

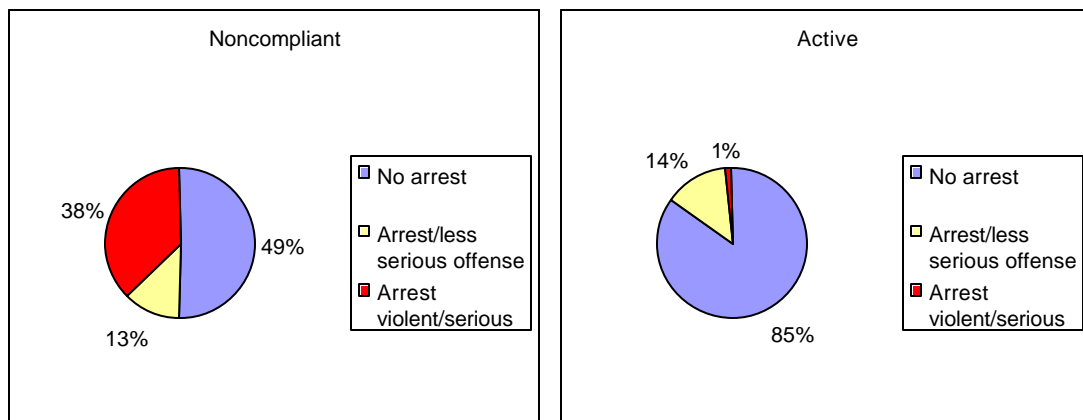
To date, the Boston Reentry Initiative has convened 50 monthly panels, totaling almost 600 participants. Successes to date have been promising. All those who qualify for the program would be expected, based on criminal histories, to continue to offend, absent any form of post-release intervention. Yet we have seen a significant difference in criminal offending between those in Impact Player status, i.e. who have rejected offers of support and assistance, as versus those with some level of participation in the program.

Given the results to date, we are very confident that the program has made a significant difference both to the lives of individual inmates as well as to the safety of their communities.

Of a one-year sample of 71 violent offenders who participated in the BRI project in 2003, only 15% re-offended in the first six months after their release. In comparison, of those who did not participate in the project, 50% re-offended in the first six months after their release.

Evaluation/Successes to date

We see a promising correlation between 1) participation and changes in participants' post-release criminal profiles; and 2) violent crime trends in participants' home communities. All those who qualify for the program would be expected, based on criminal histories, to continue to offend, absent any form of post-release intervention. Yet we have seen a significant difference in criminal offending between those in Impact Player status, i.e. who have rejected offers of support and assistance, as versus those with some level of participation in the program.



	No arrest	Arrest/less serious offense	Arrest violent/serious	Total
Active	60	10	1	71
Noncompliant	32	8	24	64
Other	2	0	0	2
Total	94	18	25	137

An analysis revealed that of the 137 released offenders between March 2003 and March 2004, 64 participants were inactive or refused to comply in the program. Of these, 50% offended after release and 75% of those arrests were for serious and violent offenses.

By contrast of the 71 who actively participated in the program, only 15% re-offended, and the majority of these arrests (91%) were on minor, non-violent matters. Re-arrests further point to quick detection and swift action by law enforcement, -showing offenders that we are delivering on pledges made at the panel presentation.

A 2003 analysis of Crime data showed an overall 4% decrease in violent crime in the violent crime hot-spots that are home to most BRI participants, between the period prior to the initiative (January 1, 2000-May 20,2001) and post initiative (January 1, 2002 – May 20, 2003). At the same time, crime in general was rising somewhat.

The results to date have been better than we originally anticipated. Given the severity of the criminal histories, gang associations and behaviors of these offenders, we could not expect that a lifetime of poor choices and minimal opportunity could be overturned within just a few months of programming. Given the results to date, we are very confident that the program has made a significant difference both to the lives of individual inmates as well as to the safety of their communities.