Example of a Risk Assessment Instrument

New York State calculates a Risk Score for a youth’s Detention Recommendation based on four factors (1 point for each positive answer):

1. A prior delinquency petition
2. A prior status offense petition
3. An outstanding delinquency or status offense warrant
4. The current arrest charges include burglary, grand larceny, autostripping, or motor vehicle theft.

A score of 2–4 calls for detention. A score of zero calls for release without restrictions and a score of 1 call for release with restrictions. There is also a list of reasons for not following the risk score recommendation.

Source: website of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services: <http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/rehab/drai/>