

Brain Injury Connection Needs Assessment Survey

Preliminary Results from the First 30
Survey Responses

11/19/2013



About the Survey and Results

- ▶ This document provides some preliminary results for the first 30 participants to complete the Brain Injury Connection (BIC) Needs Assessment Survey, which were submitted by April 7, 2013. These results are subject to change with further analysis of the data and addition of more participants in the future.
- ▶ The survey was created by Matthew Harris, Ph.D. with the help of Debi Palmer and BIC. Dr. Harris conducted the statistical analysis of the results and created this document with the help of BIC. He holds a doctorate in clinical psychology, and in addition to working as a neuropsychology fellow he has worked as a statistics consultant for the last 5 years and served on the BIC board of directors for 4 years.
- ▶ For more details about the survey methodology or analysis of results, contact [Dr. Harris](#).

Demographics

- ▶ 57% of the respondents were female (43% male)
- ▶ Most were Caucasian (84%), the next highest group was Asian–American (10%). The remainder were African–American (3%) or Latino (3%).
- ▶ 36% married, 30% unmarried, 27% divorced/separated, 7% widowed
- ▶ 1 / 3 changed their marital status since injury (2 / 3 of those started or advanced a relationship)
- ▶ Average age was 50.9 years
- ▶ Average personal income was near \$24,000
- ▶ 50% held a bachelor's degree or above
- ▶ Of US participants (all but 1), 66% were in California (quite spread out in different cities/towns)
- ▶ 9.9% served in the military

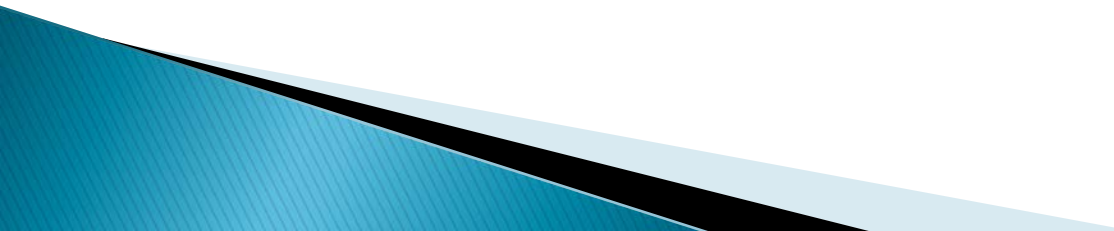
Injuries and Treatment

- ▶ Average age at injury was 34.1 years
- ▶ 40.7% had more than one brain injury
- ▶ 92.9% were diagnosed with brain injury at some point, 86.4% during their initial hospital visit
- ▶ The average hospital stay was about 2.5 months
- ▶ The majority of injuries were traumatic brain injury (76.7%, by far most common were vehicle-related accidents), next highest was stroke (10%)
- ▶ 76.9% lost consciousness during their injury, 38.1% were in a coma (average 38 days), 75% had some period of peri- or post-traumatic amnesia
- ▶ 61.5% received inpatient rehab (average 3.5 months), and 65.2% received outpatient rehab (average 1.3 years)

Health, Quality of Life, and Limitations from Brain Injury

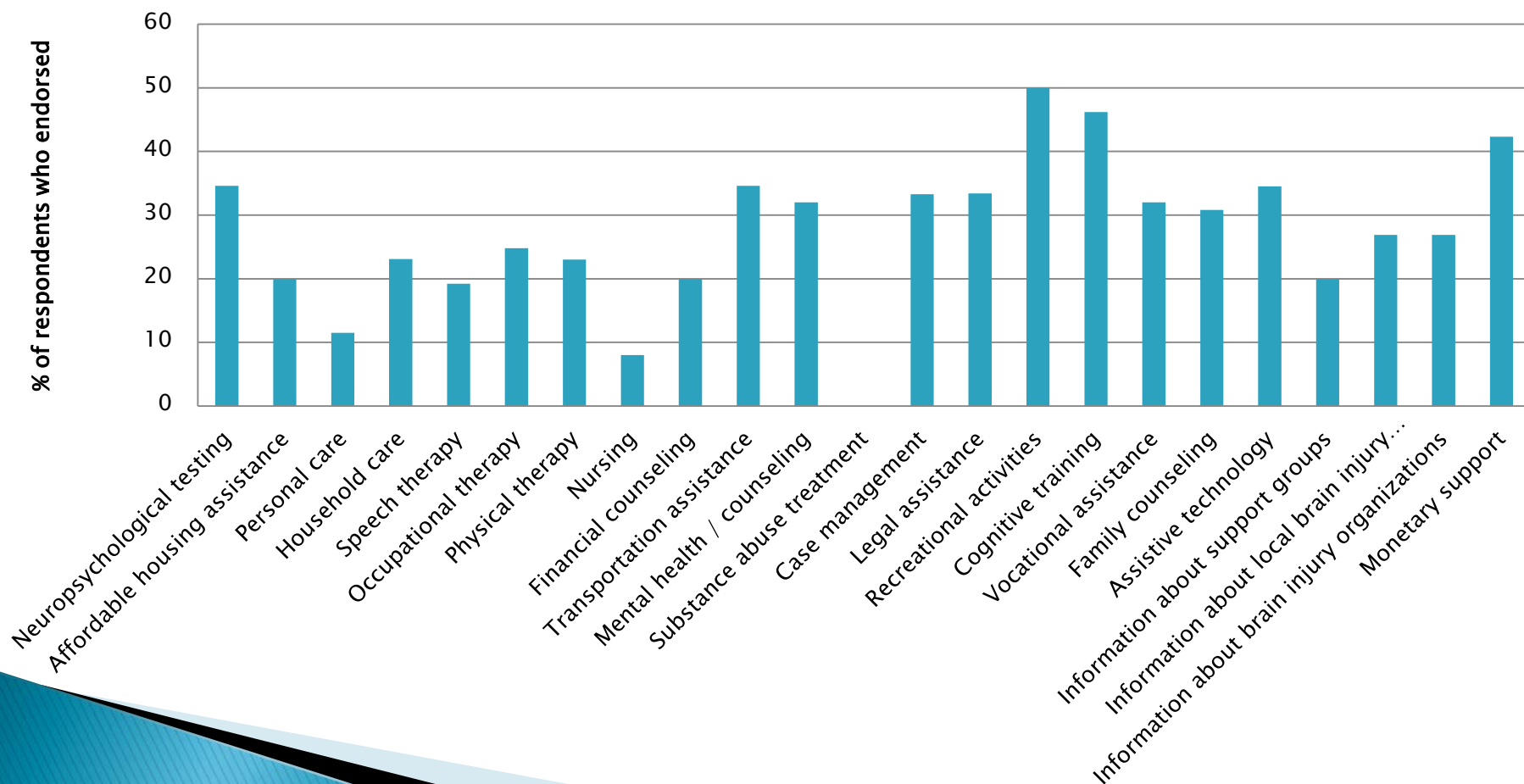
- ▶ 70% said their overall health was good, very good, or excellent. However, on average they reported being slightly dissatisfied with their lives. They reported an average of 10 poor physical health days the previous month and 11 poor mental health days the previous month
- ▶ The most endorsed limitations from brain injury were ability to do vigorous activities, ability to maintain employment, ability to maintain attention/concentration, memory, and social activities
- ▶ The limitations most strongly related to a decrease in life satisfaction were ability to reason/solve problems, social activities, ability to maintain relationships, and emotional health.

Unmet Needs

- ▶ The most frequently endorsed unmet needs were recreational activities, cognitive training, and monetary support. Notably, there was a very high number of unmet needs endorsed by at least 20% of survey respondents, suggesting a very diverse array of unmet needs in the brain-injured community.
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Unmet Needs – cont.

Endorsement of Unmet Needs



Implications

- ▶ This provides valuable information about the types of people who are being reached by Brain Injury Connection and about the brain-injured community that the BIC and other organizations can use to help address the variety of individuals who have sustained a brain injury
- ▶ These results suggest that to have the greatest impact on quality of life, organizations and providers should target cognitive, social, and emotional difficulties. The greatest areas of unmet needs overlaps with this in some ways, and includes recreation, cognitive training, and monetary support. Additional survey responses are needed to validate these findings.

Stay Tuned!

- ▶ Help spread the word about this survey! As we get more responses, we will be able to provide more robust and detailed information to serve those with brain injury, the organizations serving them, and the general public!