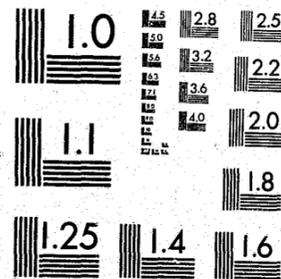


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MODEL PRE-RELEASE CENTERS

NEW ORLEANS

~~Report~~ Report

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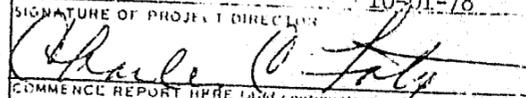
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 <b>U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>CATEGORICAL GRANT PROGRESS REPORT</b>	
<b>GRANTEE</b> Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office		<b>LEAA GRANT NO.</b> 78-NI-AX-0014	<b>DATE OF REPORT</b> 10-19-81
<b>IMPLEMENTING SUBGRANTEE</b>		<b>REPORT NO.</b> 10	
<b>SHORT TITLE OF PROJECT</b> Pre-Release Center Field Test		<b>TYPE OF REPORT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL REQUEST <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FINAL REPORT	
<b>REPORT IS SUBMITTED FOR THE PERIOD</b> 10-01-78		<b>THROUGH</b> 02-28-81	
<b>SIGNATURE OF PROJECT DIRECTOR</b> 		<b>TYPED NAME &amp; TITLE OF PROJECT DIRECTOR</b> CHARLES C. FOTI, JR, Criminal Sheriff	
<small>COMMENCE REPORT HERE (Add continuation pages as required.)</small>			
<p>The program failed to continue in full operation during January and February 1981. In mid-January 1981 severe overcrowding problems in the main jails necessitated the movement of a large group of non-prerelease inmates into the center. In early January, many of the staff had resigned or had been transferred into other jail programs. Due to the personnel shortage, remaining staff, such as the job developer, were required to perform functions in both the experimental and control groups, so that by January 15, services had been substantially reduced in the Pre-Release center and distinction between it and the Work Release Program had been all but eliminated.</p> <p>Since the Sheriff's Office was required by Federal Court Order to take custody of all municipal inmates, on February 13, the need to make additional space available required the physical and operational merger of the experimental and control group programs.</p> <p>At present the Restitution/Work Release Program continues in operation providing job placement and basic educational services, along with the payment of restitution and the performance of community(conti.)</p>			
<small>NOTE: No further monies or other benefits may be paid out under this program unless this report is completed and filed as required by existing law and regulations (FMC 74-7; Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1976).</small>			
<b>RECEIVED BY GRANTEE STATE PLANNING AGENCY (Official)</b>		<b>DATE</b>	

CATEGORICAL GRANT PROGRESS REPORT, continue:

service work.

For an excellent summary of program operations and an evaluation of its effectiveness, see the evaluations report, "Model Pre-Release Centers: New Orleans" by Dr. Eric Carlson and Evalyn C. Parks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to thank the staff the the National Institute of Justice, Office of Program Evaluation for their assistance with this project, in particular, Dr. Lawrence Bennett, Director, and Frank Vaccarella, Project Monitor, for without them, there truly would have been no pre-release center evaluation.

This report could not have been prepared without the cooperation and assistance of the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office, Charles C. Foti, Sheriff, Dr. Michael Geerken, Director of the Orleans Parish Pre-Release Center project, Betsy Magee, former Assistant Director, and all the staff members of the Orleans Parish Pre-Release Center.

With thanks,

EWC  
ECP

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CHAPTER I  
INTRODUCTION

The history of American corrections is rich in the various types of techniques which have been used to deal with criminal offenders. While each technique has had its vocal supporters and many have been, at least for a time, in the forefront of correctional policy, the debate over the most effective and appropriate technique has never ceased.

Early corrections in America was characterized by harsh punishment inflicted on the offender by and within his own community. Later, attempts to limit the use of and mitigate the effects of capital and corporal punishments by isolating the offender from the community furnished the groundwork for the movement toward the heavy use of prisons for handling criminal offenders. And now, we are again, for a variety of reasons, witnessing a movement of corrections back to the community.

Pre-Release centers, work-release facilities, halfway houses, and community treatment centers are all programs which are currently enjoying favor in the evolving correctional process. These programs all are designed to offer offenders an intermediate step between the isolation of the prison and the freedom of the community. A critical question, however, is whether these intermediate programs are effective and appropriate for modern corrections. If so, it is also necessary to determine whether models of these programs can be developed which have wide general applicability.

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### Rationale for Pre-Release Centers

Aftercare services in general, and pre-release centers in particular, can be viewed as major steps (by a system which is basically institutionally-oriented) toward a philosophy of community-based corrections. At least three factors have contributed to this shift and to the consequent emergence of community-based corrections:

- dissatisfaction with the prison
- changes in correctional theory
- the apparent success of the community mental health model

Although the prison was perhaps the most widely acclaimed invention for the handling and treatment of criminal offenders when it was first proposed, its performance has failed to meet expectations. Experience seems to show that prison environments are not conducive to reformation or rehabilitation in any sense (Carter et al., 1975); that specific treatment programs cannot be shown to be "effective" (Bailey, 1966; Sparks, 1968; Martinson, 1974); and that prisons are among the most expensive of all correctional options (President's Task Force on Corrections, 1967).

The correctional theory usually associated with prisons is commonly referred to as the "medical model." Inmates are seen as "sick" and the prison acts as a "hospital" where, free from the contamination of social and peer pressures, skilled practitioners can work with inmates in treatment groups to effect a "cure" (O'Leary and Duffee, 1971). The reintegration model, with which pre-release centers are associated, emphasizes the deleterious effects of isolating the offender from the community. The reintegration model does not reject institutionalization, but it does assert that it is unrealistic to expect an offender to return to

the community after a period of incarceration and immediately be able to handle the problems encountered in day-to-day living. Thus, programs which ease the transition from the institution to the community are viewed as necessary to the reintegrative model.

The apparent success of the community mental health model has served as an encouragement to both correctional officials and reformers. Institutions for the mentally ill have exhibited many of the same types of problems as correctional institutions. These problems have been reduced by the establishment of community mental health centers, both residential and outpatient, through which some clients can be assisted without the need to enter an institution, while others can be gradually returned through these centers to the community following a period of institutional confinement (Raush and Raush, 1968).

As the factors described above encouraged the adoption of the community and its resources as an alternative or supplement to incarceration, several important issues have become apparent. The most critical of these issues actually form the accepted theoretical bases of community-based aftercare programs.

- gradual reintegration in the realistic setting of the community will be more "effective" than an abrupt release from the institution into the community
- serving offenders in the community is more humane than traditional methods
- offender reintegration in the community can be accomplished at a cost less than that of incarceration

The hypothesis that transitional aftercare reduces recidivism rates is based on the belief that the transition from the structured and constantly supervised institutional environment to the almost complete freedom of action in the community is, or may be, accompanied by a period

of confusion, uncertainty, and stress. The released inmate is viewed as a person under pressure, in need of a period of "decompression" (Shah, 1971). If an adequate environment for adjustment to the community is not provided, the ex-offender may be unable to cope with the situation and return to what he known best - committing crimes.

Logically, it appears that pre-release programs can offer an environment flexible enough to assist ex-offenders through the critical release period. A pre-release program can provide such basic support services as food and shelter, which relieves pressure on the ex-offender to fend for himself. In addition, services to assist in employment, educational and vocational upgrading, self-enrichment, and general social functioning can be improved. Lastly, supervision and control can be gradually reduced to ease the ex-offenders transition to complete freedom in the community.

Aftercare in the community is regarded as more humane than traditional practice. Although little evidence is available to support this hypothesis, it is usually accepted at face value (Carlson and Seiter, 1977). The rationale seems to be that, even if prisons were pleasant places to live, it is, nevertheless, still more humane to minimize an offender's separation from the community. This allows the offender to maintain ties with his family and friends, to remain in the job market, and to avoid exposure to an unnatural set of norms prevalent within a group of incarcerated offenders (Wheeler, 1969). Pre-release programs also benefit from the belief that it may be inhumane to release a long-incarcerated offender directly into a community and society which has changed to the point that he may no longer be familiar with it.

The last major issue concerns the belief that community-based after-care services can be provided at less cost than the available alternatives. Although the focus here is cost, effectiveness is an attendant issue. This supposition, of course, implies that we know what the traditional alternatives are, that we know about their effectiveness and cost, and that we can fully and accurately assess all costs of the aftercare strategies we employ.

The prevailing theory which is embodied in these issues has not gone unchallenged. A major consideration in this theory has been questioned by Minor and Courlander (1978). They suggest, based on importation theory, that an offender's moving from prison to community may not be a discontinuity at all, but instead, given the offender's general life course, a continuity, with imprisonment serving only as a way-station. One possible implication of this challenge to the prevailing theory is that transitional programs will not work; a more plausible implication, however, is that they may be more difficult to make work than had previously been thought. Indeed, the programs must break an existing pattern of criminal behavior as well as offer traditional pre-release services.

The above issues require critical examination because they form the foundation of most aftercare programs; however, they are certainly not exhaustive of the issues which must be considered during research into pre-release programs. There are a host of management and administrative issues which require examination, such as whether a program should have public or private sponsorship; if public, at what level of government should it be conducted; how should programs be funded; should programs

make or buy their services; and where should programs be physically located?

Issues of pre-release program content are unresolved. Should programs be generalized or specialized; should a particular treatment modality be adopted; how long should ex-offenders be required to participate in the programs; and how should programs be staffed?

#### Previous Pre-Release Center Research

In spite of the fact that community-based pre-release programs have been established nationwide, relatively little research into their effectiveness has been conducted. The research which is available seems to fall into two categories:

- research concerning a specific program or type of program, where the focus is on the concept of pre-release (or, more commonly, on the concept of work-release)
- research into the operation and effectiveness of halfway houses, wherein the concept of a halfway house is the primary focus, and pre-release is a status which some residents hold

Studies which have focused on the concept of work-release have failed to offer unequivocal evidence that programs of that type reduce recidivism. Johnson's study (1969) of North Carolina parolees was unable to demonstrate a significant difference in parole revocations between work-release participants and non-participants. He was able to demonstrate, however, that work-release parolees were able to find better jobs. Witte's study (1975) also found that North Carolina's work-release program had no demonstrable effect on its participants, except that the non-participants were slightly more likely to be returned to prison for commission of a felony than work-release participants. In

Florida, Waldo and Chiricos (1977) compared work-release and control groups on eighteen measures of recidivism. They, too, found no significant differences.

A California study by Rudoff and Esselstyn (1973) found that, after an eighteen month follow-up period, work-releasees had fewer arrests and fewer days of incarceration than non-participants. A second California study (Jeffrey and Woolpert, 1974) discovered similar positive results, but also indicated that the positive effects of work-release diminish over time. The authors concluded that offenders who were young, unskilled, minority, and with sentences of less than thirty days benefitted most from participation in the work-release program.

A Connecticut study by Stowell (1974) of the state's work-release/education-release program tended to confirm Jeffrey and Woolpert's results, particularly with respect to the offenders most likely to respond positively to these programs.

Negative results in the form of increased parole failure rates for parolees were reported by Bass (1975). He also reported that the work-release programs increased the total incarceration time for program participants.

Among the most current studies are a series being conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. In his analysis of releases of offenders who completed the Boston State and Shirley pre-release programs, LeClair (1975) concluded that pre-release program completers had a significantly lower rate of recidivism than a comparison group of releasees from Massachusetts state prisons. He was also able to

isolate some "indicators of positive differential treatment effect" such as:

- educational attainment of eighth grade or higher
- held no previous job for more than six months
- a single charge on the present sentence
- not arrested before the age of sixteen
- no previous offense against persons
- no more than two prior incarcerations
- less than nine months on present incarceration

More recently in this series of Massachusetts studies, Wittenberg (1978) has examined an institutionally-based work-release program. This study used base expectancy scores for control and concluded that work-release participation favorably affected offender reintegration by reducing recidivism. This study is further important because it recognizes the difficulty of separating the treatment effects of work-release (or any pre-release program) from the setting in which it is conducted.

The conclusion which can be drawn from this brief review of pre-release/work-release research is that there is no overwhelming evidence that these programs reduce client recidivism, but there are indications that they may be effective, particularly with special groups of offenders.

A second body of research addresses the operation and effectiveness of residential treatment in halfway houses and community treatment centers. In this research, the environment of the residential facility is generally viewed as a treatment modality, and pre-release is a status which some residents hold.

The most recent and comprehensive review of research into residential treatment was a National Evaluation Program study conducted by

Seiter et al. (1976). This research identified and reviewed a total of fifty-five studies of residential programs. The study concluded that the quality of residential treatment research to date is a major stumbling block in assessing the effectiveness of halfway houses. For example, twenty-four of the studies measured in-program success and reported success rates of from 26 to 93 percent. The criteria for determining success were usually not reported. Measurement of post-program success was plagued by similar kinds of problems. The most frequently-used outcome variable was some form of recidivism, with no standard definition or follow-up time. Few studies attempted to measure the more positive aspects of community adjustment, such as employment, housing stability, and family stability. Attempts to link the provision of specific services to outcome were rare, and attempts to relate resident status (such as pre-release) to outcome were almost non-existent. The methodological design of the studies was a basic problem, because few were rigorous enough to permit generalization of the results. Of the thirty-five studies which measured post-program success, only two were true experimental designs, seventeen were quasi-experimental designs (often with very tenuous rationales for the comparison groups used), and sixteen were non-experimental designs.

The authors concluded that there is some evidence to suggest that halfway houses succeed in reducing the recidivism of former residents in comparison to offenders released directly into the community. There is even less evidence to indicate that halfway houses are successful in promoting the more positive aspects of reintegration. Finally, cost analyses indicate that halfway houses are more likely to operate at per diems higher than both institutional and community-based alternatives

(such as probation and parole).

A major study of halfway house operations in Ohio was conducted by Seiter et al. (1974). This study was somewhat unique in that it compared the post-program performance of halfway house clients to the performance of traditional parolees using a multi-factor outcome score. Instead of a dichotomous measure of recidivism, a continuous scale of offense severity was used. A second element in measuring outcome was a scale of "acceptable living patterns" which emphasized work, education, self-improvement, financial responsibility, and probation/parole progress.

When this criterion of outcome was applied, using analysis of covariance to adjust for group differences, it was found that, although the halfway house usually received clients of higher risk, those clients demonstrated significantly better adjustment than the controls. It is also interesting to note that the federal pre-releasees in the halfway house sample exhibited the best overall performance.

A study of community treatment centers (CTC's) serving federal offenders was recently undertaken by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons. A portion of this study reported by Beck (1977) focused on a sample of 715 former CTC residents. Using completion of residency as a criterion of success, 82 percent of the sample were successes. Variables which predicted failure in the program were items related to prior criminal record. The more severe the prior record, the more likely the resident was to fail at the CTC. Variables which did not appear to affect success included sex, race, IQ, time served in the previous incarceration, whether the CTC were federally-run or a contract facility, and whether the resident had a history of alcohol or drug abuse.

As with the pre-release/work-release research, the results of halfway house research are mixed. Carefully conducted, methodologically sound research which measures post-release success is rather rare. In total, however, there are indications that these facilities can serve a variety of offenders, and that they may decrease post-release recidivism when compared to direct release into the community. It is likely that some offenders benefit more than others, and that those who benefit most may not have the highest aggregate success rate. The differential effectiveness of these programs based on offender typologies is virtually unexplored.

Research into the costs of operating pre-release programs has not been widespread. Probably the most comprehensive analysis of costs relating to these programs was conducted by Thalheimer (1965). This research was designed to offer state and local decision-makers cost information on activities advocated by the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals Corrections report. The research analyzed a sample of halfway house operations and budgets and revealed wide variation in operating costs ranging from less than to greater than incarceration costs. The major value of this research is that it offers a model for analyzing halfway house costs by identifying all costs associated with their operation, including:

- criminal justice system expenditures
- external costs
- opportunity costs incurred by clients of halfway houses
- costs to the community in which a house is located

Overall, the previous research bearing on pre-release centers is rich in suggestions for strategies to be pursued in future research. It offers models for both positive and negative outcome scales and for cost analysis.

#### Development of Model Pre-Release Centers

The Montgomery County Work Release/Pre-Release Center emerged from a fortuitous combination of changes in Maryland state and county law, county government reorganization, and a whole-hearted acceptance of the community-based reintegrative correctional model. Due to legal changes which permitted the handling of county, state, and federal inmates and parolees in work-release facilities and the willingness of federal, state, and local officials to provide necessary funding, the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation established the prototype work release/pre-release facility in mid-1972. The program which emerged emphasized "the development of a well-rounded community-based treatment program for offenders incorporating not only the concept of work release, but additional treatment services such as intensive individual and group counseling, use of community resources, provision of social awareness instruction, implementation of a phased release program, and utilization of County alcohol and drug treatment capabilities" (Rosenblum and Whitcomb, 1978).

As noted by Rosenblum and Whitcomb (1978), the Montgomery County Work Release/Pre-Release Center was unique in many respects, not the least of which was its program which combined these elements:

- a separate facility which segregated program clients from the general inmate population
- a comprehensive array of treatment services

- rigorous application of and adherence to rules and standards
- continuous monitoring of program activities to determine needed alterations

In the past several years, the Montgomery County program has been evaluated on a number of measures: walk-away rate, program completion rate, and re-arrest following release. Preliminary findings from a four-year follow-up study (reported by Rosenblum and Whitcomb, 1978) indicated that the Montgomery County program appeared to be achieving its reintegration goals. During the first four years of program operation, the in-program failure rate (indicating residents who were returned to jail for program violations) was 25.7 percent; the walk-away rate was less than 5 percent. Of those residents who successfully completed the pre-release program and were released into the community, only 22.2 percent were re-arrested during the four-year follow-up. Of those residents who failed to complete the program, 46.1 percent were re-arrested.

The effectiveness of the Montgomery County program, its cost effectiveness, and its adaptability to other jurisdictions led the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to select the program as one of its Exemplary Projects. Further, it was decided that the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (National Institute of Justice) would sponsor a replication of the Montgomery County Work Release/Pre-Release Center program at several test sites throughout the country, these programs to be evaluated as to their operation, effectiveness and cost by an independent consultant. Three test sites - operated by the City of Philadelphia Prisons, the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office (New Orleans), and the Baltimore City Jail - were selected to replicate the pre-release program. This study is the evaluation of the Orleans Parish Pre-Release Center.

CHAPTER II  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW ORLEANS PROGRAM

New Orleans Program Description

The test design for the evaluation of the model pre-release centers stipulated that the model centers be structured in as close a manner as possible to the Montgomery County Work Release/Pre-Release Center. In order to compare the operation of the test centers with the Montgomery County model, we have identified a number of program components, characteristic of the Montgomery County facility, which would likely be duplicated, at least to a certain extent, in the test centers. We have categorized these components into two broad types: support components and programming components. Support components include basic aspects of the pre-release facility and program operations and are listed below:

- location of the program in a facility separate from the general jail population
- custodial supervision of program clients
- written rules and administrative procedures governing program operation
- uniform screening mechanism used for accepting/rejecting potential program participants
- MAP contracts agreed to by clients and pre-release center staff
- system of graduated release into the community operationalized by a phase system
- financial payments by clients for room and board

The services provided to clients by pre-release center staff are considered to be the programming components of the center. These components are listed below:

- provision of employment/training services
- counseling
- social awareness instruction
- referral to and use of social services available in the community

Along with these support and programming components, the Orleans Parish Pre-Release Center implemented two additional components - an in-house educational program and a restitution program. While not included in the Montgomery County model, these additional components unique to the New Orleans center will be included in the description of the model program as implemented by the New Orleans test site.

Support Components

• Facility

The field test design for this evaluation stipulated that the model pre-release center should be either physically separated from the custodial institution or should provide a living arrangement which segregated program participants from the general inmate population. During the first year of its operation (January 1979 to January 1980), the New Orleans pre-release center was housed in the new Orleans Parish Jail building. The program occupied a separate quad, which precluded contact between program clients and non-participating inmates, with clients living in single cells. In January 1980, population increases in the Orleans Parish Jail necessitated the removal of pre-release center clients from the cell space which they had been occupying. The replacement facility supplied for the pre-release center was Fisk School, a renovated elementary school building located several blocks from the prison. The largest classrooms of the school were

used as dayrooms and dormitories; other buildings on the school grounds were used for CETA training programs. Space available at the Fisk School for staff offices was extremely limited. In compliance with this component, the New Orleans program has consistently provided either a separate facility of a segregated section of the parish prison.

- Supervision

Security and control for the pre-release center were handled primarily by deputies of the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office; decisions concerning custodial security and disciplinary matters were the responsibility of the Warden of the parish prison.

All program participants were required to secure passes before leaving the facility. A work pass was required for an inmate to leave for work; attendance at work was monitored by telephone and by reviewing paycheck stubs. Compliance with furlough passes was monitored by telephone and field visits; compliance with special passes (such as passes to go to the doctor, dentist, etc.) was checked by telephone.

Strip searches of inmates were conducted each time an inmate returned to the center (from work or from a pass) unless the inmate had constantly been accompanied by a staff member while away from the center. These strip searches were conducted by security personnel. Alcohol screens were conducted quite frequently; drug screens were conducted much less frequently, and shakedowns of dormitories occurred only sporadically.

- Rules

The test design calls for each model pre-release center to adopt written rules and administrative procedures to establish due process safeguards in revocation and/or disciplinary matters. The New Orleans program

developed an extensive Operations Manual, which sets out numerous rules and regulations of the program and provides detailed information concerning services offered by the program. There are, however, no due process regulations covering program termination and/or disciplinary action which apply specifically to pre-release program participants.

- Screening

The test design calls for a screening procedure to be uniformly used as the basis for accepting or rejecting potential program participants. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Orleans Parish program were formally stated in the Operations Manual. Client characteristics which would virtually guarantee exclusion from program participation included: having more than one year left to serve, previous conviction for murder or rape, history of violent offenses, severe mental retardation or psychosis, an open felony charge or detainer from another jurisdiction, or having been previously revoked from the pre-release program as considered unsuitable for the program. Additionally, current drug or alcohol addiction would be very likely to preclude program participation.

Several informal criteria operated to further screen program applicants. No strict cut-off score on the Suitability Selection Scale was used to determine eligibility; the scale was used with flexibility, as a guide and as a means of ensuring comparability of experimental and eligible non-participating groups.

- Contracts

The MAP contracts used at the New Orleans center were mutual, reciprocal contracts between the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff (through the pre-release center) and the inmate. All contracts signed by inmates

were virtually identical, the only differences being the possible inclusion of court-ordered restitution payments or certain other conditions (e.g., ineligibility for Sunday passes), which applied only to specific inmates. Each MAP contract also contained a supplement which permitted the pre-release center to take urine drops if necessary. The contracts required the center to set and observe an anticipated roll-out (release) date, to maintain the inmate in his work-release status, and to provide CETA training. The client's progress through the provisions of the MAP contract were monitored by the pre-release center staff at weekly counseling sessions.

- Phases

The system of graduated release into the community used at the New Orleans center consisted of a two-week orientation period and three formal phases. The four time periods are described below:

Orientation - This period lasted for two weeks, or until the inmate found a job. Unless traveling to a job interview, the inmate was not permitted to leave the center.

Phase I - The inmate must spend a minimum of two weeks in Phase I, during which time his treatment plan was developed. The inmate could receive a shopping pass to find job-related clothing.

Phase II - This was the major treatment phase of the program, emphasizing employment, education, counseling, and other program components. The inmate could earn a shopping pass for personal clothing, could earn a field trip and phone call privileges, and, after a minimum of one month residence, could earn a twelve-hour Sunday pass.

Phase III - An excellent all-around record at the center could earn the inmate an advancement to Phase III status. Inmates in Phase III were eligible for weekend passes.

In order to be considered to have "completed" the pre-release program by roll-out (release) date, a program client must have attained Phase I.

- Financial Payment

Required financial payments from program participants were another element of the test design. At the New Orleans center, all working clients were required to make rent payments. These payments initially amounted to \$3 per day for each working inmate but were later raised to \$4 per day.

#### Programming Components

In addition to the support components discussed above, each test center was required to arrange for the provision of a broad range of treatment services. Participation by all pre-release center residents in treatment services was required. The four major treatment services, modeled on the services provided by the Montgomery County model, are discussed in terms of their implementation by the Orleans Parish center.

- Employment and/or Training Release

The New Orleans center offered two types of programs relevant to this treatment component: employment release and in-house CETA training programs.

During the first few days of orientation, each new program participant met with the center's employment specialists to determine whether the resident would be best served by immediate employment or whether the resident was suitable for one of the available CETA training programs.

The New Orleans center maintained a job bank of employers who were frequently in the market for a fairly large number of employees. In addition, the center utilized a number of employers who could be relied upon to absorb unskilled labor. A number of residents, however, were

qualified for skilled and semi-skilled jobs and were able to take advantage of job opportunities which more exactly matched their particular skills, interests, and salary expectations. In addition to the job bank maintenance, the employment staff continuously worked on job development through telephone contacts with possible employers, searches of daily newspaper want ads, and contacts with employed residents and former residents. A small number of pre-release inmates were able, through their own initiative or a contact by the employment staff, to return to the jobs they had held prior to their arrests.

For residents determined to be suitable for training, the pre-release center offered CETA training programs in the areas of welding, auto mechanics, plumbing, and painting. Residents accepted into CETA programs earned a salary while attending training sessions, and the length of these training courses frequently extended beyond the residents' sentence expiration dates.

The CETA training programs, because of limitations on the number of clients who could be handled in each program, were utilized more sparingly than the employment release component. During the program life of the New Orleans pre-release center, approximately fifteen to twenty percent of the residents entered a CETA training program, while the remainder of the residents found jobs in the community.

- Counseling

Counselors from the pre-release center staff were used to assist the Sheriff's Office Diagnostic Unit in screening jail inmates for participation in the pre-release program. Thus, the inmate and his family were

already familiar with one program counselor. If at all possible, that counselor was assigned to the inmate when he was selected for program participation.

The average size caseload for each counselor was between sixteen and twenty clients. Each inmate was seen for one hour of individual counseling per week. The counseling program at the New Orleans center was focused primarily on orientation to the phase system, development and implementation of the treatment plan (with particular emphasis on education, employment, family problems, budgeting, and learning to handle the fact of being a convicted felon), and preparation for being released from prison.

Participation in counseling was a requirement for each resident under the terms of his MAP contract, although progress through the individualized treatment plan was considered to be a matter solely between the resident and his counselor, not relevant to loss of privileges or disciplinary action. Each treatment plan had quantified, measurable goals and objectives, which could be modified as necessary by discussion between the inmate and his counselor.

A written report was prepared by the counselor following every weekly counseling session. The counselor also prepared a final progress report on each inmate before he was discharged from the program.

No formal group counseling sessions were held at the New Orleans pre-release center.

- Social Awareness Instruction

All program participants were required to attend the social awareness

instruction classes which were held one evening a week. Only inmates who worked at night were excused; new residents still in the orientation phase were also required to attend.

A wide variety of subjects was covered in social awareness classes, some topics being sufficiently popular to have been repeated regularly to ensure that new clients would not miss those sessions. Typical subjects covered in social awareness instruction classes included:

- Money Management
- How to Start Your Own Business
- Child Support Laws
- Housing
- Consumer Affairs
- Drugs
- Birth Control and Family Planning
- Venereal Diseases
- Blood Pressure Problems
- Public Health and Sanitation

All social awareness instruction sessions were taught by outside speakers, who included judges, doctors, public health nurses, attorneys, dentists, and representatives of local drug and alcohol clinics.

- Community Services

The New Orleans pre-release center experienced considerable difficulty in attempting to utilize the services of local community agencies to meet the needs of its clients. Part of the problem stemmed from the lack of available services of adequate quality. Additionally, the pre-release center attempted to enter into informal agreements for service provision

with several local agencies, but serious problems were encountered with all of the agencies which effectively precluded the use of local agencies by program clients. Program staff estimate, however, that community services, had they been available, would have been beneficial to a substantial number of clients.

<u>Service</u>	<u>Proportion of Clients</u>
Drug/alcohol treatment	45%
Family crisis intervention	20
Apprenticeships	50-60
Financial counseling	60

Because of the serious problems encountered in the search for quality social services offered in the community, the New Orleans center emphasized the "working for the community" aspect of community services. A wide-reaching program of services provided to the community was developed. The center had at least one project available every Saturday. Since more inmates volunteered to work on these services than there were jobs available, not every inmate had the chance to work on a project every week, but every inmate was given an opportunity to work a certain number of hours every month.

Examples of community service projects undertaken during the program life of the New Orleans center included:

- painting several city schools
- cleaning city parks
- cleaning city dumps
- cleaning catch basins
- working at a school for retarded adolescent males

working at Children's Hospital  
 renovating a home for a non-profit organization  
 working with the city Sanitation Department

#### Additional Components

The New Orleans pre-release program offered two additional components which were not required by the test design. These components were an in-house education program and a restitution program.

- Education Program

All center residents were required, as part of their MAP contracts, to participate in an in-house education program. The center employed a full-time teacher who offered education at all levels ranging from kindergarten to high school. Classes were conducted four nights per week. Inmates were tested and grouped by level of performance in reading and mathematics. Instruction was individualized, with each inmate receiving four to five hours of classroom instruction per week, plus additional tutoring from the teacher and from inmates in more advanced groups.

Educational testing determined that almost two-thirds of the inmates entering the pre-release program were non-readers. The educational program focused on adult basic education, with some residents pursuing GED certificates, and a very few inmates completing high school work. Although a small number of pre-release center residents had received their high school diplomas or had even begun college, testing revealed that most of these inmates were performing at less than high school levels and, as a result, were tutored in those education areas in which they were deficient.

- Restitution

Restitution payments were required of all pre-release center participants. Two types of restitution were used: court-ordered restitution and program-ordered restitution.

Court-ordered restitution requirements were included in the inmates' sentence orders. This type of restitution had a fixed dollar amount to be paid to the victim of the inmate's offense. The entire amount of court-ordered restitution had to be paid, even if the inmate had to continue to make restitution payments after his release from the pre-release center.

All clients who were not obligated to pay court-ordered restitution were required by the pre-release program to pay some other form of restitution. The total amount to be paid was determined by center staff, and the inmate was then required to pay ten percent of his weekly paycheck up to the amount of the restitution total and, thereafter, ten percent of his paycheck was paid into the Elderly Victim Fund until his release from the program. Unlike court-ordered restitution, the inmate stopped paying program-ordered restitution upon release from the program, even though the set amount may not have been met.

Inmates convicted of the offense of criminal neglect of family (non-support) were required to pay actual court-ordered support, plus ten percent of their paychecks to the Elderly Victim Fund.

Critical Events in the Implementation  
of the New Orleans Pre-Release Center

Prior to the implementation of the pre-release center model program, the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office had been operating a restitution program, which was established in January 1978 through LEAA state block grants. The restitution program contained a work-release component and a Sunday furlough privilege. Through its early stages, the restitution program was relatively small in scope, averaging fifteen to twenty participants at any given time.

With the implementation of the pre-release center model, the restitution program expanded in size, to an average of 47-50 participating clients. In addition, the phase system of graduated freedom was incorporated, and social awareness instruction classes were developed. Additional counselors were hired, and records of counseling sessions were kept on a systematic basis for all participants. The newly-implemented pre-release center program was housed in the same office and cell space in the new parish jail which had been used for the restitution program.

Although the pre-release center grant to the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office was effective October 1, 1978, monies were not available for expenditure until January 1, 1979. Following the necessary planning and training period, the Orleans Parish Pre-Release Center became fully operational on April 1, 1979.

In January 1980, a serious overcrowding problem in the parish jail forced the pre-release program to relinquish its cell space in the parish jail and to move to a renovated elementary school building several blocks

away from the jail. Although pre-release center residents were housed in the replacement facility, staff members' offices remained in the parish jail.

During the fall of 1980, the Orleans Parish pre-release program suffered a serious staff turn-over problem when virtually all of its counselors resigned within a very short period of time. Unfortunately, at this same time, the evaluation team was in the midst of the collection of service provision data for a client cohort. In the period of time required to hire and train several new counselors, existing staff members were forced to take on as many additional duties as possible in order to provide even minimal levels of service to current program clients. As a result of this staffing problem occurring midway in the service data collection period, data concerning the provision of services (and in particular, the provision of counseling services) will undoubtedly considerably under-represent the actual effort generated by program staff under ordinary circumstances.

A court order handed down from a federal court in January 1981 requiring the Criminal Sheriff of Orleans Parish to significantly reduce the inmate population at the old parish prison resulted in the transfer of an extremely large number of inmates from the prison to both the work-release and the pre-release facilities. At that time, following the huge influx of non-program participants into the pre-release facility, it became apparent that pre-release services (such as counseling, social awareness sessions, etc.) were no longer being provided on a regular basis to program clients. It was decided, therefore, to exclude from the

experimental group any new residents who entered the pre-release center after January 15, 1981, and to stop the collection of service data for existing experimental group members in April 1981.

CHAPTER III  
EVALUATION DESIGN AND PROCEDURES

Basic Design

This evaluation of model pre-release centers was designed to focus on three major goals:

- to determine the impact of the program on participating clients
- to assess the economic utility of the programs to the criminal justice system
- to identify the relative contributions of major program components to overall outcome

In order to address the goal of determining program impact on participating clients, a quasi-experimental design was utilized. Three groups were constructed: (1) an experimental group, composed of inmates who participated in the model pre-release treatment program and services, (2) a control 1 group, composed of inmates who were eligible to participate in the pre-release program but who were not selected for membership in the experimental group for non-prejudicial reasons (In the New Orleans program, the members of the control 1 group received traditional work-release services), and (3) a control 2 group, composed of inmates who were deemed to be ineligible for participation in the pre-release program and who received neither pre-release nor work-release services prior to their release from incarceration.

A series of questions designed to assess the impact of the model program on participants was developed. Examples of types of questions included in this series are:

- Are the three groups (experimental, control 1, and control 2) comparable in terms of demographic characteristics, prior criminal justice involvement, current offense, etc.?
- What characteristics are associated with individuals who completed the model pre-release program, as opposed to those individuals who failed to complete the program by being returned to the general jail population?
- What characteristics (demographic, criminal justice history, exposure/no exposure to the model pre-release or work-release programs, completion/non-completion of the pre-release program, etc.) are associated with successful reintegration into the community and/or absence of arrests for new criminal offenses during the follow-up period?

To assess the effect of the model program, then, it is first necessary to determine whether the three groups of inmates differ significantly in terms of a variety of demographic and criminal justice variables. If the groups have been properly selected, there will be no significant differences between the experimental and the control 1 groups. There should, however, be a number of differences between these two groups and the control 2 group.

Next, program completion for the experimental (pre-release) and control 1 (work-release) groups will be examined. In addition to determining the proportions of each group who successfully complete either the work-release or pre-release programs, an attempt will also be made to identify the characteristics of individuals which appear to be associated with program completion or non-completion.

Finally, three measures of outcome will be examined - relative adjustment, re-arrest, and time until first arrest. The relative adjustment scale is a method of capturing gradual movement away from criminal behavior and toward socially acceptable behavior. The major emphasis of the adjustment scale is on work or education stability, although items are also

included concerning self-improvement efforts, financial responsibility, residential stability, and absence of critical incidents or illegal activities. Although these items are somewhat discretionary and do not include all the qualities which could be defined as adjustment, each item does suggest stability, responsibility, maturity, and a general order in lifestyle which is usually associated with socially accepted patterns of behavior. The scale items, then, are not set out as total indicators of success, but merely as an index of adjustment within the community.

For purposes of this evaluation, recidivism during the follow-up period was defined as arrest for a new offense. In addition to the fact of post-release arrest and the type of offense involved, data were also collected concerning the disposition of the arrest, the sentence imposed for the offense (if any), and the length of time from the date of release to arrest.

These three outcome measures (relative adjustment, re-arrest, and the length of time to first arrest) have been collected for members of all three groups (experimental, control 1 and control 2). In addition to determining the proportions of each group who are successfully adjusting in the community at the time of follow-up, we will also analyze the outcome measures in terms of possible associations with demographic characteristics, criminal justice history, exposure/no exposure to the pre-release program, and completion/non-completion of the model program.

Evidence provided by the three major research questions posed above will assist in answering the question concerning the impact of the pre-release program on the participating clients.

The goal of assessing the economic utility of the program is being addressed through a cost/benefit analysis of the experimental programs. The data for this analysis at New Orleans will not be available until final project cost reconciliations are completed by the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office.

To address the goal of identifying the relative contributions of major program components to overall outcome, a panel design was utilized. A cohort of program clients was selected, and detailed weekly records of services received and actions taken were maintained. Data from this cohort are then used to determine:

- which program components are associated with in-program outcome?
- which program components are associated with post-program outcome?
- what are the service profiles of clients who enter the pre-release program? what services are delivered most frequently? when are they delivered during the client's stay?

The first and last of these questions are addressed in this report. The question of the relationship of program components to post-program outcome requires a greater period of follow-up for the cohort.

#### Sample Selection

It was originally planned that this evaluation would be implemented as a true experimental design, in which inmates eligible to participate in the pre-release program would be randomly assigned to either the experimental group (who would participate in the pre-release program of treatment and services) or to the control 1 group (which would not participate in the pre-release program). In addition to the two comparable

groups, a group of inmates determined to be ineligible for participation in the pre-release program would be chosen. Members of this control 2 group were to serve out their sentences and be released in the traditional manner.

Eligibility for program participation was supposed to be based upon two major factors:

- the inmate was not deemed to be ineligible on the basis of formal criteria (for a description of these criteria, see the New Orleans program description section above)
- the inmate achieved a certain set minimum score on the suitability selection scale

The suitability selection scale was a screening mechanism devised by the Montgomery County center in order to provide a ranking of otherwise eligible inmates as a guide for filling center vacancies as they occurred. The total suitability score for each inmate who was screened for the program was ranked, with a cut-off point below which scores were simply too low to warrant consideration. Under the Montgomery County scheme, individuals were rated on a fourteen-item structured scale, with a possible range of scores from -100 to +200. Applicants with scores of eighty or higher were considered to be high priority applicants; scores from sixty to seventy-nine were moderate priority; scores from forty to fifty-nine were low priority, and applicants with scores of thirty-nine or lower were considered to be unsuitable for the pre-release program.

The New Orleans pre-release center used a slightly modified version of the Montgomery County scale. Suitability scores, however, were not considered to be a major factor in the acceptance or rejection of an applicant for the pre-release program. Scores were determined for each potential program participant as a routine part of the screening procedure

but were used primarily as a means of double-checking the comparability of the experimental group and the control 1 group. Items used in the

New Orleans suitability scale were:

- Item 1. Referral Source
- Item 2. Time in Confinement
- Item 3. Place of Residency
- Item 4. Instant Offense
- Item 5a. Age (Failure Indicator)
- Item 6. Family Responsibilities
- Item 5b. Mental Hospitalization (Failure Indicator)
- Item 5c. Chronic Alcoholism (Failure Indicator)
- Item 5d. Drug Abuse (Failure Indicator)
- Item 7. Past Criminal History
- Item 5e. Past Escapes (Failure Indicator)
- Item 8. Employment Factors
- Item 9. Previous Revocation/Recidivism
- Item 10. Personality Characteristics
- Item 11. No Identification of Specific Negative Factors
- Item 12. Institutional Performance/Adjustment
- Item 13. Prior Incarcerations
- Item 14. Treatment Factors
- Item 5f. No Failure Indicators

Once an applicant has been determined to be eligible for participation in the pre-release program, assignment to either the experimental group (pre-release participation) or the control 1 group (participation in a

traditional work-release program) was to have been random. In practice, however, the space available in the pre-release center at any given time became the major determinant of whether a particular eligible inmate would be accepted into the pre-release program.

In summary, all potentially eligible inmates were screened by the Diagnostic Unit. Those inmates determined to be ineligible for pre-release participation remained in the general jail population for the remainder of their sentences and became part of the control 2 group. Inmates determined to be eligible for pre-release participation were accepted into the program (and into the experimental group) if space was available in the pre-release facility; if not, they were assigned to the work-release program (and to the control 1 group). This "space available" assignment rule was routinely circumvented, however, in the case of individuals convicted of the offense of criminal neglect of family (non-support), virtually all of whom were assigned to the pre-release program.

During the life of the New Orleans pre-release center (January 1979 to January 1981), approximately 380 inmates participated in the program. The experimental group for this evaluation contains 367 members. The remaining thirteen cases were dropped from the experimental group because their prison records could not be located or because of uncertainty about whether the inmates had actually participated in both the pre-release and the work-release programs.

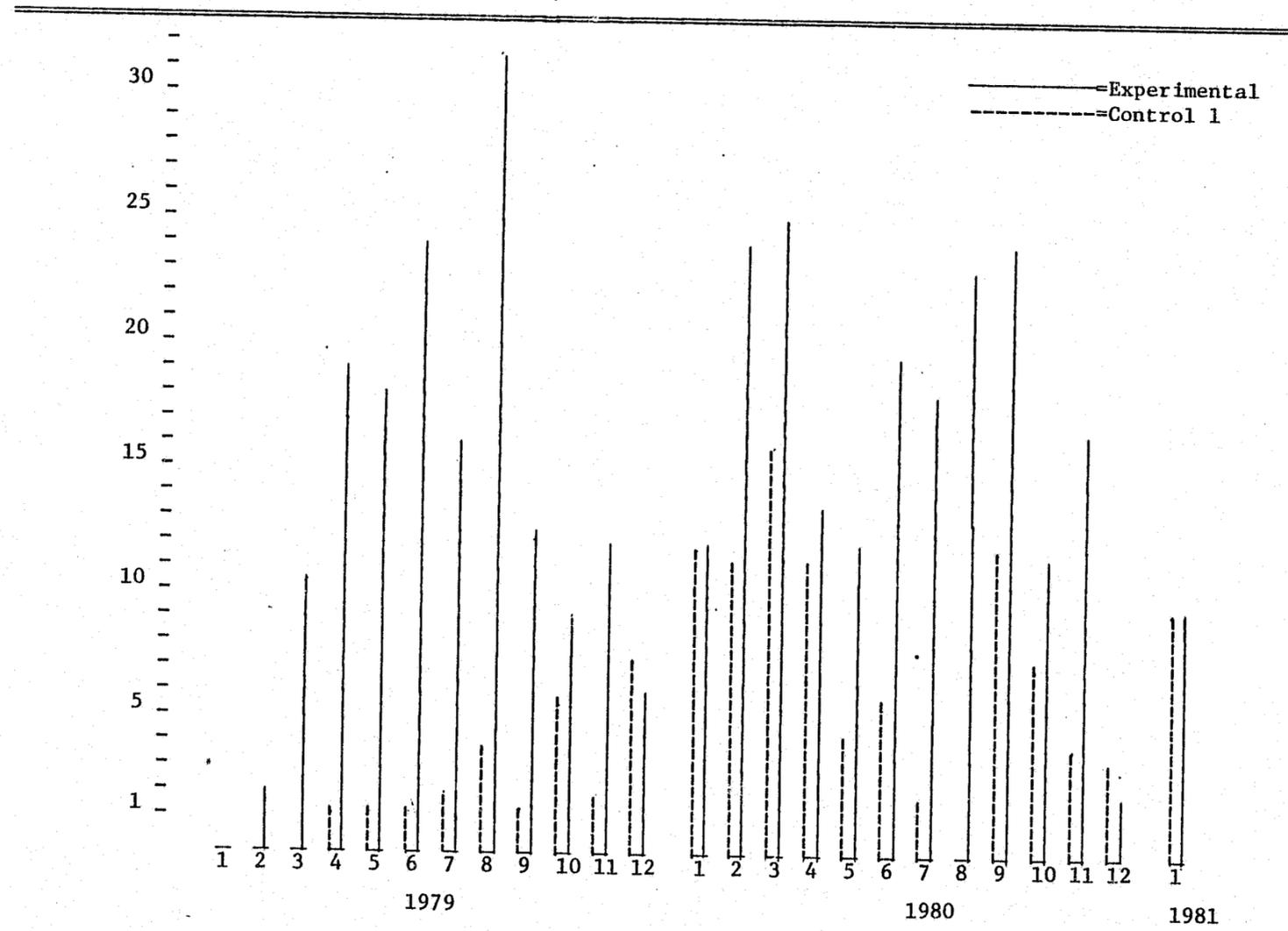
It was anticipated that the number of inmates determined to be eligible for program participation but who were not selected would approximate or exceed the number of actual pre-release program participants. This did not, however, prove to be the case at the New Orleans

Center, perhaps due to the relatively high turn-over of pre-release center inmates (caused both by inmates who were thrown out of the program and inmates who had only very short periods of time left to serve on their sentences). As a result, of those inmates eligible to participate, the majority actually did participate in the pre-release program. Therefore, while the experimental group contained 367 cases, the control 1 group contained only 135 cases.

Given the rather stringent eligibility requirements, it was expected that overscreening would produce a large pool of ineligible inmates to form the control 2 group. Overcrowding problems at the parish prison, however, forced both the pre-release and work-release programs to relax their acceptance standards somewhat and, as a consequence, very few inmates were rejected outright. The control 2 group for this evaluation, therefore, contained only sixty cases.

Table 3.1 illustrates the distribution of the experimental and control 1 groups according to the dates of clients' admissions to either the pre-release program or the work-release program. Forty-three percent of the experimental group were admitted during the first year of program operation (January through December 1979), while 57 percent were admitted during the final year of program operation (January 1980 through January 15, 1981). In contrast, of those persons determined to be eligible for the pre-release program but who were not selected and were, instead, assigned to the work-release program, only 21 percent were assigned during 1979, while 79 percent were assigned from January 1, 1980 through the end of January 1981.

TABLE 3.1  
 DISTRIBUTION OF EXPERIMENTAL AND CONTROL 1 GROUP  
 BY DATE OF ADMISSION



Data Collection Prodecures

Virtually all data used in this evaluation were collected by the Site Coordinator for the New Orleans center, a staff member on the evaluation team. Data were collected and transcribed onto data collection forms constructed by the evaluation team and forwarded by mail to the project headquarters at the University of Arizona. Three types of data were collected on a routine basis: basic client information, outcome data, and data concerning services provided to clients by the pre-release center.

• Basic Data

Basic data concerning individual client characteristics were collected by means of a 109-item data collection form. The following items of information were noted for each inmate:

Name  
 Group (experimental, control 1, control 2)  
 I.D. Numbers (project I.D., Social Security number, local corrections I.D., and local law enforcement I.D.)  
 Aliases  
 Date of Birth  
 Date of Screening  
 Sex  
 Ethnicity  
 Instant Offense  
 Referral Source  
 Detainers  
 Total Days of Sentence  
 Days to Serve from Screening  
 Residence (local/non-local)  
 Months at Last Address  
 Housing (own/rent/free)  
 Total Time in Community  
 Juvenile Arrests  
 Type of Juvenile Arrests  
 Juvenile Incarcerations  
 Length of Juvenile Incarcerations  
 Age at First Arrest  
 Instant Offense Charged  
 Final Plea to Charge

Type of Counsel  
 Multiple Defendants  
 Court of Trial Jurisdiction  
 Probation for Instant Offense  
 Length of Probation Term  
 Fine for Instant Offense  
 Incarceration for Instant Offense (federal/state/local)  
 Restitution for Instant Offense  
 Amount of Restitution  
 Days Served from Sentencing to Screening  
 Prior Adult Arrests  
 Type of Prior Adult Arrests  
 Number of Prior Adult Convictions  
 Number of Prior Adult Incarcerations  
 Length of Prior Adult Incarceration Sentences  
 Number of Prior Adult Paroles  
 Prior Escape Attempts  
 Highest Grade Completed  
 Education Level Attained  
 Literate  
 Vocational Training  
 Employed at Time of Arrest for Instant Offense  
 Type of Job Held at Arrest  
 Employment Status at Arrest  
 Length of Current Employment  
 Type of Job Held Longest  
 Length of Longest Employment  
 No Opportunity for Work History  
 Military Service  
 Vietnam Veteran  
 Combat Veteran  
 Type of Military Discharge  
 Type of Military Benefits  
 Living Companions at Arrest  
 Marital Status  
 Number of Children  
 Number of Children Supported  
 Reared By  
 Birth Order  
 Number of Siblings  
 Will Return to Same Living Situation  
 Source of Income  
 Weekly Income from Current/Last Job  
 Physical Handicaps  
 Health Problems  
 Mental Health Treatment  
 Type of Mental Health Treatment  
 Alcohol Involved in Current Offense  
 Alcohol Involved in Prior Offenses  
 Participation in Alcohol Treatment Program

Participation in Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Participation in Alcohol Counseling  
 Participation in Chemotherapy  
 Participation in Residential Program  
 Participation in Other Alcohol Program  
 Months of Alcohol Treatment Program Participation  
 Currently on Antabuse  
 History of Heroin Use  
 History of Methadone Use  
 History of PCP Use  
 History of Marijuana Use  
 History of Barbiturate or Amphetamine Use  
 History of Sedative or Pain Reliever Use  
 History of Cocaine Use  
 History of LSD Use  
 History of Other Drug Use  
 Drugs Involved in Current Offense  
 Drugs Involved in Prior Offenses  
 Nature of Drug Involvement  
 Pattern of Drug/Crime Interaction  
 Participation in Drug Treatment Programs  
 Participation in Synanon Program  
 Participation in Drug Counseling  
 Participation in Chemotherapy  
 Participation in Residential Program  
 Participation in Other Drug Program  
 Months of Drug Treatment Program Participation  
 Needs Assessment - Employment  
 Needs Assessment - Education  
 Needs Assessment - Financial  
 Needs Assessment - Family Relationships  
 Needs Assessment - Interpersonal Skills  
 Needs Assessment - Substance Abuse  
 Needs Assessment - Leisure Activities  
 Needs Assessment - Physical Disabilities  
 Suitability Selection Scale Score

The primary source for basic client data was the inmate's prison folder which was generated when the inmate was screened for eligibility for program participation. This folder contained all interview forms and other records required for Diagnostic Unit members to make a decision about the inmate's eligibility for the pre-release program. Personal information concerning the inmate, his work and education history, his family and living situation, and drug or alcohol abuse history was taken from

records of two screening interviews with the prospective client and one interview with his family. Information concerning the inmate's instant offense and length of sentence was found on the sentence order. Information on detainers and good time dates was found on the inmate's booking card. Prior juvenile and adult arrests, convictions, and incarcerations were taken from rap sheets provided by both the New Orleans Police Department and NCIC. Needs assessments and suitability selection scale scores were prepared by the Diagnostic Unit and were entered in each applicant's file.

The prison folders were the only available source for background data, given the volume of cases processed at the pre-release center. In general, the quality of the data appeared good; however, missing values on variables within a file were a constant problem. Although only a few variables were missing in each file, the cumulative effect in more than five hundred files became quite substantial. Since these missing values are not missing in any systematic pattern, bias is not a problem. The effect on the evaluation has been to limit the effectiveness of multivariate techniques such as discriminant analysis and analysis of covariance. Every attempt possible has been made to minimize the detrimental effect of missing data on the analysis.

- Outcome Data

Outcome data were gathered as soon as possible after an inmate had been released from the pre-release center, the work-release center, or prison and had been (or had the potential to have been) in the community for a minimum of six months. These data were collected in two ways. Relative adjustment items were gathered by personal contact with the

releasee by a member of the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's staff and were accepted as self-report data. Re-arrest data were gathered by the evaluation team's Site Coordinator from the New Orleans Police Department computerized information system. It should be noted that the New Orleans Police Department information system includes only arrests made within Orleans Parish and, occasionally, arrests made in adjoining parishes if those arrests are made known to the New Orleans Police Department. Second, the entry of data into the New Orleans Police Department system may at times lag so far behind the arrest event that the arrest will not appear in the data base for many months. As a result, re-arrest data should be interpreted cautiously as arrests made by or known to the New Orleans Police Department which were entered into the computerized information system in a timely fashion.

The outcome data form used for this evaluation was a 46-item form containing the following items of information:

- Termination Status (from the pre-release center, work-release center, or prison)
- Pre-Release Center Release Status
- Pre-Release Center Negative Termination Reason
- Days in Jail Following Pre-Release Center Negative Termination
- Jail Release Status for Pre-Release Center Failures
- Total Days in Pre-Release Center
- Total Days in Work-Release Center
- Total Days in Jail
- Multiple Admissions to Pre-Release Center
- Days from Release to Follow-Up
- Relative Adjustment - Employed, enrolled in school, or participating in a training program for at least 3 months of the first six months since release.
- Relative Adjustment - Held any one job, or continued in school, or training program, for more than a 3 month period since release.
- Relative Adjustment - Attained vertical mobility in employment, education or training program. This could be a raise in pay, promotion, movement to a better job, or continuous progression through educational or training program.

- Relative Adjustment - For the last six months, the individual was self-supporting and supported any immediate family for whom he is responsible.
  - Relative Adjustment - Absence of any critical incidents during the first 6 months since release. These could be a fight with family, trouble with residence, employer or fellow employee confrontations, parole officer trouble not classified as a parole violation, or any incident in other areas which shows insecurity, immaturity, instability, etc.
  - Relative Adjustment - Achievement of stability in residence; lived in the same residence for more than 3 months or moved at the suggestion of or with agreement of parole officer.
  - Relative Adjustment - Absence of any debt problems (such as poor credit, garnishing of wages, or financial imbalance) or the establishment of a bank account (checking or savings).
  - Relative Adjustment - Participation in self-improvement programs. These could be vocational, academic, group counseling, alcohol or drug programs, etc.
  - Relative Adjustment - No illegal activities on any available records for the first 6 months since release.
  - Relative Adjustment - Individual making satisfactory progress through the parole period. This could be movement downward in level of supervision or obtaining final release within a reasonable period.
- Total Relative Adjustment Score  
 Total Arrests During Follow-Up  
 Type of Offense First-Sixth Arrest  
 Disposition First-Sixth Arrest  
 Sentence First-Sixth Arrest  
 Days from Release to First-Sixth Arrest

• Service Data

Service data were collected exclusively by the Site Coordinator for a cohort of pre-release center participants who began their stays in the pre-release program between September 1, 1980 and January 15, 1981. Service data forms were completed weekly for each member of the cohort, detailing all program services which had been provided for each client during that week. A form was completed for each client every week until the client was dropped from the program or was released into the community.

Data were gathered by means of weekly personal interviews by the Site Coordinator with pre-release staff members responsible for providing specific services. While service data concentrated on the major components of the program required by the test design, data were also collected on any additional components provided by the center.

Service data were collected by means of a 49-item form which included the following information:

- Employment Status
- Current Employer
- Job Title
- Employment Starting Date
- Hourly Pay
- Number of Employment Interviews Arranged
- Amount of Job Developer Time Provided
- Transportation Provided by the Pre-Release Center
- Number of Employment Crises Handled
- Employment Crisis Action Taken
- Number of Job Performance Reports
- Source of Job Performance Report Information
- Job Performance Ratings Given
- Education/Training Status
- Number of Education/Training Referrals Arranged
- Amount of Time Spent on Education/Training Referrals
- Transportation Provided by the Pre-Release Center
- Type of Education/Training Program
- Date of First Participation
- Length of Scheduled Participation
- Hours of Education/Training Per Week
- Source of Program Tuition
- Number of Education/Training Crises Handled
- Education/Training Crisis Action Taken
- Number of Education/Training Performance Reports
- Source of Education/Training Performance Report
- Education/Training Performance Ratings Given
- Number of Individual Counseling Sessions
- Number of Group Counseling Sessions
- Focus of Individual Counseling
- Number of Counseling Ratings Given
- Number of Social Awareness Instruction Sessions Attended
- Referrals to Community Service Agencies
- Time Spent on Referrals to Community Service Agencies
- Agencies to Which Referrals Made
- Number of Community Service Hours
- Transportation Provided by Pre-Release Center
- Number of Community Service Performance Ratings Given

- Number of Hours of Service to the Community
- Types of Services to the Community
- Number of Furloughs Granted
- Furlough Sponsors
- Length of Furloughs
- Phase Status
- Phase Changes
- Number of Disciplinary Actions
- Reason for Disciplinary Actions
- Program Exit Status
- Total Days in Pre-Release Program

#### Inter-rater Reliability

For purposes of this study, case record data were accepted as accurate unless there were internal contradictions within the file, in which case the pre-release center program staff were requested to resolve the problem. The Site Coordinator, an employee of the evaluation team, acted as the major data collection agent. Collecting the basic data involved the translation of large amounts of data from case files to project collection forms. This is basically a coding problem, and reliability was a major issue. The problem was addressed by having the evaluation team on site to train the Site Coordinator in data collection techniques. Two persons held the position of Site Coordinator during the project. The original Site Coordinator collected approximately 20 percent of the basic data and no follow-up or service data, while the current Site Coordinator collected the balance of the data. When the first data collector left the project, thirty overlapping cases were collected by the data collector to check for inter-rater reliability. Table 3.2 shows the results of this test, which were deemed to represent a satisfactory degree of agreement.

After the completed data collection sheets were received at the evaluation headquarters, the data were coded to a machine-readable format. All coding has been handled by a single person to maximize reliability of

the operation. Check re-check procedures failed to reveal any significant errors introduced by this process. A breakdown of all study variables and the values each can hold is included in Appendix A.

TABLE 3.2  
INTER-RATER RELIABILITY TEST  
SELECTED VARIABLES

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Pearson's R</u>
Number of Aliases (V4)*	.61
Prior Property Arrests (V54)	.84
Prior Drug Arrests (V55)	.69
Months of Prior Adult Incarceration (V62)	.73
Number of Juvenile Arrests (V23)	.75
Number of Adult Arrests (V58)	.95
Length of Current Sentence (V13)	.93
Days Served Prior to Screening (V50)	.77
Number of Months in Community (V21)	.97
Age at Screening (V5)	.99
Highest Grade Completed (V65)	.86
Number of Siblings (V88)	.69

\*V numbers refer to the variable numbers found in a copy of the code book in Appendix A.

CHAPTER IV  
GROUP MEMBERSHIP ANALYSIS  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 AND 2

The experimental group for this study consists of 367 males who entered the New Orleans pre-release center between January 1979 and January 1981. The comparison 1 group consists of 135 males who met the eligibility requirements of the pre-release center during this same period of time, but for non-prejudicial reasons did not participate in the program. The comparison 2 group consists of 60 males who failed to meet the eligibility requirements of the pre-release center. The balance of this chapter examines in detail intergroup differences which might potentially lead to differential outcome among groups and consequently obscure the true level of effectiveness of the experimental pre-release center treatment.

Intergroup Analysis - Experimental vs. Comparison 1

In any quasi-experimental group comparison design, the degree of comparability between the experimental and comparison groups is of first importance. This study attempted to approximate random assignment to experimental and comparison groups by screening more potential applicants for the program than could be accommodated and then assigning persons to the program on a space available basis. This meant that some otherwise eligible persons could not participate in the experimental program because their sentences would expire before space was available. Thus, this overflow group became the comparison 1 group for the study. Occasionally,

the pool of qualified applicants fell to the level where all were taken into the experimental group to maintain population levels. The following section compares the experimental and comparison 1 groups on a wide range of variables and reveals few statistically significant differences between the groups. Tables 4.1A and 4.1B profile the two groups by comparing them on selected variables.

TABLE 4.1A  
INTERGROUP ANALYSIS  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1

Variable	Experimental $\bar{X}$	Comparison 1 $\bar{X}$
Age at Screening (V5)	26.1	26.5
Months in Community (V21)	281	297
Months of Juvenile (V31) Incarceration	2.6	2.4
Age at First Arrest (V32)	18.2	17.3
Number of Adult Convictions (V59)	1.4	1.8
Number of Adult Incarcerations (V61)	.7	1.1
Months of Adult Incarceration (V62)	8.8	19.0
Highest Grade Attained (V65)	9.8	9.6
Months of Last Employment (V73)	17.0	15.8
Number of Children (V84)	1.2	.9
Weekly Income Last Job (V91)	\$157	\$167

Two techniques were used to determine the statistical significance of intergroup differences. For nominally scaled variables, crosstabulation

TABLE 4.1B  
INTERGROUP ANALYSIS  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1

Variable	Experimental %	Comparison 1 %
Race: White (V7)	9.0%	9.6%
Black	91.0	90.4
Conviction Offense:		
Personal Assault (V8)	9.6	5.2
Robbery (V9)	10.2	13.4
Property (V10)	49.5	63.4
Drugs (V11)	4.4	11.2
Public Order (V12)	6.0	11.2
Non-Support (V13)	24.5	.7
Residence: (V18)		
Local	98.6	96.3
Non-Local	1.4	3.7
Prior Adult Arrests: *		
Personal Assault (V52)	34.2	36.6
Robbery (V53)	15.9	25.2
Property (V54)	64.2	76.2
Drugs (V55)	24.5	29.8
Public Order (V56)	50.0	56.5
Non-Support (V57)	4.1	.7
Education Level: (V66)		
Less than High School	78.4	76.0
GED or High School	21.6	24.0
Employed at Arrest: (V69)		
Yes	59.1	55.3
No	40.9	44.7
Marital Status: (V83)		
Never Married	47.9	57.6
Married	32.7	25.0
Divorced	10.2	5.3
Cohabit	8.0	10.6
Other	1.1	1.5

\* Coded as "0" or "1 or more"

tables were constructed and chi-square values were calculated. Variables scaled on an interval level were tested using a t-test or its approximation for differences between group means. In both cases, the hypothesis of no difference between groups was tested at the significance level of five percent. Comments are directed to variables with statistically significant differences.

Table 4.2 compares the two groups on basic demographic variables. On average, the comparison 1 group members have lived more months at their last address than the experimentals, however, the effect of this difference can be somewhat discounted by noting that there is no difference between the groups on terms of total months in the community.

The two groups differ in terms of living companions at arrest. Twelve percent of the controls were living with spouses when arrested, as opposed to only six percent of the experimentals. Approximately equal percentages of each group lived with parents and friends. Slightly more of the experimentals (9 percent) lived alone than the comparisons (5 percent). While 15 percent of the experimentals lived with romantic friends, only 10 percent of the comparisons had that living arrangement.

Birth order differed for the groups, with 22 percent of the experimentals as first born, vs. 33 percent of the comparisons, and 15 percent of the experimentals last born, as opposed to 26 percent of the comparisons. Middle-born children dominated the experimentals at 58 percent, but only represented 38 percent of the comparison group.

The last basic demographic variable to show a difference was housing. Over 9 percent of the experimentals receive free housing (usually from parents), as opposed to less than one percent of the comparisons. Also,

25 percent of the comparisons own housing, as opposed to 20 percent of the experimentals. The balance of each group rents.

Overall, the examination of group differences on basic demographics provides little reason to suspect that the groups differ in any way which could lead to differentiated outcome.

TABLE 4.2  
BASIC DATA  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Race (V7)	.00		.964
Age at Screening (V5)		-.47	.641
Residence (local/non-local) (V18)	1.68		.195
Months at Last Address (V19)		-2.80	.006*
Months in the Community (V21)		-.126	.208
Marital Status (V83)	7.16		.128
Living Companions at Arrest (V82)	14.83		.022*
Number of Children (V84)		2.27	.024*
Number of Children Supported (V85)		2.29	.023*
Reared By (V86)	6.71		.243
Birth Order (V87)	9.15		.027*
Number of Siblings (V88)		1.07	.286
Educational Level Attained (V66)	2.04		.360
Literate (yes/no) (V67)	.21		.648
Highest Grade Completed (V65)		.76	.447
Housing (own/rent/free) (V20)	9.54		.009*
Return to Same Living Situation (V89)	.58		.444
Physical Handicap (V92)	.68		.411
Other Health Problem (V93)	.13		.714
Mental Health Treatment (V94)	1.36		.243

\*Significant at the .05 level

Table 4.3 compares the groups on basic employment-related data. No differences were found with the exception of type of military discharge. Honorable discharges were awarded to 12 percent of the experimentals vs. 9 percent of the comparisons. Dishonorable discharges were received by 0.5 percent (N=2) of the experimentals and 5 percent (N=6) of the comparisons. There is no doubt that the dishonorable discharge can be a major employment liability, however, the small numbers involved here are unlikely to affect overall group performance, especially in light of the numerous other employment liabilities of the group members.

Table 4.4 compares the groups in terms of their prior juvenile criminal record. The only differences detected were in terms of juvenile offenses on record. Seven percent of the experimental group had an assaultive offense on their records vs. 15 percent of the comparisons. Five percent of the experimentals had a robbery offense vs. 11 percent of the comparisons. And, 35 percent of the experimentals had a juvenile property offense, as opposed to 46 percent of the comparisons. These differences could indicate that the comparison group might have a greater potential for adult recidivism on the basis of its more extensive juvenile record. However, since no group differences were apparent in terms of number of juvenile offenses on record, months of juvenile incarcerations, or age at first arrest, it is unlikely that these specific offense differences will affect overall outcome.

Table 4.5 compares the two groups on variables relating to their prior adult criminal records. These variables are generally thought to be important predictors of group differences because of the often-stated

TABLE 4.3  
BASIC DATA - EMPLOYMENT RELATED  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 GROUP

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Chi-Square</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Employed at Arrest (V69)	.42		.517
Employment Status at Arrest (V72)	6.07		.300
Can Return to Old Job (V70)	.10		.754
No Opportunity for Work History (V76)	3.64		.056
Months of Last Employment (V73)		.47	.636
Months of Longest Employment (V75)		1.59	.113
Weekly Income Last Job (V91)		-1.07	.287
Source of Income (V90)	2.94		.401
Vocational Training (V68)	3.45		.063
Military Experience (V77)	4.35		.500
Vietnam Veteran (V78)	0.00		1.000
Combat Veteran (V79)	.03		.856
Type of Military Discharge (V80)	12.36		.030*

\* Significant at the .05 level

TABLE 4.4  
PRIOR JUVENILE CRIMINAL RECORD  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Juvenile Arrest Record (V22)	2.86		.091
Juvenile Offenses: **			
Assault (V24)	6.49		.011*
Robbery (V25)	5.31		.021*
Property (V26)	4.40		.036*
Drugs (V27)	.99		.319
Public Order (V28)	2.05		.152
Non-Support (V29)	.00		.974
Juvenile Institutionalization (V30)	1.64		.200
Juvenile Offenses on Record (V23)		-1.92	.056
Months of Juvenile Institutionalization (V31)		.24	.808
Age at First Arrest (V32)		1.34	.181

\*Significant at the .05 level

\*\* Coded as "0" and "1 or more"

notion that the best predictor of future criminal behavior is past criminal behavior. Several significant differences were found. The experimental group members had been arrested fewer times ( $\bar{X} = 4.7$ ) than the comparison group ( $\bar{X} = 6.0$ ). The experimental group members had fewer adult convictions ( $\bar{X} = 1.4$  to  $\bar{X} = 1.8$ ). Experimental group members were incarcerated an average of .7 times, in contrast with 1.1 times for comparison group members and, while experimental group members had spent a mean of 8.8 months incarcerated, the comparison group members had averaged 19.0 months.

TABLE 4.5  
PRIOR ADULT CRIMINAL RECORD  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Number of Aliases on Record (V4)		-.61	.545
Number of Adult Arrests (V58)		-2.10	.037*
Number of Adult Convictions (V59)		-2.29	.023*
Number of Adult Incarcerations (V61)		-2.35	.019*
Months of Adult Incarceration (V62)		-3.35	.001*
Number of Prior Paroles (V63)		-1.86	.065
Prior Arrests (yes/no) (V58)	2.54		.111
Adult Arrests: **			
Assault/Personal (V52)	.13		.714
Robbery (V53)	4.90		.027*
Property (V54)	5.70		.017*
Drugs (V55)	1.16		.282
Public Order (V56)	1.37		.241
Non-Support (V57)	2.48		.115
Prior Adult Incarcerations (yes/no) (V60)	9.09		.003*
Prior Escape Attempts (V64)	.14		.710
Alcohol in Prior Offenses (V98)	10.75		.001*
Drugs in Prior Offenses (V117)	10.57		.001*
Drug/Crime Interaction Pattern (V119)	1.29		.256

\*Significant at the .05 level

\*\* Coded as "0" and "1 or more"

Differences were also found in terms of the crimes for which the groups had previously been arrested. Greater proportions of the comparison group had been arrested for robbery (25 percent) and property crimes (76 percent) than the experimental group (robbery 16 percent, property 64 percent).

Finally, 20 percent of the comparison group had evidence of alcohol involvement in prior offenses vs. only 8 percent of the experimentals and 37 percent of the comparison group had a record of drug involvement in a prior offense, as opposed to 22 percent of the experimentals.

The differences in prior record documented here are significant and have the potential to affect the outcome of this study. If there is a relationship between past criminal behavior and future recidivism, these variables indicate that the members of the comparison group may be more likely to recidivate than the experimental group members; therefore, statistical controls will be introduced to attempt to negate the effects of these differences.

The current offense characteristics of the two groups are compared in Table 4.6. The experimental group contained a smaller proportion of persons convicted of property offenses (50 percent vs. 63 percent), a smaller proportion of persons convicted of drug offenses (4 percent vs. 11 percent), and a larger proportion of persons convicted of non-support (25 percent vs. 1 percent). For the comparison group, alcohol was involved in 20 percent of the current offenses, in contrast with 12 percent of the experimental group. Group criminal activity appeared more frequently within the comparison group, with 30 percent of the cases involving multiple defendants, while in the experimental group, only 15 percent were multiple defendant cases. The comparison group was convicted of an average of 1.38 offenses upon their current entry into the criminal justice system, in contrast to the experimental group's 1.18 convictions. Lastly, the comparison group served an average of 129 days of their sentences before their screening for the test program, while the experimentals had served an average of 88 days.

TABLE 4.6

CURRENT OFFENSE CHARACTERISTICS  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 GROUP

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Chi-Square</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Conviction Offense: **			
Assault (V8)	1.91		.167
Robbery (V9)	.76		.384
Property (V10)	7.14		.008*
Drugs (V11)	6.64		.010*
Public Order (V12)	3.07		.080
Non-Support (V13)	35.59		.000*
Offense Charged: **			
Assault (V33)	.00		.980
Robbery (V34)	1.29		.256
Property (V35)	10.41		.001*
Drugs (V36)	10.43		.001*
Public Order (V37)	2.58		.108
Non-Support (V38)	32.13		.000*
Final Plea to Charge (V39)	1.06		.787
Type of Counsel (V40)	5.85		.119
Multiple Defendants (V41)	11.61		.000*
Alcohol in Current Offense (V97)	4.88		.027*
Drugs in Current Offense (V116)	1.24		.265
Current Disposition:			
Probation (V43)	3.09		.079
Fine (V45)	.00		.958
Restitution (V48)	.30		.585
Months of Probation (V44)		-1.49	.136
Amount of Restitution (V48)		1.00	.318
Length of Sentence (V16)		-1.33	.186
Number of Instant Offenses Convicted (V137)		-2.15	.033*

Table 4.6 cont.

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Chi-Square</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Days Served Prior to Screening (V50)		-2.05	.042*
Sentence Days Remaining at Screening (V17)		.33	.744

\*Significant at the .05 level

\*\*Coded as "0" and "1 or more"

These comparisons of current offense characteristics offer little to suggest that the two groups differ markedly from one another, with the exception of the non-support category. Persons convicted of non-support were obviously deliberately placed in the experimental program, and their presence may affect outcome, particularly if they differ from the other, more conventional, offenders. For this reason, special steps will be taken during data analysis to control for the presence of persons convicted of non-support.

Variables which were tested for intergroup differences in drug and alcohol use patterns are presented in Table 4.7. No differences were found, with the exception of variables previously cited in Tables 4.5 and 4.6.

The overall analysis of the experimental and comparison 1 group lends support to the hypothesis that the groups come from the same population. The only intergroup differences which appear to have the potential to affect outcome are the more lengthy previous incarcerations in the comparison 1 group and the large percentage of non-support cases in the experimental group.

TABLE 4.7

BASIC DATA - DRUG AND ALCOHOL  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 1 GROUP

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Chi-Square</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Alcohol Treatment (yes/no) (V99)	1.33		.249
Months of Alcohol Treatment (V105)		-1.45	.149
Alcohol Treatment Type:			
Alcoholics Anonymous (V100)	.00		1.000
Counseling (V101)	.00		.960
Chemotherapy (V102)	.00		1.000
Residential (V103)	.00		1.000
Currently on Antabuse (V106)	.00		.980
Drug Treatment (yes/no) (V120)	.00		1.000
Months of Drug Treatment (V126)		-.70	.484
Drug Treatment Type:			
Counseling (V122)	.00		1.000
Chemotherapy (V123)	.03		.856
Residential (V124)	.00		1.000
History of Drug Use:			
Heroin (V107)	.02		.900
Methadone (V108)	.01		.910
PCP (V109)	.40		.530
Marijuana (V110)	.00		.960
Barbiturates or Amphetamines (V111)	.10		.750
Sedatives or Pain Relievers (V112)	.11		.740
Cocaine (V113)	.57		.450
LSD (V114)	.13		.720

\*Significant at the .05 level

Intergroup Analysis - Experimental vs. Comparison 2

In addition to the comparison 1 group which consists of persons who met the program eligibility requirements, a second comparison group of 60 non-eligible persons was chosen. Since this group was supposed to consist of persons rejected from the pre-release program, a number of differences between this comparison group and the experimental group are expected to exist. Tables 4.8A and 4.8B profile the two groups on selected variables. This section briefly examines the differences which are found.

Table 4.9 compares the two groups on basic demographic variables. The groups widely differed in terms of racial make-up. The experimental group was 9 percent white vs. 22 percent for the comparison group. The experimental group was made up of 1 percent non-locals, while non-locals accounted for almost 10 percent of the comparison group. Members of the comparison group differed in terms of marital status. It contained fewer never married and many more divorced persons than the experimental group. Differences were also found in living companions at arrest. Members of the comparison group were less likely to be living with parents or relatives and more likely to be living with spouses or romantic friends. Lastly, 18.6 percent of the comparison group had received some form of mental health treatment, as opposed to only 8.5 percent of the experimental group.

Table 4.10 compares employment-related variables for the two groups. The groups are virtually identical on this dimension, with the exception of months of last employment, where the experimentals average 24.4 months to the 18 month average of the comparison 2 group.

TABLE 4.8A  
PROFILE OF SELECTED VARIABLES  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Experimental <math>\bar{X}</math></u>	<u>Comparison 2 <math>\bar{X}</math></u>
Age at Screening	26.1	27.2
Months in the Community	281	267
Months of Juvenile Incarceration	2.6	4.8
Age at First Arrest	18.2	17.0
Number of Prior Adult Convictions	1.4	2.5
Number of Prior Adult Incarcerations	.7	1.5
Months of Adult Incarceration	8.8	22.4
Highest Grade Attained	9.8	9.8
Months of Last Employment	17.0	11.2
Number of Children	1.2	.9
Weekly Income Last Job	\$157	\$177

TABLE 4.8B  
 PROFILE OF SELECTED VARIABLES  
 EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

Variable	Experimental %	Comparison 2 %
Race: White	9.0	22.0
Black	91.0	78.0
Conviction Offense:		
Assault	9.6	13.6
Robbery	10.2	5.1
Property	49.5	52.5
Drugs	4.4	5.1
Public Order	6.0	8.5
Non-Support	24.5	15.3
Residence:		
Local	98.6	88.0
Non-Local	1.4	12.0
Prior Adult Arrests:		
Assault	34.2	54.4
Robbery	15.9	24.6
Property	64.2	75.4
Drugs	24.5	36.8
Public Order	50.0	63.2
Non-Support	4.1	8.8
Educational Level:		
Less than High School	59.1	67.3
GED or High School	40.9	32.7
Marital Status:		
Never Married	47.9	39.0
Married	32.7	23.7
Divorced	10.2	20.3
Cohabit	8.0	11.9
Other	1.1	5.1

TABLE 4.9  
 BASIC DATA  
 EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Race	7.67		.006*
Age at Screening		-1.07	.284
Residence (local/non-local)	15.57		.000*
Months at Last Address		1.14	.256
Months in the Community		.65	.519
Marital Status	12.26		.016*
Living Companions at Arrest	38.66		.000*
Number of Children		1.76	.081
Number of Children Supported		-.18	.855
Reared By	10.36		.066
Birth Order	9.81		.020*
Number of Siblings		.06	.952
Educational Level	2.37		.124
Literate (yes/no)	.38		.538
Housing (own/rent/free)	3.80		.150
Return to Same Living Situation	.00		.987
Physical Handicap	.13		.718
Other Health Problems	.64		.425
Mental Health Treatment (yes/no)	4.71		.030*

\* Significant at the .05 level

TABLE 4.10  
BASIC DATA - EMPLOYMENT RELATED  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Employed at Arrest	.00		.948
Employment Status at Arrest	7.55		.110
Can Return to Old Job	.00		.983
No Opportunity for Work History	.00		1.000
Months of Last Employment		2.13	.036*
Months of Longest Employment		-.06	.952
Weekly Income Last Job		-.97	.335
Source of Income	.21		.975
Vocational Training	1.95		.163
Military Experience	5.21		.391
Vietnam Veteran	.49		.482
Type of Military Discharge	3.21		.667

\* Significant at the .05 level

As noted in Table 4.11, there were intergroup differences on juvenile record. Significantly more of the comparison 2 group members had a juvenile record of arrests for assaultive crimes, robbery crimes, property crimes, and drug offenses. The number of juvenile offenses on record averaged 1.1 for the experimentals and 3.1 for the comparison group.

Table 4.12 details intergroup differences on adult criminal justice record. Here, extensive differences were found. The comparison group had used significantly more aliases, had more adult arrests ( $\bar{X} = 8.5$  to  $\bar{X} = 4.7$ ), more adult convictions ( $\bar{X} = 2.6$  to  $\bar{X} = 1.4$ ), more adult incarcerations ( $\bar{X} = 1.5$  to  $\bar{X} = .7$ ), and a longer average period of incarceration (22.4 months to 8.8 months). The only specific arrest category in which a

TABLE 4.11  
PRIOR JUVENILE CRIMINAL RECORD  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Juvenile Arrest Record	2.59		.108
Juvenile Offenses:			
Assault	9.63		.002*
Robbery	6.23		.013*
Property	4.42		.036*
Drugs	8.27		.004*
Public Order	1.39		.239
Non-Support	2.00		.158
Juvenile Incarcerations	1.56		.212
Juvenile Offenses on Record		-2.72	.009*
Months of Juvenile Incarceration		-1.16	.252
Age at First Arrest		1.21	.228

\* Significant at the .05 level

TABLE 4.12  
PRIOR ADULT CRIMINAL RECORD  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Aliases		-.388	.000*
Number of Adult Arrests		-2.65	.010*
Number of Adult Convictions		-3.59	.001*
Number of Adult Incarcerations		-2.59	.012*
Months of Adult Incarceration		-2.67	.010*
Number of Prior Paroles		-2.96	.004*
Prior Arrests (yes/no)	7.25		.007*
Adult Arrests:			
Assault	7.65		.006*
Robbery	2.01		.156
Property	2.29		.130
Drugs	3.30		.069
Public Order	2.91		.088
Non-Support	1.44		.230
Prior Adult Incarcerations (yes/no)	7.20		.007*
Prior Escape Attempts	21.63		.000*
Alcohol in Prior Offenses	14.71		.000*
Drugs in Prior Offenses	.08		.780
Drug/Crime Interaction Pattern	.51		.474

\* Significant at the .05 level

difference in the groups was found was the assaultive category which contained a greater proportion of the comparison group. It was also apparent that alcohol had been involved in the prior offenses of a greater proportion of comparison group members. Lastly, and possibly most importantly, almost 14 percent of the comparison 2 group had a prior escape attempt on record,

TABLE 4.13  
CURRENT OFFENSE CHARACTERISTICS  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Conviction Offense:			
Assault	.49		.485
Robbery	.99		.319
Property	.09		.764
Drugs	.00		1.000
Public Order	.18		.673
Non-Support	1.92		.166
Offense Charged:			
Assault	5.34		.021*
Robbery	.92		.338
Property	2.40		.122
Drugs	.16		.686
Public Order	.00		1.000
Non-Support	.97		.325
Final Plea to Charge	.34		.953
Type of Counsel	19.17		.000*
Multiple Defendants	.22		.642
Alcohol in Current Offense	.86		.353
Drugs in Current Offense	2.36		.124
Current Disposition:			
Probation	.54		.463
Fine	.01		.914
Restitution	.00		1.000
Months of Probation		2.12	.036*
Amount of Restitution		.95	.344
Length of Sentence		.96	.347
Number of Offenses Convicted		-.69	.491

Table 4.13 cont.

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Chi-Square</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Days Served Prior to Screening		1.67	.096
Sentence Days Remaining at Screening		-.36	.721

\* Significant at the .05 level

as opposed to only 1.4 percent of the experimental group.

Surprisingly few differences were found between the two groups in terms of current offense (see Table 4.13). A larger proportion of the comparison 2 group was charged with assaultive crimes, but this difference did not manifest itself in convictions. A difference was found in terms of type of counsel, with a larger proportion of the comparison group represented by court-appointed counsel. Finally, there was a difference in terms of length of probation term in those cases where probation was a part of the sentence for the current offense. Where probation was given, the comparison group members received a shorter probation period.

The final comparisons examine drug and alcohol-related variables (see Table 4.14). If the participation in alcohol treatment is an indicator of alcohol problems, they occur in the comparison 2 group at a much greater rate than in the experimental group. Over 12 percent of the comparison group have participated in alcohol treatment compared to only 2 percent of the experimental group. On the other hand, the experimental group presented a significantly higher rate of drug treatment involvement, although in both groups the rates were very low.

TABLE 4.14

BASIC DATA - DRUG AND ALCOHOL  
EXPERIMENTAL VS. COMPARISON 2 GROUP

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Chi-Square</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Alcohol Treatment	11.09		.001*
Months of Alcohol Treatment		-1.06	.295
Alcohol Treatment Type:			
Alcoholics Anonymous	13.12		.000*
Counseling	.32		.571
Chemotherapy	.20		.655
Residential	3.23		.072
Currently on Antabuse	.00		1.000
Drug Treatment	.04		.846
Months of Drug Treatment		2.42	.016*
Drug Treatment Type:			
Counseling	.28		.596
Chemotherapy	.00		1.000
Residential	.32		.571
History of Drug Use:			
Heroin	1.59		.208
Methadone	.00		1.000
PCP	.29		.590
Marijuana	.64		.424
Barbiturates or Amphetamines	3.30		.070
Sedatives or Pain Relievers	.10		.753
Cocaine	9.77		.002*
LSD	.00		1.000

\* Significant at the .05 level

In summary, the assumption that the comparison group 2 would have major differences from the experimental group was demonstrated. Comparison group 2 members were found to be composed of more whites, more non-locals, and had had more alcohol and mental health treatment. They had more extensive juvenile and adult criminal records, and many more prior escape attempts. In spite of these background differences, however, few differences were found regarding current offense.

For all three groups, the evidence indicates that the sampling strategy was successful. It yielded a comparison 1 group which is remarkably similar to the experimental group and a comparison 2 group which consists of persons who, in terms of criminal record, appear less eligible for the pre-release program than the experimentals and comparison 1's.

## CHAPTER V

### IN-PROGRAM PROCESS ANALYSES: SERVICES AND OUTCOME

This chapter examines the in-program processes of the New Orleans pre-release center. The pre-release center offered a variety of in-program services including employment location, counseling, basic education, training, and social awareness training.

Since each of these services has the potential to be the "important one" for a particular client, determining which is "most important" for the program is problematic. The experimental treatment in this study is not a single service but instead a range of services. To begin to sort out this complicated area, three basic questions were asked:

- what is the in-program success rate and who are the persons who succeed or fail?
- is there any relationship between services received from the program and in-program success?
- more specifically, what effect did the pre-release program have on the employment situation of the clients of the center?

#### Determinants of In-Program Success

An important research question in this study concerns the in-program performance of participants. It can be argued that if the pre-release center program is to have any effect on its participants, then the participants should at least complete the program. Table 5.1 shows the program completion status of the experimental group. There were 162 persons classed as successful completions. Successful completion resulted from one of three outcomes. First, persons who were making satisfactory

progress in the program when their sentence expired or they reached their "good time" release dates; second, persons who were able to pay outstanding fines while maintaining satisfactory progress in the program, and, third, non-support cases assigned to the program who paid outstanding non-support judgments while maintaining satisfactory progress in the program.

Program failures numbered 144. Table 5.2 breaks down the reported reasons for program failure. Job violations, at 27.9 percent, were the most common infractions; these consisted of behaviors such as failure to report for work, getting fired, or altercations on the job. Misconduct at 26.5 percent of known failures ranked second. These violations consisted primarily of insubordination, failure to follow orders, or altercations with other program participants. Substance abuse was responsible for over 30 percent of the program failures, which were about evenly divided between drugs and alcohol.

TABLE 5.1  
PROGRAM TERMINATION STATUS  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP

<u>Termination Status</u>	<u>Success</u>	<u>Failure</u>	<u>Undetermined</u>
Successful Completion	162		
Prejudicial Removal		144	
Non-Prejudicial Removal			2
Non-Determined			59
Total	162	144	61
Success/Failure Percent	52.9%	47.1%	

TABLE 5.2  
PROGRAM TERMINATION REASON  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP FAILURES

<u>Termination Reason</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Job Violation	38	27.9%
Misconduct	36	26.5
Alcohol	24	17.6
Drugs	18	13.2
Pass Violation	9	6.6
Security Risk	3	2.2
Other	8	6.0
Unknown	(8)	---
Total	144	100.0%

For 61 members of the experimental group, program outcome is undetermined. Two persons were removed from the program at their own requests for non-prejudicial reasons. For the balance of 59 persons, program outcome was not determined. The reasons for non-determination were evenly split between lost or misplaced pre-release center records and failure to complete the program during the data collection period. Demographically, these 61 persons do not differ from the 306 persons for whom outcome data are available, so there is no basis for believing that subject mortality biases have been introduced. Overall, then, the program achieved an in-program success rate of approximately 53 percent.

An attempt was made to determine if in-program successes and failures could be differentiated from one another on the basis of available background information. If major differences are apparent between the two groups, the differences could point toward potentially useful program screening criteria or specific categories of offenders who seem most likely to complete the pre-release center program. The study group for this section consists of the 306 persons for whom in-program outcome has been determined.

The first step in this analysis was to utilize in-program success/failure as the dependent variable and to examine the relationship of each background variable with it. T-tests for differences between means were used for interval measures, while chi-square tests were used for the nominal variables.

Table 5.3 compares the successes and failures on basic demographic variables. Four statistically significant relationships were found. The successes were found to be, on average, almost 2.5 years older than the failures (27.5 years vs. 24.0 years). In terms of marital status, 35 percent of the successes had never been married vs. 63 percent for the failure group. Forty-three percent of the successes were currently married, as opposed to 20 percent of the failures. Cohabitation rates are approximately equal. As might be expected, the two groups also differ in terms of number of children, with an average of 1.5 for the successes and .9 for the failures. Finally, the number of children supported differs, with .7 for the successes and .3 for the failures.

These age and family differences in relation to program success are frequently found in the evaluation of correctional programs and undoubtedly

TABLE 5.3  
IN-PROGRAM SUCCESS VS. FAILURE  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Race	.02		.898
Age at Screening		4.41	.000*
Residence	.01		.905
Months at Last Address		-.20	.840
Months in the Community		1.07	.285
Marital Status	29.88		.000*
Living Companions at Arrest	9.27		.137
Number of Children		3.34	.001*
Number of Children Supported		3.55	.000*
Reared By	3.82		.575
Birth Order	3.01		.390
Number of Siblings		1.24	.217
Educational Level	4.89		.087
Literate (yes/no)	1.98		.159
Highest Grade Attained		1.23	.218
Housing	.99		.611
Return to Same Living Situation	.42		.518
Physical Handicap	2.04		.153
Other Health Problem	.00		1.000
Mental Health Treatment	.86		.353

\* Significant at the .05 level

should remain elements of the screening process. It should come as no surprise that the older clients with more stable families and family responsibilities are more frequently successful.

Table 5.4 examines employment-related variables for differences between program successes and failures. No significant relationships or differences were found.

TABLE 5.4

EMPLOYMENT-RELATED DATA  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP  
IN-PROGRAM SUCCESS VS. FAILURE

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Employed at Arrest (yes/no)	1.52		.217
Employment Status at Arrest	3.48		.481
Can Return to Old Job	3.49		.062
No Opportunity for Work History	1.25		.263
Months of Last Employment		.48	.631
Months of Longest Employment		1.52	.129
Weekly Income Last Job		1.14	.254
Source of Income	4.13		.247
Vocational Training	.06		.800
Military Experience	4.94		.293
Vietnam Veteran	.98		.323
Type of Military Discharge	7.27		.201

Table 5.5 relates in-program outcome to prior juvenile arrest record. The presence or absence of a juvenile arrest record was clearly related to completion of the pre-release program. Sixty-two percent of the subjects without juvenile arrest records successfully completed the

pre-release program vs. only 44 percent of those with a juvenile arrest record.

TABLE 5.5

PRIOR JUVENILE CRIMINAL RECORD  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP  
IN-PROGRAM SUCCESS VS. FAILURE

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Juvenile Arrest Record	8.34		.004*
Juvenile Offenses:			
Assault		-.06	.951
Robbery		-1.27	.205
Property		-1.80	.073
Drugs		.86	.392
Public Order		-.58	.559
Non-Support		-.67	.504
Juvenile Incarceration	3.31		.069
Juvenile Offenses on Record		-1.44	.151
Months of Juvenile Incarceration		-2.16	.032*
Age at First Arrest		4.21	.000*

\*Significant at the .05 level

No differences in terms of specific juvenile offenses and outcome were found between completers and non-completers. Months of juvenile incarceration showed a significant difference, with program completers having an average of 5.3 months of juvenile incarceration vs. 10.8 months for the non-completers. Finally, age at first arrest differed markedly for the two groups, with the completers averaging 19.8 years and the non-completers 16.5 years. Overall, program non-completers had much less serious juvenile criminal records than non-completers.

TABLE 5.6  
PRIOR ADULT CRIMINAL RECORD  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP  
IN-PROGRAM SUCCESS VS. FAILURE

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Number of Aliases on Record		.33	.734
Number of Adult Arrests		-2.46	.014*
Number of Adult Convictions		1.20	.233
Number of Adult Incarcerations		-1.40	.163
Months of Adult Incarceration		-1.53	.127
Number of Prior Paroles		-1.91	.058
Prior Adult Arrests	1.04		.308
Adult Arrests:			
Assault		-1.76	.080
Robbery		-2.42	.016*
Property		-2.86	.005*
Drugs		.22	.829
Public Order		-2.63	.005*
Non-Support		2.11	.036*
Prior Adult Incarcerations	1.31		.252
Prior Escape Attempts	.61		.435
Alcohol in Prior Offenses	.00		1.000
Drug/Crime Interaction Pattern	.73		.391

\*Significant at the .05 level

Table 5.6 shows that, in terms of prior adult record, successful completers had fewer total adult arrests ( $\bar{X} = 3.8$ ) than non-completers ( $\bar{X} = 5.3$ ). Specifically, successful completers had fewer arrests for robbery ( $\bar{X} = .14$  vs.  $\bar{X} = .30$ ), fewer arrests for property ( $\bar{X} = 1.6$  vs.  $\bar{X} = 2.3$ ), fewer arrests for public order offenses ( $\bar{X} = .9$  vs.  $\bar{X} = 1.4$ ), and more arrests for non-support ( $\bar{X} = .08$  vs.  $\bar{X} = .02$ ). Neither the number

nor length of prior adult incarcerations appeared to be linked to whether the subject completed the program.

Table 5.7 relates current offense characteristics to in-program success or failure. In-program successes were found to have been convicted of fewer robbery offenses ( $\bar{X} = .06$  vs.  $\bar{X} = .16$ ), fewer property offenses ( $\bar{X} = .46$  vs.  $\bar{X} = .70$ ), more drug offenses ( $\bar{X} = .06$  vs.  $\bar{X} = .01$ ), and more non-support offenses ( $\bar{X} = .38$  vs.  $\bar{X} = .16$ ). A somewhat similar pattern held for the offenses charged, with the successes being charged with fewer robbery and property offenses and more non-support offenses. Differences were also found with respect to length of sentence, with successes receiving a mean of 314 days, while failures received a mean of 444 days. Sentence days remaining at screening also differed, with a mean of 105 days for the successes and 164 for the failures.

Our variable-by-variable comparison of in-program success and failure groups reveals that program successes are older and more frequently married with children to support.\* Employment background variables seemed unrelated to success. Successes had a less serious criminal record, both juvenile and adult, particularly in terms of robbery and property offenses, but prior correctional experience in terms of prior length of adult incarcerations seemed not to affect outcome. In terms of the instant offense, the successful clients were those convicted of drug or non-support offenses and those with shorter sentences, while failures were convicted of robbery or property offenses and had generally longer sentences.

\*A separate analysis of this group with non-support cases removed failed to negate this relationship, so it holds for all categories of clients.

TABLE 5.7  
CURRENT OFFENSE CHARACTERISTICS  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP  
IN-PROGRAM SUCCESS VS. FAILURES

Variable	Chi-Square	T-value	Probability
Conviction Offense:			
Assault		.50	.620
Robbery		-2.68	.008*
Property		-3.39	.007*
Drugs		2.00	.046*
Public Order		-.10	.922
Non-Support		4.31	.000*
Offense Charged:			
Assault		-.26	.798
Robbery		-2.46	.015*
Property		-2.70	.007*
Drugs		1.22	.225
Public Order		.25	.799
Non-Support		5.39	.000*
Final Plea to Charge	3.30		.348
Type of Counsel	3.15		.207
Multiple Defendants	.00		1.000
Alcohol in Current Offense	.00		1.000
Drugs in Current Offense	.00		1.000
Current Disposition:			
Probation	.01		.930
Fine	2.61		.106
Restitution	1.89		.169
Months of Probation		-.37	.710
Amount of Restitution		-.37	.710
Length of Sentence		-2.74	.007*
Number of Instant Offenses		-.80	.426
Days Served Prior to Screening		-.91	.365
Sentence Days Remaining at Screening		-4.96	.000*

\*Significant at the .05 level

Within every population of correctional clients there are sub-populations which seem to have different degrees of success in a particular program. This phenomenon is examined in Table 5.8 by looking at in-program success rates for selected sub-populations. The variables listed in the table, most of which had demonstrated associations with in-program success, were dichotomized and sub-population success rates were calculated. These rates apply only to the experimental group and probably would vary with another population, but they strongly hint at the type of population most likely to be positively affected by the pre-release program. For example, the variable age appears to strongly affect the probability of success in our experimental group. The probability of success for a client who is 26 years of age or more is over 50 percent greater than the probability of success of a client who is 25 years of age or less. On the other hand, whether or not a client has been convicted of an assaultive offense bears little relationship to his probability of success. This table restates in somewhat more specific terms the results of previous tables.

TABLE 5.8  
IN-PROGRAM SUCCESS RATES  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP  
BY SELECTED SUB-POPULATIONS

<u>Sub-Population</u>	<u>Probability of Success</u>
Age:	
25 or less	.424
26 or more	.664
Convicted of Assault Offense:	
Yes	.583
No	.530
Convicted of Robbery Offense:	
Yes	.300
No	.560
Convicted of Property Offense:	
Yes	.439
No	.626
Convicted of Drug Offense:	
Yes	.818
No	.524
Convicted of Public Order Offense:	
Yes	.550
No	.534
Convicted of Non-Support Offense:	
Yes	.756
No	.452
Sentence Length:	
375 days or less	.554
376 days or more	.463
Sentence Remaining at Screening:	
132 days or less	.643
133 days or more	.355
Months of Juvenile Incarceration:	
1 or 2 months	.552
3 months or more	.426

Table 5.8 cont.

<u>Sub-Population</u>	<u>Probability of Success</u>
Age at First Arrest:	
18 or less	.457
19 or more	.639
Number of Adult Arrests:	
1 to 4	.588
5 or more	.429
Marital Status:	
Never Married	.382
Currently Married/Divorced	.667

The preceding analysis is bivariate, i.e., it only examines the relationships between variables two at a time. It answers questions of the form, "What is the relationship between 'x' independent variable and in-program outcome, the dependent variable?" It is seldom that only one variable is relevant to a dependent variable. A more likely situation is that a number of independent variables determine program outcome. To assess the simultaneous effect of several independent variables on outcome, several multivariate discriminant analysis models were developed.

Discriminant analysis attempts to statistically distinguish between two or more groups, in this case between in-program successes and failures. The two groups are distinguished on the basis of discriminating variables which measure characteristics on which the groups are expected to vary.

The "best" of the discriminant models developed could correctly classify slightly over 68 percent of the cases in the sample as successes or failures. It included the independent variables listed in Table 5.9.

TABLE 5.9  
DISCRIMINANT FUNCTION FOR IN-PROGRAM SUCCESSES  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP

Variable	Wilks Lambda	Significance	Standard Discriminant Function Coefficient
Sentence Days Remaining at Screening	.88	.000	.518
Age at Screening	.83	.000	.475
Adult Arrests for Public Order Offense	.85	.000	.426
Convicted of Drug Offense	.82	.000	.281
Type of Most Serious Instant Offense	.92	.000	.274
Adult Arrests for Property	.81	.000	.185
Adult Arrests for Robbery	.81	.000	.179

Function:

Canonical Correlation = .436  
 Wilks Lambda = .610  
 Chi-Squared = 51.9  
 Degrees of Freedom = 7  
 Significance = .0000

The variables are listed in the order of their discriminating power from most to least as reflected in the standardized discriminant function coefficients. Sentence days remaining at screening is the most powerful discriminator, followed by age at screening and adult arrests for public order offenses. In this model, the days remaining at screening is almost twice as powerful a discriminator as the type of most serious instant offense. The direction of the effect of the independent variables is also

of prime importance. This can be summarized as:

1. The more days left to serve at screening, the less likely a person is to succeed.
2. The older a person is at screening, the more likely he is to succeed.
3. The more adult arrests for public order offenses the person has had, the less likely he is to succeed.
4. If convicted of a drug offense, the person is more likely to succeed.
5. The more serious the offense for which the person has been convicted (instant offense), the less likely the person is to succeed.
6. The more arrests for property offenses, the less likely the person is to succeed.
7. The more arrests for robbery offenses the person has had, the less likely he is to succeed.

All these statements suggest offender characteristics which are found to be associated with in-program success or failure, after controlling for other variables. That is, time left after screening has an effect on in-program outcome even after controlling for the type of crime committed, age, and prior record. During the analysis, there was a concern that the large number of non-support cases in the experimental group would bias the results of the study. At least in terms of in-program success, being convicted of non-support failed to discriminate between the groups. This finding lends evidence to the notion that this non-support group does not really differ in its reaction to the program from the other offenders; or, in other words, other background variables in the non-support group over-ride the nature of their criminal conviction offense.

One final comment on the discriminant analysis concerns the classifications which result from the discriminant function. After developing a discriminant function, the cases can then be classified to determine

**CONTINUED**

**1 OF 2**

the accuracy of the functions just developed. Table 5.10 shows the results for the function reported here.

TABLE 5.10  
DISCRIMINANT FUNCTION FOR IN-PROGRAM SUCCESSES  
EXPERIMENTAL GROUP  
CLASSIFICATION RESULTS

<u>Actual Group</u>	<u>Predicted Group</u>	
	<u>Success</u>	<u>Failure</u>
<u>Success</u>	64.3% (101)	35.7% (56)
<u>Failure</u>	37.0% (37)	72.8% (99)

Overall Correct Classification = 68.3%

The function correctly classified 64 percent of the successes as successes and 73 percent of the failures as failures. Because cases classified were the same cases used to develop the classification function, some bias has been introduced. The overall correct classification is over-optimistic and would not be achieved in practice. An important point, however, is that it is easier to predict failures than successes. This was a constant result in the models examined and suggests that the characteristics listed here might be more profitably viewed as indicators of possible failures. As a group, failures seem to share more common characteristics than successes.

In order to determine the types of services which the pre-release center provides to its clients, a cohort of 53 pre-release center clients was studied for the duration of their stays in the program. Weekly records were kept of the services received and actions taken regarding cohort members. The information presented in the following two sections is derived from this study.

Relationship of Services to In-Program Outcome

An important element of the pre-release center concept is to offer a wide range of services to the program's clients. This assumes that the staff can handle a wide variety of needs and that some programming is available for all clients. However, when a wide variety of services is offered, the question of which services are the most useful invariably arises.

To begin to answer this question, the relationship of in-program success or failure to the various service components was examined for the 44 cohort members for whom these data were available. In the cohort, 27 of the clients were regarded as successful completers, while 17 were regarded as failures. The variables used to represent the service components in this study were:

- time spent with job developer
- time spent on education/training referrals
- time spent in education/training program
- number of counseling sessions attended
- number of social awareness instruction sessions attended
- time spent on service to the community
- number furloughs granted

A regression model was constructed with the above variables as predictor variables and success or failure as the dependent variable.\* Results indicated that the number of furloughs was the best predictor of outcome, followed in order by number of counseling sessions, number of social awareness training sessions, and time in education/training programs. The effect of the remaining independent variables was small, with each accounting for less than one percent of the variation in outcome. The variable with the most negative effect on outcome was social awareness training.

The fact that furloughs granted is the best predictor of positive outcome may be a reflection of the fact that the staff would be unlikely to grant furloughs to persons they feel may not succeed. Indeed, furloughs may come only when successful completion of the program seems imminent. Also, our attempts at rendering this variable independent of time in the program may have been thwarted. The order of the next three predictors is intriguing. Researchers' attempts to show the effectiveness of counseling are often confounded, but in this case there is evidence that the more counseling sessions per unit of time a person attends in the pre-release center, the more likely he is to successfully complete the program. High levels of attendance at social awareness instruction sessions, on the other hand, seem to have a negative effect on outcome, while time in training programs has a weak but positive association with success.

The reader is cautioned not to ascribe more value to this analysis than it warrants. First, the cohort is small because data collection had

\*The dichotomous dependent variable makes significance testing problematic at best, but regression coefficients remain interpretable. Also, to reduce multicollinearity in this model, all independent variables were transformed into time-independent forms.

to be rather abruptly halted when the pre-release center program was drastically changed. Second, the lack of a clear-cut relationship between in-program outcome to post-program outcome makes it difficult to judge just how important to ultimate success on the street is successful completion of the program.

#### Client Employment Rates

In addition to examining service provision effort expended by the pre-release center staff, it can be useful and informative to attempt to discover what happened to the members of the service cohort in terms of their employment situation and their progression through the phase system. This discussion is based on data available for 53 members of the service data cohort.

In terms of attempting to secure employment as soon as possible after entry into the pre-release program, it was found that a relatively high percentage of residents (17 percent) were able to return to their previous jobs, thus considerably reducing the amount of job developer time which might otherwise have been required. During the period of time in which service data were collected, six members of the cohort (11 percent) were enrolled in CETA programs offered at the pre-release facility and were not in the job market. These six residents were enrolled in a variety of CETA programs, including auto mechanics, welding, plumbing, and interior design.

Of those residents who did not attend CETA classes and therefore were required to locate and remain in a job, 5 residents (9 percent) were never successful in finding a job during their stays at the pre-

release center. Seventy-two percent of the residents located and kept one job for the duration of their stays at the pre-release center, and only 8 percent located a job, were fired from that job, and were forced to locate a second job.

Of those residents who did manage to locate at least one job during their stays, more than one-fourth (30 percent) found their jobs within the first week after their admission to the center (including those residents who were able to return to their old jobs). An additional 40 percent found jobs within the second and third weeks after their entry into the program; eleven percent located jobs during their fourth week of residency. Only 8 percent of the program participants took longer than a month to locate a job.

More than half of the residents who found jobs during the first week of residency were clients who were able to return to the jobs which they had held at the time of their arrests. There is an interesting difference in the mean hourly wage earned by residents who were able to return to their old jobs, as compared to the mean hourly wage earned by residents whose jobs were new. Those residents who were able to keep their old jobs earned an average hourly wage of \$5.06, compared to \$3.45 per hour for residents who took jobs located after their admission to the pre-release center.

This difference in average hourly wages may in part be explained by the difference in types of jobs held by the two different groups of clients. The types of jobs which were located by a resident or located for a resident by the pre-release center job developer were distributed as follows:

- laborers - 43 percent
- kitchen help - 27 percent
- maintenance - 24 percent
- semi-skilled - 6 percent

In contrast, the jobs which a number of pre-release center residents were able to retain were more heavily weighted toward the semi-skilled and skilled trades. The types of jobs which center residents were able to keep during their stays at the facility included:

- Interior painting and wallpaper hanging
- Auto mechanic
- Heavy equipment operator
- Overhead linesman
- Steelworker
- Vending machine technician
- Horse trainer
- Truck driver

As described in an earlier chapter of this report, the New Orleans pre-release center had a full-time certified teacher on its staff who provided individualized educational services to all pre-release participants. One of the tools used to determine the proper level of instruction for each individual resident was grade level performance testing. Results of grade level tests administered at the time of program entry indicated that more than one-third (38 percent) of the residents were performing reading and arithmetic skills at only an elementary school level - sixth grade or less. An additional third (33 percent) were performing at a junior high school level (eighth grade or less). The remaining third of the residents (29 percent) were performing on a high school or college level. Performance levels were distributed as follows:

Grade	3 - 13%
	5 - 12
	6 - 13
	7 - 18
	8 - 16
	9 - 12
	10 - 4
	11 - 4
	12 - 5
	13 - 2
	14 - 2

*any work  
progress here?*

According to the New Orleans pre-release center Operations Manual, progression through the phased system of graduated release and the development and acceptance of a treatment plan should proceed in a relatively straight-forward manner for more residents. An examination of the data for the service cohort indicates that almost half (49 percent) of the residents had left the orientation phase and had achieved Phase I by the end of their second week in the pre-release program. Only 6 percent of the residents took more than four weeks to achieve Phase I status. The achievement of Phase II status, which is the primary treatment phase of the pre-release program, was supposed to have been accomplished sometime shortly after the first month of residency. The data indicate that almost two-thirds (64 percent) of the New Orleans clients did achieve Phase II status by the end of their fifth week of residency.

#### Summary

The analysis of in-program processes yielded a program completion rate of 53 percent, with the most frequent unfavorable termination reason being a job violation. Persons who successfully completed the program were older, often married, with less serious prior criminal records. Prior experience in corrections did not seem to affect in-program outcome. Persons convicted of drug and non-support offenses succeeded most

frequently, with robbery and property offenders the least likely to succeed. Multivariate analysis of in-program outcome suggests that persons likely to succeed have shorter time remaining to serve; are older; have not been arrested for public order, property, or robbery offenses; and are generally convicted of less serious crimes.

In-program services which are most positively related to program outcome are furloughs and counseling sessions.

The program was successful in creating high rates of in-program employment, although for generally very low paying jobs. In terms of income, there was a marked difference between persons who came to the pre-release center with jobs to which they could return and persons who were placed in jobs by pre-release center staff.

CHAPTER VI  
ANALYSIS OF POST-PROGRAM OUTCOME

This chapter is concerned with what happened to the clients of the New Orleans pre-release center after they left the program. Major questions of interest concern whether participation in the pre-release program significantly improves the chances of avoiding re-arrest, of successful readjustment in the community, and of being gainfully employed. Other variables (such as age, ethnicity, type of offense, number of incarcerations, etc.) are also assessed for their effect on the chances of being arrested and being gainfully employed after release from prison. Secondary questions to be addressed in this chapter concern whether participation in the pre-release program acts to delay the time from release to the first re-arrest, and whether participation can mitigate the seriousness of future criminal behavior.

The dependent variable outcome has been defined in several ways to insure that a variety of dimensions of outcome are explored. A major outcome definition for this study is re-arrest for a new crime following release from the pre-release program. This information is derived from the records of the New Orleans Police Department. The fact of re-arrest, the crime or crimes charged, and the time from pre-release program release to re-arrest are all data elements collected. This outcome definition can be used as a dichotomy, re-arrest/no re-arrest; as the number of re-arrests, 0, 1, 2, 3...n; as the crime for which a person was re-arrested, assault, robbery...; or for the group who were re-arrested as days until re-arrest.

A second major outcome definition for this study is the relative adjustment scale. This is a scale of "acceptable behaviors" designed to determine the degree to which the ex-offenders' lifestyles match "acceptable" standards. Also, a subsection of this scale can be used to assess gainful employment.

The following sections relate these various measures of outcome to group membership and background variables to attempt to answer "does it work?" questions about the model pre-release center.

Re-Arrest Outcome

In this section, the outcome variable is whether a person is re-arrested or not with no consideration of number of arrests. Table 6.1 shows re-arrest and follow-up rates for the three study groups. The experimental group had the lowest re-arrest rate at 38 percent, followed by comparison 1 at 43 percent and comparison 2 at 53 percent. The percentage of cases followed-up in each group varied from 88 percent of comparison 2 to 66 percent of comparison 1.\* Neither tests for differences of proportions nor chi-square tests can demonstrate a statistically significant difference in re-arrest rates between the experimental and comparison 1 groups, although both chi-square and difference of proportion tests indicate statistically significant differences between the experimental and comparison 2 groups. Thus, at this level of raw re-arrest proportions, there is statistically strong evidence that pre-release clients

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\* A comparison of persons followed-up to persons not followed-up failed to reveal any differences which suggest that the group with outcome data is a biased subsample of the original group.

TABLE 6.1  
RE-ARREST AND FOLLOW-UP RATES  
BY GROUP

	<u>Experimental</u>	<u>Comparison 1</u>	<u>Comparison 2</u>
Not Re-Arrested	61.8% (162)	57.3% (51)	47.2% (25)
One or More Arrests	38.2 (100)	42.7 (38)	52.8 (28)
Total Followed-Up	262	89	53
Group Total	367	135	60
Percent Followed-Up	71.4%	65.9%	88.3%

out-perform the comparison 2 clients in terms of re-arrest rates. Additionally, the difference between the re-arrest rates for the experimentals and comparison 1's is in the expected direction, although it does not achieve statistical significance.

To determine if this observed difference in raw re-arrest proportions was the result of observed group differences, an analysis of covariance was conducted to determine the effect of group membership on probability of re-arrest, while controlling for non-support convictions and months of adult incarceration. This analysis failed to reveal any significant effect of group on probability of arrest ( $F=.05$ ,  $p=.82$ ). Additional control variables were added to the model, but no combination revealed a significant main effect for group. Due to the low level of explanatory power of the overall analysis of covariance models, no multiple classification analysis was attempted.

The general conclusion is that the raw group re-arrest rates are

reasonably independent of intergroup differences and can be interpreted in a straight-forward manner. In effect, the experimental group exhibited the best re-arrest performance, followed by comparison 1 and comparison 2 with the difference between the experimentals and comparison 2's being statistically significant at the .05 level.\*

Total Number of Arrests During the Follow-Up Period

For this section, the outcome variable of interest is the total number of arrests a client incurs during the follow-up period. Table 6.2 compares the raw re-arrest data for the three groups. The experimental group had the lowest number of re-arrests per arrestee and per client, followed by comparison 1 and comparison 2. The differences between the experimental and comparison groups are not large but, as with simple re-arrest, they are in a direction indicative of program success.

Two types of statistical analyses are used to further determine what factors significantly influence the total number of arrests during the follow-up period. First, for factors or independent variables measured on an interval scale, an examination of bivariate or Pearson correlation coefficients ("r") is conducted. Second, for independent variables measured on a nominal scale, two-way crosstabulations are used. For purposes of these crosstabulations, the dependent variable - total number of arrests during the follow-up period - is recoded as a dichotomy which indicates whether or not the subject has been re-arrested during the follow-up period.

Table 6.3 presents correlation coefficients which show the relationship between total arrests during the follow-up period and several interval

\*F-test for difference of proportions ( $F=1.97$ ,  $p=$  greater than .05)

TABLE 6.2  
TOTAL NUMBER OF ARRESTS DURING FOLLOW-UP  
BY GROUP

	Experimental	Comparison 1	Comparison 2
Number of Persons Arrested	100	38	25
Total Number of Arrests	189	74	61
Total Number of Arrests per Arrestee	1.89	1.95	2.44
Total Persons Followed-Up	262	89	53
Total Number of Arrests per Participant	.72	1.20	1.15

scale independent variables. Only one of the demographic or background variables is significantly correlated with total arrests during the follow-up period. Age at screening is mildly correlated with this outcome ( $r = -.09$ ) indicating that younger persons are somewhat more likely to recidivate. Length of residence in the community and education fail to significantly affect the chances of being re-arrested. Neither length of employment nor gross weekly income are related to total arrests in the follow-up period.

Age at first arrest is significantly correlated with total arrests during the follow-up period ( $r = -.15$ ) indicating that those who were first arrested when they were younger are more likely to be arrested in the follow-up period. Number of juvenile offenses on record is positively and significantly correlated with being re-arrested during the follow-up period, which further indicates that early initial contact with the judicial system is a good predictor of the behavior of subjects after program

release. Interestingly, the extent of juvenile contact with the criminal justice system as measured by length of all juvenile incarcerations is not significantly related to outcome.

Three of the variables assessing contact with the adult criminal justice system are significantly correlated with arrest in the follow-up period. Number of prior adult convictions and incarcerations are strongly and positively correlated with number of re-arrests in the follow-up period; length of all incarcerations also has a relatively strong, positive effect on the chances of being re-arrested. Thus, those with a great deal of prior contact with the adult criminal justice system are more likely to be re-arrested during the follow-up period. Length of current sentence, days served prior to screening, and sentence remaining at screening all fail, however, to significantly affect the probability of being re-arrested.

Men convicted of non-support of family in the instant offense are less likely to be arrested in the follow-up period. Those convicted of non-support tend to be older and are less likely to have engaged in purely criminal activities (e.g., burglary, assault, etc.).\*

Table 6.4 presents chi-square statistics which measure the association between total arrests during the follow-up period (coded as no arrest or one or more arrests) and several nominal scale independent variables.

Blacks and whites have roughly equal chances of being arrested in the follow-up period. Educational level has no significant impact on

\* A separate analysis of the relationships reported in Table 6.2 was conducted excluding those convicted of non-support. Age at screening and number of juvenile offenses on record fail to continue to have a significant effect on re-arrest probabilities. Sentence days remaining at screening becomes significantly and (surprisingly) negatively correlated ( $r = -.10$ ) with total number of arrests during the follow-up period. None of these changes in relationships is likely of substantive significance, since all of the correlations are .10 or less.

TABLE 6.3  
CORRELATIONS: TOTAL ARRESTS  
AND SELECTED VARIABLES  
ALL GROUPS COMBINED

<u>Independent Variables</u>	<u>Pearson's r</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Age at Screening	-.09	.05*
Time in Community	-.06	.15
Highest Grade Attained	-.04	.19
Length of Longest Employment	-.06	.13
Gross Weekly Income Last Job	-.07	.09
Age at First Arrest	-.15	.002*
Number of Juvenile Offenses	.10	.02*
Length of Juvenile Incarceration	.03	.29
Total Prior Adult Convictions	.15	.001*
Number Prior Adult Incarcerations	.22	.001*
Length of All Incarcerations	.15	.002*
Length of Current Sentence	-.02	.32
Days Served Prior to Screening	-.06	.14
Sentence Remaining at Screening	-.06	.12
Number of Prior Adult Arrests for Non-Support	-.06	.12
Instant Offense - Non-Support	-.13	.005*

\*Significant at the .05 level

this measure of recidivism. Being married appears to decrease the chances of arrest during the follow-up period, but this relationship does not hold true when those convicted of non-support (persons unlikely to be re-arrested) are excluded from the analysis.

Having a job at the time of arrest and being employed full-time as opposed to part-time do not affect the chances of being arrested in the follow-up period. The ability to return to a job upon release does not appear to be a barrier to re-arrest for either the entire sample or when the non-support cases are excluded from the analysis.

Having a juvenile arrest record appears to increase the chances for re-arrest for the entire sample; this relationship holds true when non-support cases are excluded from the analysis. Although prior adult arrests is unrelated to the probability of being re-arrested, those who had prior adult incarcerations are more likely (49.3 percent) to have been arrested during the follow-up period than those who had no prior adult incarcerations (35.7 percent).

Type of prior offense committed is not found to be significantly associated with total number of arrests during the follow-up period. Men who had committed a violent crime or a crime against a person (such as rape, robbery, or assault) are slightly more likely to recidivate (45.9 percent) compared with men who had committed a property crime (43.9 percent - such as burglary, larceny, or auto theft) or compared with men who had committed some alcohol or drug related offense (such as use or possession of drugs or drunkenness - 22.2 percent). However, this difference is not statistically significant for the entire sample.

TABLE 6.4  
 TOTAL ARRESTS IN THE FOLLOW-UP PERIOD  
 VS. SELECTED INDEPENDENT VARIABLES  
 FOR ALL GROUPS  
 AND FOR A SUBGROUP EXCLUDING THOSE CONVICTED OF NON-SUPPORT

Variable	Entire Sample		Non-Support Excluded	
	Chi-Square	Probability	Chi-Square	Probability
Ethnicity	.24	.62	1.14	.29
Educational Level	4.59	.10	5.57	.06
Marital Status	12.52	.005*	3.69	.30
Employed at Arrest	3.53	.06	2.14	.14
Can Return to Job	3.21	.07	1.94	.16
Employment Status at Arrest	1.65	.44	1.08	.58
Juvenile Arrest Record	14.92	.0001*	6.86	.01*
Prior Adult Arrests	.11	.74	.53	.47
Prior Adult Incarcerations	7.12	.008*	5.95	.01*
Alcohol in Current Offense	.0005	.98	.18	.67
Alcohol in Prior Offense	.09	.76	.06	.81
Drugs in Current Offense	1.81	.18	4.52	.03*
Drugs in Prior Offense	5.66	.02*	4.69	.03*
Most Serious Prior Offense	3.45	.18	----	----

\*Significant at the .05 level

The use of alcohol in either the current or a prior offense has no effect on the chances of being re-arrested during the follow-up period. However, those with drug involvement in a prior offense are somewhat more likely to be re-arrested (51.0 percent) than those who had not been involved with drugs (37.4 percent). Those who had drug involvement in the current <sup>offense</sup> are less likely to recidivate (32.8 percent) than those with no drug involvement in the current offense (42.4 percent). This association is significant only upon exclusion of non-support cases.

The two comparison groups and the experimental group are almost indistinguishable in terms of the types of offenses for which group members were re-arrested. All three groups have about the same rate of recidivism for crimes against a person. However, members of the comparison 1 group are somewhat more likely to be re-arrested for property crimes (68.0 percent) than either those in the experimental group (46.3 percent) or in the comparison 1 group (39.1 percent)

#### Relative Adjustment

Relative adjustment measures a dimension of outcome much different from recidivism. Instead of negative behavior, it concentrates on the measurement of positive behaviors. The service components of the pre-release program which are often purported to provide survival skills for the programs's clients should have an impact on these positive behaviors. Thus, the question for this section is, "Does a client's participation in the pre-release program lead to his exhibiting more positive behaviors than similar clients in an alternative program?"

Table 6.5 compares the mean relative adjustment scores for the three groups. The experimental group at 4.12 is the highest and indicates the best adjustment, followed by comparison 1 and comparison 2 in that order. When the experimental mean score is compared independently with the comparison groups, no statistically significant differences are found. As with probability of re-arrest, the differences between groups on relative adjustment are in the direction consistent with program success, but the differences are not large enough to rule out sample error as their source.

Bivariate comparisons such as the above can still be misleading for a second reason, however, if there are basic differences between the two groups which could affect outcome. Since the intergroup analysis showed that the experimentals and comparison 1's differed in terms of non-support convictions and length of prior incarcerations, the effects of these two variables have to be controlled before a final conclusion is reached. This was accomplished by using analysis of covariance and multiple classification analysis (MCA) which allows the outcome to be adjusted to account for differences in the groups.

An analysis of covariance was conducted to control for these differences and for differences in follow-up time. Group membership (experimental or comparison 1) had no significant effect on relative adjustment ( $F=.03$ ,  $p= .85$ ), while the combination of the three covariates did have a significant effect ( $F=3.24$ ,  $p= .02$ ).

Table 6.6 presents multiple classification analysis for this model. The effect of the three control variables is to reduce the difference in relative adjustment scores between the groups. At best, there is no real difference and, at worst, the experimentals did slightly worse than the comparison 1 group.

TABLE 6.5  
RELATIVE ADJUSTMENT  
BY GROUP

	Mean	Standard Deviation	Standard Error	Number
Experimental	4.116	3.094	.317	95
Comparison 1	3.804	2.957	.395	56
Comparison 2	3.393	2.948	.557	28

	T-value	Probability
Experimental vs. Comparison 1	.61	.724
Experimental vs. Comparison 2	1.10	.274

TABLE 6.6  
MCA RESULTS: RELATIVE ADJUSTMENT BY GROUP  
ADJUSTING FOR: CONVICTION OFFENSE - NON-SUPPORT  
MONTHS OF ADULT INCARCERATION  
AND DAYS FROM RELEASE TO FIRST ARREST

Group	Unadjusted Score*	Adjusted Score
Experimental	4.19	3.95
Comparison 1	3.68	4.06

\*Unadjusted scores do not equal means shown in Table 6.5 because of pairwise missing data deletion.

To further determine the factors which significantly affect relative adjustment, three types of statistical analyses are used. For interval scale independent variables, bivariate or Pearson correlation coefficients are used. For nominal scale independent variables, two-way cross-tabulations are used to assess the influence of these nominal scale variables on a single item that is a part of the total relative adjustment index; this item measures "gainful employment" (i.e., being employed, attending school or a training program for at least three months of the first six months since release). Finally, a model using multiple regression techniques is proposed, using both nominal and interval scale variables, to determine which variables are the best predictors of adjustment in the period since release.

Table 6.7 presents bivariate correlations between the total relative adjustment score and several interval scale independent variables. None of the demographic or background variables such as age at screening, education, or length of longest employment are significantly related to relative adjustment. Gross weekly income has a small (but statistically insignificant) positive effect on relative adjustment.

Age at first arrest is strongly and positively correlated with relative adjustment ( $r = .26$ ). This finding indicates that those who had been arrested at a comparatively young age are more likely to have a difficult time in adjusting to a conventional lifestyle after release. Number of juvenile offenses on record has a negative but insignificant effect on relative adjustment; length of all juvenile institutionalizations has a similarly weak yet statistically significant negative impact on adjustment.

TABLE 6.7  
CORRELATIONS BETWEEN TOTAL RELATIVE ADJUSTMENT SCORE  
AND SELECTED INDEPENDENT VARIABLES  
ALL GROUPS COMBINED

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Pearson's r</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Age at Screening	.06	.21
Highest Grade Attained	.10	.09
Time in Community	-.01	.45
Gross Weekly Income Last Job	.12	.07
Length of Longest Employment	.01	.46
Age at First Arrest	.26	.001*
Number of Juvenile Offenses	-.08	.16
Length of Juvenile Incarcerations	-.07	.03*
Total Prior Adult Convictions	-.23	.001*
Number of Prior Adult Incarcerations	-.18	.01*
Length of All Incarcerations	-.19	.01*
Length of Sentence	-.02	.39
Sentence Remaining at Screening	-.01	.47
Days Served Prior to Screening	.07	.18
Prior Adult Arrests (Non-Support)	.005	.47
Instant Offense (Non-Support)	.20	.004*

\*Significant at the .05 level

Total prior adult convictions and number and length of adult incarcerations all have a strong negative impact on total relative adjustment score. The greater the contact with the criminal justice system, the lower are the chances that a given subject will be able to successfully reintegrate himself into conventional society. Nevertheless, length of sentence, sentence remaining at screening, and days served prior to screening fail to have a significant influence on relative adjustment.

Those convicted of non-support in the instant offense are better able to adjust to a conventional lifestyle ( $r = .20$ ) than those convicted of other offenses. This finding lends support to the hypothesis that men convicted of non-support tend to be older and are less likely to be career criminals.\*

Table 6.8 presents chi-square statistics which estimate the association between the relative adjustment item measuring "gainful employment" (i.e., being employed, attending school or a training program for at least three months of the first six months since release) and several nominal scale independent variables. Note particularly the lack of differences in gainful employment among the experimental and two comparison groups. Subjects in the experimental group are somewhat more likely to have been gainfully employed (45.7 percent) in at least three of the six months since release compared with those in the comparison 1 group (35.7 percent) or comparison 2 (28.6 percent) groups. However, the chi-square statistic for both the table with the entire sample and the table excluding the

\* A separate analysis of the relationships reported in Table 6.7 was carried out excluding non-support cases. The only substantive difference found in the separate analysis from the above results is that education becomes a significant positive factor ( $r = .18$ ) influencing relative adjustment.

TABLE 6.8  
GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT VS. SELECTED INDEPENDENT VARIABLES  
FOR ALL GROUPS  
AND FOR A SUBGROUP EXCLUDING THOSE CONVICTED OF-NON-SUPPORT

Variable	Entire Sample		Non-Support Excluded	
	Chi-Square	Probability	Chi-Square	Probability
Group	3.25	.20	3.08	.21
Ethnicity	.00009	.99	.42	.73
Education	1.72	.42	6.08	.05*
Marital Status	8.08	.04*	7.76	.05*
Employed at Arrest	1.47	.22	1.84	.18
Can Return to Job	2.87	.09	1.23	.27
Employment Status	5.69	.06	4.12	.13
Juvenile Arrest Record	7.29	.007*	4.02	.05*
Prior Adult Arrests	.006	.94	.005	.94
Prior Adult Incarcerations	.42	.52	.69	.41
Alcohol in Current Offense	.07	.79	.02	.90
Alcohol in Prior Offense	3.81	.05*	1.72	.19
Drugs in Current Offense	3.69	.06	3.78	.06
Drugs in Prior Offense	.91	.34	.48	.49
Most Serious Prior Offense	1.44	.49	---	---

\* Significant at the .05 level

non-support cases indicates that this result could be due to chance. Hence, we cannot conclude that participation in the pre-release program significantly improves the chances of being gainfully employed, although again the differences are in the direction that indicates program success.

Blacks and whites are equally likely to be gainfully employed. Education is positively associated with gainful employment only when non-support cases are excluded from the analysis. Married men are more likely to be gainfully employed (56.8 percent) than either divorced men (31.3 percent) or men who had never been married (35.2 percent). This association remains significant when non-support cases are excluded from the analysis.

None of the three employment variables (employed at arrest, ability to return to the job held before arrest, and employment status) are significantly associated with gainful employment. This is somewhat surprising, given the casual observation that of the three types of "gainful employment" (i.e., a job, school, or a training program), having a job is the most common type.

Having a juvenile arrest record is inversely related to being gainfully employed. Over one-half (52.5 percent) of those without a juvenile arrest record are gainfully employed, compared with less than one-third (31.8 percent) of those with a juvenile arrest record. Neither prior adult arrests nor prior adult incarcerations are significantly associated with gainful employment.

Type of prior offense committed is not found to be significantly associated with gainful employment. Those who had committed a crime against a person (such as rape, robbery, or assault) are somewhat less

likely to be gainfully employed (29.0 percent) than either those who had committed a property crime (37.8 percent) or those who had committed some drug-related offense (50.0 percent). The difference is not statistically significant, however.

Drug involvement in either the current offense or in a prior offense is unrelated to gainful employment. However, those who had an alcohol involvement in a prior offense are less than half as likely to be gainfully employed (20.0 percent) than those who had not had an alcohol involvement in a prior offense (42.8 percent).

To determine which independent variables - nominal or interval scale - are the best predictors of relative adjustment, several models using multiple regression techniques are tested. A stepwise regression method is used to identify which variables contribute significantly to the amount of explained variance ( $R^2$ ). This method adds variables to the equation one at a time to see if the variable added on a given step accounts for a significant amount of variance, controlling for the effect of all other variables previously entered into the equation.

As a starting point for this model, independent variables which were identified as being significantly related to relative adjustment in the bivariate analysis above were entered into a regression equation.

Marital status, conviction for non-support, age at first arrest, and number of adult incarcerations all fail to contribute a significant amount of explained variance. F-ratios for these variables are not significant at the .05 level.

The variables which do add a significant amount of explained variance include juvenile arrest record, number of adult convictions, length of

adult incarcerations, and use of alcohol in a prior offense. The correlation between number of adult convictions and length of adult incarcerations is quite high, however ( $r = .74$ ). If number of adult convictions is removed from the regression equation to avoid problems of multicollinearity\*, the model in its final form is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Y} \text{ Total Relative Adjustment} = \\ & 1.81 - 1.14 \text{ (Juvenile Arrest Record)} \\ & - .01 \text{ (Months of Adult Incarceration)} \\ & + .66 \text{ (Alcohol in Prior Offense)} \end{aligned}$$

The total amount of explained variance for this model is 11 percent.

Standardized partial regression coefficients ("betas") allow us to simplify the above equation (we may omit the Y intercept, 1.81), and they also allow us to compare the effects of independent variables measured in different units (e.g., number of months versus a dummy coded variable with two categories). The regression equation, using standardized partial regression coefficients, becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Y} \text{ Total Relative Adjustment} = \\ & - .23 \text{ (Juvenile Arrest Record)} \\ & - .15 \text{ (Months of Adult Incarceration)} \\ & + .09 \text{ (Alcohol in a Prior Offense)} \end{aligned}$$

This equation tells us that having a juvenile arrest record has a somewhat stronger negative effect on relative adjustment than does the number of

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\* Intercorrelations among independent variables

months of adult incarceration. Further, not having an alcohol involvement in a prior offense has a somewhat weaker (positive) effect on relative adjustment than either a juvenile arrest record or the length of adult incarceration.

#### Days from Release to First Arrest

In order to examine an additional dimension of the re-arrest phenomenon, an examination of the variable days from release to first arrest was conducted. This variable only includes persons who have failed; successful persons (those not arrested) were eliminated from this analysis. Table 6.9 shows the data available for this analysis and the average days from release to first arrest for the three groups. The failures of the experimental group averaged 138 days until their first arrest, followed by comparison 2 at 114 days and comparison 1 at 95 days. T-tests for differences of means were performed on these differences and the 40-day difference between the experimental and comparison 1 group is significant at near the 1 percent level which provides strong support for the belief that there really is a difference in the two groups' performance.

To be certain that this result was not caused by initial differences between the experimental and comparison 1 groups, an analysis of covariance was conducted which controls for these differences.

Group membership exhibited a measurable but not outstanding relationship with days to first arrest when controlling for non-support convictions and months of prior incarceration ( $F = 2.23, p = .13$ ). Adjusted outcomes derived from the MCA for this model are listed in Table 6.10. The introduction of the two control variables somewhat reduced the difference in days to first arrest from 40 to 32 but failed to eliminate

TABLE 6.9  
DAYS FROM RELEASE TO RE-ARREST  
BY GROUP

	<u>Experimental</u>	<u>Comparison 1</u>	<u>Comparison 2</u>
Data Available/Not Arrested	164	52	27
No Data Available	111	46	6
Arrested	92	37	27
Group Total	367	135	60
Average Days from Release to First Arrest	137.8	95.4	114.3
Standard Error	11.5	11.7	19.3
-----			
		<u>T-value</u>	<u>Probability</u>
Experimental vs. Comparison 1		2.60	.011*
Experimental vs. Comparison 2		1.00	.322

\*Significant at the .05 level

TABLE 6.10

MCA RESULTS: DAYS FROM RELEASE TO FIRST ARREST BY GROUP  
ADJUSTING FOR: MONTHS OF ADULT INCARCERATION  
AND CONVICTION OFFENSE - NON-SUPPORT

<u>Group</u>	<u>Unadjusted Score</u>	<u>Adjusted Score</u>
Experimental	135.8	133.3
Comparison 1	95.4	101.4

it. Thus, it is quite likely that participation in the pre-release program delays arrest for those persons who are re-arrested as compared to the members of the comparison 1 group.

To further analyze the factors which significantly affect the number of days from release to first arrest, three statistical techniques are used. First, bivariate or Pearson correlation coefficients are examined. Second, a model using multiple regression techniques is proposed to determine which variables are the best predictors of length of time to first arrest. Third, analyses of covariance are conducted using length of adult incarcerations and convictions for non-support as covariates. Length of adult incarcerations and convictions for non-support vary significantly among the experimental and control groups, and this may influence the effect of group membership on number of days to first arrest.

Table 6.11 presents bivariate correlations between number of days to first arrest and selected independent variables. The negative correlation between group and number of days from release to first arrest indicates that those in the experimental group take a longer time to recidivate compared with those in the two control groups.

None of the demographic background variables are significantly related to number of days from release to first arrest. Number of juvenile offenses on record and length of all juvenile institutionalizations also fail to significantly influence number of days from release to first arrest.

Total prior adult arrests, number of prior adult incarcerations, and length of all incarcerations are found to be unrelated to number of days from release to first arrest. While length of sentence has no significant

TABLE 6.11  
 NUMBER OF DAYS TO FIRST ARREST  
 VS. SELECTED INDEPENDENT VARIABLES  
 ALL GROUPS COMBINED

Variable	Pearson's r	Probability
Group	-.16	.018*
Age at First Arrest	.02	.39
Highest Grade Attained	-.002	.49
Length of Longest Employment	.02	.41
Gross Weekly Income Last Job	.03	.34
Number of Juvenile Offenses	-.06	.25
Length of Juvenile Incarcerations	.02	.92
Total Adult Prior Arrests	-.12	.06
Number of Prior Adult Incarcerations	-.04	.29
Length of All Incarcerations	-.02	.40
Length of Current Sentence	.05	.28
Sentence Remaining at Screening	.18	.01*
Prior Adult Arrests (Non-Support)	.02	.40
Instant Offense (Non-Support)	.06	.24
Alcohol in Prior Offense	.03	.34
Drugs in Prior Offense	-.02	.40

\* Significant at the .05 level

effect on this measure of outcome, sentence remaining at screening has a significant positive influence on number of days from release to first arrest. This finding indicates that those with a longer sentence remaining

at screening take a longer time to recidivate compared with those who have shorter remaining sentences, although previous findings indicate they are more likely to recidivate than those with longer remaining sentences.

Having a prior conviction for non-support is unrelated to the amount of time from release to first arrest.\* Likewise, use of alcohol or drug involvement in a prior offense have no effect on the amount of time it takes to recidivate.

To determine which independent variables are the best predictors of number of days from release to first arrest, several models using multiple regression techniques are used.

The model in its final form includes group membership, sentence days remaining at screening, and number of adult convictions as significant independent variables. The equation for this model is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{Y} \text{ Days from Release to First Arrest} = & \\ & 188.42 - 41.31 (\text{Group}) \\ & + .69 (\text{Sentence Days Remaining at Screening}) \\ & - 9.22 (\text{Number of Adult Convictions}) \end{aligned}$$

The total amount of explained variance for this model is 10 percent.

The variable number of days from release to first arrest may not be the best measure of program outcome. First, it excludes persons who never were arrested from the analysis; persons who were not arrested were coded with a "0" for this variable, which (unless they were excluded from the

\* A separate analysis of the relationships reported in Table 6.11 was carried out excluding non-support cases. No substantive differences were found in this separate analysis from the results reported above.

analysis) would make them appear to be closer in outcome to those who were arrested very quickly. Second, number of days from release to first arrest does not standardize the "at risk" period for all subjects.\* Varying lengths of follow-up time may obscure the effect of a treatment program or associated variable. If, however, we standardize the period of observation for each subject, we can estimate how frequently per year a given subject will be arrested. By dividing the total number of arrests by the number of days from release to first arrest (the period of observation) and then multiplying this figure by 365, the risk period is standardized on the basis of one year, and the number of arrests per year is estimated.

A Spearman rank order correlation coefficient is used to assess the relationship between group membership and the number of standardized estimated arrests per risk year. The coefficient is positive ( $r_s = .11$ ) and statistically significant at the .01 level, indicating that those who participated in the pre-release program have a lower number of estimated arrests per risk year than those in either of the two comparison groups.

This correlation should be interpreted with caution, however, since it indicates only a moderate relationship. Perhaps the best conclusion to make is that participation in the pre-release program does reduce the probability of recidivism, but that this reduction in recidivism is not substantial.

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\*This standardization can, however, be accomplished using a technique such as analysis of covariance.

#### Offense Seriousness Score

Seriousness is the final dimension of the re-arrest offense examined in this study. Recidivism is generally a dichotomous either/or variable, but in fact all re-arrest offenses are not equal. When the original offense is robbery, to be re-arrested for petit larceny could be considered an improvement. We attempted to tap this dimension of seriousness by coding conviction and re-arrest offense in the order of the Uniform Crime Report classification, from 1 for homicide to 24 for disorderly conduct (see Appendix A for scale). There is no general agreement that the UCR ranking represents the best notion of ranking offense seriousness, but it is widely known, has some face validity, and is relatively easy to use. We also make the argument that, in theory, this ordinal ranking of offenses is representative of some true interval scale of offense seriousness which is as yet unknown. The sample for this analysis includes only persons who were re-arrested for crimes other than non-support and probation violations.

Table 6.12 presents the results of this analysis. Non-parametric tests of difference for ordinal variables were used to compare the original conviction offense with the re-arrest offense; both the experimental and comparison 1 groups showed a statistically significant increase in value. In other words, for both groups, the experimental and comparison 1, there was a statistically significant decrease in the seriousness of crimes committed when they were re-arrested as compared to their original offenses.

If it is assumed that this ordinal scale really represents an underlying interval scale, then the original and re-arrest mean offense scores

TABLE 6.12  
 AVERAGE OFFENSE SERIOUSNESS SCORE  
 ORIGINAL OFFENSE VS. RE-ARREST OFFENSE  
 BY GROUP, EXCLUDING NON-SUPPORT

Group	Original Mean Offense Score	Re-Arrest Mean Offense Score	Wilcoxon Z *	2-Tailed Probability	N for Wilcoxon
Experimental	6.81	11.33	-3.913	.000	60
Comparison 1	8.20	10.25	-2.235	.025	34
Comparison 2	8.10	11.19	-1.493	.135	22

\* Wilcoxon Matched-Pairs Ranked-Signs Test

in the table can be interpreted as representative of group means. There is improvement in all three groups, but it appears most pronounced in the experimental group because of the rather low initial score. Further, these data could be seen as a very conservative notion of group improvement, since the original offense represents a conviction with plea bargaining taken into account, while the re-arrest offense is only arrest data which probably reflects more than a little over-charging.

Relationship of In-Program Success to Outcome

In the evaluation where both in-program and post-program measures of outcome were used, there is an opportunity to examine the relationship of the two. The assumption is usually made that persons who successfully complete a program should ultimately perform more satisfactorily than persons who do not complete the program. There is evidence in this program

to support this assumption. Table 6.13 is a crosstabulation of in-program outcome vs. whether or not a client was re-arrested during follow-up.

TABLE 6.13  
 RE-ARREST DURING FOLLOW-UP  
 BY PROGRAM TERMINATION STATUS

	Successful Termination	Unsuccessful Termination
No Arrests	62.3% (101)	42.3% (61)
Arrested	37.7% (61)	57.6% (83)
Total N	162	144

Chi-Square 11.42  
 Significance .001

Only 37.7 percent of the successful pre-release center completers were arrested, as compared to 57.6 percent of the pre-release center failures - a difference which is statistically significant at the .001 level. Program completers also scores slightly higher on relative adjustment than non-completers (4.3 vs. 3.8), although this difference was not statistically significant. The relationship of various in-program failure subpopulations to post-program outcome should be explored, but our sample size in this study limits what can be done.

Program completers are not significantly different from program failures in terms of the types of offenses for which they were re-arrested (chi-square = .61, p = .74). Program completers are somewhat more likely

to have been re-arrested for a crime against a person (such as robbery or assault - 32.1 percent) than program failures (23.7 percent); program failures are somewhat more likely to have been re-arrested for a property crime (such as burglary, larceny, or auto theft - 50.0 percent) than program completers (42.9 percent). Program completers (25.0 percent) and program failures (26.3 percent) are about equally likely to have been re-arrested for a substance abuse related offense (such as drunkenness).

#### Summary

The analysis of study outcome data provides a number of interesting and important results:

- The experimental group had the lowest re-arrest rate of the three groups - 38 percent vs 43 percent for comparison 1 and 53 percent for comparison 2, although only the difference between the experimental group and comparison 2 was statistically significant.
- The experimental group had the lowest number of average arrests per arrestee of the three groups at 1.89 vs. 1.95 for comparison 1 and 2.44 for comparison 2.
- Age and prior record variables (rather than community stability and employment variables) were significantly related to arrest in the follow-up period.
- There is no evidence that participation in the pre-release program has a positive effect on relative adjustment when comparison 1 is the standard, although both the experimentals and comparison 1's out-perform the comparison 2 group.
- Relative adjustment is strongly related to age at first arrest and adult record (early first arrest, low relative adjustment) but not employment variables.
- During follow-up, the experimental group reported the highest level of gainful employment - 45.7 percent vs. 35.7 percent for comparison 1 and 28.6 percent for comparison 2, although the differences were not statistically significant.

- There is a statistically significant difference in days until first arrest between the experimental group at 137.8 days and the comparison 1 group at 95.4 days.
- The experimental group had the lowest number of "standardized estimated arrests per risk year" of the three groups.
- The seriousness of re-arrest offense is lowest for the experimental group and shows a statistically significant improvement over the original offense seriousness. Comparison 1 also showed a statistically significant improvement (i.e., a decrease) in offense seriousness during follow-up.
- For the experimental group, in-program completion is related to positive outcome, with only 37.7 percent of the successful program completers re-arrested as opposed to 57.6 percent of the program non-completers.

All the above results are independent of intergroup differences between the experimental and comparison 1 groups. On balance, the weight of the evidence indicates that the experimentals performed best in terms of outcome, followed by the comparison 1's and 2's.

## CHAPTER VII

## SUMMARY

With the emergence of the reintegrative philosophy of corrections, a wide variety of community-based programs for handling criminal offenders has been developed. The pre-release center concept is only one of the many community-based programs which have proliferated in recent years. The emphases in the pre-release programs are the provision of a range of community-oriented treatment services to incarcerated offenders within several months of their release from the institution and a system by which offenders are gradually re-introduced into a functioning, non-criminal life in the community.

The Montgomery County (Maryland) Work Release/Pre-Release Center, established in 1972, has for several years been considered to be an outstanding example of the development of the pre-release program concept. Housed in its own well-appointed facility, the Montgomery County Work Release/Pre-Release Center offers a broad range of services to its clients: employment or training release, individual and group counseling, social awareness instruction, and referral to local community social service agencies. Evaluation of the Montgomery County program has suggested that the type of pre-release program offered there can be effective in terms of post-program client behavior, can maintain a low walk-away rate to promote protection of the community, and can demonstrate cost effectiveness.

As a result of the apparent successful operation of the Montgomery County Work Release/Pre-Release Center, the National Institute of Justice

began a program designed to replicate the Montgomery County model at other locations throughout the country. These test sites were to alter existing work-release programs so as to duplicate, as closely as possible given local conditions, the Montgomery County model. The three test sites chosen to adopt the model program were Philadelphia, Baltimore, and New Orleans. The Philadelphia site having been eliminated from the evaluation because of non-compliance with the model program, the evaluation effort has been directed toward the pre-release programs in New Orleans and Baltimore. This document contains the bulk of the evaluation of the New Orleans pre-release center.

The pre-release center in New Orleans was operated by the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office. It began to be developed in January 1979 and was fully staffed and operational by April 1979. The New Orleans program operated in substantial compliance with the test design from April 1979 until mid-January 1981, when overcrowding problems in the Orleans Parish jail obligated the program's facility to accept a tremendous influx of inmates from the general jail population, which forced the end of the facility's operation as a pre-release center.

The New Orleans center, in compliance with the test design, structured its program as closely as possible to the Montgomery County model. It offered the seven major support components (location in a separate or segregated facility, supervision of clients, written rules and administrative regulations, uniform screening criteria, MAP contracts, a system of graduated release, and financial payments) and three of the four major treatment components (employment or training release, counseling, and

social awareness instruction). Because of the inadequate social services available locally, the New Orleans center did not offer referrals to social service agencies; instead, program participants were involved in providing services for the community through a variety of projects.

This evaluation study, presented in this document, focuses on the effectiveness of the pre-release program in terms of its impact on the post-release behavior of its residents. Analyses of the relative contributions of specific program services to post-program behavior and the costs associated with the operation of the pre-release program must be deferred pending the receipt of additional data.

A quasi-experimental design was utilized for this evaluation. Three groups of subjects were examined:

- the Experimental group, consisting of inmates who were deemed to be eligible for program participation and who did participate in the pre-release program (N=367)
- the Comparison 1 group, consisting of inmates who were deemed eligible for participation in the pre-release program but who, for non-prejudicial reasons (e.g., lack of available space in the pre-release facility), did not participate; these subjects participated in a traditional work-release program (N=135)
- the Comparison 2 group, consisting of inmates who did not meet the eligibility criteria for program participation; these subjects served out their sentences as part of the general inmate population (N=60)

Basic demographic data (concerning criminal history, employment and education history, family status, and current offense characteristics) were collected for all members of the three groups. Outcome data (concerning post-release criminal behavior and positive adjustment factors) were collected for all members of each group who had been released from the pre-release program, the work-release program, or from jail and had been in the community for at least six months. In

addition, program termination status data were collected for all members of the Experimental group for whom such data were available. Finally, a cohort of Experimental group members was selected and detailed data concerning services provided by the pre-release center were collected for these subjects.

Chi-square tests and t-tests were used to determine whether the three groups differed significantly on demographic characteristics which might potentially affect outcome. Comparisons of the Experimental with the Comparison 1 group (in which it was expected that there would be little, if any, difference) revealed that the only differences which appeared to have the potential to affect outcome were (1) the more lengthy prior adult incarcerations in the Comparison 1 group, and (2) the large percentage of subjects convicted of non-support in the Experimental group. Throughout the remainder of the data analysis, statistical controls were introduced to attempt to negate the effects of these differences. The Experimental and Comparison 2 groups were expected to differ; the evidence does indicate that the Comparison 2 group consisted of subjects who were significantly different from the Experimentals in terms of race, non-local residence, alcohol and mental health treatment, juvenile and adult record, and prior escape attempts.

Bivariate and multivariate analyses were used to examine the research questions surrounding the phenomena of in-program completion/non-completion. Overall, 53 percent of the subjects in the Experimental group who started pre-release participation successfully completed the program. Of those who did not complete the program, the most frequent unfavorable termination reason was a job violation. Subjects who successfully completed the program were generally older, often married, with less serious prior

criminal records. Persons convicted of drug and non-support offenses as their current offense succeeded most frequently, with robbery and property offenders the least likely to successfully complete the program. Multivariate techniques suggested that persons likely to successfully complete the pre-release program have shorter time remaining to serve when they begin their participation; are older; have not been arrested for public order, property, or robbery offenses; and are generally convicted of less serious crimes.

Bivariate and multivariate analysis were used to examine post-program outcome. The experimental group had the lowest re-arrest rate at 38 percent, followed by comparison 1 at 43 percent and comparison 2 at 53 percent. The introduction of controls for group differences failed to significantly affect these raw re-arrest probabilities. The experimental group had the lowest number of re-arrests per arrestee (1.89) and per client (.72) of the three groups. Persons who were re-arrested were younger when they entered the program, younger at their first arrest, had more juvenile offenses on record, and a more extensive adult criminal record. Persons convicted of personal and property crimes were most likely to recidivate. Relative adjustment scores for both the experimentals and comparison 1's were higher than for the comparison 2's. A subsection of relative adjustment, gainful employment, was highest for the experimentals at 45.7 percent, followed by comparison 1 at 35.7 percent and comparison 2 at 28.6 percent, although these differences do not achieve statistical significance. Persons in the experimental group who were re-arrested average 138 days until their first arrest, the comparison 1's only 95 days.

This 40-day difference is statistically significant and independent of intergroup differences. Lastly, both the experimental and comparison 1 groups show a statistically significant reduction in the seriousness of re-arrest offenses over their original conviction offense, with the largest difference in the experimental group.

All indicators of program outcome with the exception of relative adjustment suggest that the pre-release program is achieving some degree of success. Although all the results are not statistically significant, pattern of positive program outcome is evident.

## APPENDIX A

## CODE BOOK

## OFFENDER BACKGROUND VARIABLES

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
1	Group	Experimental Control 1 Control 2
2	Center	New Orleans Philadelphia Baltimore
3	Project I.D. Number	
4	Number of Aliases on Record	Number
5	Age at Screening for Program Participation	Age in Years
6	Sex	Male Female
7	Ethnicity	Black White Hispanic
8	Offense of Conviction Personal Assault	Number of Charges
9	Offense of Conviction Robbery	"
10	Offense of Conviction Property	"
11	Offense of Conviction Drugs	"
12	Offense of Conviction Public Order	"
13	Offense of Conviction Non-Support	"

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
14	Source of Referral to Pre-Release Program	Court Self Relative/friend Corrections staff PRC staff
15	Detainers	Yes/no
16	Length of Sentence	Number of days to which offender was actually sentenced
17	Sentence Days Remaining at Screening	Number of days remaining to be served (includes "good time" date)
18	Residence	Local Non/local
19	Time at Last Address	Number of months
20	Housing	Owns own home Rents Free housing (parents, etc.)
21	Time in Community	Number of Months
22	Juvenile Arrest Record	Yes/no
23	Number of Juvenile Offenses on Record	Number of offenses
24	Juvenile Offenses Personal Assault	Number of offenses
25	Juvenile Offenses Robbery	"
26	Juvenile Offenses Property	"
27	Juvenile Offenses Drugs	"
28	Juvenile Offenses Public Order	"
29	Juvenile Offenses Non-Support	"

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
30	Institutionalized for Juvenile Offenses	Yes/no
31	Length of All Juvenile Incarcerations	Time in months of all juvenile sentences to imprisonment
32	Age at First Arrest	Age in years
33	Instant Offense Charged Personal Assault	Number of offenses
34	Instant Offense Charged Robbery	"
35	Instant Offense Charged Property	"
36	Instant Offense Charged Drugs	"
37	Instant Offense Charged Public Order	"
38	Instant Offense Charged Non-Support	"
39	Final Plea to Charge	Guilty not guilty No contest No plea
40	Type of Counsel	Court-appointed Private Public Defender Self
41	Multiple Defendants	Yes/no
42	Court	Court name/section
43	Disposition - Probation	Yes/no
44	Length of Probation Time	Number of months
45	Disposition - Fine	Yes/no
46	Disposition - Incarceration	Federal State Local

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
47	Disposition - Resitution	Yes/no
48	Amount of Restitution	Dollar amount
49	Disposition - Other	Yes/no
50	Days Served Prior to Screening	Number of days
51	Prior Adult Arrests	Yes/no
52	Prior Adult Arrests Personal Assault	Number of arrests
53	Prior Adult Arrests Robbery	"
54	Prior Adult Arrests Property	"
55	Prior Adult Arrests Drugs	"
56	Prior Adult Arrests Public Order	"
57	Prior Adult Arrests Non-Support	"
58	Total Prior Adult Arrests	Number of arrests
59	Total Prior Adult Convictions	Number of convictions
60	Prior Adult Incarcerations	Yes/no
61	Number of Prior Adult Incarcerations	Number of incarcerations
62	Length of All Incarcerations	Total number of months of sentences to adult incarceration
63	Number of Prior Paroles	Number of paroles
64	Prior Escape Attempts on Record	Yes/no
65	Highest Grade Attained	Number of grade

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
66	Education Level	Not high school or equivalent GED or equivalent High school graduate College graduate
67	Literate	Yes/no
68	Vocational Training	Yes/no
69	Employed at Arrest	Yes/no
70	Currently Employed (Can Return to Old Job)	Yes/no
71	Type of Job Held at Arrest	Type of job
72	Employment Status at Arrest	Full-time Part-time Self-employed legal Self-employed illegal Unemployed Student Disabled
73	Length of Last Employment	Number of months
74	Type of Job Held Longest	Type of job
75	Length of Longest Employment	Number of months
76	Insubstantial Opportunity for Work History (Less than One Year of Potential Eligibility for Work)	Yes/no
77	Military Experience	Army Navy Marines Air Force
78	Vietnam Veteran	Yes/no
79	Combat Veteran	Yes/no

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
80	Type of Military Discharge	Honorable Dishonorable General Special
81	Military Benefits	Education Disability Medical VA loan
82	Living Companions at Arrest	Parents Spouse Friends Friend/romantic attachment/ common law Alone
83	Marital Status	Never married Married Divorced Cohabit/common law
84	Number of Children	Number
85	Number of Children Supported	Number
86	Reared By	Mother only Father only Both parents Parent and step-parent Relative
87	Birth Order	Only child First born Last born Other
88	Number of Siblings	Number
89	Will Return to Same Living Situation After Release	Yes/no
90	Source of Income	Job Public Assistance Illegal activities None
91	Gross Weekly Income from Last Job	Dollar amount

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
92	Physical Handicaps	Yes/no
93	Other Health Problems	Yes/no
94	Treatment for Mental Health Problems	Yes/no
95	Length of Last Mental Health Treatment	Short outpatient Long outpatient Short inpatient Long inpatient
96	Type of Mental Health Treatment	Type of treatment
97	Alcohol Involvement in Current Offense	Yes/no
98	Alcohol Involvement in Prior Offenses	Yes/no
99	Participation in Alcohol Treatment Program	Yes/no
100	Alcohol Treatment - Alcoholics Anonymous	Yes/no
101	Alcohol Treatment - Counseling	Yes/no
102	Alcohol Treatment - Chemotherapy	Yes/no
103	Alcohol Treatment - Residential	Yes/no
104	Alcohol Treatment - Other	Yes/no
105	Total Length of Alcohol Treatment	Number of months
106	Currently on Antabuse	Yes/no
107	History of Heroin Use	Yes/no
108	History of Methadone Use	Yes/no
109	History of PCP Use	Yes/no

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
110	History of Marijuana Use	Yes/no
111	History of Use of Barbiturates or Amphetamines	Yes/no
112	History of Use of Sedatives or Pain Relievers	Yes/no
113	History of Cocaine Use	Yes/no
114	History of LSD Use	Yes/no
115	History of Use of Other Drugs	Yes/no
116	Drug Involvement in Current Offense	Yes/no
117	Drug Involvement in Prior Offenses	Yes/no
118	Nature of Drug Involvement	Drug offense Under the influence of drugs Procure money to buy drugs
119	Presence of Drug/Crime Interaction Pattern	Yes/no
120	Participation in Drug Treatment Program	Yes/no
121	Drug Treatment - Synanon	Yes/no
122	Drug Treatment - Counseling	Yes/no
123	Drug Treatment - Chemotherapy	Yes/no
124	Drug Treatment - Residential	Yes/no
125	Drug Treatment - Other	Yes/no

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
126	Total Length of Stay in Drug Treatment Program	Number of months
127	Needs Assessment - Employment	Employed at highest level Under-employed Needs training Needs assistance Unemployable
128	Needs Assessment - Education	Adequate College or technical Needs GED Functionally illiterate Illiterate
129	Needs Assessment - Financial Resources	Adequate Needs management skills Inadequate normal Inadequate/debts No resources
130	Needs Assessment - Family Relationship	Supportive Interested Ambivalent Negative No contact with family
131	Needs Assessment - Interpersonal Skills	Well liked by all Well liked by most Some problems Frequent problems Disliked
132	Needs Assessment - Substance Abuse	None Occasional use Frequent use Episodic severe use Addicted
133	Needs Assessment - Leisure Activities	Many Regularly Occasionally TV only None

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
134	Needs Assessment - Physical Disabilities	None Reversible Treatment Not total Permanent
135	Suitability Selection Scale	Scale score
136	Suitability Selection Scale	Scale score
137	Number of Offenses for Which Convicted in Present Imprisonment	Number of offenses
138	Type of Current Offense Most Serious	Homicide Rape Robbery Aggravated Assault Burglary Larceny Auto Theft Arson Assault Forgery Fraud Embezzlement Stolen Property Vandalism Weapons Prostitution Sex Offenses Drugs Gambling Offenses against the family Drunk Driving Liquor Laws Drunkenness Disorderly Conduct Vagrancy Other Offenses Suspicion Curfew Runaway Multiple Bill (Habitual Offender) Probation/parole Violation

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
139	Type of Current Offense Second Most Serious	"
140	Type of Current Offense Third Most Serious	"

OUTCOME VARIABLES

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
201	Termination Status	Pre-release success Pre-release failure Pre-release non-prejudicial Work-release success Work-release failure Work-release non-prejudicial Release from jail
202	Release Status from Pre-Release Program	Expiration of sentence Commutation Probation Parole Fine paid
203	Negative Termination Reason - Pre-Release Program	Misconduct Job violation Alcohol violation Drug violation Sunday pass violation Security risk Escape
204	Days in Jail Following Termination from the Pre-Release Program	Number of days
205	Jail Release Status for Pre-Release Failures	Expiration Probation Parole
206	Total Days in the Pre-Release Program	Number of days
207	Total Days in the Work-Release Program	Number of days
208	Total days in Jail	Number of days
209	Multiple Admissions to the Pre-Release Program	Yes/no
210	Days from Release to Follow-Up	Number of days

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
211	Relative Adjustment - Employment, school or training for at least 3 of first 6 months since release	Present Not present
212	Relative Adjustment - One job, continued in school or training for 3 of first 6 months	Present Not present
213	Relative Adjustment - Vertical mobility in employment, school or training program	Present Not present
214	Relative Adjustment - Self-supporting and supported dependents	Present Not present
215	Relative Adjustment - Absence of critical incidents	Present Not present
216	Relative Adjustment - Residential stability	Present Not present
217	Relative Adjustment - Absence of debt problems	Present Not present
218	Relative Adjustment - Self-improvement program participation	Present Not present
219	Relative Adjustment - No illegal activities	Present Not present
220	Relative Adjustment - Probation/parole progress	Present Not present
221	Total Relative Adjustment Score	Total score
222	Total Arrests During Follow-up Period	Total number of arrests

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
223	Type of Offense -	Homicide Rape Robbery Aggravated Assault Burglary Larceny Auto Theft Arson Assault Forgery Fraud Embezzlement Stolen Property Vandalism Weapons Prostitution Sex offenses Drugs Gambling Offenses against the family Drunk driving Liquor laws Drunkenness Disorderly conduct Vagrancy Other offenses Suspicion Curfew Runaway Multiple bill (habitual offender) Probation/parole violation
224	Disposition - First Arrest	No charge, nolle pros, refused Continued, pending Verdict not guilty Verdict/plea guilty
225	Sentence - First Arrest	Suspended sentence Probation Fine/time Local jail time State prison time Other jail/prison time
226	Number of Days from Release to First Arrest	Number of days
227	Type of Offense - Second Arrest	See V 223

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
228	Disposition - Second Arrest	See V 224
229	Sentence - Second Arrest	See V 225
230	Days from Release to Second Arrest	See V 226
231	Type of Offense - Third Arrest	See V 223
232	Disposition - Third Arrest	See V 224
233	Sentence - Third Arrest	See V 225
234	Days from Release to Third Arrest	See V 226
235	Type of Offense - Fourth Arrest	See V 223
236	Disposition - Fourth Arrest	See V 224
237	Sentence - Fourth Arrest	See V 225
238	Days from Release to Fourth Arrest	See V 226
239	Type of Offense - Fifth Arrest	See V 223
240	Disposition - Fifth Arrest	See V 224
241	Sentence - Fifth Arrest	See V 225
242	Days from Release to Fifth Arrest	See V 226
243	Type of Offense - Sixth Arrest	See V 223

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
244	Disposition - Sixth Arrest	See V 224
245	Sentence - Sixth Arrest	See V 225
246	Days from Release to Sixth Arrest	See V 226

## SERVICE PROVISION VARIABLES

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
301	Number of Employment Interviews Arranged	Number
302	Job Developer Time	Number of 15-minute blocks
303	Employment Transportation Provided by the Pre-Release Program	Number of trips
304	Employment Transportation Reimbursed by the Pre-Release Program	Number of trips
305	Number of Employment Performance Reports	Number
306	Number of Employment Crisis Interventions Handled	Number
307	Number of Education/Training Referrals	Number
308	Education/Training Referral time	Number of 15-minute blocks
309	Education/Training Transportation Provided by the Pre-Release Program	Number of trips
310	Education/Training Transportation Provided by the Pre-Release Program	Number of trips
311	Type of Education/Training Program #1	GED Basic education High school Technical school Junior college Undergraduate Apprenticeship

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
312	Type of Education/ Training Program #2	"
313	Number of Hours in Program #1	Number of hours
314	Number of Hours in Program #2	Number of hours
315	Number of Education/ Training Performance Reports	Number
316	Number of Education/ Training Crisis Interventions	Number
317	Number of Individual Counseling Sessions Attended	Number
318	Number of Group Counseling Sessions Attended	Number
319	Number of Counseling Performance Reports	Number
320	Number of Social Awareness Instruction Sessions Attended	Number
321	Number of Referrals to Community Service Agencies	Number
322	Community Service Referral Time	Number of 15-minute blocks
323	Number of Hours of Community Services Received	Number
324	Community Service Transportation Provided by the Pre-Release Program	Number of trips

<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Variable Name</u>	<u>Variable Values</u>
325	Community Service Transportation Reimbursed by the Pre-Release Program	Number of trips
326	Number of Community Service Performance Reports	Number
327	Number of Hours of Service to the Community	Number of hours
328	Number of Furloughs Granted	Number
329	Number of Disciplinary Actions	Number
330	Program Exit Status	Positive Negative Non-prejudicial
331	Total Days Spent in the Pre-Release Program	Number of days

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