

Recidivism Results of 9 Yards

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This analysis was conducted to determine the effect of the 9 Yards program on recidivism. 9 Yards is a reentry program that works with individuals being released from prison in Rhode Island and is operated by the agency OpenDoors. The analysis included 209 individuals either in the control or treatment group over a period of six years all of whom have been out of prison for at least one year, and found that participation in 9 Yards decreased the likelihood of recidivism.

Results:

Differences between Treatment and Control Groups

Despite the random assignment of subjects to treatment and control groups there are significant differences between them: time since release, LSI Score, type of release and facility from which they were released. These differences probably arose from events that occurred after selection over which the program had little or no control such as when, how, and from where they were released. Analyses of recidivism must adjust for these differences by including these variables as factors or covariates. See Table 1 for details.

Table 1. Differences Between Treatment and Control Groups

Variable	N	Treatment	Control	<i>p</i>
Original Sentence (Days)	209	1908.9	1701.5	.151
Time Since Release (Days)	209	1019	1217.7	.009
LSI Score	189	26.7	28.9	.045
Black	209	39.1%	39.1%	.525
Hispanic	209	33.6%	27.3%	.319
Released on Parole	209	50.0%	37.4%	.066
Released From Minimum	209	8.2%	36.4%	.000
		30.10%	29.20%	.218

Effect of 9 Yards Participation on Re-incarceration

After adjusting for other differences, a binomial regression indicates that on average those in the treatment were about 36% less likely to be reincarcerated for any reason than were those in the control group.

The likelihood of reincarceration is also affected by several of the other factors. As is to be expected, the likelihood of reincarceration increased with the number of days since release; each day increases the

likelihood by .1%, and each point on the LSI score increases the likelihood by 4%. On the other hand, being released from Minimum Security decreases the likelihood by approximately 56%.

Table 2. Effect of 9 Yards Participation on Reincarceration				
Variable	B	S.E	Exp(B)	
9 Yards Group	-.442	.359	.643	
LSI Score	.038	.021	1.04	
Released on Parole	-.004	.328	.996	
Released From Minimum	-.828	.422	.437	
Time Since Release	.001	.000	1.001	
Constant	.781	.732		
N=189				

Effect of 9 Yards Participation on New Sentence

Participation in the 9 Yards program reduced the likelihood of receiving a new sentence by over 34 percent. The likelihood of receiving a new sentence increased by about .1% for each day following release and was twice as likely for those released on parole as those released by expiration of sentence. Being released from Minimum security reduced the likelihood of a new sentence by nearly 70 percent. Each additional point on the LSI score is estimated to increase the likelihood of a new sentence by 2 percent. However, little confidence can be placed in that estimate as the standard error of the estimate is as large as the estimate effect. Removing the LSI score from the model increases the number of cases in the analysis but the reanalysis indicates that the estimated effects are not substantially changed.

Table 3. Effect of 9 Yards Participation on New Sentence

Variable	B	S.E	Exp(B)
9 Yards Group	-.416	.321	.660
LSI Score			
Released on Parole	.696	.300	2.005
Released From Minimum	-1.23	.419	.293
Time Since Release	.001	.000	1.001
Constant	-.854	.404	
N=209			

Effect of Participation in 9 Yards on Days in the Community during First Year After Release

Those who participated in the 9 Yards program spent on average 23 to 26 more days in the community in the first year following release than did those in the control group net of the influence of the other variables included in the model. This estimate is not substantially affected by the inclusion of those cases missing the LSI score. Other factors influencing the days in the community include release type and facility from which the person was released. Those released on parole spent 13 to 19 fewer days in the community in the first year than did those released via expiration of sentence. Those released from Minimum security, conversely, spent more than 20 days in the community than did those released from

higher securities. Increasing the number of cases by dropping the LSI score from the model substantially affects only the estimate for those released from Minimum security-- presumably because those released from Minimum were more likely to be missing LSI scores and more likely to stay out longer.

Days in the community was used rather than days served because it is not conditional upon reincarceration and thus allows for all cases to be included in the analysis. It was computed by subtracting days served in year 1 from 365. Note that it could just as easily be interpreted as fewer days back in incarceration.

4. Effect of Participation in 9 Yards on Days in the Community during the First Year Following Release

Variable	B	S.E	Beta
9 Yards Group	23.535	11.970	.146
LSI Score			
Released on Parole	-19.067	11.333	-.117
Released From Minimum	31.004	14.520	.158
Time Since Release	.013	.010	.089
Constant	292.926	15.240	
N=209			

Effect of Participation in 9 Yards on Days in the Community

After adjusting for time since release and other relevant factors, participants in 9 Yards have spent, on average, about 71 more days in the community than have the nonparticipants, and conversely less time incarcerated. Those released from Minimum Security, net of other factors, also spent more time in the community. The LSI Score and type of release had no effect. More precisely, the average time in the community was 974 days. Participants, however, averaged 1010 days compared to nonparticipants who averaged 940.

5. Effect of Participation in 9 Yards on Days in the Community After Release

Variable	B	S.E	Beta
9 Yards Group	70.839	49.661	.155
LSI Score	-1.361	3.018	-.020
Released on Parole	-32.994	46.214	-.031
Released From Minimum	130.757	59.079	.104
Time Since Release	.764	.043	.803
Constant	49.151	104.144	
N=189			

Variable	B	S.E	Beta
9 Yards Group	35.629	36.995	.03

LSI Score			
Released on Parole			
Released From Minimum	28.197	46.283	.022
Time Since Release	.815	.033	.868
Reincarceration	-17.483	49.273	-.016
Resentence	-344.923	47.428	-0.332
Constant	149.374	51.064	
N=209			