
SEX OFFENDER POLYGRAPH STUDY SUMMARY INFORMATION

Sample:

Two major polygraph examiners in the Denver Metro area opened their files to the study. For each polygraph office, a random point was chosen in their 1997 client base. Each case in their files was examined to determine if the case met standards for inclusion in the sample. Selection criteria for inclusion in the sample were as follows:

- A. Sex Offender in treatment with local Sex Offender Treatment Provider.
- B. Baseline (disclosure) polygraph present in file.
- C. At least one maintenance polygraph exam present in file.

A total of 708 case files were tested for inclusion in the sample. Many did not meet all three criteria for inclusion. The final sample was as follows:

File Depth	Number of Offenders at Level	Exams Reviewed
Baseline	128	128
+ 1 Maintenance	128	128
+ 2 Maintenance	81	81
+ 3 Maintenance	33	33
+ 4 Maintenance	18	18
+ 5 Maintenance	8	8
TOTAL EXAMS REVIEWED IN SAMPLE:		396

Time Frames:

The following mean times were found between baseline (disclosure) and subsequent maintenance polygraph exams:

<u>Exams</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Mean Days</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Baseline to Maintenance 1:	128	194	30	1119
Maint 1 to Maint 2:	81	156	6	364
Maint 2 to Maint 3:	33	125	55	286
Maint 3 to Maint 4:	18	127	78	243
Maint 4 to Maint 5:	8	117	67	244

TABLE ONE

BEHAVIORS DURING TREATMENT WITH >5% INCIDENCE LEVEL

For Sex Offenders With A Disclosure And At Least One Maintenance Polygraph (N=128)

Behavior	% Engaging in behavior; Disclosed, Detected or Confirmed	% Engaging in behavior; Disclosed and Confirmed only.	Of those engaged, % trying to hide behavior.
Use Of Alcohol Or Drugs	54%	39%	62%
Possessing Or Viewing Sexually Explicit Materials	45%	41%	28%
Masturbation To Deviant Fantasies	32%	29%	41%
Sexual Contact With A Minor	31%	13%	82%
Unauthorized Contact With A Minor	25%	20%	49%
Masturbation In Public (away from home)	18%	17%	23%
Sexual Activity With A Consenting Adult	15%	12%	59%
Violation Of Probation Or Treatment Rules	15%	15%	14%
Inappropriate Arousal To Contact With Others	13%	7%	75%
Daily Access To Victim Or Potential Victim	14%	12%	9%
Force Other To Have Sex	12%	3%	87%
Voyeurism	9%	6%	50%
Masturbation To Pornography	9%	9%	18%
High Risk Fantasies Without Countermeasures	7%	6%	25%
TOTAL PROPORTION OF OFFENDERS ENGAGING IN HIGH RISK BEHAVIOR DURING TREATMENT	86%	82%	42%

Disclosed = Offender admitted behavior during pre-exam interview.

Detected = Polygrapher determined offender was deceptive concerning behavior.

Confirmed = Polygrapher determined deception and offender admitted behavior.

Study Funded by Teaching Humane Existence.

The information contained in this table is part of a paper being prepared for publication by Jim Tanner, Ph.D. and Greig Veeder, M.S.W.

TABLE TWO
PROPORTION OF OFFENDERS COMMITTING NEW CRIMES
WHILE IN TREATMENT

Time Period ¹	Proportion Committing New Crime; Disclosed, Detected or Confirmed	Proportion Committing New Crime; Disclosed and Confirmed only.	Number of Offenders Committing New Crime (all categories).
Anytime after Disclosure Polygraph	59.4%	43.8%	76
Between Disclosure and First Maintenance Exam (N=128)	47.7%	32.8%	61
Between First and Second Maintenance Exam (N=81)	37.0%	25.9%	30
Between Second and Third Maintenance Exam (N=33)	48.5%	30.3%	16

¹ Maintenance exams four and five are excluded as the sample size becomes too small for generalization to a larger population.

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TABLE THREE

PROPORTION OF OFFENDERS COMMITTING NEW SEX CRIMES¹
WHILE IN TREATMENT

Time Period ²	Proportion Committing New Sex Crime; Disclosed, Detected or Confirmed	Proportion Committing New Sex Crime; Disclosed and Confirmed only.	Number of Offenders Committing New Sex Crime (all categories).
Anytime after Disclosure Polygraph	57.8%	41.4%	74
Between Disclosure and First Maintenance Exam (N=128)	45.3%	30.5%	58
Between First and Second Maintenance Exam (N=81)	34.6%	23.5%	28
Between Second and Third Maintenance Exam (N=33)	45.5%	21.2%	15

¹ Sex Crime is defined by either statute or the offender's self-report. This category may include acts which do not meet the statutory definition of a crime, but are considered as one by the offender.

² Maintenance exams four and five are excluded as the sample size becomes too small for generalization to a larger population.

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