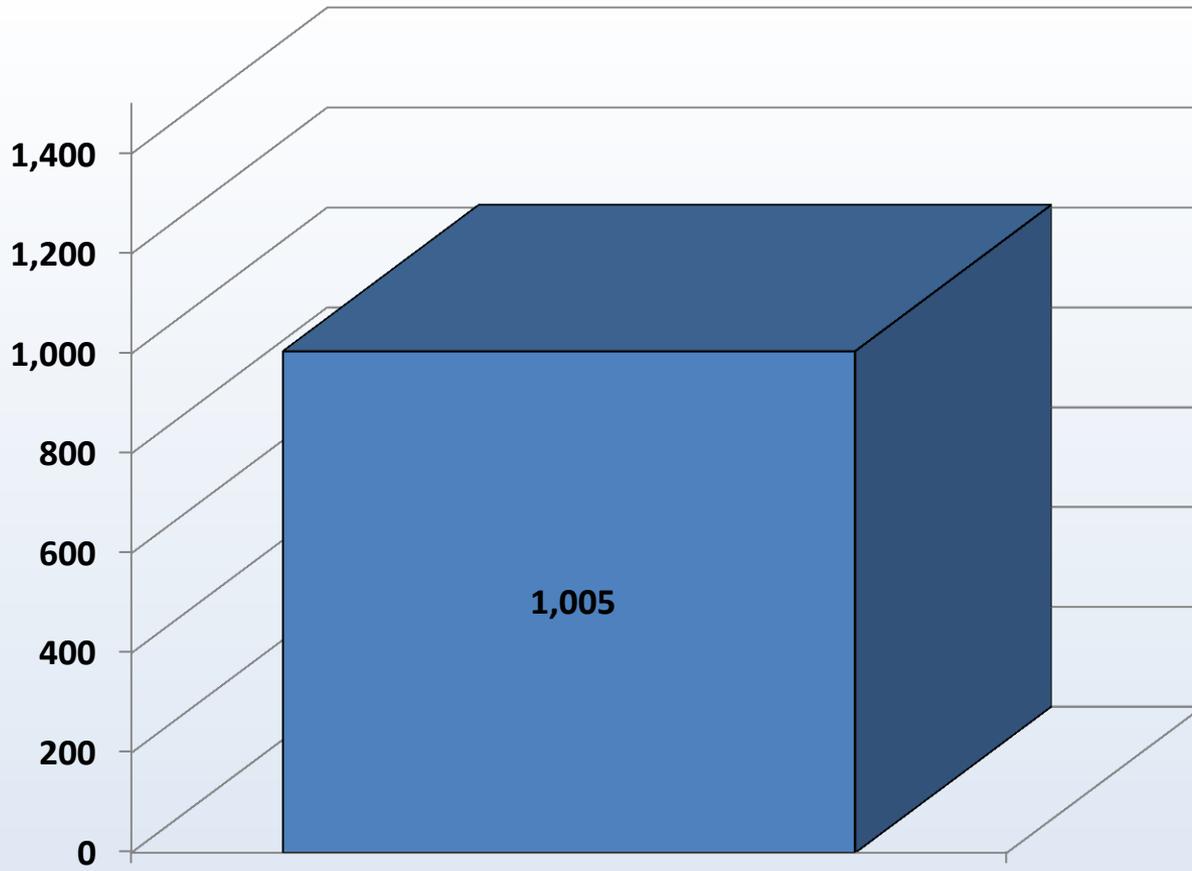
Performance Measurement Data from July to December 2011

- Technology Careers Performance Categories
 - Screening
 - Participant Characteristics
 - Demographic Information
 - Risk Assessment Activities
 - Service Enrollment
 - Successful Completion Rates
 - Employment

Participants Admitted to the Technology Careers Program of Those Eligible

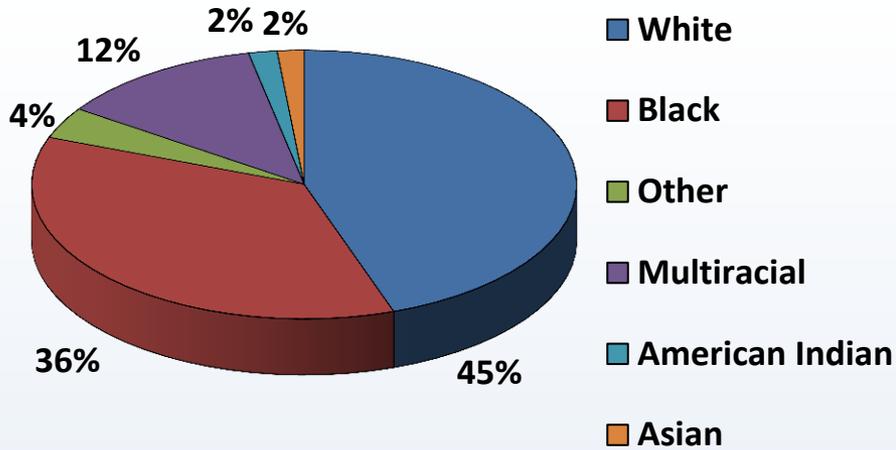


New Admissions

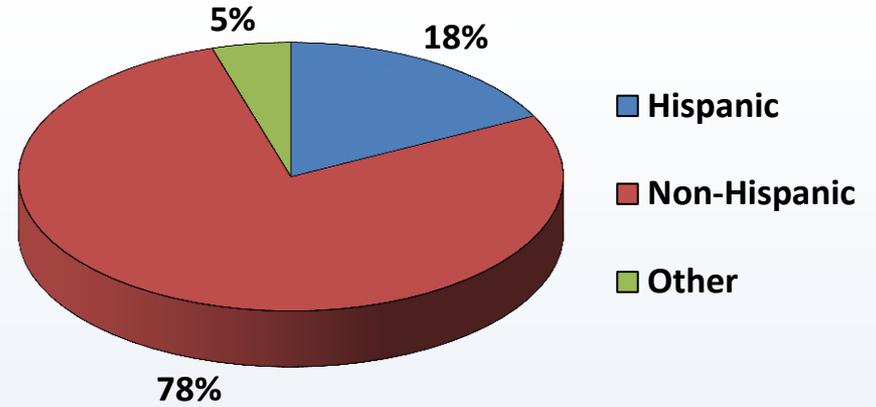


Demographic Characteristics

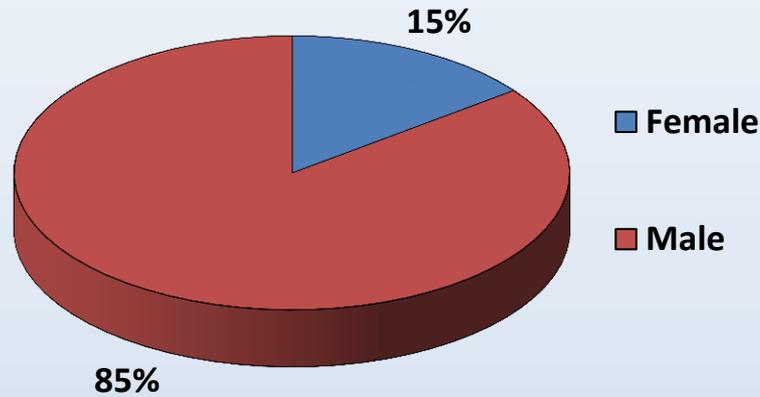
Race



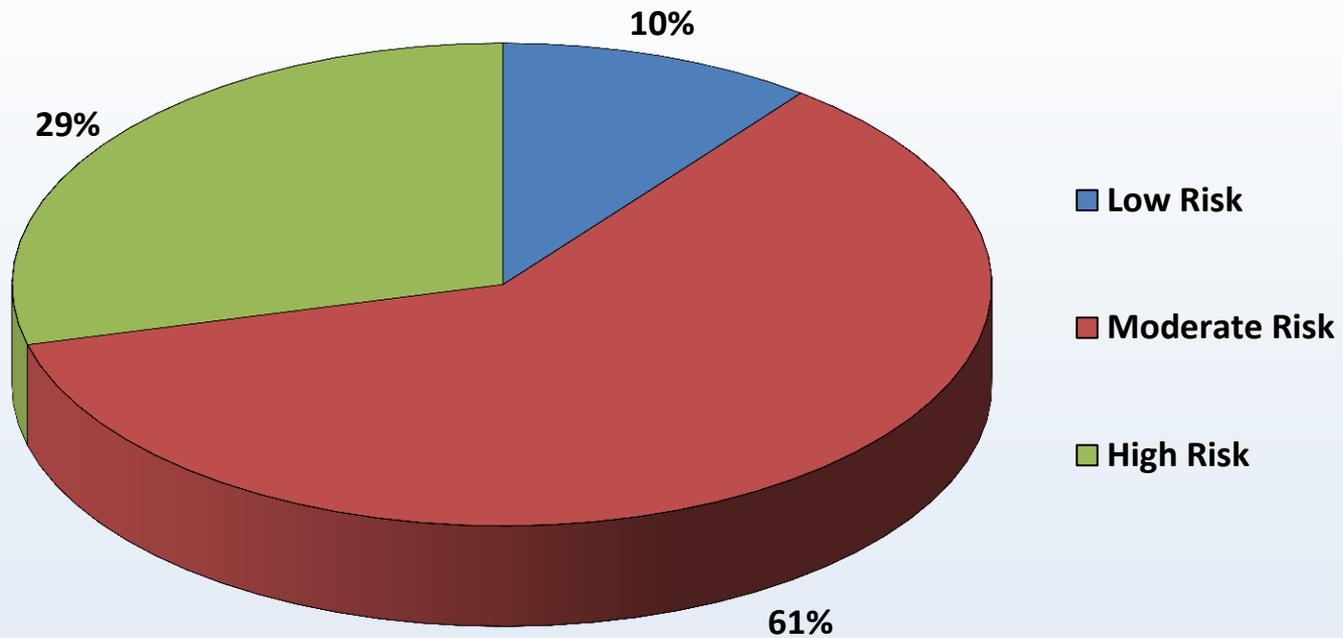
Ethnicity



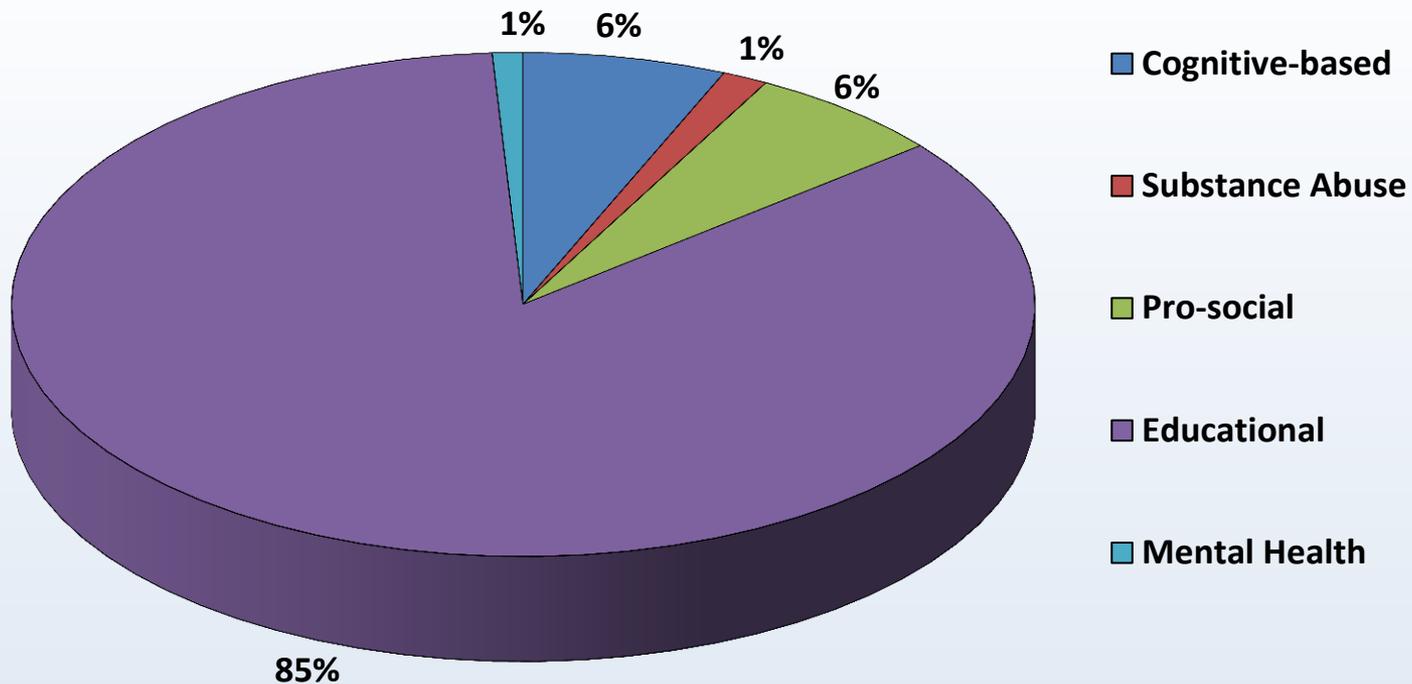
Gender



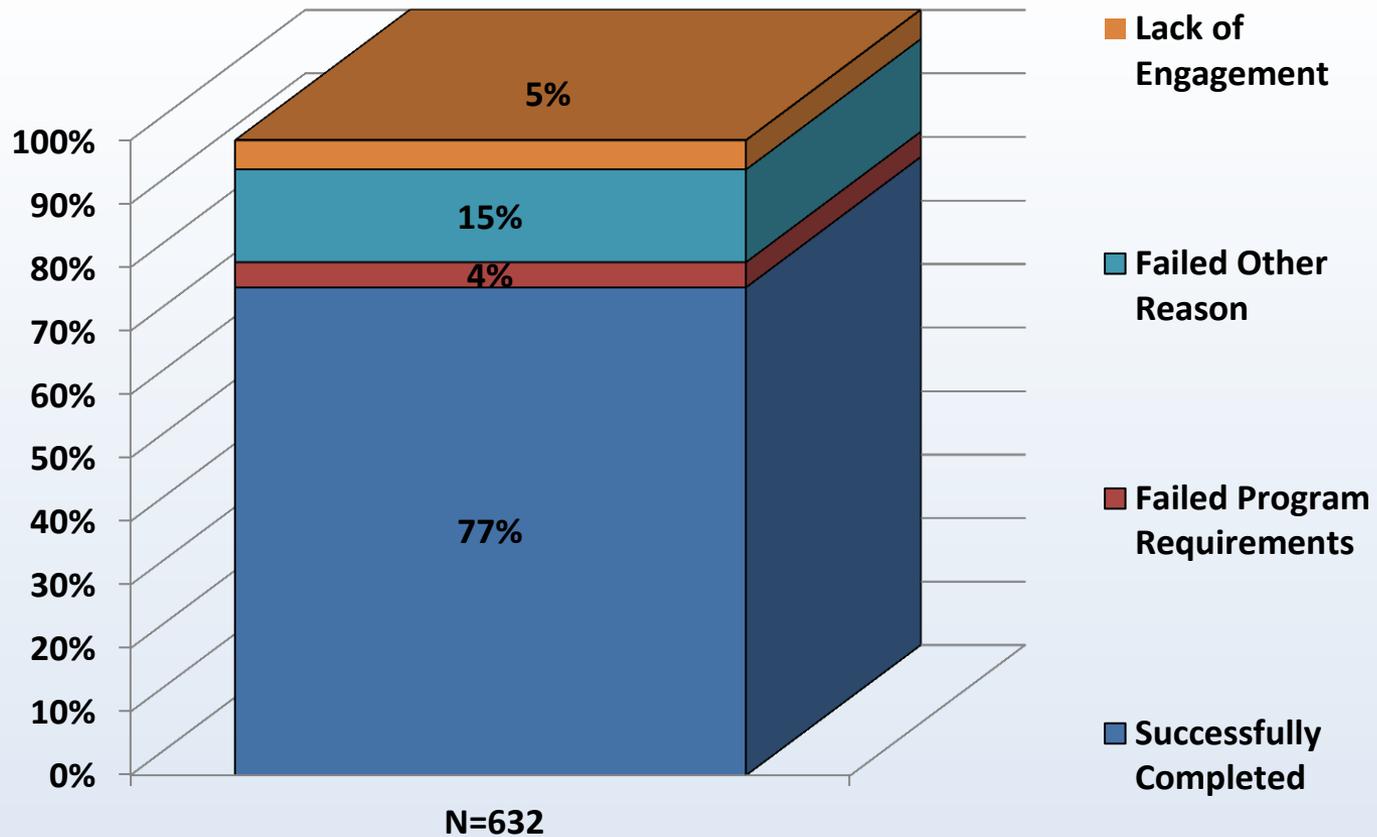
Risk Assessment Characteristics



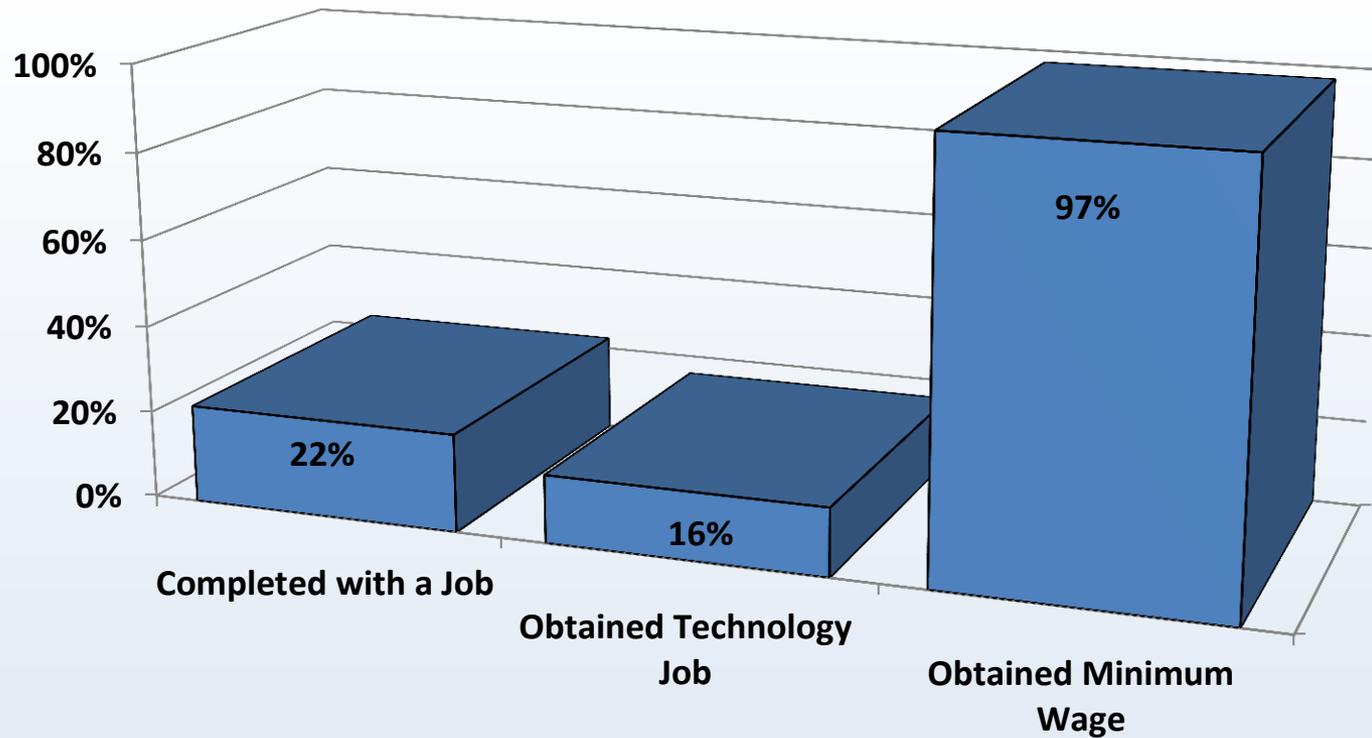
Post-Release Service Enrollment from October to December 2011



Successful Completion Rates



Employment



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 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
- 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

bjapmt@csrincorporated.com

Presented by: Agnes Cholewa, M.A.

Research Associate

CSR, Incorporated

Agnieszka.Cholewa@usdoj.gov

(202) 616-3567