

Reporting Static-2002R scores with 2009 recidivism norms (routine samples):

A template for cases in which the norms for routine samples apply.

Note: This template is provided as an example only. Evaluators are free to use this template, or to revise the wording as they see fit. Further information concerning the research upon which this template is based can be found at www.static99.org.

The Static-2002R is an instrument designed to assist in the prediction of sexual and violent recidivism for sex offenders. Given that Static-2002R was found to fully incorporate the relationship between age at release and sexual recidivism, whereas the original Static-2002 scale did not,¹ the developers of Static-2002 recommend that the revised version of the scale (Static-2002R) replace Static-2002 in all contexts where it is used.

Mr. XXXX scored a XX on the Static-2002R places him in the Low, Low-Moderate, Moderate, Moderate-High, or High Risk Category. The results of the Static-2002R are listed below:

Static-2002R Score Summary

Category	Sub-Score*	Possible Range	
I. Age (1 item)	x	-2	2
II. Persistence of sexual offending (3 items)	x	0	3
III. Deviant sexual interests (3 items)	x	0	3
IV. Relationship to victim (2 items)	x	0	2
V. General criminality (5 items)	x	0	3
TOTAL SCORE =	x	-2	13

Hanson and Thornton² developed this risk assessment instrument based on follow-up studies from Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom with a total sample size of 2,169 sexual offenders from 10 samples. Using seven replication samples (n = 2,605), Static-2002R demonstrated moderate to large accuracy in the prediction of sexual, violent, and general recidivism.³ The Static-2002R consists of 14 items and

¹ Thornton, D., Helmus, L., & Hanson, R. K. (2009, October). *Does Static-2002 fully allow for the effects of age on release?* Paper presented at the 28th annual Research and Treatment Conference of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, Dallas, TX.

² Hanson, R. K., & Thornton, D. (2003). *Notes on the development of the Static-2002* (User Report No. 2003-01). Ottawa, ON: Solicitor General Canada.

³ Hanson, R. K., Helmus, L., & Thornton, D. (2010). *Predicting recidivism among sexual offenders: A multi-site study of Static-2002*. *Law & Human Behavior*, 34, 198-211.

produces estimates of relative risk based upon the number of risk factors present in any one individual. The risk factors included in the risk assessment instrument are grouped into five domains: age, persistence of sex offending, deviant sexual interests, relationship to victims, and general criminality.

Percentile data are from 2,011 cases from 4 samples of Canadian sex offenders, which were reweighted to approximate the distribution of all convicted sex offenders in Canada. Percentiles from a similar scale (Static-99) appear highly stable in international comparisons with large, relatively representative samples in Sweden and California (Hanson, Lloyd, Helmus, & Thornton, 2011).⁴ Given ties (i.e., several offenders receiving the same score), there are several different ways of reporting percentiles, including the percentage scoring below, the percentage above, and a midpoint average of these values. Percentile rankings are useful in situations where the allocation of limited resources must be made, such as for treatment, community supervision, etc. Absolute degrees of recidivism risk cannot be directly inferred from the percentile rankings.

Compared to other adult male sex offenders, Mr. XXX's score is in the XXth percentile (defined as a midpoint average). Taking into account that about XX% of sex offenders shared the same score as Mr. XXXX, the percentile means that roughly XX% of offenders scored lower than Mr. XXXX, and XX% scored higher.

Relative risk ratios refer to the ratio of two recidivism rates. Research has found the relative risk associated with different Static-2002R scores to be consistent even when the overall base rate of recidivism varies across samples. Risk ratios for Static-2002R scores were based on 3 samples of sexual offenders from Canada ($n = 1,452$). The analyses were based on routine (i.e., relatively unselected) correctional samples. The recidivism rate for sex offenders with the same score as Mr. XXXX would be expected to be approximately (half/two thirds) of (FOR SCORES LOWER THAN 3), the same as (FOR SCORES OF 3), X.X times higher than (FOR SCORES GREATER THAN 3) the recidivism rate of the typical sexual offender (defined as median score of 3).

There have been a large number of studies examining the absolute sexual recidivism rates associated with Static-2002R scores. Hanson, Phenix, & Helmus (2009)⁵ examined seven Static-2002R replication studies (total $n = 2,605$), drawn from different countries including Canada, the United States, United Kingdom and Denmark. In these

⁴ Hanson, R. K., Lloyd, C. D., Helmus, L., & Thornton, D. (in press). Developing non-arbitrary metrics for risk communication: Percentile ranks for the Static-99/R and Static-2002/R sexual offender risk tools. *International Journal of Forensic Mental Health*.

⁵ Hanson, R. K., Phenix, A., & Helmus, L. (2009, October). *Static-99(R) and Static-2002(R): How to Interpret and Report in Light of Recent Research*. Paper presented at the 28th annual Research and Treatment Conference of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, Dallas, TX. [Samples used in these analyses are reported in more detail in: Hanson, R. K., Helmus, L., & Thornton, D. (in press). Predicting recidivism among sexual offenders: A multi-site study of Static-2002. *Law & Human Behavior*.]

samples recidivism was defined as charges in about half of the cases and as convictions in the other half.

Although the relative risk was consistent across studies, the observed recidivism rates vary considerably across samples based on factors not measured by Static-2002R. Samples that were preselected to be high-risk/high needs (3 samples) show the highest recidivism rates, the sample preselected based on treatment need (1 sample) had intermediate recidivism rates, and routine correctional samples (3 samples) had recidivism rates substantially lower than the preselected groups. Recidivism tables were not produced for the sample preselected based on treatment need because it was the only sample in that category.

In applying the recidivism norms it is ideal to use local norms that are applicable to the group of offenders to which this offender most closely resembles. Given that these norms are not often available, the routine sample will usually reflect the most appropriate recidivism rates as they are representative of typical sex offenders in correctional systems. A description of the routine correctional samples follows:

Routine Correctional Samples

This group consisted of three samples of sex offenders from Canada. These samples were relatively random (i.e., unselected) samples from a correctional system (as opposed to samples from specific institutions or subject to specific measures). In other words, they can be considered roughly representative of all adjudicated sex offenders. Some offenders in these samples would have been subsequently screened for treatment or other special measures (e.g. psychiatric admission or exceptional measures related to dangerousness), but these samples represent the full population of all offenders prior to any pre-selection processes. The recidivism norms for the unselected samples are the closest available to a hypothetical average of all offenders.

Mr. XXXX scored a XX on the Static-2002R. Offenders from routine correctional samples with the same score as Mr. XXXX have been found to sexually reoffend at a rate of XXXX percent in five years.