

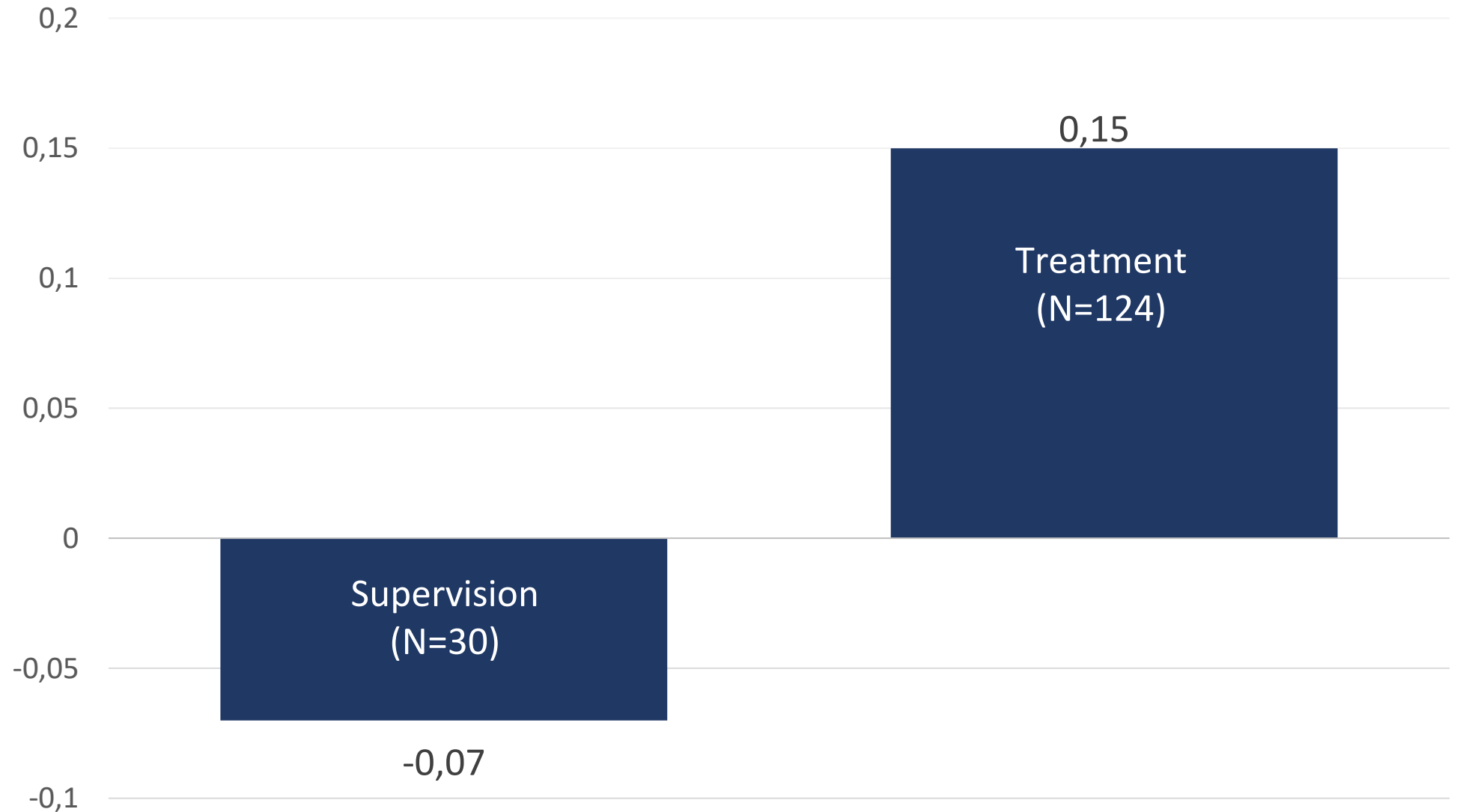
# Strategies to Prevent Recidivism among Juvenile Offenders

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# The Problem with Punishment



# The RNR Framework

## Risk

Who to target for intervention

## Need

What to target for intervention

## Responsivity

How to target behaviors and thoughts for change

## Fidelity

Services are delivered with integrity

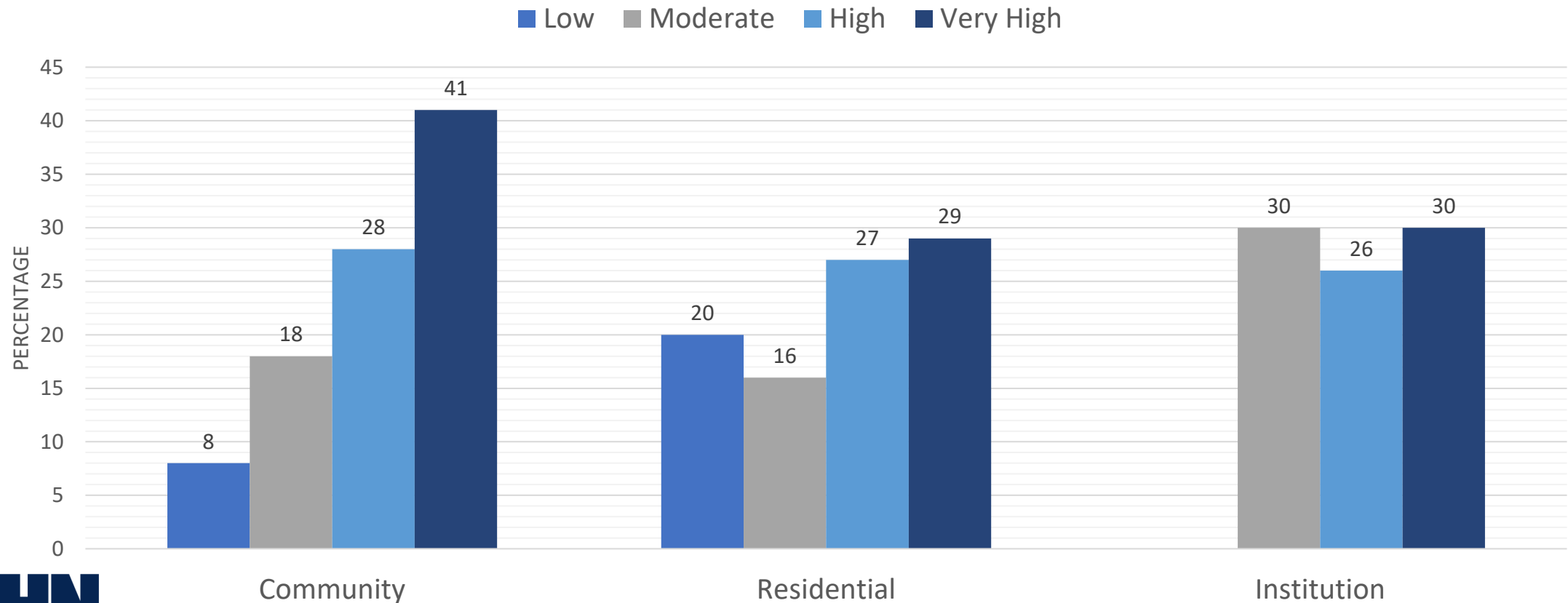
# Risk Principle



- Level of service and supervision should be matched to the level of risk
- Intensive services should be reserved for higher risk individuals
- Overserving low risk individuals can cause harm
- Requires a valid measure of risk

# The Risk Principle in Action

## New Conviction by Risk Level by Setting



# Central Eight Risk Factors



Antisocial  
Attitudes



Antisocial  
Peers



Antisocial  
Personality



Substance  
Abuse



Family



History of  
Antisocial  
Behavior

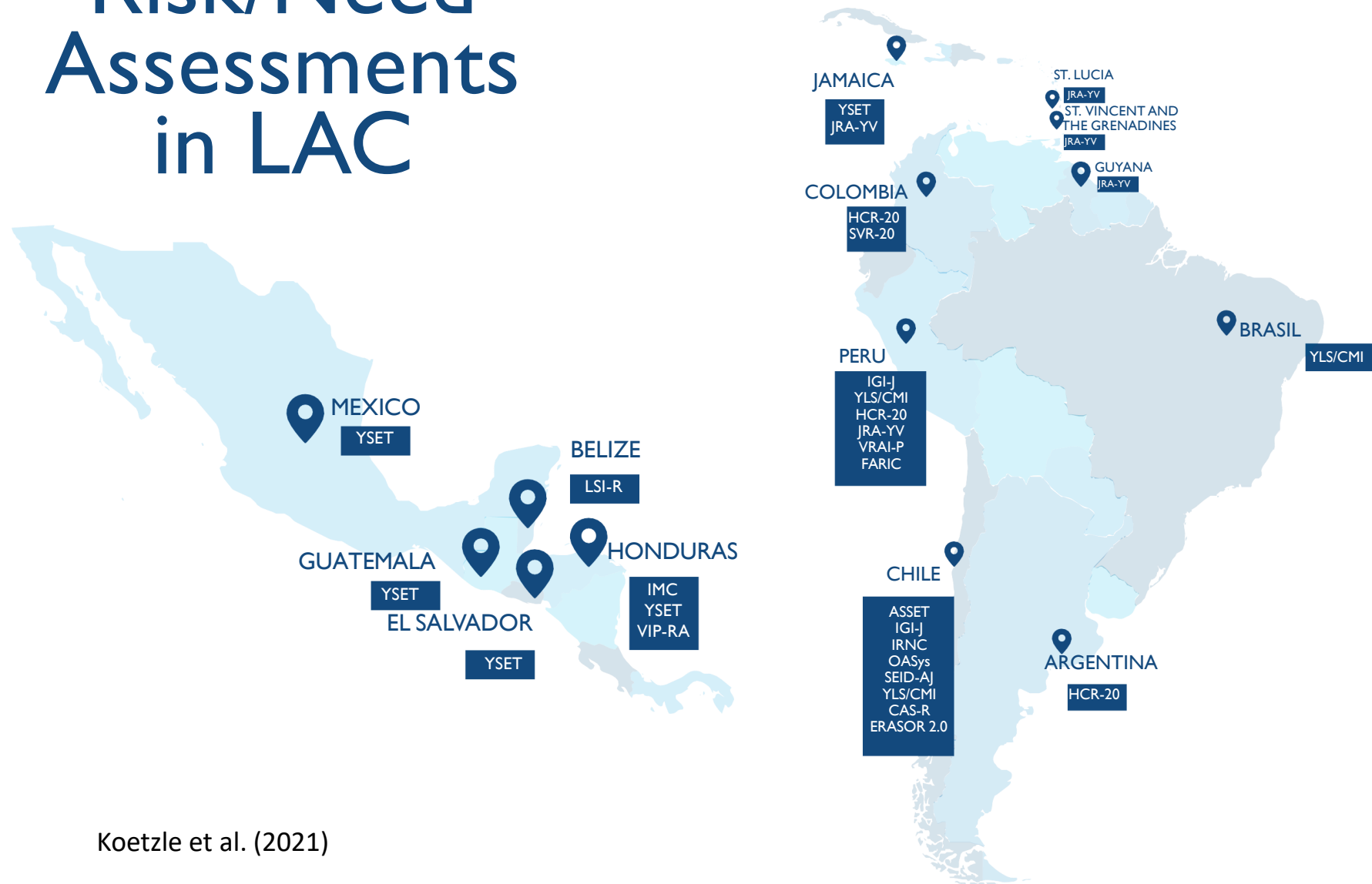


Education/  
Employment



Leisure/  
Recreation

# Risk/Need Assessments in LAC



Koetzle et al. (2021)

# Need Principle

We can reduce the likelihood  
of recidivism  
by ***assessing*** and ***targeting***  
criminogenic needs





# Criminogenic Needs Reflect Dynamic Risk

## ✓ **Criminogenic**

Problem-solving

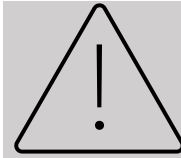
Decision-making

Anger management

Substance abuse treatment

Family functioning

Reducing criminal thinking



## **Non-Criminogenic**

Vague or emotional problems

Physical activity

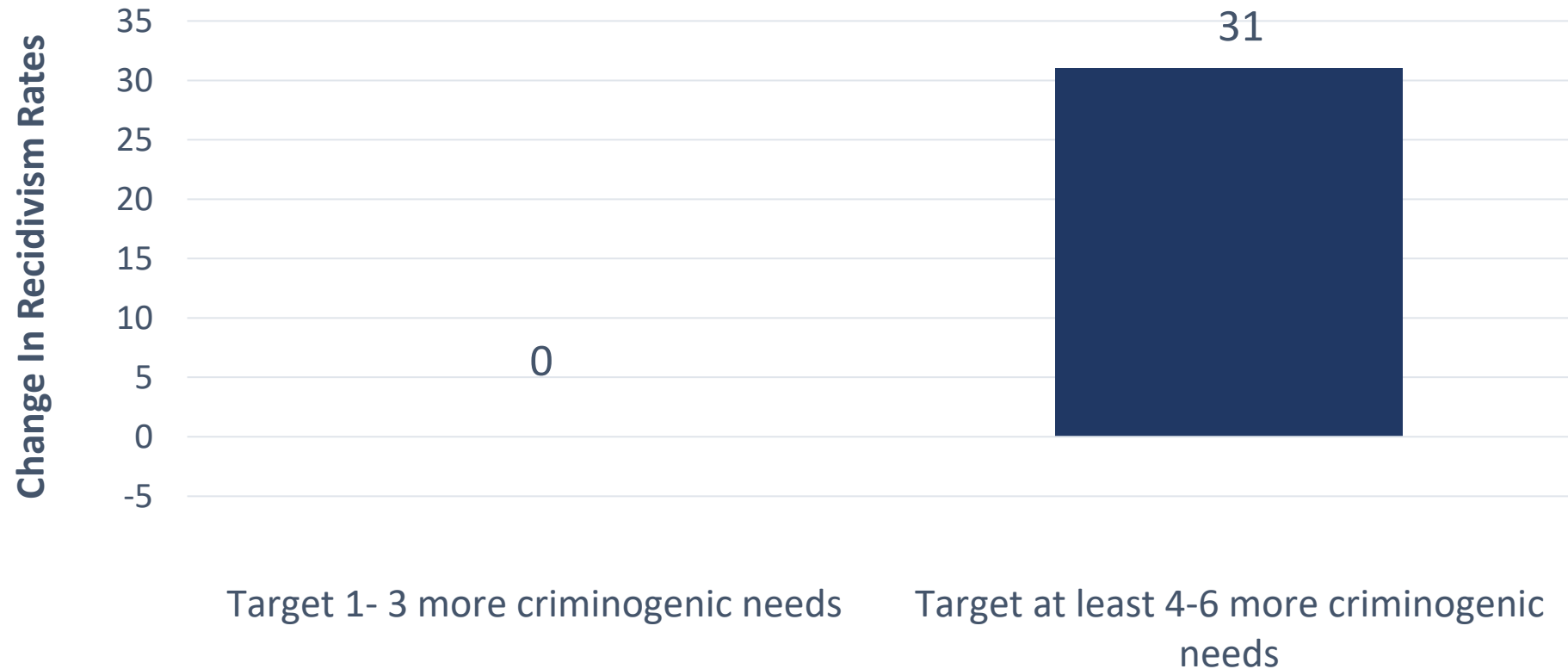
Fear of official punishment

Creativity

Mental health

Appreciation of nature

# The Need Principle in Action





# Responsivity Principle

*How to **target***  
criminogenic needs

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Remove  
**barriers**  
to success

# General Responsivity



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Behavioral and  
cognitive-behavioral  
techniques

Core correctional  
practices

# Specific Responsivity

## Internal Factors

Trauma experience

Cognitive abilities

Race/culture

Age

Personality

Mental health

## External Factors

Correctional setting

Transportation

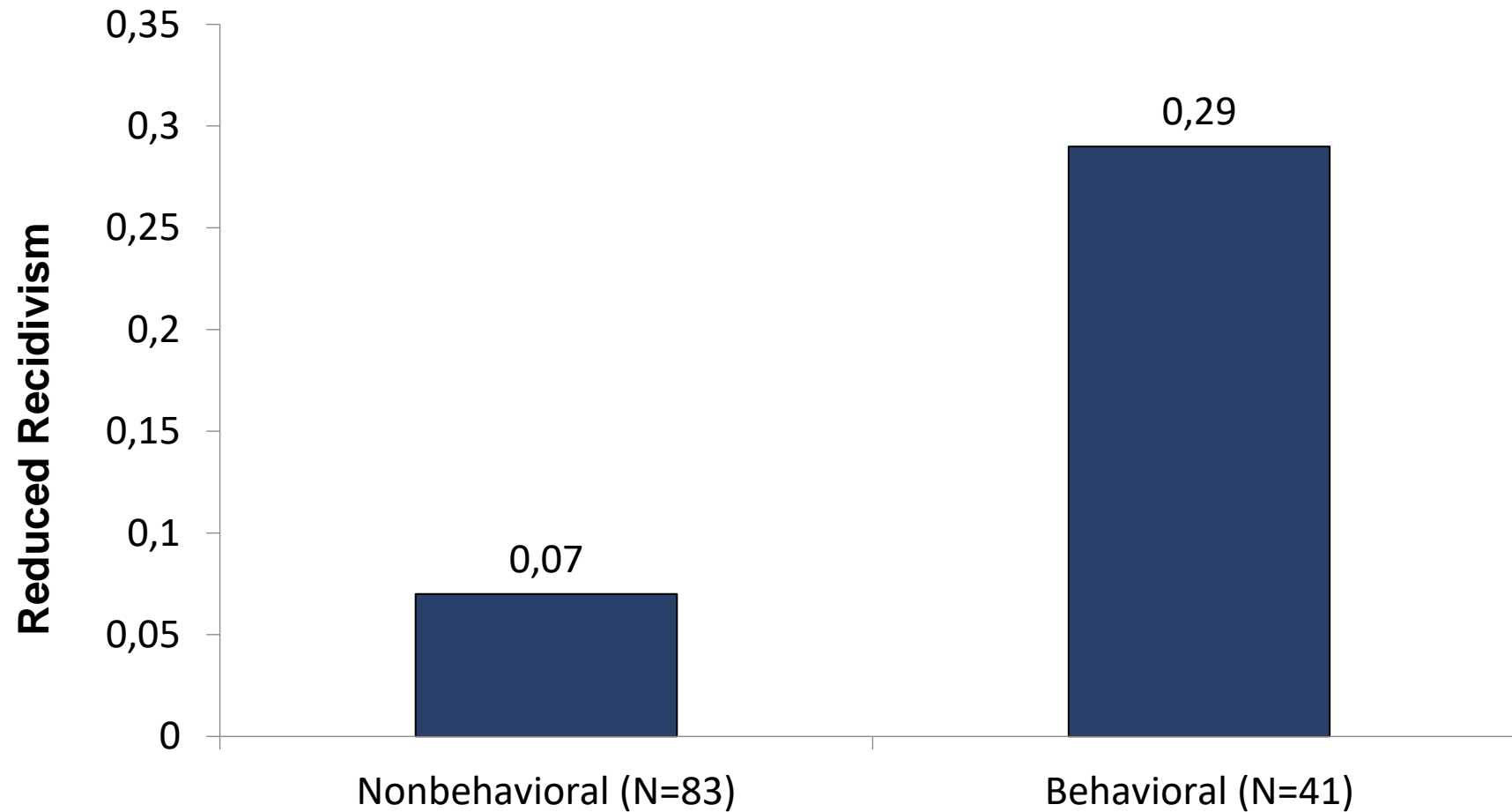
Homelessness

Facilitator characteristics

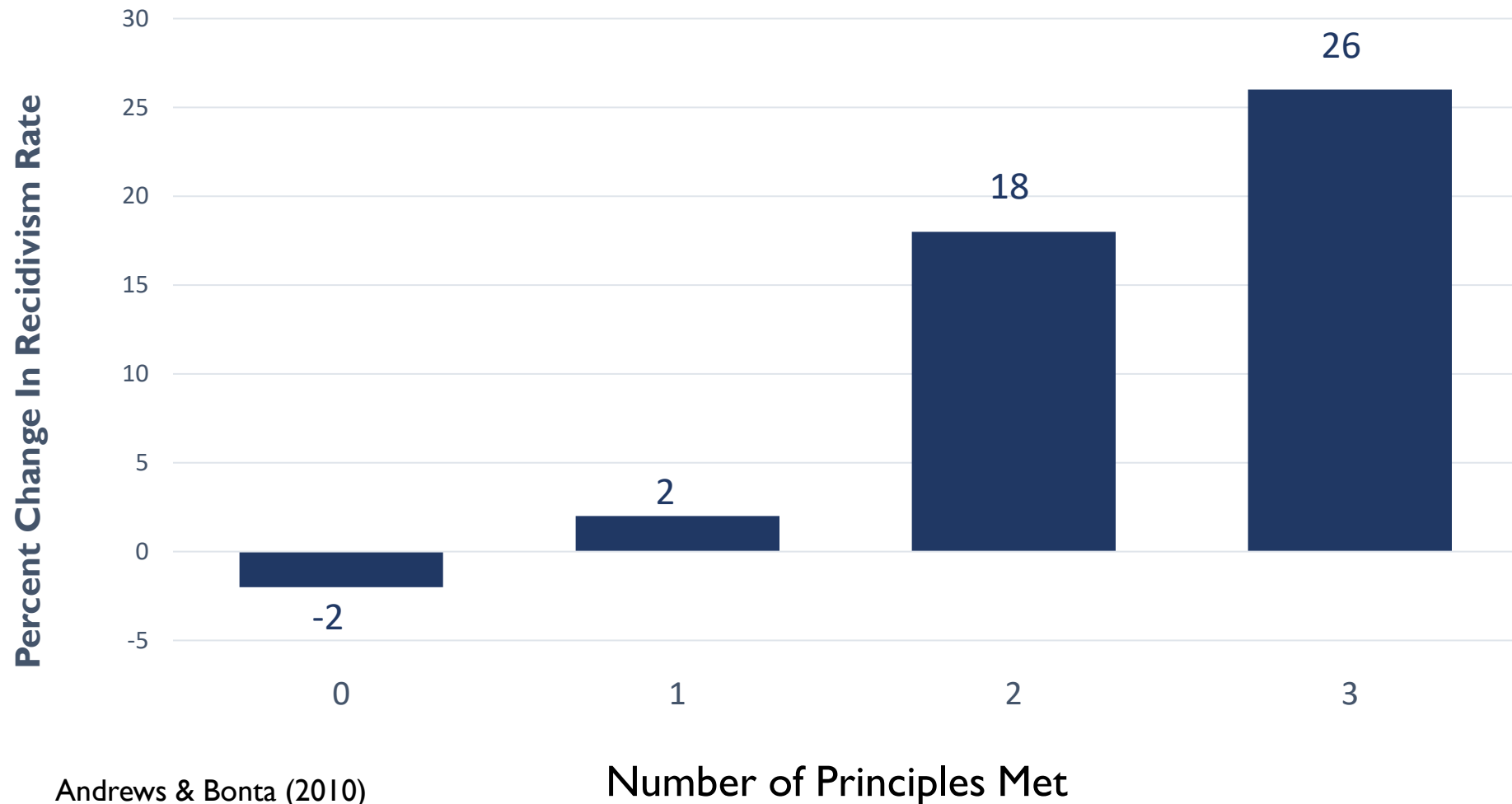
Gang affiliation

Family support

# NonBehavioral vs. Behavioral Interventions

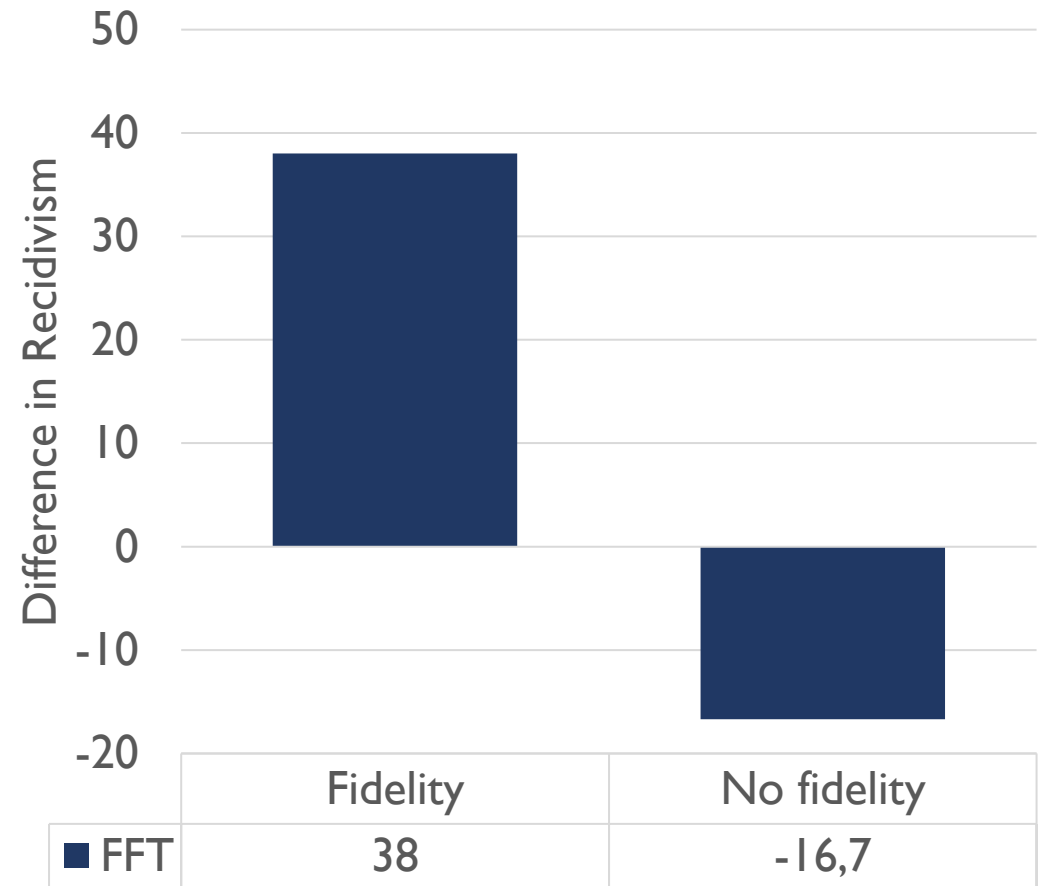


# RNR and Recidivism



# The Fidelity Principle

Well designed  
programs  
can *fail*  
if not *delivered*  
*as designed*



Barnoski (2002)



# Correctional Program Checklist

Measures  
Program Integrity

## Capacity

1. Program Leadership & Development

2. Staff Characteristics

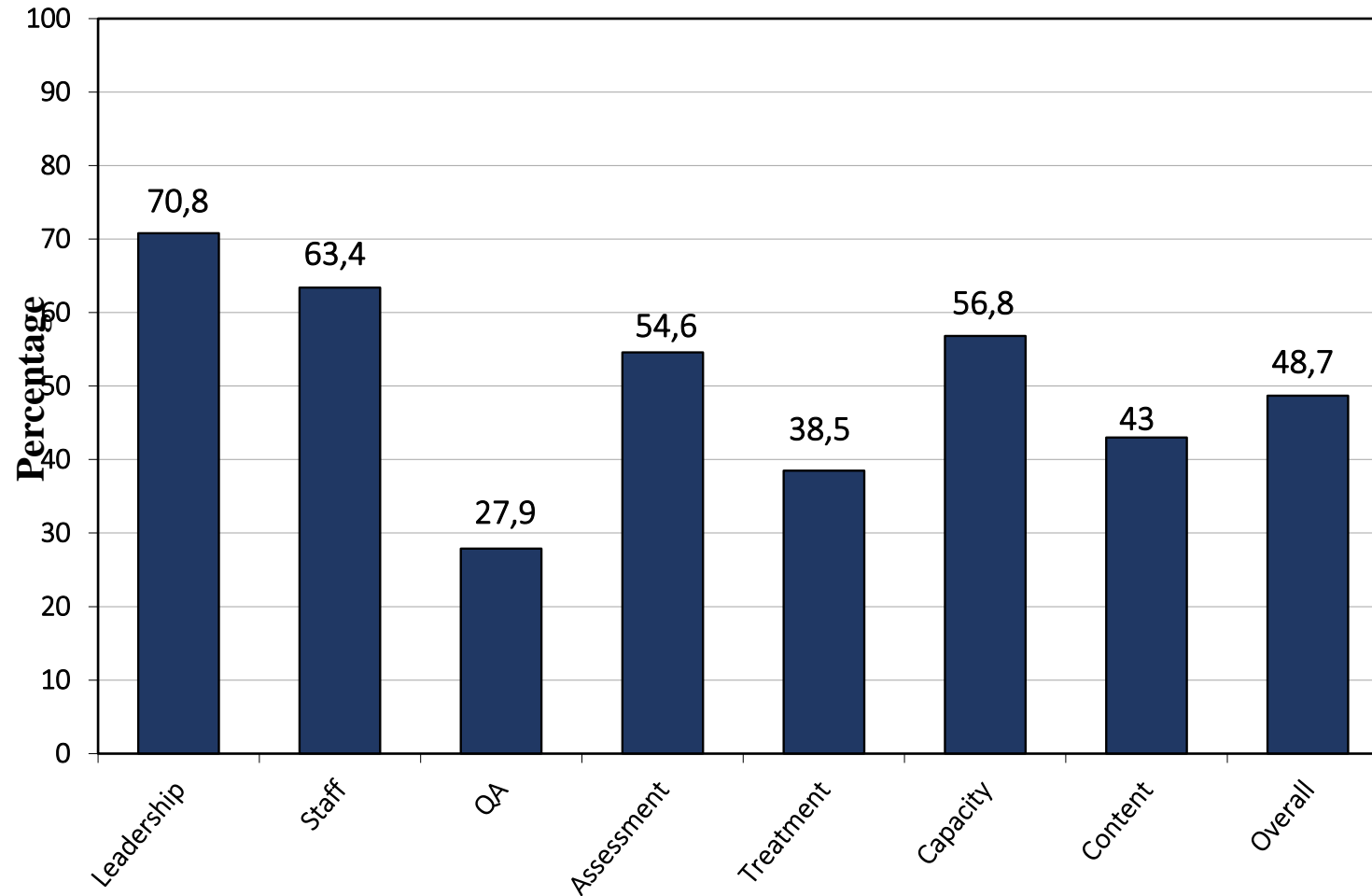
3. Quality Assurance

## Content

4. Offender Assessment

5. Treatment Characteristics

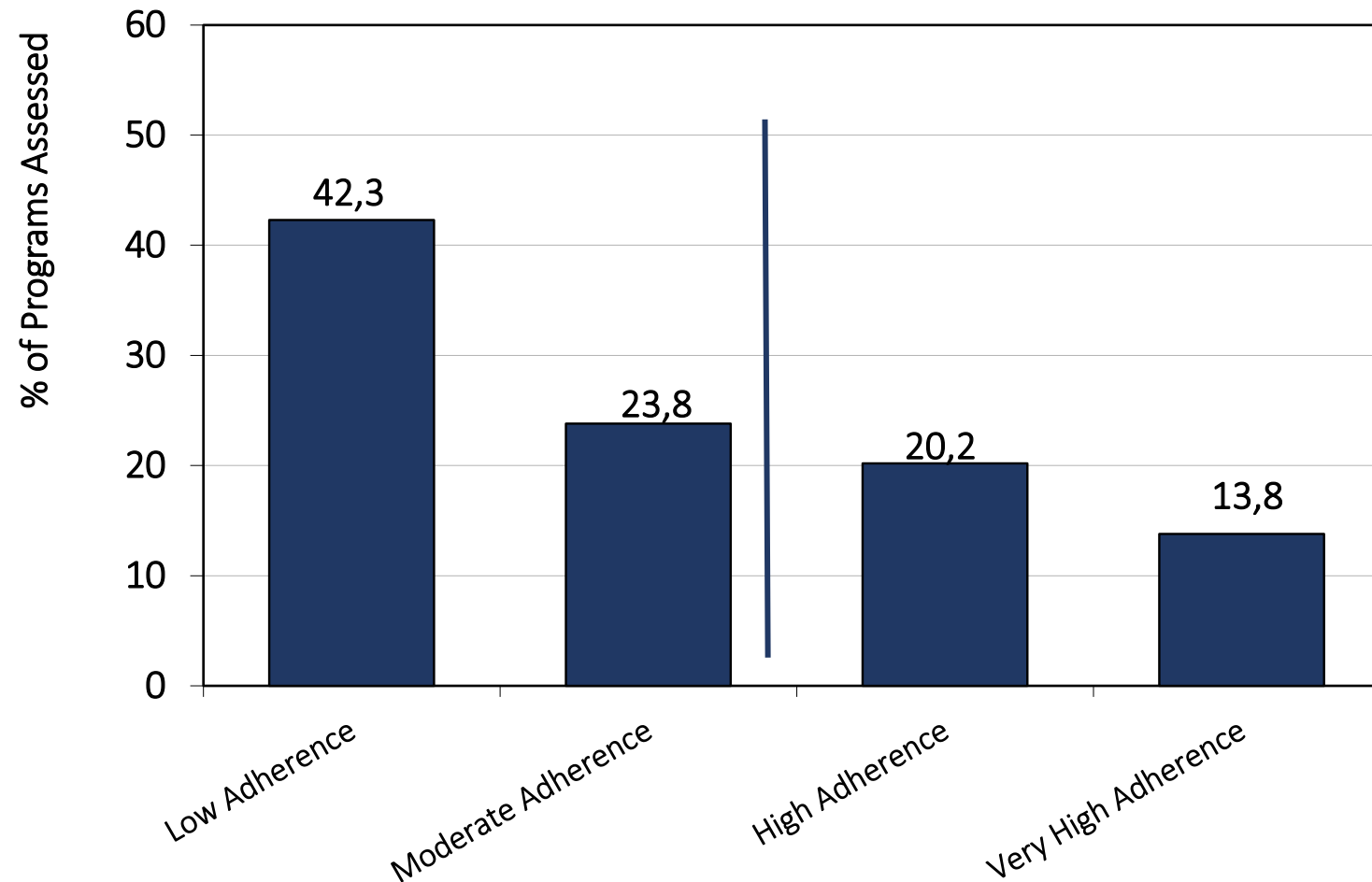
# CPC Mean Scores by Domain and Area



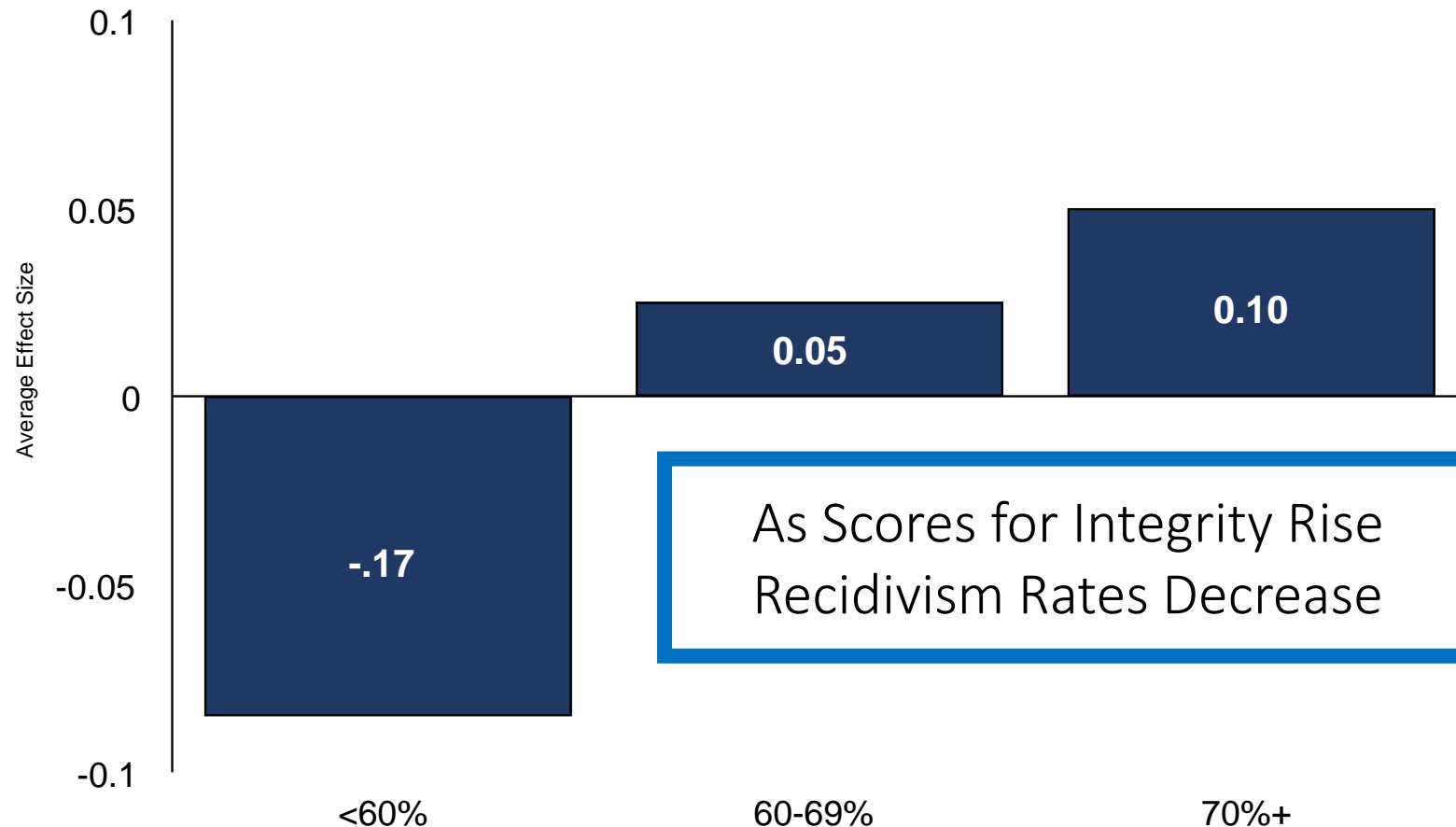
Very High Adherence to EBP (65%+)  
High Adherence to EBP (55-64%)  
Moderate Adherence to EBP (46-54%)  
Low Adherence to EBP (45% or less)

\*The average scores are based on 660 assessment results across a wide range of programs.

# CPC Distribution of Scores



# Program Integrity And Treatment Effect for Juvenile Programs



Lowenkamp, C., Latessa, E., & Lemke, R. (2006).

# Implications

- ✓ Use standardized assessments
- ✓ Provide behavioral interventions
- ✓ Train & support staff

**Risk/Need  
Assessment**  
is the  
foundation  
of  
**effective  
programs**

# Conclusion

- Behavior change is possible
- To improve outcomes:
  - Target higher risk youth
  - Target criminogenic needs
  - Remove barriers to success
  - Monitor quality of services



# Questions??

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