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Serious and Violent Offender Multi-site Evaluation

Findings from the Multi-site SVORI Evaluation


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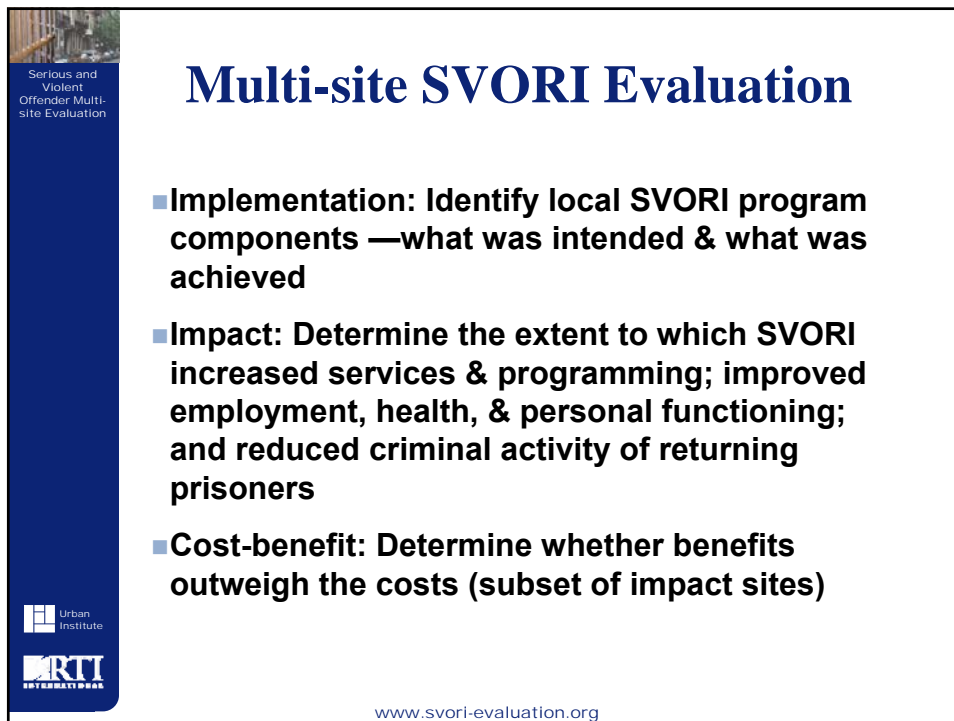
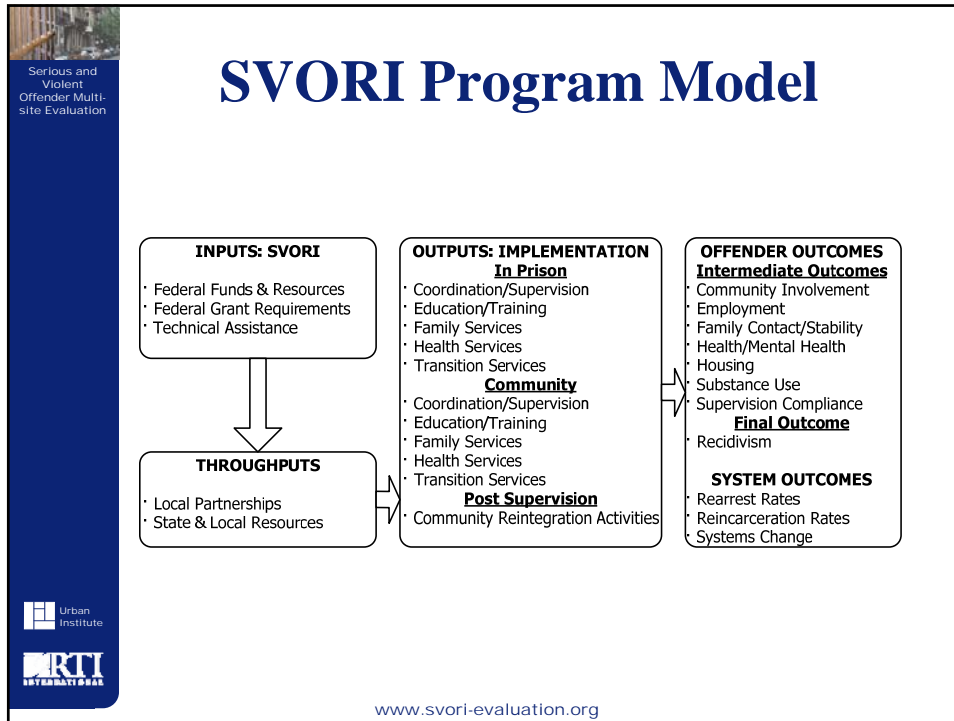


Serious and Violent Offender Multi-site Evaluation

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

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Program Characteristics: In 2005, PDs Said

- 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
- Primary focus of adult programs
 - Employment: 42%
 - Community integration: 27%
 - Substance use: 14%
 - Mental health: 10%
 - Education: 2%
 - Family: 0%
 - Other: 6%

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Impact Study Respondents

- Interviewed SVORI participants and comparison subjects
 - 16 programs
 - 14 states
 - More than 300 prisons & jails
 - More than 7,000 completed interviews

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12 Adult and 4 Juvenile Impact Evaluation Sites

- **Northeast (2 states)**
 - Maine
 - Pennsylvania
- **Midwest (4 states)**
 - Kansas (adult & juvenile)
 - Indiana
 - Iowa
 - Ohio
- **South (5 states)**
 - Florida (juvenile only)
 - Maryland
 - Missouri
 - Oklahoma
 - South Carolina (adult & juvenile)
- **West (3 states)**
 - Colorado (juvenile only)
 - Nevada
 - Washington

*Adult only unless noted

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Characteristics of Adult Male Respondents

- 29 years of age
- About 40% reported being married or in a steady relationship & about 60% reported having children < 18 years
- About 60% had a HS diploma or GED
- About 2/3rds reported having a job 6 months prior prison & 90% "ever had a job"
- Most had family & friends who were AOD & crime involved
- About 2/3rds reported drug & alcohol use in the 30 days prior to prison
- SVORI & Non-SVORI differed on a few measures
 - Race: S more likely to be black, less likely to be white than NS
 - AOD use & treatment: On some indicators, NS more AOD involved than S
 - NS more likely than S to be in prison for parole violation
 - NS had spent less time than S in prison
 - S more likely than NS to be serving time for a drug crime

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Service Needs & Receipt Bundles

- **Coordination & Supervision (received only):** needs assessment, case management, worked with anyone to reintegrate, supervision
- **Transition Services:** legal assistance, financial assistance, public benefits assistance, healthcare insurance, mentoring, assistance obtaining documents, finding place to live, transportation, getting drivers license, clothing/food
- **Health Services:** tx for physical, MH, AOD, abuse groups, anger management programs
- **Employment/Education/Skills Building Services:** assistance finding job, educ. services, money management, gen. lifeskills, assistance w/ personal relationships, changing criminal thinking
- **Family Services:** DV support group, batterer intervention
- **Child Services:** getting child support, assistance modifying child support debt, custody, parenting class, assistance finding child care (for the ~ 600 cases with children < 18 years)

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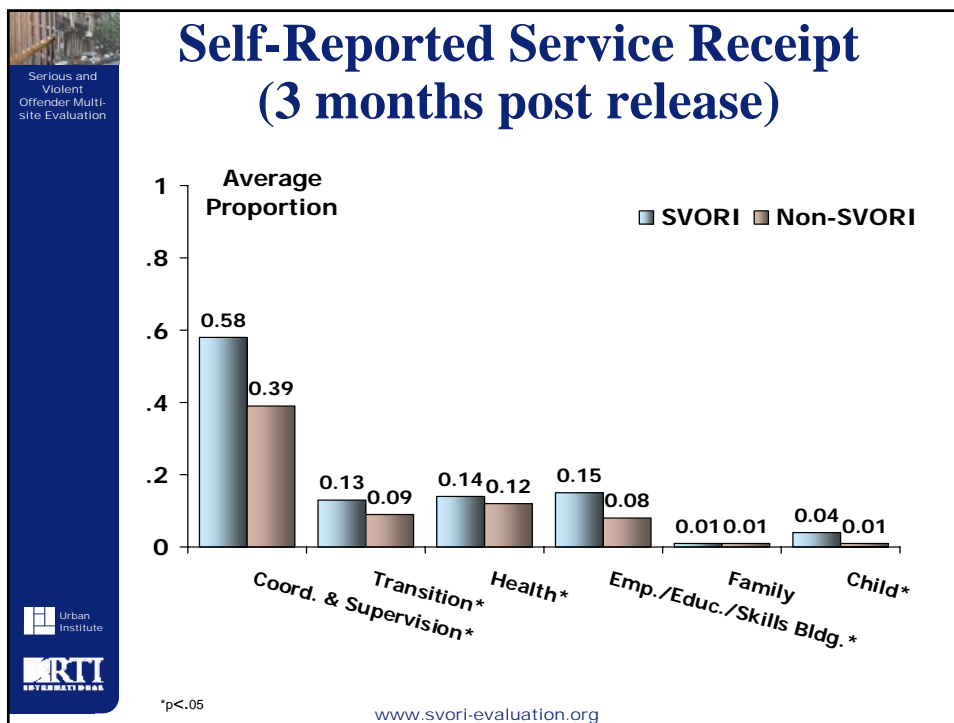
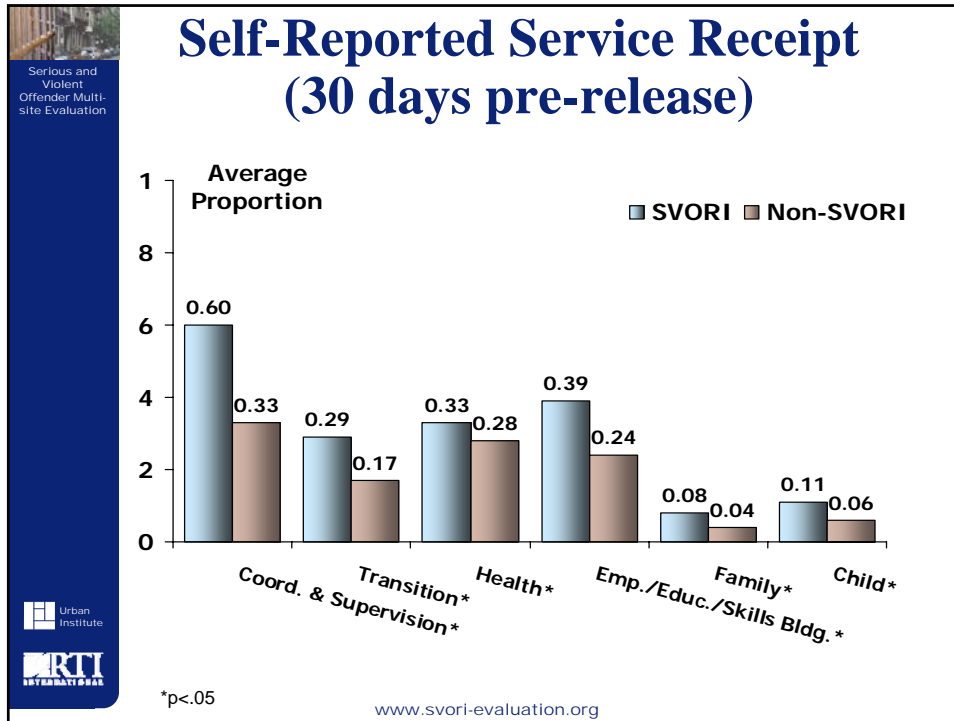
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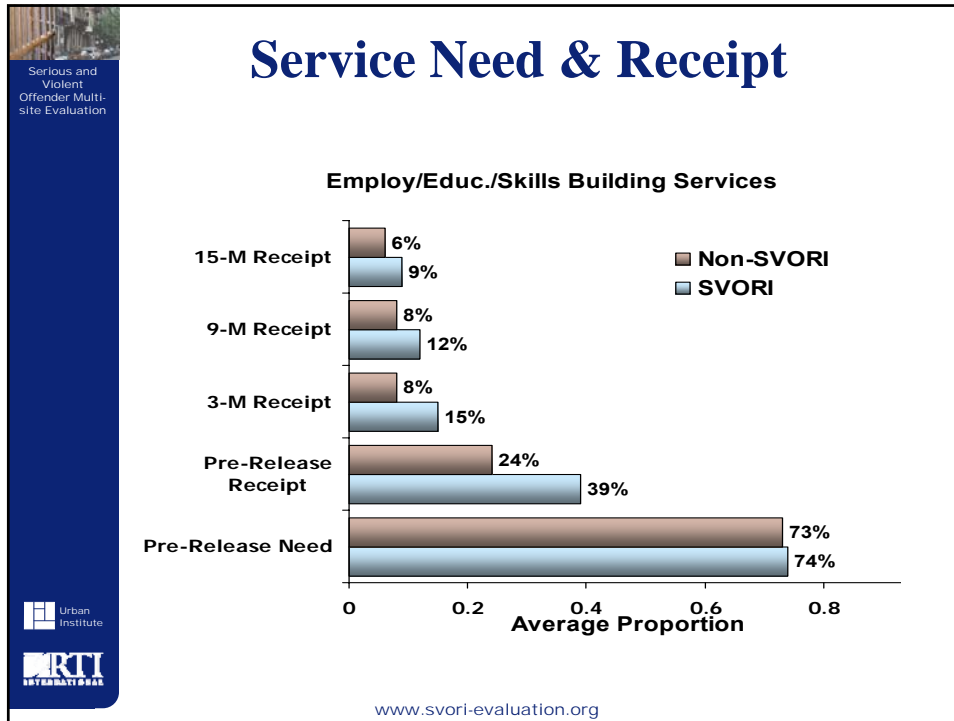
Self-Reported Needs Bundle Scores (30 days pre-release)

Service Bundle	SVORI (Average Proportion)	Non-SVORI (Average Proportion)
Transition	0.64	0.62
Health*	0.31	0.34
Emp./Educ./Skills Bldg.	0.74	0.73
Family	0.07	0.08
Child	0.46	0.48


*p<.05

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- ### So...What Did the Respondents Tell Us About Needs & Services?
- In general, those not in SVORI have more unmet need than SVORI participants
 - Nonetheless, the overall level of service provision is low according to these self reports
 - Bundle scores will be used in multivariate analyses
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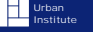
Impact




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Impact Evaluation Outcome Measures

- **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





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Taking a Look: Adult Males 15 M Post Release

- About 3% homeless; about 1/3rd report living in own place
- In contrast to baseline findings (re: pre-incarceration), few reported 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 3/4's have worked since release





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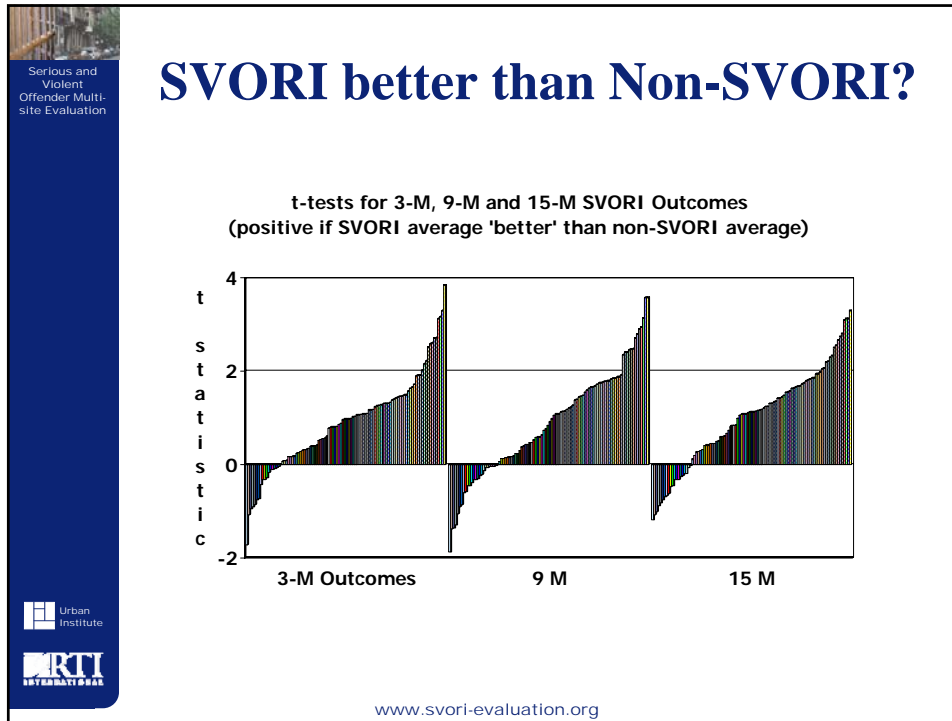


Taking a Broader View

- 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



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So?

	3 M	9 M	15 M
# of statistical tests	100	100	100
SVORI 'better' than non-SVORI	83	76	80
SVORI significantly better than non-SVORI ($\alpha=.05$)	12	13	16
SVORI significantly better than non-SVORI ($\alpha=.10$)	19	29	29
Non-SVORI better than SVORI	17	24	20
Non-SVORI significantly better than SVORI ($\alpha=.05$)	0	0	0
Non-SVORI significantly better than SVORI ($\alpha=.10$)	1	1	0

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Propensity Score Models: Controlling for Differences

- Overall, the SVORI and non-SVORI groups are very similar although there are a few differences
- Propensity score models were estimated in an effort to achieve better balance between the two groups
- Subjects were assigned to one of five propensity equal-probability bins based on their likelihoods of assignment to SVORI
- Bins 1 and 5 contained very few subjects, so the subsequent analyses focuses on Bins 2, 3 and 4

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15-Month Outcomes by Propensity Score Bin

t-tests for 15-M SVORI Outcomes by Propensity Score Bin
(positive if SVORI average 'better' than non-SVORI average)

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So?

	Bin 2	Bin 3	Bin 4
# of statistical tests	107	107	107
SVORI 'better' than non-SVORI	67	78	74
SVORI significantly better than non-SVORI ($\alpha=.05$)	8	6	5
SVORI significantly better than non-SVORI ($\alpha=.10$)	19	12	12
Non-SVORI better than SVORI	40	29	33
Non-SVORI significantly better than SVORI ($\alpha=.05$)	2	0	0
Non-SVORI significantly better than SVORI ($\alpha=.10$)	2	0	3

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Treatment Effects

Percentage Differences in 15- Month Outcomes
(Positive means SVORI better)

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Conclusions

- **SVORI: Ambitious effort to improve integrated, individually targeted services through DOC coordination of state & community agencies & organizations**
- **Within a year, most programs were able to greatly increase 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**

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What's Next?

- Complete acquisition of DOC, DJJ, probation and parole, and arrest data for all study participants (expanded samples in some sites); final data will cover all of 2007 (at least 24 months follow up for all subjects)
- Continue analysis of interview data, including developing & estimating multivariate outcome models
- Other analyses: Treatment-needs matching, site differences, cost-benefit/cost-effectiveness
- Begin to analyze the data for women & boys

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