This graph examines the change in LSI-R risk and protective scores across risk classification levels and by multiple assessments administered during the 2002 through April 2007 time period. The data presented in this graph are based on a complete database of LSI-R assessments collected to date, but are limited to offenders who have received two or more assessments. An analysis of these data identifies two important trends:

- Over the course of multiple assessments, average risk scores decreased (i.e., improved) for offenders in the three highest risk classification levels, and increased for offenders in the two lowest levels.

- During the same time period, average protective scores increased (i.e., improved) for offenders in the four highest risk classification levels, and decreased for those in the lowest level.

These trends may suggest that the current evidence-based practices being utilized by all agencies are working as intended. In any event, substantial improvements in the targeted, higher-risk offenders’ assessment scores are clearly evident. Surveillance level offenders (highest risk) are showing the largest improvement in terms of recidivism-risk reduction. Conversely, offenders at the Administrative level (lowest risk), who often don't receive any specialized treatment services, are receiving slight increases in risk scores and decreases in protective scores. While determining the exact cause(s) of these trends is beyond the scope of current research efforts, it is reasonable to theorize that the improvements in the assessment scores of the targeted, higher risk offenders is due to the efforts being made by probation and parole officers in utilizing their training in evidence-based practices to provide quality supervision and interactions with offenders.