

# North Dakota Brain Injury Network

## Brain Injury and Criminal Justice

Brain injuries are often known as a “silent epidemic” because symptoms are not always immediately evident. Brain injury can cause many ongoing impairments that can create barriers and cause difficulty with overcoming incarceration and maintaining life in the community.

Up to **87%** of individuals involved in the criminal justice system report having had a **BRAIN INJURY**

### Incarcerated individuals with **TBI** may have:

- Increased utilization of health and psychological services
- Lower rates of treatment completion
- More disciplinary incidents
- Higher rates of recidivism
- Higher levels of substance use prior to incarceration

### Incarcerated individuals with **2+** head injuries have higher rates of:

- Violent thoughts
- Suicidal ideation
- Suicide attempts
- Hallucinations
- Anxiety
- Depression

## WE CAN HELP AT NDBIN

- Help you with establishing routine screenings policies for brain injury in order to identify individuals who may have a history of brain injury and may need additional support.
- Provide targeted training for working with individuals with brain injury.
- Provide case consultation and technical assistance for individuals you serve.
- Serve as connection for individuals and their families to resources, and much more.



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