

RAI 4 Implementation Fact Sheet – First Ten Months – August 25, 2008

On October 19, 2007 DCJ implemented the validated RAI 4 Detention Risk Assessment Instrument. In doing so we hoped to accomplish the following:

Improved Outcomes. We hoped for better recidivism and appearance rates for released youth by connecting detention decisions to items most strongly connected with favorable outcomes.

Reduced Disparity. We hoped to find and correct any racial/ethnic and gender disparity in detention decisions and outcomes by using the fairest combination of assessment items.

Clearer Policy. We hoped to better understand and control detention decisions by carefully defining automatic and override decision criteria.

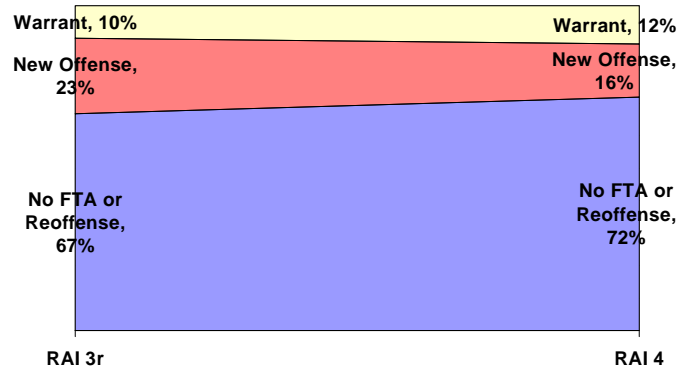
Improving Outcomes

The following tables compare outcome results for youth released under the RAI 3r (n=656) and the RAI 4 (n=370). Each opportunity in the community while awaiting a hearing on a law violation or probation violation is counted separately. Opportunities are considered ended when the youth is admitted to detention, the youth receives a new criminal referral, the youth fails to appear for any hearing, or disposition is done on the youth's case. A youth can have multiple release opportunities while awaiting disposition on a law violation or probation violation.

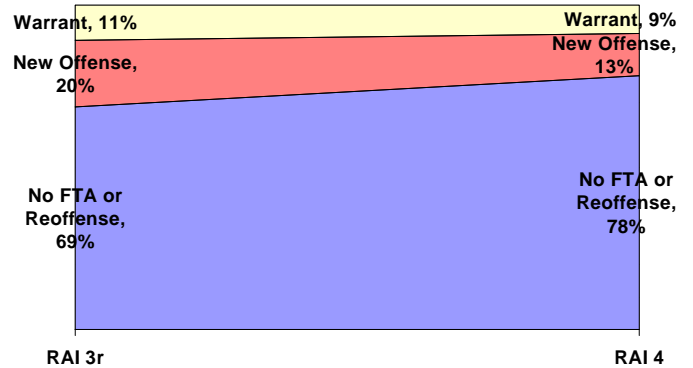
Three outcomes are possible: No FTA or Recidivism, New Offense, and Warrant.

The charts below show improved recidivism outcomes across demographic groups for the first ten months of using the RAI 4 vs. the prior 12 months using the RAI 3r. All groups show improved recidivism, but the recidivism percentage for females improved much more than that of the other groups. Warrant rates changed 3% or less for all groups.

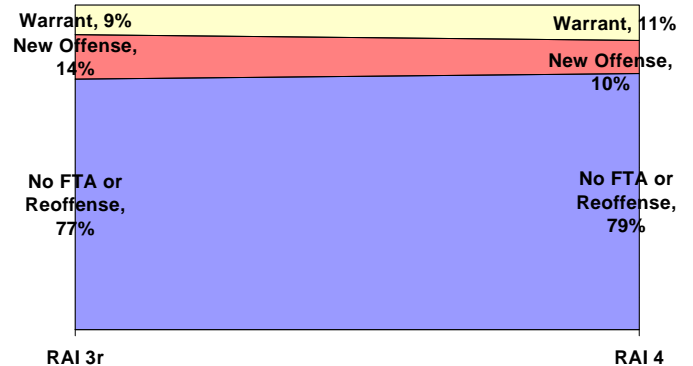
Black Youth



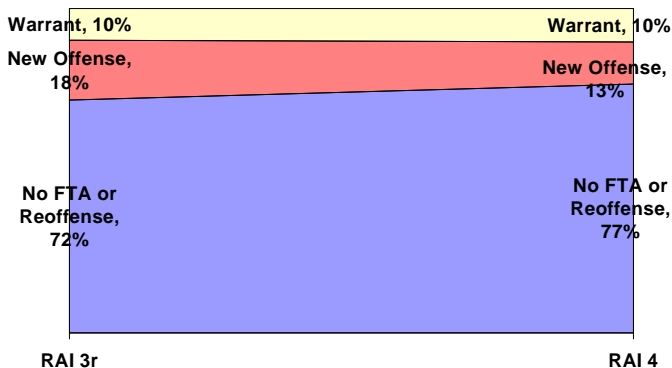
Hispanic Youth



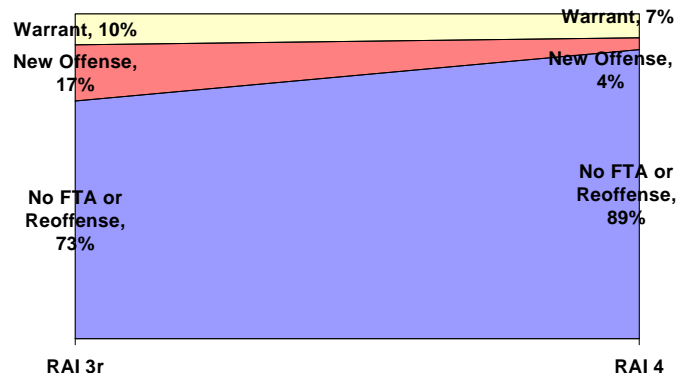
White Youth



All Youth



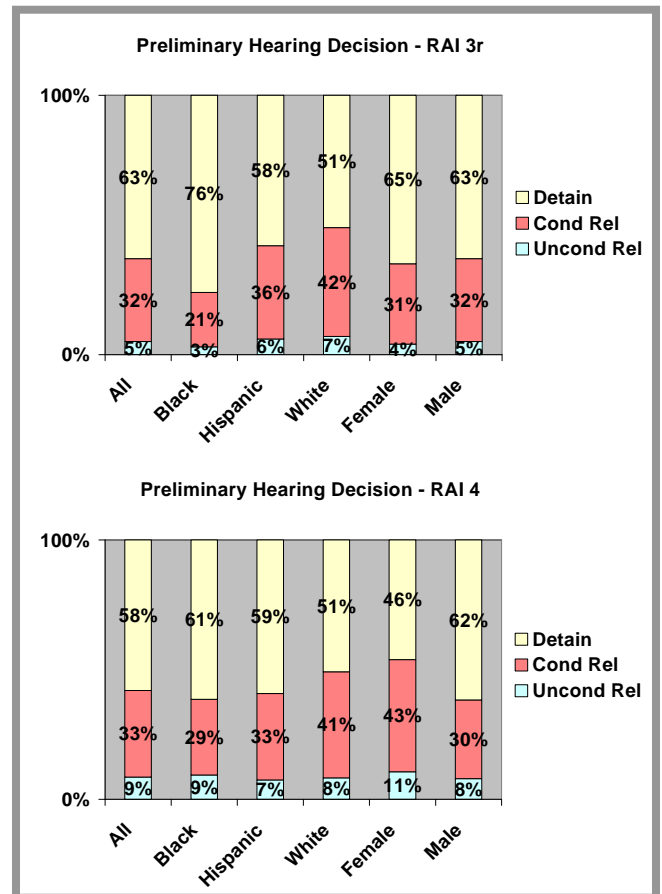
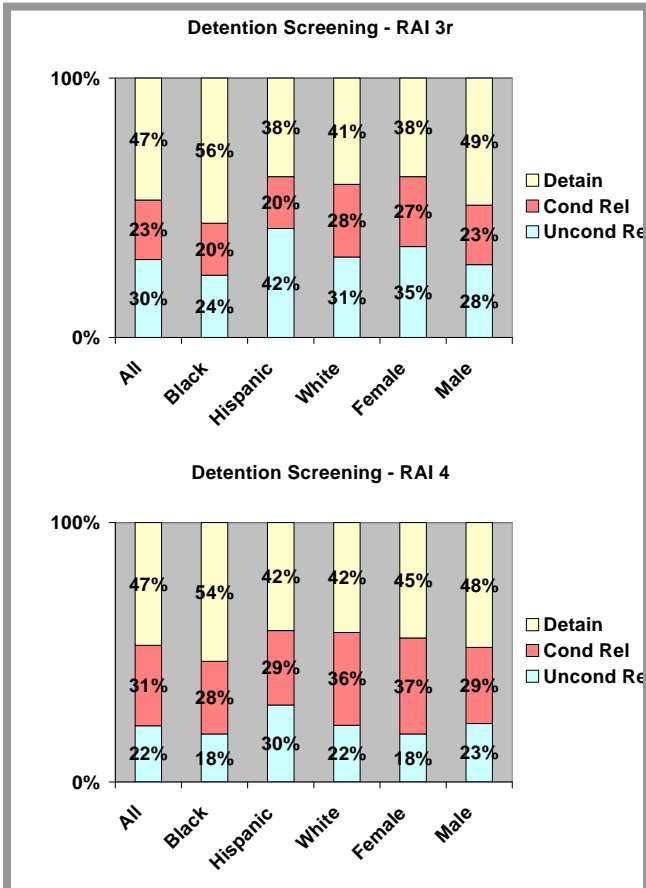
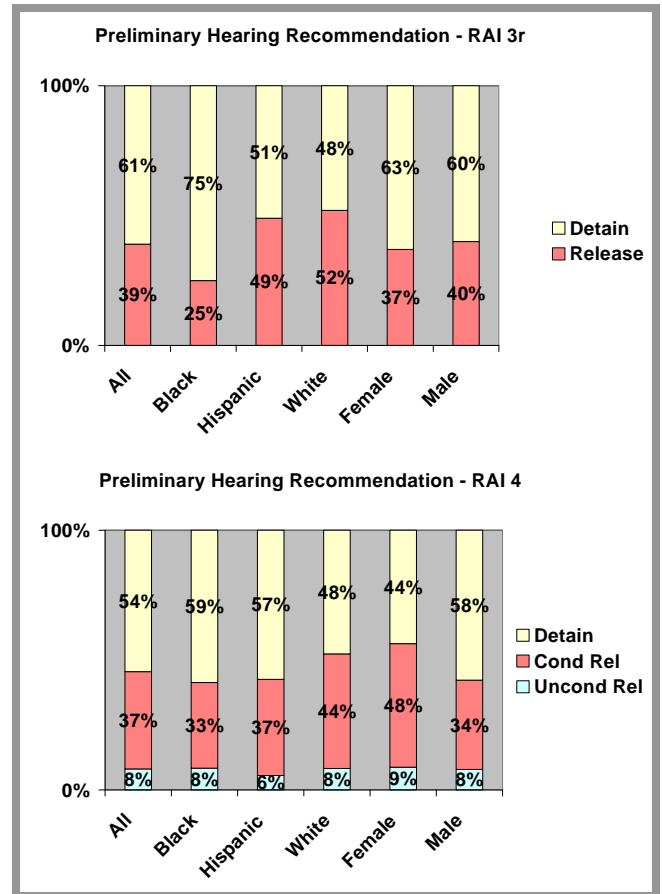
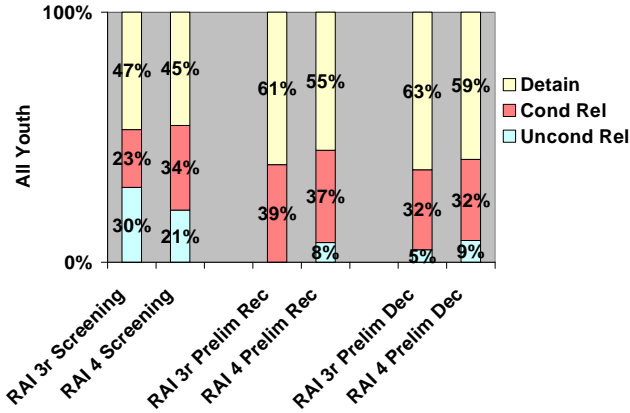
Female Youth



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Reducing Disparity

The charts below compare decision results between the first ten months of the RAI 4 and the prior 12 months of the RAI 3r for Detention Screenings, Preliminary Hearing Recommendations, and Preliminary Hearing Decisions. The first chart shows Conditional Release increasing at Screening under the RAI 4 and only slight changes at the other decision points. The detention screening charts show the detention rate increased by 7% for females. Detention recommendations at preliminary hearings went up by 6% for Hispanics. Detention rates dropped substantially for Black and female youth at preliminary hearing recommendation and decision.



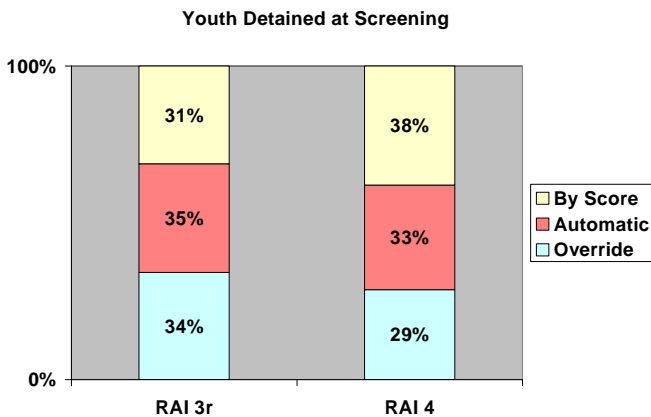
Note: On the next chart Conditional and Unconditional Release Recommendations are combined into one Release category because these two recommendations were not distinguished on the RAI 3r.

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Clarifying Policy

A study of detention overrides under the RAI 3r revealed a need for clear criteria for automatic and override decisions at detention screening and at the preliminary hearing recommendation. Data collection under the RAI 3r made it difficult to understand the reasons for override decisions. The RAI 4 was implemented with a draft companion policy to more clearly define automatic and override decision criteria, and the RAI 4 now collects data on these decisions.

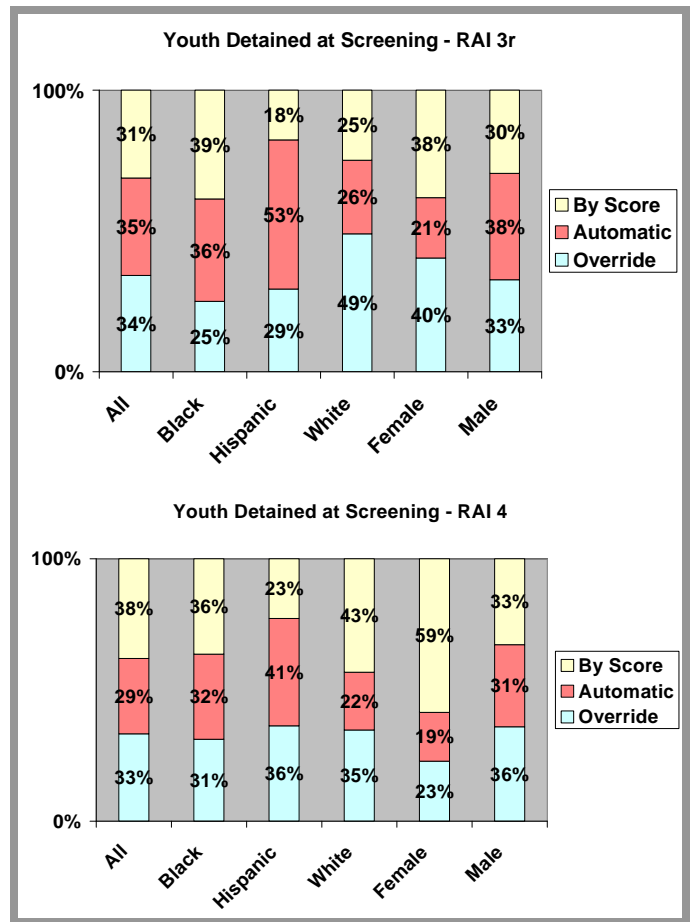
Charts below compare override/automatic decision frequencies of the first ten months of RAI 4 decisions with the prior 12 months of RAI 3r decisions. This report includes the detention screening decision only. The 12-month report will include similar data for the preliminary hearing recommendation. The first chart below shows increased detention based on score and decreased detention based on automatic and override decisions.



The next charts compare the detention decision types for racial/ethnic and gender groups under the RAI 3r and the RAI 4.

Summary of Decision Type Changes:

- **Detain by Score:** Increased for all groups, with a large increase for females.
- **Automatic Detention:** Declined for all groups, with a large decrease for Hispanic youth.
- **Override to Detain:** Increased for Black, Hispanic and Male youth. Large decrease for White and female youth.



Automatic and Override Decision Reasons

The chart below shows how often specific Automatic and Override decision reasons figure in screening decisions. More than one reason may apply to each screening, so there is some duplication in the counts. Overrides for FTA concerns figure prominently for all groups. Measue-11 is driving the automatic decisions for males, with the Firearm issue more prominent among black youth.

Detention Override Reason	Black	Hispanic	White	Female
Thirty-Six Hour Hold	4	0	1	2
DV - No Safety Plan	3	2	7	2
Extradited Youth	0	1	1	0
No Shelter	2	0	2	1
Plcmt Interrup - No Appr Rel	5	2	3	1
SO No Safety Plan	6	1	1	0
Serious FTA Risk	26	7	26	12
Imminent Violence Concern	12	6	7	1
Youth in Danger	5	1	6	4

Automatic Detention Reason	Black	Hispanic	White	Female
Firearm	19	4	3	1
M11	30	14	20	10
O/S Run	0	0	1	1
O/S Wrt	2	0	1	1