

## COLORADO ACTUARIAL RISK ASSESSMENT SCALE - VERSION 7

The Division of Criminal Justice/Office of Research & Statistics is mandated to develop a risk assessment scale that, “shall include criteria that statistically have been shown to be good predictors of the risk of reoffense. The division of criminal justice shall validate the Colorado risk assessment scale at least every five years....” [17-22.5-404(2)(a), C.R.S.]. The CARAS Version 7 (2021) comprises 12 items.

CARAS Item and Item Description	(Item Value) and Definition*
<b>1. Age at First Arrest or Charge</b> Age at first arrest or charge based on the category assigned from the Colorado Transitional Accountability Plan (CTAP)/Ohio Risk Assessment Scale (ORAS).	(0) First arrest or charge was age 26 older (1) First arrest or charge was between age 16 and 25 (2) First arrest or charge was under age 16 <i>[Missing=1]</i>
<b>2. Most Serious Crime Classification</b> The felony classification number associated with the most serious crime.	(1) Felony 1 (2) Drug felony 1 (3) Felony 2 (4) Felony 3 (5) Drug felony 2 (6) Felony 4 <i>[Missing=6]</i> (7) Drug felony 3 (8) Felony 5 (9) Felony 6 (10) Drug felony 4 (11) All other crime classes
<b>3. Current Age</b> Age of the offender at the time of the assessment.	(Current Age) - Age as of date of assessment <i>[Missing=36]</i>
<b>4. Number of Prior Escapes/Absconds - Ever</b> The total number of recorded escapes and absconds, counting the number of escape/abscond records across all incarcerations, not just the current incarceration.	(Total number) - Number of all prior escapes/absconds <i>[Missing=0]</i>
<b>5. Substance Abuse Needs Level</b> The substance abuse (SA) needs level according to the most recent assessment. This diagnostic level is a combined factor that represents an offender’s SSI-R score and the number of confirmed alcohol and drug related arrests in the past five years.	(1) SA1 - Minor alcohol and/or drug problem. (2) SA2 - Minor to moderate alcohol and/or drug problem. (3) SA3 - Moderate alcohol and/or drug problem. (4) SA4 - Moderate to severe alcohol and/or drug prob. (5) SA5 - Severe alcohol and/or drug problem. <i>[Missing=3]</i>
<b>6. Gang Membership</b> Gang membership based on the category assigned from on the CTAP/ORAS.	(0) Not currently or has never been involved in a gang (1) Has been in a gang previously, but not currently active (2) Currently in a gang <i>[Missing=0]</i>
<b>7. Number of Prior Cases</b> The count of the total number of known prior cases. The count includes only cases that are associated with a sentence to the Colorado Department of Corrections (CDOC).	(Total number) - Number of known CDOC prior cases <i>[Missing=1]</i>

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<b>8. Most Serious Crime: Property Crime</b> Whether the most serious crime associated with the current incarceration was a property crime.	(1) Any property crime among: Burglary, Theft, Motor vehicle theft, Trespassing, Criminal mischief, Arson, Forgery, Fraud, Identity theft and/or Embezzlement. <i>[Missing=0]</i>
<b>9. Criminal Attitudes</b> Criminal attitudes based on the category assigned from the CTAP/ORAS.	(0) Shows genuine remorse and accepts responsibility (1) Some minimizations; not accept full responsibility (2) Minimizes criminal behavior <i>[Missing=1]</i>
<b>10. Number of COPDs - Last 2 Years</b> The number of CDOC Code of Penal Discipline violations of all types in the last 2 years.	(Total number) - Number of COPDs in the last 2 years <i>[Missing=0]</i>
<b>11. Number of Technical Violations - Last 5 Years</b> The number of parole revocations for technical violations in the last 5 years.	(Total number) Number of technical violations in the last 5 years <i>[Missing=0]</i>
<b>12. Scored Custody Level</b> The most current CDOC <i>scored</i> custody level. <i>Not</i> the <i>current</i> custody level.	(1) Minimum or Minimum Restrictive (2) Medium (3) Close <i>[Missing=1]</i>

\* The missing value substitution is either the variable mean or the mod, based on the CARAS development sample.

### CARAS 7 RISK GROUP CATEGORY and RISK PROBABILITY

The values of the 12 items above are combined to produce a risk probability. The CARAS 7 Risk Groups comprise five categories based on the risk probability as follows:

**CARAS 7 Risk Groups and Recidivism Risk Probability**

Risk Level	Low	High	Risk Midpoint	Likelihood to Recidivate
<b>(1) Very Low</b>	0.00	.2826	.14	1 of 5
<b>(2) Low</b>	> .2826	.3854	.33	2 of 5
<b>(3) Medium</b>	> .3854	.5139	.45	1 of 2
<b>(4) High</b>	> .5139	.6162	.57	3 of 5
<b>(5) Very High</b>	> .6162	1.00	.81	5 of 7