SAQ-ADULT PROBATION III

2008
SUMMARY REPORT

This report summarizes SAQ-Adult Probation III test data for **426** offenders. Test data was gathered in the 11-month period from January 1, 2008 through December 4, 2008. The SAQ-Adult Probation III is described on the Risk and Needs Assessment website at **www.riskandneeds.com**. This report is provided as a professional courtesy by Risk and Needs Assessment, Inc., P.O. Box 44828, Phoenix, AZ 85064-4828

RICHLAND COUNTY ADULT COURT SERVICES

SAQ-ADULT PROBATION III

SUMMARY REPORT

1-13-09

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Additional information can be provided upon request. Risk and Needs Assessment, Inc.'s telephone number is 1-800-231-2401, our fax number is (602) 266-8227, and our e-mail address is skarka@riskandneeds.com.

i

Overview

This report summarizes SAQ-Adult Probation III test results for 426 offenders (male and female) tested by Richland County Adult Court Services. The purpose of this report is to present summaries of the tested offenders' demographic and court-related information. Statistical analyses of SAQ-Adult Probation III test data are also enclosed. This report was prepared by Risk and Needs Assessment, Inc. for Richland County Adult Court Services.

Number of Offenders Tested _____

Number of Offenders Tested

■ All Clients   ■ Males   □ Females
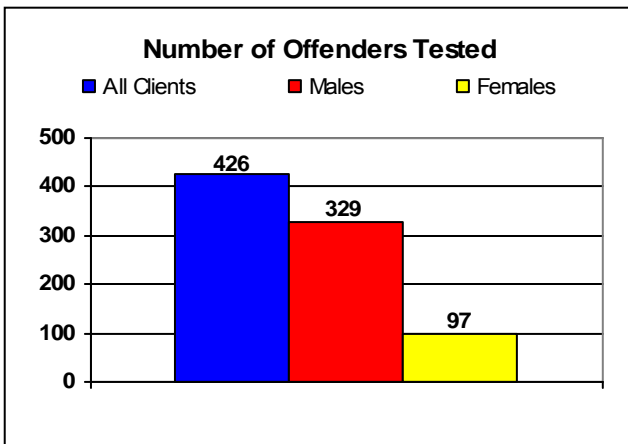
SAQ-Adult Probation III report data was gathered between January 1, 2008 and December 4, 2008.

- **426 offenders** were tested with the SAQ-Adult Probation III

- 329 (77.2%) offenders were male
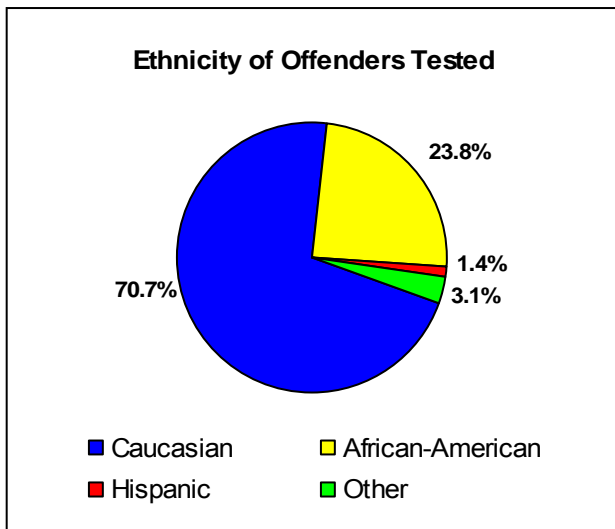
- 97 (22.8%) offenders were female

Demographic Information for Offenders _____

All statistics refer to the total number of offenders taking the SAQ-Adult Probation III (N=426).

Ethnicity of Offenders Tested_____

Ethnicity of Offenders Tested

23.8%

1.4%

3.1%

70.7%
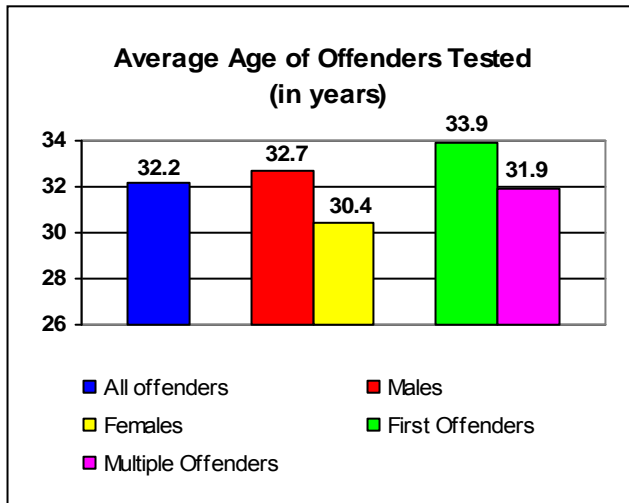
■ Caucasian   □ African-American
■ Hispanic   ■ Other

Ethnicity

Of the 426 offenders tested, there were:

- 301 (70.7%) Caucasians
- 106 (23.8%) African Americans
- 6 (1.4%) Hispanics
- 13 (3.1%) offenders of "other" (Asian, Native American, etc.) races.
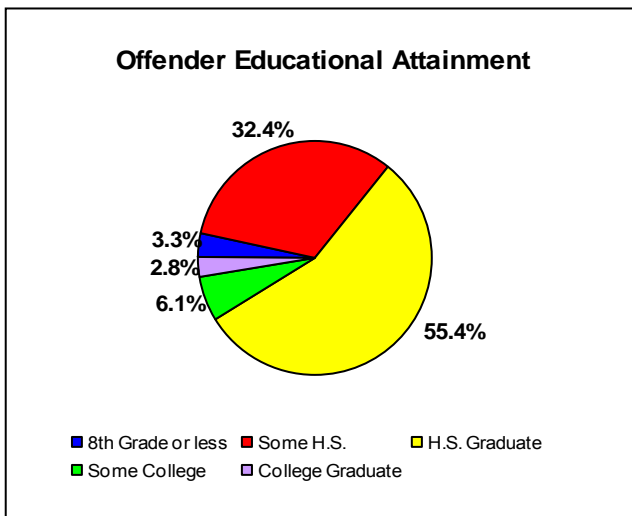
Age of Offenders Tested _____

Average Age of Offenders Tested (in years)

Age of Offender

The average age of all offenders tested was 32.2 years.

- The average age of male offenders (32.7 years) was significantly older than that of female offenders (30.4 years), $t(424)= 1.96$, p=.05, $d= 0.22$.

- On average, First Offenders (one total arrest) were older than Multiple Offenders (two or more total arrests). Average ages: 33.9 years and 31.9 years, respectively.

Chart values: All offenders 32.2, Males 32.7, Females 30.4, First Offenders 33.9, Multiple Offenders 31.9

Legend: ■ All offenders ■ Males ■ Females ■ First Offenders ■ Multiple Offenders

Offender Educational Attainment _____

Offender Educational Attainment

Pie chart values: 32.4%, 3.3%, 2.8%, 6.1%, 55.4%

Legend: ■ 8th Grade or less ■ Some H.S. ■ H.S. Graduate ■ Some College ■ College Graduate

Educational Attainment

The education of tested offenders is summarized in this section. In terms of the highest grade completed:

- 3.3% had 8th grade educations or less
- 32.4% had completed some High School
- 55.4% were High School graduates
- 6.1% had completed some college
- 2.8% were college graduates

A significantly larger proportion of Multiple Offenders (37.4%) had not completed High School as compared to First Offenders (22.4%), $\chi^2 = 4.22$, p=.04, $V= 0.10$. Additionally, a significantly larger proportion of First Offenders (20.4%) had completed at least some college as compared to Multiple Offenders (7.4%), $\chi^2 = 9.00$, p=.003, $V= 0.15$, and First Offenders were also significantly more likely to be college graduates (8.2% vs. 2.1%), $\chi^2 = 5.78$, p=.016, $V= 0.12$. These findings suggest a trend of higher educational attainment for First Offenders as compared to Multiple Offenders.

There were no significant education differences in terms of sex.

Offender Marital Status _____

Offender Marital Status

0.7%

22.1%

58.2%

19.0%

■ Single ■ Married
□ Divorced/separated ■ Widowed
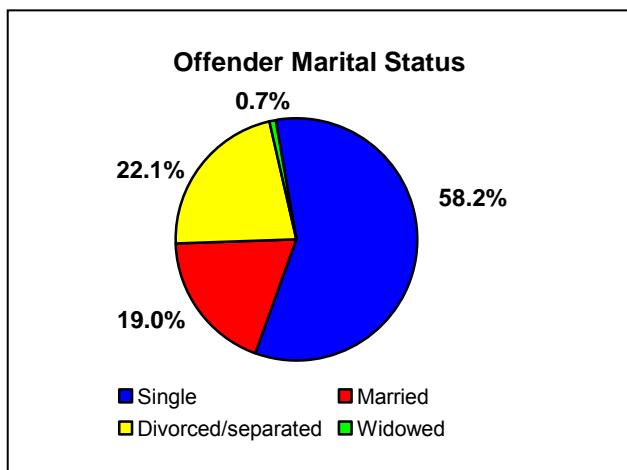
Marital Status

More than half (58.2%) of the tested offenders were single. An additional 19.0% were married, and 22.1% were divorced or separated. Three offenders (0.7%) were widowed.
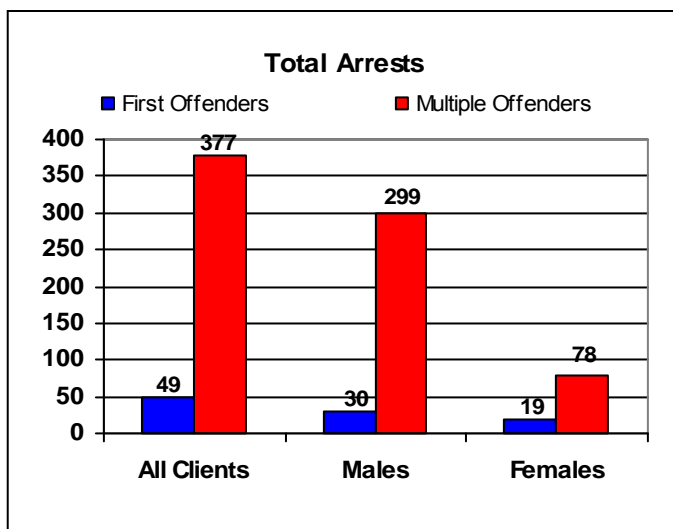
- A larger proportion of male offenders (59.3%) were single than female offenders (54.6%).

- First Offenders and Multiple Offenders were similarly likely to be single, married, and divorced/separated.

Caucasian offenders were more likely to be divorced or separated (24.9%) than African American offenders (17.0%). African American offenders were significantly more likely to be single (69.8%) than Caucasian offenders (54.2%), χ^2 = 7.90, p=.005, V= 0.14.

Self-Reported Court History _____
All statistics refer to the total number of offenders taking the SAQ-Adult Probation III (N=426).

Total Number of Arrests _____

Total Arrests

■ First Offenders ■ Multiple Offenders

	All Clients	Males	Females
First Offenders	49	30	19
Multiple Offenders	377	299	78

Of the 426 tested offenders:

- 49 offenders (11.5%) were First Offenders (one total arrest)
- 377 offenders (88.5%) were Multiple Offenders (two or more total arrests)

- A significantly larger proportion of males (90.9%) were Multiple Offenders than females (80.4%), χ^2 = 8.07, p=.005, V= 0.14. Males also had a significantly higher average number of total arrests (9.7) than females (5.5), t(424)=4.36, p<.001, d=0.39.

In terms of education: Offenders who had at least completed High School had a significantly lower average number of total arrests (7.6) than offenders who had not completed High School (10.8), t(424)= 2.25, p=.025, d= 0.24.

Age at First Arrest _____

Average Age at First Arrest (in years)

All offenders	19.6
Males	18.9
Females	21.9
First Offenders	28.6
Multiple Offenders	18.5
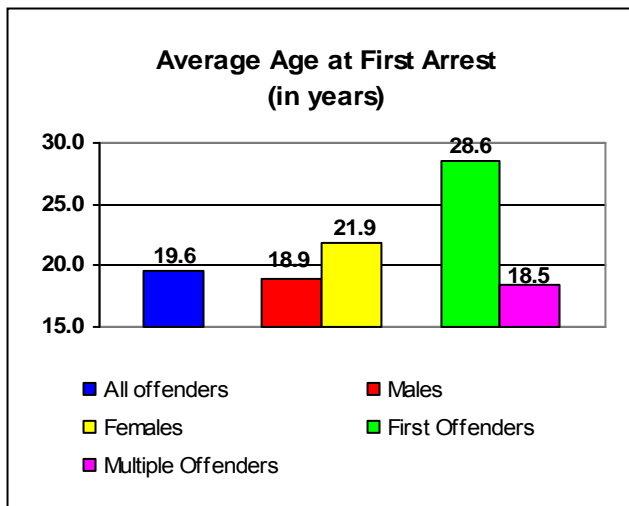
Age of Offender

The average age at which offenders were first arrested was 19.6 years.

- The average age at first arrest of male offenders (18.9 years) was significantly younger than that of female offenders (21.9 years), $t(424)= -3.00$, $p=.003$, $d=0.36$.

- The average age at first arrest of Multiple Offenders (18.5 years) was significantly younger than that of First Offenders (28.6 years), $t(424)= 5.04$, $p<.001$, $d=0.94$.

Additionally, age at first arrest was significantly negatively correlated with total number of arrests, $r(424)= -.22$, $p<.001$, number of alcohol arrests, $r(424)= -.12$, $p=.016$, number of drug arrests, $r(424)= -.13$, $p=.008$, number of felonies, $r(424)= -.23$, $p<.001$, number of probations, $r(424)= -.28$, $p<.001$, number of probation revocations, $r(424)= -.17$, $p=.001$, number of jail sentences, $r(424)= -.17$, $p<.001$, and number of prison sentences, $r(424)= -.18$, $p<.001$, indicating that the frequency of criminal-related activity increases as the age of first arrest decreases. In other words, the younger one is when arrested for the first time, the more times he/she is likely to be arrested, put on probation, imprisoned, etc. as he/she gets older.

Offenders who completed 8th Grade or less had a significantly older age at first arrest (28.9 years) than offenders who completed some High School (18.2 years) and offenders whose highest educational attainment was a High School diploma (19.4 years), $F(4, 421)= 7.92$, $p<.001$, $\eta^2 = 0.07$. Offenders who completed some college also had a significantly older average age at first arrest (23.2 years) than offenders who completed some High School.

Court History and SAQ-Adult Probation III Scale Scores _____

Correlations give information regarding the strength of relationships. They show how closely two variables are associated with one another. Higher correlation coefficients signify strong relationships between the variables being correlated.

Alcohol Scale scores were most closely associated with the number of alcohol-related arrests. A strong positive correlation was demonstrated, indicating that higher Alcohol Scale scores are associated with a higher number of alcohol-related arrests, $r(424)=.46$, $p<.001$.

Drugs Scale scores were most highly correlated with the number of drug-related arrests, $r(424)=.48$, $p<.001$. Higher Drugs Scale scores are strongly associated with a higher number of drug-related arrests.

Violence Scale scores were most closely associated with the number of prison sentences. A strong positive correlation, $r(424)=.32$, $p<.001$, indicated that higher Violence Scale scores are related to a higher number of lifetime prison sentences.

The number of drug-related arrests was the court history variable that was most highly correlated with both Antisocial Scale scores, $r(424)=.34$, $p<.001$, and Stress Coping Abilities Scale scores, $r(424)= .14$, $p=.005$. The positive correlations indicate that higher scores on both of these scales are related to a higher number of drug-related arrests.

Aggressiveness Scale scores were most highly correlated with age at first arrest, $r(424)= -.30$, $p<.001$. The strong negative correlation suggests that the prevalence of aggressive traits and behaviors (as measured by the Aggressiveness Scale) among offenders increases as the age at first arrest decreases.

SAQ-Adult Probation III Test Statistics_____

The following pages present test statistics for the SAQ-Adult Probation III. Test statistics support the SAQ-Adult Probation III as a reliable, valid, and accurate test. The SAQ-Adult Probation III incorporates valid measures (scales) that are relevant to the offenders being tested.

SAQ-Adult Probation III Reliability

Test reliability refers to a scale's consistency of measurement. A scale is reliable if a person gets the same score when re-tested. Table 1 shows the reliability scores for each SAQ-Adult Probation III scale. Perfect reliability is 1.00.

Table 1. SAQ-Adult Probation III Reliability (N=426, 2008)

Scale	Alpha coefficient
Truthfulness Scale	.85
Alcohol Scale	.91
Drugs Scale	.91
Violence Scale	.82
Antisocial Scale	.82
Aggressiveness Scale	.90
Stress Coping Abilities	.91

All SAQ-Adult Probation III scales have a reliability of .82 or higher. The professionally accepted reliability standard is .75. All SAQ-Adult Probation III scales exceed this standard and demonstrate very impressive reliability.

SAQ-Adult Probation III Accuracy

Test accuracy is demonstrated by how close attained scale scores are to predicted scores. Four categories of risk are assigned: Low Risk (zero to 39th percentile), Medium Risk (40 to 69th percentile), Problem Risk (70 to 89th percentile), and Severe Problem Risk (90 to 100th percentile). The top row of Table 2 shows the percentages of offenders that were predicted to score within each risk range. Predicted percentages for each SAQ-Adult Probation III scale risk category were obtained from SAQ-Adult Probation III standardization data. Table 2 presents actual attained risk category percentages. Differences between attained and predicted percentages are shown in bold in parentheses. For example, in terms of the Severe Problem Risk range for the Truthfulness Scale: 11% of offenders were predicted to score within this range; the attained percentage of offenders who scored in this range was 10.6%, which is a difference of 0.4 percentage points from what was predicted.

Table 2. SAQ-Adult Probation III Accuracy (N=426*, 2008)
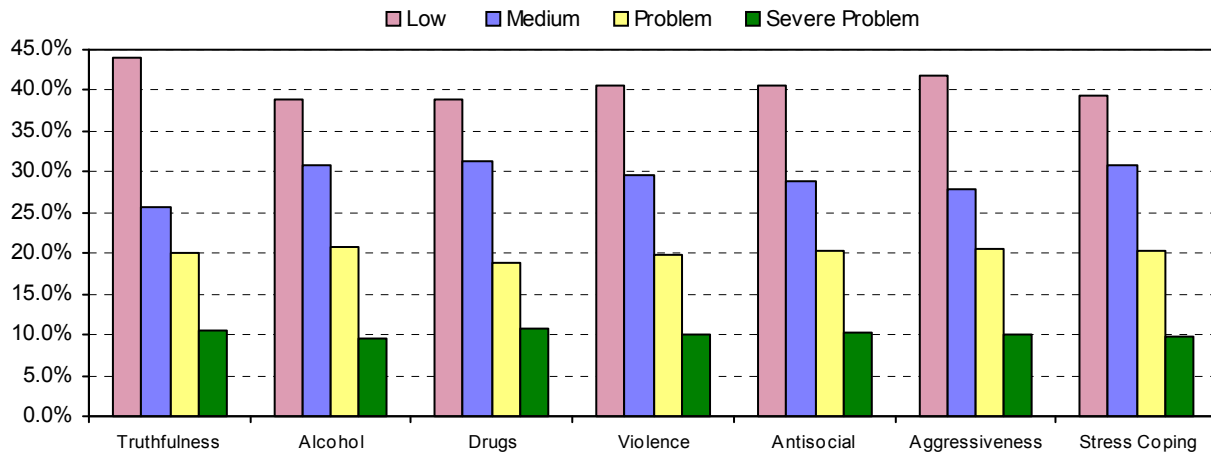
Scale	Low Risk (39%)		Medium Risk (30%)		Problem Risk (20%)		Severe Problem (11%)	
Truthfulness	43.9	**(4.9)**	25.6	**(4.4)**	20.0	**(0.0)**	10.6	**(0.4)**
Alcohol	39.0	**(0.0)**	30.7	**(0.7)**	20.7	**(0.7)**	9.5	**(1.5)**
Drugs	39.0	**(0.0)**	31.4	**(1.4)**	18.8	**(1.2)**	10.7	**(0.3)**
Violence	40.7	**(1.7)**	29.5	**(0.5)**	19.8	**(0.2)**	10.0	**(1.0)**
Antisocial	40.7	**(1.7)**	28.8	**(1.2)**	20.2	**(0.2)**	10.2	**(0.8)**
Aggressiveness	41.7	**(2.7)**	27.9	**(2.1)**	20.5	**(0.5)**	10.0	**(1.0)**
Stress Coping Abilities	39.3	**(0.3)**	30.7	**(0.7)**	20.2	**(0.2)**	9.8	**(1.2)**

*Note: For respondents who scored in the 95th percentile or higher on the Truthfulness Scale (thereby invalidating other Scale scores), only their Truthfulness Scale scores were included in this analysis; thus, the sample size for the remaining six Scales was slightly smaller- less by 6 (the number of offenders with invalid Scale scores).

Twenty six out of 28 attained risk range percentiles were within **3.0** points of the predicted percentages**.** The two exceptions- the Low Risk and Medium Risk percentiles for the Truthfulness Scale- were both within 5.0 points of the predicted percentages. The average difference between attained percentages and predicted percentages was **1.1** points. These results strongly support the accuracy of the SAQ-Adult Probation III as an offender assessment instrument.

SAQ-Adult Probation III Validity

Validity refers to a test's ability to measure what it is purported to measure. The quality of a test is largely determined by its validity. Concurrent validity correlates the independent scales of the test being validated with corresponding measures from another established test. This type of validation (concurrent validation) has been conducted in numerous studies on SAQ-Adult Probation III scales. These studies are presented in the "SAQ: An Inventory of Scientific Findings," which can be accessed on our website www.riskandneeds.com.

Predictive validity refers to a test's ability to predict observable "criterion" behaviors. In this analysis, our prediction criterion was offender status. By comparing the scale scores of First and Multiple Offenders, the analysis examined whether test scales could distinguish between offenders with known different levels of problem severity. It was predicted that Multiple Offenders would obtain significantly higher scale scores than First Offenders. *T*-test results (presented in Table 3) revealed that Multiple Offenders did indeed score significantly higher than First Offenders on the Alcohol Scale, Drugs Scale, Violence Scale, Antisocial Scale, Aggressiveness Scale and Stress Coping Abilities scale than did First Offenders.

Table 3. Independent Samples *t*-test Results (N=426*, 2008)

Scale	Mean Scores First Offenders	Mean Scores Multiple Offenders	*t*-value	Cohen's *d* (effect size)
Truthfulness	58.5	58.8	-0.09	0.01
Alcohol	35.3	62.6	-8.03**	1.20
Drugs	34.9	65.8	-8.12**	1.19
Violence	39.9	65.2	-8.10**	1.16
Antisocial	35.8	67.3	-14.37**	1.60
Aggressiveness	27.8	52.6	-9.90**	1.22
Stress Coping Abilities	45.9	58.8	-3.14*	0.46

*Significant at p<.05
**Significant at p<.001

*Note: For respondents who scored in the 95th percentile or higher on the Truthfulness Scale (thereby invalidating other Scale scores), only their Truthfulness Scale scores were included in this analysis; thus, the sample size for the remaining six Scales was slightly smaller- less by 6 (the number of offenders with invalid Scale scores).

These results strongly support the predictive validity of the SAQ-Adult Probation III. This is important because it shows that the Alcohol, Drugs, Violence, Antisocial, Aggressiveness, Stress Coping Abilities Scales do accurately measure levels of problem severity. The scales effectively discriminate between offenders who are known to have more severe problems (Multiple Offenders) and First Offenders. Measuring problem severity enables staff to match problem severity with treatment program intensity. Proper matching is very important for treatment program effectiveness.

Summary of SAQ-Adult Probation III Findings _____

The SAQ-Adult Probation III was administered to 426 offenders. There were 329 male offenders (77.2%) and 97 female offenders (22.8%). The offender population is broadly described as Caucasian (70.7%), 21 through 45 years of age (78.5%), and single (58.2%). Almost two thirds of offenders had at least completed High School (64.3%).

- The average age of male offenders was significantly older than that of female offenders

- A significantly larger proportion of Multiple Offenders had not completed High School as compared to First Offenders

- A significantly larger proportion of First Offenders had completed at least some college as compared to Multiple Offenders; First Offenders were also significantly more likely to be college graduates

- African American offenders were significantly more likely to be single than Caucasian offenders

Arrests (offender self-report)

- There were 49 (11.5%) First Offenders (one total arrest) and 377 (88.5%) Multiple Offenders (two or more total arrests)

- A significantly larger proportion of males were Multiple Offenders than females

- Males also had a significantly higher average number of total arrests

- Offenders who had at least completed High School had a significantly lower average number of total arrests than offenders who had not completed High School

Age at First Arrest (offender self-report)

- The average age at first arrest of male offenders was significantly younger than that of female offenders

- The average age at first arrest of Multiple Offenders was significantly younger than that of First Offenders

- Age at first arrest was significantly negatively correlated with total number of arrests, number of alcohol arrests, number of drug arrests, number of felonies, number of probations, number of probation revocations, number of jail sentences, and number of prison sentences, indicating that the frequency of criminal-related activity increases as the age of first arrest decreases

- Offenders who completed 8th Grade or less had a significantly older age at first arrest than offenders who completed some High School and offenders whose highest educational attainment was a High School diploma

- Offenders who completed some college also had a significantly older average age at first arrest than offenders who completed some High School

Court History and Scale Scores

- Alcohol Scale scores were most strongly (positively) correlated with the number of alcohol-related arrests

- Drugs Scale scores were most strongly (positively) correlated with the number of drug-related arrests
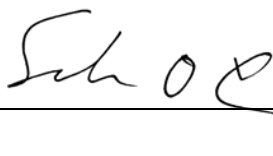
- Violence Scale scores were most strongly (positively) correlated with the number of prison sentences

- Antisocial Scale scores and Stress Coping Abilities Scale scores were most strongly (positively) correlated with the number of drug-related arrests.

- Aggressiveness Scale scores were most strongly (negatively) correlated with age at first arrest

SAQ-Adult Probation III Accuracy, Reliability and Validity

- **All SAQ-Adult Probation III scales reliability coefficients were .82 or higher.** All scales exceed the professionally accepted reliability standard of .75, and demonstrate very impressive reliability.

- 26 out of 28 attained risk range percentiles were within **3.0** points of the predicted percentages. The average difference between attained percentages and predicted percentages was **1.1** points. These findings strongly support the accuracy of the SAQ-Adult Probation III.

- Validity analyses demonstrated that the SAQ-Adult Probation III Alcohol, Drugs, Violence, Antisocial, Aggressiveness, and Stress Coping Abilities effectively discriminated between offenders who are known to have more severe problems (Multiple Offenders) and First Offenders.

Appendix Contents

Demographics and self-reported court history information for offenders that completed the SAQ-Adult Probation III are presented in the pages that follow. All statistics refer to the total number of offenders (N= 426).

Sarah O'Colmain, M.A.
Research Analyst
Risk and Needs Assessment, Inc.

January 13, 2009

SAQ- Adult Probation III
Demographics and Court-Related History
(N=426)

Population

Sex	N	%
Male	329	77.2
Female	97	22.8
Total	426	100.0

Age Group

	Males	Females	Total	
Age	N	N	N	%
20 & under	25	10	39	9.2
21 – 25	76	24	100	23.5
26 – 30	69	20	89	20.9
31 – 35	40	21	61	14.3
36 – 40	30	12	42	9.9
41 – 45	37	5	42	9.9
46 – 50	23	2	25	5.9
51 – 55	12	0	12	2.8
56 – 60	10	0	10	2.3
61+	3	3	6	1.4

Ethnicity

	Males	Females	Total	
Race	N	N	N	%
Caucasian	223	78	301	70.7
African American	93	13	106	23.8
Hispanic	5	1	6	1.4
Asian	1	1	2	0.5
Other	7	4	11	2.6

Education

	Males	Females	Total	
Grade	N	N	N	%
8th grade or Less	13	1	14	3.3
Some High School	107	31	138	32.4
H.S. Graduate	180	56	236	55.4
Some College	20	6	26	6.1
College Graduate	9	3	12	2.8

Marital Status

	Males	Females	Total	
Status	N	N	N	%
Single	195	53	248	58.2
Married	62	19	81	19.0
Divorced	46	16	62	14.6
Separated	25	7	32	7.5
Widowed	1	2	3	0.7

Age at First Arrest

	Males	Females	Total	
Age	N	N	N	%
12 & under	30	5	35	8.2
13-14	39	9	48	11.3
15-16	65	10	75	17.6
17-18	82	18	100	23.5
19-20	40	16	56	13.1
21-22	25	7	32	7.5
23-24	6	7	13	3.1
25-29	17	7	24	5.6
30-39	16	13	29	6.8
40+	9	5	14	3.3

of Months Employed (in last 12 months)

	Males	Females	Total	
Months	N	N	N	%
0	105	34	139	32.6
1-2	47	9	56	13.1
3-4	36	15	51	12.0
5-6	32	5	37	8.7
7-8	18	6	24	5.6
9-10	37	9	46	10.8
11-12	54	19	73	17.1

SAQ-Adult Probation III Offender Court-Related History (continued)

Total Number of Times Arrested

Number of Times Arrested	Males N	Males %	Females N	Females %	Total N	Total %
0	6	1.8	1	0.0	7	1.6
1	24	7.3	18	25.7	42	9.9
2	28	8.5	9	5.7	37	8.7
3	44	13.4	14	20.0	58	13.6
4	32	9.7	14	20.0	46	10.8
5	26	7.9	12	5.7	38	8.9
6 - 9	59	17.9	13	13.4	72	16.9
10 or More	110	33.4	16	16.5	126	29.6

Offender Status

	Males N	Males %	Females N	Females %	Total N	Total %
First Offenders	30	9.1	19	19.6	49	11.5
Multiple Offenders	299	90.9	78	80.4	377	88.5

Note: A First Offender had one arrest; a Multiple Offender had two or more arrests.

Drug-Related Arrests

Number	Males N	Females N	Total N	Total %
0	138	45	183	43.0
1	91	24	115	27.0
2	39	14	53	12.4
3	16	8	24	5.6
4	15	0	15	3.5
5	10	0	10	2.3
6+	20	6	26	6.1

Alcohol-Related Arrests

Number	Males N	Females N	Total N	Total %
0	160	64	224	52.6
1	45	15	60	14.1
2	33	6	39	9.2
3	28	2	30	7.0
4	11	4	15	3.5
5	13	1	14	3.3
6+	39	5	44	10.3

Felony Arrests

Number	Males N	Females N	Total N	Total %
0	34	7	41	9.6
1	126	51	177	41.5
2	79	26	105	24.6
3	34	5	39	9.2
4	23	2	25	5.9
5	14	1	15	3.5
6+	19	5	24	5.6

SAQ-Adult Probation III Offender Court-Related History (continued)

	Times on Probation				**Probation Revocations**			
	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total	
Number	N	N	N	%	N	N	N	%
0	48	20	68	16.0	198	68	266	62.4
1	112	41	153	35.9	72	19	91	21.4
2	97	21	118	27.7	26	5	31	7.3
3	45	7	52	12.2	12	2	14	3.3
4	14	5	19	4.5	8	0	8	1.9
5	6	1	7	1.6	0	1	1	0.2
6+	7	2	9	2.1	13	2	15	3.5

	Jail Sentences				**Prison Sentences**			
	Males	Females	Total		Males	Females	Total	
Number	N	N	N	%	N	N	N	%
0	61	41	102	23.9	159	68	227	53.3
1	58	19	77	18.1	94	20	114	26.8
2	52	12	64	15.0	34	4	38	8.9
3	36	5	41	9.6	17	2	19	4.5
4	21	5	26	6.1	12	0	12	2.8
5	25	4	29	6.8	7	2	9	2.1
6 +	76	11	87	20.4	6	1	7	1.6