

## Residential Phase Intensive Parole Contact Standards

### *JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation, Briefing Paper #6*

#### **Background**

In 1997, the Washington State Legislature funded intensive parole for youth under the supervision of the state's Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA). This legislation targets 25 percent of the JRA population at the highest risk for re-offending.<sup>1</sup> The goals of the intensive parole program include the following:

- ◆ Maintaining public protection in both the short-term and long-term;
- ◆ Assuring individual accountability; and
- ◆ Providing treatment and support services.

JRA's method for achieving these goals is through a case management system intended to help high-risk delinquents make the transition from secure confinement to community supervision.

The Institute is publishing a series of briefing papers during 2000 and 2001 as well as annual progress reports to answer the following questions:

- ◆ How well is the intensive parole model being implemented?
- ◆ Does intensive parole reduce recidivism?
- ◆ Do the program's benefits outweigh the program's costs?

Five briefing papers have been published:

- #1 – Study population description<sup>2</sup>
- #2 – Supervision status analysis<sup>3</sup>
- #3 – Parole revocation analysis<sup>4</sup>
- #4 – Parole unauthorized leaves<sup>5</sup>
- #5 – Parole contact standards<sup>6</sup>

This briefing paper looks at intensive parole program youth and answers the following questions:

- ◆ How are intensive parole youth being contacted while residing in a JRA facility?
- ◆ How are the intensive parole residential phase contact standards being met?

The intensive parole standards established by JRA include contacting the youth and family while the youth is residing in a JRA facility. The previous paper focused on the parole contact standards. This paper focuses on residential contact standards, which are shown in Exhibit 1.

The intensive parole evaluation consists of cohorts of youth placed on intensive parole during each successive year of operation. Studying residential contacts involves examining a sample of youth admitted to JRA. A second sample of youth released from JRA facilities is also studied to examine contacts at the end of their stay. Because of limitations in contact data availability, the two cohorts in this report are youth admitted to or released from a JRA facility as follows:

**Cohort 1:** April 1, 1999, to September 30, 1999.

**Cohort 2:** October 1, 1999, to September 30, 2000.

This paper will first describe the residential contacts before examining adherence to the contact standards.

<sup>1</sup> RCW 13.40.210

<sup>2</sup> Robert Barnoski, *Population Description: JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation (Briefing Paper #1)*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA, May 2000.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Barnoski, *Supervision Status: JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation (Briefing Paper #2)*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA, May 2000.

<sup>4</sup> Robert Barnoski, *Parole Revocations: JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation (Briefing Paper #3)*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA, June 2000.

<sup>5</sup> Robert Barnoski, *Unauthorized Leave: JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation (Briefing Paper #4)*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA, June 2000.

<sup>6</sup> Robert Barnoski, *Parole Contacts: JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation (Briefing Paper #5)*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA, May 2001.

**Residential Phase Intensive Parole Contact Standards**

Exhibit 1 describes JRA’s contact standards for the community counselor while the youth is confined in a JRA facility.

*Exhibit 1*  
**JRA Contact Standards for Residential Phase of Intensive Parole**

- ❑ Contacts the youth within 15 working days following admission to a JRA facility.
- ❑ Contacts the family in their home within 30 days following admission.
- ❑ Contacts the assigned residential counselor within 15 working days following admission.
- ❑ Contacts the residential counselor at least once every two months during residence.
- ❑ Contacts the youth at least once every two months during residence.
- ❑ Contacts the family at least quarterly.

**Residential Contact Study Cohorts**

This report examines two sets of cohorts: a set of two admission cohorts and a set of two release cohorts. The admission cohorts are used to describe the time to first contact while in residence and contacts during the first 24 weeks of residence. The release cohorts are used to tell us about contact just prior to release to community supervision.

Intensive parole started on October 1, 1998. The database of contact information became operational in January 1999. The contact software was used for three months to ensure parole counselors had sufficient training and experience by its implementation on April 1, 1999. The contacts in the analyses of the admission samples are restricted to the first 24 weeks in residence to assure comparability between the two cohorts.

Exhibit 2 shows the number of youth in the two sets of study cohorts.

*Exhibit 2*  
**Number of Youth in the Study Groups**

	ADMISSION COHORTS		RELEASE COHORTS	
	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 1	COHORT 2
<b>DATES DEFINING COHORTS</b>	April 1, 1999, to September 30, 1999	October 1, 1999, to March 30, 2000	April 1, 1999, to September 30, 1999	October 1, 1999, to March 30, 2000
<b>NUMBER OF YOUTH</b>	252	589	229	498

Suggested citation: R. Barnoski (2001). *Residential Phase Intensive Parole Contact Standards: JRA Intensive Parole Evaluation, Briefing Paper #6*. Olympia: Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Document No. 01-03-1202.  
 For more information, contact the Institute at (360) 586-2677.

**HOW ARE INTENSIVE PAROLE YOUTH BEING CONTACTED WHILE RESIDING IN A JRA FACILITY?**

**How Long Does It Take to Be Contacted Following Admission?**

Exhibit 3 shows how long it takes to be contacted following a youth’s admission to a JRA facility. The youth in Cohort 2 are contacted earlier than those in Cohort 1. For Cohort 2, 31 percent of the youth were contacted within the 15-day standard compared with 18 percent for Cohort 1.

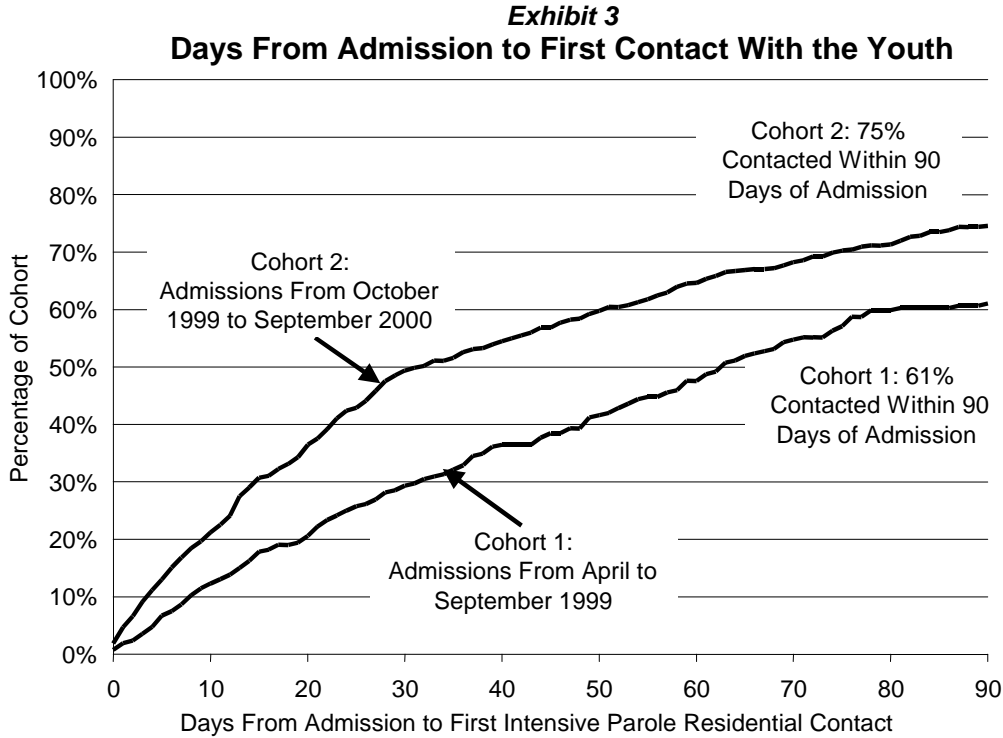


Exhibit 4 shows how the youth in the two cohorts are first contacted. A higher percentage of youth in the second cohort received a face-to-face contact; otherwise, the two cohorts are fairly comparable in the types of contacts during the first three days.

**Exhibit 4**  
**Type of First Contact Following Admission to a JRA Facility**

TYPE OF FIRST CONTACT	COHORT 1	COHORT 2
YOUTH—FACE-TO-FACE	25.8%	33.7%
YOUTH—PHONE	14.6%	10.2%
YOUTH—WHEREABOUTS VERIFICATION	1.3%	0.4%
FAMILY—FACE-TO-FACE	6.0%	5.7%
FAMILY—PHONE	18.9%	19.5%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—FACE-TO-FACE	6.4%	5.3%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—PHONE	18.9%	17.0%
COLLATERAL—FACE-TO-FACE	3.9%	2.5%
COLLATERAL—PHONE	2.1%	3.2%
CONTACT COLLATERAL	0.4%	0.0%
PROVIDER—FACE-TO-FACE	1.3%	0.8%
PROVIDER—PHONE	0.4%	1.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Contacts During the Residential Stay

Exhibit 5 presents the percentage distribution of contacts while the youth was residing in a JRA institution. The time in residence is either the first 24 weeks before parole or the time up until parole if paroled before the end of 24 weeks. Both cohorts averaged 22 weeks in residence.

The average number of contacts per youth increased from 5.0 in Cohort 1 to 6.7 in Cohort 2, a 34 percent increase.

**Exhibit 5**  
**Type of Contacts During the Residential Stay**

TYPE OF CONTACT	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF CONTACTS		AVERAGE NUMBER OF CONTACTS PER YOUTH		
	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	DIFFERENCE
YOUTH—FACE-TO-FACE	18.4%	21.9%	0.9	1.5	58.8%
YOUTH—PHONE	10.5%	10.5%	0.5	0.7	33.9%
YOUTH—WHEREABOUTS VERIFICATION	1.7%	1.2%	0.1	0.1	-0.2%
<b>TOTAL YOUTH CONTACTS</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>33.6%</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>47.0%</b>
FAMILY—FACE-TO-FACE	10.2%	9.5%	0.5	0.6	23.7%
FAMILY—PHONE	19.4%	18.3%	1.0	1.2	26.6%
<b>TOTAL FAMILY CONTACTS</b>	<b>29.6%</b>	<b>27.8%</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>25.6%</b>
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—FACE-TO-FACE	5.8%	7.8%	0.3	0.5	81.1%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—PHONE	21.1%	17.1%	1.1	1.1	8.4%
<b>TOTAL RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR CONTACTS</b>	<b>26.9%</b>	<b>24.9%</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>24.1%</b>
PROVIDER—FACE-TO-FACE	1.3%	2.2%	0.1	0.1	127.3%
PROVIDER—PHONE	2.9%	2.5%	0.1	0.2	15.6%
<b>TOTAL PROVIDER CONTACTS</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>49.3%</b>
COLLATERAL—FACE-TO-FACE	2.9%	2.9%	0.1	0.2	34.1%
COLLATERAL—PHONE	5.7%	6.0%	0.3	0.4	41.4%
<b>TOTAL COLLATERAL CONTACTS</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>39.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>33.9%</b>

### How Close to Release Are Youth Contacted?

Similar to examining the first contact, the last residential contact with the youth prior to release to intensive parole is examined. The 229 youth in Cohort 1 were released from April 1 to September 30, 1999, and the 498 in Cohort 2 were released between October 1, 1999, and September 30, 2000. Exhibit 6 shows that a higher percentage of Cohort 2 youth are contacted closer to their release date than in Cohort 1.

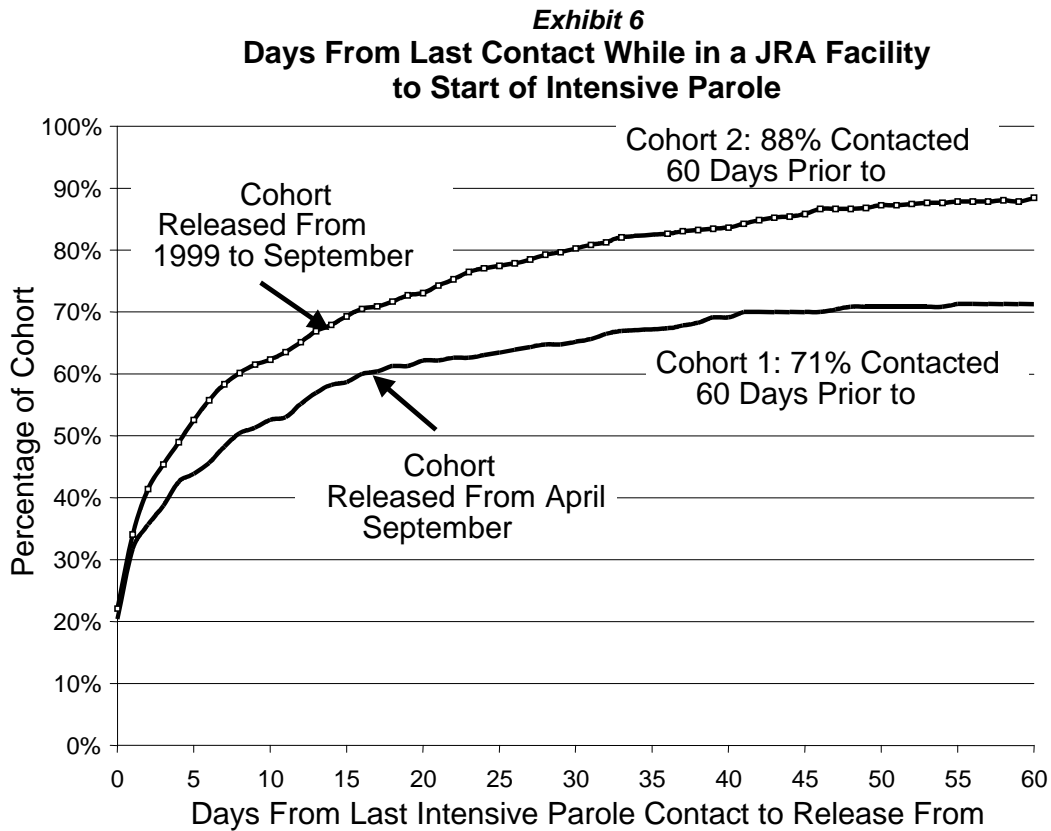


Exhibit 7 shows the types of last contact prior to release to intensive parole. The two cohorts are fairly comparable in the percentages of types of last contact.

**Exhibit 7**  
**Type of Last Contact Prior to Release to Intensive Parole**

TYPE OF CONTACT	COHORT 1	COHORT 2
YOUTH—FACE-TO-FACE	39%	41%
YOUTH—PHONE	8%	9%
YOUTH—WHEREABOUTS VERIFICATION	5%	4%
FAMILY—FACE-TO-FACE	10%	14%
FAMILY—PHONE	14%	12%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—FACE-TO-FACE	2%	2%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—PHONE	10%	11%
PROVIDER—FACE-TO-FACE	3%	1%
PROVIDER—PHONE	2%	2%
COLLATERAL—FACE-TO-FACE	1%	2%
COLLATERAL—PHONE	7%	4%
TOTAL	100%	100%

## HOW ARE THE RESIDENTIAL PHASE CONTACT STANDARDS BEING MET?

Exhibits 8 and 9 display how well the residential contact standards were met for the two study cohorts. In Exhibit 8, we see an increase in the standard adherence percentage for first youth, family, and residential counselor contacts after admission to the institution. In Cohort 2, 25.8 percent of the youth were contacted within 15 working days compared with 15.9 percent for Cohort 1. A higher percentage of residential counselors in Cohort 2 were contacted within the 15-day standard than Cohort 1.

**Exhibit 8**  
**Community Counselor Contact Standards**  
**Time to First Contact While in Residence**

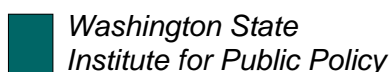
COMMUNITY COUNSELOR RESIDENTIAL CONTACT STANDARD	PERCENTAGE MEETING STANDARD	
	COHORT 1	COHORT 2
YOUTH—WITHIN 15 WORKING DAYS OF ADMISSION	15.9%	25.8%
FAMILY IN THEIR HOME—WITHIN 30 DAYS OF ADMISSION	4.8%	3.6%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—WITHIN 15 DAYS OF ADMISSION	11.1%	19.7%

Adherence to the standards when the youth is in residence is measured by dividing the number of time periods in which the youth, family, or residential counselor was contacted at least once by the total number of time periods in residence and then determining what percentage of time the standards were met. This measurement can be illustrated by using a hypothetical situation for the standard of one residential counselor contact every two months. If a youth was in residence for six months, the residential counselor has three two-month time periods in which to be contacted concerning the youth. If the counselor was contacted in two of those three time periods, the standard would have met 67 percent of the time.

Exhibit 9 shows increases in the adherence to residential contact standards from the first to second cohort.

**Exhibit 9**  
**Community Counselor Contact Standards**  
**Contacts While in Residence**

COMMUNITY COUNSELOR CONTACT STANDARD WHILE YOUTH IN RESIDENCE	PERCENTAGE OF TIME STANDARD MET							
	AT LEAST 33 PERCENT OF TIME		AT LEAST 50 PERCENT OF TIME		AT LEAST 67 PERCENT OF TIME		AT LEAST 75 PERCENT OF TIME	
	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 1	COHORT 2	COHORT 1	COHORT 2
YOUTH—ONCE EVERY TWO MONTHS	42.1%	53.5%	31.7%	48.2%	17.9%	22.6%	11.5%	15.4%
FAMILY—ONCE EVERY THREE MONTHS	49.2%	60.1%	30.6%	35.0%	16.7%	21.1%	11.5%	11.4%
RESIDENTIAL COUNSELOR—ONCE EVERY TWO MONTHS	37.3%	41.1%	26.2%	34.0%	11.1%	16.8%	5.2%	9.5%



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