

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Agency of Human Services, Department of Health, Department of Mental Health
108 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

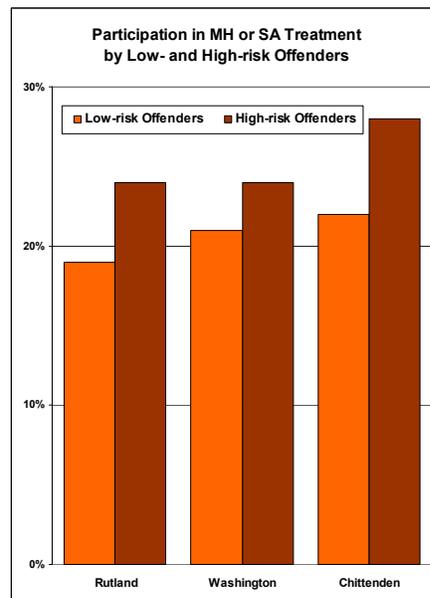
FROM: John Pandiani and Barbara Carroll

DATE: February 1, 2008

RE: DOC Community Population Receiving MH and SA Services

A recent report by the Justice Center of the Council of State Governments recommended that Vermont “connect people on conditional reentry to treatment programs in the community who need substance abuse treatment and who are high risk to reoffend.”¹ In response to that recommendation, this week’s brief report provides information on the rate at which people in the Department of Corrections (DOC) community population participated in community mental health and/or substance abuse programs in three Vermont counties (Chittenden, Rutland, and Washington) during FY2007.

This report is based on analysis of anonymous extracts from databases maintained by three Vermont state agencies. The Department of Mental Health provided basic demographic information on all individuals served by its Adult Mental Health Outpatient (AOP) programs, Substance Abuse (SA) programs, and/or Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs during the study period. Vermont’s Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs provided basic demographic information on all individuals served by its substance abuse programs, including both CMHC-based and other substance abuse programs. Vermont’s Department of Corrections provided basic demographic information on all individuals in its community population during the same period. For purposes of this analysis, the DOC community population was divided into two groups; those classified as low-risk offenders and those classified as high-risk offenders. Because these three data sets do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation² was used to determine the number of individuals in the DOC community population who participated in mental health or substance abuse treatment in FY2007.



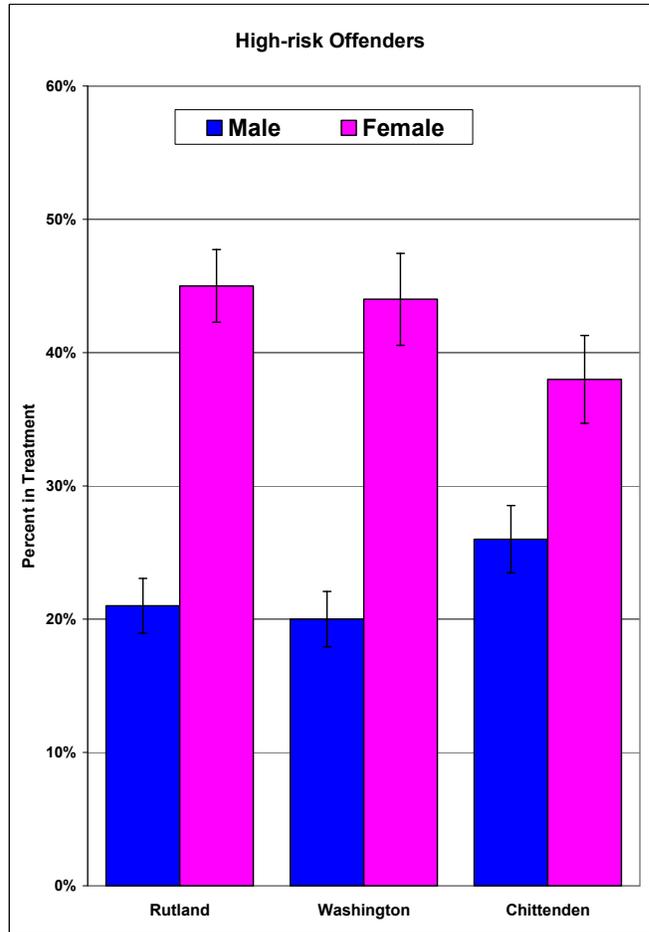
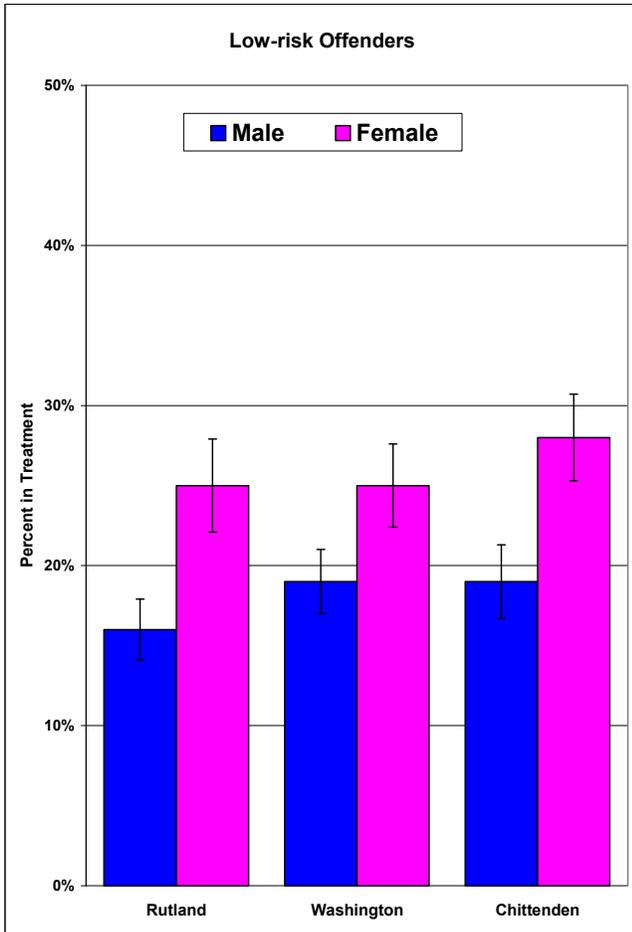
As you will see, high-risk offenders were more likely than low-risk offenders to receive community mental health and/or substance abuse services in all three counties (24% vs. 19% in Rutland County, 24% vs. 21% in Washington County, and 28% vs. 22% in Chittenden County). Female offenders were more likely than male offenders to receive community-based services in all three regions and in both offense categories.

We look forward to receiving your questions and comments about these findings, and your suggestions for further analysis of these data, at 802.863.7249 or pip@vdh.state.vt.us.

¹ Austin, J and Clement, M. (2008). *Vermont Prison Population Projection and options for Policymakers*. The Council of Sate Government Justice Center.

² Banks SM, and Pandiani JA. (2001). Probabilistic Population Estimation of the Size and Overlap of Data Sets Based on Date of Birth. *Statistics in Medicine, Vol. 20*.

Participation in Community MH/SA Treatment by Vermont DOC Community Population in FY2007



FY2007 DOC Community Population In Community MH/SA Treatment

	Total		Low-risk Offenders	High-risk Offenders
	#	%	%	%
Rutland	1,721 ± 18	20% ± 1.2%	19% ± 1.6%	24% ± 1.8%
Washington	1,578 ± 16	21% ± 1.2%	21% ± 1.6%	24% ± 1.8%
Chittenden	4,375 ± 46	23% ± 1.4%	22% ± 1.8%	28% ± 2.2%
	Total		Male	Female
	#	%	%	%
Low-risk Offenders				
Rutland	1,095 ± 11	19% ± 1.6%	16% ± 1.9%	25% ± 2.9%
Washington	988 ± 10	21% ± 1.6%	19% ± 2.0%	25% ± 2.6%
Chittenden	3,002 ± 32	22% ± 1.8%	19% ± 2.3%	28% ± 2.7%
High-risk Offenders				
Rutland	797 ± 9	24% ± 1.8%	21% ± 2.1%	45% ± 2.7%
Washington	753 ± 8	24% ± 1.8%	20% ± 2.1%	44% ± 3.5%
Chittenden	1,746 ± 19	28% ± 2.2%	26% ± 2.5%	38% ± 3.3%

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