



# Youth Reformation System

*Using knowledge to improve outcomes*

## Quick reference: ORRA and typologies

### ORRA

The OYA Recidivism Risk Assessment (ORRA) predicts the likelihood a youth will recidivate with a felony conviction or adjudication within 36 months of commitment to probation or release from OYA close custody. Although ORRA is an effective tool, no risk tool will ever be 100 percent accurate; ORRA represents just one set of key data.

ORRA is a mathematical equation that relies solely on data collected as part of standard practice on all youth with records in Oregon's statewide Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS). ORRA examines the relationship between variables within a youth's background and the likelihood of recidivism.

Variables examined within ORRA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prior felony drug or alcohol referral</li><li>• Prior weapon offense referral</li><li>• Age at start tracking (age at youth's release from close custody or start of probation)</li><li>• Prior criminal mischief referral</li><li>• Total prior misdemeanor referrals</li><li>• Total prior theft referrals</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prior delinquency adjudication</li><li>• Total prior drug or alcohol referrals</li><li>• Current sex offense disposition</li><li>• Total prior runaway referrals</li><li>• Total prior felony referrals</li><li>• Male</li></ul>

### Typologies

A set of research-based "typologies," developed by OYA and our community partners, helps designate youth into certain categories of need based on 10 factors derived from data collected by the OYA Risk Needs Assessment (RNA) or the Oregon Typology Assessment (OTA). Using these typologies helps inform decision making about best placement and treatment strategies for youth who are part of Oregon's juvenile justice system. Typologies are used for identifying youth need as part of case planning, pre-commitment, and at OYA intake to inform placement decisions and treatment strategies for youth. Youth are classified accurately into their typology 90 to 92 percent of the time, making this an extremely effective research-based tool.

Currently, there are six typologies for males (Type A-F) and four typologies for females (Type 1-4).

<http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/pages/research/JJISRiskOverview.aspx#Typology>

## **How ORRA and typologies work together**

Information about a youth's ORRA score and typology together can help identify appropriate supervision levels, treatment plans, service dosage and placement for youth committed to OYA custody. Using these tools can minimize current and future public risk by reserving the most intensive supervision for offenders at the highest risk and most severe crimes. Youth at lower risk of recidivism can benefit from treatment programs in less restrictive settings.

ORRA and typologies, both available in JJIS, do not replace professional judgment and experience. Instead, they help inform and support effective decision making – always with the goal of creating safer communities and achieving fewer returns to the juvenile justice system.