

*Delivering Effective Interventions -
Using Reconviction Rates to Measure the Efficacy of Sentences*

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Summary

Reconviction is the most commonly used indicator for measuring the effectiveness of court penalties in reducing reoffending. 2001 adult reconviction rates published in 2005 by the Northern Ireland Office indicated that 17% of those who received a non-custodial sentence were reconvicted within two years, while 45% of those discharged from custody were reconvicted in two years. The reconviction rate of those with statutory supervision after custody discharge was lower than those without statutory supervision.

Keywords Effectiveness; Community Sentences; Reoffending; Reconviction