Prisoner Reentry Experiences of Adult Females: Characteristics, Service Receipt, and Outcomes of Participants in the SVORI Multi-Site Evaluation

THE MULTI-SITE EVALUATION OF THE SERIOUS AND VIOLENT OFFENDER REENTRY INITIATIVE

December 2009

Christine H. Lindquist
RTI International
3040 East Cornwallis Road
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Phone: (919) 485-5706
Fax: (919) 541-5985
Lindquist@rti.org

Kelle Barrick
RTI International
3040 East Cornwallis Road
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Phone: (919) 541-6435
Fax: (919) 541-5985
Kbarrick@rti.org

Pamela K. Lattimore
RTI International
3040 East Cornwallis Road
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Phone: (919) 485-7759
Fax: (919) 541-5985
Lattimore@rti.org

Christy A. Visher
University of Delaware/The Urban Institute
Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies
77 East Main Street
Newark, DE 19716
Phone: (302) 831-6921
Fax: (302) 831-3307
Visher@udel.edu

This project was supported by Grant No. 2004-RE-CX-002 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Acknowledgments

The Multi-site Evaluation of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) was supported by grant number 2004-RE-CX-002 from the National Institute of Justice (U.S. Department of Justice) and was conducted by RTI International and the Urban Institute. Points of view are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Principal Investigators
Pamela K. Lattimore, RTI International
Christy A. Visher, University of Delaware and Urban Institute

Report Authors
Christine H. Lindquist, RTI International
Kelle Barrick, RTI International
Pamela K. Lattimore, RTI International
Christy A. Visher, University of Delaware and Urban Institute

Staff Contributors
Danielle M. Steffey, RTI International
Laurin Parker, University of Delaware
Debbie Dawes, RTI International
Alexander Cowell, RTI International
Susan Brumbaugh, RTI International
Mark Pope, RTI International
Laura Winterfield, Urban Institute

We also acknowledge the contributions of the site liaisons from RTI and the Urban Institute, who documented the implementation of SVORI programming across the sites and facilitated data collection for the impact study. In addition, we are grateful for the hard work and dedication shown by our field interviewers, supervisors, and data collection task leader throughout the data collection period.

RTI and the Urban Institute thank the SVORI program directors, other program and research staff from the SVORI sites, and staff at the facilities where interviews were conducted. We greatly appreciate the assistance and support received from these individuals.

Finally, RTI and the Urban Institute acknowledge the invaluable assistance and direction provided by the members of our external advisory group.

For more information about the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation, please visit our Web site at http://www.svori-evaluation.org/.

Abstract

Statement of Purpose

The Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) funded agencies in 2003 to develop programs to improve criminal justice, employment, education, health, and housing outcomes for released prisoners. Sixty-nine agencies received federal funds to develop 89 programs. The SVORI Multi-site Evaluation was funded by the National Institute of Justice to examine the extent to which the SVORI (1) improved access to appropriate, comprehensive, integrated services; (2) improved employment, health, and personal functioning; and (3) reduced criminal recidivism. Sixteen programs—12 adult and 4 juvenile—were included in an impact evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the programming provided under SVORI.

Research Subjects

This report presents findings from the pre-release and post-release interviews conducted with women in 11 impact sites. The sample includes 153 females enrolled in SVORI programs and 204 comparison females who did not receive SVORI programming. The respondent profile revealed a high-risk, high-need study group. The women reported many physical and mental health problems, with half reporting receiving treatment for mental health problems before the current period of incarceration. Whereas more than half of the women reported working during the six months before prison, nearly as many reported receiving income from illegal activities. The women reported an average of 11 arrests, with the first occurring at 19 years of age, and nearly all reported at least one previous incarceration. The women reported very high levels of current service need; among the most commonly reported were education, public health insurance, financial assistance, employment, and mentoring.

Study Methods

The focus of the evaluation was to assess whether SVORI respondents received more services than non-SVORI respondents and to examine differences between the groups on a variety of post-release outcomes. Propensity score weights were developed, tested, and applied to improve the comparability of the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. Weighted analyses were used to examine the treatment effect of SVORI.

Major Findings

In terms of service receipt, SVORI and non-SVORI respondents reported the highest levels of service receipt during confinement. Whereas both groups reported low levels of post-release service receipt, SVORI respondents generally reported higher levels of service receipt than non-SVORI respondents. However, the levels of post-release service receipt reported by both groups were considerably lower than their reported levels of service need.

SVORI programming appeared to have a positive impact on both employment outcomes and abstinence from drug use. The findings for criminal behavior were mixed; the women enrolled in SVORI had positive outcomes for self-reported criminal behavior and official measures for rearrest but had negative outcomes for self-reported compliance with conditions of supervision and official measures of reincarceration. SVORI programming did not appear to affect core housing outcomes, familial or peer relationships, or physical or mental health outcomes.

Conclusions

Study findings clearly demonstrate that female prisoners returning to society are a population with high needs. While the SVORI programs were successful in increasing services provided to female participants, the levels of services that female SVORI participants received failed to match their high levels of need. However, the findings support the notion that enhanced access to a variety of reentry services results in modest improvements among several key reentry domains for women. The current evaluation's detailed documentation of service areas for which women reported high needs can be used for effective planning and service delivery. Because of the variety of challenges that returning women prisoners face, particularly with respect to mental and physical health

problems, extensive family responsibilities, and lack of employment experience (compared with reentering male prisoners), effective coordination of services is necessary.

Contents

Section	Page
Executive Summary	**ES-1**
Introduction	**1**
Previous Research on Women and Reentry	**5**
Women Prisoners: Prevalence and Needs	5
Reentry Experiences Among Women	6
Reentry Programming for Women	7
An Overview of SVORI Programming for Female Offenders	**11**
The SVORI Multi-site Evaluation—Design and Methods	**15**
Study Design	15
Data Collection Procedures	17
Approach for Addressing Nonresponse and Attrition	18
Approach for Addressing Selection Bias	19
Pre-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners	**21**
Background Characteristics	22
In-Prison Experiences	42
Service Needs	44
Service Receipt	57
Post-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners	**69**
Service Needs	70
Service Receipt	80
Housing	92
Employment	100
Family, Peers, and Community Involvement	107
Substance Use and Physical and Mental Health	112
Criminal Behavior and Recidivism	119

Conclusions **131**
References **139**
Appendix A. Data Tables **A-1**

Exhibits

Exhibit Number **Page**

1. Adult female sample sizes, by state and group.....16
2. Demographic characteristics of respondents at time of interview, by group 23
3. Percentages of mothers reporting on child care or child support responsibilities, by group 24
4. Criminal history and substance use of family and peers, by group.....26
5. Lifetime substance use, by group.....28
6. Use of specific substances during the 30 days preceding incarceration, by group 29
7. Lifetime health problems, by group 31
8. Current health problems, by group.....32
9. Average scores on SA-45 subscales, by group 34
10. Employment before incarceration, by group.....35
11. Characteristics of respondents' jobs before incarceration, by group 36
12. Sources of income during the 6 months before incarceration, by employment status and group 38
13. Criminal history of respondents, by group 40
14. Conviction offenses for current incarceration, by group 41
15. Disciplinary infractions and administrative segregations during current incarceration, by group 43
16. Frequency of in-prison contact with family members and friends, by group.....45
17. Service need bundle scores across service bundles, by group 47
18. Self-reported need for specific transition services, by group 49
19. Self-reported need for specific health services, by group 51

20. Self-reported need for employment, education, and skills services, by group 52
21. Self-reported need for specific child services, by group 54
22. Most commonly reported service needs, by group 56
23. Service receipt bundle scores across service bundles, by group 59
24. Self-reported receipt of specific coordination services, by group 60
25. Self-reported receipt of specific transition services, by group 61
26. Self-reported receipt of specific health services, by group 63
27. Self-reported receipt of specific employment, education, and skills services, by group 64
28. Most commonly reported services received, by group 66
29. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on service need.....71
30. Transition service needs bundle score.....74
31. Health service needs bundle score 76
32. Employment/education/life skills service needs bundle score.....77
33. Domestic violence service needs bundle score 78
34. Child service needs bundle score 79
35. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on service receipt.....81
36. Coordination services receipt bundle score 84
37. Transition services receipt bundle score 86
38. Health services receipt bundle score.....87
39. Employment/education/life skills services receipt bundle score.....89
40. Domestic violence services receipt bundle score.....90
41. Child services receipt bundle score.....91
42. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on housing outcomes.....93
43. Self-reported housing independence since release/last interview.....94
44. Self-reported housing stability.....95
45. Self-reported lack of housing challenges since release/last interview.....96
46. Self-reported being homeless, living in a shelter, or being without a set place to live 98

47. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on employment outcomes 101
48. Self-reported currently supporting self with job 102
49. Self-reported number of months worked since release/last interview 103
50. Self-reported number of months worked at same job since release/last interview 104
51. Self-reported receipt of formal pay for current job 105
52. Self-reported having a job with benefits 106
53. Negative peer exposure (0–14, <better) 110
54. Self-reported high civic action since release/last interview 112
55. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on self-reported substance use outcomes 114
56. No drug use reported or detected since release/last interview 115
57. No drug use reported or detected in past 30 days 116
58. Physical health scale (12-Item Short-Form Health Survey) 118
59. Self-reported overall physical health is very good or excellent 119
60. Global Severity Index (45–225, >better) 120
61. Self-reported overall mental health "very good" or "excellent" 121
62. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on self-reported recidivism outcomes 122
63. Self-reported no perpetration of violence since release/last interview 123
64. Self-reported complying with conditions of supervision since release/last interview 124
65. Self-reported not committing any crimes since release/last interview 125
66. Self-reported not committing any violent or weapons crimes since release/last interview 126
67. Not reincarcerated at follow-up interview 127
68. Not booked or reincarcerated since release/last interview 128
69. Official measures of recidivism 129
70. Months to first rearrest 130
71. Months to first reincarceration 130
A-1. Adult female case disposition—Wave 1 (pre-release) A-1
A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group A-2

A-3. Proportion of respondents who reported needing specific services, by group A-11
A-4. Proportion of respondents who reported receiving specific services, by group A-12

Executive Summary

The Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) funded agencies in 2003 to develop programs to improve criminal justice, employment, education, health, and housing outcomes for released prisoners. Sixty-nine agencies received federal funds ($500,000 to $2,000,000 over 3 years) to develop 89 programs. Across the grantees, programming was provided to adult males, adult females, and juveniles.

The SVORI Multi-site Evaluation was funded by the National Institute of Justice in the spring of 2003; it included an implementation assessment (to document the programming delivered across the SVORI programs) and an impact evaluation (to determine the effectiveness of programming). Sixteen programs were included in the impact evaluation, comprising 12 adult programs and 4 juvenile programs located in 14 states (adult programs only unless otherwise stated): Colorado (juveniles only), Florida (juveniles only), Indiana, Iowa, Kansas (adults and juveniles), Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina (adults and juveniles), and Washington. The impact evaluation included pre-release interviews (conducted approximately 30 days before release from prison) and a series of follow-up interviews (conducted at 3, 9, and 15 months post-release). Nearly 2,400 prisoners returning to society—some of whom received SVORI programming and some of whom received "treatment as usual" in their respective states—were included in the impact evaluation.

This report presents findings for the female participants in the impact evaluation, including 153 SVORI participants and 204 comparison women from 11 of the 12 adult impact sites.[1] After

[1] Because the Maryland SVORI program served only men, no women were recruited from that site.

a brief review of the literature on women and reentry, a description of the programming delivered to the women through SVORI funding, and a summary of the methods with which the impact evaluation was conducted, data are presented on the pre- and post-release characteristics and experiences among the female participants.

The data presented in the pre-release section of this report, which are based on the interview conducted 30 days (on average) before release, are primarily descriptive; they convey characteristics of the respondents, as well as their preprison and incarceration experiences. In addition to providing descriptive information, the pre-release section assesses the comparability of the SVORI and non-SVORI groups, examining whether the SVORI participants received more services than non-SVORI participants during their incarcerations. These pre-release findings on service receipt therefore constitute an initial assessment of whether SVORI funding, compared with "treatment as usual," increased women prisoners' access to pre-release services.

The post-release section of the report, which is based on the interviews conducted 3, 9, and 15 months after release, describes the post-release experiences among the women, assesses whether SVORI participants continued to receive more services than comparable women not enrolled in SVORI during the post-release follow-up period, and examines differences between the groups on a variety of outcomes. In the post-release section, weighted outcome analyses (which adjust for selection into the SVORI programs) examine the treatment effect of SVORI. Both the pre- and the post-release sections highlight gender differences based on comparisons of the entire female and male subsamples (using unweighted t-tests).

The implications of the findings for policy and practice pertaining to female returning prisoners conclude the report.

Pre-release Characteristics of the SVORI and Non-SVORI Female Respondents

Demographics

- Female respondents, on average, were 31 years old at the pre-release interview, with nearly equal numbers self-identifying as white (44%) and black (41%).

- Approximately 62% of the women reported having a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) credential.
- While 41% of the women reported living in their own homes during the 6 months before incarceration, more than one fifth were homeless, living in a shelter, or without a set place to live.
- The vast majority of women were mothers; more than half of those with minor children reported that they had primary care responsibilities before incarceration.

Substance Use and Physical and Mental Health

- Nearly all women reported having used alcohol and marijuana during their lifetimes, and three-quarters reported cocaine use. More than two thirds of the women reported having used one or more illicit drugs during the 30 days before incarceration.
- Women reported many physical and mental health problems; at the time of the pre-release interview, fewer than half rated their physical health and fewer than one third rated their mental health as excellent or very good.
- Half of the women reported receiving treatment for mental health problems before their current incarceration.

Employment History and Financial Support

- Most women reported having worked at some point during their lifetimes; more than half reported working during the 6 months before prison.
- Of those who worked during the 6 months before prison, about three quarters reported that their most recent job was permanent and that they received formal pay.
- Nearly half of the women reported receiving income from illegal activities, with those lacking a job before prison being more likely to report illegal income.

Criminal History

- The women reported an average of 11 arrests, with the first arrest occurring, on average, at 19 years of age.
- Nearly all women reported at least one previous incarceration; one third had been detained in a juvenile facility.
- At the time of the interview, women reported an average length of incarceration of less than 2 years.

Levels of Service Needs

- The women reported very high levels of current (30 days before release, on average) service need across the 29 services addressed in the interview; on average, women reported needing nearly two thirds of the services.
- Service need was substantially higher for women than for men.
- The needs the women most commonly reported were education (95%), public health insurance (91%), financial assistance (87%), employment (83%), and a mentor (83%).
- The SVORI and non-SVORI respondents reported similar levels of need for most services, indicating that the two groups were similar on service need at the time of the pre-release interview.

Levels of Service Receipt

- Participants in SVORI programs had greater access to a wide range of pre-release services and were more likely to receive most of the documented service areas ("bundles").
- The most common services SVORI respondents reported receiving during their incarceration were participating in programs to prepare for release, taking a class specifically for release, working with someone to plan for release, receiving a needs assessment, and developing a reentry plan.
- The women enrolled in SVORI reported substantially higher levels of service receipt than the non-SVORI respondents across 22 of the 36 services.
- Overall, SVORI respondents reported receiving about half of the service items—in contrast to the one quarter that non-SVORI respondents reported receiving.

The results from the pre-release interviews show that the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were similar on most background characteristics and largely similar on self-reported service need, which was extremely high among the women. Women who participated in SVORI programming were more likely to receive pre-release programming and services, which indicates that the SVORI funding did increase access to services for female prisoners returning to society.

Post-release Experiences Among the SVORI and Non-SVORI Female Respondents

Levels of Service Needs

- Compared with the extremely high self-reported service needs at the pre-release interview, women reported needing substantially fewer services at the 3-month post-release interview. Need for services continued to decline at the 9- and 15-month interviews, as well. Nonetheless, absolute levels of service need remained quite high. Women continued to report high levels of service need (in the 40–50% range) for many services even 15 months after release.
- The needs most commonly reported by the women across all 3 follow-up waves were more education (87–93%), public health care insurance (66–77%), and financial assistance (64–73%).
- The SVORI and non-SVORI groups reported similar levels of need for most services, indicating that the needs of the two groups were comparable at each follow-up time point.
- As with the findings at the pre-release interview, service need was significantly higher for women than it was for men across several service areas (primarily health services and family services), at each time period.

Levels of Service Receipt

- As with the decline of self-reported need for services over time, the likelihood of receiving services declined over time.
- Aggregate levels of service receipt were substantially lower than comparable measures of service need (across all bundles and time periods and among both groups), indicating that very small proportions of women received the services they needed.
- The women enrolled in SVORI programming reported substantially higher rates of services receipt than the non-SVORI respondents at each of the post-release interviews. Similar to the overall trend in declining service receipt over time, the number of differences between these groups decreased at each follow-up wave.
- The services that women were most likely to receive after release were similar across the post-release waves and included post-release supervision, case management, and needs assessments.

- Women reported much higher levels of service receipt than men during the post-release period, particularly at the 3- and 15-month time periods.

Housing

- SVORI programming did not appear to affect core housing outcomes, including housing independence, stability, and the extent to which housing challenges were encountered.
- For both the SVORI and non-SVORI groups, housing situations improved gradually over the 3-, 9-, and 15-month post-release time periods.
- Several gender differences in housing were identified, including women's being significantly more likely than men to report
  - living in their own house or apartment (at the 3- and 9-month post-release time periods),
  - being homeless (at the 3- and 9-month post-release time periods), and
  - living with their children (at all time periods).
- Men were significantly more likely than women to report contributing to housing costs and to report living with their mothers or stepmothers, sisters, and brothers (at all time periods).

Employment

- SVORI programming appeared to positively affect many dimensions of employment, with effects being strongest for the time period reflecting 15 months post-release. Compared with the non-SVORI respondents, women who enrolled in SVORI programming
  - were more likely to report supporting themselves with a job (at 15 months post-release),
  - worked significantly more months (at 15 months post-release),
  - worked significantly more months at the same job (at 15 months post-release),
  - were more likely to receive formal pay for their jobs (at all time periods), and
  - were less likely to report receiving money from illegal activities (at 3 months post-release).

- Overall, women fared worse than men on most dimensions of employment, including likelihood of working, number of months worked, and likelihood of working at jobs that offered benefits.

Family, Peers, and Community Involvement

- SVORI programming did not have an impact on familial or peer relationships.
  - When several dimensions of familial relationships were examined, including emotional support, instrumental support, quality of intimate-partner relationships, and quality of relationships with children, no differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents were observed.
  - The SVORI and non-SVORI groups reported similar levels of negative peer exposure. The levels of instrumental support from peers were significantly higher for the SVORI group than for the non-SVORI group at both the 9- and the 15-month time periods.
  - SVORI participants reported marginally higher levels of civic action than the non-SVORI group ($p < 0.10$) at the 3- and 15-month time periods.
- Overall, levels of familial and peer support (based on scales measuring both emotional and instrumental support) were similar for men and women. Women reported higher-quality intimate partnerships at the 3-month post-release time period—a time period at which men were significantly more likely to live with their spouse or romantic partner. At all time periods, women were significantly more likely than men to report having primary care responsibilities for their children and had higher scores on the scale assessing the respondent's relationship with children.

Substance Use

- SVORI appeared to have a positive impact on abstinence from drug use. Results for a composite self-report and oral fluids drug tests outcome measure indicated that the SVORI participants were significantly less likely than the non-SVORI participants to have used drugs during the reference period and during the 30 days before the interview, at both the 3- and 15-month post-release time periods.
- Overall, women's substance use increased across the post-release follow-up periods; levels of use did not differ between women and men.

Physical and Mental Health

- SVORI did not appear to influence physical or mental health outcomes. No differences were observed, at any time period, between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups on the 12-Item Short Form Health Survey (SF-12; Ware, Kosinski, Turner-Bowker, & Gandek, 2002) physical health scale, the number of physical conditions experienced, overall perceptions of physical health, the SF-12 mental health scale, the Global Severity Index, or overall perceptions of mental health.
- Significant gender differences were observed for all of the measures of mental and physical health at all follow-up time periods, with women consistently faring worse than men.

Criminal Behavior and Recidivism

- The findings for criminal behavior and recidivism were mixed. The women enrolled in SVORI had positive outcomes (i.e., lower criminality/recidivism) for
  - self-reported perpetration of violence (15 months post-release),
  - self-reported criminal behavior (excluding violent and weapons crimes; 15 months post-release), and
  - official measures of rearrest (within 9, 12, 15, and 21 months of release).
- The women enrolled in SVORI had negative outcomes (i.e., higher criminality or recidivism) for
  - self-reported compliance with conditions of supervision (at 9 months post-release) and
  - official measures of reincarceration in state prisons (within 12, 15, 21, and 24 months of release).

Conclusions

The findings reported here clearly demonstrate that female prisoners returning to society are a population with high needs. SVORI funding offered correctional agencies an opportunity to intervene by providing a range of services designed to facilitate successful reentry for prisoners. The programs were extremely successful in increasing the services provided to female participants. Across almost all types of services, the women who participated in SVORI reported substantially higher levels of service receipt than comparable women not enrolled in SVORI. In addition, although the SVORI programs focused resources on increasing women's access to services during

incarceration, the higher levels of service receipt found for SVORI participants persisted even after their release (with significantly higher levels of service receipt documented at 3, 9, and 15 months post-release). Importantly, however, the levels of services that female SVORI participants received, although a significant improvement over "treatment as usual," failed to match their high levels of need.

Even though service receipt was insufficient to meet the women's high needs, the enhanced service delivery that SVORI programs provided appears to have improved participants' reentry outcomes in several dimensions. Employment and substance abuse were the domains for which the most consistent program effects were observed; the outcomes were much less clear for criminal behavior and recidivism. Women who participated in SVORI had positive outcomes for several dimensions of criminal behavior and recidivism, including lower likelihood of rearrest. According to official corrections data, however, SVORI participants had significantly *higher* reincarceration rates. Two possible explanations for this pattern are (1) site-specific effects (because the women were not evenly distributed by group across sites and site-level practices or policies may influence reincarceration rates) and (2) that SVORI program participants were more likely than comparison subjects to have been at risk for post-release supervision revocation—because either they were more likely to be on supervision, or they were subject to more conditions of supervision.

The findings support the notion that enhanced access to a variety of reentry services results in modest improvements among several key reentry domains for women. With these outcomes, the reentry efforts initiated through SVORI funding provide a promising foundation for future reentry efforts.

Introduction

SVORI was a collaborative federal effort, established in 2003, to improve outcomes for adults and juveniles returning to their communities after a period of incarceration. The initiative sought to help states better utilize their correctional resources to address outcomes along criminal justice, employment, education, health, and housing dimensions. Funded by the U.S. Departments of Justice, Labor, Education, Housing and Urban Development, and Health and Human Services, SVORI was an unprecedented national response to the challenges of prisoner reentry. Sixty-nine state and local grantees (corrections and juvenile justice agencies) received SVORI funding, representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These grantees developed 89 programs that targeted adult and juvenile correctional populations.

SVORI funding was intended to create a three-phase continuum of services for returning prisoners that began during the period of incarceration, intensified just before release and during the early months post-release, and continued for several years after release as former inmates took on more productive and independent roles in the community. The SVORI programs attempted to address the initiative's goals and provide a wide range of well-coordinated services to returning prisoners. Although SVORI programs shared the common goals of improving outcomes across various dimensions and improving service coordination and systems collaboration, programs differed substantially in their approaches and implementations (Lindquist, 2005; Winterfield & Brumbaugh, 2005; Winterfield, Lattimore, Steffey, Brumbaugh, & Lindquist, 2006; Winterfield & Lindquist, 2005).

In spring 2003 the National Institute of Justice awarded RTI International, a nonprofit research organization, a grant to evaluate programs funded by SVORI. The Urban Institute, a nonpartisan economic and social policy research organization, collaborated on this project, which was one of the largest evaluation studies ever funded by the National Institute of Justice. With data collected from grantee staff, partnering agencies, and returning prisoners, the 6-year evaluation involved a comprehensive implementation evaluation of all 89 SVORI programs, an intensive impact evaluation of 16 selected programs, and an economic analysis on a subset of the impact sites (see Lattimore et al., 2004). The goal of the SVORI evaluation was to document the implementation of SVORI programs and determine whether they accomplished SVORI's overall goal of increasing public safety by reducing recidivism among the populations served.

The *implementation assessment* addressed the extent to which the 89 SVORI programs (69 grantees) increased access to services and promoted systems change. The *impact evaluation* assessed the effectiveness of SVORI by comparing key outcomes among those who received services as part of SVORI with those of a comparable group of individuals who received "treatment as usual" in the 16 sites participating in the impact evaluation. The impact evaluation included a longitudinal study of 2,391 returning prisoners (adult males, adult females, and juvenile males) who were interviewed approximately one month before release and then again at 3, 9, and 15 months after release. The third component of the evaluation, an *economic analysis*, determined the return on SVORI investment and included both a cost-benefit and a cost-effectiveness analysis.

This report presents findings for the female participants in the impact evaluation, which included 153 SVORI participants and 204 comparison women returning from prison in 11 states. The data presented in the pre-release section of this report, which are based on the interview conducted 30 days (on average) before release, are primarily descriptive; they convey characteristics of the respondents, as well as their preprison and incarceration experiences. In addition to providing descriptive information, the pre-release section assesses the comparability of the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents, examining whether the SVORI participants received more services than non-SVORI participants during their

incarcerations. These pre-release findings on service receipt therefore constitute an initial assessment of whether SVORI funding, compared with "treatment as usual," increased women prisoners' access to pre-release services.

The post-release section of the report, which is based on the interviews conducted 3, 9, and 15 months after release, describes the post-release experiences among the women, assesses whether SVORI participants continued to receive more services than comparable women not enrolled in SVORI during the post-release follow-up period, and examines differences between the groups on a variety of outcomes. In the post-release section, weighted outcome analyses (which adjust for selection into the SVORI programs) examine the treatment effect of SVORI. Both the pre- and the post-release sections highlight gender differences based on comparisons of the entire female and male subsamples (using unweighted t-tests).

In the sections that follow, the literature on women and reentry is briefly reviewed ("Previous Research on Women and Reentry") and the programming delivered to the women through SVORI funding is described ("An Overview of SVORI Programming for Female Offenders"). "The SVORI Multi-Site Evaluation—Design and Methods" section summarizes the methods for the impact evaluation, including the selection of respondents, the interview process, the technique applied to ensure comparability between the SVORI and non-SVORI samples, and the manner in which selection and attrition bias were addressed. In the "Pre-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners," detailed findings on the pre-release characteristics of the women are presented, including the demographic characteristics of the women, their preprison experiences, self-reported service needs, and in-prison service receipt. In the "Post-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners" section, the findings for service need and receipt during the post-release time periods are presented, in addition to the impact results for a variety of reentry outcomes. A discussion of policy implications concludes the report.

Previous Research on Women and Reentry

WOMEN PRISONERS: PREVALENCE AND NEEDS

The U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that 208,300 women were incarcerated in state and federal prisons or local jails in June 2007 (Sabol & Couture, 2008). Women represent approximately 10% of the total incarcerated population and have notably different circumstances and needs than incarcerated men. Female offenders are more likely to participate in property and drug offenses than males, who are more likely to participate in violent offenses (West & Sabol, 2008). Morash et al. (1998) note that female offenders are more likely to have been victims of sexual and physical abuse. Moreover, research indicates that female offenders are more likely than male offenders to battle drug addiction and suffer from mental illness (Covington, 2003; Morash et al., 1998).

Indeed, in a study of reentering prisoners, it was estimated that 77% of women and 54% of men had chronic physical and mental health conditions at the time of release from prison; women were more likely to have comorbid mental health and substance abuse conditions (Mallik-Kane & Visher, 2008). The same study nonetheless found that men with substance abuse disorders were more likely to receive tangible assistance from family than other men, whereas substance-abusing women were less likely to receive such help than other women.

Female inmates are also more likely to report being a parent than men (62% and 51%, respectively) and to having more

than one child (41% and 29%, respectively; Glaze, 2008). Additionally, women who are released from prison appear to experience more housing challenges, lower employment, less family support, and more substance abuse than men (Mallik-Kane & Visher, 2008).

REENTRY EXPERIENCES AMONG WOMEN

Because of their high level of needs, female offenders encounter unique obstacles on reentry into the community. In addition, women may have different concerns and priorities with regard to reentry than men. Research has documented that the primary reentry concerns for female offenders are to successfully reunite with their children, maintain a suitable lifestyle, and sustain relationships with family and intimate partners (La Vigne, Brooks, & Shollenberger, 2008; O'Brien, 2001; Richie, 2001). In an analysis of female offenders returning to Houston, Texas, communities (La Vigne et al., 2008), a majority of the women were found to be highly optimistic, especially about reuniting with their families and children. Many women expected to have emotional and financial support from their families and relationships upon release. LaVigne et al. (2008) report that the expectations women had in reuniting with their families were met in the first 8 to 10 months after their release, which contributed to their successful reintegration into the community.

Research has also found that female offenders prioritize finding suitable housing and employment upon their release, which can assist in their personal recovery (O'Brien, 2001). O'Brien also reports that former female offenders want to feel a sense of self confidence or resiliency upon their release.

Richie (2001) has found that having access to sufficient health care to cover medical needs is also a concern for female offenders. Whether women have more successful reentry experiences than men is unclear. In addition, the factors that contribute to successful reintegration for men and women have not been conclusively identified. In a review of 32 studies evaluating prisoner reentry programs, Seiter and Kadela (2003) found that vocational training or work release programs, drug rehabilitation, halfway house programs, and pre-release programs were associated with reductions in recidivism. Additionally, drug rehabilitation programs were found to be

successful at reducing drug use, and education programs were shown to increase achievement scores. However, this review did not distinguish whether these studies included both men and women or include a discussion of any differences in program effects by gender. There is limited research examining correlates of successful reentry specifically among female offenders.

However, one factor that has been found to be responsible for the successful reintegration of former female offenders is the existence of community programs that foster a positive transition (O'Brien & Harm, 2002). Similarly, LaVigne et al. (2008) have reported that former female offenders often describe the importance of having community programs and supervision that emphasize substance abuse treatment, employment-based skills, counseling, and job training (La Vigne et al., 2008). Bloom, Owen, and Covington (2003) stress the importance of comprehensive, collaborative, and well coordinated services.

The limited research on gender differences and desistance has found female offenders more likely than male offenders to credit their children and religion for changes in their behavior; male offenders reported the prison environment, treatment, and their family as the primary reasons for their desistance (Giordano, Cernkovich, & Rudolph, 2002).

REENTRY PROGRAMMING FOR WOMEN

Although many programs are developed to serve the needs of both men and women, female offenders arguably have unique needs and circumstances that require some gender-specific programming (Koons, Burrow, Morash, & Bynum, 1997). According to Bloom et al. (2003, p. vii), "gender-responsive policy and practice target women's pathways to criminality by providing effective interventions that address the intersecting issues of substance abuse, trauma, mental health, and economic marginality." In some correctional settings, rehabilitative, educational, and reintegration programs that specifically target women offenders are offered. For example, the Women's Prison Association (WPA), which is stationed in New York, is a core agency dedicated to supporting, rehabilitating, and educating female offenders. The WPA provides programming services that include residential and

family services, as well as reentry services designed for incarcerated mothers. Rather than incarceration, some correctional agencies argue that there should be other options available to women offenders, especially those who are mothers.

The WPA, for example, provides the Hopper Home Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) program. This program is specifically designed to allow female offenders to complete court-mandated programs, which can include drug treatment and anger management training, in the community as opposed to in a prison setting. The WPA also provides services to female offenders who wish to regain custody of their children through the Sarah Powell Huntington House Family Reunification Residence (SPHH), Incarcerated Mothers Law Project (IMLP), and the Family Preservation Program. Moreover, the WPA also establishes services that assist these women in finding suitable housing through their Sunflower House program.

The SPHH, for instance, targets homeless women who have a criminal record. More specifically, SPHH helps women regain custody of their children by assisting in their quest to find appropriate housing. The Sunflower House program allows former offenders to assist each other in their recovery process from substance addictions.

The IMLP and Family Preservation Program provide services to women offenders who are concerned with the welfare of their children. More specifically, the purpose of the IMLP is to inform incarcerated mothers of their parental rights pertaining to the institutional custody of their children, whereas the Family Preservation Program employs an intensive case management model that is designed to treat drug-addicted mothers through substance abuse treatment and mental illness rehabilitation. The Family Preservation Program also assists these mothers in locating housing, obtaining an education, and gaining employment.

Other programs, such as the Children's Center at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, provide nurseries for babies of incarcerated women and help teach them parenting (Morash et al., 1998). A national survey on promising correctional programs for incarcerated women found that the most common programmatic focus areas were substance abuse education and treatment, parenting, life skills, relationships, and education.

Both program administrators and participants attributed the success of programs to characteristics of the staff members (e.g., personal experience with addiction and caring attitudes) and to the women's acquisition of a comprehensive skill set related to both work and family responsibilities (Koons et al., 1997).

On the basis of the limited research of former female prisoners and even more limited evaluations of reentry programs, the factors that appear most important for successful reentry for women include establishing suitable housing, finding gainful employment, and reuniting with children and family. Moreover, women's reentry programs need to emphasize post-release treatment and counseling for infectious diseases and substance abuse as well as protection from abusive relationships.

An Overview of SVORI Programming for Female Offenders

The SVORI funding stream provided an opportunity for state and local agencies to develop reentry programming for women (in addition to men and juveniles). The federal guidance accompanying SVORI funding placed few restrictions on the state agencies with respect to the design of the individual SVORI programs. The primary restrictions placed on local SVORI programs were an age limit—the programs were required to target prisoners aged 35 years or younger—and a requirement for post-release community supervision. Other broad requirements were that the program include three phases (in-prison, supervised post-release, and post-supervision); provide holistic case management and service delivery; improve participants' quality of life and self-sufficiency through employment, housing, family, and community involvement; improve participants' health by addressing substance use and physical and mental health; and reduce participants' criminality through supervision and monitoring of noncompliance. The programs also were encouraged to include needs and risk assessments, reentry plans, transition teams, community resources, and graduated sanctions (see Winterfield et al., 2006). Because a SVORI program model was not specified, each program was locally designed; therefore, the programs varied considerably in approach, services provided, and target populations.

Through the SVORI implementation assessment, program directors from each of the 52 adult programs were surveyed about their program goals, as well as the types of services they provided and the proportion of offenders—both SVORI and non-SVORI— who received these services before and after release. Because this assessment was not designed to capture gender differences in programming, little is known about the extent to which SVORI programming differed by gender across the 89 SVORI programs.

Information on the reentry services and programming implemented appears elsewhere (Lattimore, Visher, & Steffey, 2008; Lindquist, 2005; Winterfield & Brumbaugh, 2005; Winterfield et al., 2006; Winterfield & Lindquist, 2005). Descriptions of SVORI programming at each impact site can be found in Lattimore and Steffey (2009). Overall, the evaluation documented that employment and community integration tended to be the primary focus of SVORI programs and that, according to information provided by program directors, higher proportions of SVORI participants than comparable offenders not participating in SVORI were receiving nearly all of the services available.

From the programs selected for the impact evaluation, more detailed documentation on programming was attained during evaluation staff's impact site visits. This documentation enabled a comparison of SVORI programming designed for men with that designed for women. In sites that assigned SVORI participants to case managers or parole officers dedicated to SVORI participants, women were often assigned to a particular case manager or parole offer. In addition, in sites that transferred SVORI participants to community corrections facilities, the men and women were, not surprisingly, transferred to separate facilities. Two sites noted the availability of post-release housing specifically for women (in one site this option was limited to women with children). Overall, however, the evaluation documentation suggests that the SVORI programs were not designed to deliver gender-specific programming. For example, among the 11 impact sites that serve adult females, none of the sites appeared to differentiate between men and women in their overall approach to reentry programming.

In many ways, the lack of gender-specific programming among the SVORI programs is to be expected because of the small number of women enrolled in them. Overall, among the SVORI programs that participated in the impact evaluation, only 15% of the SVORI participants enrolled in the impact study were women. This figure is only an estimate of the gender distribution of the SVORI programs selected for the impact evaluation (because it reflects cases that were actually fielded and resulted in a completed pre-release interview), but it is consistent with the impact sites.

Stakeholders from some sites reported that the upper age limit imposed by the federal funding requirements (35 years of age) severely restricted the number of women they were able to enroll. One site received permission to establish a higher upper age limit for women than the one used for men. It is clear, however, that across impact sites customized programming for women was not emphasized.

Interestingly, although no differences were evident in the design of SVORI programming for men and women, information from the site visits does suggest gender differences in overall pre-release programming availability (offered as "treatment as usual" in the male and female facilities). Specifically, documentation of the services available to the general prison population at the pre-release institutions served by the SVORI programs suggests that, in general, more programs and services were available at the women's prisons than at the men's prisons. Services such as substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, mentoring programming, life skills programming, and domestic violence services appeared to be more commonly available at the women's prisons.[2]

[2] In at least one site, however, a service available at several men's prisons (video-conferencing) was not available at the women's prison served by the SVORI program.

The SVORI Multi-site Evaluation—Design and Methods

Here the methods employed in the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation are summarized. A detailed description of the design, data collection procedures, instrumentation, and analytic strategy can be found in Lattimore and Steffey (2009).

STUDY DESIGN

The impact evaluation included a longitudinal study of adult male, adult female, and juvenile male prisoners returning to their communities.[3] On the basis of an extensive site selection process, 16 programs were chosen (from among the 89 SVORI programs) for the impact study, with the objective of achieving diversity in programmatic approach and geographical representation. The 16 programs included 12 adult programs and 4 juvenile programs located in 14 states: Colorado (juveniles only), Florida (juveniles only), Indiana, Iowa, Kansas (adults and juveniles), Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina (adults and juveniles), and Washington. The adult female sample reflected women enrolled in Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Washington. As shown in Exhibit 1, the women were unevenly distributed across group and site, with half of the non-SVORI

[3] Juvenile females were excluded from the impact evaluation because of the extremely small number of SVORI participants in this subgroup.

Exhibit 1. Adult female sample sizes, by state and group

State	SVORI	Non-SVORI	Total	% of Total
Iowa	35	3	38	10.6
Indiana	12	101	113	31.7
Kansas	17	31	48	13.5
Maine	7	2	9	2.5
Missouri	22	0	22	6.2
Nevada	9	8	17	4.8
Ohio	15	12	27	7.6
Oklahoma	3	7	10	2.8
Pennsylvania	6	0	6	1.7
South Carolina	24	31	55	15.4
Washington	3	9	12	3.4
Total	153	204	357	100.0

respondents residing in Indiana.[4] Other sites provided very few total cases or no non-SVORI respondents. This uneven distribution of cases across group by site limits the possibilities of addressing the impact of site in the outcome analyses and raises concerns of the potential for undue influence by a group on site, independent of effect.

A site-specific research design was developed for each impact site. In two sites (Iowa and Ohio), a random-assignment evaluation design was implemented by the programs.[5] In the remaining sites, comparison groups were developed by isolating the criteria that local site staff used to identify individuals eligible for enrollment in their SVORI program (these included factors such as age, criminal history, risk level, post-release supervision, transfer to pre-release facilities, and county of release) and replicating the selection procedures on a different population. Where possible, the comparison participants came from the same pre-release facilities and were returning to the same post-release geographic areas as the SVORI participants. In some instances, comparison participants were identified as those who met all eligibility criteria except pre- or post-release

[4] Indiana had a surplus of eligible comparison participants who were interviewed in the expectation that, if shown to be comparable to the women in other states, they could compensate for the deficit of comparison women in other states.

[5] Even though random assignment was employed in Iowa, participants were not evenly allocated to the two conditions. Program slots were filled first, and then the remaining participants were assigned to the control condition (which is the reason very few comparison women were enrolled in that site).

geographic parameters. When this exception occurred, either the comparison sample was selected from pre-release facilities that were comparable to facilities in which SVORI was available, or individuals from SVORI facilities who were returning to a separate but similar geographic area were selected. Eligible respondents (both SVORI and comparison) were identified monthly during the 17-month enrollment period for the impact evaluation.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Data collection consisted of four waves of in-person, computer-assisted interviews: the pre-release interview (Wave 1) conducted about one month before expected release and three follow-up interviews (Waves 2 through 4) conducted 3, 9, and 15 months after release. In addition, oral swab drug tests were conducted during the 3- and 15-month interviews for adult respondents who were interviewed in a community setting. For examination of recidivism outcomes, the interview and drug test data were supplemented with arrest data and with administrative records obtained from state correctional agencies.

All interviews were conducted in private settings by experienced RTI field interviewers using computer-assisted personal interviewing. Pre-release interviews were conducted from July 2004 through November 2005 in more than 150 prisons and juvenile detention facilities. Pre-release interviews were conducted approximately 30 days before release and were designed to obtain data on the respondents' characteristics and preprison experiences, as well as incarceration experiences and services received since admission to prison. These interviews also obtained data on the respondents' post-release plans and expectations about reentry.

Post-release interviews were conducted from January 2005 through May 2007. The post-release interviews were similar in content across waves and obtained data on reentry experiences, housing, employment, family and community integration, substance abuse, physical and mental health, supervision and criminal history, service needs, and service receipt. The interview instruments were developed through an extensive instrumentation process involving substantive domain

experts and the use of existing, validated measures and scales used in previous RTI and Urban Institute studies.

In addition to obtaining approval from the Institutional Review Boards at RTI and the Urban Institute, memoranda of agreement or formal research agreements were negotiated with all agencies, and evaluation staff ensured that study procedures were approved by all facilities in which interviews were conducted (or by correctional agencies overseeing the facilities).

APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING NONRESPONSE AND ATTRITION

A total of 516 women were eligible to be included in the study. Completed Wave 1 (pre-release) interviews were obtained with 69% of the women. Among eligible sample members approached for interviews, refusal rates were very low: on average, 7% across the 11 adult female sites. A breakdown of the categories of refusals and ineligible cases is available in Appendix Exhibit A-1. As shown in the exhibit, most of the noninterviews among eligible women were due to the women's being released before their Wave 1 interview could be completed.

Nearly 90% of the women who were interviewed at Wave 1 also responded to at least one of the follow-up interviews. The response rates for the Wave 2, 3, and 4 interviews were 68%, 71%, and 77%, respectively.

Although the response rates for the women were fairly high, the possibility remains that respondents who "dropped out" of subsequent waves of interviews differed from those who completed the follow-up interviews. As preliminary evidence that the attrition was random or affected the SVORI and non-SVORI groups similarly, at each wave the SVORI and comparison groups were found to be similar at each wave on a range of characteristics. Unfortunately, the relatively small sample size precluded for the women the more rigorous examination of nonresponse conducted for the men (see Lattimore & Steffey, 2009). Diagnostic tests for response bias in the male sample did not indicate any problems. These results, combined with the higher response rates found, at each wave, in the female sample as compared with the male sample, and with the comparability between groups across waves,

suggest that attrition did not introduce any substantial problem into the data on women prisoners.

APPROACH FOR ADDRESSING SELECTION BIAS

In addition to limitations posed by attrition, the potential for selection bias must be examined because, in most sites, women were not randomly assigned to SVORI or non-SVORI conditions. On initial examination, the raw data showed that the SVORI participants were more likely to be incarcerated for a violation of parole than their non-SVORI counterparts (see Lattimore & Steffey, 2009). Differences in age, race, and prior mental health treatment approached significance.

Propensity score models were then used to improve the comparability between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. This technique uses observed characteristics to model the likelihood that an individual with those characteristics will be selected (or assigned) to the intervention. One limitation of propensity score models is the possibility that a variable related to both the treatment and outcome, and thus potentially responsible for any observed treatment effects, is omitted. However, this is an accepted methodology that has been used in hundreds of research studies in a variety of fields (Rubin, 2006).

In the first step, a logit model to generate the probability of assignment to SVORI was estimated with 24 variables measured before SVORI assignment, including characteristics such as age, race, criminal history, and employment before incarceration. Propensity score weights were developed to examine balance (and program effects). Once the propensity score weights were applied, the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents exhibited balance on each variable included in the propensity model, conferring confidence that the groups are indeed comparable and permitting examination of the effect of SVORI on outcomes measured in the follow-up interviews.

As an additional check, differences between the SVORI and comparison groups on these 24 Wave 1 characteristics were examined at each follow-up wave. At the 3-month interview, the difference in incarceration rate (measured at the time of pre-release interview) was statistically significance ($p < 0.05$); however, the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents did not differ significantly on any other variables included in the propensity

model at any other wave. The results suggest that the propensity score model provided balance across all four waves of interview data. For a more detailed discussion of this approach, see Lattimore and Steffey (2009).

Pre-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners

Provided here is descriptive information about the 357 adult female SVORI and non-SVORI respondents interviewed in the 11 adult impact sites in which women were enrolled. Background characteristics of the women are summarized, in addition to their preprison and incarceration experiences. These data allow us to assess the comparability of the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents.

This section presents detailed information on the service needs reported by the women and examines the extent to which the women received a variety of services during their incarcerations. These data constitute an initial assessment of program implementation, in that service receipt reported by women who were enrolled in the SVORI programs can be compared with that of comparable women who received "treatment as usual."

The data are presented for the total sample of women, as well as the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. Also discussed are key gender differences observed, although data for men are not presented (for complete pre-release data on the male sample, see Lattimore et al., 2008). Although a gender comparison is not the explicit purpose of this evaluation, these differences are presented to take advantage of the unique opportunity of having comparable measures for both the male and female samples. Because the pre-release data are used entirely for descriptive purposes in this section, the data here are

unweighted. As will be discussed in the "Post-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners" section, weighting for selection bias is necessary to examine actual program effects among the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents. Appendix Exhibit A-2 provides the means, standard deviations, and t-statistics for all the variables discussed in this section.

BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS

The subsections on background characteristics provide descriptive information on demographic characteristics; housing; family and children; substance use and physical and mental health; employment history and financial support; criminal history, violence, victimization, and gang involvement; and in-prison experiences.

Demographic Characteristics

Almost all of the women in the sample were born in the United States (99%) and reported that English was their primary language (96%), with no significant differences appearing between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. The racial/ethnic breakdown of the female sample is shown in Exhibit 2, with approximately 44% of the sample being white and no significant differences emerging between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. The women reported an average age of 31 years. Not surprisingly, given the demographic composition of the prison population as a whole, the female sample was significantly ($p < 0.05$) older than the adult male sample (which had a mean age of 29 years). Slightly more than 62% of the women had at least a 12th grade education or GED, with a significantly higher proportion of the SVORI group falling into this classification (71%, as opposed to 55%).

Housing

When asked about their housing situation during the 6 months before incarceration, more than one fifth of the women (22%) reported as their primary housing situation during that time period that they were homeless, living in a shelter, or had no set place to live. This percentage is significantly higher than that for adult males, among whom only 13% reported being homeless, living in a shelter, or being without a set place to live (for gender difference, $p < 0.05$). Interestingly, women were more also more likely than men to be living in their own house or apartment (41%, as opposed to 34%; $p < 0.05$), whereas

Exhibit 2. Demographic characteristics of respondents at time of interview, by group

Variable	SVORI	Non-SVORI	All
Race			
White	48%	41%	44%
Black	35%	45%	41%
Hispanic	8%	5%	6%
Other race	9%	10%	10%
Age			
Age at Wave 1 interview	31	32	31
Education			
12th grade/GED*	71%	55%	62%

Note: GED = General Educational Development.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

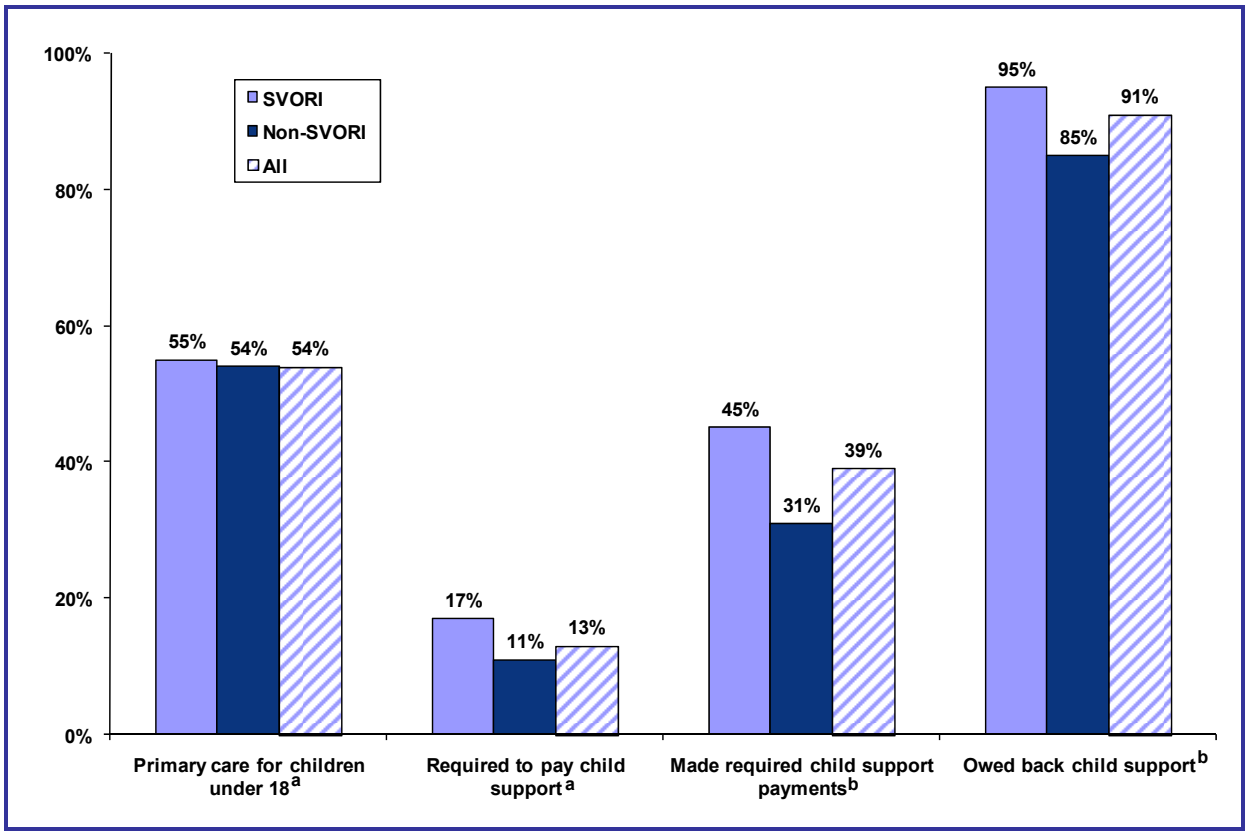
men were more likely than women to report primarily living in someone else's house or apartment (47% of men and 34% of women, $p < 0.001$). This pattern suggests that, before incarceration, women were less likely to have friends and family members who would assist with housing. Consequently, women who lacked their own housing ended up homeless, living in a shelter, or being without a set place to live, whereas men without their own housing ended up living with someone else.

Family and Children

Fourteen percent of the women reported being married at the time of the pre-release interview—a significantly higher percentage than among the men (10%; for gender difference, $p < 0.05$). Slightly less than half of the female sample (48%) were either currently married or in a steady relationship, which, once again, is a significantly higher percentage than that observed among the male sample (40%; $p < 0.05$). Among the women who currently had a romantic partner, about three quarters (74%) reported living with that person before their incarceration. No gender differences in the likelihood of living with the current romantic partner before incarceration were evident, nor were there any differences in these variables between the SVORI and non-SVORI female respondents.

The great majority of women (84%) had children, compared with 63% of men ($p < 0.05$). Among mothers, the average number of children was 2.8 (which was significantly higher than the 2.3 reported by fathers; $p < 0.05$). As shown in Exhibit 3, among the mothers who reported having children younger than 18 years of age, 54% reported that they had primary care

Exhibit 3. Percentages of mothers reporting on child care or child support responsibilities, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.
[a]Of those with children younger than 18 years of age.
[b]Of those required to pay child support.

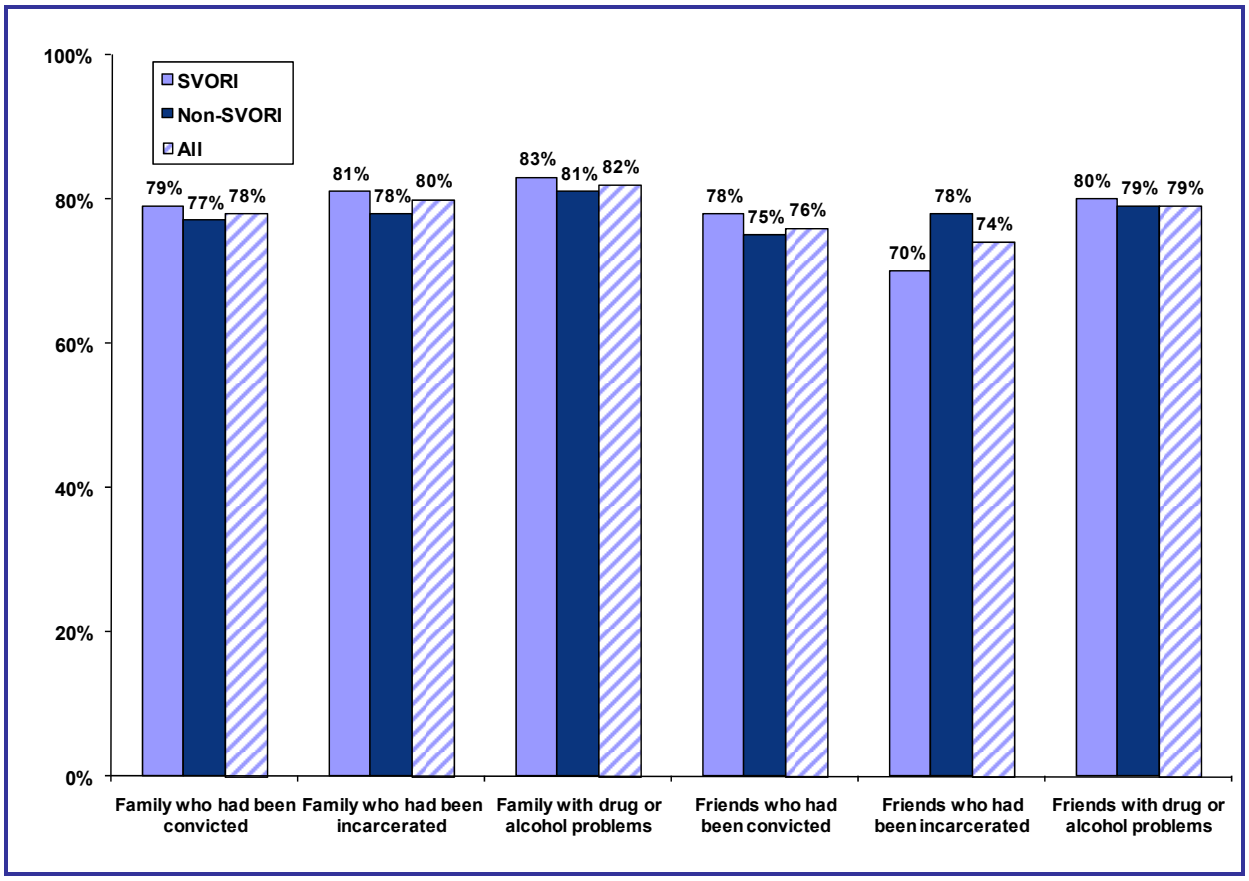
responsibilities for any of their children during the 6 months before incarceration (*primary care* being defined as the children's living with the respondent most of the time and the respondent's being responsible for feeding and clothing them). Significantly more mothers than fathers with minor children reported that they had primary care responsibilities for their children before incarceration (54%, as opposed to 48%; $p < 0.05$) and, among those who had primary care responsibilities for any of their children, mothers reported having responsibility for significantly more children than fathers (2.15, as opposed to 1.75; $p < 0.05$). Interestingly, among respondents who reported *not* having primary care responsibilities for any of their children younger than 18, fathers reported that they financially supported (in any way) significantly more children than mothers during the 6 months before incarceration (1.14, as opposed to 0.71; $p < 0.05$).

As shown in Exhibit 3, among mothers of children under 18, only 13% reported that they were required by a court to pay child support for any of their children during the 6 months before incarceration. This percentage was much lower than the comparable percentage of fathers (31%; $p < 0.05$). Similarly, while only 39% of mothers who owed child support indicated that they made court-ordered child support payments (during the 6 months before incarceration), a significantly higher proportion of fathers (57%) reported making such payments. Of mothers and fathers who had child support requirements during the 6 months before incarceration, the great majority (91% for women and 92% for men) indicated that they owed back child support, with an average amount of $6,687 for mothers and $11,132 for fathers. While one third of mothers who owed back child support owed more than $5,000, more than half of fathers who owed back child support (58%) owed more than $5,000 (for gender difference, $p < 0.05$). Among the women, no significant differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI subgroups were evident for any of the child-related variables.

Several dimensions of family support were captured in the pre-release interview. The adult females reported high levels of family emotional support at the time of the pre-release interview. For example, more than half of the women strongly agreed with statements such as "I feel close to my family," "I have someone in my family to talk to about myself or my problems," and "I have someone in my family to turn to for suggestions about how to deal with a personal problem." More than two thirds strongly agreed that they wanted their families to be involved in their lives and that they had someone in their families to love them. The items were combined to create a family emotional support scale with possible values ranging from zero to 30, with higher scores indicating higher levels of support. The scores on this family emotional support scale revealed no differences between male (21.4) and female (21.0) respondents and no differences between the female SVORI (21.1) and non-SVORI (20.8) respondents.

The role of family members as a positive influence becomes questionable when one examines the criminal and substance abuse involvement of respondents' family members. As shown in Exhibit 4, more than three quarters of the women (both SVORI and non-SVORI) reported having family members who

Exhibit 4. Criminal history and substance use of family and peers, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI are not statistically significant at the 0.05 level.

had at some time been convicted of a crime, been incarcerated, or had problems with drugs or alcohol. Similarly, the prevalence of criminal behavior and substance abuse problems among friends were high among the women. A large majority of women in both groups reported having friends who at some time had been convicted, had been incarcerated, or had experienced drug or alcohol problems.

Interestingly, gender differences in criminal or substance abuse behaviors among family and friends were evident (data not shown). Although women were significantly more likely than men to report having family members who had been incarcerated (79% of women, as opposed to 74% of men; $p < 0.05$) and family members who had had problems with drugs or alcohol (82% of women, as opposed to 73% of men; $p < 0.05$), men were significantly more likely to report having friends who had been convicted of a crime (83% of men, as opposed to 76% of women; $p < 0.05$) and friends who had been

incarcerated (81% of men, as opposed to 74% of women; $p < 0.05$).

Substance Use and Physical and Mental Health

The pre-release interview elicited information about several dimensions of pre-incarceration use of alcohol and drugs, in addition to substance abuse treatment received. In addition, respondents were asked about physical and mental health, including medical diagnoses, health-related limitations (capturing both physical and mental health–related limitations), and mental health symptoms. Three widely used scales were used, including the SF-12 physical health scale (Ware et al., 2002), the SF-12 mental health scale, and the SA-45 Global Severity Index (GSI; Strategic Advantages, 2000).

Substance Use and Treatment

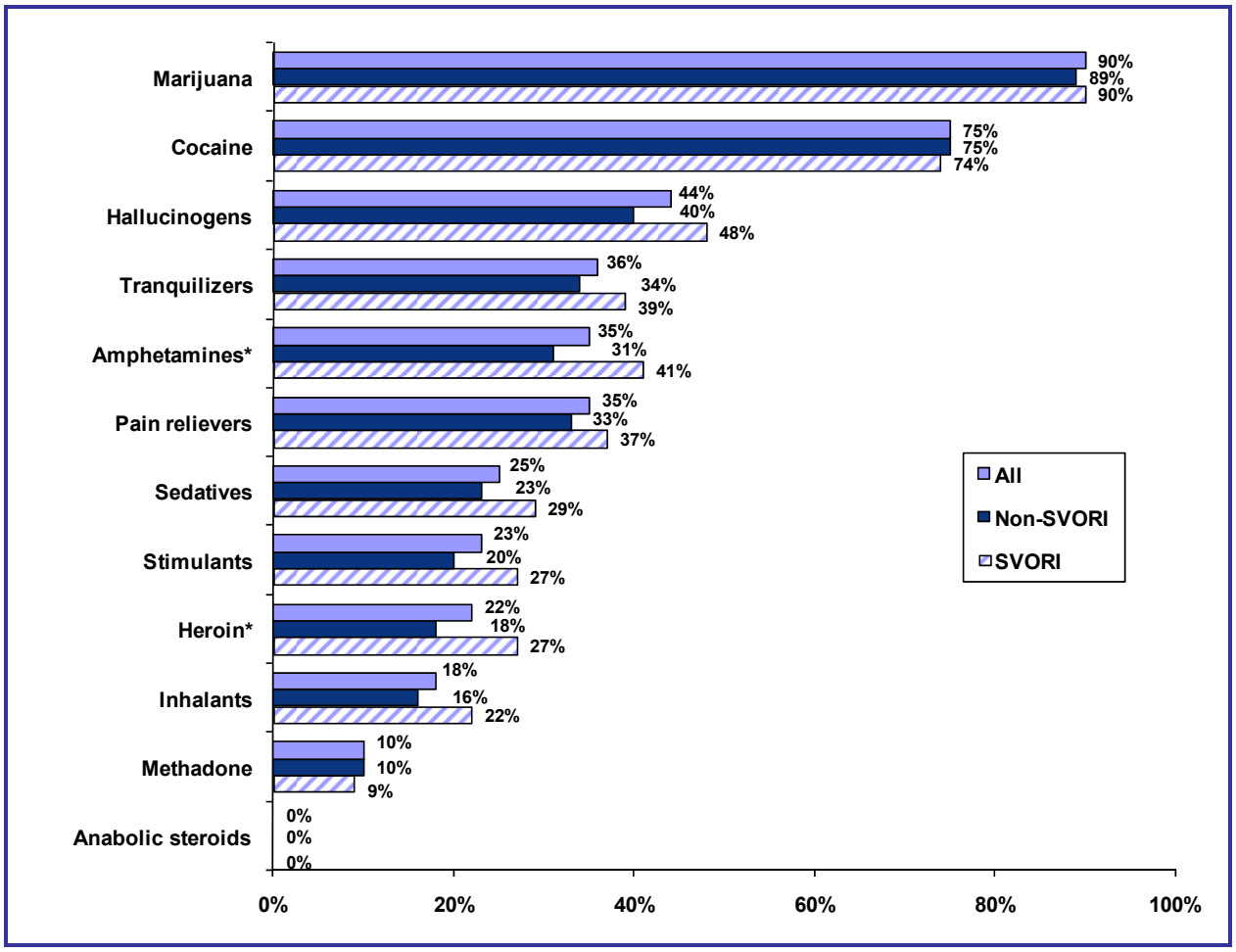
Virtually all of the women reported at least some experience with alcohol (96% had at some time drunk alcohol, and 53% drank during the 30 days before incarceration). The average age of first use was 14.5 years, which was significantly older than that reported by the male sample (13.7). Interestingly, the SVORI female participants had a significantly younger age of first use than the non-SVORI women (13.9, as opposed to 14.9; $p < 0.05$).

Many women had used illicit substances at some point in their lives. Exhibit 5 shows the prevalence of lifetime use for the most common drugs. Most (90%) of the women reported having used marijuana, and 75% had used cocaine. Forty-four percent reported having at some time used hallucinogens, and about a third reported that they had used tranquilizers (36%), amphetamines (35%), and pain relievers (35%; without a prescription or for reasons other than those for which the drugs were prescribed, or in larger amounts or more often than the respondent's doctor ordered). Use of other substances was very low.[6]

A few differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups of women were evident, with the lifetime prevalence being higher for the SVORI participants for heroin and amphetamines and the age of first use being significantly younger for the SVORI group for cocaine.

[6] Less than 10% of women reported use of methadone; no female respondent reported ever having used anabolic steroids.

Exhibit 5. Lifetime substance use, by group

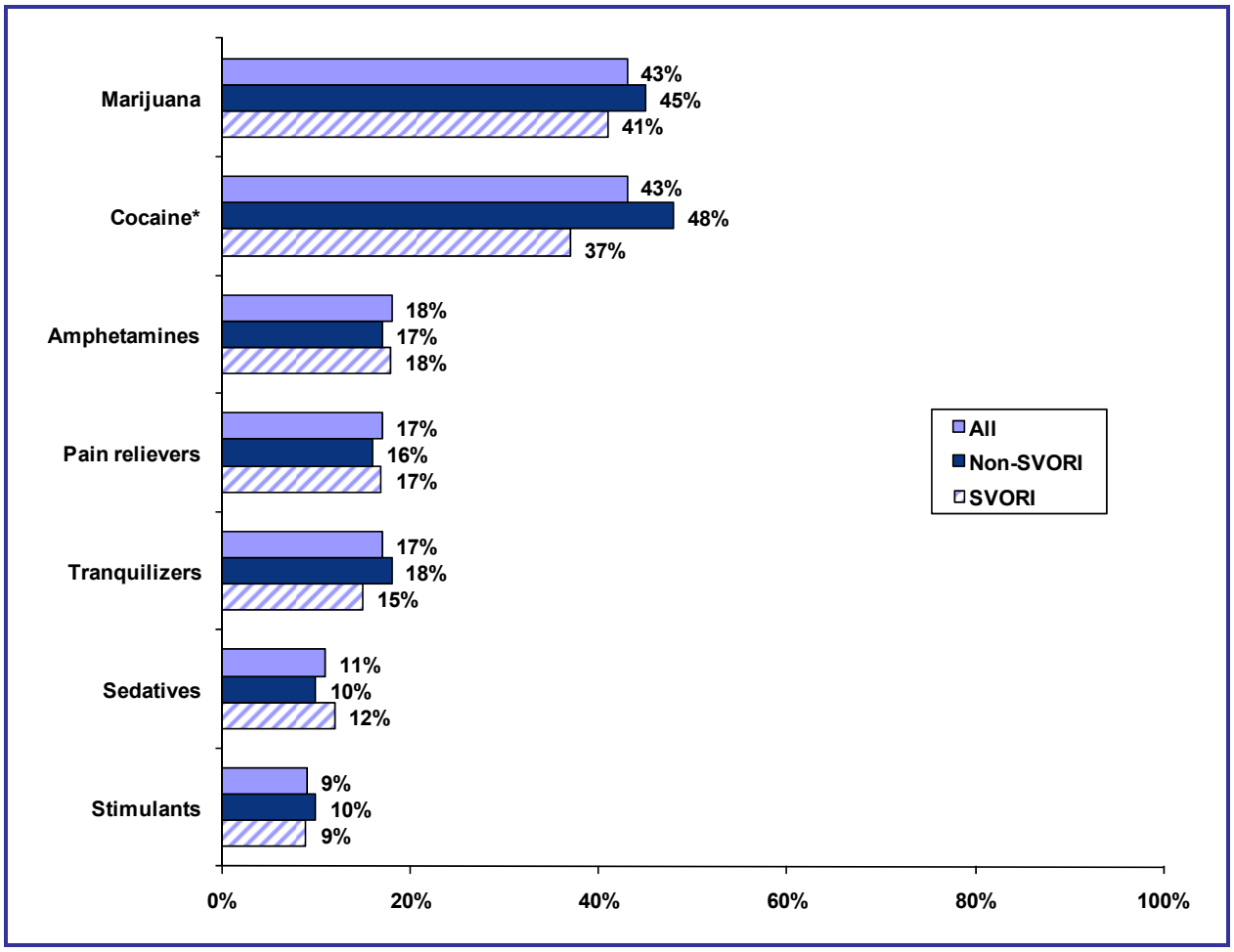


*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

In addition, several gender differences are of interest. For six substances, including cocaine, amphetamines, sedatives, tranquilizers, stimulants, and pain relievers, the prevalence of lifetime use was significantly higher among women than among men. The only substance for which the lifetime prevalence was higher for men was marijuana. Also of interest is that, among users, women tended to initiate use at an older age than men. For six substances, including marijuana, cocaine, tranquilizers, pain relievers, methadone, and inhalants, women reported a significantly older age at first use than men.

Respondents were also asked about substance use during the 30 days before their incarceration. About two thirds of the women (66% of SVORI and 70% of non-SVORI; difference not statistically significant) reported use of any illicit drug during this time period. Exhibit 6 shows use of various substances

Exhibit 6. Use of specific substances during the 30 days preceding incarceration, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

during the 30 days before incarceration. Slightly less than half of the women reported use of marijuana and cocaine immediately before incarceration, with significantly higher cocaine use being reported by the non-SVORI respondents. Interestingly, drug use before incarceration was higher among women than among men for several types of drugs. Specifically, women were more likely than men to report having used cocaine, amphetamines, sedatives, tranquilizers, and pain relievers during the 30 days before incarceration. In contrast, men were significantly more likely than women to report use of marijuana and hallucinogens during this time period.

A final indicator of substance use was lifetime receipt of treatment for alcohol or drugs. Respondents were asked if they had ever received professional treatment for drugs or alcohol before their incarceration. More than half of female respondents

(55%) answered affirmatively, with no significant differences being found between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents. Among the women who had ever received substance abuse treatment, the average number of times they had started a treatment program was 3.1 times. Women were significantly more likely to have received substance abuse treatment before incarceration than men (among whom only 41% indicated preincarceration treatment) and had, on average, started a treatment program significantly more times than men (among whom the average number of times was 2.3).

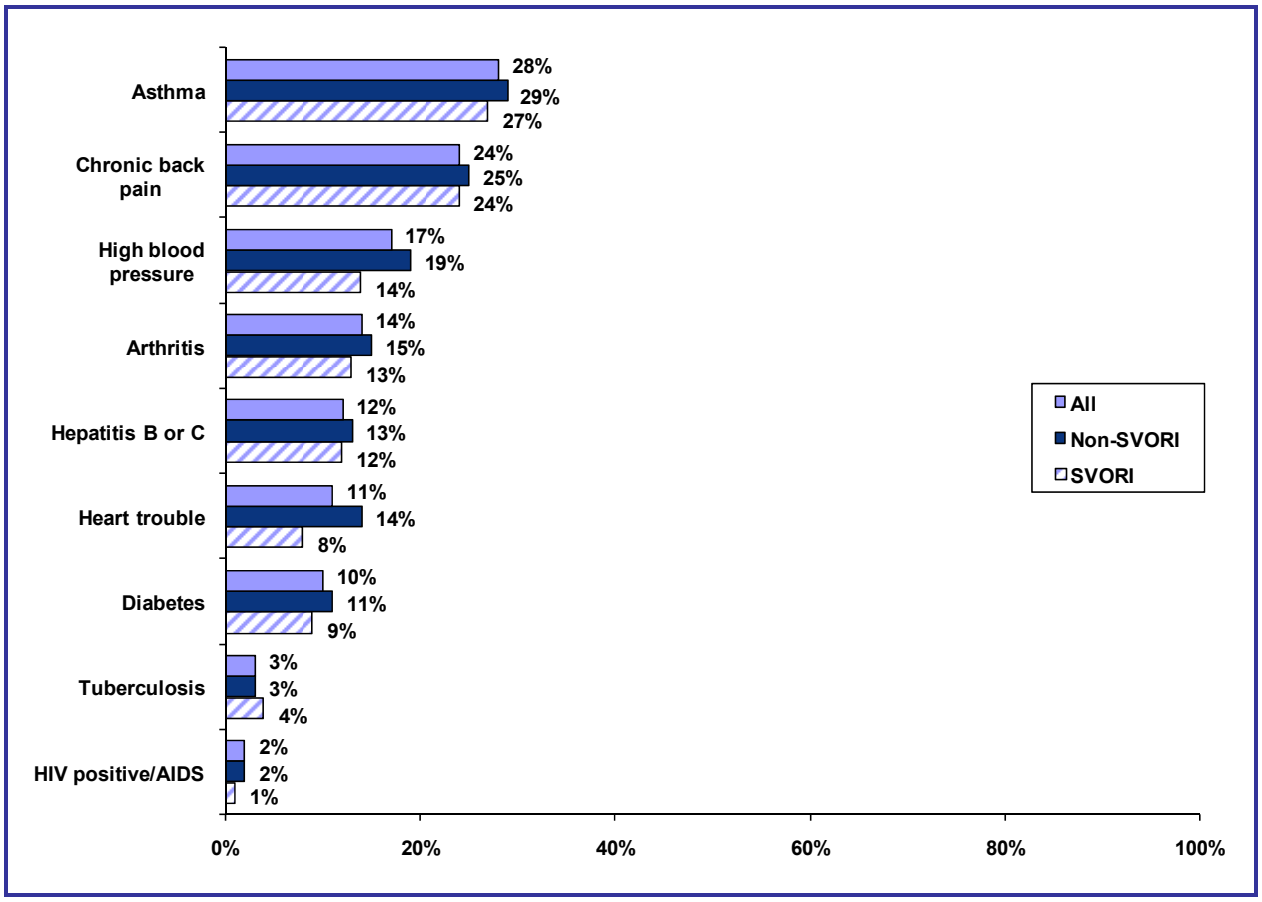
Physical Health

At the pre-release interview, respondents were asked to report whether their current physical health was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. Fewer than half the women (43%) described their health as very good or excellent; 11% rated it as poor (with no significant differences between SVORI and non-SVORI respondents). Men had more positive self-assessments of their health than women. Nearly two thirds (64%) of men reported very good or excellent health; less than 3% indicated poor physical health.

As part of the pre-release interview, respondents were given the SF-12, a scale that measures physical and mental functioning. Scores on the SF-12 physical health scale for women averaged 49.1, which was significantly lower (indicating worse physical health) than the 53.5 reported for men. Only 37% of the women reported no physical health limitations (when asked about five dimensions of physical health functioning including: moderate activities such as moving a table, climbing several flights of stairs, accomplishing less than she would have liked because of her physical health, being limited in kinds of work or activities because of her physical health, and pain interfering with her normal work), compared with 57% of men—a statistically significant gender difference. Among the women, although the SVORI and non-SVORI groups had similar overall scores on the SF-12 physical health scale, a significantly higher percentage of SVORI participants (46%) reported no physical health limitations than comparison group members (among whom only 31% reported experiencing no physical health related limitations).

The percentages of women who reported that they currently had or had ever had specific diagnoses are shown in Exhibits 7 and 8. Among both "lifetime" and "current" health problems, the most commonly reported were asthma and chronic back pain. Very few respondents reported having tested positive for HIV or tuberculosis.

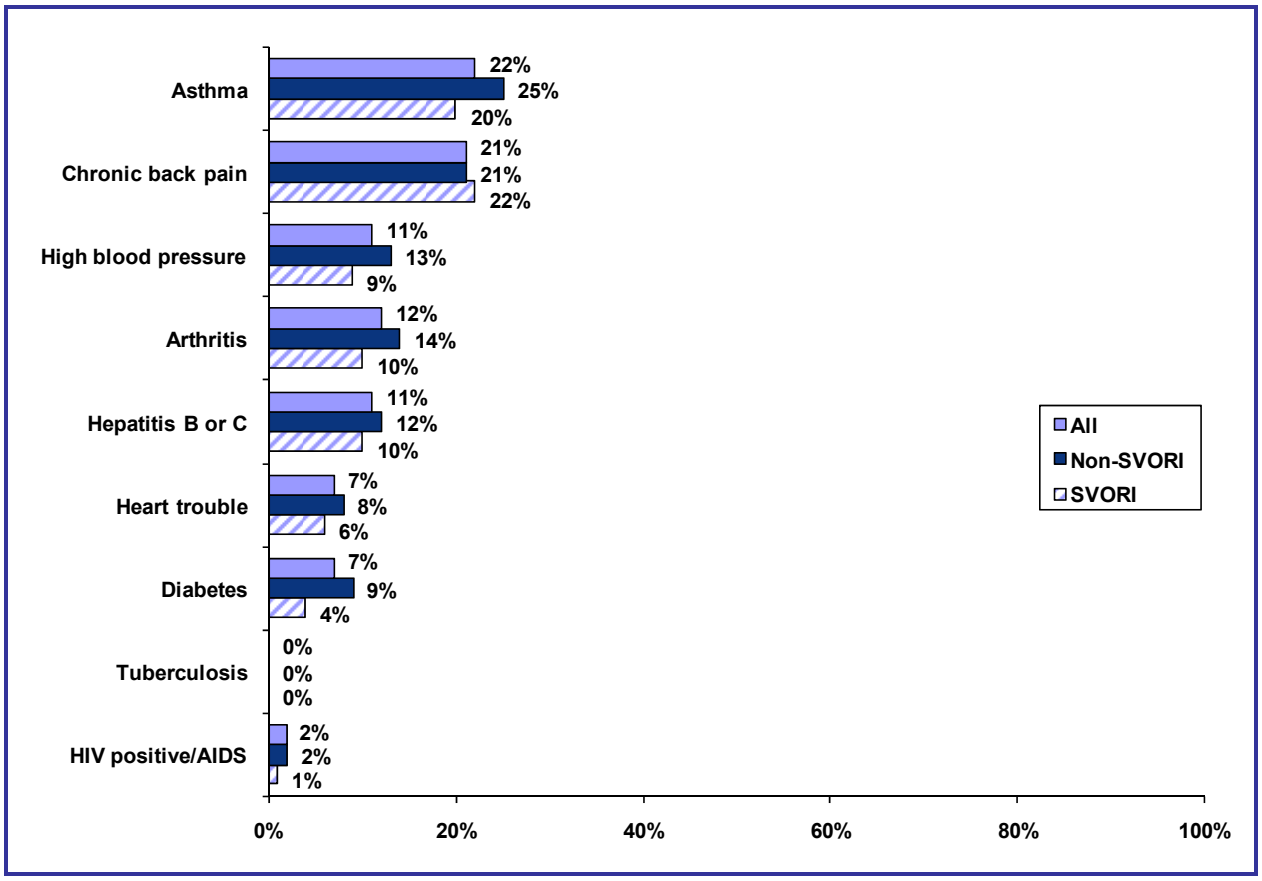
Exhibit 7. Lifetime health problems, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.

No statistically significant differences were found between the female SVORI and non-SVORI subgroups; however, when the women's data were compared with those of the male sample (data not shown), several gender differences emerged. Although the most common health problems were similar for men and women (with the most commonly reported conditions for men being asthma, high blood pressure, and chronic back pain), the prevalence of almost all health conditions was higher for women. Women reported significantly higher lifetime prevalence rates for asthma, chronic back pain, diabetes, heart

Exhibit 8. Current health problems, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.

trouble, arthritis, tuberculosis, and hepatitis B or C. In addition, for all of these conditions except tuberculosis, women were significantly more likely than men to report *currently* having the condition. Not surprisingly, the average number of physical health diagnoses (both lifetime and current) was also significantly higher for women than men: women averaged 1.2 lifetime diagnoses (compared with 0.8 for men) and 0.9 current diagnoses (compared with 0.4 for men).

Mental Health

Women also perceived their pre-release mental health status to be low. Asked to rate their current emotional and mental health as "excellent," "very good," "good," "fair," or "poor," less than one third of the women (31%) rated their heath as excellent or very good; 9% rated it as poor. SVORI participants and comparison group members reported similar mental health ratings. When gender differences were examined, the men reported significantly better emotional and mental health than

the women. More than half of the men (51%) reported excellent or very good mental health, while less than 3% indicated it was poor.

In terms of mental health functioning, the average score among the women for the SF-12 mental health scale was 44.8 (significantly lower than the 48.7 average among men). Among the female sample, the SVORI group had significantly better mental health functioning than the non-SVORI group, according to the SF-12 mental health scale scores (46.0 for SVORI and 42.2 for non-SVORI; $p < 0.01$).

On the SA-45 GSI, an index of mental health status with a range of 45 to 225 (with higher scores indicating greater psychopathology), women averaged 79.0. Once again, the women in the SVORI group had better mental health than the non-SVORI group. The average GSI score was 74.9 for SVORI and 82.1 for non-SVORI ($p < 0.05$). Not surprisingly, among women as a whole, GSI scores were significantly higher than those of men (who averaged 67.3). On the Positive Symptom Total (PST) of the SA-45, the same gender differences emerge. Among women, the average PST score of 17 indicates that, on average, women experienced 17 of the 45 symptoms included in the SA-45 during the 7 days before the interview. In contrast, men experienced an average of 13 symptoms. No differences between the female SVORI and non-SVORI groups were evident.

In addition to the GSI and PST, the SA-45 includes subscales measuring symptoms of specific psychopathologies. Average scores for the nine subscales are shown in Exhibit 9. Although the SVORI and non-SVORI women scored similarly for many subscales, the rates of depression, psychoticism, and somatization were significantly higher among the non-SVORI respondents. For all nine subscales, women's scores were significantly higher than those reported for men (data not shown), reflecting the overall pattern of poorer physical and mental health among women.

The final indicators of mental health status pertain to mental health treatment (including prescriptions for medications). Women were asked if they had received treatment for a mental health problem before incarceration. Overall, half of the women reported having received mental health treatment, with a significantly higher percentage of comparison group members

Exhibit 9. Average scores on SA-45 subscales, by group

Measure	SVORI	Non-SVORI	All
Anxiety scale	9.28	9.78	9.57
Depression scale*	9.39	10.91	10.26
Hostility scale	7.04	7.62	7.37
Interpersonal scale	8.46	9.30	8.94
Obsessive-compulsive scale	9.28	9.62	9.48
Paranoid ideation scale	9.11	9.95	9.59
Phobic anxiety scale	7.28	8.05	7.72
Psychoticism scale*	7.15	7.97	7.62
Somatization scale*	7.91	8.92	8.48

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

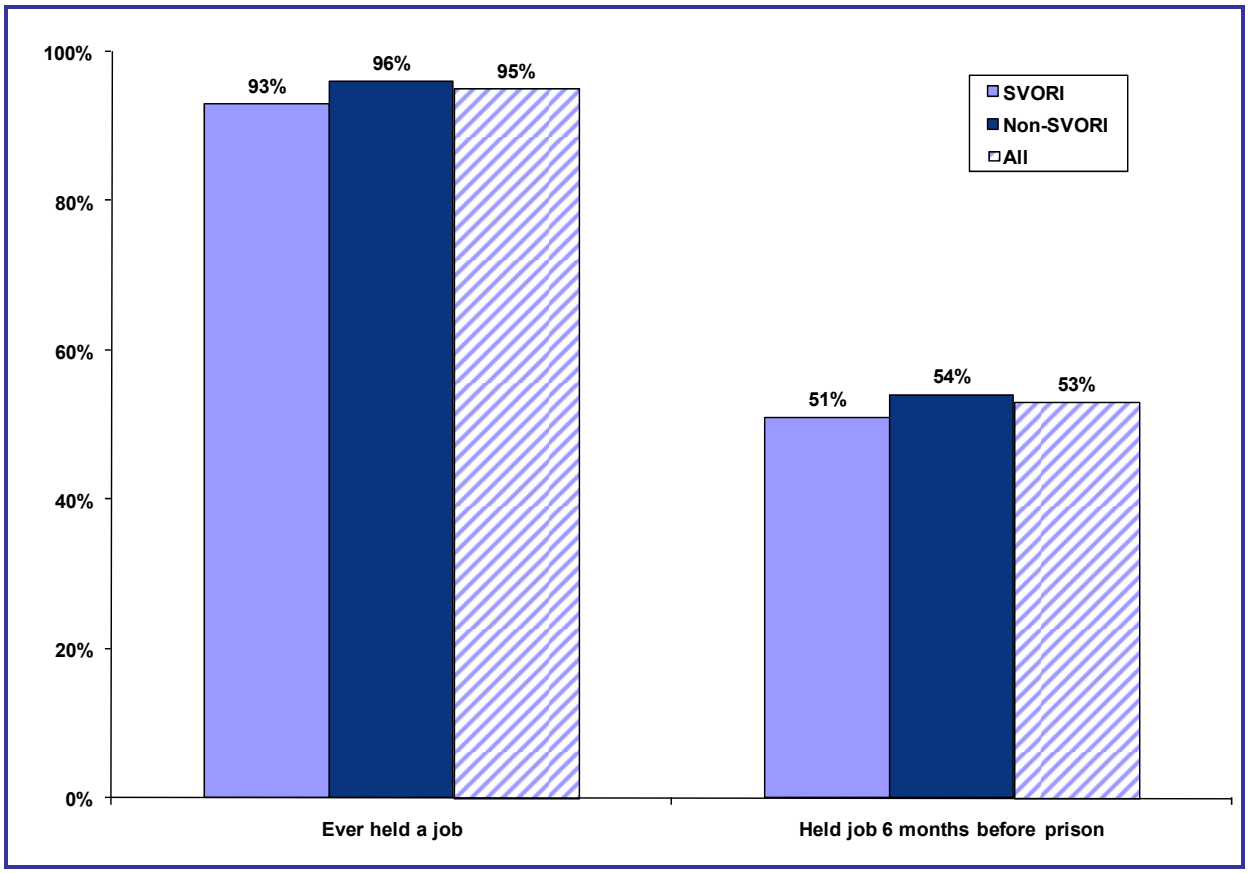
(55%) than SVORI participants (44%) having received treatment. Twice as many women reported prior mental health treatment as men, among whom only 25% indicated that they had received treatment for a mental health problem before incarceration. Specific mental health conditions for which women reported having ever gone to providers were examined, and the conditions that were most commonly treated were depression (33% of the women who had ever received treatment for a mental health or substance abuse problem), bipolar disorder (26% of women who had received treatment), and anxiety (14% of the women who had received treatment). Although women were more likely to have received such treatment than men, no differences in prior treatment for these conditions were evident between the SVORI and non-SVORI female respondents. During their current period of incarceration, 33% of women (twice the percentage of men) reported having been prescribed medication for emotional problems; 55% (more than twice the percentage of men) felt that they needed treatment for mental health problems, with no differences being evident between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups.

Employment History and Financial Support

Employment History

Almost all women (95%) reported having had a job at some point in their lifetimes, but only about half (53%) were working during the 6 months before incarceration (Exhibit 10). Prior employment rates were similar for the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents, but for both indicators women were significantly less likely to have worked than men.

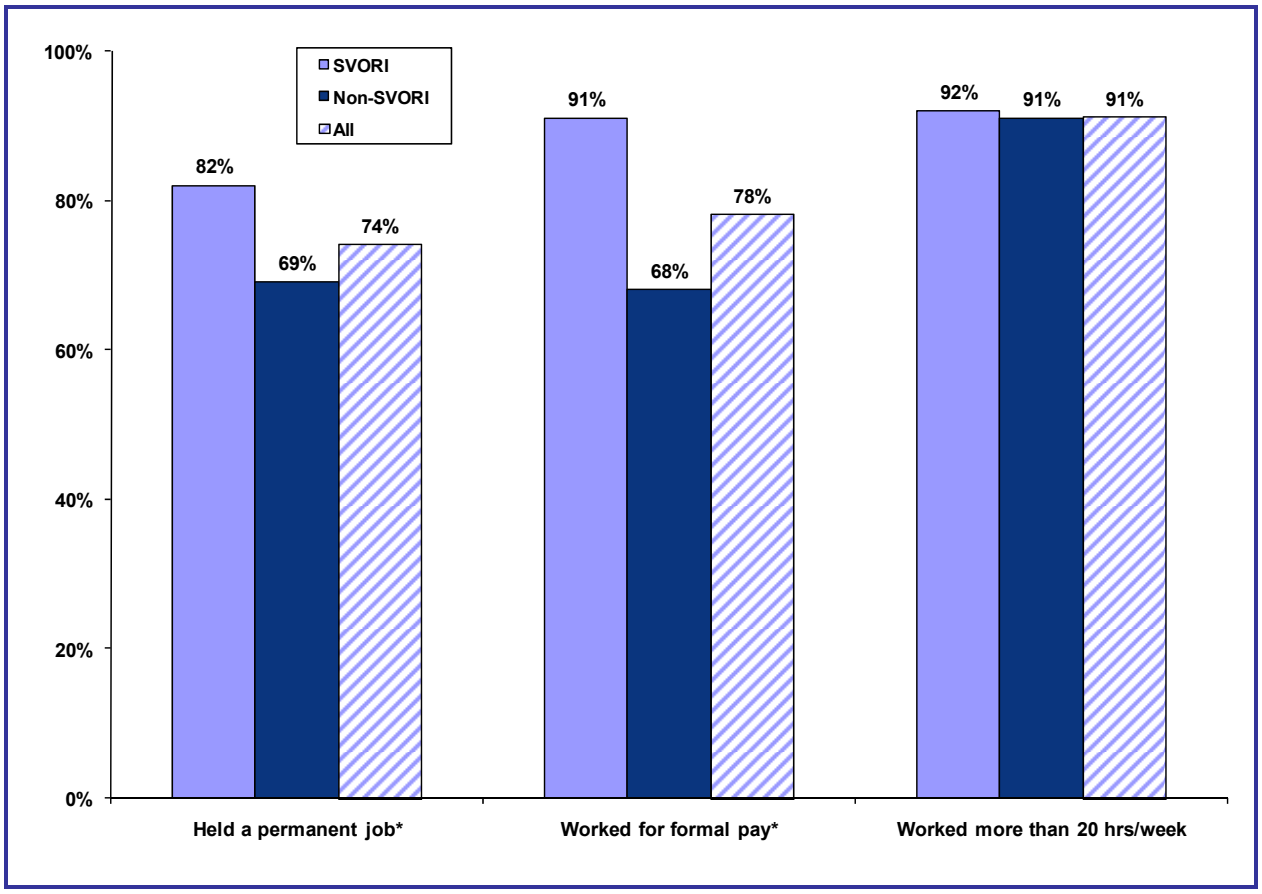
Exhibit 10. Employment before incarceration, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.

As shown in Exhibit 11, among respondents who worked during the 6 months before incarceration, three quarters (75%) of the women described their most recent job as a permanent job and one for which they received formal pay. Interestingly, women in the SVORI group appeared to have higher-quality jobs, because they were more likely to report that their jobs were permanent and provided formal pay. The great majority of working women in both groups reported that they worked for more than 20 hours per week at their most recent job during the 6 months before incarceration. The average number of hours worked during this time period was 39.5, with an average hourly salary of $10.15. No significant differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were evident in hours worked or salary, nor were there any significant differences between working women and working men.

Exhibit 11. Characteristics of respondents' jobs before incarceration, by group



Note: Among respondents who worked during the 6 months before incarceration.
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Although the majority of working women described their most recent job as a permanent one, one third (34%) of the respondents reported having had more than one job during the 6 months before incarceration. Furthermore, 45% reported that they had worked at the job for 3 months or less. When asked about the longest they had ever worked at one job since they were 18, nearly half (48%) of the respondents reported jobs lasting more than 2 years. There were no significant differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI women in the number of jobs worked in the 6 months before incarceration, the length of most recent job, or the longest job ever worked.

The jobs that the women held before incarceration typically were in the service industry and were similar for SVORI and non-SVORI respondents. Nearly half of the respondents who had been employed during the 6 months before incarceration (49%) reported that their jobs had been in the service industry,

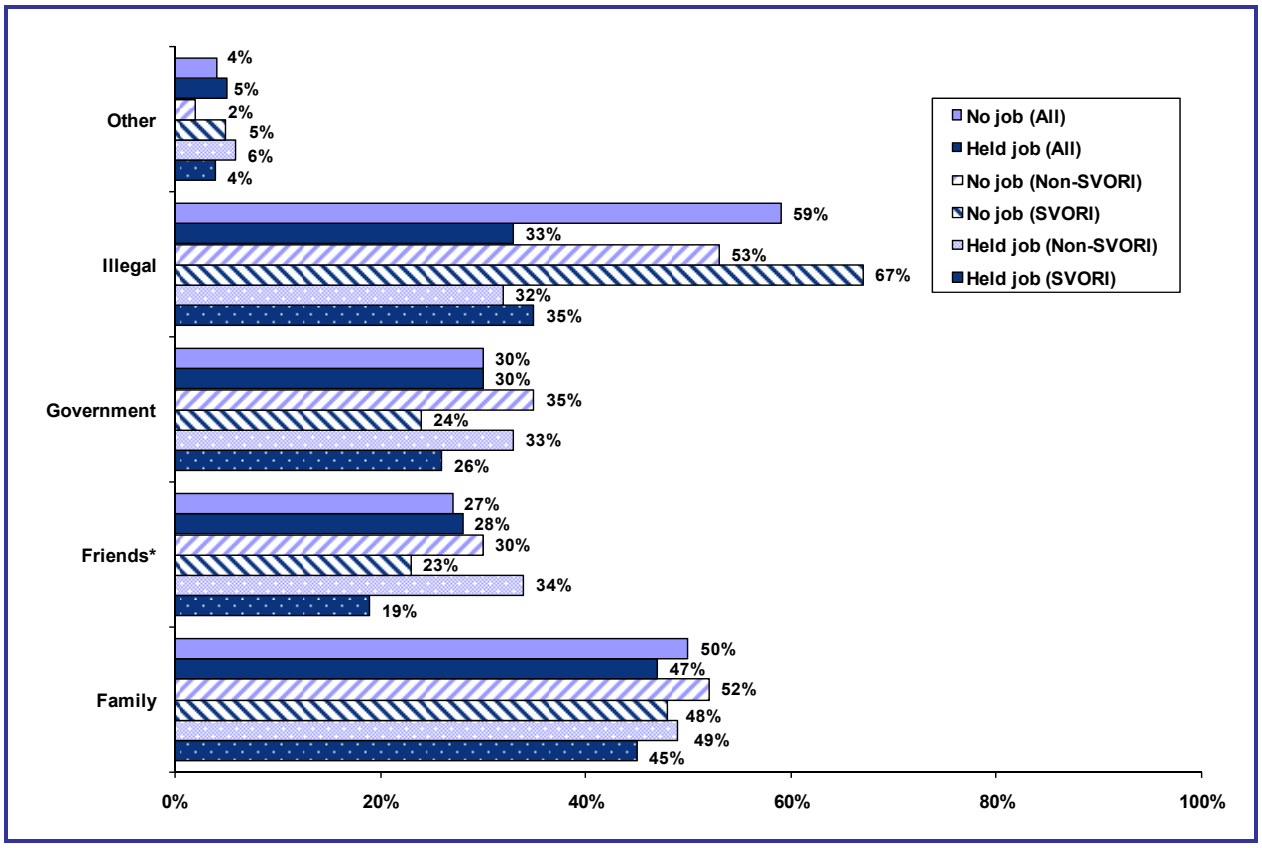
which includes jobs as cooks, waiters, janitors, cashiers, and dishwashers. Many respondents also reported having worked in sales, holding positions such as sales representative, realtor, sales clerk, and telemarketer (12%), or as laborers (12%), holding positions such as construction worker, day laborer, landscaper, and roofer. Very few respondents reported having held professional or technical occupations (4%) or jobs as managers or administrators (3%). Differences between men and women in occupation type were found. Significantly more men reported working as skilled craftspersons or operators, whereas more women reported sales and service jobs.

Financial Support

All respondents were asked how they had supported themselves during the 6 months before incarceration, whether by legal employment or illegal activity and including financial support from family, financial support from friends, and support from government programs. Slightly less than half of the women reported that they supported themselves with a job (49%) and with support from their family (49%). Nearly as many (45%) reported that they supported themselves with illegal activities. More than a quarter reported having received support from a government program (30%) and from friends (27%). The only difference between the women enrolled in SVORI and the comparison group was that comparison group was significantly more likely to have received support from their friends than the SVORI participants (32%, compared with 21%).

A deeper understanding of the role of formal employment in incarcerated women's overall sources of financial support can be achieved by examining the breakdown of sources of income shown in Exhibit 12. In this exhibit, information on sources of financial support during the 6 months before incarceration is shown separately for women who had a job during this time period and for women who did not. Interestingly, it appears that the main way that employment status affected sources of financial support (other than legal income) was with respect to illegal activities. Women who reported having held a job during the 6 months before incarceration were much less likely to support themselves with illegal activities than women who did not hold a job during this time period. Employment status did not, however, substantially affect the women's likelihood of

Exhibit 12. Sources of income during the 6 months before incarceration, by employment status and group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI (held job) and non-SVORI (held job).

receiving support from family, friends, government programs, or other sources.

Important gender differences emerged with respect to sources of income. When the various sources of financial support during the 6 months before incarceration were examined, clear differences between women and men were evident. Women were significantly more likely than men to receive financial support from family (49%, compared with 32%), friends (27%, compared with 15%), and government programs (30%, compared with 11%).

In contrast, women were significantly *less* likely than men to receive income from legal employment (49%, compared with 62%), reflecting the previously discussed finding of women's being less likely than men to report having worked in the 6 months before incarceration. Interestingly, equal proportions of women (45%) and men (44%) reported having supported themselves with illegal activities. In addition, the same

"protective" effect of having a job from supporting oneself with illegal activities (i.e., those who had a job were much less likely to report illegal activities as a source of financial support) was evident among both men and women.

Criminal History, Violence, Victimization, and Gang Involvement

This subsection describes respondents' involvement with the adult and juvenile justice systems before incarceration and outlines women's experiences with both the perpetration and victimization of violence before incarceration. The role of gang membership is also briefly described.

Criminal History

The women reported considerable involvement with the criminal justice system (Exhibit 13). On average, the women were 19 years old at the time of their first arrest and had been arrested slightly more than 10 times. Most respondents had served time in prison or jail previously, with the women reporting an average of 1.1 previous incarcerations in prison. As shown in the exhibit, the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents were similar on these dimensions of criminal history. Not surprisingly, however, the women differed substantially from the adult male sample. The men were, on average, 3 years younger (16 years old) when they experienced their first arrest and reported an average of 12.8 (as opposed to 10.6) arrests. Interestingly, however, the incarceration experiences of men were similar to those of women (the same proportion had served time in prison or jail previously and the average number of previous incarcerations in prison did not differ significantly from that of women).

One third of the women (30% of SVORI and 36% of non-SVORI; difference not statistically significant) reported that they had spent time in a juvenile correctional facility for committing a crime. These respondents had been detained an average of 4.1 times (3.7 for SVORI and 4.3 for non-SVORI: difference not statistically significant). Although significantly fewer female respondents reported spending time in a juvenile facility than male respondents (33%, as opposed to 50%; $p < 0.05$), among those who had been detained, the average number of times was similar for men and women.

Exhibit 13. Criminal history of respondents, by group

Variable	SVORI	Non-SVORI	All
Age at first arrest (mean)	19.0	19.2	19.1
Times arrested (mean)	9.6	11.4	10.6
Times convicted (mean)	5.0	5.7	5.4
Ever previously incarcerated (%)	0.8	0.9	0.8
Times previously incarcerated (mean)	1.1	1.3	1.2

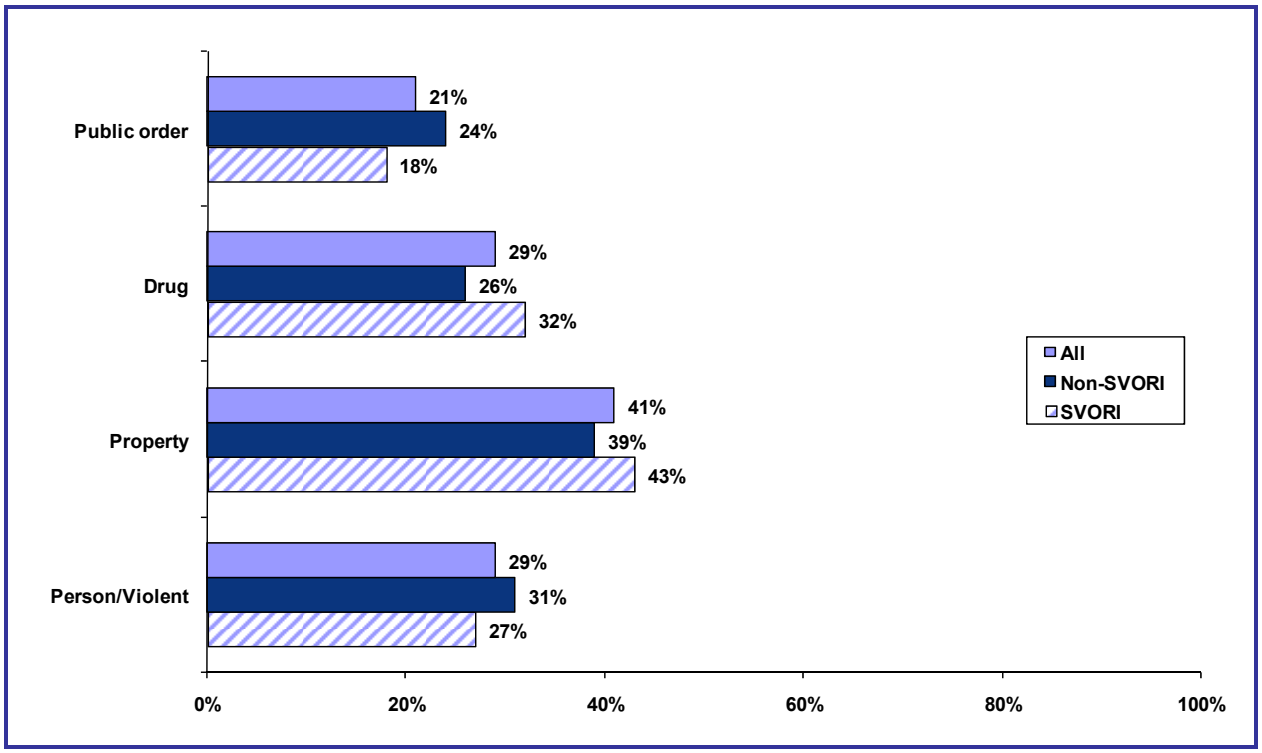
Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.

Exhibit 14 shows the conviction offense(s) for the current term of incarceration that were reported by the female respondents. The most frequently reported conviction offense was for a property crime (43% of SVORI, 39% of non-SVORI; difference not statistically significant). Almost a third reported a drug (29%) or person/violent (29%) crime. Public order offenses, which include probation and parole violations, were reported by 21% of the women. No differences in conviction offense were evident between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. Not surprisingly, however, the women differed from the men in several ways. The female sample was significantly less likely than the male sample to be incarcerated for a person/violent crime (29% of women, compared with 41% of men; for gender difference, $p < 0.05$) and more likely to be incarcerated for a property offense (41% of women, compared with 25% of men; for gender difference, $p < 0.05$). The likelihood of serving time for a drug or public order crime did not differ significantly between men and women.

Perpetration of Violence

Respondents were asked about their experiences with perpetration of several types of violence during the 6 months before incarceration, including threats of violence and using (or threatening to use) a weapon on someone, as well as physically harming someone by throwing something, pushing/grabbing/shoving, or slapping/kicking/biting/hitting. Two-thirds of the women (65% of SVORI and 67% of non-SVORI; difference not statistically significant) indicated that they had perpetrated at least one type of violent behavior. This percentage was similar to that found among the male sample (68%).

Exhibit 14. Conviction offenses for current incarceration, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.

Victimization

In addition to being asked about the perpetration of violence, respondents were also asked whether they had been the victim of the same acts of violence just described. More than half of the women (62%) reported having been victimized either through threats or use of violence during the 6 months before incarceration, with victims experiencing an average of two types of victimization. Women were not more likely than men to report having been victimized before incarceration, but, among victims, women experienced significantly more types of victimization than men. No differences between the female SVORI and non-SVORI groups were evident.

Gang Membership

Only six women (0.02% of the female sample) reported being a member of a gang at the time of the pre-release interview—a significantly lower prevalence than that observed among the male sample (0.05%). Among the very small number of women who reported gang membership, most (83%) considered their gang to be their family.

IN-PRISON EXPERIENCES

This section describes the in-prison experiences of the female respondents, examining several dimensions. Characteristics of their current sentences, including sentence length, disciplinary infractions, victimization experienced during the term of incarceration, and contact with family during incarceration, are explored.

Sentence Length

At the time of the pre-release interview (which was conducted, on average, approximately 30 days before release), the women had been incarcerated for an average of 1.7 years. The women who were enrolled in the SVORI program had been incarcerated for a significantly longer period of time than the non-SVORI comparison group at the time of the pre-release interview (2.2 years for SVORI and 1.3 years for the non-SVORI group; for difference, $p < 0.05$). Because of the gender differences in offense type, it is not surprising that the women's sentence lengths were significantly shorter than those of the male sample (who had reported an average sentence length of 2.5 years at the time of the pre-release interview).

Disciplinary Infractions and Administrative Segregations

The respondents were asked about disciplinary infractions they had received and any times that they had been put in administrative segregation during their current term of incarceration (Exhibit 15). As shown in the exhibit, about half of the women reported having received at least one disciplinary infraction, and about a third had received more than one. A third also reported being placed in administrative segregation at least once, with very few (17%) having received administrative segregation more than once. Consistent with their longer term of incarceration, the female SVORI participants were significantly more likely to report having received disciplinary infractions and having been placed in administrative segregation during their incarceration. Not surprisingly (because of their longer term of incarceration), men reported having received significantly more disciplinary infractions and were significantly more likely to report being placed in administrative segregation: at least 2 more times than women.

Exhibit 15. Disciplinary infractions and administrative segregations during current incarceration, by group

	SVORI	Non-SVORI	All
Disciplinary Infractions*			
None	40%	55%	48%
One	18%	17%	17%
More than one	42%	29%	34%
Administrative Segregations*			
None	59%	73%	67%
One	19%	14%	16%
More than one	22%	13%	17%

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

In-Prison Victimization

Respondents were asked whether they had experienced violence or the threat of violence during incarceration, including someone threatening to hit them with a fist or anything else that could hit them; someone using (or threatening to use) a weapon on them; someone throwing anything at them that could hurt them; someone pushing, grabbing, or shoving; someone slapping, kicking, biting, or hitting them; or their requiring medical attention for violent acts directed at them by others. Forty-one percent of the women (with similar proportions of SVORI and non-SVORI group members) reported having experienced at least one type of victimization, with an average of 1.0 type of victimization experienced. The likelihood of victimization during incarceration was lower for women than it was for men (among whom 55% reported having experienced at least one type of victimization, with an average of 1.5 types reported). For reported severity of victimization (derived from a 36-point victimization scale, which was based on the type and frequency of violence experienced, with higher values indicating greater severity), the women had an average score of 1.8 (with no differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups), whereas the men had an average of 2.8 (for gender difference, $p < 0.05$).

In-Prison Work

More than half of the women (59% of both the SVORI and non-SVORI groups) indicated that they had a job in the institution where they were incarcerated. On average, respondents with prison jobs spent about 24 hours per week working.

Very few respondents reported having a work-release job. Only 4% of the women were on work release at the time of the pre-

release interview. Those with work-release jobs reported more hours worked than those with institution jobs reported (36.9 hours per week for the work-release jobs). The SVORI and non-SVORI respondents had similar experiences with work-release positions.

There were no gender differences in the likelihood of having a prison job, in the likelihood of being on work release, or in the number of hours worked at either position.

Family Contact

During the pre-release interview, respondents were asked about the types of contact they had with their family and friends during their current incarceration. As discussed previously, the majority of the women had familial ties—nearly half were either married or in a committed relationship, and most (84%) had children. In addition, the women reported receiving high levels of emotional support from their families at the time of the pre-release interview, with the women and men reporting similar levels of familial emotional support.

The women were asked about specific ways in which they maintained contact with family and friends during their incarceration, including telephone contact, mail contact, and in-person visits (Exhibit 16). As is evident in the exhibit, women reported receiving more contact from family members than from friends. The most commonly reported mode of contact was mail, followed by phone. In-person visits were less common, with only 57% of the women reporting any in-person visits from family and less than 40% reporting visits from family at least monthly). Perhaps because of their longer sentence lengths, the women in the SVORI group were significantly more likely to report phone contact and in-person visits (from both family and friends) than the non-SVORI women. Overall, in-prison contact with family and friends did not differ between women and men (data not shown).

SERVICE NEEDS

Meeting the service needs of returning prisoners was an integral part of SVORI programming. Information collected from SVORI program directors revealed that, rather than focusing resources on a particular skill or need (e.g., vocational training), most SVORI programs attempted to meet all of the

Exhibit 16. Frequency of in-prison contact with family members and friends, by group

	Contact With Family Members			Contact With Friends		
Form of Contact	SVORI	Non-SVORI	All	SVORI	Non-SVORI	All
Phone Contact*						
Never	11%	25%	19%	42%	55%	50%
A few times	17%	17%	17%	10%	18%	15%
Monthly	17%	17%	17%	12%	10%	11%
Weekly	40%	35%	37%	27%	14%	20%
Daily	15%	7%	10%	9%	3%	6%
Mail Contact						
Never	5%	8%	7%	19%	24%	22%
A few times	17%	19%	18%	15%	19%	17%
Monthly	22%	17%	19%	15%	14%	14%
Weekly	45%	46%	45%	41%	31%	35%
Daily	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%
In-Person Visits*						
Never	36%	49%	43%	62%	72%	68%
A few times	19%	18%	19%	17%	17%	17%
Monthly	19%	17%	18%	8%	6%	6%
Weekly	25%	15%	19%	13%	5%	9%
Daily	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI for both family and friend contact.

needs of their target population. Consequently, documenting the pre-release service needs from the perspective of the returning prisoners was an important goal of the SVORI evaluation, these data being used to determine whether participants' needs were indeed subsequently met. In addition, a comparison of pre-release service needs between the SVORI participants and the non-SVORI comparison group members was important for assessing the comparability of the two groups so that any observed "program effects" could be appropriately attributed to the intervention.

Regarding the comparability goal, it is important to note that, because the service need questions asked respondents about their "current" needs (i.e., needs at the time of the pre-release interview, which was conducted approximately 30 days before release), interpreting pre-release differences between the two groups was often difficult. Specifically, any lower need among the SVORI group could be a direct result of some of the pre-release services that this group had already received rather than true baseline differences between the groups: because the pre-release interview was conducted after the respondents had

already enrolled in and received some pre-release services, these service receipts presumably would have decreased their need for such services.

In the pre-release interviews, respondents were asked about the extent to which they needed each of 29 specific services.[7] For ease of presentation and interpretation, the individual services were grouped into five service categories or "bundles." The bundles are

- services to help with the transition from prison to the community;
- health care services (including substance abuse and mental health);
- employment, education, and skills services;
- domestic violence-related services; and
- child-related services.

Service need bundle scores were developed from the pre-release interview data to summarize respondents' needs in the domains of transition, health, employment/education/skills, domestic violence, and child services (which was calculated only for respondents with children). Scores for each individual were generated by summing zero/one indicators for whether the individual reported or did not report needing each of the items within a bundle; this sum was then divided by the number of items in the bundle.[8] At the individual respondent level, this bundle score can be interpreted as the proportion of the services in the bundle that the individual reported needing (Winterfield et al., 2006).[9]

Service Need Bundle Scores

This subsection reviews the bundle scores for all SVORI and non-SVORI female respondents.

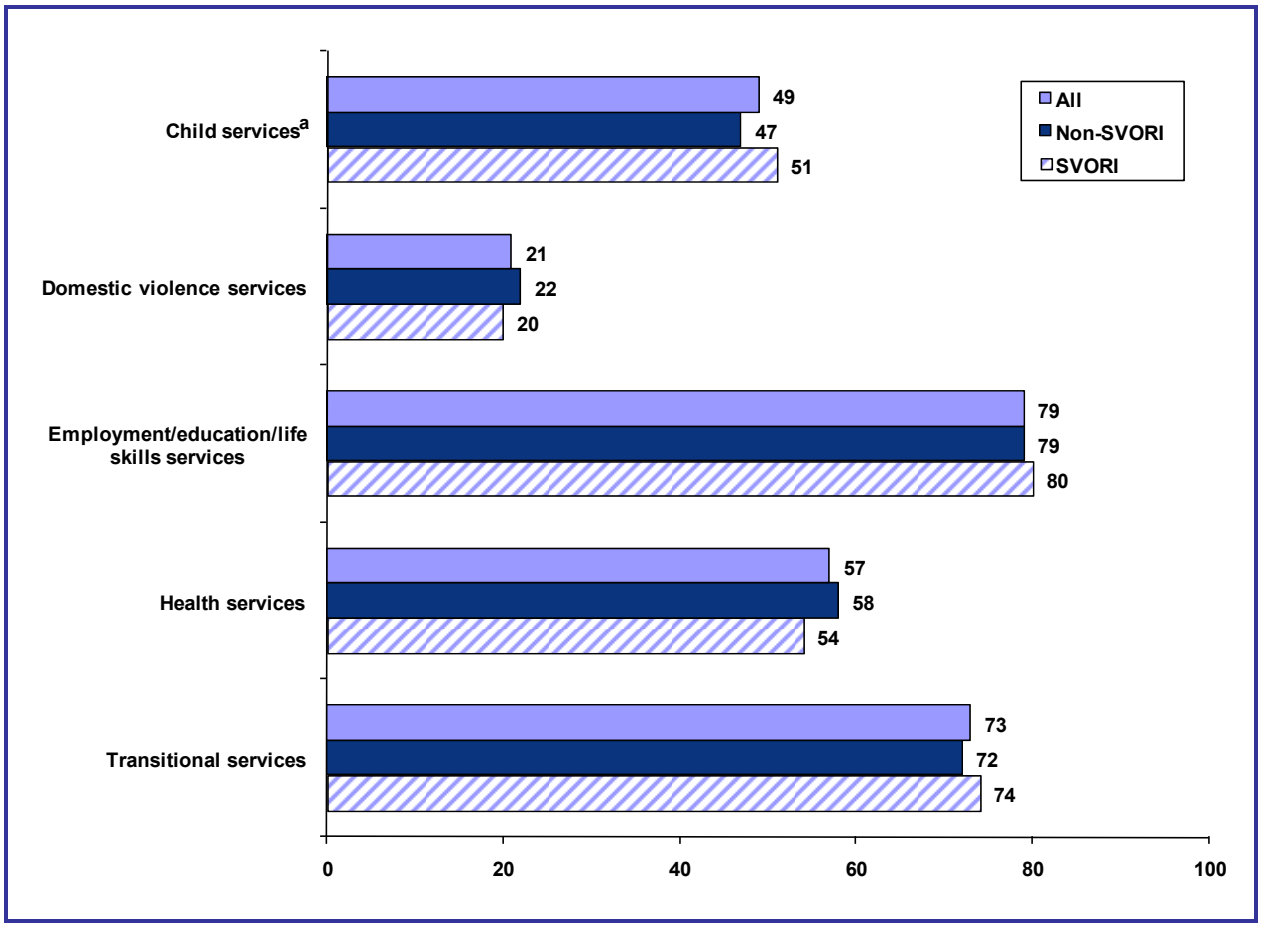
Exhibit 17 shows the service need bundle scores for all women, and for the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. As can be seen from the exhibit, the highest areas of need for the women were

[7] Response options were "a lot," "a little," or "not at all." Responses were subsequently recoded to "some" and "not at all."

[8] These items are listed by bundle in Appendix Exhibit A-3 and are presented bundle-by-bundle in the subsections below.

[9] Although not presented in this report, program-level bundle scores of service delivery were also developed from reports provided by SVORI program directors.

Exhibit 17. Service need bundle scores across service bundles, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.
[a]Of those with children younger than 18 years of age.

employment, education, and life skills services (which include services such as more education, job training, a job for when the respondent is released, money management skills, life skills), followed by transition services (which include financial assistance, public health care insurance, transportation for when the respondent is released, assistance obtaining a driver's license, access to clothing and food). As can be seen, average bundle scores for all service bundles except domestic violence services were high. Specifically, the bundle score of 79 for the employment/education/skills services indicates that, on average, the women reported needing nearly 80% of the services in this bundle. Similarly, women reported needing nearly three quarters of the transition services and about half of the health services and child services. There were no differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI samples, which

indicates that, at the time of the pre-release interview, the women generally had similar needs for various types of services.

Although the data are not shown, when the service needs of men and women were compared, very substantial gender differences were evident. For all service bundles except child services, women reported significantly higher needs than men.

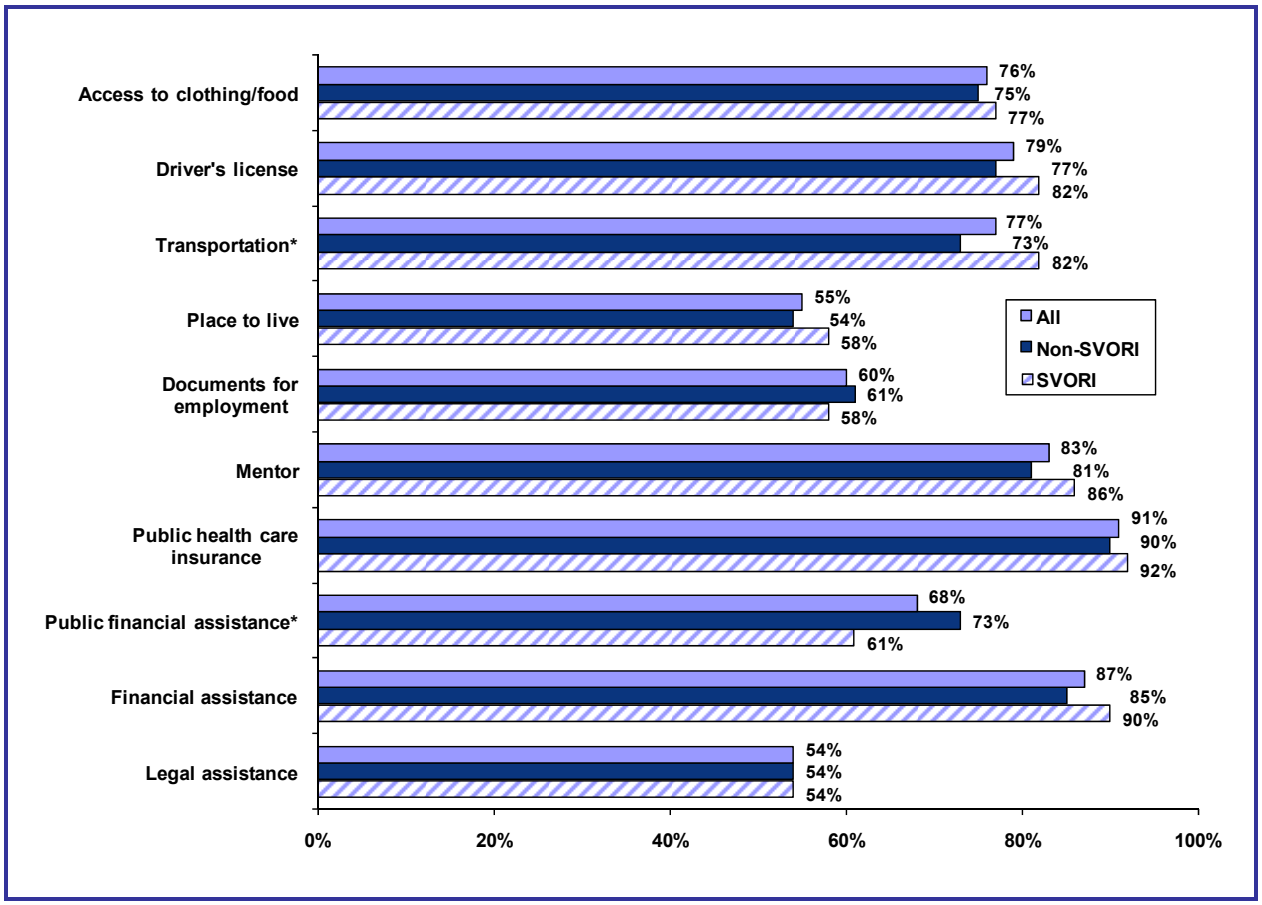
Interestingly, although men and women both reported the highest needs in the employment/education/life skills services, followed by transition services, among men the third highest need area was child services, whereas among women it was health services. As will be discussed in more detail, the relative importance of child services to men is likely due to men's need for assistance in modification of child support debt.

In the subsections that follow, each service bundle is discussed in more detail, with attention being given to differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents, as well as to differences between the total female and male samples.

Transition Services

The transition services bundle reflects services that can help an individual successfully reintegrate into the community upon release. The individual services composing this bundle, together with the proportion of women (presented separately for the SVORI and non-SVORI groups) who reported needing each service, are presented in Exhibit 18. Before release, nearly all women (99%) reported needing at least some transition services to address immediate needs that would be encountered on release, such as financial, public, or legal assistance; a place to live; various identification documents; transportation; health insurance; and access to emergency resources, such as clothing and food. As already mentioned, the average bundle score for the transition services was 74 for the SVORI women and 72 for the non-SVORI women (difference not statistically significant), indicating a very high level of need for transition services. Overall, more than half of the women reported needing each of these transition services, and, for many services, well over three quarters of the women reported need.

Exhibit 18. Self-reported need for specific transition services, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The highest areas of need were public health care insurance and financial assistance. The great majority of women reported needing assistance in these areas (91% for public health care insurance and 87% for financial assistance). Needs were also high for basic services, such as access to clothing and food. Approximately 30 days before release, 76% of women reported that they would need access to clothing banks and food pantries when they were released. A surprisingly high percentage of women (83%) reported that they needed a mentor. The need for a driver's license was also reported by most women (79%). In addition, more than half of the women (60%) reported needing other identification documents necessary for obtaining employment and securing public benefits, such as a birth certificate, Social Security card, and photo identification card.

As shown in the exhibit, significant differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents were evident for two of the transition services. Specifically, women enrolled in SVORI were less likely to report needing public financial assistance yet more likely to report needing transportation than their non-SVORI counterparts.

Although the data are not shown, gender differences for specific transition services follow the overall pattern already discussed, in which women have higher self-reported service needs than men. For 7 of the 10 individual transition services, women were significantly more likely to report needing the service than men. Gender differences were most notable for public health care insurance (reported by 91% of women and 74% of men) and the need for a mentor (reported by 83% of women and 60% of men). The only services for which gender differences were not evident were financial assistance, documents for employment, and driver's license.

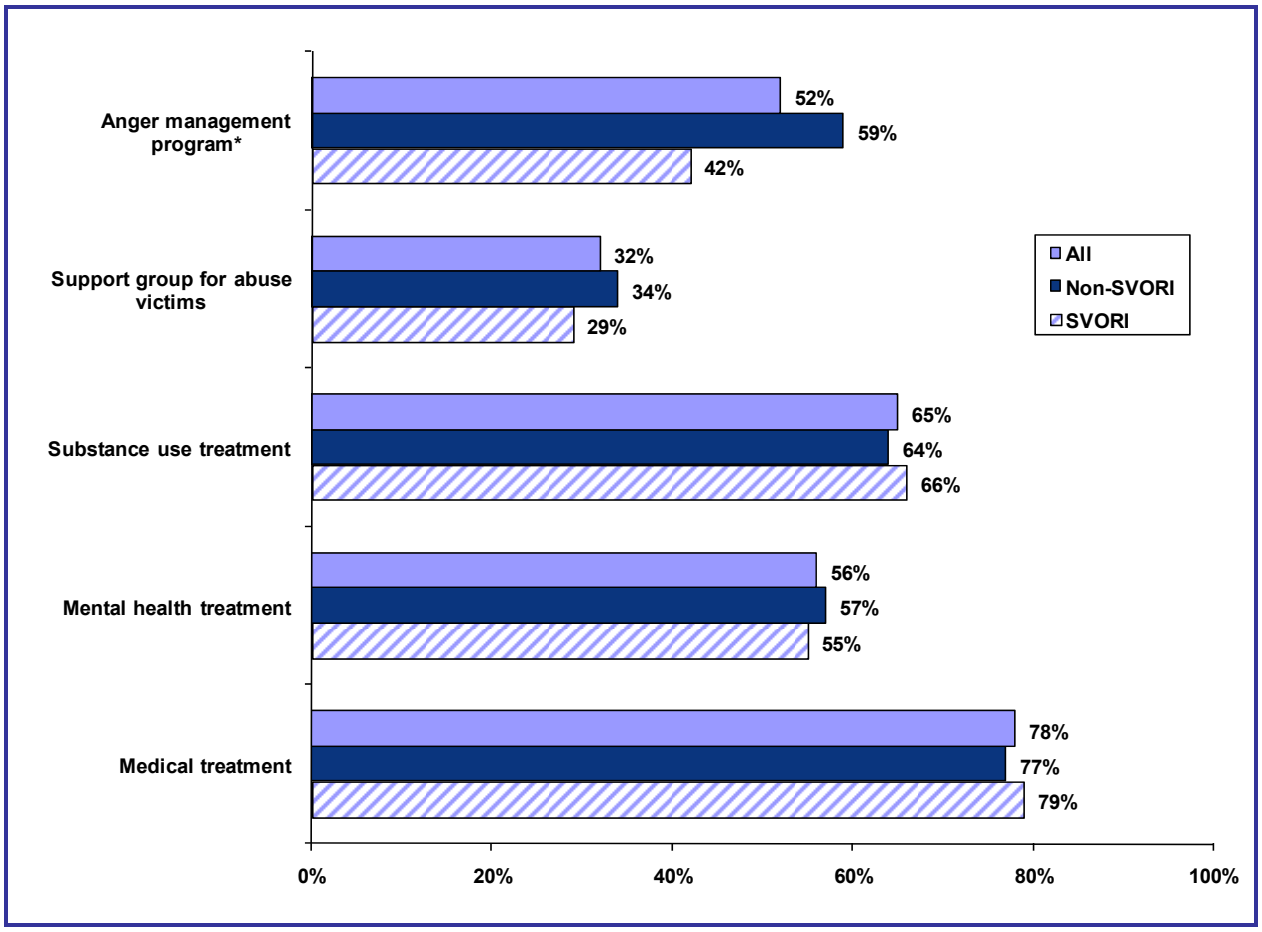
Health Services

Respondents' self-reported needs for health services are shown in Exhibit 19. Overall, women ranked health-related services third out of the six types of services included in the pre-release interview. The average bundle score of 57 (see Exhibit 17) indicates that, on average, the women reported needing more than half of the services in the health bundle. Virtually all of the women (97%) reported needing at least one health-related service.

When specific services in the health services bundle were examined, the most needed service by far was medical treatment, which was reported as a need by 78% of the women. More than half of the women also reported needing substance use treatment (65%), mental health treatment (56%), and an anger management program (52%). Slightly less than one third needed to participate in a support group for victims of sexual or physical abuse.

As shown in the exhibit, the only service need for which significant differences occurred between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents was for an anger management program.

Exhibit 19. Self-reported need for specific health services, by group



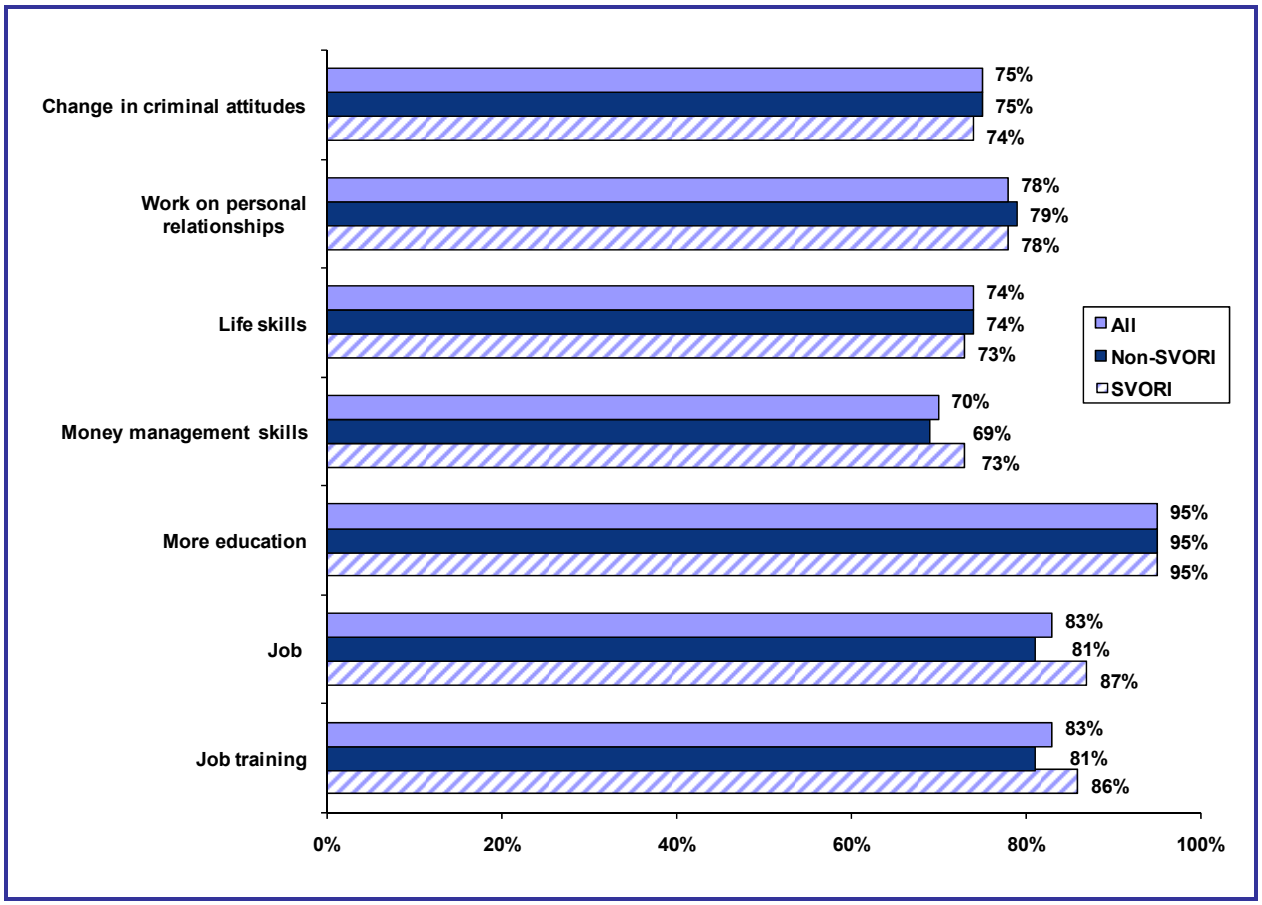
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Not surprisingly, for all five health services, self-reported need was significantly higher for women than for men (data not shown). The need for support groups for abuse victims was particularly discrepant among men and women, with only 4% of men but 32% of women reporting this need. Similarly, twice as many women reported the need for mental health treatment as men (56% of women, compared with 25% of men).

Employment/Education/Skills Services

Exhibit 20 shows the respondents' self-reported needs for services related to employment, education, and skills. As discussed, this bundle of services was ranked the highest (in terms of needs) among the sample, with the average bundle score of 79 indicating that the respondents, on average, needed almost 80% of the services in this bundle. Once again, almost all women (99%) reported needing at least one service

Exhibit 20. Self-reported need for employment, education, and skills services, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.

from the employment/educations/skills service bundle. It is clear from the data in the exhibit that the most needed individual service by far is more education, which almost all women (95%) reported needing.

Among the remaining services, more than three fourths of the women reported needing job training and a job itself. The majority of women also recognized that some aspect of their own behavior needed to change to improve their lives after release. More than three quarters of the women indicated that they needed to work on personal relationships and change their attitudes related to criminal behavior. Almost as many (74%) indicated that they needed to learn life skills, and 70% of women reported needing to learn money management skills.

As shown in the exhibit, women in the SVORI and non-SVORI groups did not differ in their needs for any services related to employment, education, and skills. In addition, fewer gender

differences were found for this service bundle than for the other service bundles. Among the seven specific employment/ education/skills services, women had significantly higher needs for four: a job, job training, the need to work on personal relationships, and the need to change attitudes related to criminal behavior.

Domestic Violence Services

In the pre-release interview, women (and men) were asked about their need for two types of domestic violence services—batterer intervention programs and domestic violence support groups. These two services constituted the domestic violence service bundle. As mentioned previously, needs for services in this bundle were much lower than those for the other five service areas, with the women having an average domestic violence bundle score of 21.

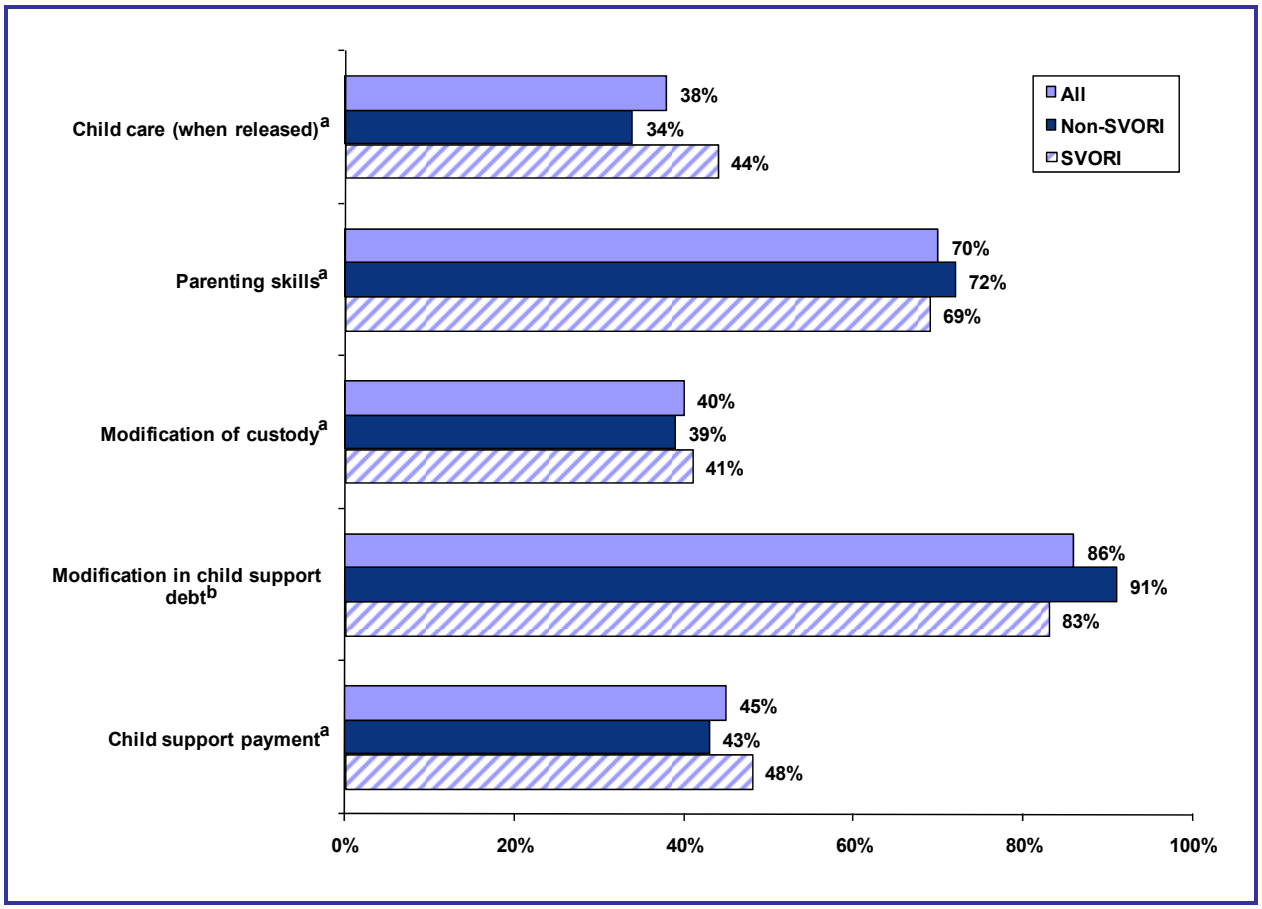
Seventeen percent of women (18% of SVORI and 16% of non-SVORI; difference not statistically significant) reported needing a batterer intervention group (defined as a special program to help people who have problems with physically abusing their partners), and one quarter (22% of SVORI and 27% of non-SVORI, difference not statistically significant) reported needing a domestic violence support group. Not surprisingly, both of these proportions are significantly higher than those found among men (among whom only 8% reported needing a batterer intervention program and 7% reported needing a domestic violence support group).

Child Services

Respondents who had minor children (76% of women) were asked about their need for child-related services, including instruction in parenting skills, child care (on release), child support payments, modifications in the child support debt the respondent owed, and modifications in the custody of the respondent's children. The average child services bundle score among women was 49 (51 for the SVORI group and 47 for the non-SVORI group; difference not statistically significant), indicating that, on average, women reported needing about half of the child-related services. Most (90%) of the women reported needing at least one service in the bundle.

The percentage of mothers reporting need for specific child-related services is shown in Exhibit 21. As shown in the exhibit,

Exhibit 21. Self-reported need for specific child services, by group



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level.
[a]Of those with children younger than 18 years of age.
[b]Of those who owed back child support.

the most commonly reported need in this service bundle was modification in the child support debt owed by the women. Importantly, however, this item was asked only of the 10% of mothers who actually owed back child support. Among all mothers of minor children, 70% reported needing help developing parenting skills. Less than half of the mothers reported needing child support payments (45%), modification of custody arrangements for their children (40%), and child care (when released; 38%). As shown in the exhibit, the SVORI and non-SVORI samples had similar needs for all child-related services.

Interestingly, the only difference between the male and female samples in their self-reported needs for child-related services was parenting skills. Significantly more mothers (70%)

reported needing to learn parenting skills than fathers (62%) at the pre-release interview. Unlike most of the other types of services (for which women had higher self-reported need), women and men reported virtually identical levels of need for child-related services.

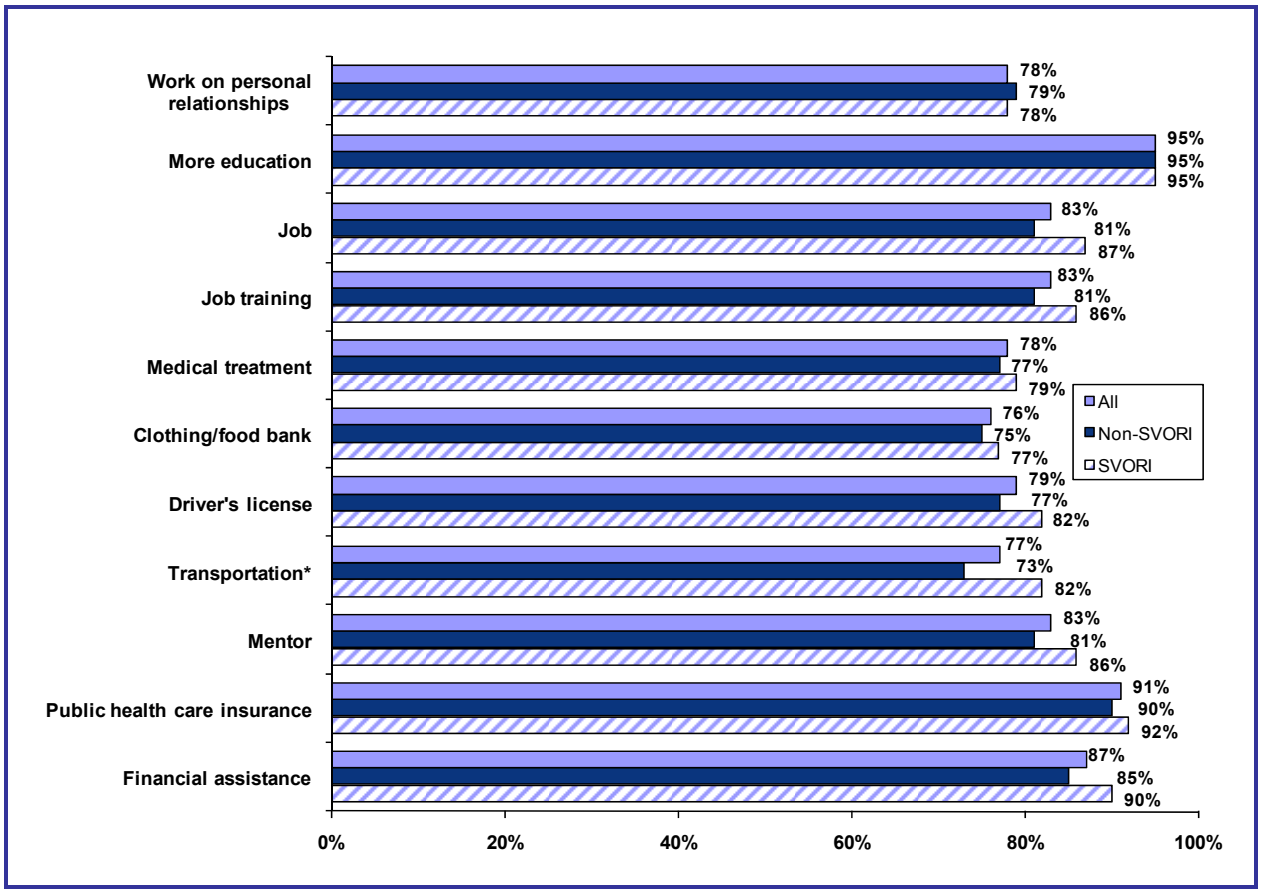
Level of Need Across Services

Overall, the examination of service needs by categories of services has demonstrated extremely high need among incarcerated women at a time period approximately 30 days before release. For all service bundle areas except child-related services, women had substantially (and statistically significantly) higher self-reported need than men. When gender differences in the individual service items were assessed, women had significantly higher needs than men for 19 of the 29 services measured in the pre-release interview. Very few differences between the female SVORI and non-SVORI respondents were evident, indicating that the two groups had similar service needs at the time of the pre-release interviews.

As an additional examination of self-reported service need among women, the most commonly reported service needs were identified. The top 10 are shown in Exhibit 22. Overall among women, the most commonly reported service need was for more education, which was reported for 95% of women. The need for more education was closely followed by the need for public health care insurance (reported by 91% of women) and financial assistance (reported by 87% of women). More than three quarters of the women also reported needing a mentor (83%), job training (83%), a job (83%), a driver's license (79%), medical treatment (78%), and work on personal relationships (78%). Although there were some minor differences in the order in which the top 10 needs were ranked by the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents, the percentages reporting each service need did not differ significantly by group (with the exception of transportation).

In addition to the rankings that were created (assessing the most commonly reported service needs), the respondents were also asked to report their top two service needs. According to this measure, the services that were most commonly reported in the "top two" were a job (reported by 37% of the women) and a place to live (on release; reported by 19% of the women). Women were diverse in their identification of the most

Exhibit 22. Most commonly reported service needs, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

important services because—other than a job, a place to live, more education (listed in the top two by 15% of women), and a driver's license (listed by 12% of women)—no single services were listed in the top two by more than 10% of the sample. Men identified similar service needs in their rankings, with the most frequently mentioned need being a job, followed by a driver's license and more education.

As a final indicator of service need, an "all services" bundle was created to capture the level of overall need across all services (in addition to the service bundles already described). On average, the respondents reported needing nearly two thirds of the all the service items (average score of 64 for both groups). Reflecting the overall pattern of significantly greater pre-release service need among women, the "all services" bundle score was significantly higher for women than for men (among whom the average "all services" bundle score was 54).

SERVICE RECEIPT

As discussed, the SVORI programs were intended to address the high needs of returning prisoners by increasing access to services; therefore, obtaining self-reported information on the services actually received by SVORI participants (in addition to parallel reports from the program directors on what services were being delivered) was critical to understanding the manner in which the programs were implemented. The evaluation also documented services received by non-SVORI comparison group members in order to determine which services appeared to be delivered through "treatment as usual." This evaluation was used, in turn, to determine whether SVORI did indeed result in enhanced service delivery.

This section presents findings on self-reported receipt of services. In the interview (which was conducted approximately 30 days before release), participants were asked about services they had received at any point during their incarcerations. Because many SVORI participants had actually enrolled in the SVORI programs (and had begun receiving services) well before the pre-release interview, the information reported here yields only an initial impression of program implementation. The comparison of pre-release services received by women participating in SVORI and their non-SVORI counterparts allows us to determine whether SVORI programs offered more access to services among participants than was available through "treatment as usual" in the prisons.

Service receipt bundle scores were calculated in a manner parallel to the service need bundle scores reported in the previous section. Specifically, respondents were asked whether they had received each of 36 services since they were incarcerated, and the number of "yes" responses to the items in a bundle was divided by the number of bundle items and multiplied by 100. Individual bundle scores were averaged to yield overall scores. As with the service needs bundle, scores for the child services receipt bundle were generated only for those respondents who reported having children younger than 18. In addition to the bundles that were created for service needs (transition services; health services; employment. education. and skills services; domestic violence services; and

child services), a sixth bundle, service coordination items, was included for service receipt.[10]

Service Receipt Bundle Scores

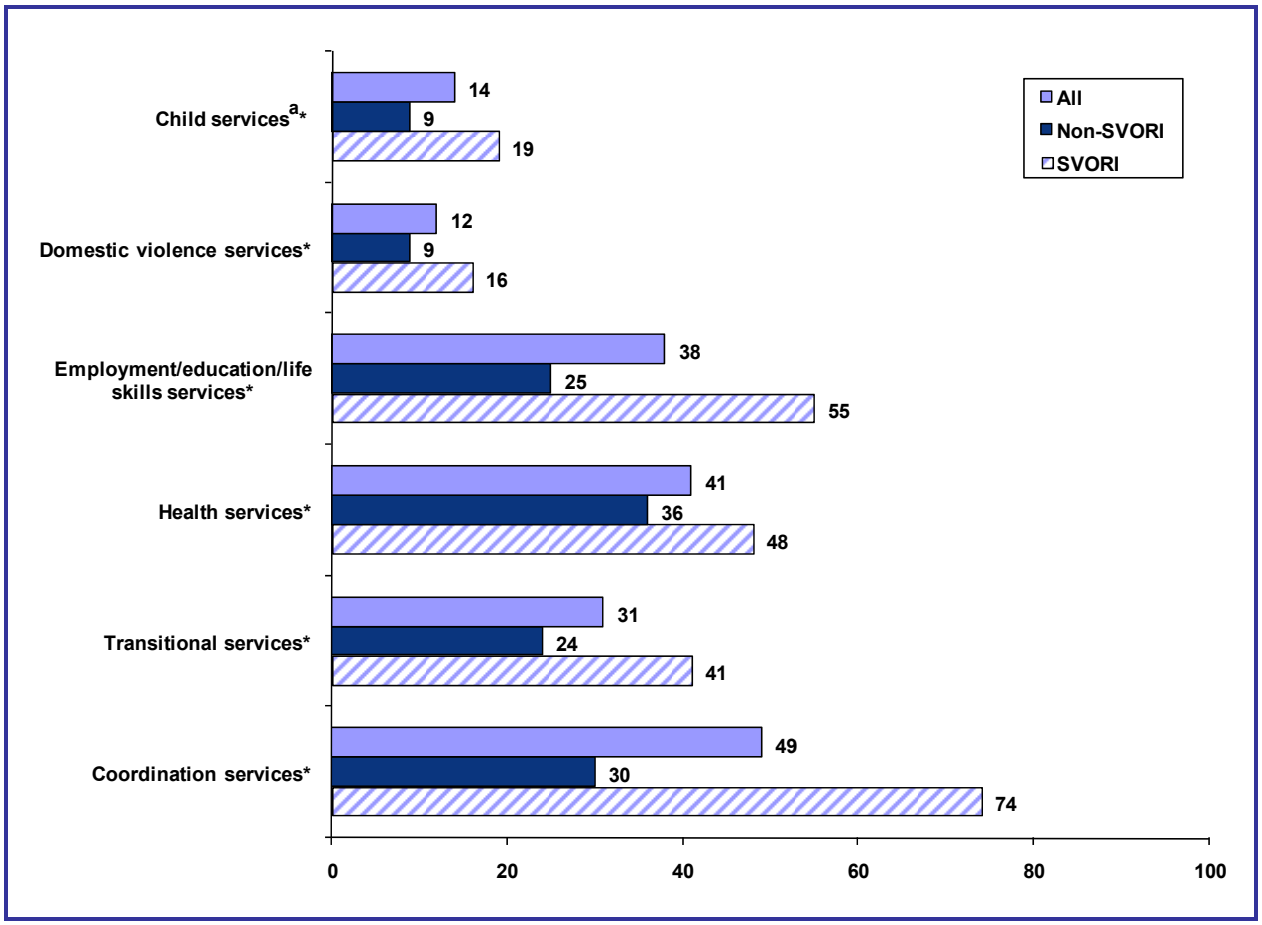
The service receipt bundle scores for the total female sample, as well as for the SVORI and non-SVORI groups, are shown in Exhibit 23. As is evident from the exhibit, the SVORI programs appeared to substantially increase access to services for the women. For all service areas, women enrolled in SVORI programs reported significantly higher service receipt during their period of incarceration than comparable women not enrolled in SVORI. For several bundles, SVORI participants received twice the services that the comparison group received. The most substantial difference was with respect to coordination services: SVORI participants received more than 70% of the services in this bundle, compared with only 30% received by non-SVORI comparison group members. SVORI participants also reported receiving more than half of the employment/education/life skills services (compared with only one quarter received by comparison group members) and nearly half of the health services. For health services, differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents, while statistically significant, were not as large. Services less frequently reported were domestic violence services and child services.

Although the data are not presented in this report, the differences between men and women in the level of service receipt during incarceration were also compared. Reflecting the higher service need among women as discussed in the previous section, women reported receiving substantially higher levels of services than men. For all service bundles except coordination services, the bundle scores were significantly higher for women than for men.

The subsections that follow provide additional detail on the items within individual service receipt bundles. Gender differences are examined further, in addition to differences between the female SVORI and non-SVORI groups.

[10] These items are listed by bundle in Appendix Exhibit A-4 and are presented bundle-by-bundle in the subsections that follow.

Exhibit 23. Service receipt bundle scores across service bundles, by group



[a]Of those with children younger than 18 years of age.

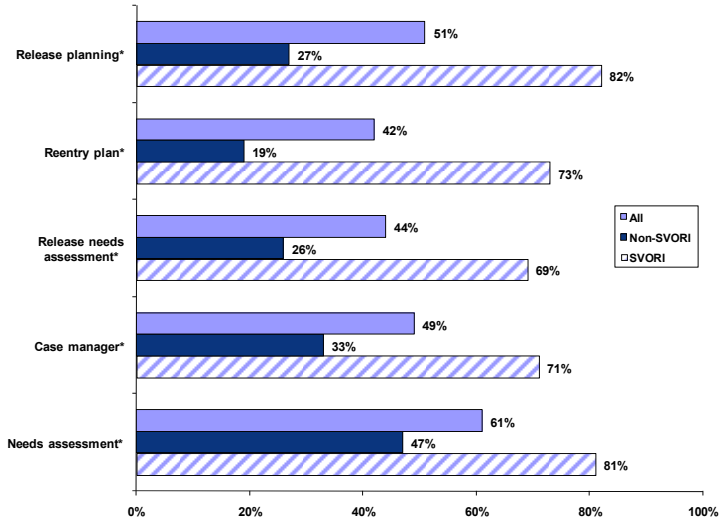
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Coordination Services

Because the SVORI programs attempted to provide needed services to program participants, accurate assessment of participants' needs is essential to designing a treatment program that will successfully meet individuals' needs. Assessment of needs specific to reentry is also important, in addition to release planning and the development of a specific reentry plan. Finally, the provision of case management is necessary to effectively coordinate the various stages of assessment, planning, and service delivery. The coordination services bundle measures the receipt of these types of "services" during incarceration.

Exhibit 24 shows the proportion of all women, as well as the SVORI and non-SVORI groups, who reported receiving each of the five coordination services during their terms of

Exhibit 24. Self-reported receipt of specific coordination services, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

incarceration. Interview respondents were provided with detailed descriptions of needs assessment and case management; for each description, they were asked whether they had received the service since incarceration. They were also asked whether they had received a needs assessment that was specifically designed to help prepare them for their release (release needs assessment). "Release planning" indicates the proportion of respondents who reported that they had worked with anyone to help plan for their release, and "reentry plan" indicates the proportion of respondents who reported that a reentry plan had been developed for them.

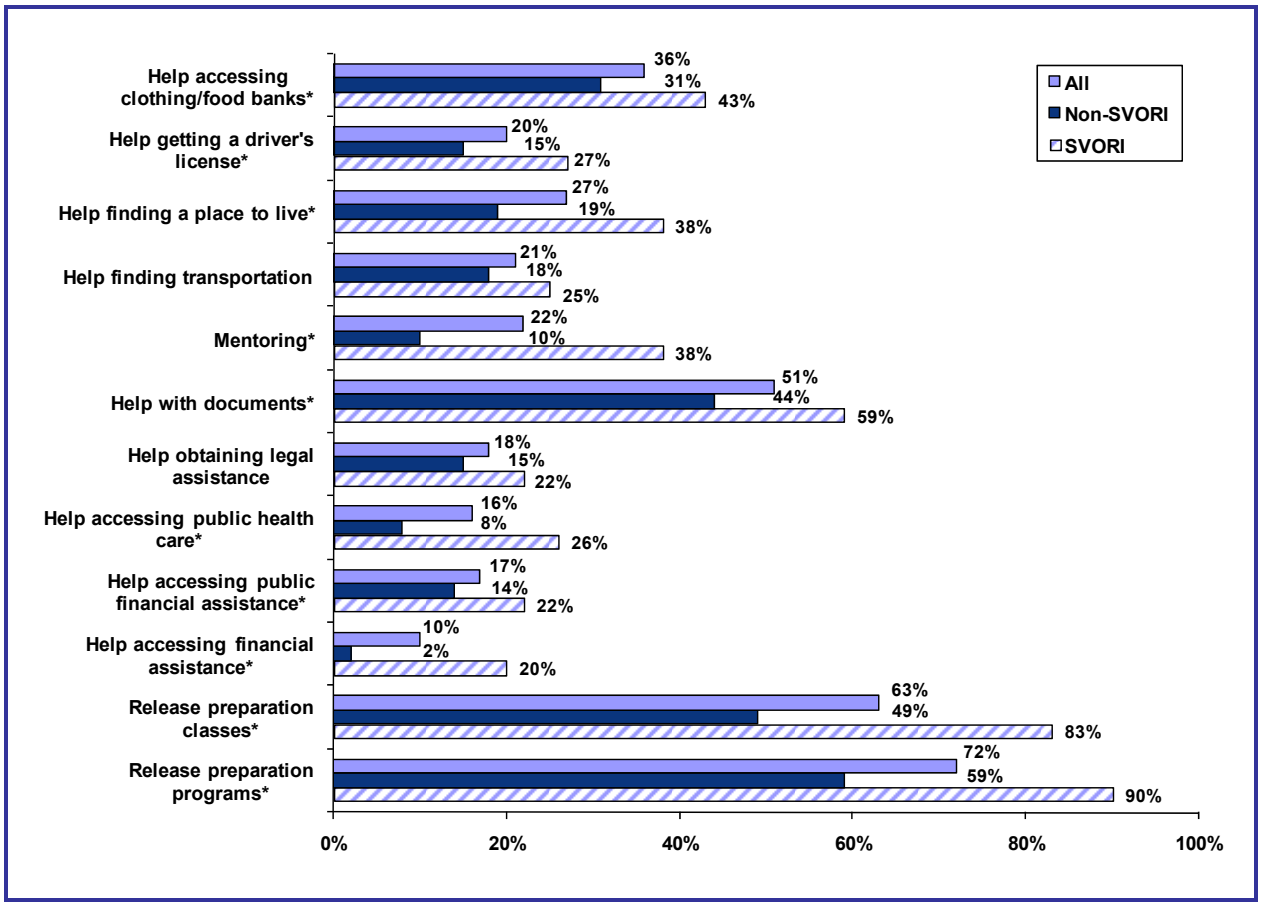
As is evident from the chart, levels of receipt were high among the SVORI participants. For each of the five services, a significantly higher proportion of SVORI participants reported receiving the service. This pattern is to be expected because of the integral role of service coordination in SVORI programming and the fact that close coordination of services is a departure from "treatment as usual" in correctional settings. Notably, despite the importance of these services, substantially less than 100% of respondents received them. Even among SVORI participants, almost 20% did not receive a needs assessment, and almost 30% had not met with a case manager during the incarceration.

Although the overall service coordination receipt scores were significantly higher for women than for men, when gender differences in specific services were examined, only two individual services differed significantly among men and women. Women were significantly more likely to receive needs assessments (assessing general needs) and needs assessments specific to release.

Transition Services

The transition services help individuals successfully return to the community. Exhibit 25 shows the proportion of all women, as well as the SVORI and non-SVORI groups, who reported receiving each of the 12 transition services during the current period of incarceration. As shown in the exhibit, levels of service receipt were typically higher among the SVORI participants. With the exception of help finding transportation and legal assistance, a significantly higher proportion of SVORI participants reported receiving each service.

Exhibit 25. Self-reported receipt of specific transition services, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The most commonly reported items were participation in classes (83% of SVORI participants, compared with 49% of comparison group members) and programs designed specifically to prepare individuals for release (90% and 59% of SVORI participants and comparison group members, respectively). More than half of the women also reported receiving assistance obtaining documents necessary for employment, such as birth certificate or Social Security card (59% and 44% of SVORI participants and comparison group members, respectively).

Despite high levels of reported need, less than half of the women received the remaining nine transition services. A higher proportion of SVORI participants received seven of these less frequently received services than comparison group members.

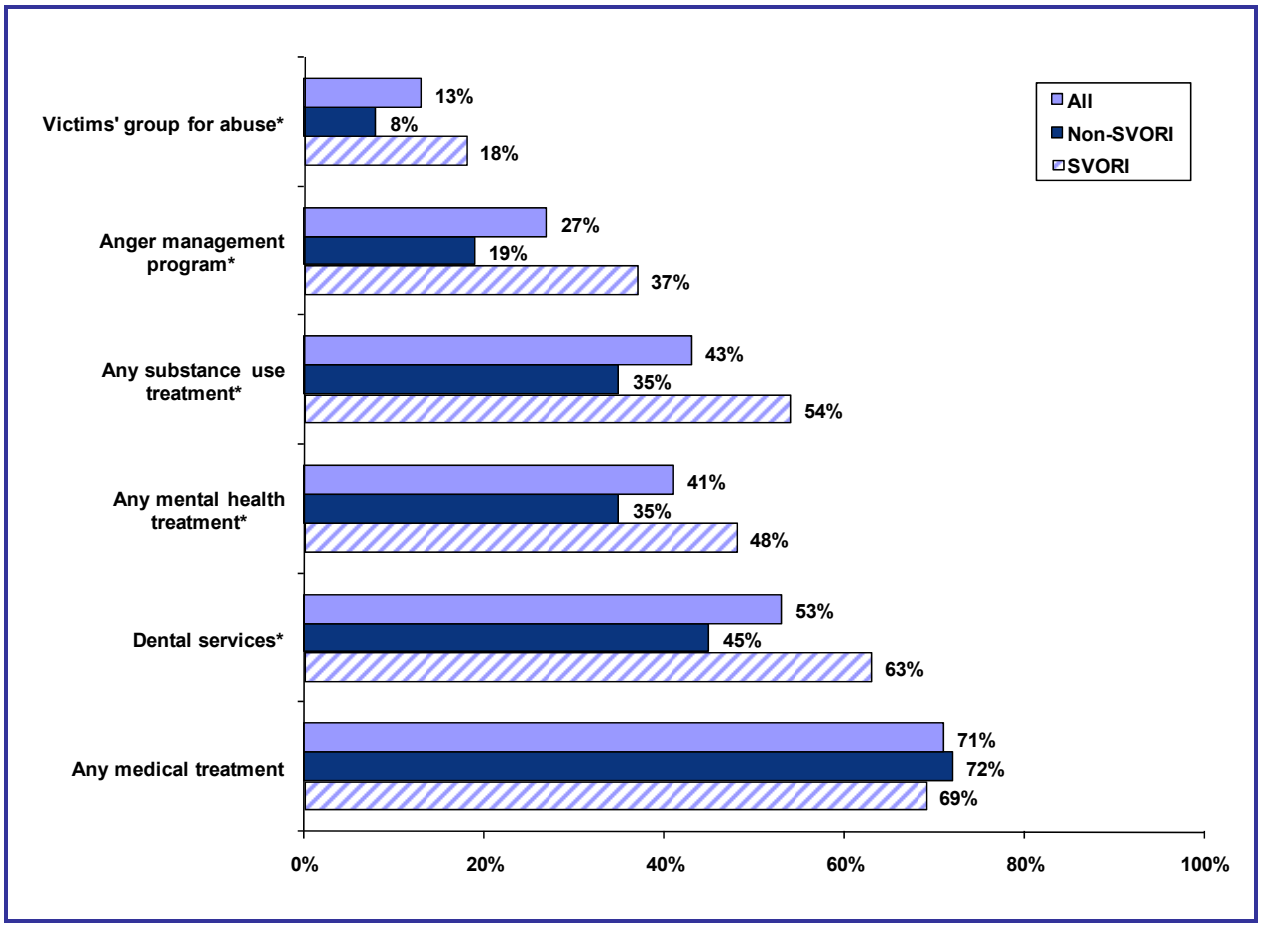
A significantly higher proportion of women than men received 11 of the transition services. No difference was found in receipt for help accessing financial assistance, which was one of the least common services reported by both men (9%) and women (10%).

Health Services

Exhibit 26 shows the proportion of all women, as well as the SVORI and non-SVORI groups, who reported receiving a variety of health services. Not surprisingly, any medical treatment (71%) was reported more frequently than either any substance use treatment (43%) or any mental health treatment (41%) among the full sample of women. Less than 30% of women reported participation in either an anger management program or a group for victims of abuse.

Although the difference in the receipt of any medical treatment between SVORI (69%) and non-SVORI (72%) women was not significant, SVORI participants were more likely to receive dental services, any mental health treatment, and any treatment for substance use (54% of SVORI participants compared with 35% of comparison group members). Furthermore, a higher proportion of SVORI participants reported participation in anger management programs and in groups for victims of abuse.

Exhibit 26. Self-reported receipt of specific health services, by group



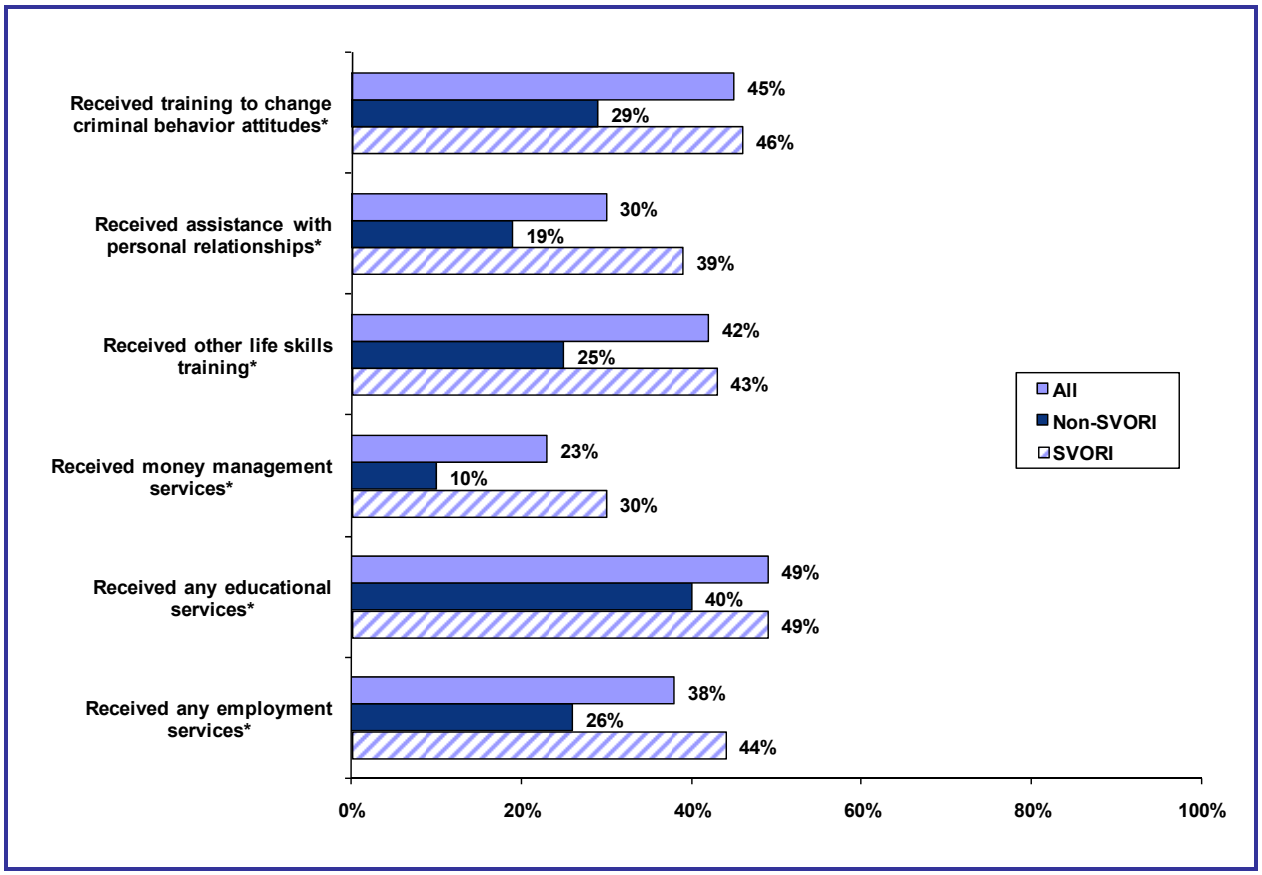
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Corresponding to their higher levels of need, a higher proportion of women than men reported receiving three of the health services. Women reported higher levels of receiving any medical treatment (71% of women, compared with 56% of men). Furthermore, twice as many women reported receiving any mental health treatment (41% of women, compared with 18% of men) and participating in groups for victims of abuse (13% of women and 5% of men). While women reported significantly greater need for anger management and substance use treatment than men, they were not more likely to receive such services.

Employment/Education/Skills Services

Respondents' self-reported receipt of employment, education and skills services is reported in Exhibit 27 for the full sample, as well as the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. Although the most commonly received service among the full sample of

Exhibit 27. Self-reported receipt of specific employment, education, and skills services, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

women was education, there was still a large unmet need: nearly all of the women reported needing education (95%), but only half (49%) received it.

Other frequently reported services included training to change criminal behavior attitudes (45%) and other life skills training (42%). Notably, a significantly higher proportion of SVORI participants than comparison group members received each of the services in this bundle.

Differences in service receipt also emerged by gender. Women were significantly more likely to receive money management, other life skills, assistance with personal relationships, and any employment services than the men.

Domestic Violence Services

Corresponding to the relatively low self-reported need, few women received domestic violence services. Seventeen percent

of women participated in domestic violence support groups, including twice as many SVORI (24%) as non-SVORI (12%) women. Not surprisingly, a significantly lower proportion of men (8%) reported such participation.

Participation in batterer intervention programs was low for all populations, and differences in service receipt were not significant. Six percent of women (7% of the SVORI group and 5% of non-SVORI group) and 4% of men reported involvement in these programs.

Child Services

Although parenting classes were the most frequently reported child-related service overall (37%), almost twice as many SVORI mothers (50%) as non-SVORI mothers (26%) participated in these classes. The other child services were received by less than 15% of the mothers. SVORI mothers were significantly more likely than non-SVORI mothers to report receiving assistance finding child care on release from prison (8% and 2%, respectively).

A couple of differences were found in service receipt by gender, with significantly higher proportions of women reporting receiving assistance modifying custody (10% of women and 3% of men) and parenting classes (37% of women and 20% of men).

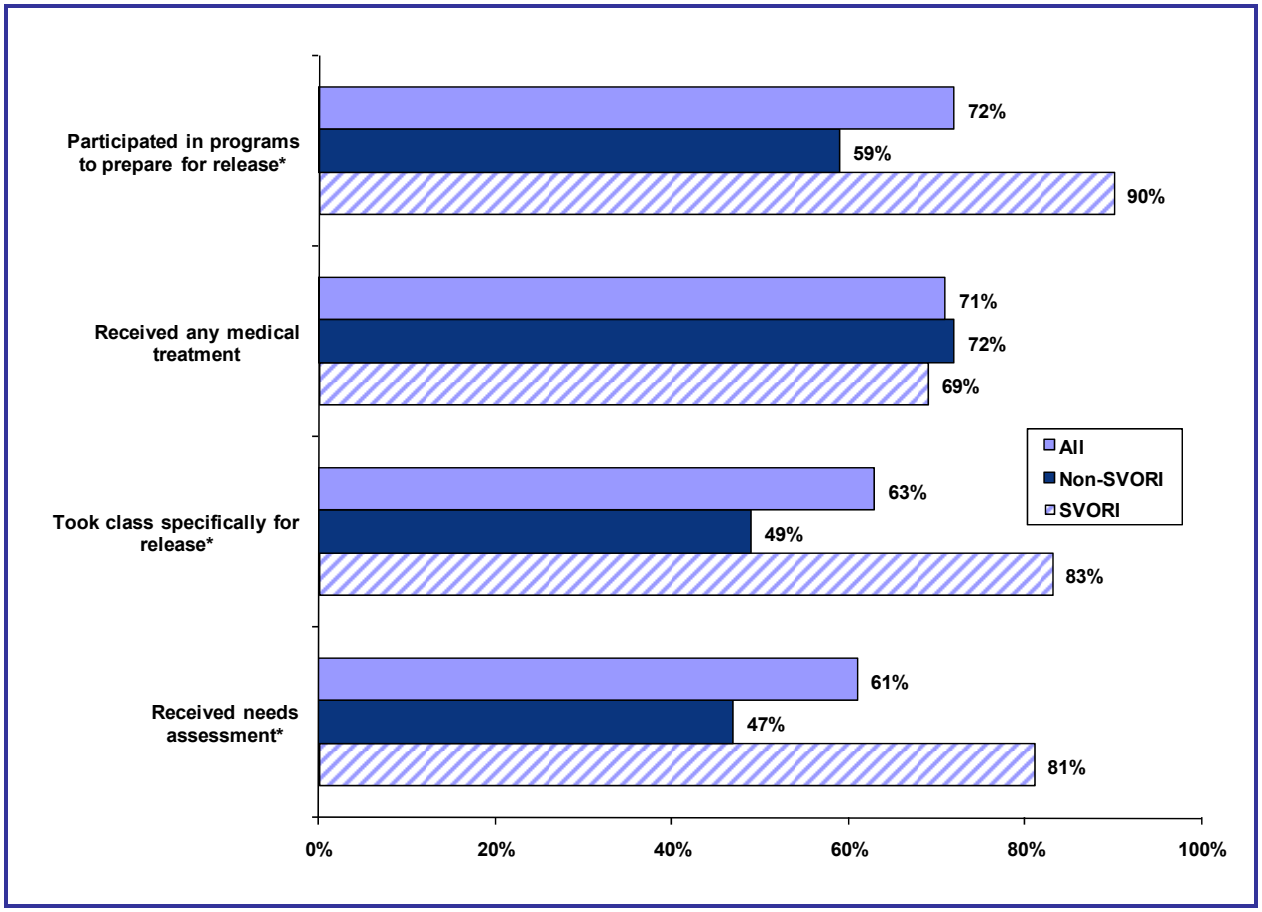
Levels of Receipt Across Services

Overall, this examination of service receipt has shown that SVORI participants received higher levels of services than comparison group members. In contrast to the similarities reported in need, a significantly higher proportion of SVORI respondents than non-SVORI respondents reported receiving each of the service areas. Examining the individual services that compose these bundles has shown that a higher proportion of SVORI than non-SVORI respondents reported receiving 97% of the services; the difference was statistically significant for 90% of the services.

The services the women most frequently reported receiving were participating in programs to prepare for release (72%), receiving medical treatment (71%), taking a class specifically for release (63%), and receiving a needs assessment (61%). With the exception of medical treatment, SVORI participants

were significantly more likely to report receiving each of these services than non-SVORI respondents (Exhibit 28).

Exhibit 28. Most commonly reported services received, by group



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Similar to the "all services" need bundle, the "all services" receipt bundle captures the level of overall receipt across all available services. SVORI participants reported receiving nearly half of the services, whereas the comparison group received only one quarter of the services (average bundle scores of 46 and 25, respectively; $p < 0.01$).

In addition to reporting service receipt, respondents were also asked to identify which two services they thought were most helpful. Overall, the most frequently reported "top two" services were education (22%), spiritual or religious assistance (21%), and alcohol or drug treatment (20%). Except for parenting classes (10%), no other service was ranked in the top two by more than 10% of the sample. SVORI and non-

SVORI respondents did not differ significantly in these selections. Although these three services were also the most commonly identified by men as being among the two most helpful, a higher proportion of women (21%) than men (16%) selected spiritual or religious assistance.

With the exception of coordination services, a significantly higher proportion of women reported receiving each of the service bundles than men. When the individual items in each bundle where examined, women were found to have reported significantly higher service receipt than men for 23 of the 36 services (64%). Reflecting these higher levels of receipt across most areas, the "all services" receipt bundle was significantly higher for women than for men (average bundle scores of 34 and 28, respectively).

Post-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners

Findings from the three post-release interviews, which were administered 3, 9, and 15 months after release, are presented here. Unlike the pre-release section, which was intended to be descriptive, this section examines reentry outcomes for women who participated in SVORI programming as compared with outcomes for women who received "treatment as usual." Consequently, potential bias associated with treatment group membership must be adjusted for, because in most sites women were not randomly assigned to SVORI treatment.

As detailed in Lattimore and Steffey (2009), propensity modeling was employed to model the likelihood of SVORI status. The propensity score weights developed from these models were applied to the raw data; therefore, all of the data presented in this section are weighted to adjust for selection bias (unlike the "Pre-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners" section, which presents unweighted data). Because it is of interest to examine patterns across waves (beginning with the pre-release interviews) in a comparable manner, weighted Wave 1 (pre-release) data are also presented in several places in this section. To assess whether SVORI participation had a significant impact on a range of outcomes, the authors ran a series of weighted bivariate regression (for continuous outcomes) and logistic regression (for dichotomous outcomes) models (with treatment status as the independent variable and the outcome of interest as the dependent variable). Due to the

relatively small sample sizes, regression models were not always appropriate and were occasionally excluded from the exhibits; weighted means are presented for all outcomes. The exhibits present regression results only when there were at least 20 respondents (with a minimum of 10 SVORI and 10 non-SVORI respondents) in each cell. For example, at the 15-month post-release interview only one SVORI and 7 non-SVORI respondents reported needing assistance modifying child support debt; because these cells are too small to render logistic regression results meaningful, only weighted means are presented.

It is also important to note that, while descriptive comparisons of trends across time are discussed, the number of respondents varied at each wave, and significance tests of differences across time were not conducted. The outcome analyses were not limited to individuals who responded to all interviews, so the possibility cannot be ruled out that some of the differences across time are a result of the differences in respondents across time.

SERVICE NEEDS

This subsection focuses on self-reported service needs at each interview wave, with service *receipt* being addressed in the next subsection. The same "bundle scoring" procedures described in the "Pre-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners" section, in which 29 services were grouped into five service bundles, were used. Findings on self-reported needs for services in each of the five bundles over the four interview waves are discussed here, after a brief discussion of overall patterns across bundles and waves.

Although the data are not shown, gender differences in self-reported service need among men and women over time are discussed.

Service Need Bundle Scores

Exhibit 29 presents the results of the weighted outcome analyses and the weighted means for each service bundle (and individual item) across waves. Several interesting patterns are evident in the data.

Exhibit 29. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on service need

	Wave 1						Wave 2						Wave 3						Wave 4					
	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR		SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR		SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR		SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	
Transition	73.97	71.82	2.15	2.47			59.92	59.63	0.29	3.43			51.11	52.04	−0.93	3.67			47.67	56.33	−8.66	3.88		*
Legal	54%	55%	0.02	23%	1.02		49%	46%	0.14	0.27	1.15		38%	37%	0.06	0.28	1.06		36%	43%	−0.30	0.26	0.74	
Financial	91%	85%	−0.55	34%	0.58		75%	71%	0.21	0.30	1.23		71%	66%	0.22	0.28	1.25		63%	65%	−0.08	0.26	0.92	
Public financial	60%	72%	0.53	24%	1.70	*	51%	61%	−0.42	0.27	0.66		44%	58%	−0.57	0.27	0.56	*	43%	64%	−0.84	0.26	0.43	*
Public health care	91%	90%	−0.20	40%	0.82		80%	79%	0.06	0.34	1.07		67%	69%	−0.08	0.29	0.92		63%	70%	−0.31	0.27	0.74	
Mentor	85%	82%	−0.24	30%	0.78		56%	64%	−0.31	0.27	0.73		57%	58%	−0.01	0.27	0.99		50%	60%	−0.42	0.26	0.66	
Documents for employment	58%	60%	0.10	23%	1.11		29%	32%	−0.14	0.29	0.87		28%	30%	−0.11	0.30	0.90		26%	37%	−0.52	0.28	0.60	
Place to live	58%	52%	−0.24	23%	0.79		57%	52%	0.20	0.27	1.22		43%	40%	0.09	0.27	1.09		51%	48%	0.11	0.25	1.12	
Transportation	83%	72%	−0.67	27%	0.51	*	75%	66%	0.42	0.30	1.52		64%	57%	0.30	0.27	1.35		54%	64%	−0.42	0.26	0.66	
Driver's license	82%	77%	−0.30	28%	0.74		71%	67%	0.22	0.29	1.24		56%	60%	−0.15	0.27	0.86		52%	61%	−0.36	0.26	0.70	
Clothing/food banks	78%	76%	−0.12	26%	0.88		56%	58%	−0.08	0.27	0.92		43%	46%	−0.11	0.27	0.89		40%	52%	−0.48	0.26	0.62	
Health	54.94	57.42	−2.48	2.94			38.52	40.72	−2.19	4.05	NA		37.37	38.27	−0.90	3.85	NA		35.25	39.35	−4.10	3.90	NA	
Medical treatment	80%	78%	−0.09	27%	0.92		71%	70%	0.02	0.30	1.03		61%	56%	0.22	0.27	1.25		58%	57%	0.02	0.26	1.02	
Mental health treatment	56%	55%	−0.04	23%	0.96		43%	38%	0.22	0.28	1.25		40%	36%	0.18	0.28	1.20		38%	41%	−0.11	0.26	0.90	
Substance use treatment	68%	64%	−0.20	24%	0.82		35%	38%	−0.12	0.28	0.89		36%	41%	−0.20	0.28	0.82		33%	36%	−0.13	0.26	0.88	
Victim support group	30%	32%	0.11	24%	1.11		19%	20%	−0.09	0.34	0.91		18%	18%	−0.02	0.35	0.98		20%	18%	0.12	0.32	1.13	
Anger management	42%	59%	0.67	23%	1.96	*	25%	38%	−0.59	0.30	0.55	*	32%	41%	−0.38	0.28	0.68		27%	44%	−0.74	0.27	0.48	*
Employment/Education/Life Skills	80.48	78.76	1.73	2.65			63.64	64.01	−0.37	3.83	NA		60.24	60.36	−0.12	4.02	NA		57.49	63.68	−6.20	3.95	NA	
Job training	86%	82%	−0.31	31%	0.73		72%	67%	0.25	0.29	1.28		55%	58%	−0.09	0.27	0.91		60%	58%	0.08	0.26	1.08	
Job	88%	81%	−0.52	31%	0.59		70%	65%	0.22	0.29	1.24		57%	57%	0.01	0.27	1.01		56%	63%	−0.28	0.26	0.75	
Education	95%	95%	—	—	—		93%	92%	—	—	—		87%	87%	−0.01	0.41	0.99		87%	92%	−0.50	0.41	0.61	
Money management skills	73%	70%	−0.15	25%	0.86		54%	55%	−0.06	0.27	0.94		54%	61%	−0.27	0.27	0.76		46%	59%	−0.50	0.25	0.61	
Life skills	73%	75%	0.10	25%	1.10		60%	64%	−0.17	0.28	0.84		51%	58%	−0.26	0.27	0.77		50%	63%	−0.53	0.26	0.59	*
Work on personal relationships	78%	79%	0.04	27%	1.04		59%	62%	−0.11	0.28	0.90		67%	59%	0.35	0.27	1.41		64%	61%	0.11	0.26	1.11	
Change in criminal attitudes	78%	74%	−0.19	26%	0.83		46%	47%	−0.02	0.27	0.98		45%	40%	0.20	0.27	1.22		43%	45%	−0.10	0.26	0.90	
Domestic Violence	21.41	20.97	0.44	3.92			8.04	8.12	−0.09	3.25	NA		11.50	11.85	−0.35	3.74	NA		9.57	10.97	−1.40	3.17	NA	
Batterer intervention	19%	16%	−0.24	30%	0.79		7%	4%	—	—	—		8%	8%	0.04	0.48	1.04		6%	8%	—	—	—	
Support group	24%	26%	0.14	26%	1.15		9%	12%	−0.32	0.44	0.73		15%	16%	−0.07	0.38	0.93		14%	14%	0.00	0.37	1.00	
Child	51.91	47.88	4.02	3.49			40.80	46.06	−5.25	4.46	NA		38.45	39.45	−1.01	5.11	NA		34.54	42.90	−8.36	4.38	NA	
Child support payments[a]	49%	44%	−0.20	26%	0.82		46%	42%	0.16	0.32	1.17		41%	41%	0.02	0.32	1.02		37%	40%	−0.09	0.30	0.91	
Modification in child support debt[b]	85%	91%	—	—	—		96%	100%	—	—	—		96%	100%	—	—	—		70%	90%	—	—	—	
Modification in custody[a]	42%	41%	−0.04	26%	0.96		34%	46%	−0.51	0.33	0.60		27%	32%	−0.20	0.35	0.82		25%	35%	−0.51	0.32	0.60	
Parenting skills[a]	70%	71%	0.09	28%	1.09		50%	68%	−0.78	0.33	0.46	*	57%	57%	0.00	0.31	1.00		52%	63%	−0.44	0.29	0.65	
Child care[a]	45%	35%	−0.41	27%	0.66		28%	24%	0.18	0.37	1.20		23%	27%	−0.21	0.37	0.81		20%	31%	−0.57	0.34	0.57	

Note: Regression results not shown when cell sizes <10. Non-S = Non-SVORI; NA = not applicable. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

[a]Of those with children younger than 18 years of age.

[b]Of those who owed back child support.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The first pattern pertains to declining needs over time. Self-reported needs were extremely high at the pre-release interview (conducted approximately one month before release), declined substantially at the 3-month post-release time period, and then continued declining gradually at the 9- and 15-month interviews. For example, the mean bundle scores for employment/education/life skills service needs among the SVORI participants, which is the highest reported area of need among the female sample, declined from 80 (at the pre-release interview) to 57 at the 15-month post-release interview. Substantively, the scores are interpreted to mean that, at the time of the pre-release interview, the women reported needing 80% of the services in this bundle, whereas at the 15-month post-release interview they needed just slightly more than half of the employment/education/life skills services. The only exception to the pattern of declining need was domestic violence services, which fluctuated in a less consistent manner at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews; however, the very low need in this area makes such trends relatively difficult to interpret. Importantly, however, although need declined over time, women's levels of need for most services remained high.

The second pattern pertains to the relative importance of different service needs. As shown in Exhibit 29, the sample of women reported the highest needs for services related to employment, education, and life skills. This area of need was the highest at the pre-release interview (as discussed in the "Pre-release Experiences of Returning Female Prisoners" section) and remained the strongest need area across each interview wave. The relative importance of the other service needs was consistent over time, generally. At each interview wave, transition services were ranked second in importance, followed by either health services or child services (depending on the particular interview wave). Domestic violence—related services remained the lowest-ranked services over time.

The third pattern pertains to differences in service need between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents. As previously discussed, the level of self-reported need was similar between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents at the time of the pre-release interview, indicating that the two groups were comparable before release. For most of the follow-up period, the groups continued to report similar levels of service need. At the final interview (15-months post-release), however, the non-

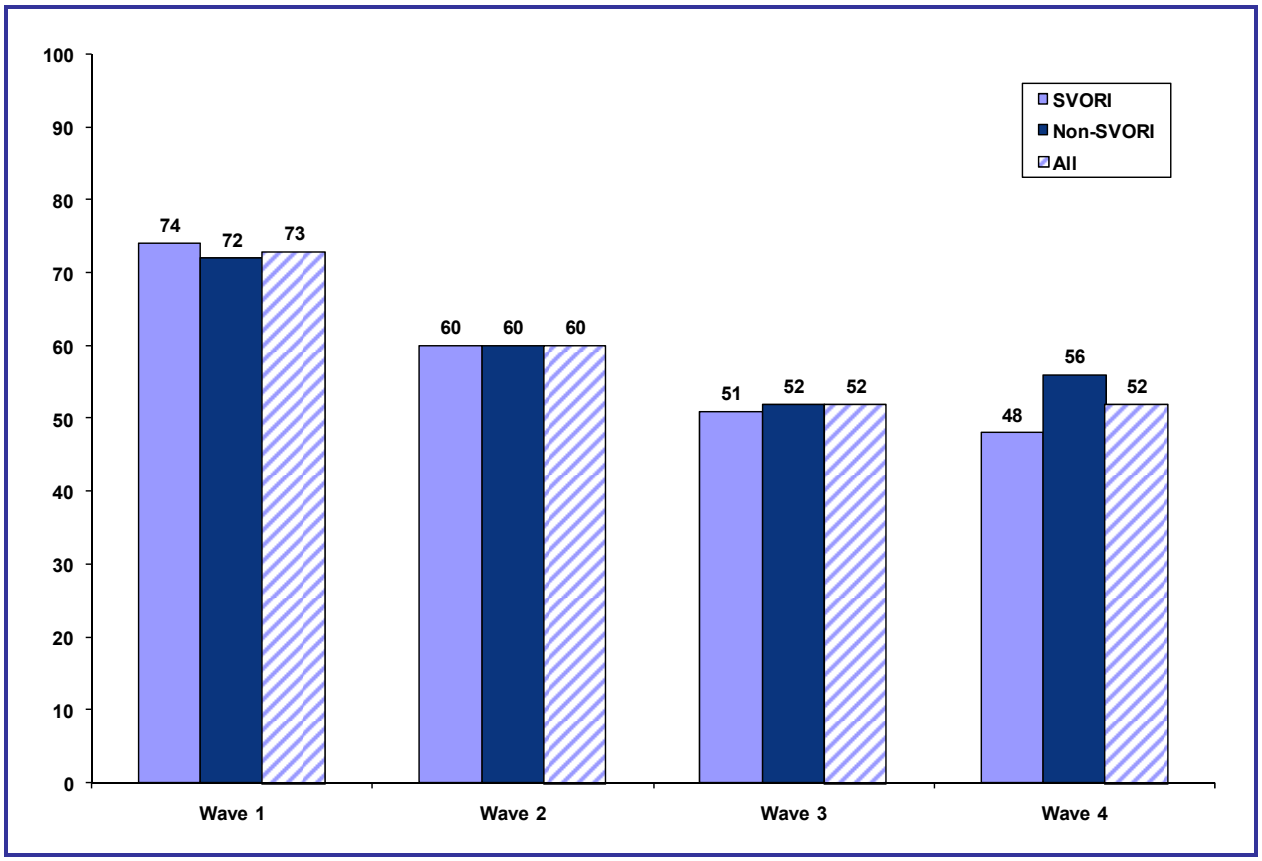
SVORI group reported significantly higher needs for transition services ($p < 0.05$). In addition, as will be discussed, significant differences indicating lower needs for SVORI participants were evident for several individual services within the bundle areas. This pattern is difficult to interpret, although it may indicate a delayed treatment effect, in that the needs of women who participated in SVORI programming may have been better addressed over time (so that they no longer reported as many needs as their situations stabilized). Another possibility explored is that response bias contributed to this pattern. Because response rates varied across each interview wave, researchers considered the possibility that the results for women who completed a particular interview were different from the results for women who completed all interviews. The analyses for the service need outcomes were conducted on the subsample of women that completed all three follow-up interviews. The results for this subsample were substantially the same as those for the full sample at each wave. Combined with the relatively high response rates and comparability between SVORI and non-SVORI respondents across waves (described earlier), response bias apparently was not a problem and was rejected as an explanation for the difference in self-reported needs among the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents.

Although the data are not shown in the exhibit, comparisons of service needs over time between the entire female and male samples were also made. As was observed with the pre-release data, women continued to have higher self-reported needs than men, particularly for health- and family-related services (which were significantly higher for the female sample than for the male sample at all post-release time periods). Notably, however, gender differences became decreasingly pronounced over time in all service areas. For all service areas except family services, the differences between service need as reported by men and by women diminished (and for employment/education and child services the gender difference actually reversed directions so that men reported higher levels of need than women at the 9- and 15-month interviews). The only exception to this pattern was domestic violence services, which remained significantly higher for women at all time periods and evinced more pronounced gender differences over time.

Transition Services

As shown in Exhibit 30, the women in the sample reported high levels of need for transition services, which included various forms of assistance with the reentry process. Self-reported need for these services was highest at the time of the pre-release interview (at which point the weighted bundle scores were 74 for the SVORI group and 72 for the non-SVORI group) and declined with each subsequent interview, reaching their low at the 15-month interview of 48 for the SVORI group and 56 for the non-SVORI group. At each time period women's most commonly reported needs within this bundle were public health care insurance (identified as a need by 79% of the women at the time of the 3-month post-release interview) and financial assistance (such as short-term loans or housing deposits), identified as a need by 73% of the women.

Exhibit 30. Transition service needs bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

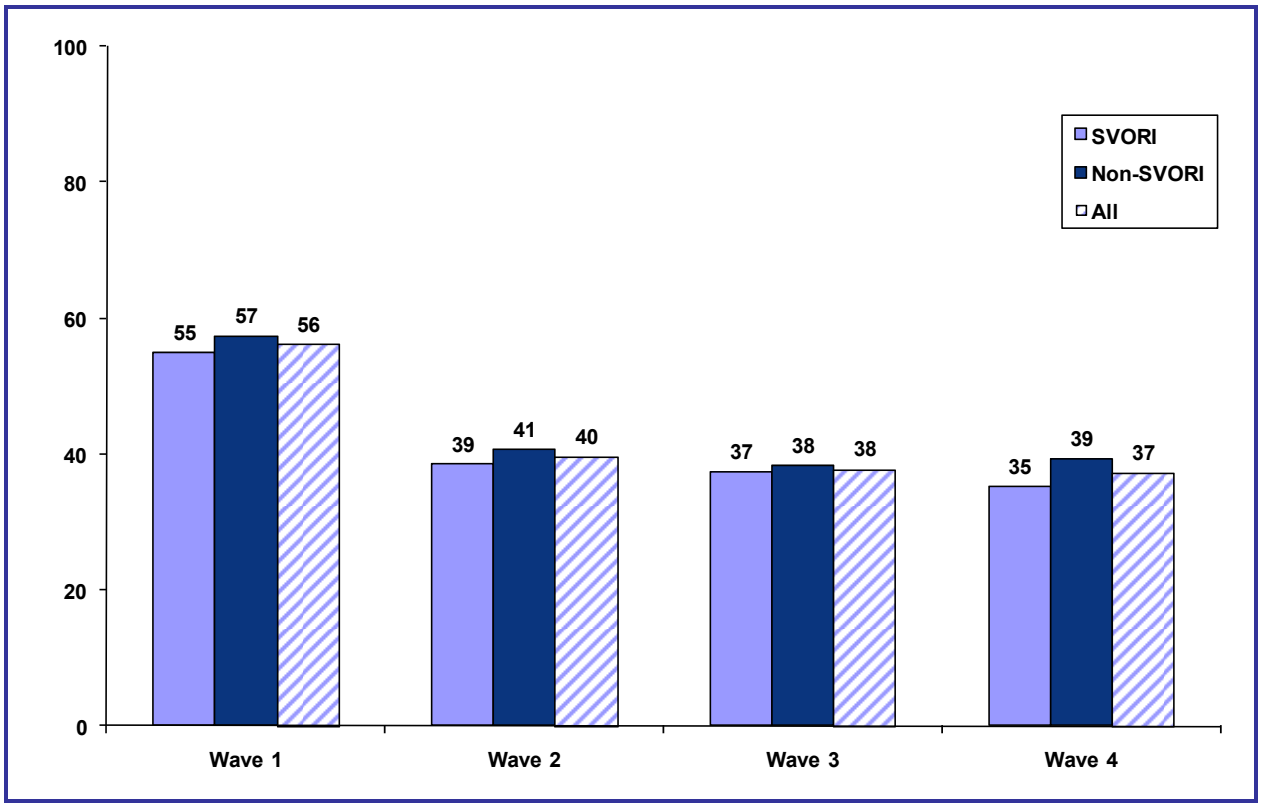
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Overall, few differences in self-reported need for transition services were found between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents; however, the finding that SVORI participants were less likely to report needing public financial assistance at the pre-release interview was also evident at the 9- and 15-month interviews. In addition, as mentioned, the overall bundle scores for transition service needs were significantly lower for the SVORI group than for the non-SVORI group (48, compared with 56) at the time of the 15-month interview.

Health Services

Self-reported needs for health services also declined slightly at each interview wave, for both the SVORI and non-SVORI women. Exhibit 31 shows the bundle scores for health service needs at each interview wave. At the time of the 15-month post-release interview, women reported needing 37% of the services in the bundle. When the two groups were compared, the only individual health service for which significant differences in need were observed was anger management. Women who did not participate in SVORI were significantly more likely to report needing anger management services at all waves except the 9-month post-release interview.

Exhibit 31. Health service needs bundle score



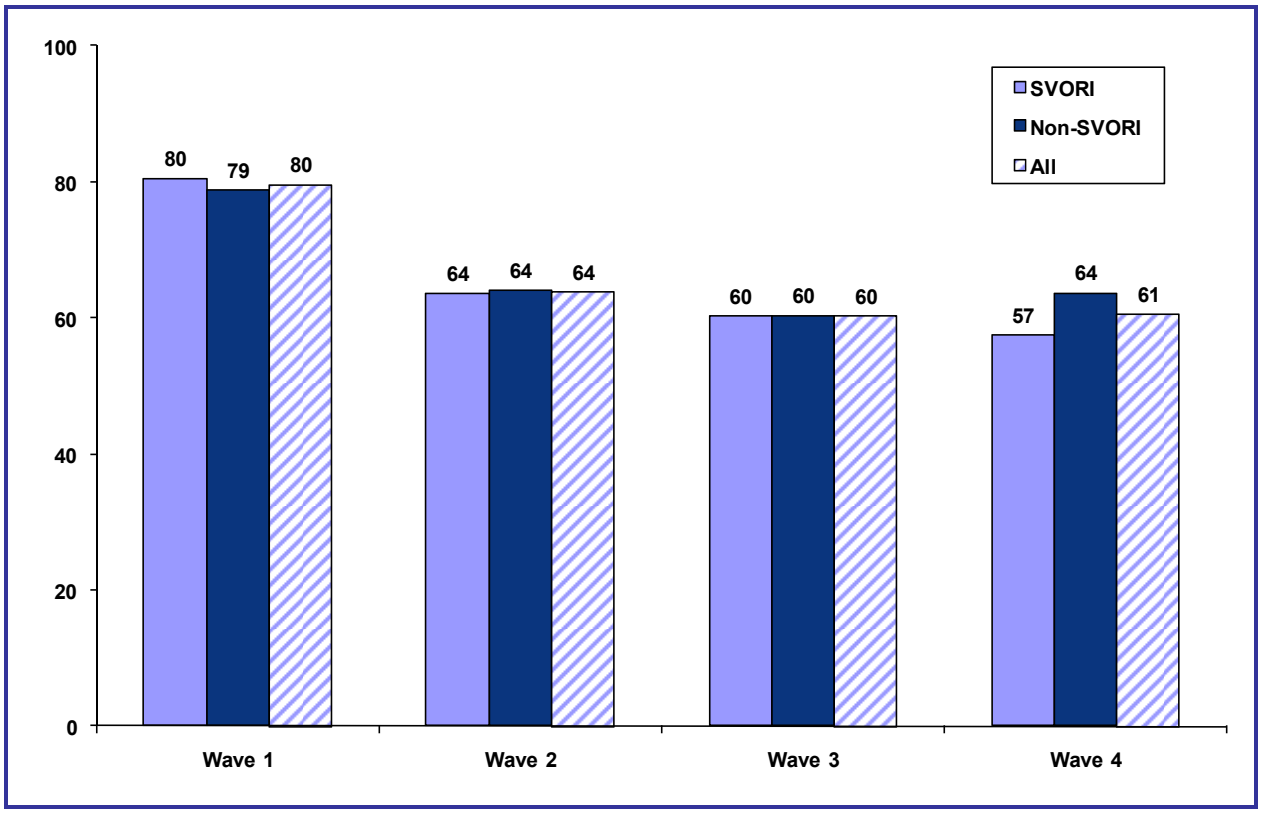
Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

Employment/Education/Skills Services

The service area for which women consistently reported the greatest need was employment, education, and skills-related services. On average, women reported needing 80% of the services in this bundle before release, and 60–64% of the services after release (Exhibit 32). In terms of individual services that were most needed, virtually all women reported needing more education at the pre-release (95%) and 3-month post-release (93%) interviews. Although the number decreased slightly by 9 months post-release (87%), education remained the most commonly reported service need (among all 28 services) at all time periods among both the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. Job training and a job itself closely followed education as the most frequently reported service needs.

Interestingly, although the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents were comparable in their self-reported needs within the employment, education, and skills bundle, at the 15-month

Exhibit 32. Employment/education/life skills service needs bundle score



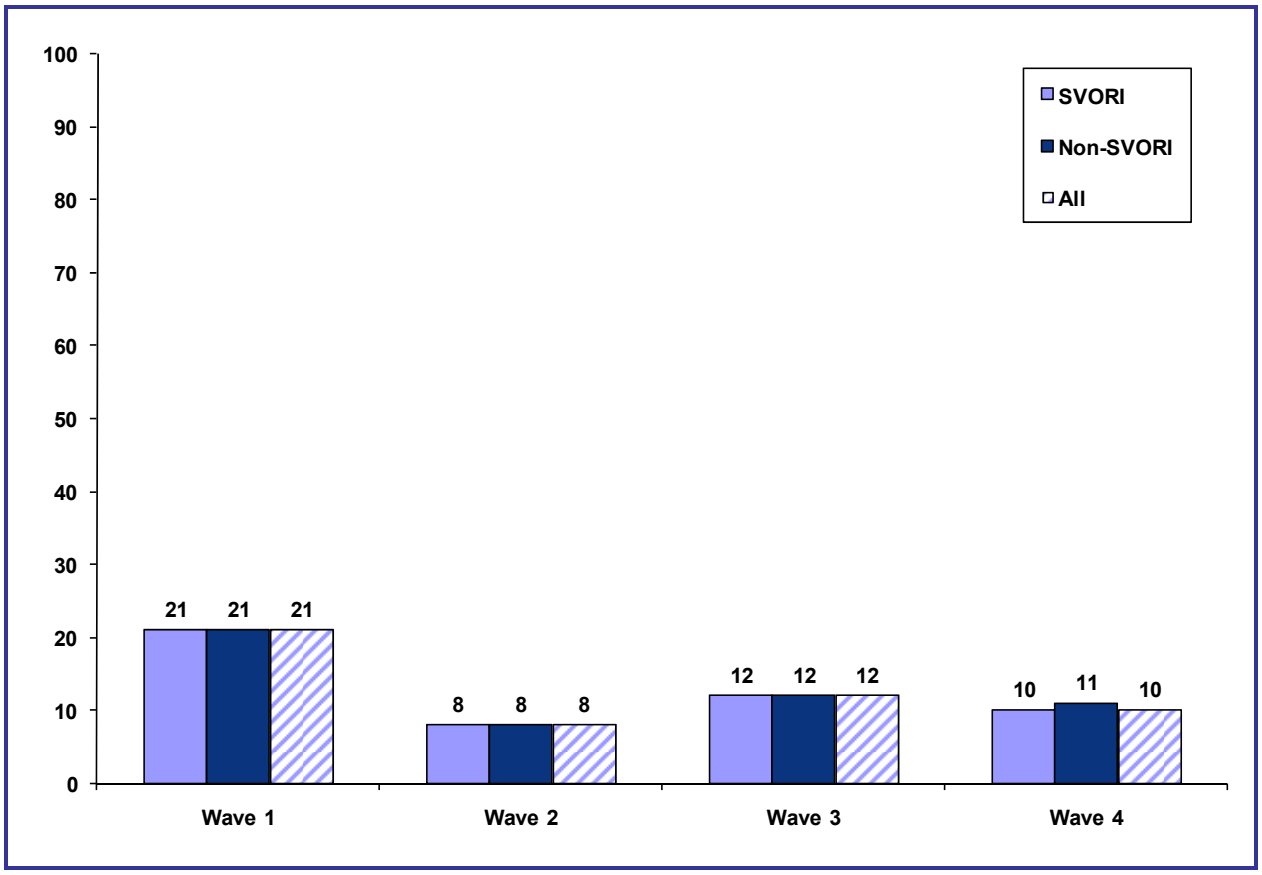
Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

interview the need for life skills was significantly lower among the women who had enrolled in SVORI programming than among the women who received "treatment as usual."

Domestic Violence Services

As shown in Exhibit 33, domestic violence services continued to be a low ranked service need among the female sample after the women were released, with the lowest need reported at the 3-month post-release interview (at which point the average bundle score was only 8). Very few women reported needing a batterer intervention program (for example, the highest proportion reported at any time period post-release was only 8% of women, which was reported at the 9 month follow-up interview) or a domestic violence support group (expressed as a need by only 15% of the women at 9 months post-release) at any time period, and there were no differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI subgroups.

Exhibit 33. Domestic violence service needs bundle score

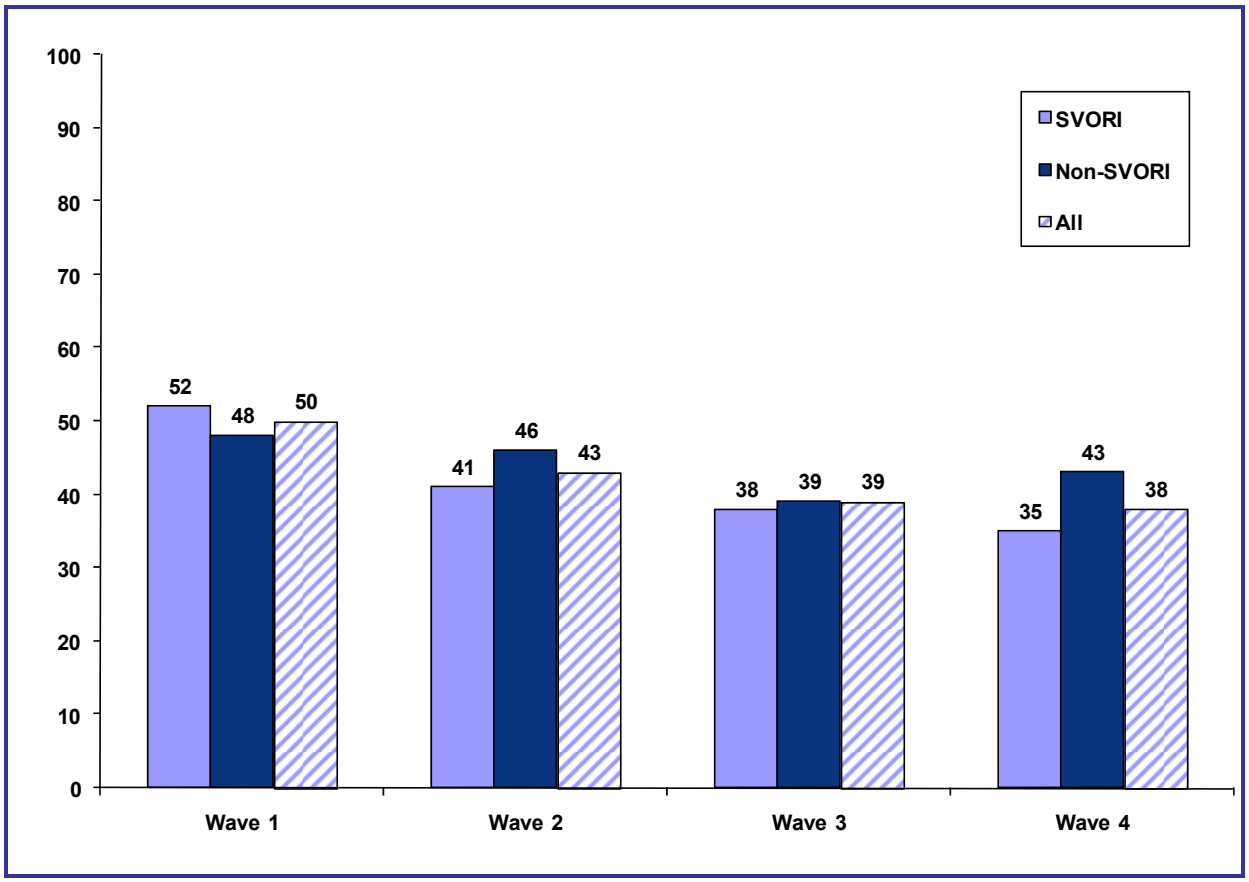


Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

Child Services

Among women who had minor children (three quarters of the female sample), the need for child-related services (which included instruction in parenting skills, child care, child support payments, modifications in the child support debt they owed, and modifications in the custody of their children) decreased over the follow-up period. As shown in Exhibit 34, although women reported needing half of the child-related services at the time of the pre-release interview, they reported needing only 43% at the 3-month interview, 39% at the 9-month interview, and 38% at the 15-month interview.

Exhibit 34. Child service needs bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Levels of Need Across Services

When women's perceived need for services over time was examined, women were found to have extremely high need in the days immediately before release. By 3 months after release, their perceptions of need had declined substantially and continued to decline slightly over the following 6 months.

Among the various service bundles, services related to education, employment, and skill building consistently were reported the most frequently. In terms of individual services, the ones most consistently identified as a need by the largest proportion of women were more education, public health care insurance, and financial assistance.

At each interview wave, in addition to self-reporting whether a particular service was needed, respondents were also asked to report their "top two" service needs. According to this measure,

the services that were most commonly reported in the "top two" across all waves were a job (20–39% of the women), a place to live (15–24% of the women), more education (15–21% of the women), and a driver's license (13–16% of the women).

As a final indicator of service need, an "all services" bundle, which captured the level of overall need across all services (in addition to the service bundles already described), was created. On average, the respondents reported needing 46–51% of all the service items during the post-release period (compared with 64% of items during the pre-release period).

SERVICE RECEIPT

In the Multi-site Evaluation of SVORI, service receipt was extensively documented. This documentation allowed us to assess whether SVORI programs were successful in increasing participants' access to services beyond access under "treatment as usual" and to examine the duration of any observed increased service receipt. In the "Pre-release Experiences" section, the findings indicated that the SVORI programs substantially increased access to pre-release services for the women. For all service areas, women enrolled in SVORI programs reported significantly higher service receipt during their periods of incarceration than comparable women not enrolled in SVORI.

This section examines whether self-reported service utilization remained higher for the SVORI participants across each interview wave (with the weighted service receipt scores shown for the pre-release time period as a reference point). The service receipt bundles mirror the bundles created to show service need, with the addition of a "coordination services" bundle (measured only for service receipt), which assesses receipt of services such as need assessments, case management, and, for the post-release time periods, post-release supervision.

Service Receipt Bundle Scores

The results of the weighted outcome analyses and the weighted means for each service bundle (and individual item) across waves are shown for the SVORI and non-SVORI groups in Exhibit 35. Several patterns are clear in the data.

Exhibit 35. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on service receipt

	Wave 1						Wave 2						Wave 3						Wave 4					
	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR		SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR		SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR		SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	
Coordination services	72.67	29.11	43.56	3.44	NA	*	69.35	36.50	32.85	3.82	NA	*	55.05	29.77	25.28	4.25	NA	*	39.27	25.47	13.80	4.06	NA	*
Needs assessment	79%	46%	1.49	0.27	4.44	*	52%	15%	1.78	0.31	5.92	*	39%	22%	0.80	0.29	2.23	*	36%	21%	0.74	0.30	2.10	*
Case manager	70%	33%	1.58	0.24	4.83	*	74%	38%	1.53	0.30	4.61	*	59%	27%	1.34	0.28	3.83	*	42%	25%	0.77	0.28	2.17	*
Worked with someone to reintegrate	81%	25%	2.53	0.28	12.62	*	68%	18%	2.25	0.31	9.50	*	51%	16%	1.73	0.31	5.64	*	39%	18%	1.06	0.30	2.90	*
Currently on probation/parole	—	—	—	—	—		88%	75%	0.89	0.37	2.44	*	80%	56%	1.15	0.31	3.14	*	54%	43%	0.42	0.26	1.53	
Transition services	40.13	23.02	17.11	2.20	NA	*	26.33	12.45	13.87	2.31	NA	*	16.60	10.19	6.41	2.14	NA	*	13.16	11.68	1.48	2.02	NA	
Financial assistance	19%	3%	—	—	—		12%	2%	—	—	—		10%	1%	—	—	—		11%	4%	—	—	—	
Public financial assistance	24%	13%	0.72	0.30	2.05	*	39%	30%	0.40	0.29	1.49		25%	20%	0.27	0.33	1.31		20%	24%	−0.18	0.33	0.83	
Public health care	25%	9%	1.13	0.34	3.10	*	30%	25%	0.22	0.30	1.25		25%	26%	−0.05	0.31	0.95		26%	27%	−0.02	0.31	0.98	
Legal assistance	22%	14%	0.52	0.29	1.68		4%	4%	—	—	—		7%	10%	—	—	—		12%	8%	0.36	0.44	1.44	
Documents for employment	59%	43%	0.61	0.23	1.85	*	29%	12%	1.12	0.34	3.05	*	18%	10%	0.74	0.41	2.10		10%	10%	−0.04	0.44	0.96	
Mentoring	36%	10%	1.59	0.30	4.89	*	35%	7%	—	—	—		22%	6%	—	—	—		17%	7%	1.04	0.43	2.83	*
Place to live	37%	18%	0.99	0.26	2.68	*	29%	11%	1.15	0.37	3.16	*	13%	7%	0.69	0.44	1.99		8%	8%	—	—	—	
Transportation	23%	17%	0.38	0.27	1.46		37%	12%	1.43	0.35	4.17	*	22%	7%	1.28	0.42	3.60	*	12%	8%	0.50	0.45	1.65	
Driver's license	25%	15%	0.63	0.28	1.89	*	8%	6%	—	—	—		7%	3%	—	—	—		4%	4%	—	—	—	
Access to clothing/food	43%	29%	0.62	0.23	1.86	*	41%	16%	1.32	0.31	3.74	*	17%	12%	0.39	0.37	1.48		12%	18%	−0.49	0.38	0.61	
Health services	47.67	35.59	12.08	2.68	NA	*	24.66	14.17	10.49	2.36	NA	*	25.70	17.78	7.92	2.47	NA	*	21.69	18.90	2.79	2.37	NA	
Victim support group	17%	8%	0.82	0.34	2.27	*	8%	0%	—	—	—		7%	0%	—	—	—		2%	2%	—	—	—	
Anger management program	37%	18%	0.96	0.26	2.60	*	4%	3%	—	—	—		5%	7%	—	—	—		4%	5%	—	—	—	
Medical treatment	68%	71%	−0.15	0.25	0.86		39%	44%	−0.19	0.27	0.83		54%	50%	0.17	0.27	1.19		53%	54%	−0.03	0.27	0.97	
Dental services	63%	45%	0.74	0.23	2.11	*	18%	3%	—	—	—		20%	15%	0.32	0.36	1.37		18%	18%	0.01	0.35	1.01	
Mental health treatment	49%	34%	0.60	0.23	1.82	*	32%	17%	0.83	0.32	2.28	*	26%	14%	0.80	0.32	2.24	*	20%	18%	0.17	0.33	1.19	
Substance use treatment	52%	37%	0.63	0.23	1.88	*	48%	19%	1.36	0.30	3.88	*	42%	20%	1.03	0.30	2.79	*	33%	17%	0.90	0.32	2.47	*
Employment/education/life skills services	53.64	24.66	28.97	3.12	NA	*	25.69	7.39	18.30	2.87	NA	*	16.90	7.58	9.32	2.57	NA	*	14.14	7.80	6.34	2.25	NA	*
Money management skills	38%	10%	1.74	0.29	5.68	*	11%	2%	—	—	—		10%	3%	—	—	—		6%	5%	—	—	—	
Life skills	63%	25%	1.62	0.24	5.04	*	21%	6%	—	—	—		14%	5%	—	—	—		10%	7%	0.51	0.46	1.66	
Work on personal relationships	46%	19%	1.27	0.25	3.57	*	21%	7%	—	—	—		13%	8%	0.57	0.42	1.76		7%	6%	—	—	—	
Change criminal attitudes	64%	29%	1.50	0.24	4.48	*	33%	7%	1.87	0.40	6.47	*	24%	10%	0.97	0.37	2.65	*	21%	9%	1.04	0.38	2.83	*
Any educational services	61%	40%	0.86	0.23	2.36	*	21%	6%	—	—	—		18%	9%	0.79	0.41	2.21		18%	11%	0.60	0.38	1.83	
Any employment services	50%	25%	1.09	0.24	2.97	*	48%	16%	1.60	0.31	4.93	*	23%	10%	0.97	0.36	2.65	*	22%	11%	0.87	0.36	2.39	*
Domestic violence services	15.36	8.46	6.91	3.03	NA	*	3.11	0.64	2.46	1.25	NA	*	4.23	1.20	3.03	2.03			5.96	1.67	4.29	2.24	NA	
Support group	23%	12%	0.85	0.30	2.33	*	5%	1%	—	—	—		5%	2%	—	—	—		8%	1%	—	—	—	
Batterer intervention	7%	5%	0.34	0.45	1.40		1%	0%	—	—	—		3%	1%	—	—	—		4%	2%	—	—	—	
Child services	19.39	9.74	9.66	2.54	NA	*	5.68	5.40	0.29	2.09	NA		4.98	1.36	3.62	1.68	NA	*	6.32	5.17	1.15	1.88	NA	
Child care[a]	10%	2%	—	—	—		5%	4%	—	—	—		5%	1%	—	—	—		7%	5%	—	—	—	
Modification in child support debt[b]	23%	0%	—	—	—		20%	8%	—	—	—		6%	0%	—	—	—		12%	8%	—	—	—	
Child support payments[a]	3%	1%	—	—	—		7%	4%	—	—	—		7%	3%	—	—	—		7%	5%	—	—	—	
Modification in custody[a]	13%	9%	0.49	0.43	1.63		1%	7%	—	—	—		4%	1%	—	—	—		2%	2%	—	—	—	
Parenting classes[a]	51%	28%	1.00	0.28	2.71	*	7%	7%	—	—	—		5%	1%	—	—	—		8%	8%	—	—	—	

Note: Regression results not shown when cell sizes <10. Non-S = Non-SVORI, NA = not applicable. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

[a]Of those with children younger than 18 years of age.

[b]Of those who owed back child support.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

First, it is clear that the SVORI participants reported significantly higher service receipt than the non-SVORI respondents for all types of services and all time periods. The women who enrolled in SVORI programming reported higher levels of services not only during their incarcerations (as measured in the Wave 1 interview), but also at 3, 9, and 15 months post-release. The disparity in service receipt between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups was particularly evident in service areas such as coordination and employment, education, and life skills services; for these bundles, the receipt scores for the SVORI participants were often twice as high as those for the women who received "treatment as usual." Some exceptions to the pattern of significantly higher service receipt among the SVORI participants are evident, however. By 15 months post-release, the higher receipt of transition and health services that had been statistically significant at all previous interviews were no longer statistically significant. In addition, the patterns for domestic violence and child services were relatively unstable (with the SVORI participants reporting higher levels of receipt but this pattern not being statistically significant for all time periods), which is what would be expected because of the very small numbers of women who received these services.

Second, it is evident that, as in the pattern of self-reported need for services declining over time, the likelihood of receiving services declined over time. Specifically, the women were most likely to report receiving services during their incarceration. After they were released they were increasingly less likely to receive services at 3, 9, and 15 months. Notably, however, this pattern is much more evident among the SVORI participants than among the non-SVORI respondents. For the women who received "treatment as usual," service receipt decreased dramatically from Wave 1 to Wave 2. However, after the initial decrease, the level of service receipt remained relatively stable (and for some services, such as health services, actually increased slightly over time). In contrast, the women who participated in SVORI programming generally experienced substantial decreases in service receipt from each time period to the next. For health services, level of service receipt appeared to stabilize after the initial decrease in the initial post-release period. In addition, the patterns for domestic violence

and child services were relatively unstable because of the small number of women reporting receipt of such services.

The final pattern pertains to gender differences observed among the sample. Although the data are not shown, when differences in service receipt between the entire female and male samples were examined, the women were found to have reported significantly higher levels of service receipt. This difference held not only for services received during incarceration (as previously described), but also for all post-release time periods. When the service receipt areas were examined, women were found to have reported significantly higher receipt of transition, health, employment/education/ skills, and child-related services at the 3- and 15-month time periods (with coordination/supervision and domestic violence services also being significantly higher for women at the 15-month time period). At the 9-month time period, only transition and health services were significantly higher for women.

In the sections that follow, individual service bundles are discussed in more detail and important differences across bundles and among the individual services that compose each bundle are highlighted.

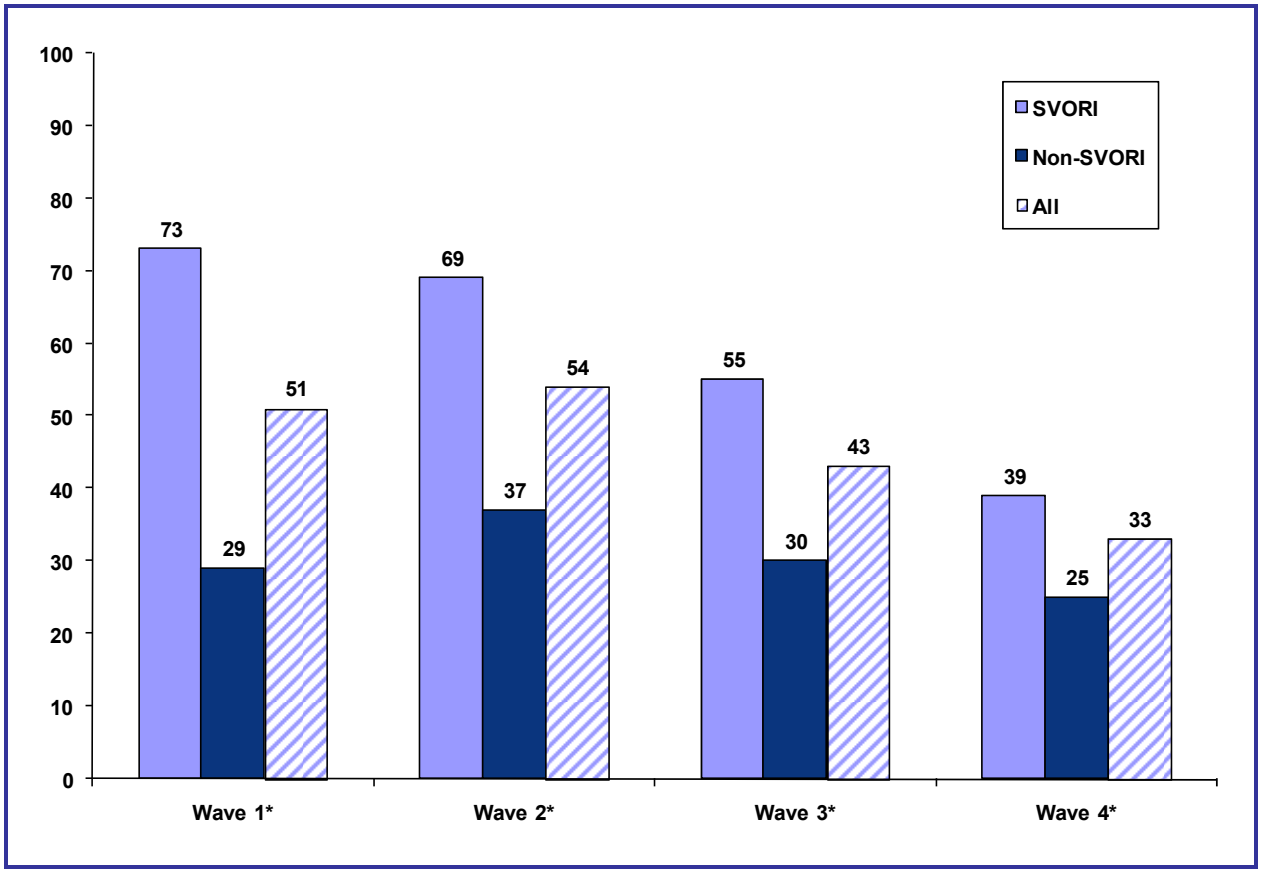
Coordination Services

The coordination services bundle measures the receipt of services associated with developing a treatment plan, preparing for release, and monitoring the offender's status. Because the various dimensions of service coordination differ for incarcerated and released individuals, the coordination services bundle was scored differently for post-release measures. Specifically, the pre-release coordination services bundle (as described previously) included (1) whether a needs assessment had been conducted, (2) whether a needs assessment specifically designed to help the individual prepare for release had been conducted, (3) whether any case management had been provided, (4) whether a reentry plan had been developed, and (5) whether the inmate had worked with anyone to help plan for release. The post-release coordination services included (1) whether a needs assessment had been conducted, (2) whether any case management had been provided, (3) whether the individual had worked with anyone to help reintegrate him or her back into the community, and (4) whether the individual was currently on post-release

supervision. Although the bundle scores are standardized on the basis of the number of items in the score, comparing the bundle score values from Wave 1 with those from the subsequent waves is nonetheless difficult.

As is evident from Exhibit 35, services related to coordination were the most commonly reported services among the female sample. Women reported higher levels of coordination services than the other service areas considered in the evaluation, and this pattern was true at all time periods. In addition, although likelihood of receiving coordination services followed the general trend observed, in that the likelihood of service receipt decreased over time, the decrease was much less dramatic for coordination services. As shown in Exhibit 36, women still reported relatively high levels of coordination services over time.

Exhibit 36. Coordination services receipt bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

When specific types of services within the coordination services bundle were examined, the most commonly reported "service" was post-release supervision. The vast majority of both the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents reported being on post-release supervision at 3 months post-release. Interestingly, 80% of the SVORI participants were still on supervision at 9 months after release, compared with only 56% of the comparison women. By 15 months post-release, the disparity between the two groups was less evident (54%, compared with 43%) yet was still marginally significant ($p < 0.10$).

As shown in Exhibit 35, large differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were evident across all coordination services. Most notably, the proportion of SVORI respondents who reported having worked with someone to reintegrate back into the community was more than 3 times as high as that of non-SVORI respondents. The differences in the likelihood of having had a needs assessment and having worked with a case manager were also dramatic. Even 15 months after release, the women who had participated in SVORI were significantly more likely to report three of the four services in the coordination services bundle.

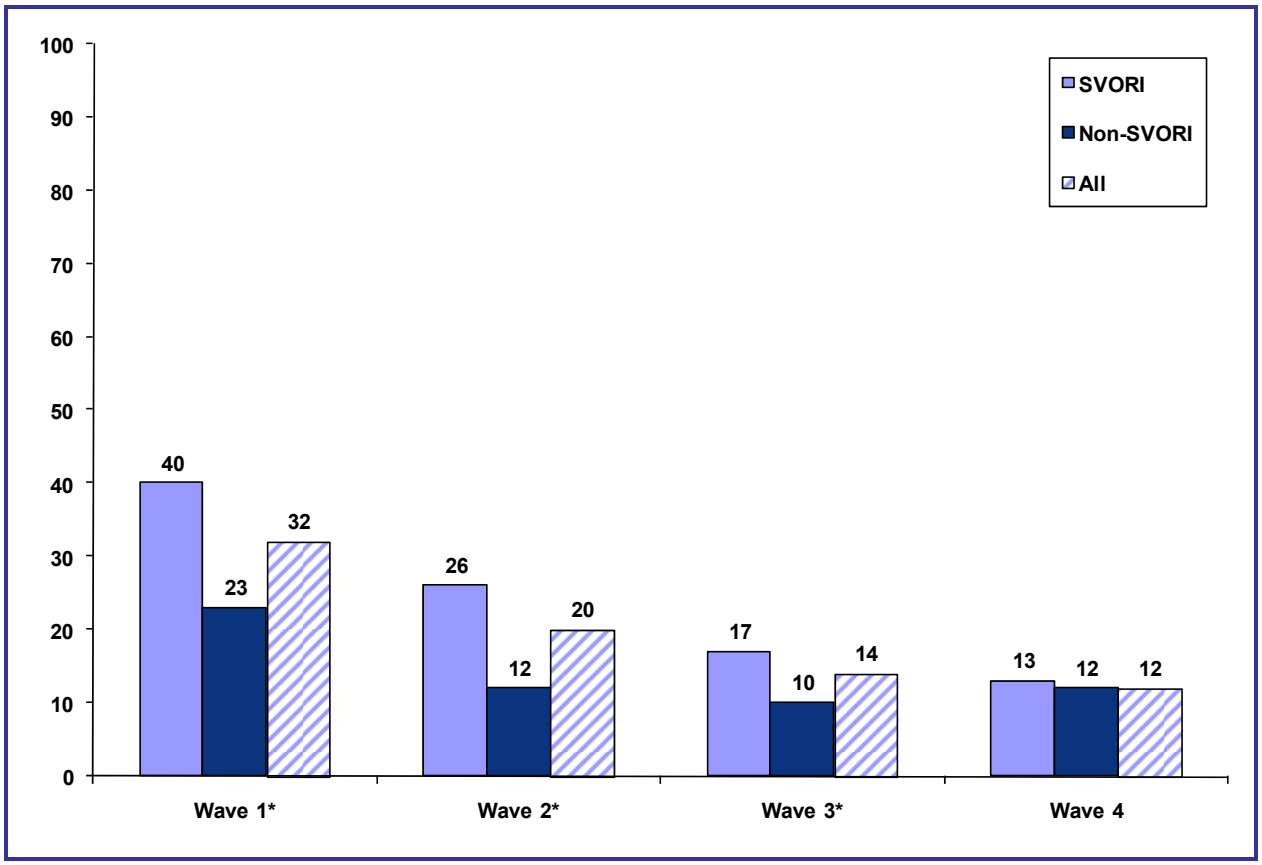
Transition Services

The transition services bundle covers a large number of services that can help individuals with the transition back into society. As shown in Exhibits 35 and 37, although the overall transition service receipt score was significantly higher for the SVORI participants (compared with the non-SVORI group) at the Wave 1, 2, and 3 interviews, the two groups appeared to converge over time, culminating in no statistically significant difference at Wave 4. At the final interview wave the only individual service for which the difference between groups was statistically significant was mentoring services.

Other transition services that appeared to be more commonly received among the SVORI participants were help attaining documents for employment and transportation, for which significant differences were observed across most time periods.

Unfortunately, although public health care insurance and financial assistance were among the three most frequently reported service needs among the women (as described previously), these services were not commonly received. As

Exhibit 37. Transition services receipt bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

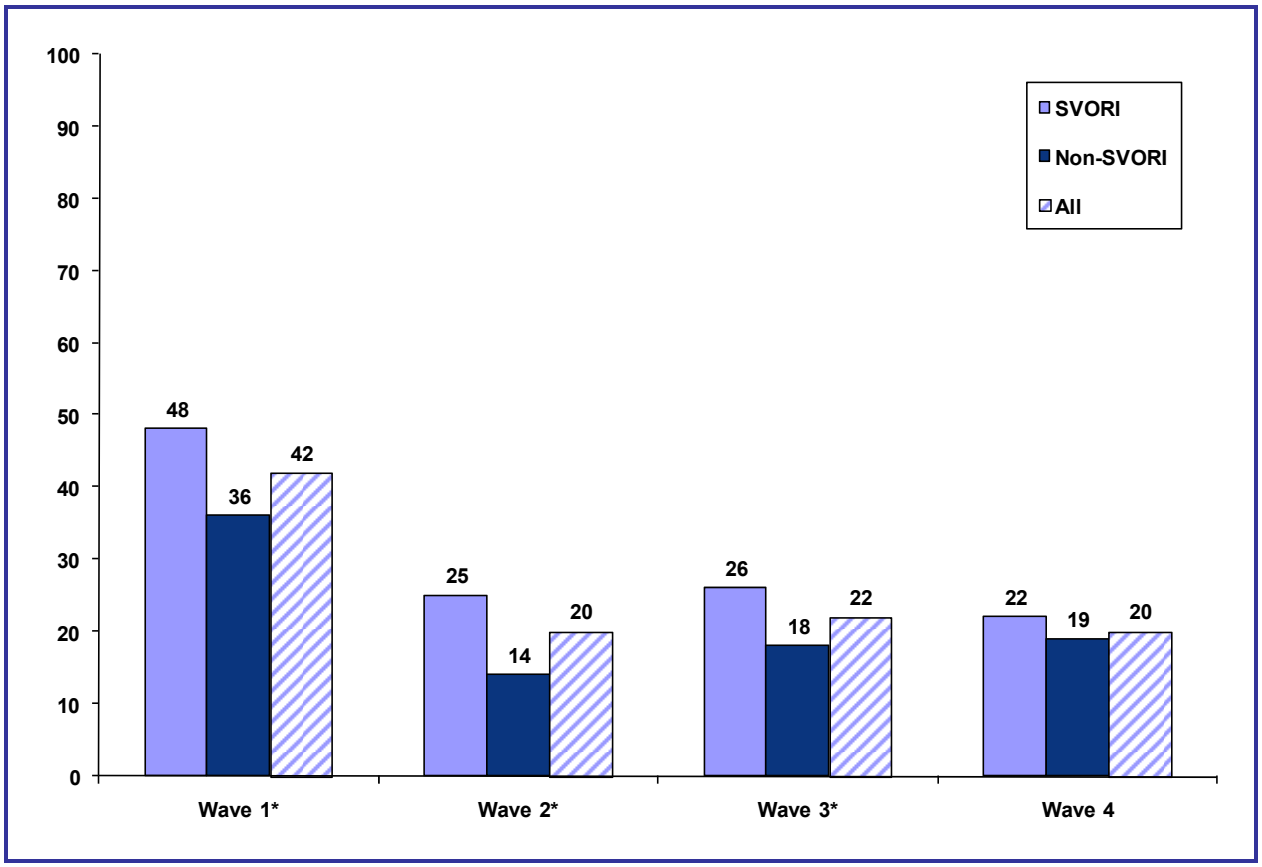
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

shown in Exhibit 35, less than a third of the sample reported public health care assistance at a given interview wave, and hardly any women (particularly those who did not participate in SVORI) reported assistance accessing financial assistance (such as short-term loans or housing deposits).

Health Services

Health services, which include substance abuse treatment as well as physical health services (including medical treatment and dental services) and mental health services and support groups, were associated with an interesting pattern of receipt. As shown in Exhibit 38, after the initial decrease in service receipt during the months immediately following receipt, the level of access appeared relatively stable over time (although it stabilized at a very low level for both groups).

Exhibit 38. Health services receipt bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The women who participated in SVORI reported greater utilization of health-related services at all time periods except the 15-month post-release time period. The two areas where the disparity in services was particularly consistent were substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment (see Exhibit 35).

Among the health-related services, the ones most commonly reported were medical treatment (which actually increased from the 3-month to the 9-month post-release period and then remained at a relatively high level of access at the 15-month period) and substance abuse treatment (reported by more than one third of SVORI participants and approximately one fifth of comparison women).

Employment/Education/Skills Services

Services related to employment, education, and skills were very important to the women. As discussed previously, self-reported needs were highest for this type of service, particularly for education. When the actual receipt of such services was compared with the level of need reported, a high level of unmet need was evident. For example, although nearly all women reported, at the pre-release interview, that they needed more education, only 21% of the SVORI participants and 6% of the comparison group had received any post-release educational services at the 3-month follow-up interview.

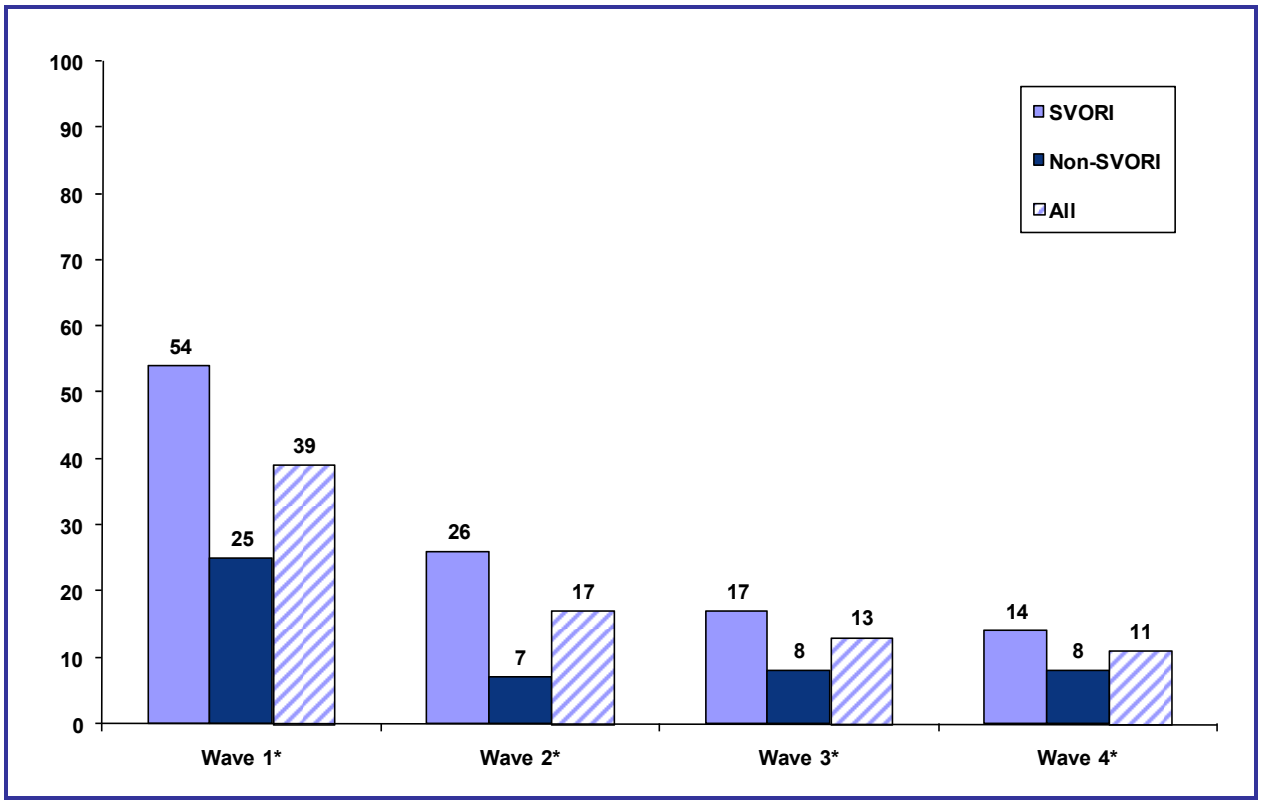
The most commonly reported services in this service bundle were employment services, followed by training on how to change attitudes related to criminal behavior.

Not surprisingly, because many SVORI programs primarily targeted employment services, consistent differences in services in the employment, education, and skills bundle were evident between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups. This pattern can be observed in Exhibit 39. For all time periods, the SVORI participants had significantly higher bundle scores for this service area, and many differences for individual services were evident. Even 15 months after release, the women who participated in SVORI were significantly more likely to report having received employment services and training on how to change attitudes related to criminal behavior. Once again, however, the vast majority of programming appeared to be concentrated at the pre-release stage, with the largest levels of service receipt being reported at the pre-release interview and significant group differences being evident at that time point for every service in the employment, education, and skills services bundle.

Domestic Violence Services

Domestic violence services, which are limited to participation in domestic violence support groups and batterer intervention programs, were very rarely reported among the women. The small number of women who received them were most likely to do so while they were incarcerated. Although receipt of domestic violence services was low, it was consistent with the extremely low self-reported need for such services among the sample, indicating a low level of unmet need in this area.

Exhibit 39. Employment/education/life skills services receipt bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

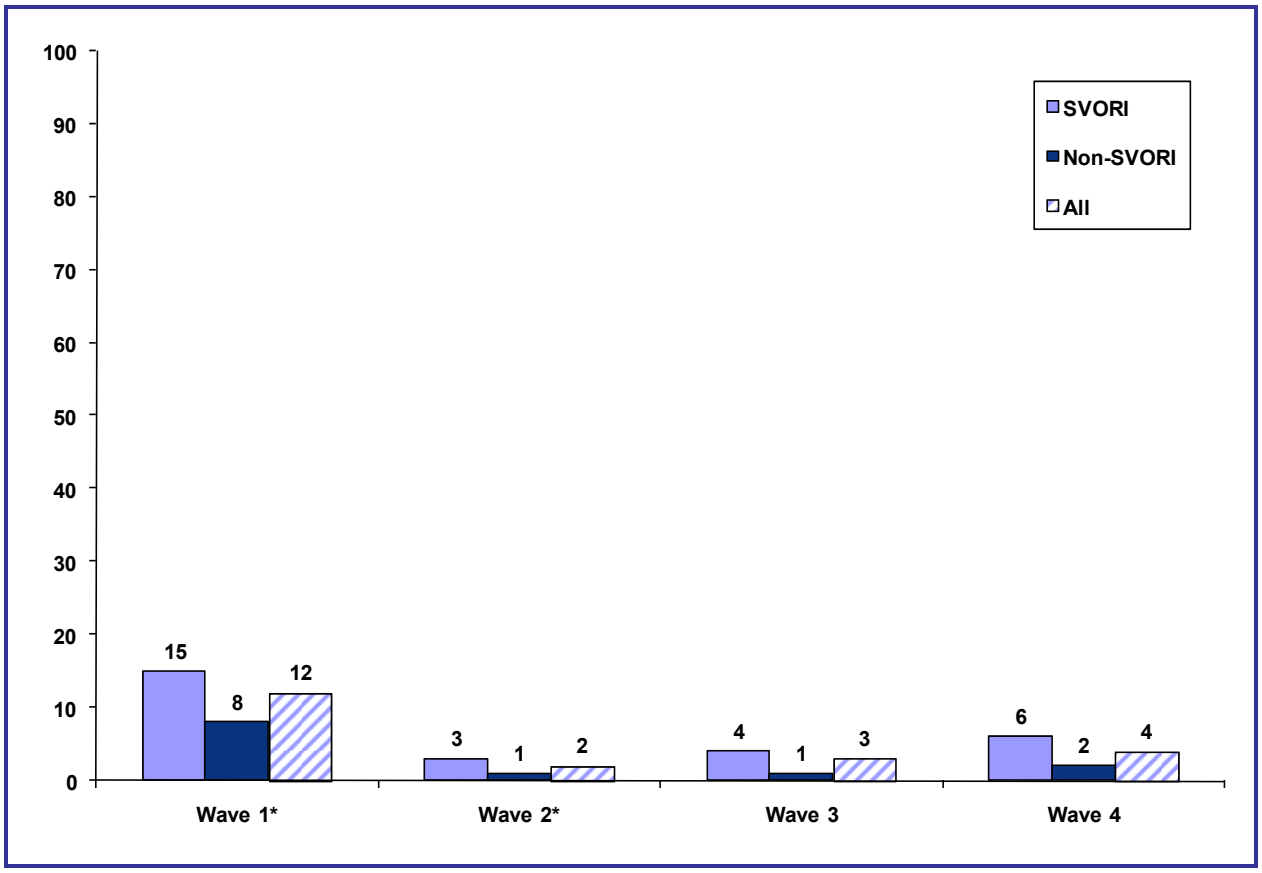
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The overall pattern for domestic violence services is shown in Exhibit 40. The differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents observed at the 3-month interview were significant at the $p < 0.05$ level. Differences at the 15-month interview were marginally significant ($p < 0.10$).

Child Services

Receipt of child-related services, such as parenting classes, assistance finding child care, assistance modifying child support debt, and assistance obtaining child support payments, was also very infrequently reported among the women. The few women who reported needing such services makes identification of consistent trends over time difficult. As with other service types, however, receipt of child-related services was most likely while the women were incarcerated. After release, receipt of such services stabilized at a very low level, with no large differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI

Exhibit 40. Domestic violence services receipt bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

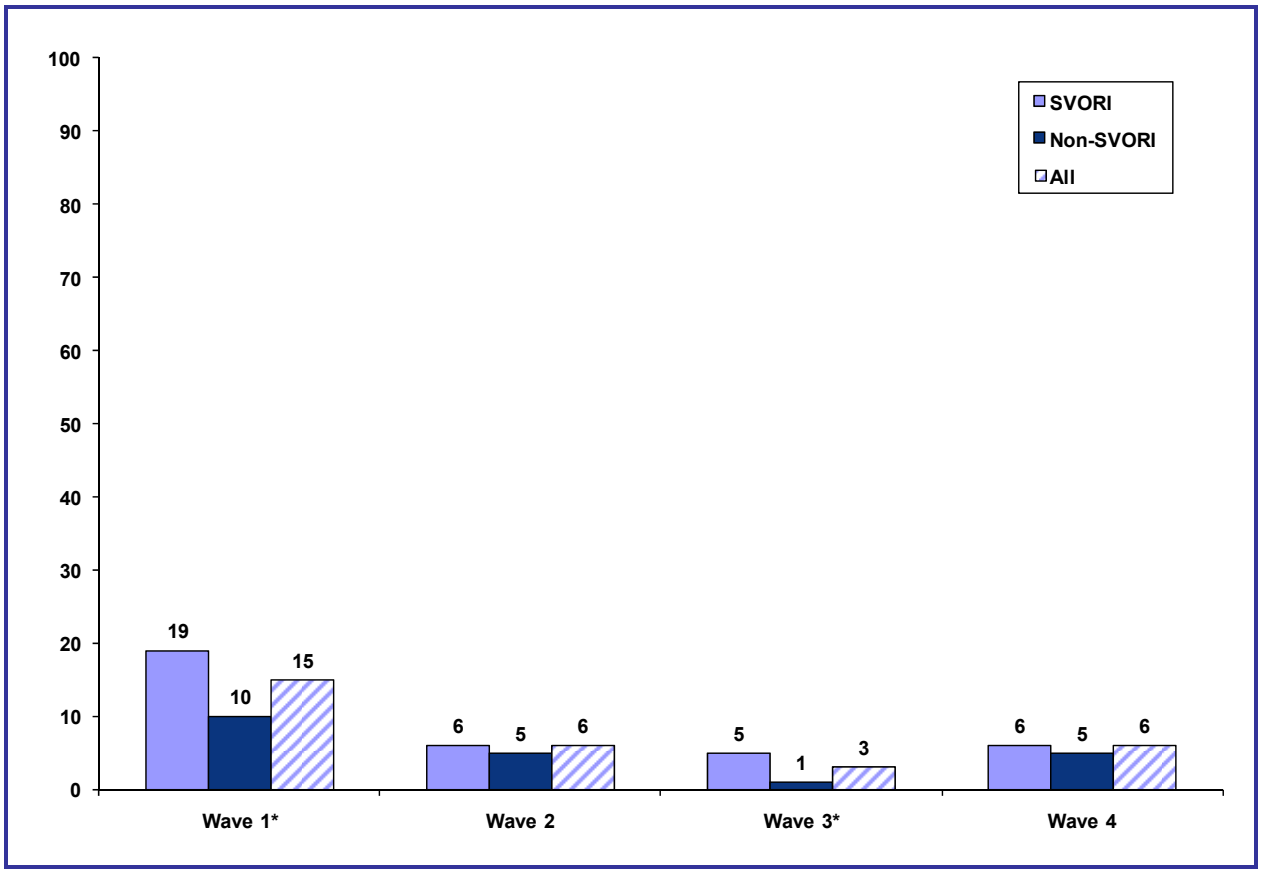
*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

samples (except at the 9-month interview, for which the higher child services bundle score among the SVORI participants was statistically significant). This pattern is shown in Exhibit 41.

Levels of Receipt Across Services

Overall, the examination of service receipt has shown that the women who enrolled in SVORI programming received substantially higher levels of services than women who received "treatment as usual." Although programming was concentrated on the pre-release phase (i.e., levels of service receipt were dramatically higher at that time period than at any of the post-release time periods), SVORI appeared to increase access to services well beyond release. Even 15 months after release, the SVORI participants still reported significantly higher services than the non-SVORI respondents in many service areas.

Exhibit 41. Child services receipt bundle score



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The services that women were most likely to receive pertained to the coordination of services, including post-release supervision, case management, and working with someone to reintegrate into society.

Despite the increase in access, when the services women actually received were compared with those they reported needing, a great disparity emerged: very small proportions of women reported receiving the services they needed most. In addition, aggregate levels of service receipt were substantially lower than aggregate levels of service need (across all bundles and time periods, and among both groups).

The subsections that follow report the impact of SVORI programming on several key domains. Detailed findings for housing, employment, family/peer/community outcomes,

substance abuse and physical and mental health, and criminal behavior/recidivism are presented.

HOUSING

Several dimensions of housing are relevant as reentry outcomes. In the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation, three "core" housing outcomes were housing independence, housing stability, and the extent of challenges faced in locating housing after release. The SVORI and non-SVORI groups were compared on these outcomes at 3, 9, and 15 months post-release.[11] Exhibit 42 shows the weighted proportion of women in each group (with estimates, standard errors, and odds ratios from the logistic regression models) who

- were classified as "housing independent" (defined as living in their own house or apartment, contributing to the costs of housing, *or* having their name on the lease or mortgage of the place where they currently lived),
- were classified as having stable housing (defined as having lived in only one place during the reference period or two places if the move was to secure their own place or a nicer place), and
- did not experience housing challenges (respondents were classified as not having housing challenges if they were not homeless, reported that they did not have trouble finding a place to live, and reported that their current living situation was better or about the same as their last one).

As shown in the table, no statistically significant differences emerged between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents along these core housing dimensions, indicating that SVORI programming did not significantly improve the post-release housing experiences for returning women prisoners. The differences are graphically depicted in Exhibits 43–45. As is evident from the exhibits, the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were similarly likely to be classified as housing independent, as having stable housing, and as having experienced no housing challenges.

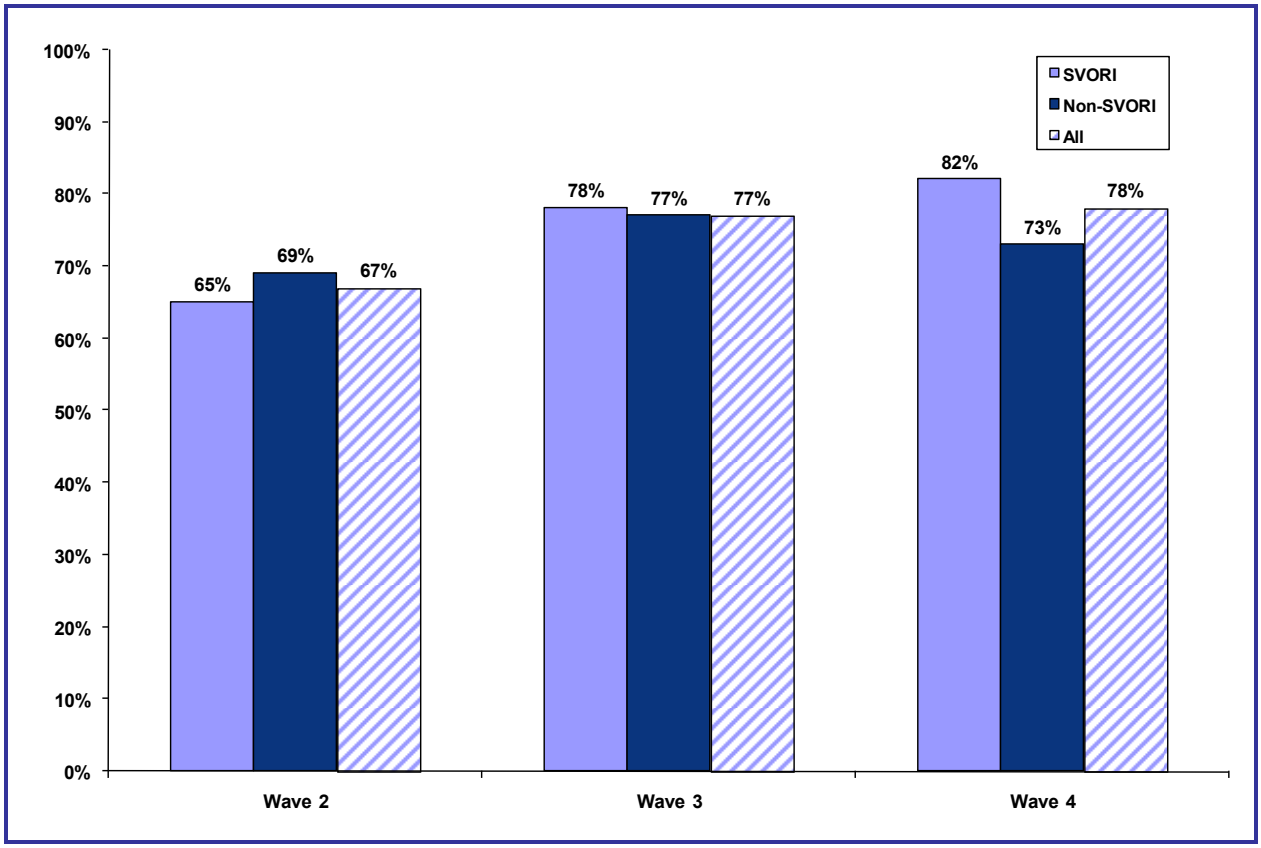
[11] Unlike service needs and receipt, for which Wave 1 values were displayed (for the purpose of comparing all 4 time periods), several of the outcomes presented in the remaining subsections were not measured in a parallel manner at the pre-release interview and therefore are only presented for Waves 2-4.

Exhibit 42. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on housing outcomes

	Wave 2					Wave 3					Wave 4				
	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR
Housing independence	0.65	0.69	−0.18	0.29	0.83	0.78	0.77	0.05	0.32	1.05	0.82	0.73	0.52	0.34	1.68
Housing stability	0.76	0.79	−0.17	0.32	0.85	0.64	0.73	−0.41	0.29	0.67	0.65	0.65	0.01	0.28	1.01
No housing challenges	0.82	0.77	0.26	0.33	1.30	0.72	0.74	−0.08	0.30	0.93	0.82	0.76	0.38	0.33	1.46

Note: Non-S = Non-SVORI. Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

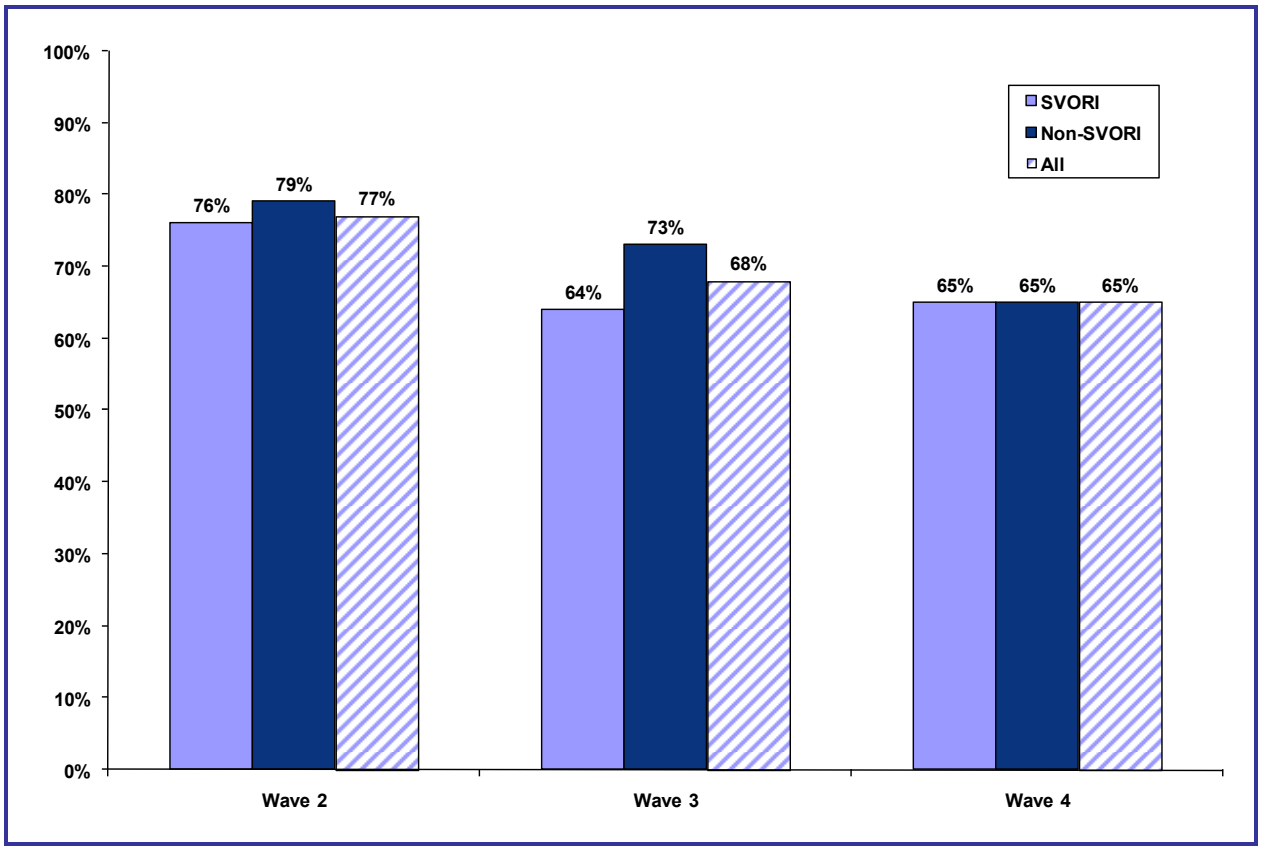
Exhibit 43. Self-reported housing independence since release/last interview



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

Also of interest in the exhibits are the variable temporal patterns observed among the three core housing dimensions. For example, while housing independence improved gradually over the post-release follow-up period (with two thirds of the women being classified as "housing independent" at the 3-month period, with a gradual improvement until approximately three quarters were classified as "housing independent" at the final interview period), housing stability *declined* over time (with the highest levels of stability being observed at the immediate post-release time period and the lowest being observed at the 15-month time period). This pattern may be because the 9- and 15-month post-release interviews had longer reference periods (6 months) than the 3-month post-release interview (3 months) so that respondents had more opportunities to experience instability during the 9- and 15-month interviews. The pattern observed for the measure of housing challenges, which is perhaps the broadest

Exhibit 44. Self-reported housing stability

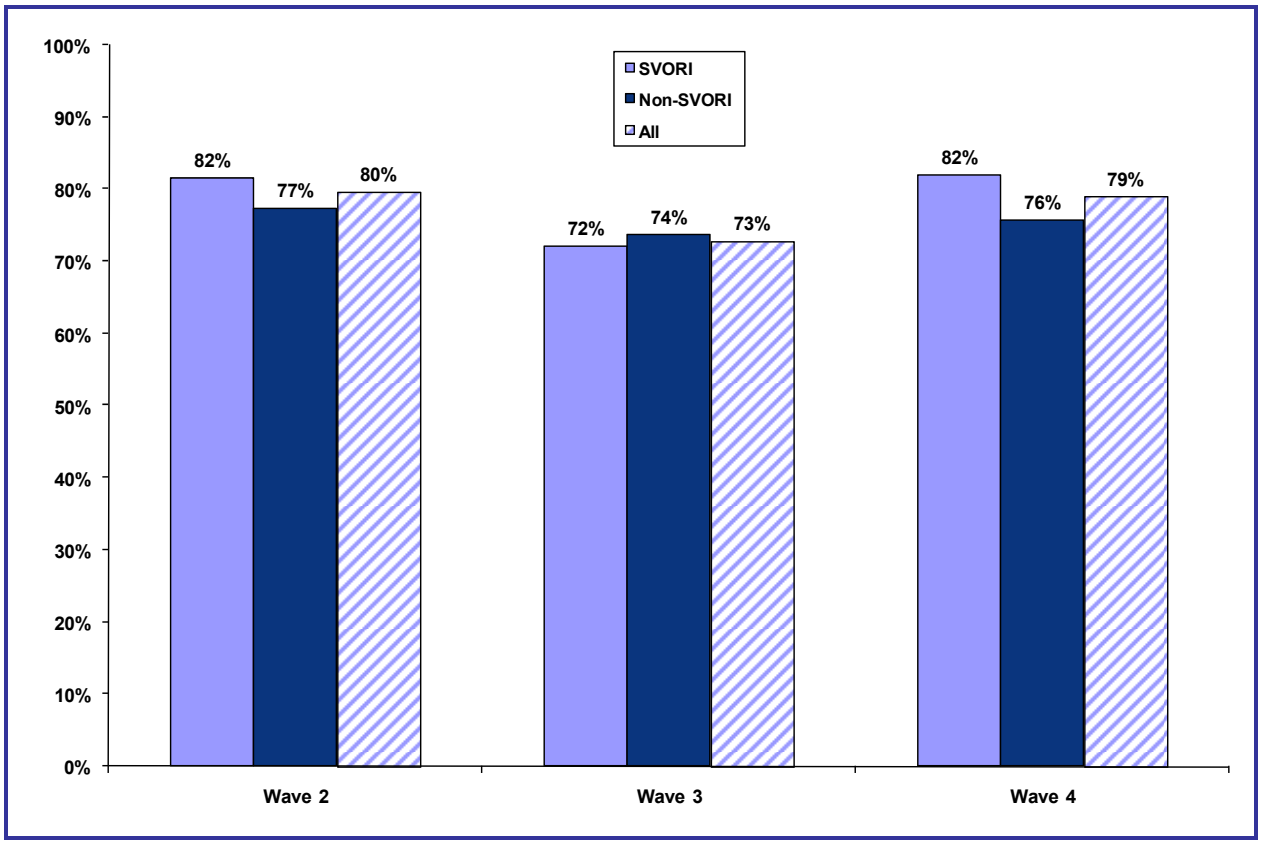


Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

measure of difficulty in finding quality housing, indicates that the time period from 3 to 9 months post-release was the period during which women experienced the most challenges, with their situation appearing to improve by the 15 month post-release time period.

In addition to the three core housing measures, several other dimensions of housing were measured in the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation. Examining the other housing measures illuminates the women's overall post-release housing experiences. For example, one of the individual measures used to create the "housing independence" measure was whether the respondent lived in her own house or apartment, lived in someone else's house or apartment, or was homeless, living in a shelter, or without a set place to live. When the women's housing situation was examined, no differences between SVORI and comparison women were evident, with the two groups being equally likely to live in their own house or apartment (roughly 33% of both

Exhibit 45. Self-reported lack of housing challenges since release/last interview



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

groups at 3 months post-release, 36% of both groups at 9 months post-release, and 42% of both groups at 15 months post-release), to live with someone else (roughly 50% of both groups at 3 months post-release, 45% of both groups at 9 months post-release, and 45% of both groups at 15 months post-release), or to be homeless, living in a shelter, or without a set place to live (roughly 4% of both groups at 3 months post-release, 6% of both groups at 9 months post-release, and 3% of both groups at 15 months post-release).

For both groups, the "best" housing situation was evident at the 15 month post-release time period, not only according to their reported housing situation but also according to their perceptions. At each interview, women were asked whether the place where they currently lived was better, worse, or about the same as the last place they lived. The percentage of women who reported that the place where they were currently living was better than the place where they used to live reached its

highest point (61% for both groups) at the 15-month post-release interview, further evidencing that women's housing situations improved over time.

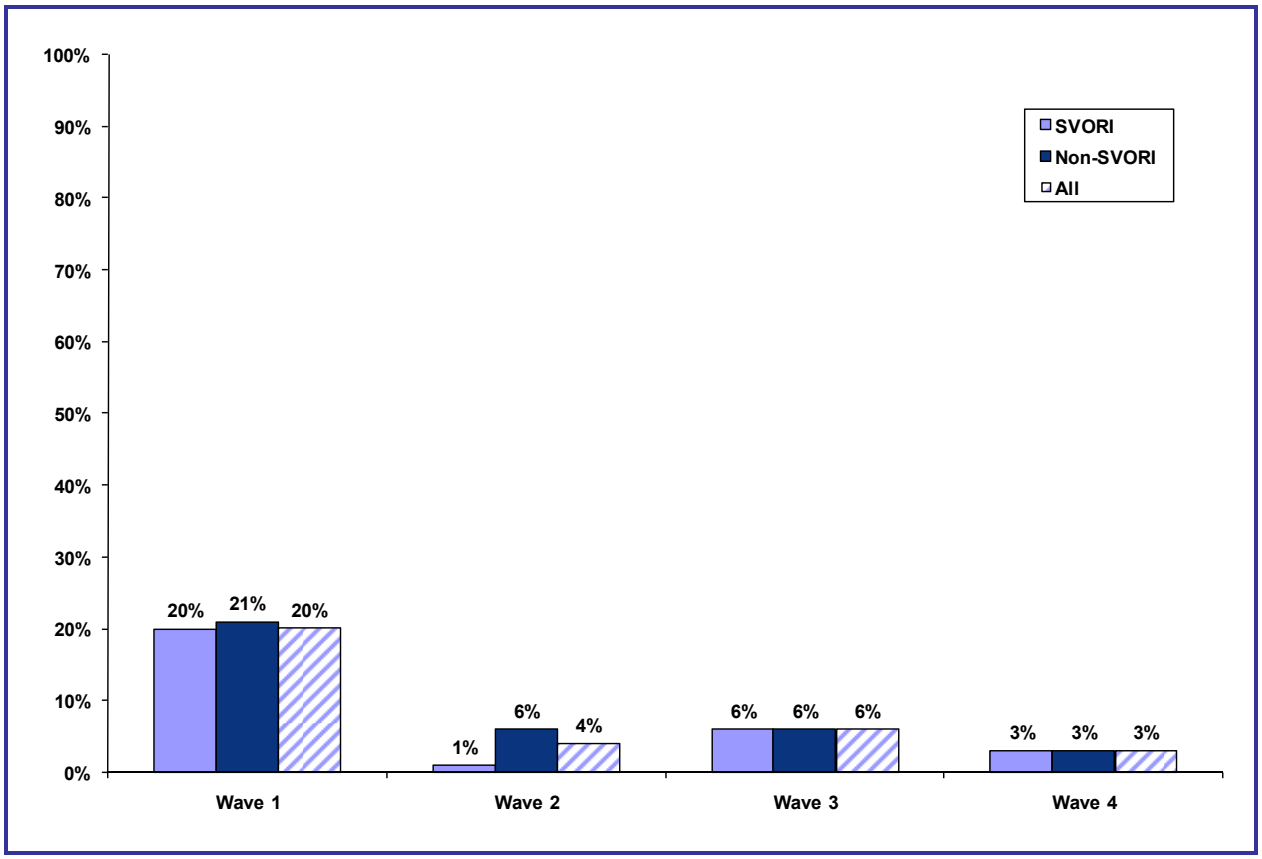
The other individual components of housing independence also showed improvements (for both the SVORI and non-SVORI groups) during the post-release follow-up period. Specifically, the percentage of women who contributed to housing costs increased from 59% at 3 months post-release to 73% at 15 months post release, and the percentage of women who reported that their own name was on the mortgage or lease increased from 27% (3 months post-release) to 41% (15 months post-release).

In addition to the ways women's housing situations changed during the post-release observation period, how their post-release housing status compared with the time period immediately preceding their incarceration is of interest. Among the core housing outcomes examined, the only individual measures for which preincarceration information (measured at the pre-release interview) is available are the woman's housing situation (i.e., whether she lived in her own house or apartment, lived in someone else's house or apartment, or was homeless, living in a shelter, or without a set place to live). Interestingly, this comparison suggests that the housing situations among the women were better after release than in the 6 months before incarceration. For example, before incarceration, 20% reported as their primary housing situation that they were homeless, living in a shelter, or had no set place to live. In contrast, after incarceration, at all time periods, less than 7% reported being homeless, living in a shelter, or being without a set place to live). This pattern is shown in Exhibit 46.

In addition to housing independence, stability, and the extent of housing challenges experienced, which are the core housing outcomes, other dimensions of housing were documented in the post-release interviews. One important dimension pertains to the people with whom the women lived. Depending on the interview wave, 86–94% of the women were living with someone else. The most commonly reported categories of people with whom the women reported living were as follows:

- their children or stepchildren, as reported by 32%, 34%, and 39% of the women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively

Exhibit 46. Self-reported being homeless, living in a shelter, or being without a set place to live



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

- their husbands or boyfriends, as reported by 20%, 26%, and 31% of women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively
- their mothers or stepmothers, as reported by 24%, 17%, and 18% of the women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively
- their fathers or stepfathers, as reported by 15%, 11%, and 9% of the women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively
- siblings, as reported by 12%, 8%, and 10% of the women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively
- other family members, as reported by 12%, 6%, and 7% of the women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively
- friends, as reported by 9%, 14%, and 14% of women at the 3-, 9-, and 15-month interviews, respectively

The coresidence patterns were similar for the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents, with the only significant difference being that the non-SVORI group was significantly more likely to report living with a boyfriend at the 9-month interview.

Neighborhood quality was a final relevant dimension of housing. At each post-release interview the women were asked a series of questions about the quality of the neighborhoods in which they lived. The following items were combined to create a score measuring neighborhood quality:

- "It is hard to stay out of trouble in your neighborhood."
- "Drug selling is a major problem in your neighborhood."
- "You think your neighborhood is a good place to live."
- "You think your neighborhood is a good place to find a job."
- "Living in your neighborhood makes it hard to stay out of incarceration."

When the mean neighborhood quality scores at the three post-release time periods were examined, little variability over time was found (data not shown), indicating that the women had similar perceptions of the neighborhoods in which they were living at each time period at which they were interviewed.

A comparison of the post-release housing situations between the male and female subsamples suggests several interesting patterns. No large or consistent differences were evident in the three core housing outcomes (housing independence, stability, and extent of challenges experienced). However, women were more likely than men to experience housing challenges at the 9-month post-release time period (72% of women, compared with 84% of men, reported not experiencing housing challenges, $p < 0.05$). Other gender differences in living arrangements were also identified. When gender differences in respondents' housing situations were examined, women were significantly more likely than men to have reported living in their own houses or apartments at both the 3- and 15-month time periods (while men were significantly more likely than women to live in another person's house or apartment—a finding that was significant at all three time periods). Women were significantly more likely to be homeless at the 3- and 9-month interviews. Interestingly, men were significantly more likely to contribute to housing expenses at all post-release time

periods. In terms of with whom the respondents resided, at all post-release time periods men were significantly more likely than women to live with their mothers or stepmothers, sisters, and brothers. In contrast, women were significantly more likely than men to live with their children at all time periods.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment was a critical reentry outcome for the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation. Not only did the SVORI programs report employment as a major focus (confirmed by the higher service receipt scores for employment-related services as consistently reported by the SVORI participants), but the women identified employment services as a major area of need. Several core employment outcomes were examined:

- current support of oneself with a job
- the number of months worked during the reference period
- work for each month during the reference period
- the number of months at which the same job was held
- receipt of formal pay from a job
- whether the job provided benefits (a summary measure indicating whether the job provided health insurance or fully paid leave)

The results for these outcomes at 3, 9, and 15 months post-release are shown in Exhibit 47.

As shown in the exhibit, several findings suggesting more positive employment outcomes for women who enrolled in SVORI were evident. Notably, the women who participated in SVORI programming were significantly more likely than the non-SVORI respondents to report having supported themselves with a job at the 15-month time period. As shown in Exhibit 48, this significant difference is due not only to the steadily increasing employment observed for SVORI participants, but also to the sharp decline in employment observed at the 15-month time period for comparison group members.

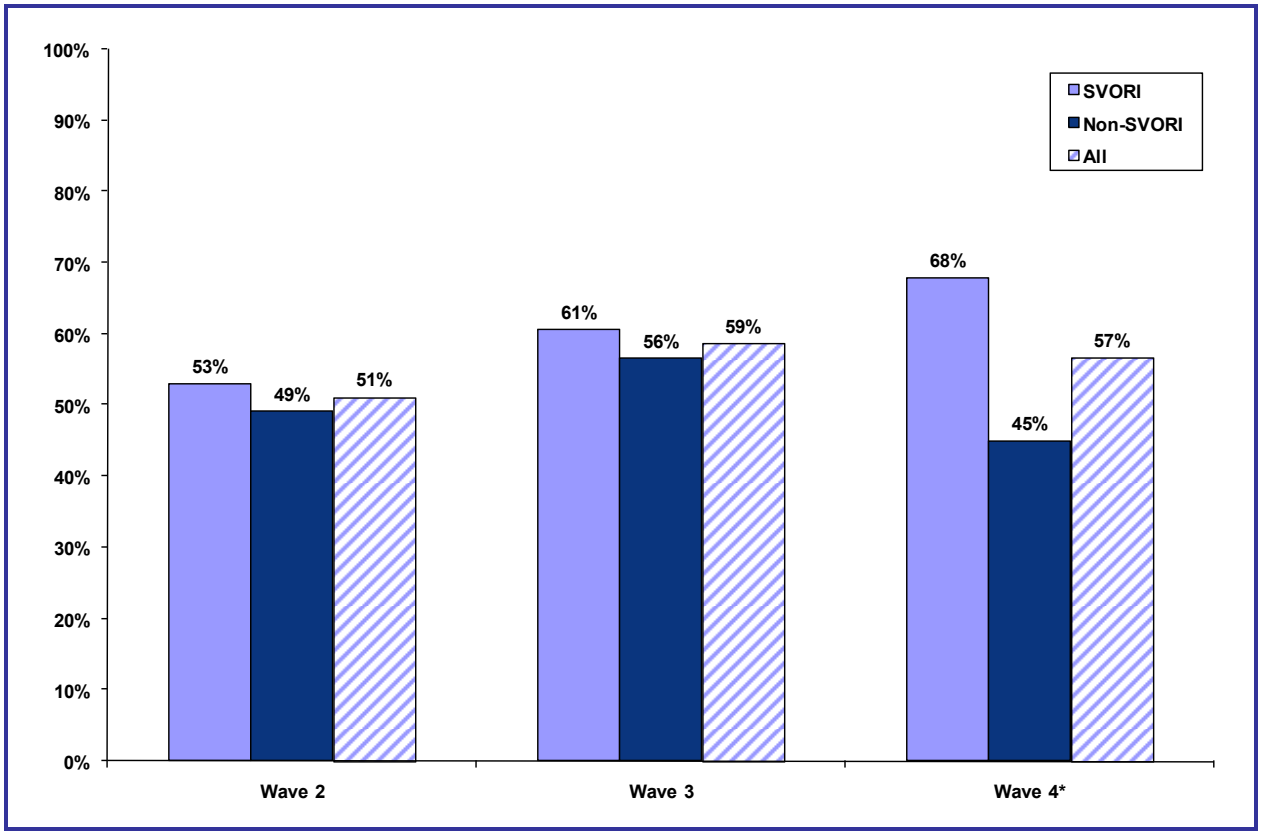
Exhibit 47. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on employment outcomes

	Wave 2					Wave 3					Wave 4				
	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR
Currently supported self with job	0.53	0.49	0.16	0.27	1.17	0.61	0.56	0.17	0.28	1.18	0.68	0.45	0.95	0.28	2.59 *
Number of months worked	1.57	1.38	0.19	0.19	NA	3.72	3.25	0.47	0.36	NA	3.74	2.93	0.81	0.36	NA *
Worked each month	0.24	0.32	−0.40	0.38	0.67	0.42	0.46	−0.17	0.32	0.85	0.44	0.42	0.12	0.32	1.13
Number of months worked same job	0.88	0.72	0.16	0.13	NA	2.65	2.29	0.36	0.30	NA	2.76	2.10	0.66	0.30	NA *
Was receiving formal pay	0.89	0.74	1.04	0.47	2.83 *	0.90	0.73	1.16	0.44	3.20 *	0.90	0.74	1.09	0.46	2.97 *
Job provided benefits	0.41	0.26	0.68	0.37	1.98	0.41	0.33	0.34	0.33	1.41	0.42	0.37	0.23	0.32	1.26

Note: Non-S = Non-SVORI, NA = not applicable. Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Exhibit 48. Self-reported currently supporting self with job



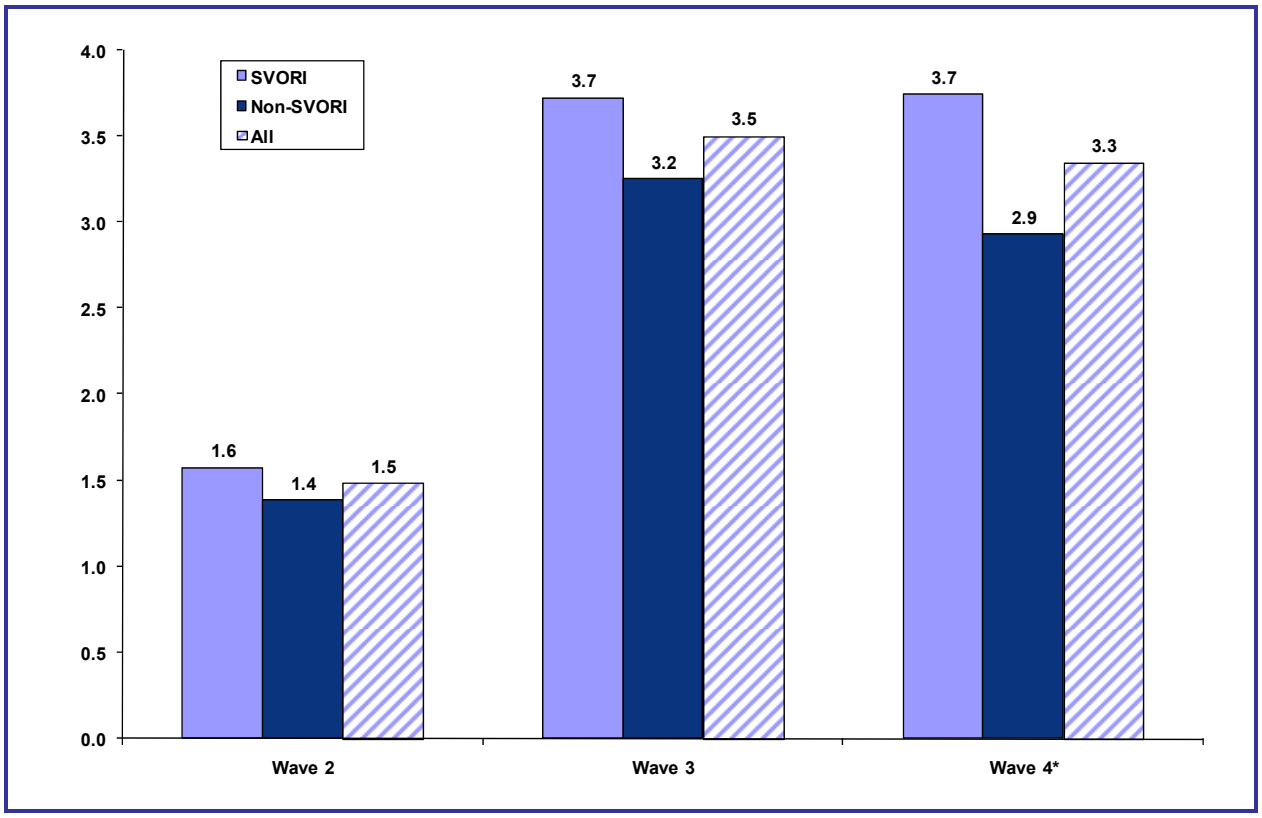
Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Findings also indicate that, at the 15-month time period, women who had enrolled in SVORI had also worked significantly more months since the last interview and more months *at the same job* than comparison group members. These findings are shown graphically in Exhibits 49 and 50. Once again, it is clear that comparison group members experienced a "dropoff" in employment at the 15-month post-release time period, whereas the SVORI participants did not.

In addition, as shown in Exhibit 51, at all follow-up time periods, the SVORI participants were significantly more likely to report receiving formal pay for their job, with no evidence of temporal trends for either group. The SVORI participants were also slightly more likely to report that their job provided benefits at the 3-month post-release time period ($p = 0.07$), although, as shown in Exhibit 52, this gap narrowed over time

Exhibit 49. Self-reported number of months worked since release/last interview



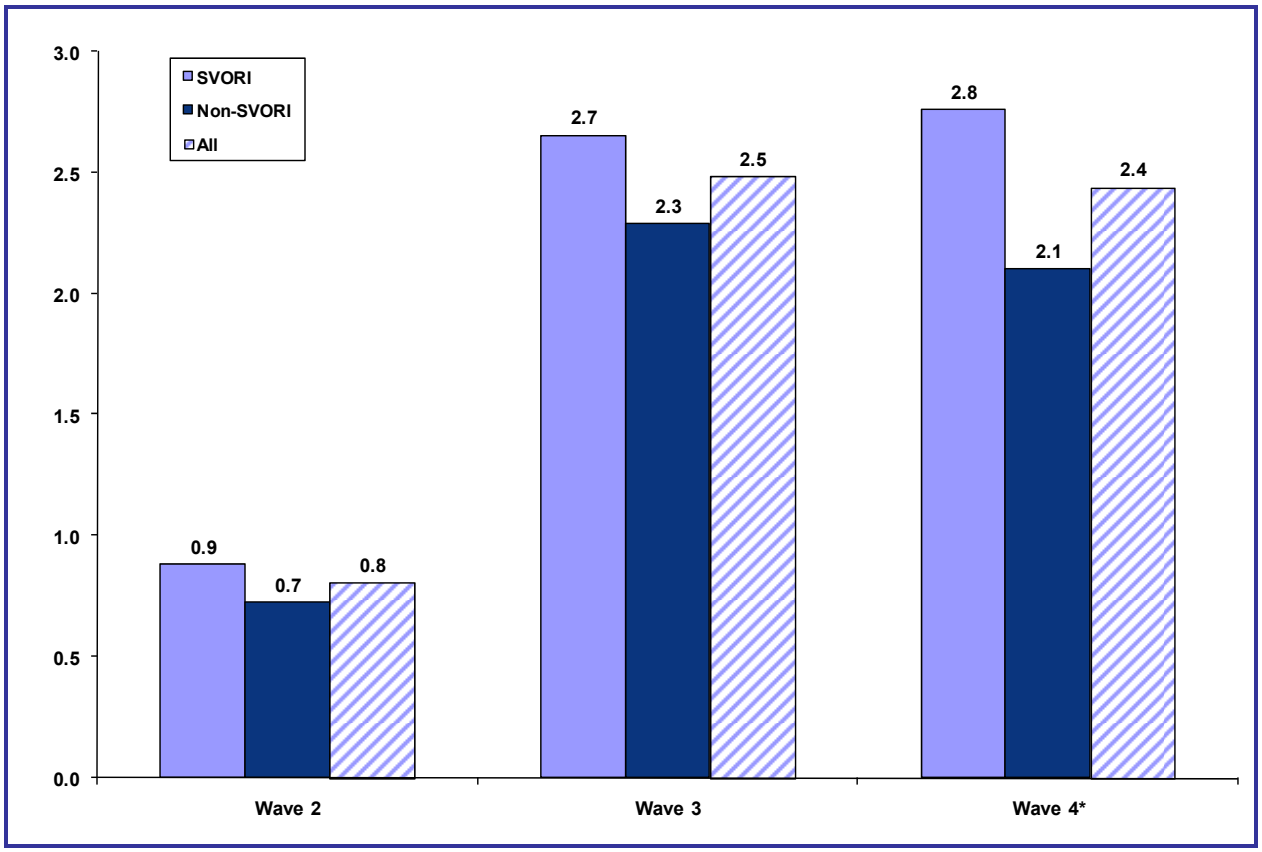
Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

and was not statistically significant at the 9- and 15-month interviews.

Overall, the findings for the core employment outcomes indicate that SVORI programming was associated with significant improvements on a variety of employment outcomes, including likelihood of working at all, duration of employment, employment stability, and employment quality (in terms of working at jobs for which the women were paid formally and which offered benefits). The program effects for outcomes associated with employment status and duration of employment were evident only at the 15-month post-release time period—a time at which comparison women appeared to experience a stark decline in employment. The findings for outcomes associated with job quality suggest that the jobs held by the SVORI participants may be higher-quality jobs than those held by their non-SVORI counterparts. In addition to the findings presented in Exhibit 47, that the SVORI participants

Exhibit 50. Self-reported number of months worked at same job since release/last interview



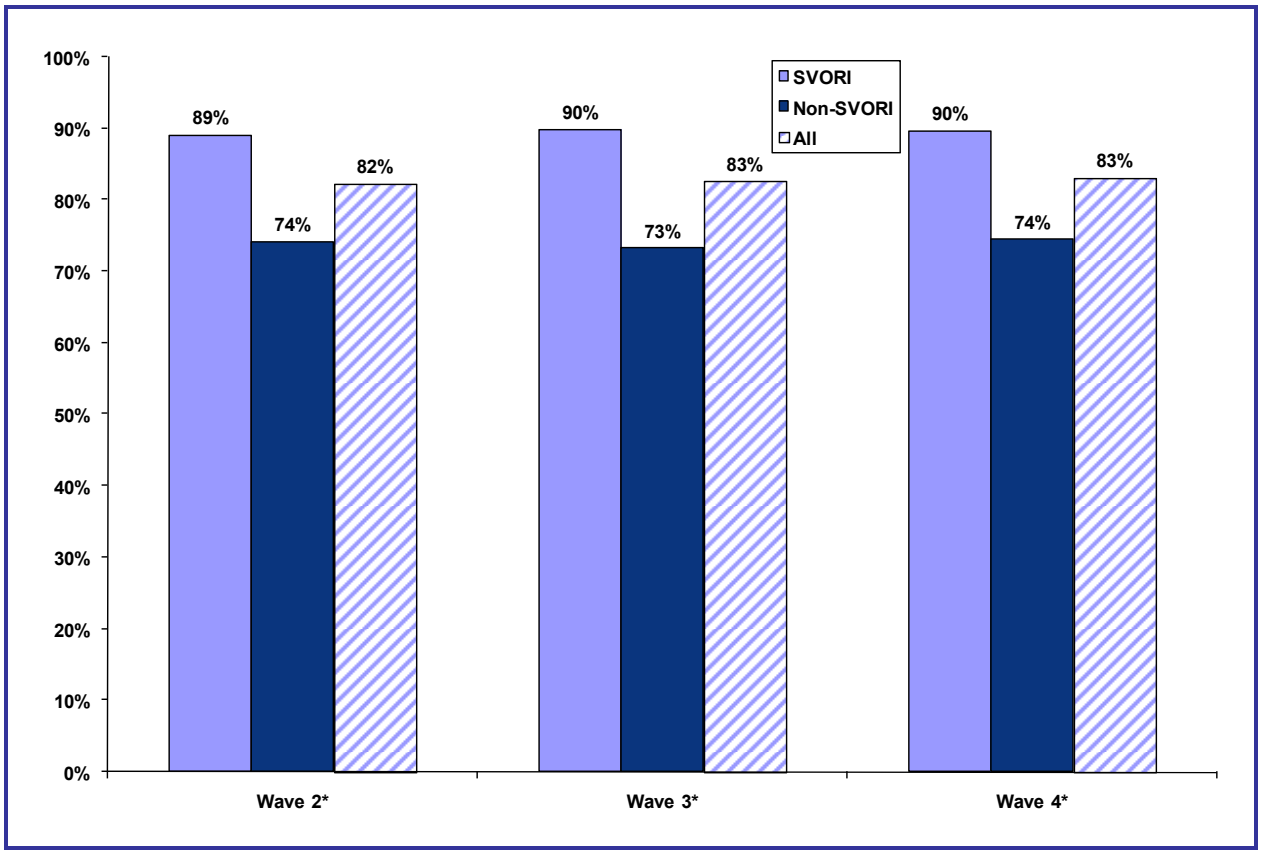
Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

were more likely than the comparison women to report that they considered their current job to be permanent at the 15-month interview further supports this possibility (82% of SVORI, as opposed to 67% of non-SVORI; $p < 0.05$). Interestingly, however, when the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were compared on job satisfaction and stress, no significant differences were observed (data not shown).

In addition to identifying program effects, examining how women's post-release employment situations compare to their pre-incarceration employment is of interest. For several of the employment outcomes, the existence of preincarceration measures allowed women's trajectories from 6 months before incarceration through 15 months after release to be explored. When the percentage of women who reported supporting themselves with a job was examined, an analysis of all waves

Exhibit 51. Self-reported receipt of formal pay for current job

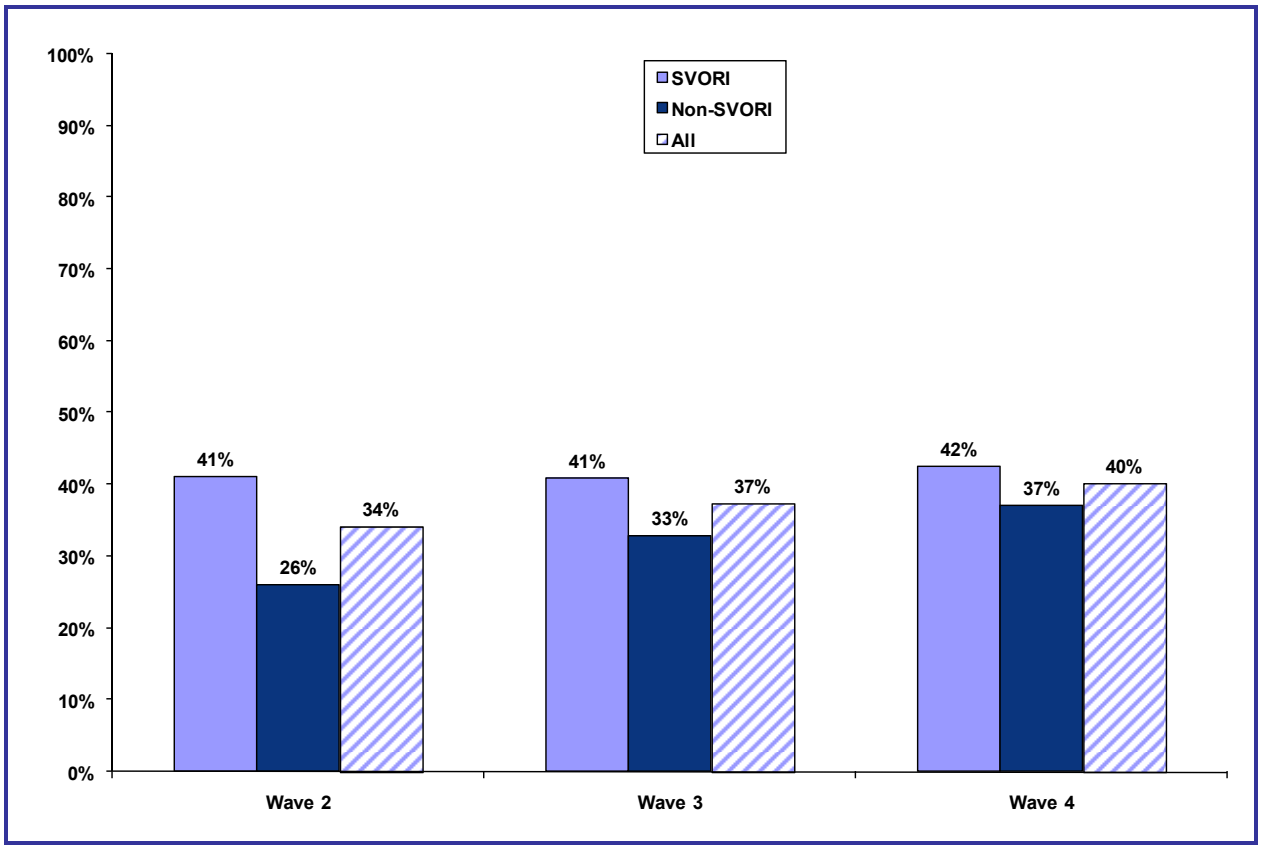


Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

of data indicated that women's employment in the immediate post-release period was similar to that in the time period 6 months before incarceration (in the 6 months before incarceration, 48% of women supported themselves with a job, compared with 51% in the initial 3 months post-release time period); however, the employment levels reached at the 9 and 15 month time periods (59% and 57%, respectively) were notably higher than the preincarceration employment levels. When job quality was considered, as measured by the jobs' offering health insurance benefits, no substantial differences across the time periods were evident. Similarly low percentages of women reported that their jobs provided benefits at the 6-month pre-incarceration time period (32%) as at the post-release time periods (28–33%).

Exhibit 52. Self-reported having a job with benefits



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

In addition to the core employment outcomes that have been discussed, several other dimensions of employment are relevant. At the time that women were asked whether they supported themselves with a job, they were also asked about other sources of financial support, including illegal activities and support from a government program. SVORI participants were more likely than comparison group members to report having received money from a government program (once again, with this difference being statistically significant only at the 3-month post-release time period; $p < 0.01$). Interestingly, SVORI participants were also significantly less likely than comparison group members to report receipt of financial support from family members at all post-release time periods and, at the 3-month time period, from friends. For all women, reliance on family members appeared to be highest at the 3-month post-release time period (data not shown), with such support steadily decreasing over the post-release time periods. Reliance

on support from friends appeared to be more stable across the time periods.

When the post-release employment experiences of men and women were compared, men were found to fare better than women on several employment outcomes. At all time periods, men were significantly more likely than women to report that they currently supported themselves with a job. At the 3- and 9-month time periods, men also reported significantly more months worked. Men were also significantly more likely to report that their jobs offered benefits at the 3- and 9-month time periods. Interestingly, however, women were significantly more likely to report that their jobs provided formal pay, although this difference was observed only at the 15-month time period.

Very few men and women reported having received money from illegal activities, across all three post-release time periods, with no gender differences evident. In addition, unlike the findings from the pre-release interview, which indicated that women were more likely to receive financial support from family and friends during the 6 months before incarceration, post-release data showed no gender differences in the likelihood of receiving such support, except that women were significantly more likely to report support from friends at the 15-month post-release time period. As in the pre-incarceration findings, at all post-release time periods women were significantly more likely than men to report having received financial support from a government program.

FAMILY, PEERS, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Family Relationships

Family relationships have been shown to be extremely influential for returning prisoners. However, because none of the adult SVORI programs focused on family services, no family-related measures were identified as key outcomes in the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation. Several aspects of family relationships were examined, including family emotional support, family instrumental support, quality of intimate-partner relationships, and quality of relationship with children. Not surprisingly, given the lack of emphasis on family-related services among the SVORI programs, no differences were

observed in these measures between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups at any of the post-release time periods. In addition, little variation was observed (for both groups) over the three post-release time periods in these scales, suggesting that perceptions of family support and relationship quality remained stable over time.

When the women's family relationships over time were examined, some interesting patterns became evident. Although the proportions of women who reported being currently married (12–14%) were similar across all time periods (including the preincarceration time period), women appeared more likely to report intimate partnerships at all post-release time periods than during the preincarceration time period. In addition, there was substantial variation in women's likelihood of living with a spouse or current romantic partner at the various time periods. Women were most likely to report living with their spouse or partner at the 6-month preincarceration time period (67%); they were least likely to report living with a spouse or partner at the 3-month post-release time period (38%), which was followed by large, steady increases at the 9- (49%) and 15-month (58%) time periods.

Women's experiences as mothers during the post-release time period are also of interest because a great majority of the women were mothers. When the women's likelihood of reporting that they had primary care responsibilities for their children was examined, the immediate post-release time period was evidently particularly challenging for women in this respect. Although more than half of the mothers reported that they had primary care responsibilities for their children during the 6 months before incarceration, only 39% of mothers reported this level of responsibility at the 3-month post-release interview, with this percentage steadily increasing at the 9- (47%) and 15-month (52%) interviews. As mentioned, the women were also increasingly more likely to report living with their children with each post-release time period, suggesting that it takes time for women to resume the level of care for their children that they reported during the time period immediately before incarceration.

Not surprisingly, men and women differed in many ways along these dimensions of family relationships. Although no gender differences in marital status were evident, men were

significantly more likely to live with their spouses or romantic partners at 3 months after release. Interestingly, women scored higher on the summary scale measuring quality of the intimate partnership at the 3-month post-release time period, but this difference was not evident 9 or 15 months after release. No differences were observed between men and women on the measures of emotional or instrumental support received by family members.

At all time periods, women were significantly more likely than men to report having primary care responsibilities for their children (and, as already mentioned, more likely to live with their children). In addition, at all time periods women had significantly higher values on the scale that was created to measure the quality of the respondent's relationship with children (which reflects how much time the respondents spent with their children and the extent of their involvement in the children's lives).

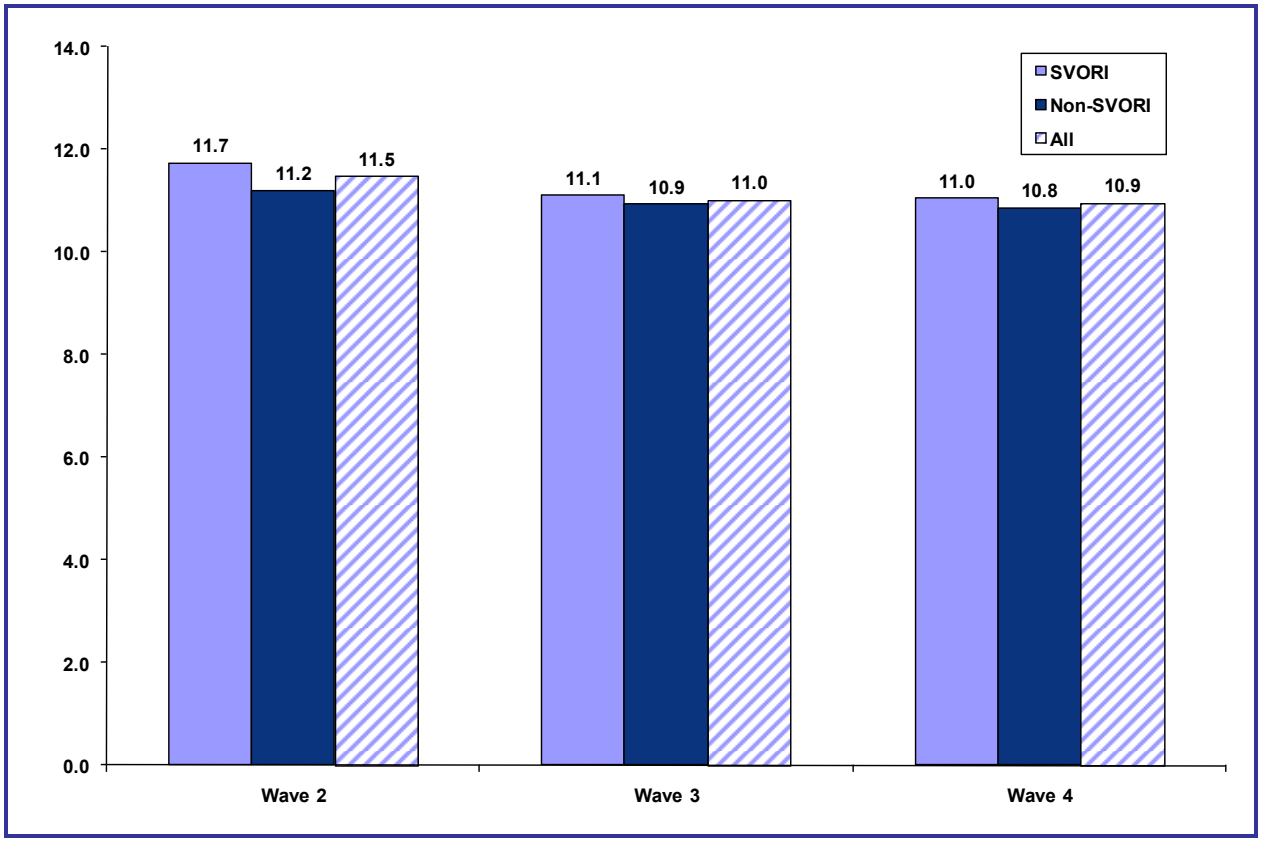
Peer Relationships

Although less researched, particularly for women, peer relationships may also be influential for returning prisoners. Importantly, as with family relationships, peer relationships may be both positive and negative. For example, receiving critical instrumental support from peers, such as help with rides to appointments, may be beneficial. On the other hand, if one's peers are criminally involved, such relationships may be detrimental to reentry success.

Because several SVORI programs included cognitive-behavioral components intended to teach inmates to change criminal behavior by modifying which individuals they associated with (among other topics), it was deemed appropriate to measure the "negative exposure" reported by the women from both friends with whom they spent time and from individuals with whom they lived. Consequently, a summary measure was included that reflects the extent to which the respondent reported *living* with people who had ever been incarcerated, used illegal drugs, engaged in any other illegal activity, or used alcohol in their presence, and reflects the extent to which the responded reported *spending time with* friends who were not employed, got them "in trouble," had been incarcerated, had assaulted someone, had committed theft, or had sold drugs. The results for this composite measure of "negative exposure,"

which is coded such that higher values indicate *less* negative exposure, are shown in Exhibit 53.

Exhibit 53. Negative peer exposure (0–14, <better)



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

Although at 3 months post-release the SVORI participants had slightly less exposure to peers or companions who had negative influence than did the non-SVORI respondents ($p < 0.10$), this difference was not significant at the other follow-up periods, indicating that the women who enrolled in SVORI did not have better peer exposure outcomes than the comparison women. For all women, criminogenic exposure was lowest in the immediate post-release period, appearing to worsen slightly over time. Indeed, at the 15-month post-release time period, only 63% of SVORI participants and 53% of comparison group members (difference not statistically significant) reported that all or most of their close friends were friends that they could "hang out with" and know that they would not "get into trouble."

Positive peer support was also measured. Specifically, the women were asked about the following types of instrumental support from their friends:

- help or advice on finding a place to live
- help or advice on finding a job
- support for dealing with a substance abuse problem
- transportation to work or other appointments, if needed
- financial support

Interestingly, the summary measure of peer instrumental support was significantly higher for the SVORI participants than for the non-SVORI group at both the 9- and 15-month time periods, suggesting that women who participated in SVORI were more likely to count on tangible support from their friends.

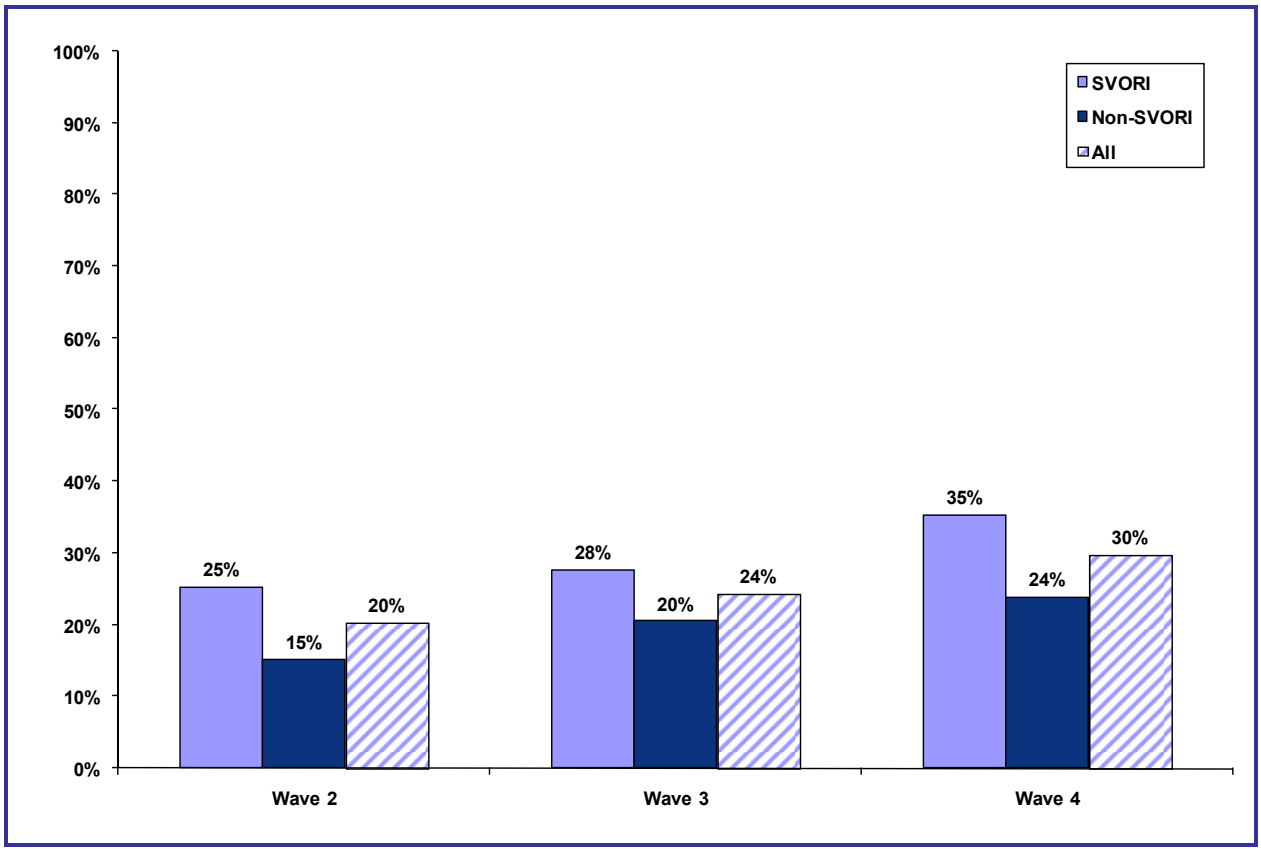
When gender differences for the peer relationship variables were examined, men and women did not differ in terms of negative peer exposure or the level of instrumental support they received from their peers.

Community Involvement

To assess the extent to which women became involved in their communities after release, women were asked whether they had (1) done volunteer work in any programs in the community (e.g., youth groups, programs for the elderly); (2) done mentoring with peers, youth, or other community members; (3) participated in any local organizations like clubs, sports teams, ethnic or racial pride groups, political organizations, or other community groups; (4) voted in any political election (including general elections, primary elections, and special referendums); (5) participated in the activities of a church, mosque, temple, or other religious group; or (6) served in a Neighborhood Watch or tenant patrol program. Responses were summed to create a summary measure of "civic action." Because most respondents had very little involvement in the types of civic action listed here, with the exception of church activities, the summary measure excluded church activities.

As shown in Exhibit 54, civic action was low for both groups, with only marginal differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups at the 3- and 15-month time periods ($p < 0.10$). This pattern indicates that the women who received SVORI

Exhibit 54. Self-reported high civic action since release/last interview



Note: Difference between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

programming reported slightly more involvement in their communities than comparable women who did not participate in SVORI, during the post-release time period. For both groups, the extent of civic action appeared to increase slightly over the post-release follow-up period.

At all time periods, men and women had virtually identical levels of civic action (based on the measure which excluded church attendance).

SUBSTANCE USE AND PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Substance Use

Substance use outcomes were measured both by means of self-report during all follow-up interviews and by oral fluids drug tests administered to nonincarcerated respondents at the

3- and 15-month interviews. The results for the core substance use outcomes are shown in Exhibit 55.

Self-reported substance use was generally lower for the SVORI group than for the non-SVORI group; however, these differences were not statistically significant (although past-30-day drug use at the 15-month interview was marginally significant, $p < 0.10$). Interestingly, though, when the outcome that reflects either self-reported or confirmed (by drug tests) use was examined, the results indicated that the SVORI participants were significantly less likely to use drugs from release to 3 months post-release ($p < 0.01$) and, when the measure was limited to past-30-day use, less likely to have used during the previous 30 days at both the 3- and 15-month post-release time periods.

The patterns for substance use, based on the combined self-report and drug test measures, are shown graphically in Exhibits 56 and 57. Of interest is that, not only did the difference between the number of SVORI participants and the number of comparison group members who were "clean" decrease over time, but also fewer women in both groups were clean at 15 months post-release, suggesting increasing substance use over time for both groups.

When individual drugs used among the women were examined, the only consistent difference between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents was that, at 15 months post-release, the SVORI participants self-reported significantly lower cocaine use than the non-SVORI respondents (87% of SVORI participants did not use cocaine, as opposed to 73% of non-SVORI respondents; $p < 0.05$). The drug test results also confirmed lower cocaine use among the SVORI participants, at both 3 and 15 months post-release (data not shown).

When drug use between men and women during the post-release follow-up period was compared, no gender differences were evident. The male and female samples reported equivalent levels of substance use and tested positive (based on the drug tests) at similar rates.

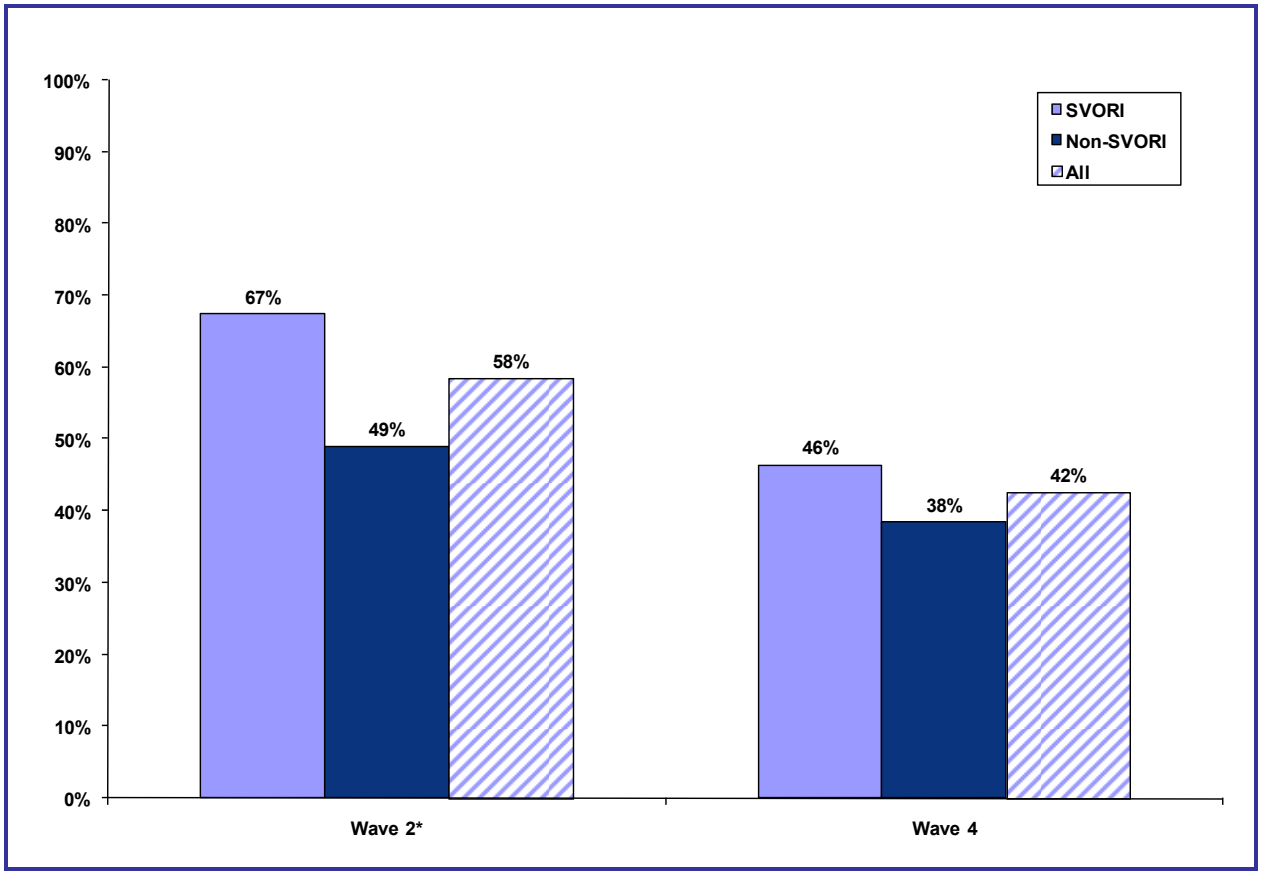
Exhibit 55. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on self-reported substance use outcomes

	Wave 2					Wave 3					Wave 4				
	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR
No self-reported drug use	0.78	0.75	0.18	0.33	1.19	0.60	0.61	−0.03	0.28	0.97	0.63	0.55	0.32	0.28	1.38
No self-reported drug use other than marijuana or steroid	0.87	0.85	0.17	0.40	1.18	0.69	0.71	−0.11	0.30	0.89	0.77	0.67	0.53	0.31	1.69
No self-reported drug use in past 30 days	0.85	0.81	0.29	0.38	1.34	0.69	0.73	−0.18	0.30	0.84	0.75	0.63	0.55	0.30	1.74
No self-reported drug use other than marijuana or steroids past 30 days	0.92	0.87	0.52	0.50	1.69	0.76	0.82	−0.37	0.35	0.69	0.82	0.74	0.49	0.34	1.63
No self-reported drug use or positive drug tests	0.67	0.49	0.76	0.29	2.15 *	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.46	0.38	0.33	0.27	1.39
No self-reported drug use or positive drug tests past 30 days	0.72	0.52	0.86	0.29	2.35 *	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.55	0.41	0.56	0.27	1.75 *

Note: Non-S = Non-SVORI. NA = not applicable; drug tests were not performed at Wave 33. Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

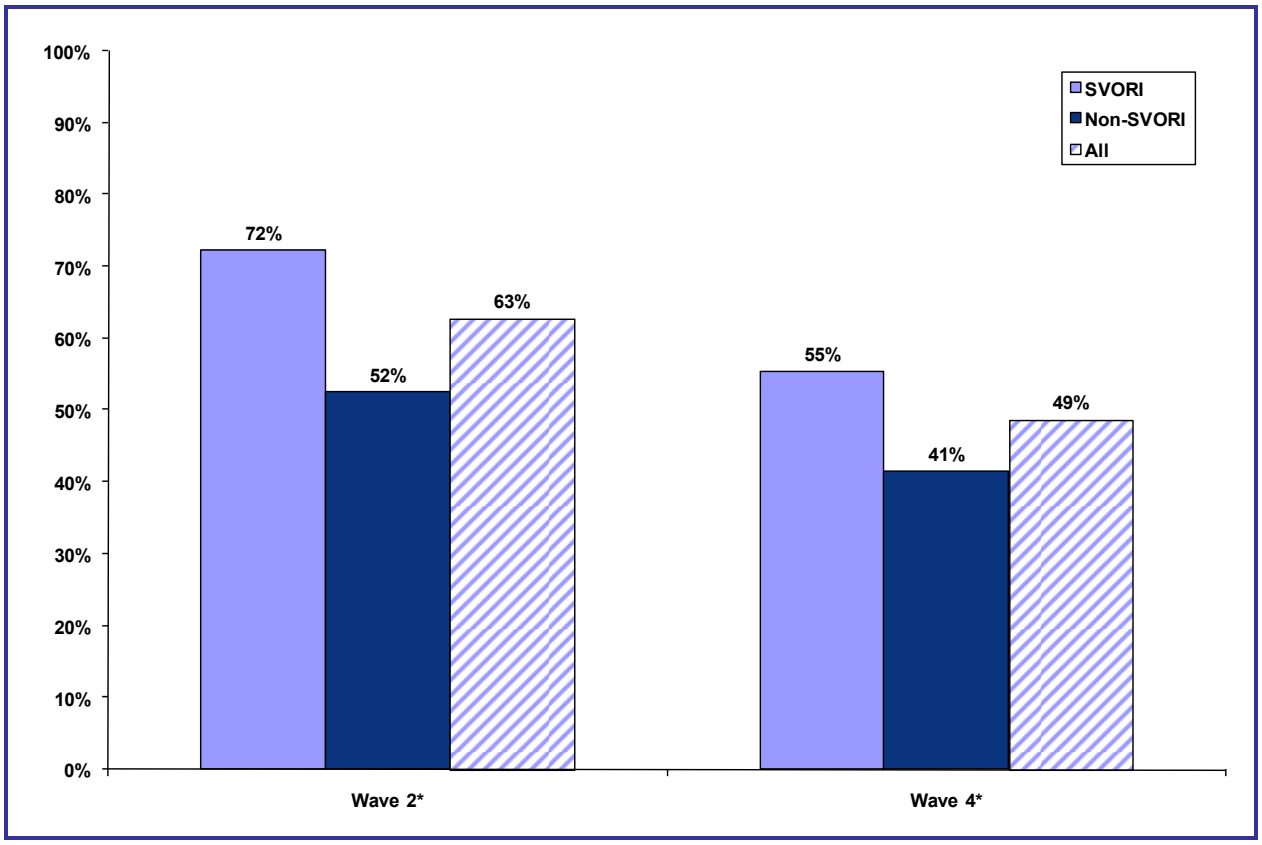
Exhibit 56. No drug use reported or detected since release/last interview



Note: Information gathered from self-report and drug test. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Exhibit 57. No drug use reported or detected in past 30 days



Note: Information gathered from self-report and drug test. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Physical Health

Physical health services were not a major programmatic focus among the SVORI programs; therefore, no core physical health outcomes were identified as being relevant for analysis of program effects in the evaluation. Of interest, however, is the physical health status of the women during the post-release time period. Several dimensions were measured in the post-release interviews, including specific physical health conditions experienced by the respondents (including asthma, chronic back pain, high blood pressure, arthritis, hepatitis B or C, heart trouble, diabetes, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS) and the SF-12 physical health scale, which measures five dimensions of physical health functioning (including moderate activities such as moving a table, climbing several flights of stairs, accomplishing less than one would have like to accomplished because of physical health, being limited in the kind of work or

activities done as a result of physical health, and pain that interferes with normal work).

Based on the composite measure reflecting the number of physical health conditions experienced by the women, the women reported an average of one condition, with no differences being evident between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups and no temporal trend being apparent during the post-release follow-up period. Likewise, the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents scored similarly on the SF-12 physical health scale, with no evidence of temporal trends. As shown in Exhibit 58, the physical health functioning of both groups remained quite stable over the entire follow-up period. Additionally, because the exhibit includes the pre-release time period, it is evident that no major differences in women's health status occurred throughout the entire observation period.

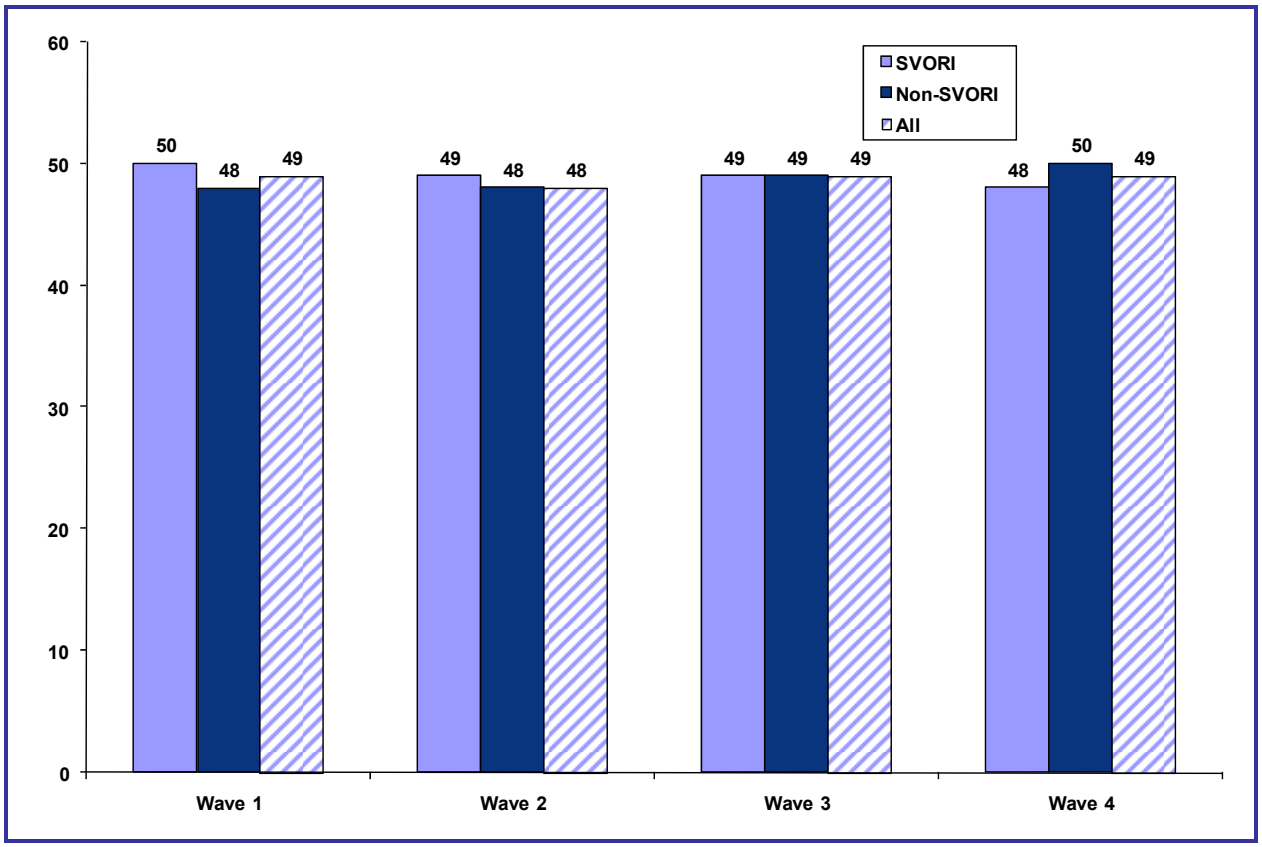
When asked to rate their overall physical health, somewhat more than a third of women reported their health as being "excellent" or "very good," with little variability over the three post-release time periods (and no differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups). Interestingly, however, as shown in Exhibit 59, overall perceptions of health appeared to be slightly higher at the pre-release interview than at the post-release time periods.

Consistent with the pre-release findings showing that perceptions of overall physical health were significantly lower for women than for men, at all post-release time periods significantly lower proportions of women than men rated their health as "excellent" or "very good." Not surprisingly, women also had significantly lower SF-12 scores and reported a significantly higher number of physical health diagnoses than men at all post-release time periods.

Mental Health

Because mental health issues were extremely prevalent among the female sample (as described in the "Pre-release Experiences" section), two core mental health outcomes were identified: the SF-12 mental health scale (a measure of mental health functioning) and the GSI (an index of mental health status).

Exhibit 58. Physical health scale (12-Item Short-Form Health Survey)

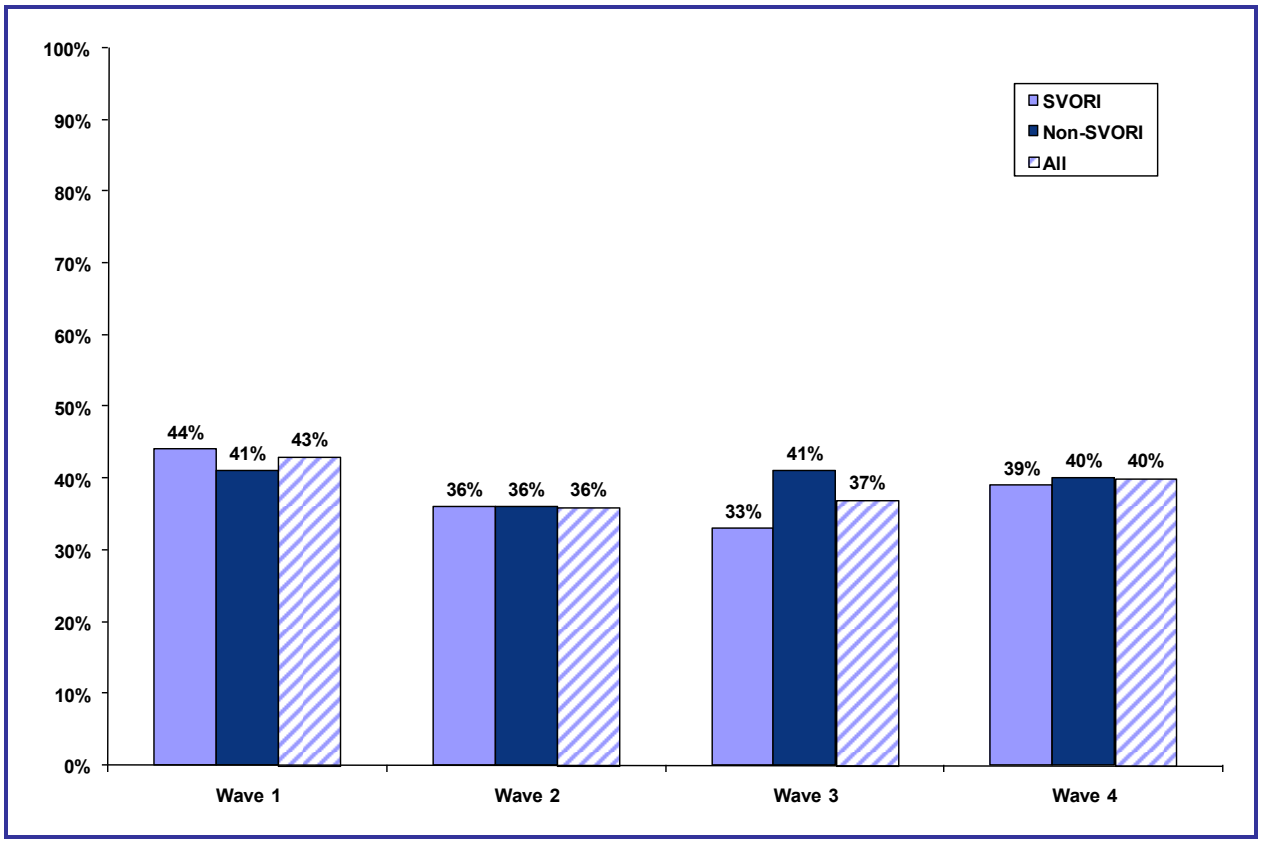


Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

According to these key outcomes, there is no evidence that SVORI programming had an impact on the mental health status of women. In addition, as in the pattern observed for physical health, the mental health status of women remained fairly stable over time. This pattern is shown graphically for the GSI outcome in Exhibit 60.

Exhibit 61 shows women's overall assessments of their mental health, with the pre-release time point shown as a reference point. As in the pattern indicated by the SF-12 and GSI outcomes, women's mental health status appeared quite stable over time, with no differences between the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents.

Exhibit 59. Self-reported overall physical health is very good or excellent



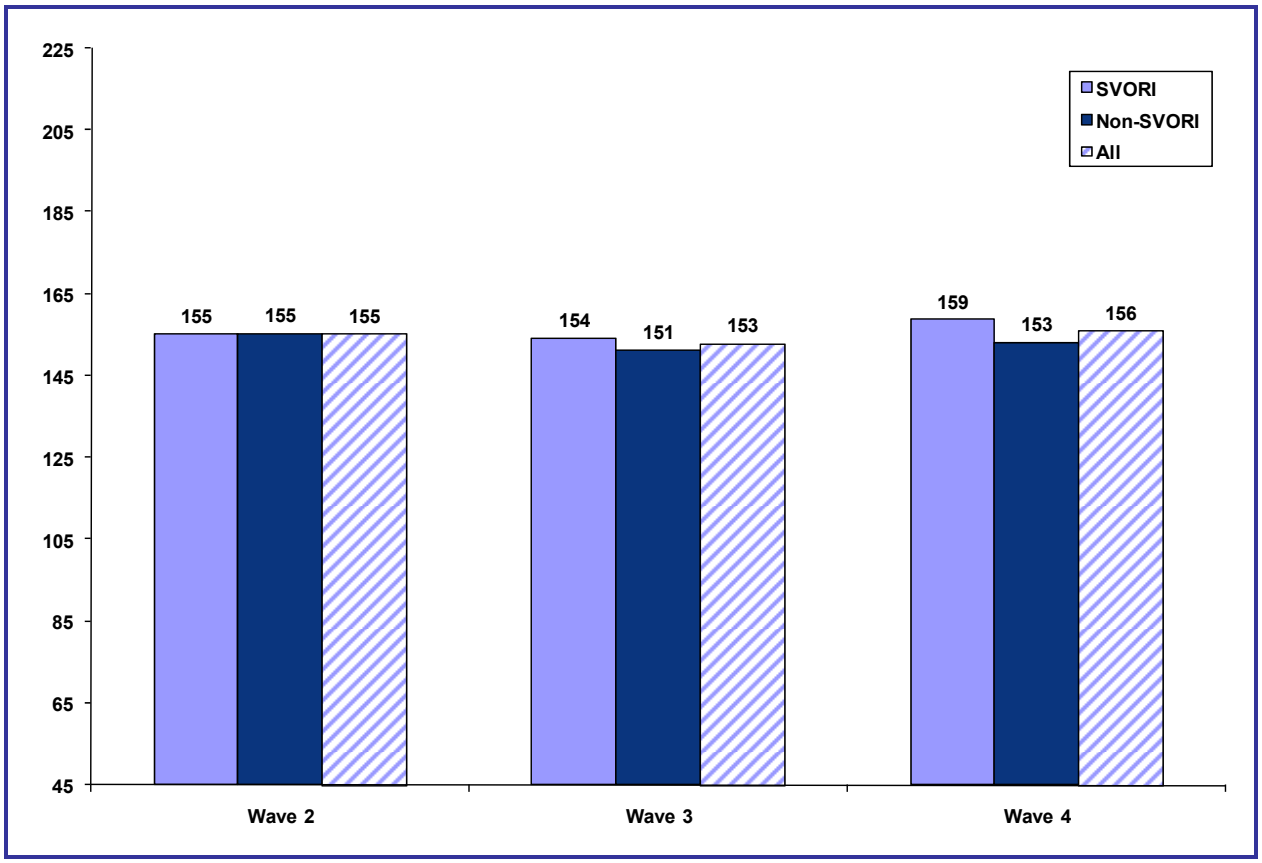
Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

Consistent with the data from the pre-release interview, gender differences in mental health status remained pronounced for the entire follow-up period. On both the SF-12 mental health scale and the GSI, women scored significantly lower than men at all post-release time periods. In addition, at all post-release time periods, significantly lower proportions of women rated their overall mental health status as "excellent" or "very good."

CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR AND RECIDIVISM

In the SVORI evaluation, several measures were used to determine program effects on desistance from criminal activity. These measures include a combination of self-reported and official measures of criminal behavior. Core criminal behavior/recidivism outcomes based on "unofficial" (i.e., self-reported) data sources are shown in Exhibit 62.

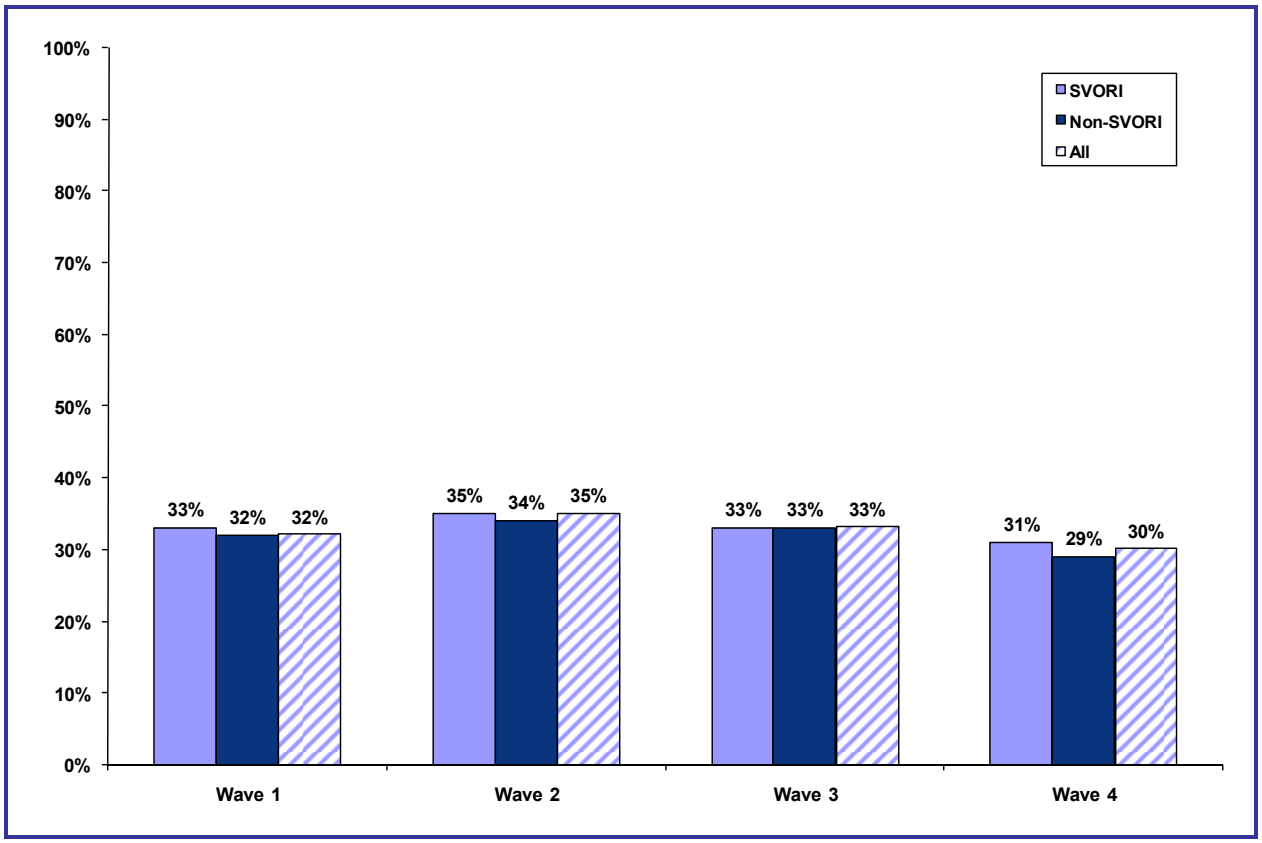
Exhibit 60. Global Severity Index (45–225, >better)



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

The first measure listed in the exhibit does not directly measure criminal behavior, but rather perpetration of violence. Respondents were asked about several specific types of violence: threatening to hit, throwing, pushing/grabbing/shoving, slapping/kicking/biting/hitting, and threatening or using a weapon. The responses were summed to create the summary measure. According to this outcome, the women in the SVORI group were less likely to perpetrate violence than the women in the comparison group at the 15-month post-release time period. Exhibit 63 graphically illustrates the pattern for this outcome, with a significant difference ($p < 0.05$) evident between the groups at the final interview point. Interestingly, when a measure that was parallel to the perpetration measure but assessed victimization was examined, no differences between the two groups were evident (data not shown).

Exhibit 61. Self-reported overall mental health "very good" or "excellent"



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

The second core measure of criminal behavior/recidivism was compliance with conditions of supervision. This outcome is critical because the majority of women reported being under post-release supervision throughout the follow-up period. As discussed previously, more than three quarters of the women were under post-release supervision at the time of the 3-month post-release interview. At the 9-month interview, 80% of the SVORI participants (compared with 56% of the non-SVORI respondents) were still under post-release supervision. At the final interview wave, 54% of SVORI participants and 43% of comparison women were currently under post-release supervision.

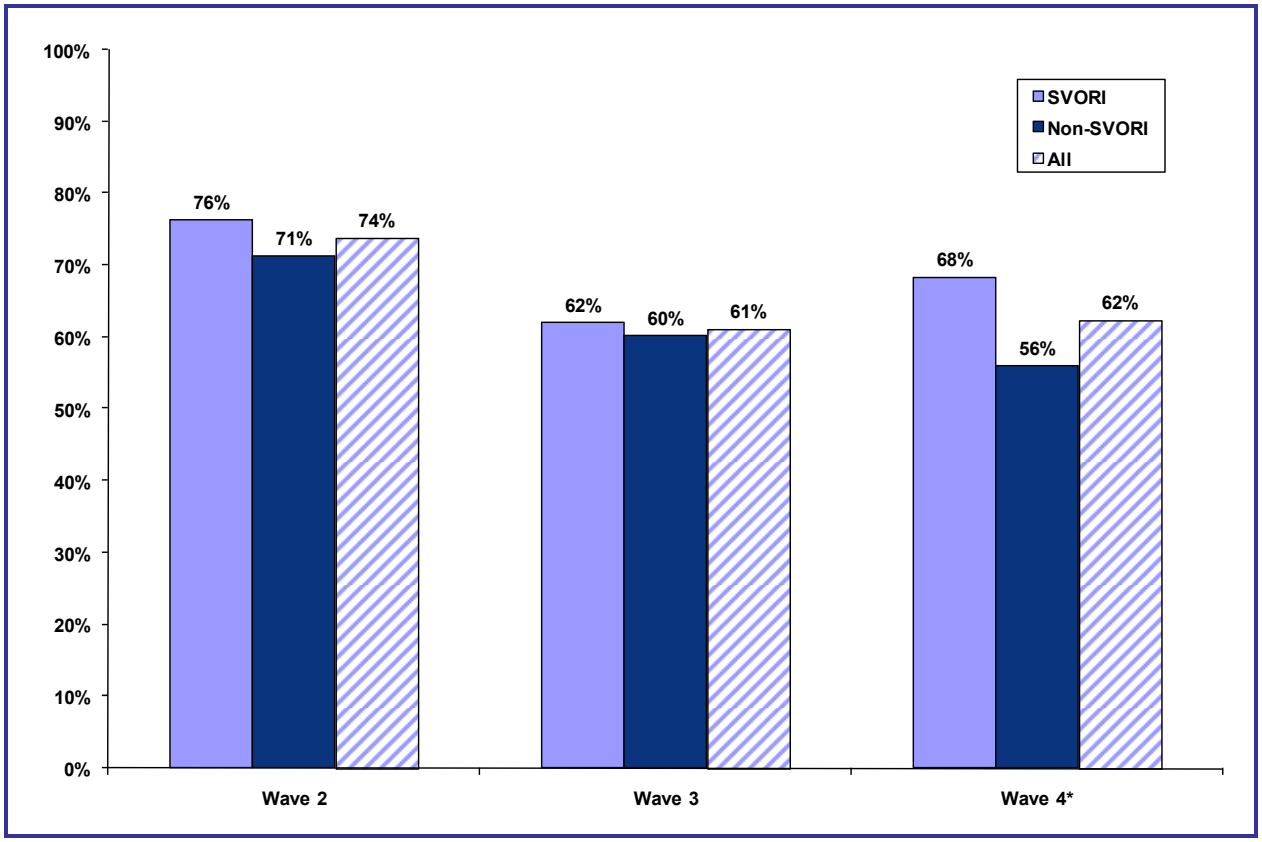
Exhibit 62. Weighted means and parameter estimates of the effect of SVORI on self-reported recidivism outcomes

	Wave 2					Wave 3					Wave 4				
	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR	SVORI Mean	Non-S Mean	Est.	SE	OR
No perpetration of violence	0.76	0.71	0.26	0.31	1.30	0.62	0.60	0.07	0.27	1.08	0.68	0.56	0.53	0.27	1.70 *
Complied with conditions of supervision	0.78	0.83	−0.35	0.37	0.70	0.59	0.76	−0.79	0.36	0.45 *	0.68	0.60	0.35	0.40	1.43
No criminal behavior	0.78	0.82	−0.27	0.34	0.76	0.69	0.75	−0.31	0.30	0.73	0.70	0.64	0.31	0.27	1.36
No violent or weapons crimes	0.93	0.91	0.18	0.55	1.20	0.90	0.93	−0.27	0.46	0.77	0.96	0.87	1.26	0.52	3.53 *
Not reincarcerated at follow up	0.93	0.94	−0.12	0.55	0.89	0.78	0.86	−0.53	0.34	0.59	0.77	0.78	−0.10	0.30	0.91
Not booked or reincarcerated since release/last interview	0.80	0.86	−0.48	0.37	0.62	0.68	0.72	−0.17	0.29	0.84	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.26	1.00

Note: Non-S = Non-SVORI. Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Exhibit 63. Self-reported no perpetration of violence since release/last interview

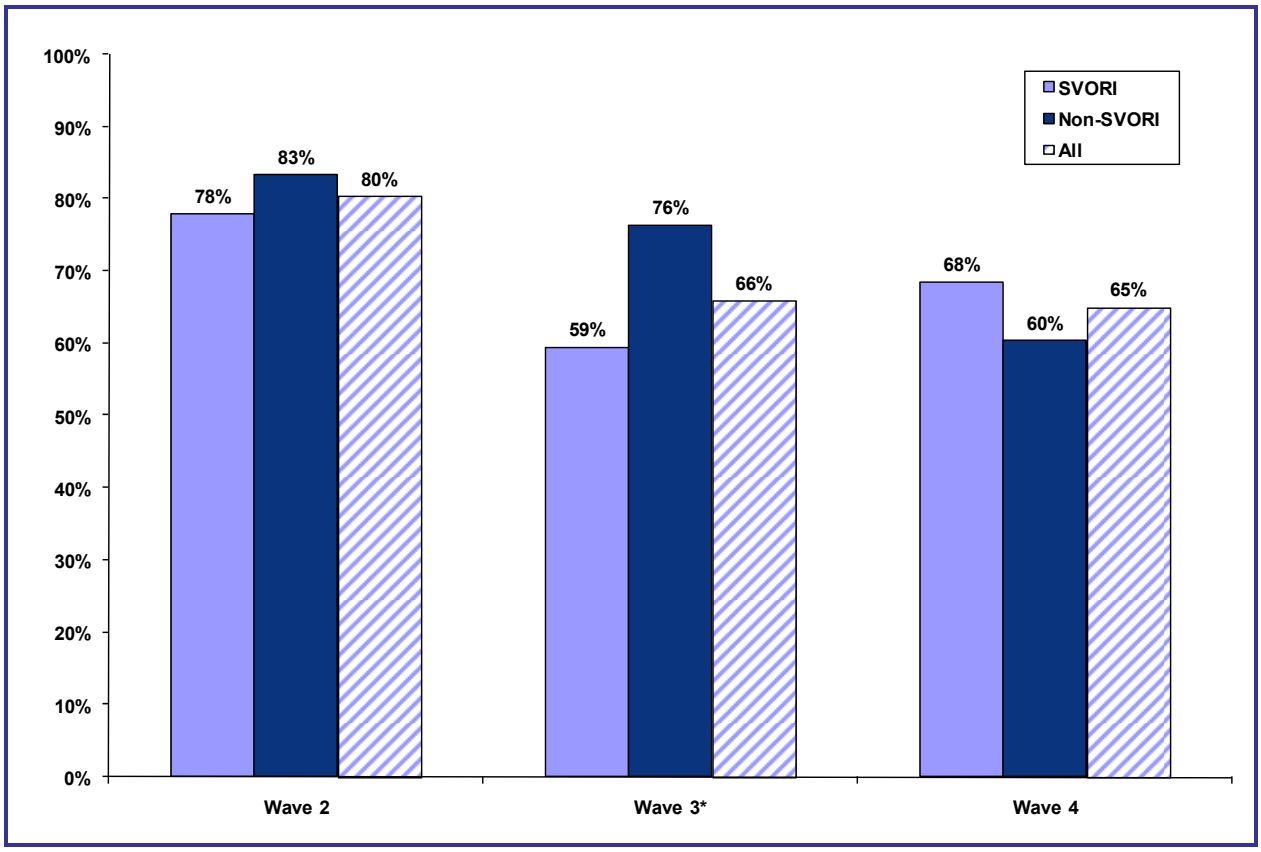


Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

As shown in Exhibit 64, among the women who were under post-release supervision, the SVORI participants were *less* likely to report that they had complied with the conditions of their supervision at all time periods, with the difference being statistically significant for the 9-month post-release time period. Compared with 76% of comparison women, only 59% of SVORI participants reported (at the 9-month post-release interview) that they had never failed to comply with any conditions of their supervision. Potential explanations and implications of this finding are discussed in greater detail in the conclusions.

Exhibit 64. Self-reported complying with conditions of supervision since release/last interview



Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

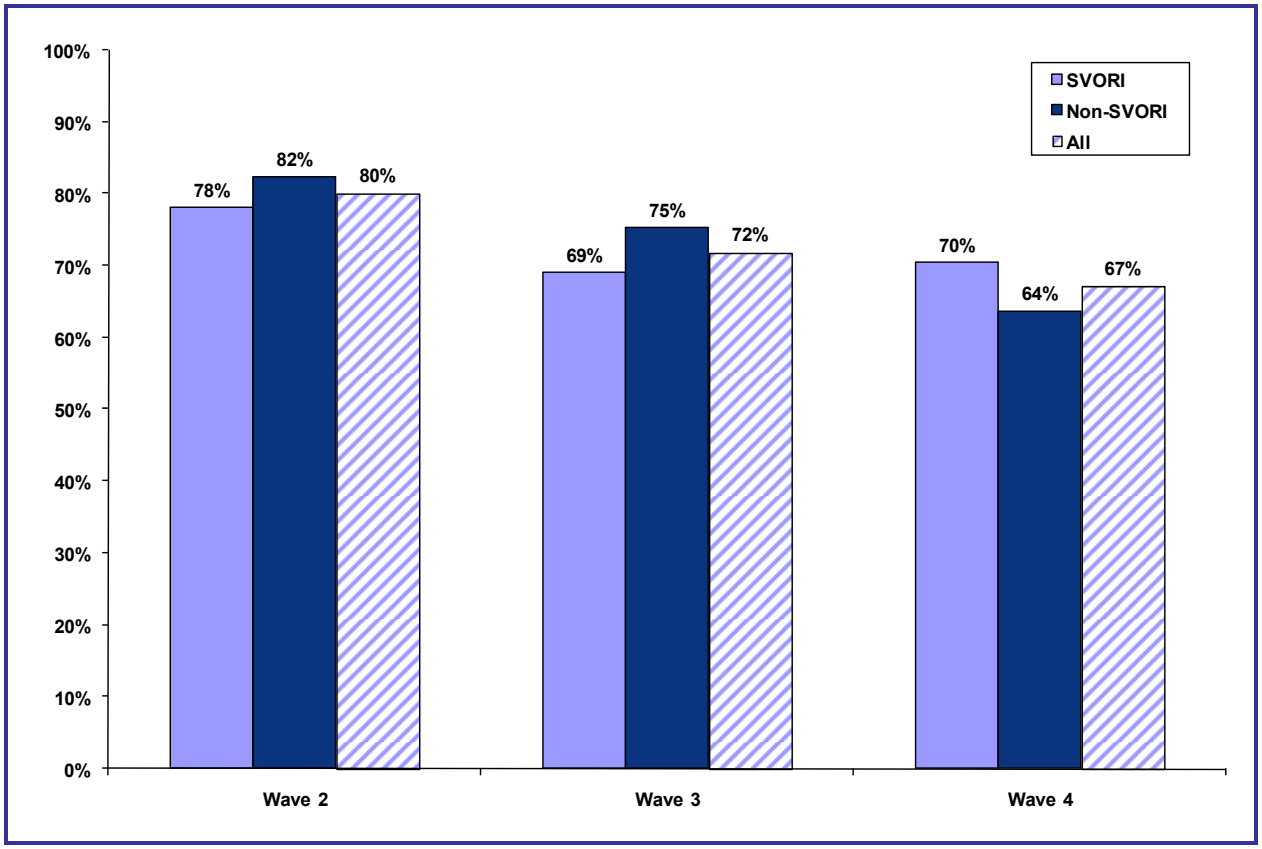
Interestingly, as shown in the exhibit, the pattern for supervision compliance reversed at the 15-month time period (with the SVORI participants reporting higher compliance than the non-SVORI respondents), although the difference was not statistically significant.

Self-reported criminal behavior is another important dimension of recidivism to capture because it includes criminal behavior that may not have been detected (and that, therefore, is not reflected in official measures of criminal activity). Two outcomes reflecting self-reported criminal behavior are shown in Exhibit 62: any self-reported criminal behavior (which includes violent crimes, carrying a weapon, other crimes against people, drug possession crimes, drug sales crimes, DWI/DUI, property crimes, and lesser types of crimes, such as

prostitution, soliciting, shoplifting, or disorderly conduct) and self-reported involvement in violent or weapons offenses.

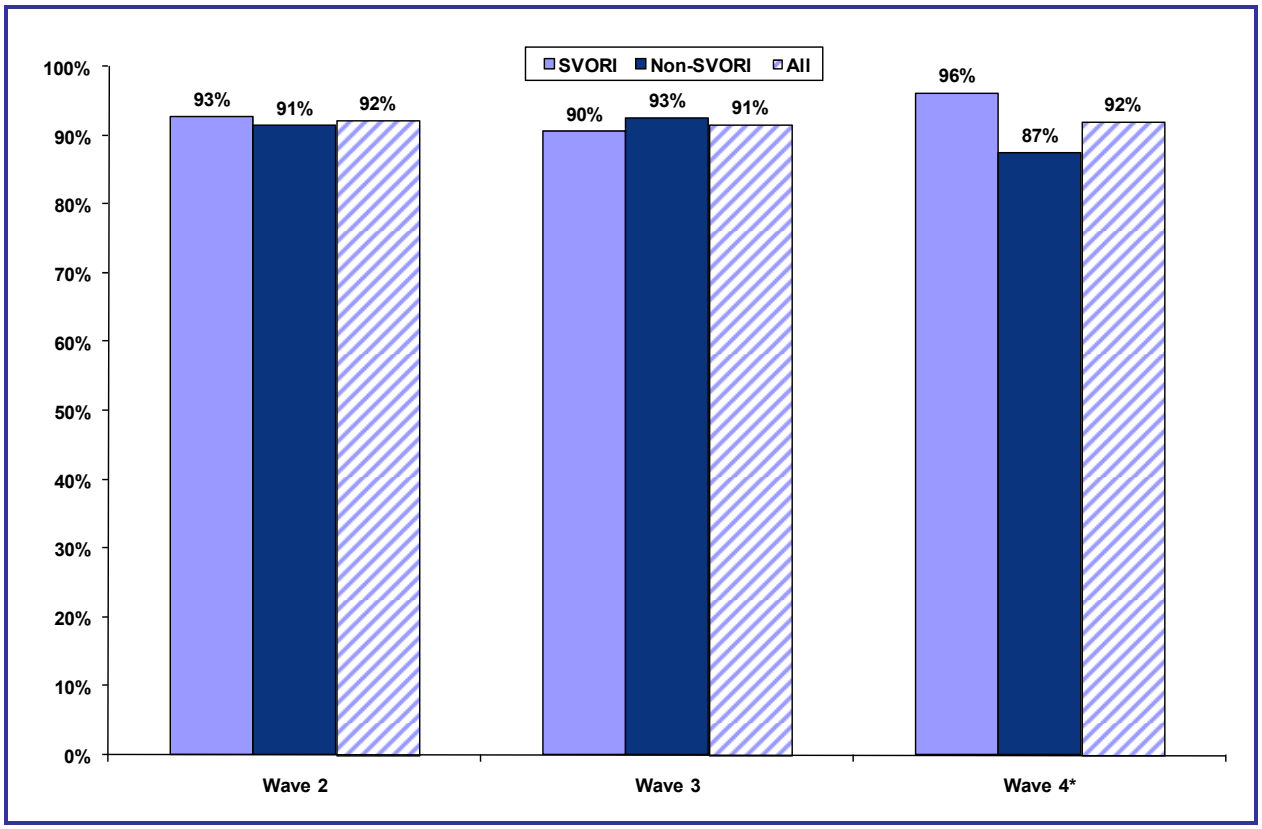
As shown in the exhibit, results for self-reported criminal behavior are inconsistent. Differences in any crime are not statistically significant (and appear to be unstable, because the SVORI participants appear to have been less likely to report not committing any crimes at the 3- and 9 month-interviews yet more likely to report not committing any crimes at the 15-month interview). This pattern is shown in Exhibit 65. However, when subset to violent or weapons crimes only (Exhibit 66), the results indicate that, at the 15-month post-release time period, the women who participated in SVORI were significantly more likely to report not having committed any violent or weapons crimes than the women in the comparison group (p < .0.05).

Exhibit 65. Self-reported not committing any crimes since release/last interview



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

Exhibit 66. Self-reported not committing any violent or weapons crimes since release/last interview

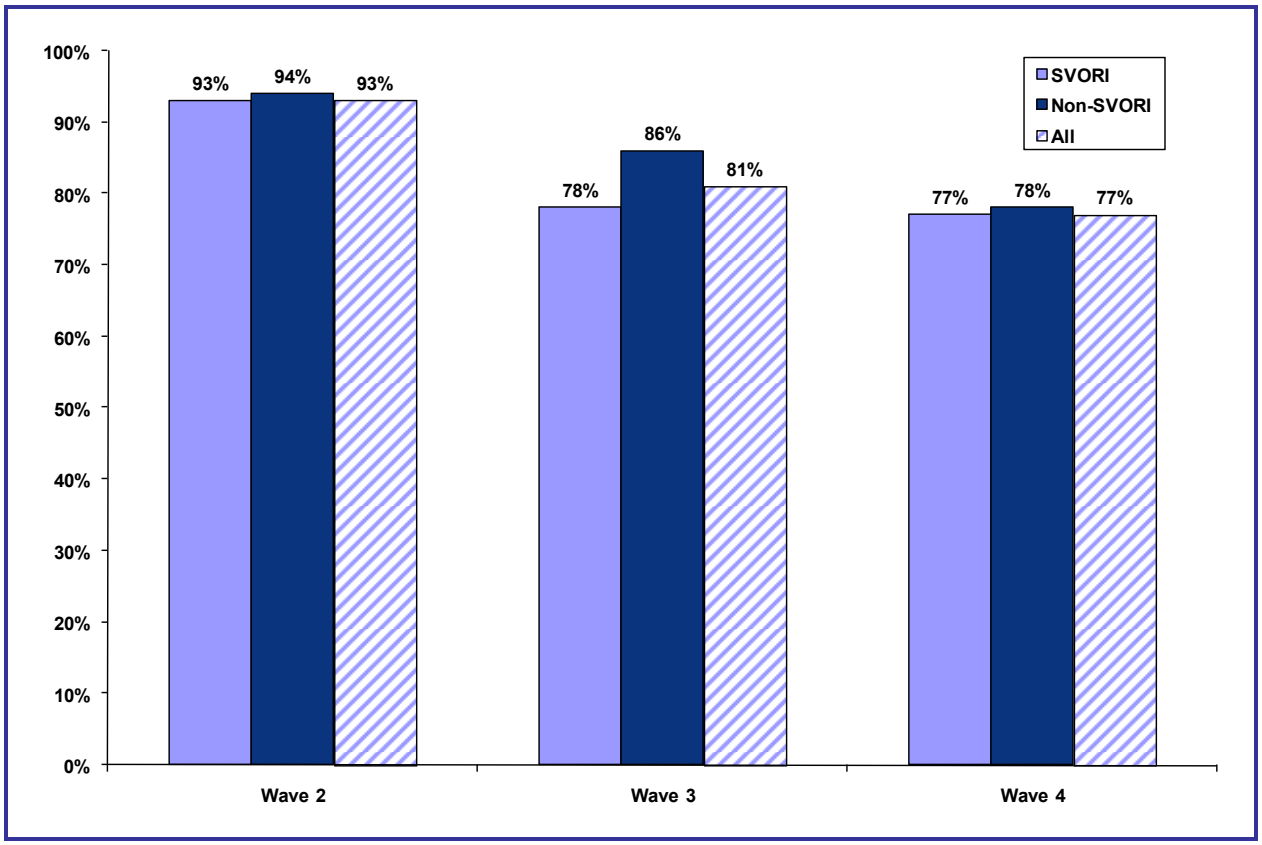


Note: Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

The final criminal behavior/recidivism outcomes based on self-reported data are whether the respondent had not been reincarcerated at the time of her follow-up interview and a composite measure reflecting whether the respondent had not been reincarcerated at the time of the follow-up interview *and* reported that she had not been booked into jail or prison (for 24 hours or more) during the reference period. The latter measure is obviously more inclusive because it reflects any (self-reported) incarceration during the reference period—not just the point at which the interview was conducted. As shown in Exhibits 67 and 68, no significant differences on these outcomes were observed between SVORI and comparison women for any follow-up period. In other words, SVORI and comparison women appeared equally likely to be reincarcerated during the follow-up period.

Exhibit 67. Not reincarcerated at follow-up interview

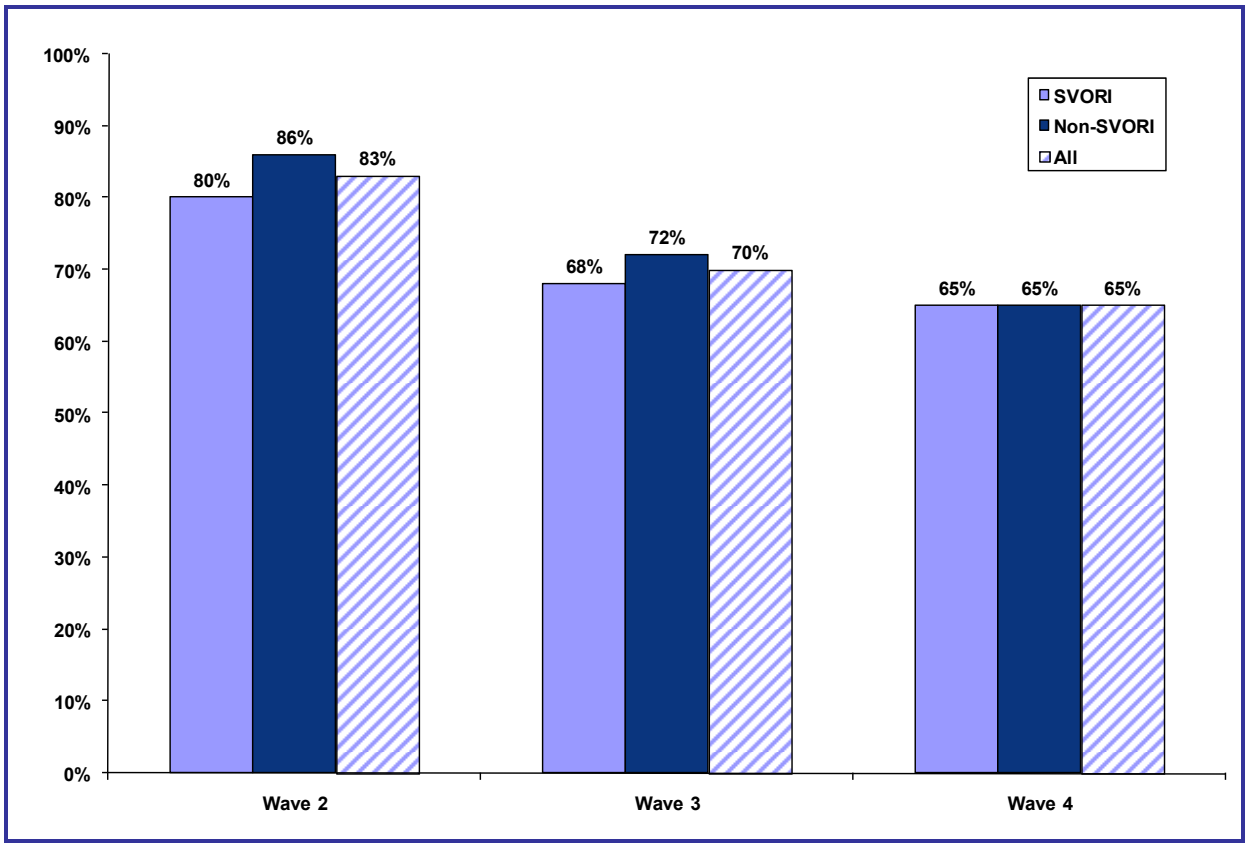


Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

The remaining set of criminal recidivism measures were based on official data sources and therefore reflect criminal behavior detected by authorities. These measures include both rearrest (obtained from the National Crime Information Center, as described in Lattimore and Steffey, 2009) and reincarceration in state prison (obtained from the state Departments of Corrections). The core recidivism measures based on official records are shown in Exhibit 69.

The findings for rearrest (shown graphically in Exhibit 70) indicate that the women in the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were equally likely to be rearrested within 3 and 6 months of release but that the SVORI participants were significantly less likely to be rearrested within 9, 12, 15, and 21 months of release. When type of rearrest (considering person/violent crimes, property crimes, drug crimes, public order crimes, and other crimes) at the 21- and 24-month time periods was examined, no significant differences were evident.

Exhibit 68. Not booked or reincarcerated since release/last interview



Note: Differences between SVORI and non-SVORI were not significant at the 0.05 level. Wave 1 = 30 days pre-release; Wave 2 = 3 months post-release; Wave 3 = 9 months post-release; Wave 4 = 15 months post-release.

The findings for reincarceration (shown in Exhibit 71) indicate that the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents were equally likely to be reincarcerated within 3, 6, and 9 months of release but that the SVORI participants were significantly *more* likely to be reincarcerated within 12, 15, 21, and 24 months of release.

When gender differences in recidivism were examined, the data suggested that women were less likely to recidivate than men. Although no gender differences were evident during the immediate post-release time period (i.e., the first 3 months after release), at both the 9- and 15-month time periods women were less likely to report having committed a violent/weapon crime, less likely to report having been incarcerated at the time of interview, and less likely to report having been incarcerated during the reference period or at the time of interview. Interestingly, no gender differences were evident in self-reported perpetration of violence or compliance with supervision conditions.

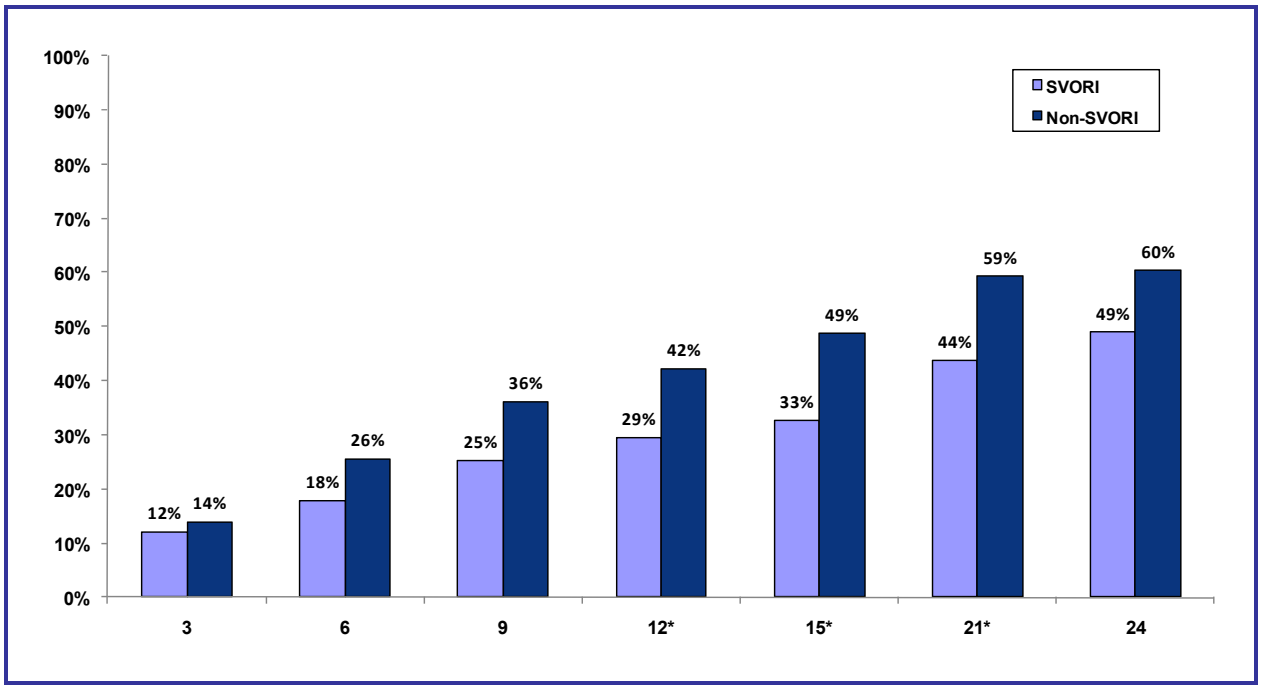
Exhibit 69. Official measures of recidivism

	SVORI Mean	Non-SVORI Mean	Est.	SE	OR	
Rearrest						
1st rearrest within 3 months of release	12%	14%	−0.16	0.34	0.85	
1st rearrest within 6 months of release	18%	26%	−0.46	0.30	0.63	
1st rearrest within 9 months of release	25%	36%	−0.52	0.26	0.59	*
1st rearrest within 12 months of release	29%	42%	−0.56	0.25	0.57	*
1st rearrest within 15 months of release	33%	49%	−0.67	0.24	0.51	*
1st rearrest within 21 months of release	44%	59%	−0.63	0.24	0.53	*
1st rearrest within 24 months of release	49%	60%	−0.46	0.24	0.63	
Rearrest within 21 months for violent crime	7%	12%	−0.62	0.46	0.54	
Rearrest within 21 months for property crime	17%	22%	−0.26	0.29	0.77	
Rearrest within 21 months for drug crime	15%	21%	−0.41	0.31	0.66	
Rearrest within 21 months for public order crime	32%	40%	−0.36	0.24	0.70	
Rearrest within 21 months for other crime	4%	7%	−0.59	0.58	0.56	
Rearrest within 24 months for violent crime	8%	12%	−0.48	0.40	0.62	
Rearrest within 24 months for property crime	19%	24%	−0.31	0.28	0.73	
Rearrest within 24 months for drug crime	16%	21%	−0.36	0.30	0.69	
Rearrest within 24 months for public order crime	34%	41%	−0.30	0.24	0.74	
Rearrest within 24 months for other crime	2%	7%	−1.11	0.58	0.33	
Reincarceration						
1st reincarceration within 3 months of release	4%	2%	0.76	0.76	2.13	
1st reincarceration within 6 months of release	10%	8%	0.24	0.40	1.27	
1st reincarceration within 9 months of release	15%	11%	0.38	0.33	1.46	
1st reincarceration within 12 months of release	24%	14%	0.69	0.29	1.99	*
1st reincarceration within 15 months of release	30%	17%	0.75	0.26	2.13	*
1st reincarceration within 21 months of release	36%	21%	0.74	0.25	2.09	*
1st reincarceration within 24 months of release	41%	22%	0.87	0.24	2.38	*

*$p < 0.05$ for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

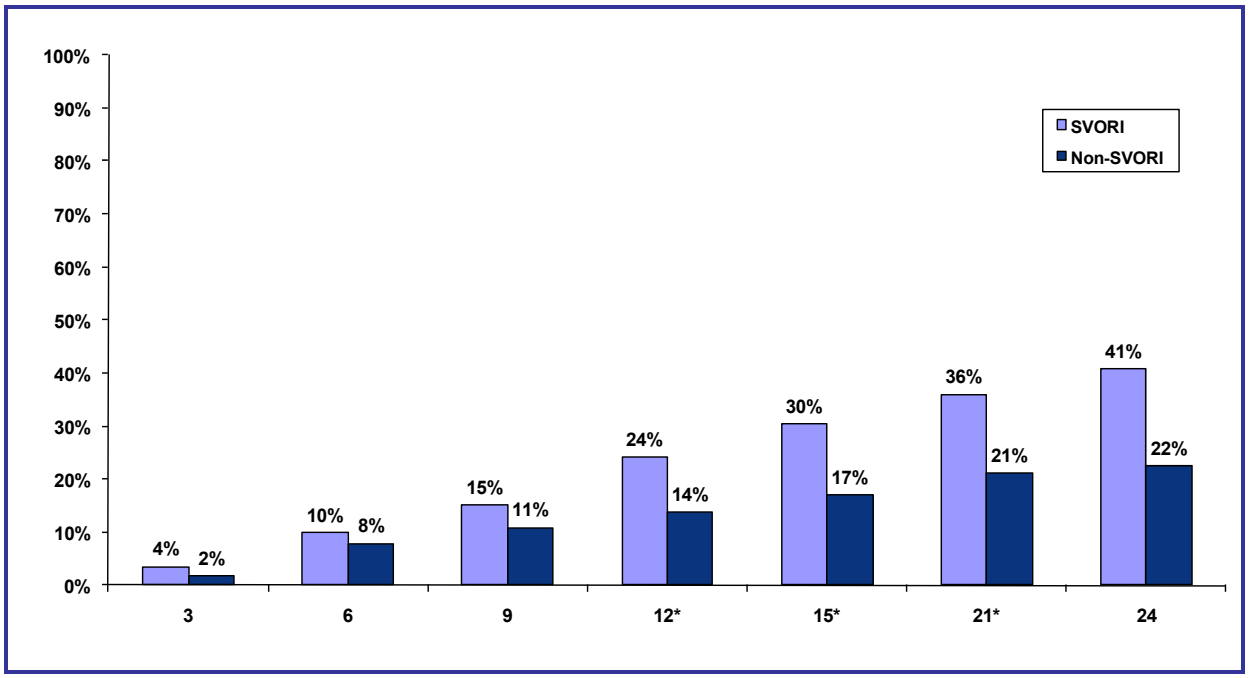
When gender differences in official measures of recidivism were examined, the data showed that significantly lower proportions of women than men were arrested at all time periods after the first 3 months of release (e.g., significant differences in likelihood of rearrest were observed for 6, 9, 12, 15, 21, and 24 months post-release). When the types of crimes for which individuals were arrested were considered, gender differences were most pronounced for person/violent and drug crimes—both of which were significantly higher for men. By official measures of reincarceration, women were also significantly less likely than men to be reincarcerated within 9, 12, 15, 21, and 24 months of release.

Exhibit 70. Months to first rearrest



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Exhibit 71. Months to first reincarceration



*p < 0.05 for test of significant difference between SVORI and non-SVORI.

Conclusions

The findings in this report substantiate prior research indicating that female prisoners returning to their communities are a population with extremely high needs (see, e.g., Mallik-Kane & Visher, 2008). The women included in the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation had numerous physical and mental health problems, extensive substance abuse histories, substantial experience with the criminal justice system, extensive exposure to drug or criminally involved family members and peers, and substantial housing challenges. Furthermore, when asked about their needs for specific services, the women reported extremely high levels of service need across most service areas.

SVORI funding offered correctional agencies an opportunity to intervene by providing a range of services designed to facilitate successful reentry for returning prisoners. Although almost all of the adult SVORI programs served both women and men, the extent to which programming was customized for women is unclear. Among the 11 impact sites that served both men and women, the great majority of participants identified for inclusion in the impact study were male and, according to information gathered during site visits, little difference was apparent between the program models (service delivery approaches) employed for men and those for women. In other words, gender-specific programming was not emphasized.

Although the customization of programming for women was not emphasized across impact sites, the programs included components that have been found to be important for successful reentry for women (e.g., housing and employment services; La Vigne, Brooks, & Shollenberger, 2008; O'Brien, 2001). Importantly, the programs were successful in increasing the services provided to female participants. The women who participated in SVORI reported substantially higher levels of

service receipt than comparable women not enrolled in SVORI, across almost all types of services. In addition, the higher levels of service receipt found for SVORI participants persisted even after their release (with significantly higher levels of service receipt documented at 3, 9, and 15 months post-release), which suggests that the SVORI programs were better than "treatment as usual" at linking women with services in the community. The sustained post-release service delivery is particularly notable when compared with the pattern observed among male participants, for whom differences in service receipt, as reported by SVORI participants and comparison group members, generally were not observed beyond 9 months post-release.

Importantly, however, the levels of services that female SVORI participants received, although a significant improvement over "treatment as usual," failed to match their high levels of need. Levels of service receipt were substantially lower than service need, indicating that very small proportions of women received the services they needed. Even though women's perceptions of service need declined over the post-release follow-up period, the extent of services they received declined concomitantly, so levels of unmet need remained extremely high.

Nevertheless, even though service receipt was low in comparison with the women's high needs, participation in SVORI was indeed linked to improved reentry outcomes in several dimensions. Employment and substance abuse were the domains for which the most consistent positive outcomes were observed.

With respect to employment outcomes, which were strongest at the 15-month post-release time period, women who enrolled in SVORI programs were more likely to report that they were supporting themselves with a job, were more likely to have worked significantly more months, had significantly higher employment stability (as measured by months worked at the same job), were more likely to receive formal pay, and were less likely to report having received money from illegal activities (although this finding was observed only for the 3-month post-release time period). The successful impact on employment is to be expected because employment was the programmatic focus most commonly reported by the SVORI program directors—a finding confirmed by the high levels of

employment service receipt reported by the women who participated in SVORI. That, for many dimensions of employment, differences were not statistically significant until the 15-month time period is, however, somewhat surprising. This pattern may have emerged because, while employment "success" steadily increased over time for the SVORI group, it "dropped off" for the non-SVORI group at the 15-month post-release time period. Overall, the positive improvements across a variety of employment domains support the conclusion that the SVORI programs were effective in improving employment outcomes.

The findings for substance abuse similarly suggest positive outcomes for SVORI participants. Using a rigorous measure of substance use, which combines self-reported data and oral fluids drug test results, it was found that at both 3 and 15 months after release, women who enrolled in SVORI were significantly less likely than the comparison women to have used drugs during the reference period and during the 30 days preceding assessment. This finding is particularly important because of the extensive substance abuse histories reported by the women and the fact that, for women overall, abstinence from substance use appears to become increasingly more difficult throughout the post-release follow-up period. The women who participated in SVORI reported much higher receipt of substance abuse treatment services than comparison women at all time periods, which suggests that the substance abuse services delivered through SVORI had an impact on post-release abstinence from use.

Although the SVORI programs positively influenced women's employment and substance use outcomes, they did not appear to have an impact on several relevant reentry domains. SVORI programming was not associated with successful housing outcomes (which gradually improved for all women throughout the post-release follow-up period), family and peer relationships (which remained relatively stable throughout the post-release period), physical health (which remained relatively stable throughout the post-release period), and mental health (which also remained relatively stable throughout the post-release period). For these domains, women enrolled in SVORI and women receiving "treatment as usual" had similar outcomes. When levels of service receipt for services directly relevant to these outcomes are reviewed (e.g., assistance

finding a place to live, medical treatment, domestic violence services, and child services), these findings are not necessarily surprising, because no significant differences were observed between the SVORI and non-SVORI groups (or, for domestic violence and child services, such a small number of women reported service receipt that minimum cell size requirements for regression analyses were not met). In addition, SVORI program director reports of programmatic emphasis confirm that family, physical health, and mental health services were not major foci for their adult programs. This is unfortunate given the importance prior research has placed on the importance of familial relationships in the reentry process (e.g., La Vigne et al., 2008; O'Brien, 2001; Richie, 2001) and the high levels of both physical and mental health problems reported by returning women.

While conclusions about the effectiveness of SVORI are relatively consistent for the domains just discussed, they are more mixed for criminal behavior and recidivism outcomes. Women who participated in SVORI programs had better outcomes than comparison subjects for several dimensions of criminal behavior/recidivism. Specifically, SVORI participants reported significantly fewer violent/weapon crimes (at 15 months post-release) and reported significantly less perpetration of violence (at 15 months post-release) than comparison group members.[12] SVORI-enrolled women also had significantly lower rearrest rates (within 9, 12, 15, and 21 months of release), based on official arrest records, than their non-SVORI counterparts. Although the differences in arrest rates were not significantly different at 3, 6, and 24 months post-release, the pattern is the same; fewer SVORI than comparison women were arrested. Despite these findings, SVORI participants were significantly *less* likely to report that they complied with their supervision conditions (at 9 months post-release) and had significantly *higher* reincarceration rates (within 12, 15, 21, and 24 months of release) according to official corrections data.

Two explanations for the findings of lower rearrest and higher reincarceration are plausible. First, the role of site-level effects cannot be ruled out. As discussed in the "Design and Methods"

[12] When commission of *any* crimes was examined, no significant differences were observed in the percentages of the SVORI and non-SVORI respondents who reported committing a crime.

section, the women were not evenly distributed across the 11 sites and, within a site, the SVORI and non-SVORI groups were not evenly distributed. This pattern is exacerbated by the fact that the overall number of women is relatively small (n = 357). Consequently, state-level policies or practices may have had an impact on the reincarceration findings yet be unrelated to other outcomes. For example, state reincarceration rates, post-release supervision rates, post-release supervision intensity, and violation rates may have had a major impact on reincarceration.

The disproportionate composition of the SVORI and non-SVORI groups within the impact sites may at least partly explain the apparently contradictory pattern observed for rearrest and reincarceration if site practices or policies are associated with reincarceration (which is almost certainly the case). For example, reincarceration rates varied substantially across states. Because many states contained women only (or primarily) from either the SVORI or the non-SVORI groups, the ability to distinguish between program effects and state practices was confounded. Several analyses were conducted in an effort to examine this hypothesis (for example, some analyses were conducted excluding Indiana, which included half of the comparison women; other analyses included Indiana as a control variable), but similar results were found. In the end, the ability to examine this issue was limited by the distribution of cases across site.

A second possible explanation is that SVORI program participants were more likely than comparison subjects to have been at risk for post-release supervision revocation—because either they were more likely to be on supervision, or they were subject to more conditions of supervision. The SVORI participants were more likely than the non-SVORI respondents to report being under post-release supervision at all time points (with the difference being particularly dramatic at 9 months post-release, when 80% of the SVORI participants compared to only 56% of the comparison women reported being on supervision). Supervision clearly carries with it the threat of violation (for failure to comply with supervision requirements) that may result in reincarceration. Consequently, SVORI program participants may have been at higher risk of revocation than comparison subjects.

To the extent that violations (and revocations) can occur without an associated arrest, technical revocations would explain why reincarceration (yet not rearrest) rates were higher for the SVORI group. However, the administrative data obtained from some probation and parole agencies was limited (and did not consistently include supervision start/end dates and violation data), which constrained the options for exploring this possibility. The self-reported data that were therefore relied upon for supervision status (1) are available only for women who completed a particular follow-up interview (unlike the official rearrest and reincarceration data, which were obtained for the full pre-release sample) and (2) reflect only the women's "current" (i.e., at the time of the interview) supervision status. With these constraints in mind, the reincarceration outcome models were estimated, controlling for self-reported 3-month post-release supervision status. Similar results were found—significantly higher reincarceration rates for the SVORI group than for the non-SVORI group.

A related consideration is that the conditions of supervision for the SVORI program participants were more substantial than for the comparison subjections—meaning, essentially, that overall supervision *intensity* could have contributed to the higher reincarceration rate of SVORI participants. Although primarily focused on the pre-release phase, some SVORI programs hired specialized parole officers to provide post-release supervision to SVORI participants. In some sites, the intent was for these parole officers to have reduced caseloads, with the goal of providing more intense supervision. It is possible, therefore, that SVORI participants experienced greater supervision intensity (being subject to more supervision conditions, more drug testing, more frequent meetings, etc.), which made compliance with supervision more difficult and increased the chance that any noncompliance would be detected. The finding that SVORI participants were more likely to self-report that they had failed to comply with their supervision conditions (found at 9 months post-release) may support this hypothesis (in that their supervision conditions could have been more difficult to comply with), although it is also possible that they simply were less compliant than the non-SVORI group.

When the models for the outcomes of reincarceration were run, controlling for self-reported number of supervision conditions at 3 months post-release (the time period most likely to reflect

post-release supervision following release from the instant incarceration), the results for treatment status did not change. However, when the same model was run controlling for self-reported number of supervision conditions at 15 months post-release (the interview wave closest to the first time period at which significant differences in reincarceration were identified for the two groups), treatment status was no longer significant. This finding suggests that the number of supervision conditions required for SVORI participants at the 15-month post-release time period may have contributed to their greater likelihood of reincarceration (potentially through technical revocations not associated with an arrest). Further investigation into the role of supervision intensity (based on both self-reported and official probation/parole data) is warranted.

Despite the mixed results found for criminal behavior/recidivism outcomes, the positive findings observed for employment and substance use support the conclusion that the SVORI programs were successful in improving some reentry outcomes for women. The data have shown that enhanced access to a variety of reentry services resulted in modest improvements. These promising outcomes suggest that the reentry efforts initiated through SVORI funding provide a strong foundation for future reentry efforts. Indeed, many SVORI grantee agencies indicated in 2007 that they were continuing the efforts initiated through SVORI funding, expanding and updating their programs to reflect evolutions in thinking about prisoner reentry that have taken place in the years since the SVORI funds were awarded in 2002.

Several policy and practice implications for service providers and agencies working with returning female prisoners are suggested by the findings. First, the current evaluation's detailed documentation of service areas for which women reported high needs can be used for effective planning and service delivery. Women consistently identified services related to employment, education, and skills as their top area of need. The individual services identified as a need by the most women were more education, job training, and a job itself. Large proportions of women also reported needing public health care insurance and financial assistance. The identification of these "high-need" service areas can be used by supervision and community-based service providers who work with formerly incarcerated women.

Second, because of the variety of challenges that returning women prisoners face, particularly with respect to mental and physical health problems, extensive family responsibilities, and lack of employment experience (as compared with that of reentering male prisoners), effective coordination of services is necessary. Services should be not only available but also accompanied by close coordination among populations with extremely high levels of need, so that the effectiveness of services may be maximized. Appropriate identification of needs, treatment planning, and follow-up may be particularly important for women. Indeed, Bloom has also highlighted the importance of coordinating a range of comprehensive and collaborative services and even includes it as a "guiding principle" of gender-responsive strategies for women offenders (Bloom et al., 2003, p. 82).

Finally, the temporal patterns observed during the follow-up periods in the SVORI evaluation may have implications for supervision and service delivery. For some outcomes, declines over time (i.e., the further "out" from release) appear to be the natural course of events. For example, substance use and criminal behavior/recidivism appeared to worsen over time for both SVORI participants and comparison group members. For other outcomes, however, *improvements* over time seem to be the predominant pattern. For example, women's housing situation, employment quality, resumption of primary care responsibilities for their children, and extent of community involvement appear to gradually improve over time, indicating that many women "find their footing" in these dimensions. These findings may be used to help identify the appropriate point (and area of need) at which to intervene. The time period around 9 months after release appears to be a particularly challenging time for women, according to the data. For example, the extent of housing challenges faced (including homelessness) was higher at 9 months post-release than at 3 months or 15 months. In addition, self-reported drug use was highest at the 9-month post-release time period. Future work that not only extends the post-release follow-up period beyond 15 months but also documents women's reentry experiences at more frequent intervals would further inform decisions about the most influential points of intervention.

References

Bloom, B., Owen, B., & Covington, S. (2003). *Gender-responsive strategies: Research, practice, and guiding principles for women offenders*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Corrections.

Covington, S. S. (2003). A woman's journey home: Challenges for female offenders. In J. Travis & M. Waul (Eds.), *Prisoners once removed: The impact of incarceration and reentry on children, families, and communities* (pp. 67–103). Washington, DC: Urban Institute Press.

Giordano, P. C., Cernkovich, S. A., & Rudolph, J. L. (2002). Gender, crime, and desistance: Toward a theory of cognitive transformation. *American Journal of Sociology, 107*, 990–1064.

Glaze, L. E. (2008). *Parents in prison and their minor children*. Washington, DC: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Koons, B. A., Burrow, J. D., Morash, M., & Bynum, T. (1997). Expert and offender perceptions of program elements linked to successful outcomes for incarcerated women. *Crime & Delinquency, 43*(4), 512–532.

La Vigne, N. G., Brooks, L. E., & Shollenberger, T. L. (2008). *Women on the outside: Understanding the experiences of female prisoners returning to Houston, Texas*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Lattimore, P. K., Brumbaugh, S., Visher, C., Lindquist, C. H., Winterfield, L., Salas, M., et al. (2004). *National portrait of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

Lattimore, P. K., & Steffey, D. M. (2009). *The Multi-Site Evaluation of SVORI: Methodology and analytic approach*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

Lattimore, P. K., Visher, C. A., & Steffey, D. M. (2008). *Pre-release characteristics and service receipt among adult male participants in the SVORI Multi-site Evaluation*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

Lindquist, C. (2005). *Reentry research in action: Implementation of SVORI programs*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

Mallik-Kane, K., & Visher, C. A. (2008). *Health and prisoner reentry: How physical, mental, and substance abuse conditions shape the process of reintegration*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute.

Morash, M., Bynum, T. S., & Koons, B. A. (1998). *Women offenders: Programming needs and promising approaches*. Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice.

O'Brien, P. (2001). Just like baking a cake: Women describe the necessary ingredients for successful reentry after incarceration. *Families in Society, 82*, 287–295.

O'Brien, P., & Harm, N. J. (2002). Women's recidivism and reintegration: Two sides of the same coin. In J. Figueira-McDonough & R. C. Sarri (Eds.), *Women at the margins: Neglect, punishment, and resistance* (pp. 295–315). Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press.

Richie, B. (2001). Challenges incarcerated women face as they return to their communities: Findings from life history interviews. *Crime & Delinquency, 47*, 368–389.

Rubin, D. B. (2006). *Matched sampling for causal effects*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Sabol, W. J., & Couture, H. (2008). *Prison inmates at midyear 2007*. Washington, DC: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Seiter, R. P., & Kadela, K. R. (2003). Prisoner reentry: What works, what does not, and what is promising. *Crime & Delinquency, 49*(3), 360-388.

Strategic Advantages (2000). *Symptom Assessment-45 Questionnaire (SA-45)*. New York: Multi-Health Systems.

Ware, J. E., Jr., Kosinski, M., Turner-Bowker, D. M., & Gandek, B. (2002). *How to score version 2 of the SF-12 health survey (with a supplement documenting version 1)*. Lincoln, RI: QualityMetric.

West, H. C., & Sabol, W. J. (2008). *Prisoners in 2007*. Washington, DC: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Winterfield, L., & Brumbaugh, S. (2005). *Reentry research in action: Overview of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

Winterfield, L., Lattimore, P. K., Steffey, D. M., Brumbaugh, S., & Lindquist, C. (2006). The Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative: Measuring the effects on service delivery. *Western Criminology Review, 7*(2), 3-19.

Winterfield, L., & Lindquist, C. (2005). *Reentry research in action: Characteristics of prisoner reentry programs*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

Appendix A. Data Tables

Exhibit A-1. Adult female case disposition—Wave 1 (pre-release)

	SVORI		Non-SVORI		All Cases	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total All Cases	**264**	**44.82%**	**325**	**55.18%**	**589**	**100%**
Case Disposition—Eligible Cases	**SVORI N**	**SVORI % of Eligible**	**Non-SVORI N**	**Non-SVORI % of Eligible**	**All Cases N**	**All Cases % of Eligible**
Completed						
Interview completed	153	69.86%	204	68.69%	357	69.19%
Released Early						
R released before Wave 1 interview	48	21.92%	66	22.22%	114	22.09%
Refused						
Final refusal by R, guardian or other	12	5.48%	26	8.75%	38	7.36%
Access Denied						
Access to R denied by prison	2	0.91%	1	0.34%	3	0.58%
Other Non-Interview						
R absconded	1	0.46%	0	0.00%	1	0.19%
Physically/mentally incapable	2	0.91%	0	0.00%	2	0.39%
Other non-interview	1	0.46%	0	0.00%	1	0.19%
Total Eligible Cases	**219**	**100.00%**	**297**	**100.00%**	**516**	**100.00%**
Case Disposition—Ineligible Cases	**SVORI N**	**SVORI % of Eligible**	**Non-SVORI N**	**Non-SVORI % of Eligible**	**All Cases N**	**All Cases % of Eligible**
Ineligible Cases						
R transferred to non-study facility	2	4.44%	5	17.86%	7	9.59%
R releasing to non-study area	1	2.22%	0	0.00%	1	1.37%
R not releasing during data collection period	12	26.67%	10	35.71%	22	30.14%
Date of release unknown	1	2.22%	0	0.00%	1	1.37%
Case fielded incorrectly	2	4.44%	3	10.71%	5	6.85%
R ineligible to participate	24	53.33%	9	32.14%	33	45.21%
Other ineligible	3	6.67%	1	3.57%	4	5.48%
Total Ineligible Cases	**45**	**100.00%**	**28**	**100.00%**	**73**	**100.00%**

Note: R = respondent.

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Demographics and Housing					
Age at incarceration	357	29.69 (7.17)	28.86 (6.62)	30.31 (7.51)	−1.90
Age at pre−release (Wave 1) interview	357	31.41 (6.85)	31.10 (6.13)	31.64 (7.34)	−0.76
White	357	0.44 (0.50)	0.48 (0.50)	0.41 (0.49)	1.32
Black	357	0.41 (0.49)	0.35 (0.48)	0.45 (0.50)	−1.78
Hispanic	357	0.06 (0.24)	0.08 (0.27)	0.05 (0.22)	1.11
Multiracial/other	357	0.10 (0.29)	0.09 (0.29)	0.10 (0.30)	−0.21
Born in United States	357	0.99 (0.11)	0.99 (0.11)	0.99 (0.10)	−0.29
English was primary language	357	0.97 (0.18)	0.96 (0.19)	0.97 (0.17)	−0.51
Homeless/shelter/no set place to live before incarceration	357	0.22 (0.41)	0.19 (0.39)	0.24 (0.43)	−1.04
Employment History					
Ever held a job	357	0.95 (0.22)	0.93 (0.26)	0.96 (0.19)	−1.31
Employed during 6 months before incarceration	357	0.53 (0.50)	0.51 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.58
Source of support 6 months before incarceration: Family	357	0.49 (0.50)	0.46 (0.50)	0.50 (0.50)	−0.76
Source of support 6 months before incarceration: Friends	357	0.27 (0.45)	0.21 (0.41)	0.32 (0.47)	−2.31
Source of support 6 months before incarceration: Government	357	0.30 (0.46)	0.25 (0.43)	0.34 (0.47)	−1.84
Source of support 6 months before incarceration: Illegal income	357	0.45 (0.50)	0.50 (0.50)	0.42 (0.49)	1.63
Source of support 6 months before incarceration: Other	357	0.04 (0.21)	0.05 (0.21)	0.04 (0.21)	0.86
Last job: Hours worked per week	187	39.55 (16.14)	39.49 (13.91)	39.58 (17.59)	−0.04
Last job: Hourly salary	179	10.16 (8.41)	9.42 (6.64)	10.66 (9.44)	−1.03
Last job: Was permanent	188	0.74 (0.44)	0.82 (0.39)	0.69 (0.46)	2.02
Last job: Received formal pay	188	0.78 (0.42)	0.91 (0.29)	0.68 (0.47)	4.14
Last job: Health insurance provided	185	0.32 (0.47)	0.36 (0.48)	0.30 (0.46)	0.86
Completed 12th grade or GED/other high school equivalent	357	0.62 (0.49)	0.71 (0.45)	0.55 (0.50)	3.09
Currently in school	357	0.23 (0.42)	0.25 (0.43)	0.21 (0.41)	0.84
Ever served in the military	357	0.01 (0.12)	0.01 (0.11)	0.01 (0.12)	−0.13
Family and Peers					
Married	357	0.14 (0.35)	0.17 (0.38)	0.12 (0.32)	1.38
Involved in steady relationship 6 months before incarceration	357	0.71 (0.45)	0.71 (0.45)	0.72 (0.45)	−0.07

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Family and Peers (continued)					
Currently married or in steady relationship	353	0.48 (0.50)	0.48 (0.50)	0.49 (0.50)	−0.02
Lived with spouse/partner before incarceration	171	0.65 (0.48)	0.66 (0.48)	0.65 (0.48)	0.17
Had any living children	357	0.83 (0.37)	0.85 (0.36)	0.82 (0.38)	0.66
Number of children (only respondents with children)	298	2.79 (1.65)	2.78 (1.60)	2.80 (1.69)	−0.07
Number of children (respondents with and without children)	357	2.33 (1.83)	2.37 (1.78)	2.30 (1.87)	0.32
Had child or children younger than 18	357	0.76 (0.43)	0.79 (0.41)	0.73 (0.44)	1.32
Primary care responsibilities for any children younger than 18 years old 6 months before incarceration	270	0.54 (0.50)	0.55 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.14
Number of children younger than 18 supported 6 months before incarceration	124	0.71 (1.10)	0.80 (1.25)	0.64 (0.95)	0.79
Required to pay child support 6 months before incarceration	269	0.13 (0.34)	0.17 (0.37)	0.11 (0.31)	1.39
Made court-ordered child support payments 6 months before incarceration	36	0.39 (0.49)	0.45 (0.51)	0.31 (0.48)	0.83
Court order for support changed while incarcerated	33	0.30 (0.47)	0.28 (0.46)	0.33 (0.49)	−0.34
Owed back child support	32	0.91 (0.30)	0.95 (0.23)	0.85 (0.38)	0.95
Dollar amount of back child support owed	24	6688 −8639	6219 −6760	7625 −12073	−0.37
State had forgiven/decreased back child support	27	0.04 (0.19)	0.06 (0.24)	0.00 0.00	1.00
Had people in life considered family	357	0.97 (0.17)	0.97 (0.16)	0.97 (0.17)	0.18
Had a family member who had been convicted of a crime	341	0.78 (0.41)	0.79 (0.41)	0.77 (0.42)	0.45
Had a family member who had been in a correctional facility	342	0.80 (0.40)	0.81 (0.39)	0.78 (0.41)	0.56
Had a family member who had had problems with drugs/alcohol	344	0.82 (0.39)	0.83 (0.38)	0.81 (0.40)	0.59
Family emotional support scale (0–30: > more support)	345	20.96 (5.86)	21.14 (6.12)	20.83 (5.66)	0.49
Had a friend (before incarceration) who had been convicted of a crime	324	0.76 (0.43)	0.78 (0.42)	0.75 (0.43)	0.66
Had a friend (before incarceration) who had been in a correctional facility	329	0.74 (0.44)	0.70 (0.46)	0.78 (0.42)	−1.47
Had a friend (before incarceration) who had had problems with drugs or alcohol	339	0.79 (0.41)	0.80 (0.40)	0.79 (0.41)	0.10
Physical and Mental Health					
Physical health scale (>better)	351	49.11 (12.17)	50.47 (11.50)	48.10 (12.57)	1.81
Mental health scale (>better)	351	43.80 (12.65)	46.05 (12.66)	42.14 (12.42)	2.89

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Physical and Mental Health (continued)					
Received treatment for mental health problem before this incarceration	357	0.50 (0.50)	0.44 (0.50)	0.55 (0.50)	−1.96
Global Severity Index (45–225: >worse)	357	79.01 (31.55)	74.90 (29.85)	82.09 (32.50)	−2.14
Positive Symptom Total (0–45: >worse)	357	17.39 (11.33)	16.08 (11.09)	18.37 (11.43)	−1.89
Anxiety scale (5–25: >worse)	357	9.57 (4.41)	9.28 (4.34)	9.78 (4.46)	−1.06
Depression scale (5–25: >worse)	357	10.26 (4.96)	9.39 (4.58)	10.91 (5.14)	−2.89
Hostility scale (5–25: >worse)	357	7.37 (3.63)	7.04 (3.33)	7.62 (3.83)	−1.50
Interpersonal sensitivity scale (5–25: >worse)	356	8.94 (4.85)	8.46 (4.48)	9.30 (5.10)	−1.60
Obsessive−compulsive scale (5–25: >worse)	357	9.48 (4.69)	9.28 (4.59)	9.62 (4.78)	−0.68
Paranoid ideation scale (5–25: >worse)	357	9.59 (4.38)	9.11 (4.25)	9.95 (4.45)	−1.79
Phobic anxiety scale (5–25: >worse)	357	7.72 (4.08)	7.28 (3.79)	8.05 (4.27)	−1.76
Psychoticism scale (5–25: >worse)	356	7.62 (3.63)	7.15 (3.39)	7.97 (3.77)	−2.11
Somatization scale (5–25: >worse)	357	8.48 (4.16)	7.91 (3.91)	8.92 (4.30)	−2.28
No physical health–related limitations	357	0.37 (0.48)	0.46 (0.50)	0.31 (0.46)	2.90
Ever had asthma	357	0.28 (0.45)	0.27 (0.44)	0.29 (0.45)	−0.44
Currently had asthma	357	0.22 (0.42)	0.20 (0.40)	0.25 (0.43)	−1.10
Was receiving treatment for asthma	80	0.74 (0.44)	0.73 (0.45)	0.74 (0.44)	−0.06
Was taking prescription for asthma	80	0.71 (0.46)	0.77 (0.43)	0.68 (0.47)	0.82
Ever had diabetes	356	0.10 (0.30)	0.09 (0.28)	0.11 (0.31)	−0.70
Currently had diabetes	356	0.07 (0.25)	0.04 (0.20)	0.09 (0.28)	−1.92
Was receiving treatment for diabetes	24	0.79 (0.41)	0.83 (0.41)	0.78 (0.43)	0.28
Was taking prescription for diabetes	24	0.67 (0.48)	0.83 (0.41)	0.61 (0.50)	0.98
Ever had heart trouble	357	0.11 (0.32)	0.08 (0.27)	0.14 (0.34)	−1.81
Currently had heart trouble	355	0.07 (0.26)	0.06 (0.24)	0.08 (0.28)	−0.90
Was receiving treatment for heart trouble	26	0.38 (0.50)	0.56 (0.53)	0.29 (0.47)	1.30
Was taking prescription for heart trouble	26	0.35 (0.49)	0.44 (0.53)	0.29 (0.47)	0.74
Ever had high blood pressure	357	0.17 (0.37)	0.14 (0.35)	0.19 (0.39)	−1.35
Currently had high blood pressure	355	0.11 (0.32)	0.09 (0.29)	0.13 (0.34)	−1.10
Was receiving treatment for high blood pressure	40	0.78 (0.42)	0.79 (0.43)	0.77 (0.43)	0.12

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Physical and Mental Health (continued)					
Was taking prescription for high blood pressure	40	0.78 (0.42)	0.79 (0.43)	0.77 (0.43)	0.12
Ever had arthritis	357	0.14 (0.35)	0.13 (0.34)	0.15 (0.36)	−0.57
Currently had arthritis	357	0.12 (0.33)	0.10 (0.30)	0.14 (0.35)	−1.28
Was receiving treatment for arthritis	44	0.18 (0.39)	0.20 (0.41)	0.17 (0.38)	0.22
Was taking prescription for arthritis	44	0.30 (0.46)	0.33 (0.49)	0.28 (0.45)	0.39
Ever had chronic back pain	357	0.24 (0.43)	0.24 (0.43)	0.25 (0.43)	−0.07
Currently had chronic back pain	357	0.21 (0.41)	0.22 (0.41)	0.21 (0.41)	0.11
Was receiving treatment for chronic back pain	76	0.20 (0.40)	0.24 (0.44)	0.16 (0.37)	0.86
Was taking prescription for chronic back pain	76	0.25 (0.44)	0.33 (0.48)	0.19 (0.39)	1.47
Ever had tuberculosis	357	0.03 (0.18)	0.04 (0.19)	0.03 (0.17)	0.51
Tuberculosis was currently active	357	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	NA
Ever diagnosed as being HIV positive or having AIDS	357	0.02 (0.13)	0.01 (0.08)	0.02 (0.16)	−1.42
Was receiving treatment for HIV/AIDS	6	0.83 (0.41)	1.00 0.00	0.80 (0.45)	NA
Was taking prescription for HIV/AIDS	6	0.67 (0.52)	1.00 0.00	0.60 (0.55)	NA
Ever had hepatitis B or C	355	0.12 (0.33)	0.12 (0.32)	0.13 (0.34)	−0.31
Currently had hepatitis B or C	352	0.11 (0.31)	0.10 (0.30)	0.12 (0.33)	−0.59
Was receiving treatment for hepatitis B or C	39	0.08 (0.27)	0.07 (0.26)	0.08 (0.28)	−0.19
Was taking prescription for hepatitis B or C	39	0.03 (0.16)	0.00 0.00	0.04 (0.20)	−1.00
Was wearing glasses or corrective lenses	357	0.41 (0.49)	0.42 (0.49)	0.40 (0.49)	0.31
Needed eyeglasses	207	0.31 (0.46)	0.27 (0.45)	0.34 (0.47)	−1.00
Currently used a hearing aid	357	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	NA
Needed a hearing aid	356	0.05 (0.22)	0.06 (0.24)	0.04 (0.21)	0.64
Ever received care for mental health or alcohol/drug problems	357	0.79 (0.41)	0.79 (0.41)	0.79 (0.41)	0.04
Ever received care for: Alcohol abuse/dependence	281	0.22 (0.41)	0.16 (0.37)	0.26 (0.44)	−2.19
Ever received care for: Anxiety	281	0.15 (0.36)	0.16 (0.37)	0.14 (0.35)	0.31
Ever received care for: Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	281	0.03 (0.18)	0.04 (0.20)	0.03 (0.16)	0.74
Ever received care for: Bipolar disorder	281	0.26 (0.44)	0.21 (0.41)	0.30 (0.46)	−1.61
Ever received care for: Conduct disorder	281	0.02 (0.13)	0.02 (0.13)	0.02 (0.14)	−0.14

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Physical and Mental Health (continued)					
Ever received care for: Depression/dysthymia	281	0.33 (0.47)	0.38 (0.49)	0.29 (0.45)	1.64
Ever received care for: Drug abuse/dependence	281	0.43 (0.50)	0.34 (0.48)	0.50 (0.50)	−2.73
Ever received care for: Obsessive−compulsive disorder	281	0.02 (0.16)	0.02 (0.16)	0.03 (0.16)	−0.01
Ever received care for: Oppositional defiant disorder	281	0.01 (0.10)	0.02 (0.13)	0.01 (0.08)	0.78
Ever received care for: Posttraumatic stress disorder	281	0.07 (0.25)	0.08 (0.28)	0.06 (0.23)	0.85
Ever received care for: Phobia (social or specific)	281	0.01 (0.12)	0.02 (0.16)	0.01 (0.08)	1.20
Ever received care for: Schizophrenia	281	0.07 (0.25)	0.07 (0.25)	0.07 (0.25)	−0.09
Ever received care for: Other problem/diagnosis	281	0.18 (0.39)	0.17 (0.38)	0.19 (0.39)	−0.30
Did not receive care for problem/no diagnosis	281	0.08 (0.27)	0.12 (0.32)	0.06 (0.23)	1.73
Currently was receiving treatment: Alcohol abuse/dependence	260	0.07 (0.26)	0.06 (0.25)	0.08 (0.27)	−0.43
Currently was receiving treatment: Anxiety disorder	260	0.05 (0.23)	0.09 (0.29)	0.03 (0.16)	2.14
Currently was receiving treatment: Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder	260	0.02 (0.12)	0.03 (0.17)	0.01 (0.08)	1.23
Currently was receiving treatment: Bipolar disorder	260	0.15 (0.36)	0.13 (0.34)	0.16 (0.37)	−0.77
Currently was receiving treatment: Conduct disorder	260	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	NA
Currently was receiving treatment: Depression/dysthymia	260	0.13 (0.34)	0.22 (0.42)	0.07 (0.26)	3.30
Currently was receiving treatment: Drug abuse/dependence	260	0.12 (0.32)	0.14 (0.35)	0.10 (0.30)	1.00
Currently was receiving treatment: Obsessive−compulsive disorder	260	0.01 (0.11)	0.01 (0.10)	0.01 (0.11)	−0.29
Currently was receiving treatment: Oppositional defiant disorder	260	0.01 (0.09)	0.01 (0.10)	0.01 (0.08)	0.24
Currently was receiving treatment: Posttraumatic stress disorder	260	0.04 (0.19)	0.05 (0.21)	0.03 (0.18)	0.55
Currently was receiving treatment: Phobia (social or specific)	260	0.01 (0.11)	0.03 (0.17)	0.00 0.00	1.75
Currently was receiving treatment: Schizophrenia	260	0.05 (0.21)	0.05 (0.21)	0.05 (0.21)	0.01
Currently was receiving treatment: Other problem/diagnosis	260	0.04 (0.20)	0.06 (0.23)	0.03 (0.18)	0.86
Currently was not receiving treatment for any condition	260	0.60 (0.49)	0.50 (0.50)	0.66 (0.47)	−2.69
Doctor prescribed medication for emotional/psychological problem during this incarceration	357	0.33 (0.47)	0.37 (0.48)	0.31 (0.46)	1.13
Received the prescribed medication	118	0.96 (0.20)	0.95 (0.23)	0.97 (0.18)	−0.60
Any victimization (6 months before incarceration)	357	0.62 (0.49)	0.62 (0.49)	0.62 (0.49)	−0.03
Victimization severity before incarceration (0–30: >worse)	357	5.69 (7.38)	5.97 (8.08)	5.49 (6.83)	0.59
Any victimization (during incarceration)	357	0.41 (0.49)	0.40 (0.49)	0.42 (0.50)	−0.43
Victimization severity during incarceration (0–36: >worse)	357	1.83 (3.63)	1.86 (3.70)	1.81 (3.58)	0.12

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Substance Use					
Ever drank any type of alcoholic beverage	357	0.96 (0.19)	0.97 (0.16)	0.95 (0.22)	1.15
Age at first drink	341	14.47 (4.53)	13.86 (4.59)	14.94 (4.44)	−2.20
Used alcohol 30 days before this incarceration	355	0.53 (0.50)	0.51 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	−0.66
Age at last drink if no alcohol 30 days prior	153	27.24 (7.59)	26.37 (6.98)	27.98 (8.04)	−1.31
Ever used drugs	357	0.94 (0.24)	0.95 (0.21)	0.93 (0.25)	0.93
Number of drugs used in lifetime	357	4.12 (2.96)	4.44 (3.04)	3.89 (2.89)	1.74
Used drugs 30 days before this incarceration	357	0.68 (0.47)	0.66 (0.48)	0.70 (0.46)	−0.72
Number of drugs used 30 days before this incarceration	357	1.71 (1.93)	1.63 (1.82)	1.77 (2.01)	−0.69
Used drugs other than marijuana and steroids 30 days before this incarceration	357	0.60 (0.49)	0.58 (0.49)	0.61 (0.49)	−0.59
Ever used sedatives	357	0.25 (0.44)	0.29 (0.46)	0.23 (0.42)	1.47
Age first used sedatives	91	18.57 (5.70)	18.71 (5.95)	18.43 (5.51)	0.23
Used sedatives 30 days before this incarceration	357	0.11 (0.31)	0.12 (0.32)	0.10 (0.30)	0.44
Age last used sedatives	51	25.39 (7.21)	24.93 (7.33)	25.92 (7.20)	−0.49
Ever used tranquilizers	357	0.36 (0.48)	0.39 (0.49)	0.34 (0.48)	0.95
Age first used tranquilizers	129	20.92 (6.70)	20.65 (6.33)	21.16 (7.05)	−0.43
Used tranquilizers 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.17 (0.37)	0.15 (0.36)	0.18 (0.39)	−0.75
Age last used tranquilizers	69	26.03 (6.73)	24.95 (5.62)	27.28 (7.73)	−1.45
Ever used stimulants	356	0.23 (0.42)	0.27 (0.45)	0.20 (0.40)	1.52
Age first used stimulants	82	17.60 (4.29)	17.46 (4.47)	17.73 (4.15)	−0.28
Used stimulants 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.09 (0.29)	0.09 (0.28)	0.10 (0.30)	−0.40
Age last used stimulants	49	25.08 (6.65)	25.39 (6.61)	24.67 (6.85)	0.37
Ever used pain relievers	357	0.35 (0.48)	0.37 (0.49)	0.33 (0.47)	0.77
Age first used pain relievers	124	20.16 (6.38)	19.74 (5.43)	20.52 (7.11)	−0.70
Used pain relievers 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.17 (0.37)	0.17 (0.38)	0.16 (0.37)	0.18
Age last used pain relievers	64	26.88 (7.66)	25.83 (7.01)	27.79 (8.19)	−1.02
Ever used methadone	356	0.10 (0.29)	0.09 (0.29)	0.10 (0.30)	−0.22
Age first used methadone	34	26.44 (6.87)	24.50 (5.53)	27.80 (7.51)	−1.40
Used methadone 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.03 (0.16)	0.03 (0.18)	0.02 (0.14)	0.74

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Substance Use (continued)					
Age last used methadone	25	29.72 (6.79)	28.00 (4.50)	30.69 (7.76)	−0.95
Ever used anabolic steroids	356	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	NA
Age first used anabolic steroids	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA
Used anabolic steroids 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	NA
Age last used anabolic steroids	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	NA
Ever used marijuana	357	0.90 (0.93)	0.90 (0.30)	0.89 (0.31)	0.30
Age first used marijuana	319	14.73 (14.04)	14.49 (3.68)	14.92 (3.62)	−1.06
Used marijuana 30 days before this incarceration	354	0.43 (0.52)	0.41 (0.49)	0.45 (0.50)	−0.71
Age last used marijuana	165	25.05 (23.47)	23.89 (7.10)	26.01 (7.83)	−1.81
Ever used hallucinogens	357	0.44 (0.50)	0.48 (0.50)	0.40 (0.49)	1.54
Age first used hallucinogens	156	17.94 (4.40)	18.04 (4.71)	17.85 (4.12)	0.26
Used hallucinogens 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.05 (0.22)	0.06 (0.24)	0.04 (0.21)	0.62
Age last used hallucinogens	138	21.80 (5.13)	21.65 (5.05)	21.95 (5.23)	−0.34
Ever used cocaine	357	0.75 (0.44)	0.74 (0.44)	0.75 (0.43)	−0.24
Age first used cocaine	265	20.31 (6.34)	19.25 (5.07)	21.08 (7.04)	−2.47
Used cocaine 30 days before this incarceration	356	0.43 (0.50)	0.37 (0.48)	0.48 (0.50)	−2.21
Age last used cocaine	110	26.92 (7.65)	26.23 (7.61)	27.66 (7.70)	−0.98
Ever used heroin	357	0.22 (0.41)	0.27 (0.44)	0.18 (0.38)	2.04
Age first used heroin	77	22.35 (5.77)	21.32 (5.14)	23.53 (6.28)	−1.70
Used heroin 30 days before this incarceration	357	0.06 (0.24)	0.06 (0.24)	0.06 (0.24)	0.00
Age last used heroin	56	24.64 (5.72)	23.81 (5.38)	25.75 (6.07)	−1.26
Ever used amphetamines	357	0.35 (0.48)	0.41 (0.49)	0.31 (0.46)	2.02
Age first used amphetamines	125	18.66 (5.50)	18.87 (6.46)	18.45 (4.34)	0.43
Used amphetamines 30 days before this incarceration	357	0.18 (0.38)	0.18 (0.39)	0.17 (0.38)	0.28
Age last used amphetamines	62	25.48 (7.57)	26.66 (8.04)	23.96 (6.75)	1.40
Ever used inhalants	357	0.18 (0.39)	0.22 (0.41)	0.16 (0.36)	1.43
Age first used inhalants	65	17.77 (5.72)	18.06 (6.45)	17.47 (4.95)	0.41
Used inhalants 30 days before this incarceration	357	0.01 (0.07)	0.00 0.00	0.01 (0.10)	−1.42
Age last used inhalants	63	20.17 (6.51)	20.82 (7.23)	19.47 (5.66)	0.82

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Current Incarceration and Criminal History					
Duration of incarceration at Wave 1 interview (years)	357	1.71 (2.06)	2.22 (2.13)	1.33 (1.92)	4.11
Wave 1 conviction offense(s) category: Person/violent crime	356	0.29 (0.46)	0.27 (0.45)	0.31 (0.46)	−0.63
Robbery	356	0.08 (0.27)	0.08 (0.27)	0.08 (0.27)	−0.01
Assault	356	0.11 (0.31)	0.08 (0.28)	0.13 (0.34)	−1.32
Lethal crime	356	0.04 (0.21)	0.06 (0.24)	0.03 (0.18)	1.06
Sex offense	356	0.03 (0.16)	0.03 (0.18)	0.02 (0.14)	0.74
Other person/violent crime	356	0.05 (0.21)	0.05 (0.21)	0.05 (0.22)	−0.15
Wave 1 conviction offense(s) category: Property crime	356	0.41 (0.49)	0.43 (0.50)	0.39 (0.49)	0.80
Burglary	356	0.06 (0.24)	0.09 (0.29)	0.03 (0.18)	2.14
Theft	356	0.16 (0.37)	0.17 (0.38)	0.16 (0.37)	0.31
Car theft	356	0.03 (0.16)	0.03 (0.18)	0.02 (0.14)	0.74
Fraud/forgery	356	0.22 (0.41)	0.24 (0.43)	0.21 (0.41)	0.64
Other property crime	356	0.04 (0.21)	0.05 (0.21)	0.04 (0.21)	0.06
Wave 1 conviction offense(s) category: Drug crime	356	0.29 (0.45)	0.32 (0.47)	0.26 (0.44)	1.22
Drug dealing/manufacturing	356	0.12 (0.33)	0.17 (0.38)	0.09 (0.28)	2.23
Drug possession	356	0.18 (0.38)	0.17 (0.38)	0.19 (0.39)	−0.42
Other drug offense	356	0.02 (0.15)	0.03 (0.18)	0.01 (0.12)	1.07
Wave 1 conviction offense(s) category: Public order crime	356	0.21 (0.41)	0.18 (0.38)	0.24 (0.43)	−1.37
Wave 1 conviction offense(s) category: Other crime	356	0.01 (0.11)	0.02 (0.14)	0.00 (0.07)	1.20
Current incarceration for probation or parole violation	357	0.26 (0.44)	0.31 (0.46)	0.23 (0.42)	1.74
Current incarceration for probation violation	357	0.06 (0.24)	0.05 (0.22)	0.07 (0.25)	−0.63
Current incarceration for parole violation	357	0.20 (0.40)	0.25 (0.44)	0.16 (0.36)	2.25
Parole violation: Technical violation	75	0.63 (0.49)	0.54 (0.50)	0.74 (0.45)	−1.79
Parole violation: New crime	75	0.37 (0.49)	0.46 (0.50)	0.26 (0.45)	1.79
Age at first arrest	347	19.14 (6.07)	19.02 (5.71)	19.24 (6.34)	−0.33
Number of lifetime arrests	329	10.58 (9.27)	9.56 (8.52)	11.36 (9.75)	−1.75
Number of lifetime convictions	333	5.36 (5.64)	4.95 (5.11)	5.68 (6.02)	−1.19
Number of lifetime convictions/age at incarceration	333	0.19 (0.21)	0.18 (0.20)	0.19 (0.21)	−0.72
Ever locked up in a juvenile correctional facility for committing a crime	356	0.33 (0.47)	0.30 (0.46)	0.36 (0.48)	−1.32

(continued)

Exhibit A-2. Respondent characteristics, by group (continued)

Characteristic	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Current Incarceration and Criminal History (continued)					
Number of times in juvenile lockup (only those who reported ever being locked up)	112	4.50 (5.87)	3.84 (4.00)	4.91 (6.78)	−1.06
Number of times in juvenile lockup (all respondents)	349	1.44 (3.93)	1.10 (2.75)	1.70 (4.61)	−1.52
Ever been in jail/prison more than 24 hours at one time	357	0.83 (0.37)	0.80 (0.40)	0.86 (0.35)	−1.36
Number of times sent to prison (only those who reported ever having been in prison)	293	1.53 (3.03)	1.42 (2.15)	1.60 (3.53)	−0.55
Number of times sent to prison (all respondents)	352	1.20 (2.05)	1.14 (2.01)	1.25 (2.09)	−0.48
Any disciplinary infractions during this incarceration	356	0.52 (0.50)	0.60 (0.49)	0.45 (0.50)	−2.79
One disciplinary infraction during this incarceration	356	0.17 (0.38)	0.18 (0.39)	0.17 (0.37)	0.38
Two or more disciplinary infractions during this incarceration	356	0.34 (0.48)	0.42 (0.49)	0.29 (0.45)	2.63
Placed in administrative segregation during this incarceration	357	0.33 (0.47)	0.41 (0.49)	0.27 (0.44)	−2.72
Was currently a gang member	356	0.02 (0.13)	0.02 (0.14)	0.01 (0.12)	0.35
Considered gang to be family	6	0.83 (0.41)	0.67 (0.58)	1.00 0.00	−1.00
Relatives were members of the gang	6	0.50 (0.55)	0.67 (0.58)	0.33 (0.58)	0.71
Any perpetration of violence (6 months before incarceration)	357	0.66 (0.47)	0.65 (0.48)	0.67 (0.47)	−0.26

Note: NA = not applicable.

Exhibit A-3. Proportion of respondents who reported needing specific services, by group

Service	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non-SVORI Mean (SD)	t-statistic
Transition Services					
Legal assistance	356	0.54 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	−0.09
Financial assistance	355	0.87 (0.34)	0.90 (0.30)	0.85 (0.36)	1.58
Public financial assistance	354	0.68 (0.47)	0.61 (0.49)	0.73 (0.45)	−2.45
Public health care insurance	356	0.91 (0.29)	0.92 (0.27)	0.90 (0.30)	0.77
Mentor	357	0.83 (0.37)	0.86 (0.35)	0.81 (0.39)	1.06
Documents for employment	356	0.60 (0.49)	0.58 (0.49)	0.61 (0.49)	−0.46
Place to live	357	0.55 (0.50)	0.58 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.67
Transportation	356	0.77 (0.42)	0.82 (0.38)	0.73 (0.45)	2.15
Driver's license	356	0.79 (0.41)	0.82 (0.38)	0.77 (0.42)	1.27
Access to clothing/food banks	357	0.76 (0.43)	0.77 (0.42)	0.75 (0.43)	0.36
Health Services					
Medical treatment	356	0.78 (0.41)	0.79 (0.41)	0.77 (0.42)	0.34
Mental health treatment	356	0.56 (0.50)	0.55 (0.50)	0.57 (0.50)	−0.42
Substance use treatment	357	0.65 (0.48)	0.66 (0.48)	0.64 (0.48)	0.35
Victims' group for abuse	357	0.32 (0.47)	0.29 (0.46)	0.34 (0.47)	−0.88
Anger management program	357	0.52 (0.50)	0.42 (0.49)	0.59 (0.49)	−3.31
Employment/Education/Skills Services					
Job training	357	0.83 (0.37)	0.86 (0.35)	0.81 (0.39)	1.23
Job	355	0.83 (0.37)	0.87 (0.34)	0.81 (0.39)	1.55
More education	357	0.95 (0.22)	0.95 (0.21)	0.95 (0.23)	0.35
Money management skills	357	0.70 (0.46)	0.73 (0.45)	0.69 (0.47)	0.80
Life skills	356	0.74 (0.44)	0.73 (0.45)	0.74 (0.44)	−0.21
Work on personal relationships	357	0.78 (0.41)	0.78 (0.42)	0.79 (0.41)	−0.26
Change in attitudes on criminal behavior	356	0.75 (0.44)	0.74 (0.44)	0.75 (0.43)	−0.14
Domestic Violence Services					
Batterer intervention program	357	0.17 (0.38)	0.18 (0.39)	0.16 (0.37)	0.53
Domestic violence support group	357	0.25 (0.43)	0.22 (0.42)	0.27 (0.45)	−1.12
Child Services					
Child support payments	267	0.45 (0.5)	0.48 (0.50)	0.43 (0.50)	0.76
Modification of child support debt	29	0.86 (0.35)	0.83 (0.38)	0.91 (0.30)	−0.56
Modification of child custody	267	0.40 (0.49)	0.41 (0.49)	0.39 (0.49)	0.44
Parenting skills	270	0.70 (0.46)	0.69 (0.47)	0.72 (0.45)	−0.57
Child care	269	0.38 (0.49)	0.44 (0.50)	0.34 (0.47)	1.68

Exhibit A-4. Proportion of respondents who reported receiving specific services, by group

Service	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non−SVORI Mean (SD)	t−statistic
Coordination Services					
Needs assessment	352	0.61 (0.49)	0.81 (0.40)	0.47 (0.50)	7.14
Case manager	355	0.49 (0.50)	0.71 (0.46)	0.33 (0.47)	7.64
Release needs assessment	349	0.44 (0.50)	0.69 (0.47)	0.26 (0.44)	8.81
Reentry plan	350	0.42 (0.49)	0.73 (0.45)	0.19 (0.39)	12.05
Release planning	357	0.51 (0.50)	0.82 (0.38)	0.27 (0.44)	12.62
Transition Services					
Release preparation programs	357	0.72 (0.45)	0.90 (0.31)	0.59 (0.49)	7.22
Release preparation classes	356	0.63 (0.48)	0.83 (0.38)	0.49 (0.50)	7.38
Help accessing financial assistance	357	0.10 (0.30)	0.20 (0.40)	0.02 (0.16)	5.18
Help accessing public financial assistance	357	0.17 (0.38)	0.22 (0.42)	0.14 (0.34)	2.05
Help accessing public health care	357	0.16 (0.37)	0.26 (0.44)	0.08 (0.28)	4.39
Help obtaining legal assistance	357	0.18 (0.38)	0.22 (0.41)	0.15 (0.36)	1.65
Help with documents	356	0.51 (0.50)	0.59 (0.49)	0.44 (0.50)	2.73
Mentoring	357	0.22 (0.41)	0.38 (0.49)	0.10 (0.30)	6.31
Help finding transportation	357	0.21 (0.41)	0.25 (0.43)	0.18 (0.39)	1.54
Help finding a place to live	357	0.27 (0.44)	0.38 (0.49)	0.19 (0.39)	4.02
Help getting a driver's license	357	0.20 (0.40)	0.27 (0.45)	0.15 (0.36)	2.90
Help accessing clothing/food banks	356	0.36 (0.48)	0.43 (0.50)	0.31 (0.46)	2.36
Health Services					
Any medical treatment	357	0.71 (0.46)	0.69 (0.47)	0.72 (0.45)	−0.70
Medical treatment for physical health	357	0.55 (0.50)	0.57 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.46
Preventive medical services	357	0.55 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.56 (0.50)	−0.43
Dental services	357	0.53 (0.50)	0.63 (0.48)	0.45 (0.50)	3.48
Prescription meds for physical health	357	0.58 (0.49)	0.58 (0.50)	0.59 (0.49)	−0.25
Info on accessing health care	355	0.26 (0.44)	0.35 (0.48)	0.20 (0.40)	2.99
Any mental health treatment	357	0.41 (0.49)	0.48 (0.50)	0.35 (0.48)	2.60
Individual mental health counseling	357	0.29 (0.46)	0.36 (0.48)	0.24 (0.43)	2.47
Group mental health counseling	357	0.13 (0.34)	0.14 (0.35)	0.12 (0.32)	0.73
Info on accessing mental health care	356	0.34 (0.47)	0.46 (0.50)	0.24 (0.43)	4.42
Any substance use treatment	357	0.43 (0.50)	0.54 (0.50)	0.35 (0.48)	3.50
Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous	357	0.36 (0.48)	0.43 (0.50)	0.30 (0.46)	2.50
Drug education	357	0.30 (0.46)	0.44 (0.50)	0.20 (0.40)	4.83
Group substance use counseling	357	0.21 (0.41)	0.29 (0.46)	0.15 (0.36)	3.18
Individual substance use counseling	357	0.16 (0.36)	0.24 (0.43)	0.10 (0.30)	3.41

(continued)

Exhibit A-4. Proportion of respondents who reported receiving specific services, by group (continued)

Service	N	Full Sample Mean (SD)	SVORI Mean (SD)	Non-SVORI Mean (SD)	t-statistic
Health Services (continued)					
Any substance use treatment (continued)					
Residential substance use counseling	356	0.13 (0.33)	0.20 (0.40)	0.07 (0.25)	3.60
Methadone	356	0.01 (0.07)	0.01 (0.11)	0.00 (0.00)	1.42
Detox	357	0.01 (0.12)	0.03 (0.18)	0.00 (0.00)	2.27
Information on accessing substance use treatment	356	0.29 (0.46)	0.47 (0.50)	0.17 (0.37)	6.22
Anger management program	357	0.27 (0.44)	0.37 (0.49)	0.19 (0.39)	3.90
Groups for victims of abuse	357	0.13 (0.33)	0.18 (0.39)	0.08 (0.28)	2.70
Employment/Education/Skills Services					
Any employment services	357	0.38 (0.48)	0.52 (0.50)	0.26 (0.44)	5.15
Employment readiness program	355	0.23 (0.42)	0.35 (0.48)	0.13 (0.34)	4.73
Job training program	357	0.15 (0.35)	0.23 (0.42)	0.08 (0.28)	3.71
Talk with potential employer	357	0.10 (0.29)	0.14 (0.35)	0.06 (0.24)	2.58
Advice about job interviewing	357	0.32 (0.47)	0.47 (0.50)	0.22 (0.41)	5.13
Advice about answering questions about criminal history	357	0.32 (0.47)	0.46 (0.50)	0.22 (0.41)	4.87
Advice about how to behave on the job	357	0.30 (0.46)	0.44 (0.50)	0.20 (0.40)	5.07
Contacts in community to find a job	357	0.27 (0.45)	0.42 (0.50)	0.16 (0.36)	5.64
Resume development assistance	357	0.24 (0.43)	0.35 (0.48)	0.16 (0.36)	4.22
More education	357	0.49 (0.5)	0.60 (0.49)	0.40 (0.49)	3.79
Money management skills	357	0.23 (0.42)	0.40 (0.49)	0.10 (0.30)	6.56
Life skills	357	0.42 (0.49)	0.64 (0.48)	0.25 (0.43)	8.03
Work on personal relationships	357	0.30 (0.46)	0.45 (0.50)	0.19 (0.39)	5.43
Change in attitudes on criminal behavior	357	0.45 (0.50)	0.66 (0.48)	0.29 (0.46)	7.36
Domestic Violence Services					
Batterer intervention program	357	0.06 (0.24)	0.07 (0.26)	0.05 (0.23)	0.70
Domestic violence support group	357	0.17 (0.38)	0.24 (0.43)	0.12 (0.32)	3.00
Child Services					
Child support payments	270	0.02 (0.15)	0.03 (0.18)	0.01 (0.12)	1.04
Modification of child support debt	36	0.14 (0.35)	0.25 (0.44)	0.00 (0.00)	2.52
Modification of child custody	270	0.10 (0.30)	0.12 (0.32)	0.09 (0.28)	0.77
Parenting skills	270	0.37 (0.48)	0.50 (0.50)	0.26 (0.44)	4.35
Child care	270	0.05 (0.21)	0.08 (0.28)	0.02 (0.14)	2.26