



BEHAVIOR DATA SYSTEMS, LTD.

SUMMARY REPORT 2017 *OFFENDER ASSESSMENT INDEX (OAI)*

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SUMMARY

This report summarizes test data for **1375** offenders who completed the Offender Assessment Index. All data received from April 3rd, 2006 through March 24th, 2017 has been analyzed for this report.

Assessment Information can be found in **Appendix I**.

The term missing data refers to responses of “0”, “N”, or “N/A” when more descriptive or accurate values were available. Missing data can also mean that data was available but not provided.

Reliability coefficients were as follows:

- **OAI: Truthfulness Scale, .92; Alcohol Scale, .95; Drug Scale, .94; Resistance Scale, .84; Violence Scale, .88; and Stress Management Scale, .94.** Reliability findings met exceeded professionally accepted reliability standards.

Applying this Report to Everyday Client Interactions

The information in this report may be useful in terms of future planning and specifying specific resources and treatment options. Results being analyzed are particularly helpful when the risk/needs principle is being utilized—individuals who score higher on the risk categories receive more intensity treatment and intervention services. For example, mutual support group participation may be appropriate for individuals scoring in the Medium Risk range on the Alcohol Scale or Drug Scale, whereas intensive outpatient treatment programing may be appropriate for those scoring in the Severe Problem range. Offenders who score in the Moderate Risk or Severe Problem range on the Violence Scale may benefit from participation in anger management education and coping skills training (Andrews & Bonta, 2010).

This principle can also apply to supervision decision-making by ensuring that offenders who demonstrate the greatest risk receive more supervision and oversight, whereas, those offenders who demonstrate less risk receive less supervision. Adopting the risk/need strategy facilitates appropriate distribution of resources and staff allocations.

The above results, along with validity findings, demonstrate that the tests distributed by Behavior Data Systems effectively differentiate between offenders who are known to have more severe problems. Matching treatment and intervention intensity or legal action to problem severity reduces recidivism and time to relapse as well as, aids in supervision and release decision making. No decision or diagnosis should be based solely on assessment results. Probationer assessment is not to be taken lightly – decisions made can be vitally important as they impact lives.



Rick Amos
Research Analyst

OFFENDER ASSESSMENT INDEX

DEMOGRAPHICS

This section summarizes the demographic characteristics of **1375** offenders who completed the **OAI**. Characteristics include age, gender, race/ethnicity, marital status, and education achieved. In addition, self-reported offender status, and criminal history data are also presented.

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTIC

The average age was:

- 32.9 for all offenders
- 33.3 for male offenders
- 31.8 for female offenders

The average age at 1st arrest was:

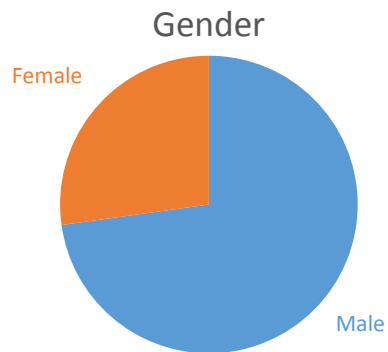
- 21.8 for all offenders
- 21.1 for males
- 23.6 for females

The average months employed in last year was:

- 6.2 months
- 26% were not employed
- 20% were employed 1-5 months
- 16% were employed 6-9 months
- 39% were employed 10-12 months

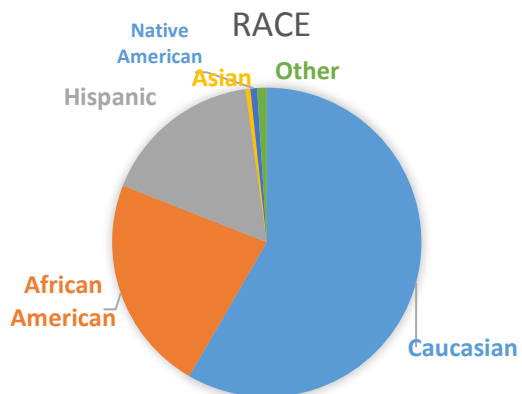
Offender gender is summarized below:

- 72.8% (1001) were male
- 27.2% (374) were female



Race and ethnicity is presented below:

- 58.3% (797) were Caucasian
- 22.6% (309) were African-American
- 16.8% (230) were Hispanic
- <1% (7) were Asian
- <1% (9) were Native American
- 1% (14) reported Other, but did not provide any additional information

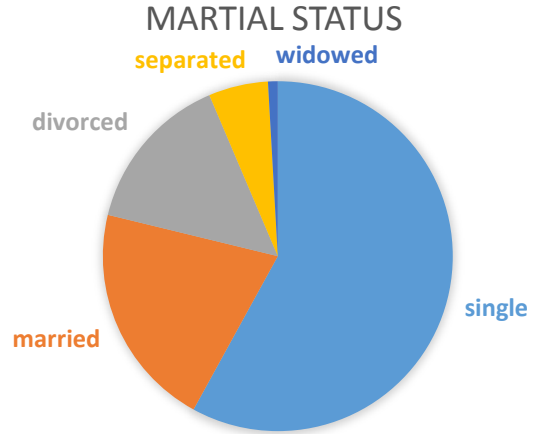


Information was missing for 9 offenders

Below summarizes inmate Marital Status:

- 58.0% (784) were single
- 20.8% (281) were married
- 14.8% (200) were divorced
- 5.5% (75) were separated
- <1% (12) were widowed

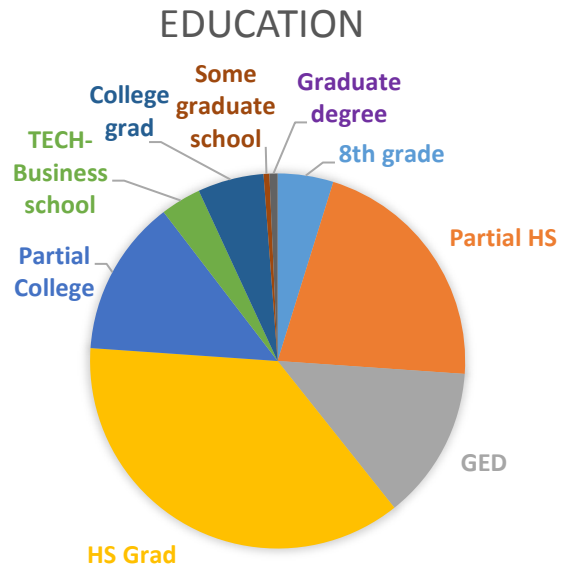
Information was missing for 23 offenders



Education Achieved is displayed below:

- 4.8% (65) completed less than 8th grade
- 21.3% (290) partially completed high school
- 13.2% (179) obtained a GED
- 36.8% (500) graduated high school
- 13.5% (184) partially completed college
- 3.5% (47) attended technical/business school
- 5.7% (77) graduated college
- <1% (7) attended graduate school
- <1% (10) graduate degree

Information was missing for 16 offenders



COURT HISTORY

This section of the report summarizes court history responses provided by the offenders who took the OAI. Initially, individuals were categorized into first-time offenders and repeat offenders based on the number of lifetime arrests they reported. First-time offenders were defined as offenders with up to one arrest; repeat offenders were defined as individuals with two or more arrests.

Offender Status:

- 22.9% (312) were first-time offenders
- 77.1% (1050) were repeat offenders

The **OAI Court History Table*** displays OAI offenders' court history. Four categories were created to organize offender responses; **0 arrests, 1 arrest, 2 arrests, and 3 or more arrests**. If the columns do not sum up to be **1375**, it is due to the presence of missing data; there was no missing Court History data in this dataset. *Percentages in the chart are rounded.

Table 1. OAI Court History Arrest Items (N=1375)

<u>Court History Items</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>1</u>		<u>2</u>		<u>3 or more</u>	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Felony	602	44.2	392	28.8	173	12.7	196	14.4
Probation	374	27.4	514	37.7	281	20.6	194	14.2
Probation Revocations	1023	75.3	211	15.5	75	5.5	50	3.7
Parole	1176	86.2	128	9.4	33	2.4	27	2.0
Arrests	49	3.6	263	19.3	218	16.0	832	61.1
Jail	632	46.4	287	21.1	142	10.4	302	22.2
Prison	1141	83.7	132	9.7	41	3.0	50	3.7
Alcohol	746	54.7	292	21.4	153	11.2	173	12.7
Drug	641	47.0	326	23.9	166	12.2	231	16.9

As seen in the **OAI Court History table**, of the offenders who provided responses, **56%** reported one or more felony arrests, **73%** reported one or more probation sentences, **25%** reported one or more probation revocations, **14%** reported one more parole sentences, **96%** reported one or more arrests with **61%** reporting 3 or more arrests, **54%** reported one or more jail sentences, **16%** reported one or more prison sentences, **45%** reported one or more alcohol-related arrests, and **53%** reported one or more drug arrests.

DSM-IV classification for **Substance Abuse Disorder** and **Dependency Disorder** is distinguished by a series of ADS items

- 34.7% did not meet the criteria for substance abuse disorder
- 65.3% met the criteria for substance abuse disorder
- 58.6% did not meet the criteria for substance dependency disorder
- 41.4% met the criteria for substance dependency disorder

RISK RANGE ANALYSIS

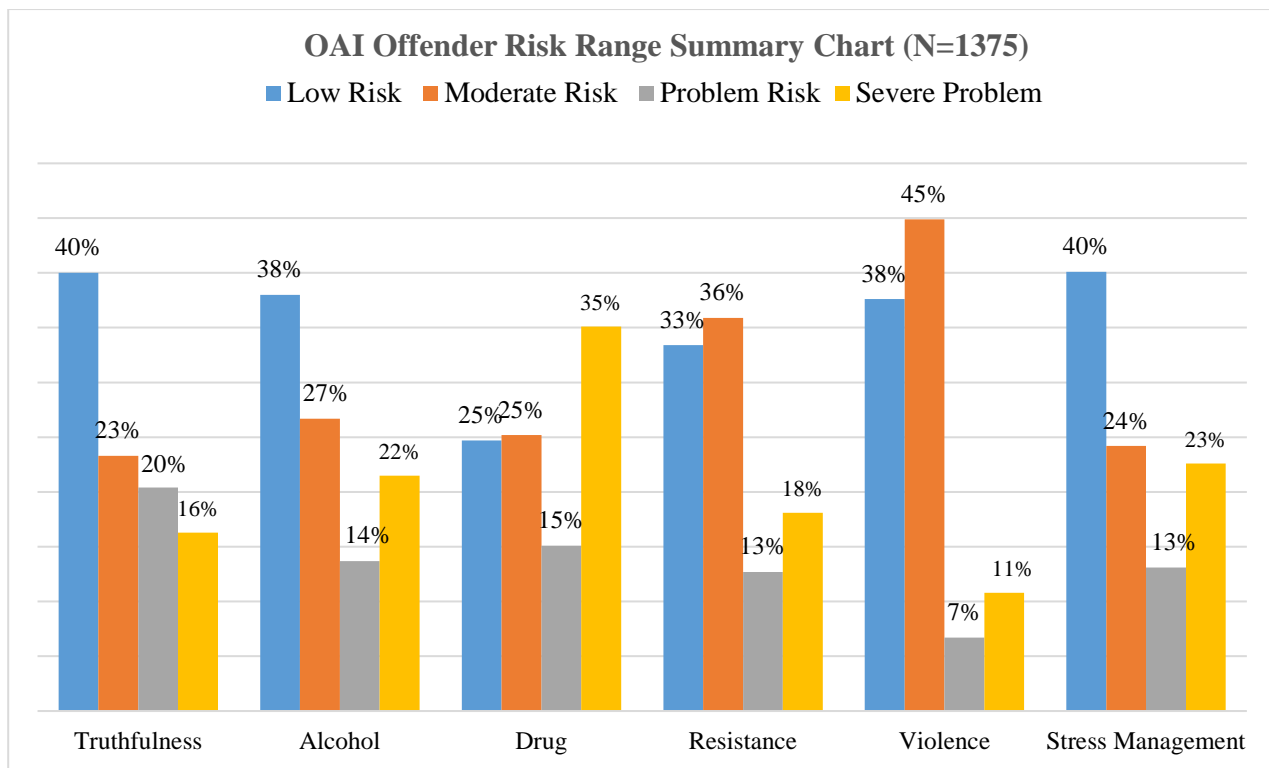
Risk ranges represent degree of severity and were established by converting raw scores to percentile scores by using cumulative percentage distributions inside the test.

For each OAI scale, respondents were classified into four risk ranges: low risk (zero to 39th percentile), moderate risk (40th to 69th percentile), problem risk (70th to 89th percentile), and severe problem risk (90th to 100th percentile). The expected percentage of the population within the Low Risk range is 39%, Moderate Risk is 30%, Problem Risk is 20%, and the expected percentage for Severe Problem classification is 11%.

Table 2. OAI Offender Risk Range Summary Table (N= 1375)

Scale*	Low Risk (39%)	Moderate Risk (30%)	Problem Risk (20%)	Severe Problem (11%)
Truthfulness	40	23.3	20.4	16.3
Alcohol	38.0	26.7	13.7	21.5
Drugs	24.7	25.2	15.1	35.1
Resistance	33.4	35.9	12.7	18.1
Violence	37.6	44.9	6.7	10.8
Stress Management	40.1	24.2	13.1	22.6

*Bolded numbers are those that are more than 5% in the undesired directions from the expected risk ranges.



As displayed in Table 2 and chart, obtained percentage of respondents' scores in each range was consistent with the expected percentage for most of the scales. The exceptions included the following:

- Alcohol scale was **11%** higher than expected in the Severe Risk category
- Drug scale was **24%** higher than expected in the Severe Risk category
- Resistance scale was **7%** higher than expected in the Severe Risk category and **6%** higher in the Moderate Risk category
- Violence scale was **15%** higher than expected in the Moderate Risk category
- Stress Management scale was **12%** higher than expected in the Severe Risk category

APPENDIX I

Test Statistics

The Offender Assessment Index (OAI) is designed specifically for probation department use to assess offenders. The OAI has 158 items that comprise of 6 scales: Truthfulness, Alcohol, Drugs, Resistance, Violence, and Stress Management. It also measures the DSM-IV classification of Substance Abuse and Dependency. This test takes approximately 35 minutes to complete.

Our assessments demonstrate high reliability, accuracy and validity. These elements are essential in an assessment tool in to order correctly identify individuals who demonstrate higher severity and consequently may have more complex treatment needs. Properly identifying offenders, using an evidence-based assessment instrument, has been associated with reduced recidivism, reduced costs, and increased public safety (PEW Center on the States, 2011).

Truthfulness Scale

Each test contains a Truthfulness Scale. Truthfulness Scales have been influenced by MMPI Truthfulness Scale methodology. Research has demonstrated that truthfulness is linked to positive treatment outcomes (Barber, et al., 2001; Simpson, 2004). While denial (refutation, problem minimization or lying) has been linked to negative treatment outcomes (Marshall, Thornton, Marshall, Fernandez & Mann, 2001); resistance; problem minimization (Murphy & Baxter, 1997); treatment dropout (Daly & Pelowski, 2000; Evans, Libo & Hser, 2009); and recidivism (Grann & Wedin, 2002; Nunes, Hanson, Firestone, Moulden, Greenberg & Bradford, 2007).

The impact of truthfulness on test scores is largely contingent upon the severity of client denial or untruthfulness. A truthfulness-related problem is identified when a Truthfulness Scale score is at or above the Problem Risk range. Problem (70 to 89th percentile) scorers are typically cautious, guarded and defensive respondents. Problem scorer's test answers should be dealt with carefully in a prudent manner. Severe problem scorers (90 to 100th percentile) invalidate their test and all scales contained therein.

Reliability

Test reliability refers to a scale's consistency of measurement. Cronbach's Alpha, a measure of reliability, measured the internal consistency of the items in each scale of the OAI. Perfect reliability is 1.00. The professionally accepted reliability standard for this type of instrument is .70 - .80 (Murphy & Davidshofer, 2001).

Validity

In testing, the term *validity* refers to the extent that a test measures what it was designed to measure. A test cannot be accurate without being valid. When individuals known to have more severe problems attain higher (more severe) scale scores than individuals known to have fewer or no problems, test validity is supported.