

Impacting Services & Outcomes through Prisoner Reentry Programs

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Serious and
Violent
Offender Multi-
site Evaluation

Today

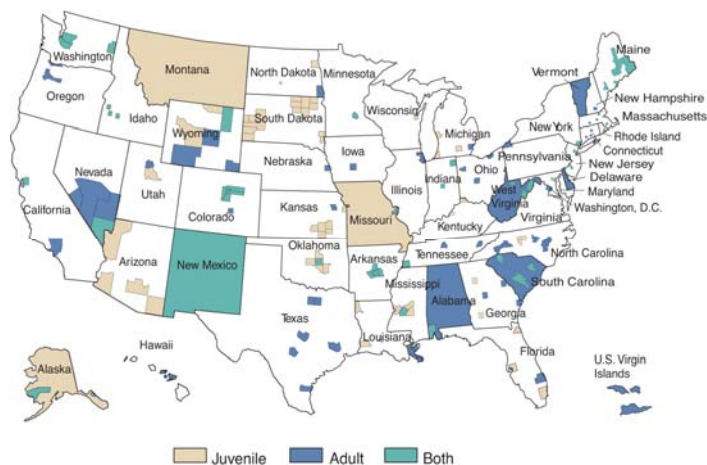
- **The Federal Initiative: What was the Serious & Violent Offender Reentry Initiative?**
- **Implementation: Did SVORI programs increase the delivery of services & programming?**
- **Impact: Did SVORI participation result in improved outcomes?**
- **Sustainability: Did SVORI funding precipitate system change?**



SVORI Overview

- **Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative funded agencies to develop programs to improve criminal justice, employment, education, health, and housing outcomes for released prisoners**
- **69 agencies received federal funds (\$500,000 - \$2,000,000 over 3 years) to develop 89 programs that**
 - Targeted adult & juvenile populations
 - Incorporated partnerships among state and local agencies to provide comprehensive services to prisoners returning home
 - Were locally designed to meet local needs and organizational capabilities

SVORI Programs Post-Release Geographic Areas



SVORI Components

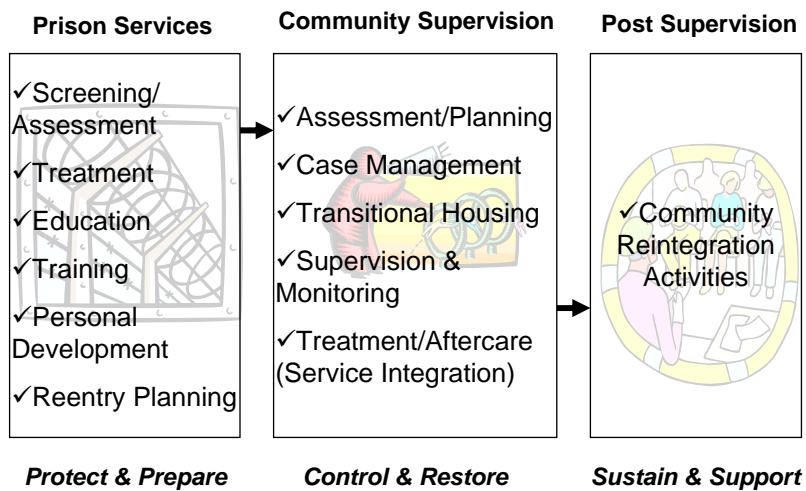
- Federal funding to initiate or supplement integrated programs and services



- Partnerships between state & local agencies to provide comprehensive services to prisoners returning to the community

www.svori-evaluation.org

Stages of Reentry



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Serious and Violent Offender Multi-site Evaluation




SVORI Multi-site Evaluation

- RTI International & the Urban Institute funded by NIJ in 2003 to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the SVORI
 - Implementation & Sustainability: Four rounds of surveys with SVORI Program Directors
 - Impact: Longitudinal study of more than 2,500 adult & juvenile offenders in 14 states (16 programs)
 - Cost-Benefit: Supplemental services and cost data collection in five of the impact sites
 - Dissemination: www.svori-evaluation.org

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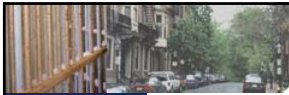
Serious and Violent Offender Multi-site Evaluation




SVORI Program Goals

- Self Sufficiency & Quality of Life
 - Employment
 - Housing
 - Family (including contacts, stability & child custody/support)
 - Community Involvement
- Health
 - Substance Use (sobriety & relapse prevention)
 - Physical Health
 - Mental Health
- Reduced Criminality
 - Supervision Compliance
 - Reoffending
 - Rearrest
 - Reconviction
 - Reincarceration
- Agency-level impact: Systems Change
 - Agency cooperation
 - Sustainability

www.svori-evaluation.org



Implementation



SVORI Program Characteristics

- Focused on the general “serious and violent population” (85%)
- Focused equally on the pre- and post-release phase (67%)
- Geographically targeted pre-release (specific institutions) and post-release (specific release communities)
- Most (90%) programs reported attempting to provide all needed services rather than delivering a specific service or set of services



Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

www.svori-evaluation.org

Primary Focus of Adult SVORI Programs

- **Employment: 42%**
- **Community integration: 27%**
- **Substance use: 14%**
- **Mental health: 10%**
- **Education: 2%**
- **Family: 0%**
- **Other: 6%**

Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

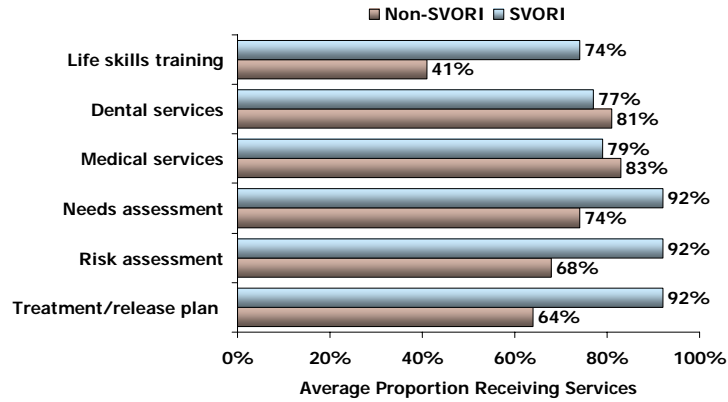
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Many Programs & Services

- Risk assessment
- Needs assessment
- Treatment/release plan development
- Legal assistance
- Assistance obtaining identification
- Assistance obtaining benefits
- Financial support/emergency assistance
- Peer support groups
- 1-on-1 mentoring
- Housing placements/referrals
- Transportation (post-release only)
- Comprehensive drug treatment programs
- AA/NA
- Counseling sessions
- Mental health services
- Anger management/violence counseling
- Medical services
- Dental services
- Education/GED/tutoring/literacy
- Vocational training
- Employment referrals/job placement
- Resume & interviewing skills development
- Work release program
- Cognitive skills development/behavior program.
- Life skills training
- Domestic violence services
- Parenting skills development
- Family reunification
- Family counseling
- Formal post-release supervision (post only)

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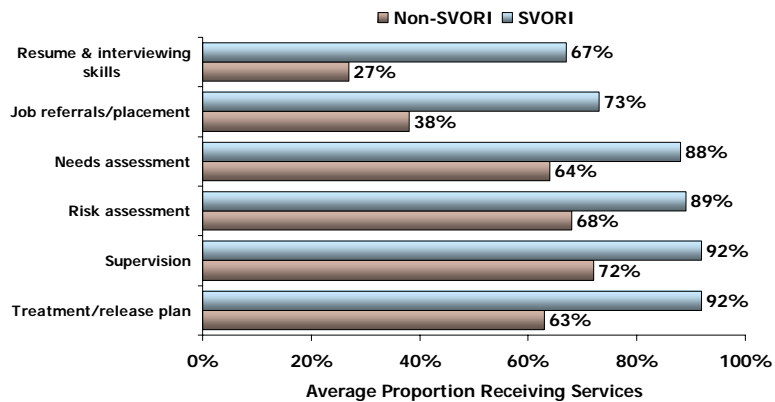
Most Common Adult Pre-release Services



Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

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Most Common Adult Post-release Services



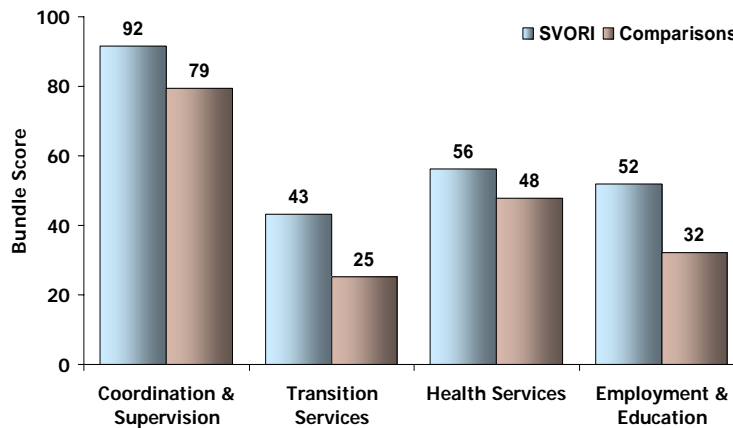
Source: 2005 Survey of SVORI Program Directors

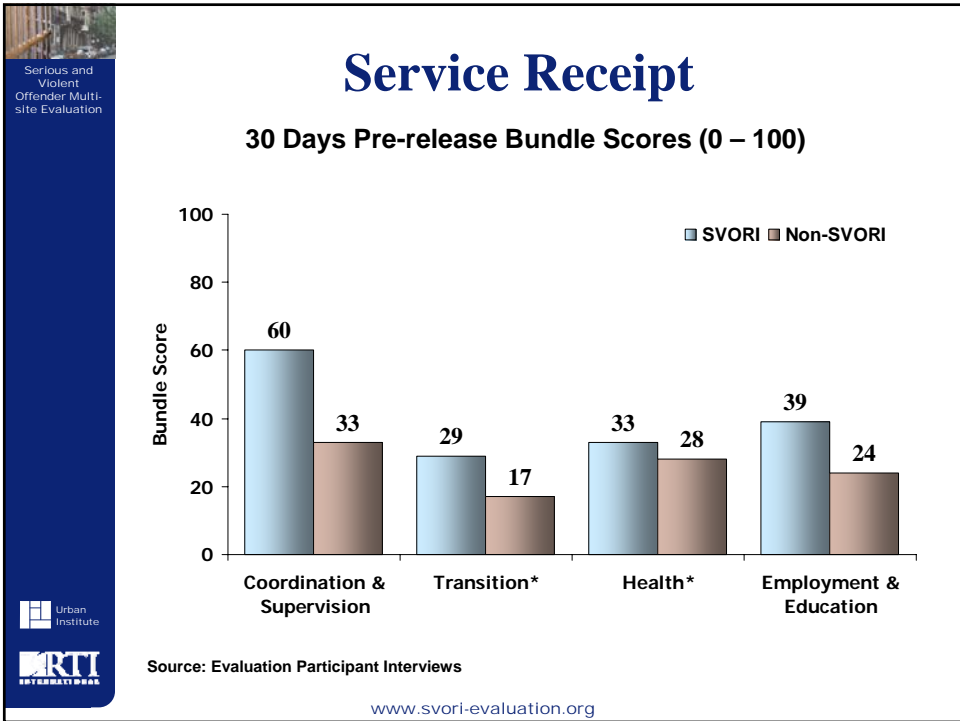
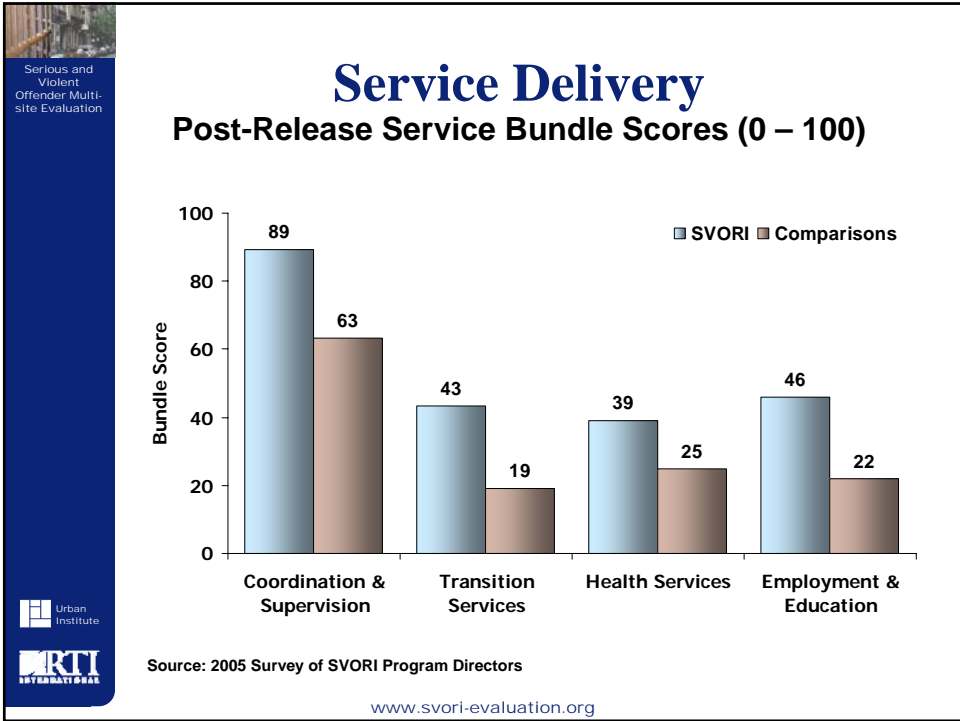
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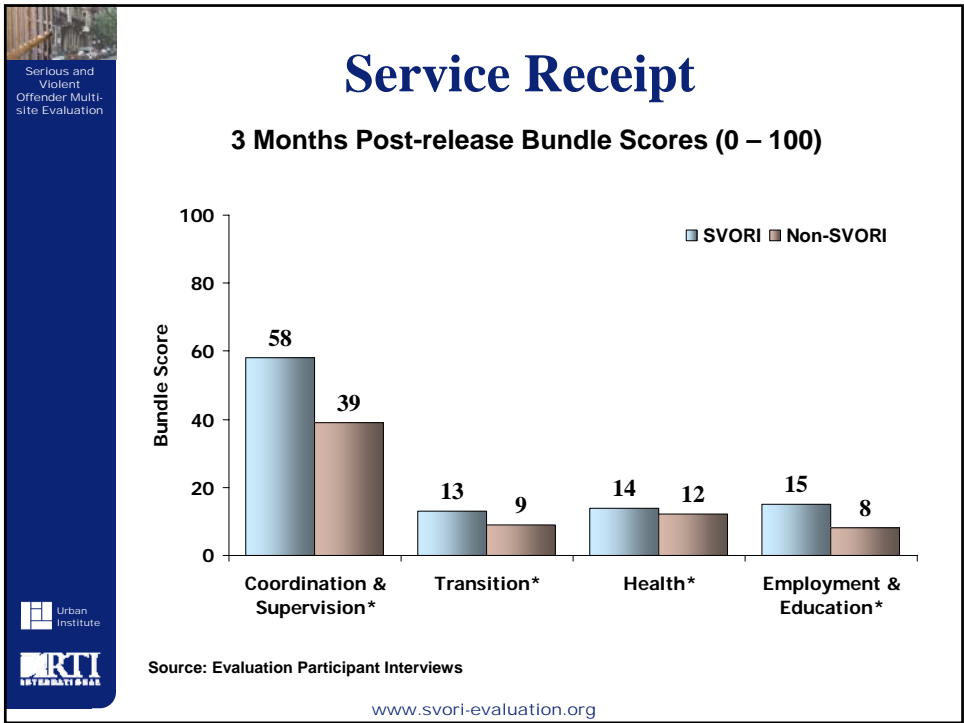
SVORI Program Service Bundles

- **Coordination & Supervision:** risk assessment, needs assessment, treatment/release plan, and (post-release only) supervision
- **Transition Services:** legal, id assistance, benefits assistance, financial support/ emergency assistance, peer support, mentoring, housing, and (post-release only) transportation
- **Health Services:** AA/NA, counseling, comprehensive AOD treatment, mental health, medical, dental, anger mgmt/violence counseling
- **Employment/Education/Skills Building:** education/GED/ tutoring/literacy, vocational training, employment referral/job placement, resume/interviewing skills, work release, cognitive skills development, life skills

Service Delivery Pre-Release Service Bundle Scores (0 – 100)







- Serious and Violent Offender Multi-site Evaluation
- ## Service Delivery & Receipt
- Program Directors generally reported that they were providing services to more individuals than individuals reported receiving
 - SVORI participants reported receiving significantly more services and programs than those in the nonSVORI comparison group
 - The overall level of service provision is low—particularly post release
- www.svori-evaluation.org



Impact: Is SVORI Working?



Impact Evaluation

- Four waves of interviews with more than 2,500 adult & juvenile offenders in 14 states (drug testing at 3 & 15 months) were completed in May 2007
- Numerous potential outcomes including
 - Self Sufficiency & Quality of Life: Employment, Housing, Family (including contacts, stability & child custody/support), Community Involvement
 - Health: Substance Use (sobriety & relapse prevention), Physical Health, Mental Health
 - Reduced Criminality: Supervision Compliance, Reoffending, Rearrest, Reconviction, Reincarceration





Adult Males 3 M Post Release

- Only 1% homeless; most are living with relatives although about ¼ report living in own place
- In contrast to baseline findings (re: pre-incarceration), few report currently living with people using AOD or who have committed illegal acts
- SVORI subjects more likely than non-SVORI to respond positively to questions about reentry programming
- Nearly ¾'s have worked since release

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Did SVORI Work?

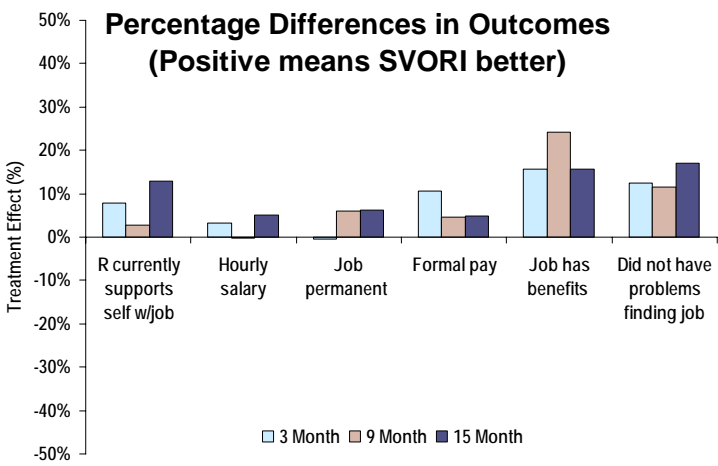
- As we've seen
 - SVORI programs potentially addressed a very broad range of needs
 - Individual programs provided up to 28 pre-release and 30 post-release categories of services
 - Offenders may have received assistance across these 58 service categories
 - SVORI program participants much more likely to receive services and participate in programs

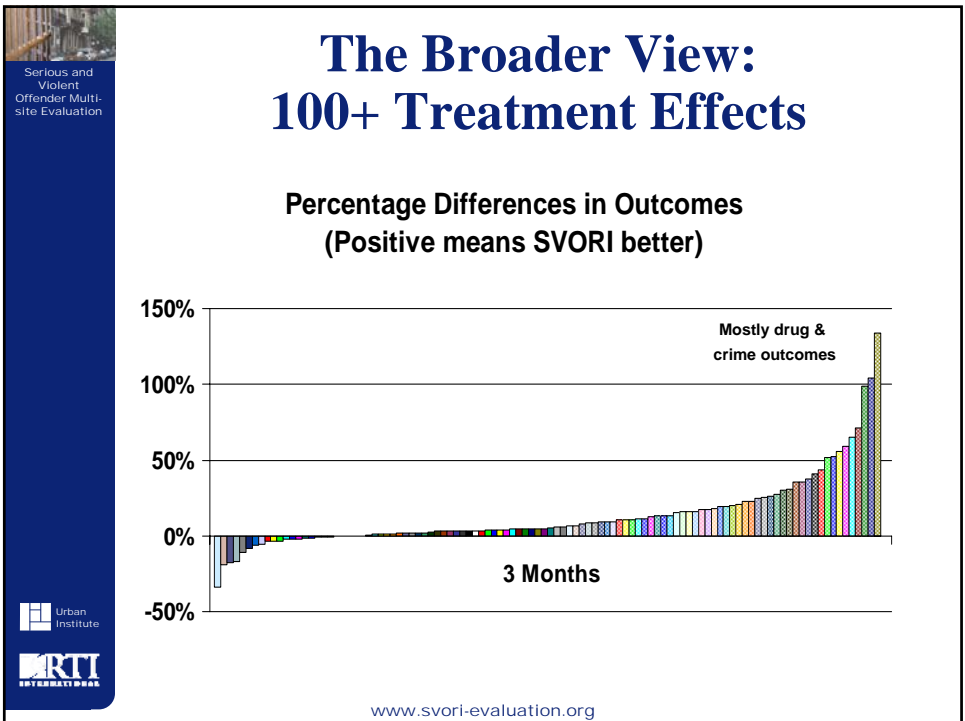
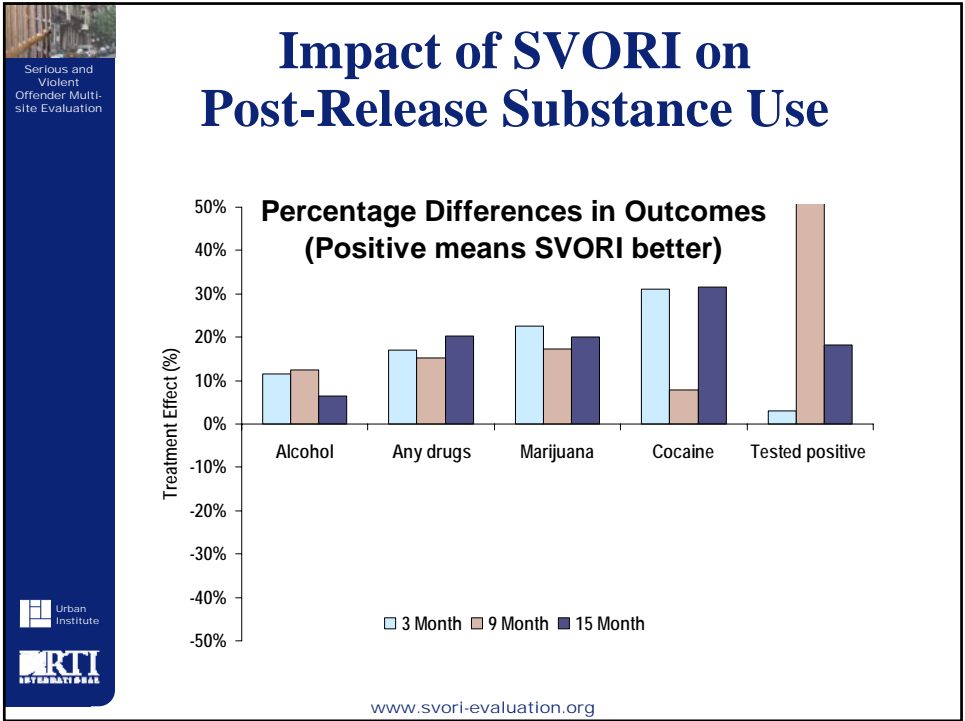
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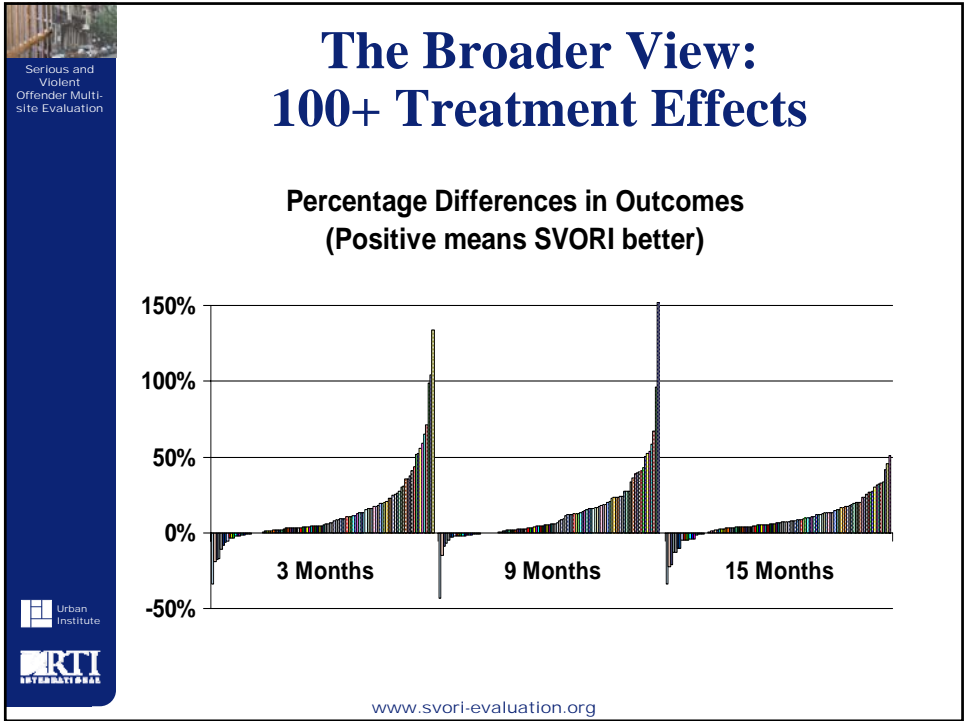
The Broad View

- We have more than 100 potential outcome measures at the individual level
 - Community involvement
 - Employment
 - Family Contact/Stability
 - Health/Mental Health
 - Housing
 - Recidivism
 - Substance Use
 - Supervision Compliance

Impact of SVORI on Post-Release Employment Measures







- Serious and Violent Offender Multi-site Evaluation
- ## Conclusions
- **SVORI: Ambitious effort to improve integrated, individually targeted services through DOC coordination of state & community agencies & organizations**
 - **Within a year, most programs greatly increased the level of services provided to offenders pre and post release—but levels were far less than 100%, particularly post release**
 - **From release up through 15 months post release, SVORI participants are doing better—if only moderately so—across a wide range of outcomes**
- Urban Institute
- RTI INTERNATIONAL
- www.svori-evaluation.org



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