

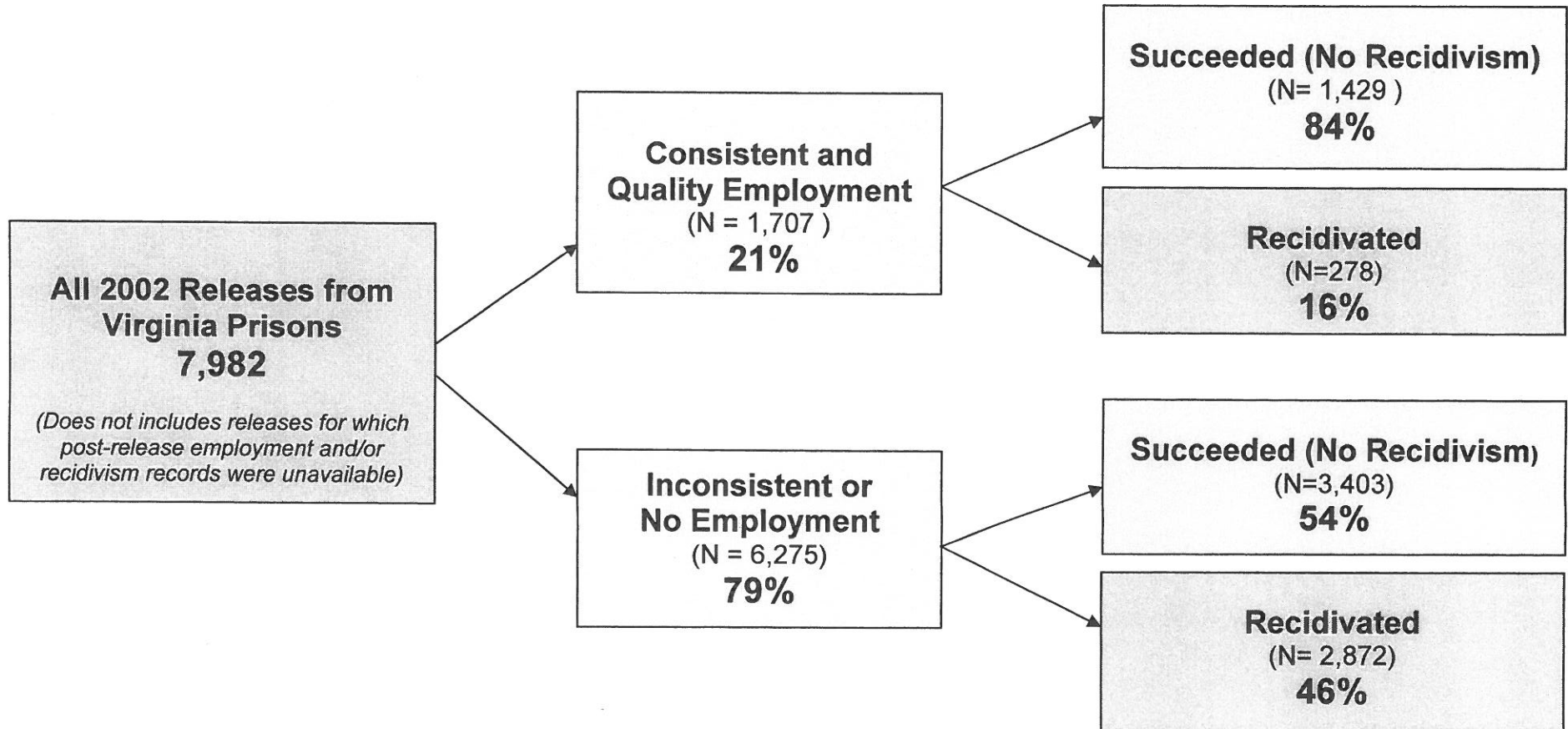
Impact of Employment on Recidivism in Virginia

Definitions:

Study Group: All Individuals who were released from state-level correctional facilities in Virginia during FY2002 who had a post-release record of employment, recidivism, or both within Virginia. This group was tracked for 13 quarters starting with their quarter of release, so the dates of study varied by release quarter.

Consistent and Quality Employment: Whether the individual had earnings in three out of the first four quarters following release (discounting the quarter of release) with total wages equal to or greater than \$2,450 for each of those quarters (above the poverty level).

Recidivism: State-level recommitment within Virginia during the 13-quarter study period following release for either a new crime or violations of parole.



Data Source: Brief by Eric J. Lichtenberger, Virginia Tech Center for Assessment, Evaluation, and Educational Programming, 2010. Policy Implications in this brief included: "Workforce development agencies and organizations should establish and foster relationships with employers paying relatively higher wages who are willing to hire ex-offenders. Ideally, workforce development agencies and organizations in the community should be apprised of releasing offenders' skills and employment interests prior to release. This would allow them to perform individualized job development activities and facilitate more expedient and higher quality post-release employment."