

Review: Use of Risk Assessment

Presentation to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council
July 12, 2016
Scott Taylor

What does DCJ mean by HIGH RISK?

Risk is....

- Likelihood to reoffend
- Likelihood to appear in court

Risk is **NOT**....

- DANGEROUSNESS
- A degree of punishment

Risk Tools in Criminal Justice

- Used to predict various kinds of offender behavior in order to make decisions about case management
- Item based on theory and research
- Use an actuarial approach
- Based on a define set of factors
- Tend not to include factors that occur infrequently
- Frequently combined with policy override options

Risk to Do What?

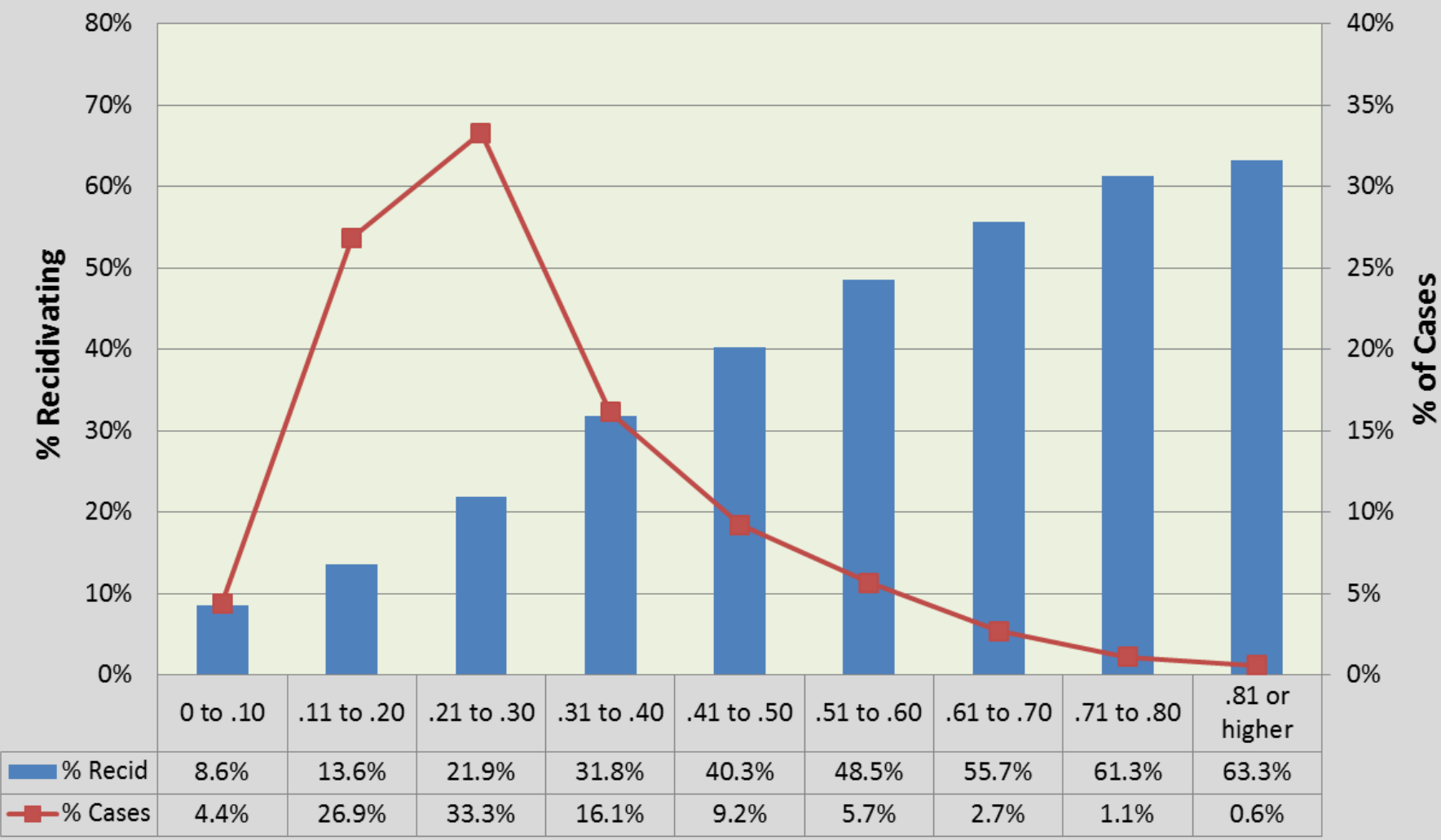
- Risk tools are used for many purposes: examples are to predict re-offending, violence, rule violations in custody, sexual offending, and failure to appear
- Each tool must be developed to address the type of risk being measured
- Example: The risk factors related to failure to appear are not the same risk factors predicting violence

Risk Tolerance may vary



PSC Performance: Validity

PSC Scores and Felony Conviction Recidivism



Risk Tools are Static or Dynamic

- Static tools predict risk using predictive factors that for the most part are hard to change.
 - Age at first conviction, # of arrests, gender, type of previous crime.
 - Examples: RAI, PSC, VRI
 - History of behavior strong predictor
- Dynamic tools predict risk using predictive factors that can be changed
 - Anti-social personality or temperament, peers, employment, education, substance abuse.
 - Examples: JCP, LSCMI, STABLE, ACUTE
 - Can be used for case management planning purposes

Variables that can affect Risk

- Variables:
 - Risk Level
 - Housing Status
 - Veterans
 - Parental Status
 - Supervision History
 - Mental Health
 - Transportation
 - Language
 - Physical Health

Questions?