

Tools for Safe and Smart Bail System Changes: Pretrial Assessments

Blog post by Lisel Petis dated July 20, 2023

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Assessment Name	Prediction(s) Made	Factors Considered
Public Safety Assessment (PSA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to appear • New criminal arrests • New violent criminal arrests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age at current arrest • Current violent offense • Pending charge(s) at time of offense • Prior misdemeanor conviction • Prior felony conviction • Prior violent conviction • Prior failure(s) to appear (past two years) • Prior failure(s) to appear (older than two years) • Prior sentence to incarceration
Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recidivism 	<p>Dynamic factors (specifics not disclosed due to proprietary concerns)</p> <p>Categories include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal history • Substance use • Family • Employment/education • Living situation
Federal Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument (PTRA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to appear • New criminal arrests • Technical violations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of felony convictions • Prior failure(s) to appear • Pending felonies or misdemeanors • Current offense type • Offense class • Age at interview • Highest education • Employment status • Residence (own vs. rent) • Current drug problems • Current alcohol problems • Foreign risk factors (e.g., citizenship, connections outside of United States, passport access)
Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to appear • New criminal arrests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age at first arrest • Number of failure-to-appear warrants (past 24 months) • Number of prior jail incarcerations • Employment at time of arrest • Residential stability • Illegal drug use (past 6 months) • Severe drug-use problem
Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument (VPRAI and VPRAI-R)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to appear • New criminal arrests • Technical violations 	<p>Created 2003; updated 2009; revised 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both VPRAI and VPRAI-R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Felony charge (VPRAI-R limits to felony drug, theft or fraud) – Pending charge(s) – Number of misdemeanors or felony convictions – Prior failure(s) to appear – Number of violent convictions – Employment at time of arrest – History of drug abuse • VPRAI only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Time at current residence • VPRAI-R only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Active community criminal justice supervision
Colorado Pretrial Assessment Tool (CPAT and CPAT-R)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to appear • New criminal arrests 	<p>Created 2012; revised 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both CPAT and CPAT-R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Age at first arrest – Active warrants – Pending cases – Currently on supervision – Past or current problems with alcohol (CPAT-R adds drugs) • CPAT only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Having home or cell phone – Residence (own vs. rent) – Residential payment contribution – Past or current mental health treatment – Past jail sentence(s) – Past prison sentence(s) – Revoked bond or supervision history • CPAT-R only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Current employment/education – Prior arrests – Arrests within past year – Prior failure(s) to appear – Prior failure(s) to appear (past year)