

Glossary of Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) Terms

Term	What it means	What it does not mean	Examples of predictive factors (where applicable)
Risk	Probability of an event occurring	Harmfulness or seriousness of the event; violence or dangerousness	N/A
Risk of violence or dangerousness	Probability of committing a new offense against a person, such as assault or robbery	Effectiveness of incarceration	History of violence, psychopathy, sociopathy, or PTSD combined with substance use
Criminogenic risk	Probability of criminal recidivism; typically, the probability of being arrested for or convicted of any new crime or returned to custody for a technical violation	Risk of violence or dangerousness	Early onset of delinquency or substance use; prior treatment failures, prior criminal convictions or incarceration
Criminogenic needs	Risk factors for criminal recidivism that are potentially changeable or treatable	Risk factor for violence or dangerousness; risk factors that are unchangeable or historical in nature	Delinquent peer interactions, antisocial values or attitudes, sparse involvement in prosocial activities, addiction
Responsivity needs	Clinical syndromes, impairments, or social service needs that usually do not cause crime but can interfere with rehabilitation	Risk factors for criminal recidivism, violence, or dangerousness	Homelessness, serious or persistent mental illness, drug or alcohol cravings/withdrawal, PTSD, or TBI
Stabilization needs	See responsivity needs		
Maintenance needs	Clinical syndromes, impairments, or social services needs that do not cause crime or interfere with rehabilitation efforts but can degrade rehabilitation gains	Risk factors for criminal recidivism, treatment failure, violence, or dangerousness	Lack of job skills, illiteracy, poor educational history, or poverty
Responsivity case management	Ensuring participants receive services they need, do not receive services they do not need, and receive services in the proper sequence	N/A	N/A