

# Iowa Corrections: What Works

February 24, 2011

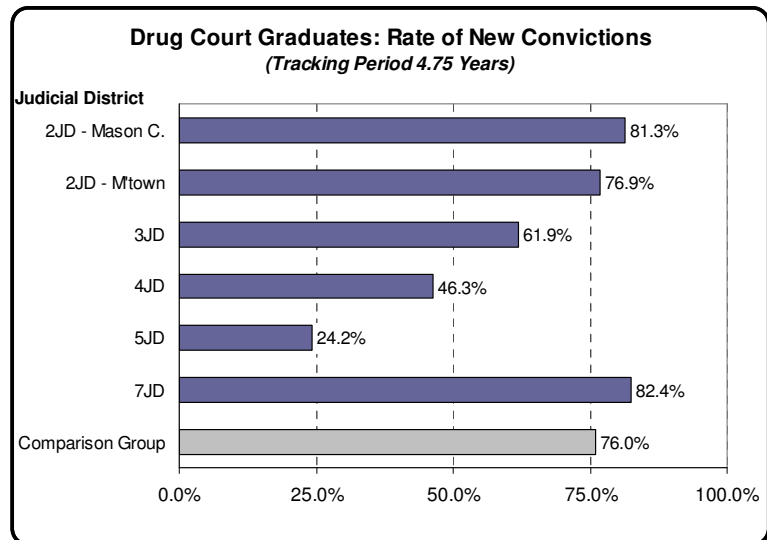
Following is a summary of documented outcomes for Iowa community-based correction and prisons. This list is not exhaustive since not all programs have undergone rigorous study.

## Drug Courts

Most drug courts are effective in reducing crime as measured by new convictions, compared with a sample of probationers not in drug court.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> district decided to discontinue their drug courts in light of these findings and need to trim budget.

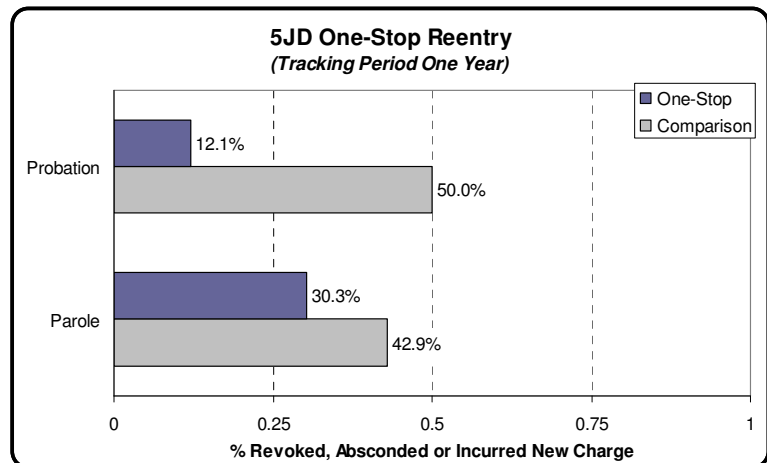
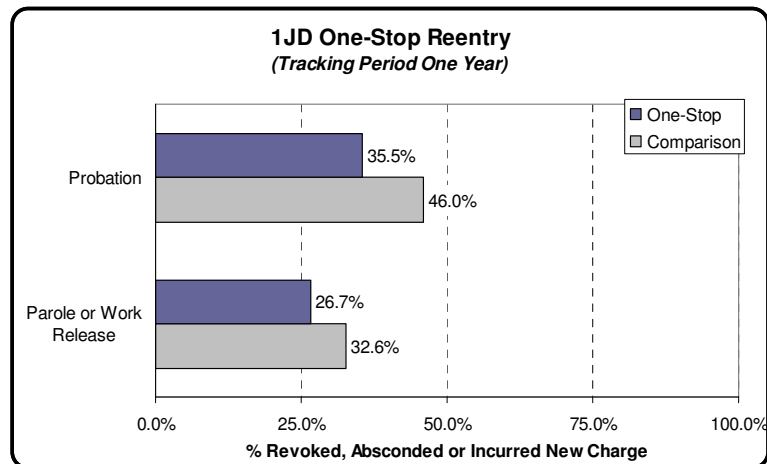
(Source: CJPJ 2009)



## One-Stop Reentry

These programs in Waterloo and Des Moines focus on the reentry needs of African-American male offenders. Compared to groups of offenders with similar sex, race, age, offense types and offender risk levels, offenders participating in one-stop reentry programs are revoked less often, abscond less often, and incur fewer new charges.

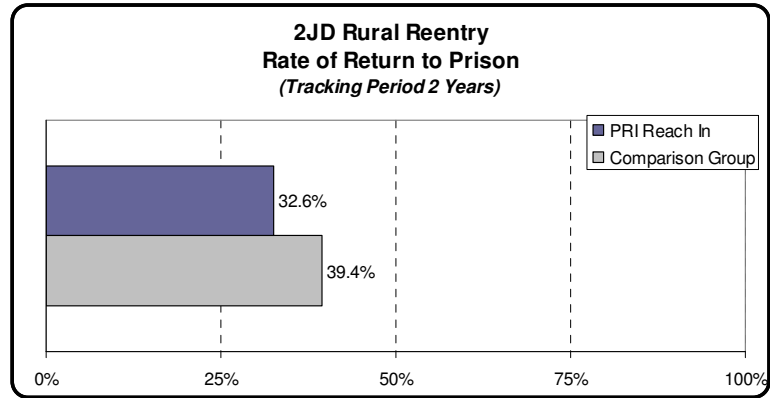
(Source: DOC 2010)



## Rural Reentry

The Reach-In prisoner reentry initiative in the 2<sup>nd</sup> judicial district is effective in reducing returns to prison, compared with offenders leaving prison prior to implementation of the reentry initiative.

(Source: CJJP 2010)



## Institution Reentry Coordinators

Reentry coordinators at prisons in Clarinda, Fort Dodge and Mt. Pleasant have been effective in achieving more positive outcomes for offenders upon release.

(Source: DOC 2010)

### Reentry Coordinators: Performance Measures FY2010/

For Released Offenders:	FY2009	Q2	Change
Drug Test Results - % Unsatisfactory	11%	4%	-7% drop
Average Days to Employment	40	30	-10 days
Average Days to Treatment Start	31	20	-11 days

## Prison Education

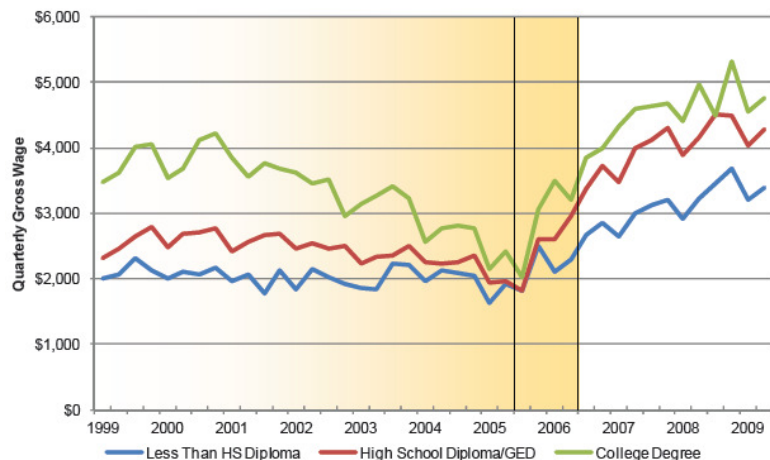
Over 500 offenders per year leave prison who had obtained a GED while incarcerated, resulting in their increased likelihood of obtaining a job, and earning higher wages than if they had not obtained their GED.

(Source: IWD 2010)

### Qualified Employment Rate by Education Level



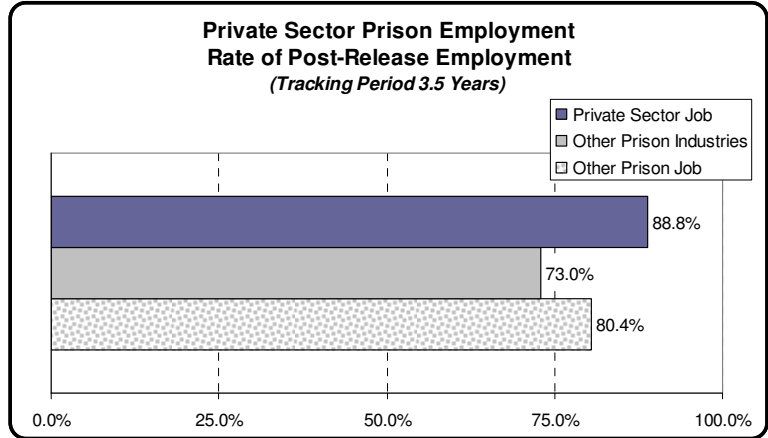
### Average Quarterly Gross Wage by Education Level



### Private Sector Prison Jobs

Private sector prison workers are significantly more likely to get jobs following release, be continuously employed, earn more and higher wages, and are significantly more likely to stay out of prison, compared to similar offenders who had worked in other prison industries or institutional jobs.

(Source: U Baltimore 2005)

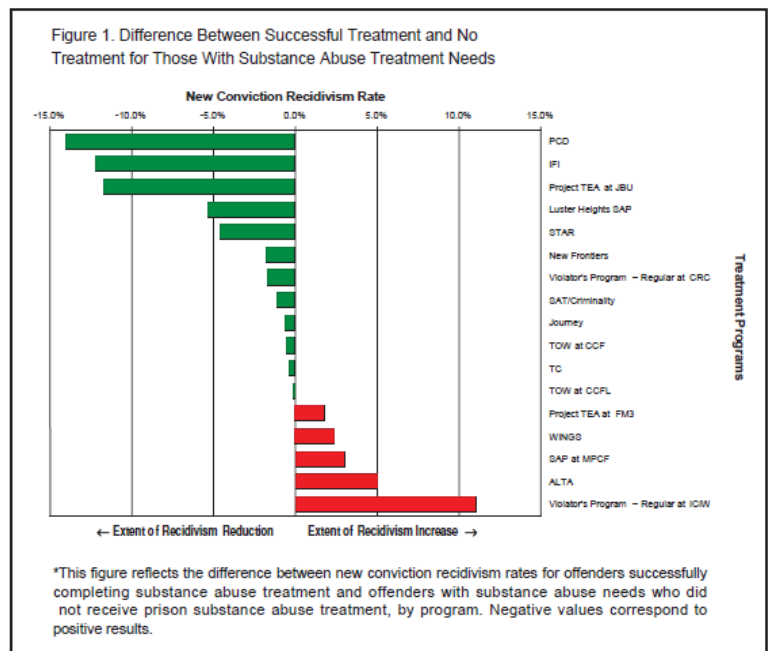


### Substance Abuse Treatment: Prisons

Some licensed substance abuse treatment programs in Iowa's prison system are effective in reducing new convictions, while others are not, compared with offenders leaving the same institution who had identified but untreated substance abuse needs.

The DOC decided to discontinue some programs and worked to improve others, in light of these findings.

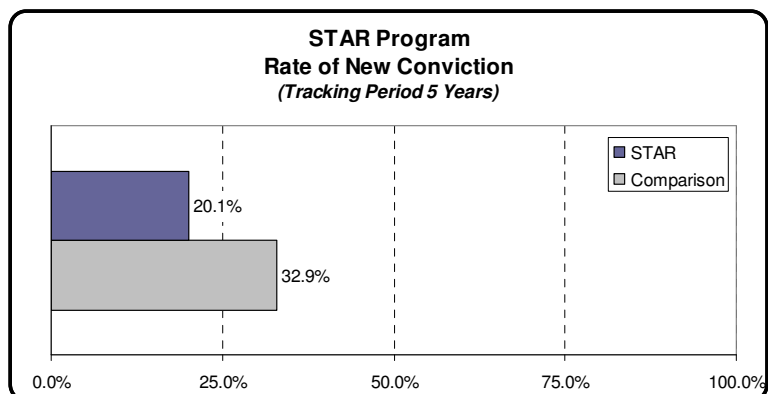
(Source: DOM 2007)



### Prison Substance Abuse Treatment for Women: STAR

The STAR inpatient substance abuse treatment program at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women is effective in reducing crime as measured by new convictions, compared with a group who had identified but untreated substance abuse needs.

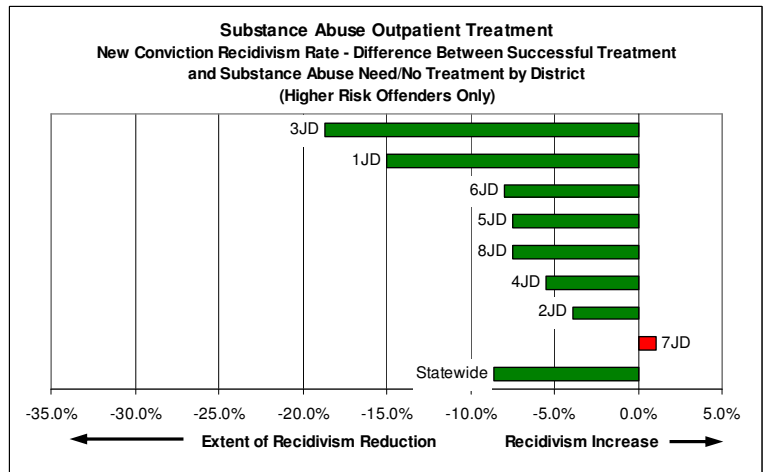
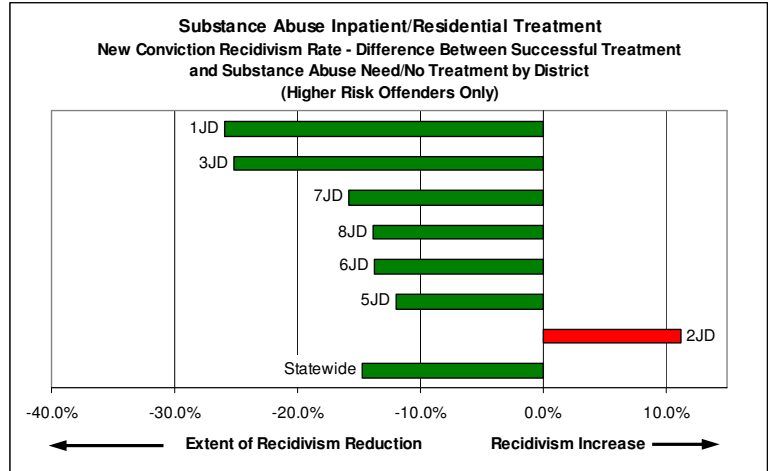
(Source: CJJP 2010)



**Substance Abuse Treatment:  
Community Corrections**

Inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment programs in most districts are effective in reducing new convictions, compared with offenders in the same districts who had identified but untreated substance abuse needs.

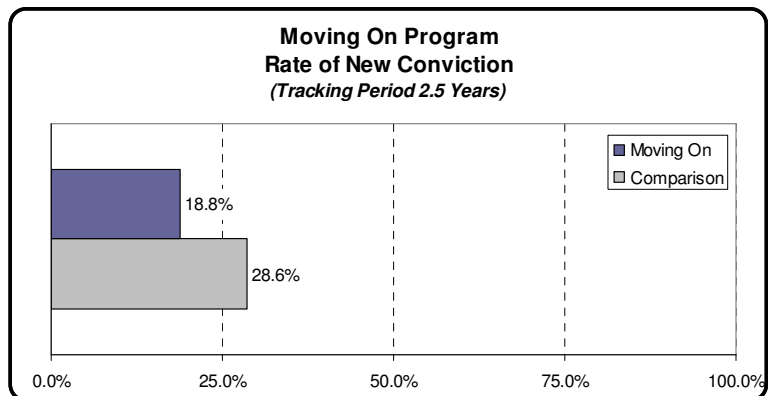
(Source: DOC 2007)



**Cognitive Programs for Women**

Moving On is a gender-responsive cognitive behavioral program that has proven to be effective in reducing new convictions among women probationers, compared with women on probation who received no cognitive treatment program.

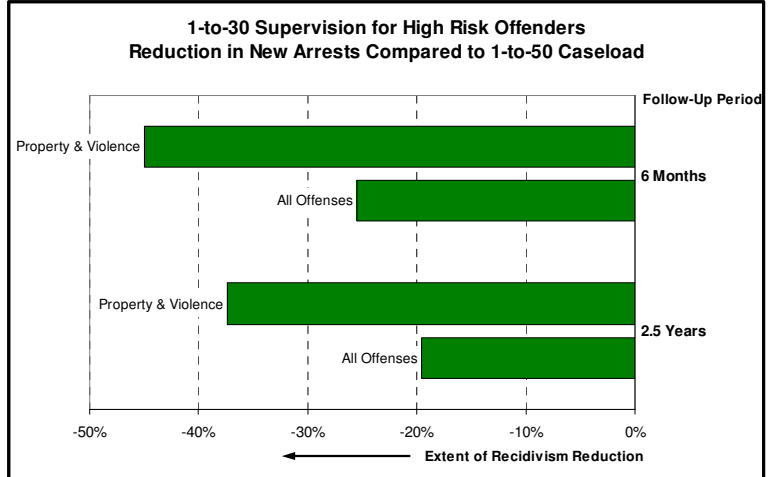
(Source: U Cincinnati 2009)



### **Intensive Supervision & Treatment**

For higher risk offenders, specialized caseloads providing intensive supervision and treatment with 30 offenders per officer reduces new crime within the first six months of supervision by 25.5% overall, and by 45% for property and violent offenses in particular, compared to high risk offenders supervised on caseloads of 50 per officer. The reduction in new crime is still observed more than two years later.

*(Source: Abt Associates 2010, as published in Journal of Offender Rehabilitation)*



### **High-Normal Supervision for Offenders “At the Margin”**

For offenders at the margin between assignment to high-normal and moderate-normal supervision, participation in the higher level—on caseloads of 50 per officer—reduces new drug, property and violent crime by 50% compared to similar offenders supervised on caseloads of 100 per officer. The 50% reduction in new crime holds true more than two years later.

*(Source: Abt Associates 2010, as published in Journal of Offender Rehabilitation)*