

Overview of the DCTAT Data for Family Drug Court Program Grantees: July–December 2015

The Family Drug Court Program is administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The aim of the program is to enhance the capacity of family drug courts by developing long-term strategies to ensure their sustainability. Family drug courts build the capacity of states, state and local courts, units of local government, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments to either implement new drug courts or enhance preexisting drug courts. Participants served include youth and adults with substance abuse disorders or substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders (including histories of trauma) who are involved with the family drug court as a result of child abuse, neglect, and other parenting issues. The program also offers services to the children of the parents or guardians enrolled in the program.

Family Drug Court Program data are collected in the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) semiannually. This report presents an overview of the data from the DCTAT provided by Family Drug Court Program grantees for activities in the July–December 2015 reporting period. Data analysis is organized into two sections: an examination of program information, and an analysis of mandatory performance measures.

The highlights below refer to the July–December 2015 reporting period.

Report Highlights

- There were 18 active Family Drug Court awards. Sixteen were operational, and grantees served 383 parents and guardians and 343 additional family members.
- Unit of local government (33 percent) and other government agency (33 percent) were the top implementing organization type to run family drug court.
- Thirteen grantees (72 percent) used evidence-based programs or practices to implement their program.
- For targeted behaviors, grantees reported 216 of 342 participants (63 percent) showed a decrease in substance use, 21 out of 28 participants (75 percent) exhibited positive change in employment status, all 12 participants (100 percent) showed improvement in social competence skills; and 60 out of 77 participants (78 percent) displayed positive change in family relationships.
- Four hundred and twelve children were placed in out-of-home care, and 180 children received a permanent placement.
- Two hundred sixty-four parents or guardians were tracked for technical violations; of those, 110 received a technical violation, and 22 were arrested for new technical violations.
- Less than 1 percent of parents or guardians were arrested for new drug offenses during the reporting period.
- Eight percent of parents or guardians were arrested for new drug offenses 6–12 months after exiting the program.

1. Examination of Program Information

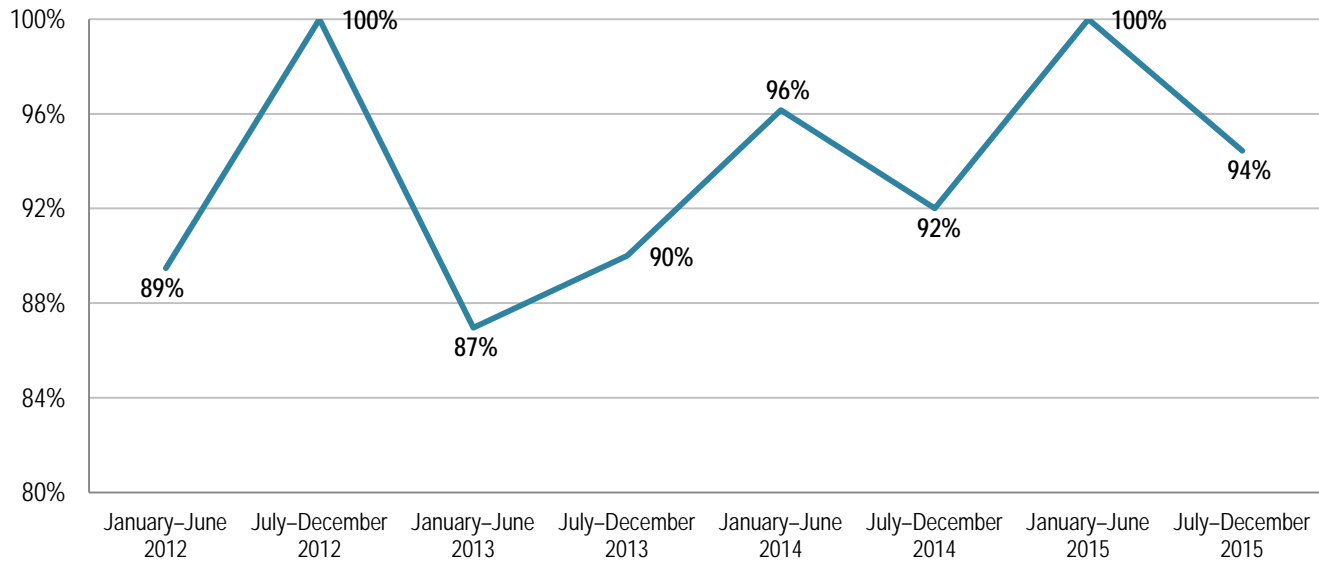
Family Drug Court grantees began reporting in the DCTAT in 2012. Grantees are required to report semiannually for every active Federal award. Table 1 represents the reporting compliance rate of active Federal awards for each reporting period, starting with the January–June 2012 period. During the July–December 2015 reporting period, 94 percent of Family Drug Court grantees completed the DCTAT reporting requirement for all 18 active Federal awards.

Table 1. Status of Family Drug Court Program Reporting by Period: January 2012–December 2015

| Data Reporting Period | Status | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| | Not Started | In Progress | Complete | Total |
| January–June 2012 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 19 |
| July–December 2012 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 23 |
| January–June 2013 | 3 | 0 | 20 | 23 |
| July–December 2013 | 3 | 0 | 27 | 30 |
| January–June 2014 | 1 | 0 | 25 | 26 |
| July–December 2014 | 2 | 0 | 23 | 25 |
| January–June 2015 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 21 |
| July–December 2015 | 1 | 0 | 17 ¹ | 18 |
| Total | 11 | 1 | 173 | 185 |

Across all reporting periods, Family Drug Court grantees have an average reporting compliance rate of 94 percent. Figure 1 provides the percentage breakdown for each reporting period.

Figure 1. Percentage of Compliance Rate for Each Reporting Period



Demographics

Table 2 presents an aggregate of demographic data for July 2014 to December 2015 and the number of Family Drug Court Program grantees that serve each population. Targeted services include any approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, developmentally appropriate services).

Grantees are only required to report the target population once in the DCTAT. However, grantees may update their target population to best fit their program during the life of the award. The slight variation in numbers between each reporting period is due to the number of active or inactive federal awards during the reporting period.

¹ One grantee reported “not operational.”

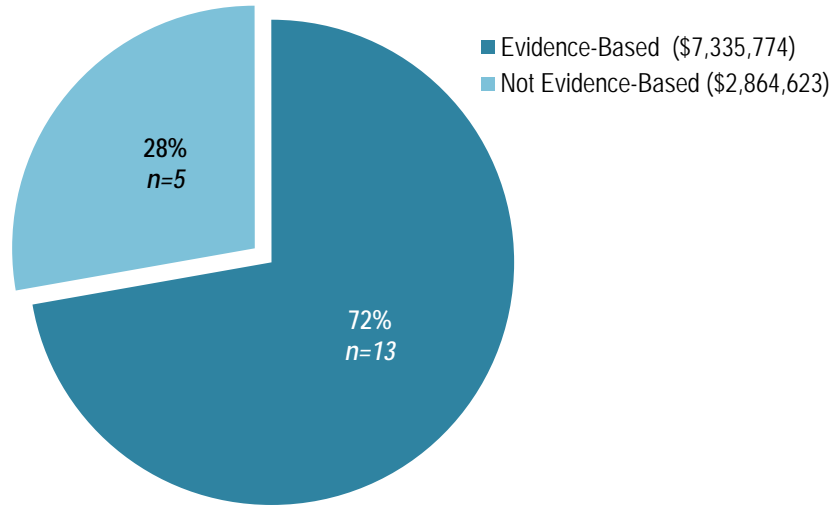
Table 2. Grantees Serving Target Populations: July 2014–December 2015

| Population | Grantees Serving Group During Project Period | | |
|--|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| | July–December 2014 | January–June 2015 | July–December 2015 |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | 13 | 10 | 11 |
| Asian | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Black/African American | 11 | 10 | 7 |
| Caucasian/Non-Latino | 14 | 11 | 10 |
| Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race) | 15 | 12 | 12 |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other Race | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| White/Caucasian | 18 | 15 | 13 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Justice System Status | | | |
| At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense) | 11 | 10 | 9 |
| First-Time Offenders | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| Repeat Offenders | 13 | 12 | 11 |
| Sex Offenders | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Status Offenders | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| Violent Offenders | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| Gender | | | |
| Male | 21 | 18 | 16 |
| Female | 21 | 17 | 15 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Age | | | |
| 0–10 | 10 | 10 | 9 |
| 11–18 | 11 | 11 | 9 |
| Over 18 | 19 | 17 | 7 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Geographic Area | | | |
| Rural | 11 | 9 | 8 |
| Suburban | 7 | 6 | 4 |
| Tribal | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Urban | 10 | 9 | 8 |
| Youth Population Not Served Directly | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Other | | | |
| Mental Health | 19 | 16 | 15 |
| Substance Use | 24 | 20 | 18 |
| Truant/Dropout | 5 | 5 | 4 |

I. Evidence-Based Programming and Funding Information

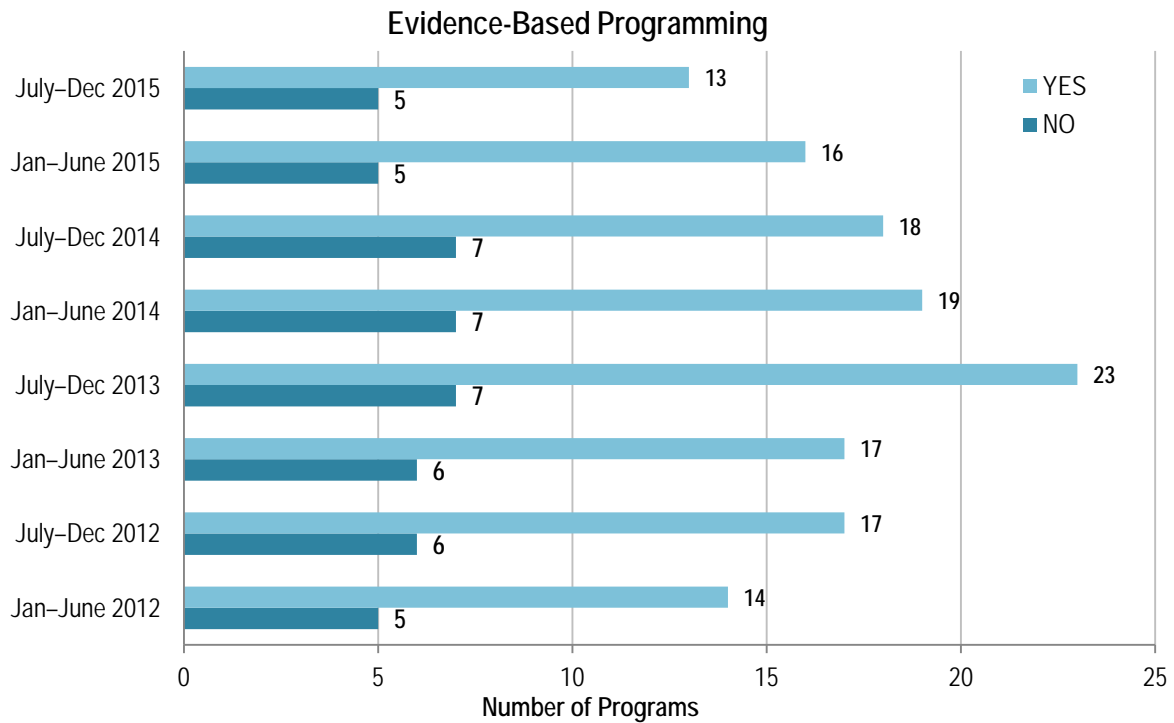
Evidence-based programs and practices include program models that have been shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. Figure 2 shows that grantees use about 72 percent ($n = 13$) of grants funding to implement evidence-based programs and/or practices.

Figure 2. Grants Implementing Evidence-Based Programs and/or Practices: July–December 2015



The number of programs implementing evidence-based practices has been steady throughout the seven reporting periods. Figure 3 represents the breakdown of evidence-based and nonevidence-based programs for each reporting period since January–June 2012.

Figure 3. Evidence-Based Practices and Programs by Reporting Period: January 2012–December 2015



In examining grant amounts by state or district, based on current and active Family Drug Court Program grants, Wisconsin received the most funds, followed by Oklahoma. Table 3 shows a comprehensive comparison of federal award amounts.

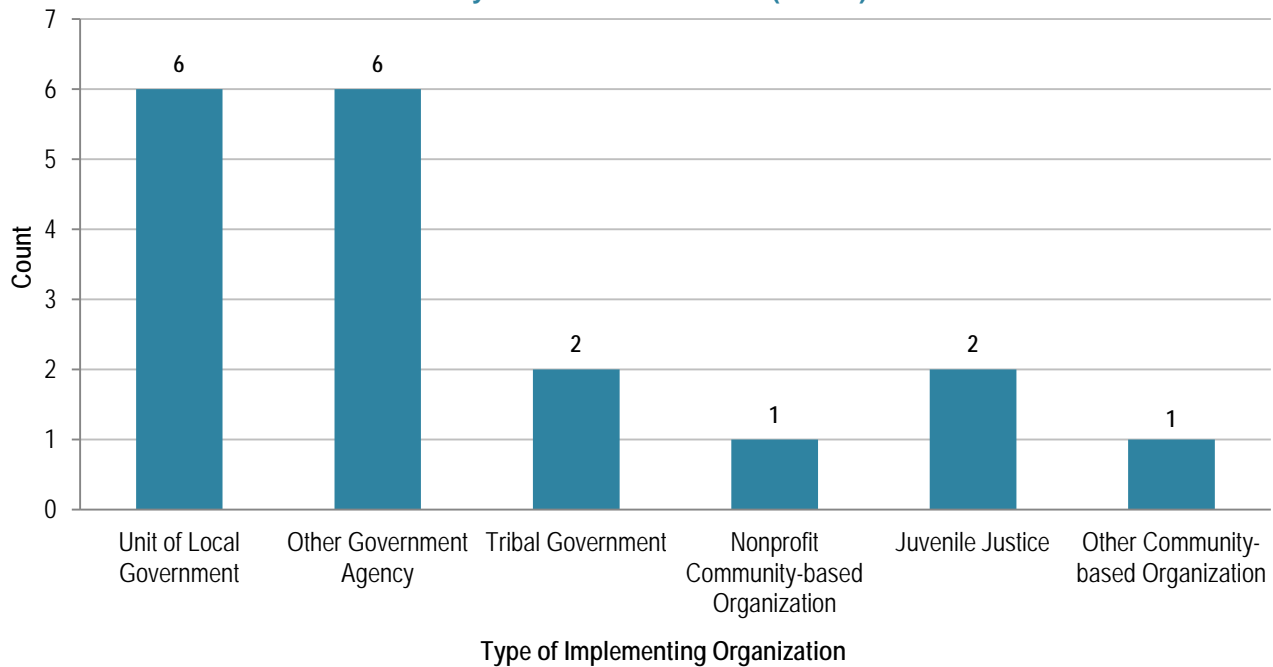
Table 3. Total Grant Amount by State or District (Dollars): July–December 2015

| State | N | Grant Amount |
|-------|---|--------------|
| AZ | 1 | \$ 614,806 |
| CO | 1 | 522,028 |
| DC | 1 | 550,000 |
| ID | 1 | 550,000 |
| MI | 2 | 1,163,513 |
| MT | 2 | 1,074,549 |
| NJ | 1 | 499,817 |
| NV | 1 | 642,201 |
| OH | 1 | 538,363 |
| OK | 2 | 1,200,000 |
| RI | 1 | 550,000 |
| TX | 1 | 550,000 |
| WA | 1 | 445,245 |
| WI | 2 | 1,299,875 |

II. Implementing Organization Type

Analysis of implementing agencies for this period revealed that the majority of the programs were instituted by unit of local government (33 percent; $n = 6$) and other government agency (33 percent; $n = 6$) (Figure 4).

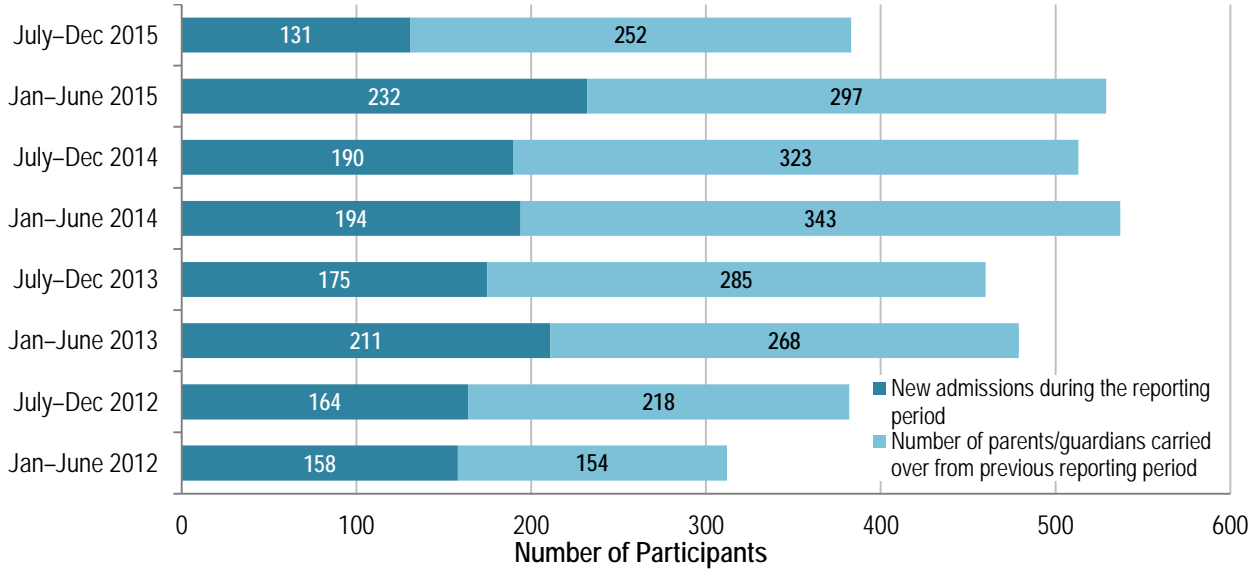
Figure 4. Grants by Implementing Organization Type: July 2014–December 2015 (N = 18)



2. Analysis of Program Measures

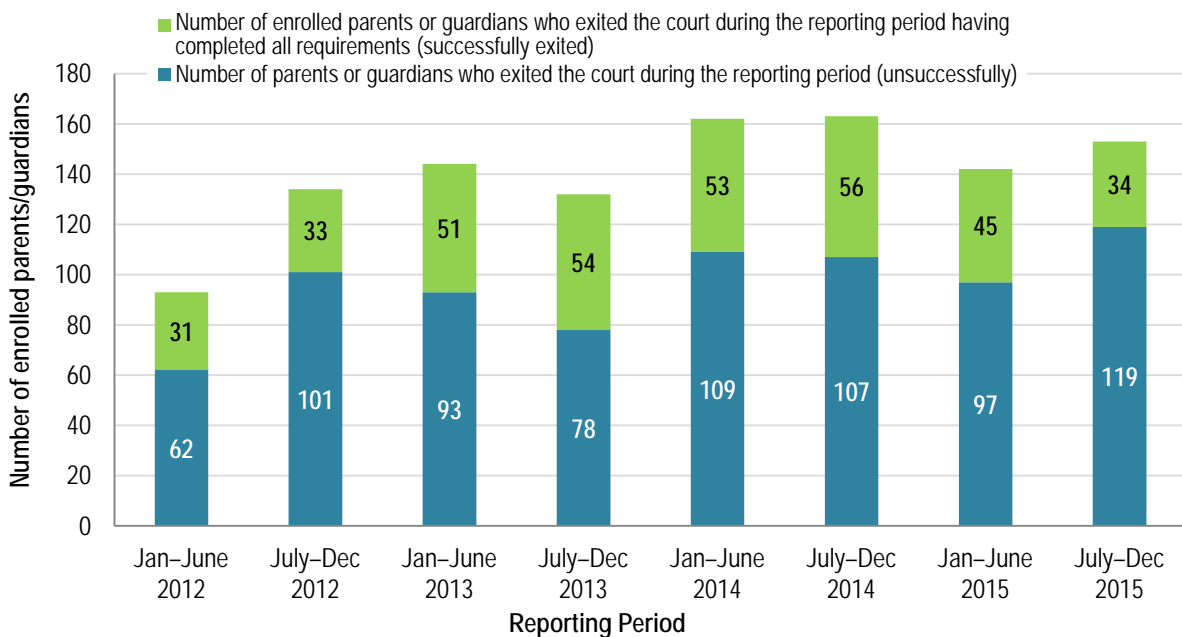
During this reporting period, 383 parents and/or guardians were served by various programs funded by the Family Drug Court Program grant; 131 were new admissions (Figure 5). In addition, 343 additional family members were served.

Figure 5. Number of Parents/Guardians Served per Reporting Period: January 2012–December 2015



There were 153 enrolled parents and guardians who exited the court during the July–December 2015 reporting period. Of that group, 34 successfully exited the court, meaning they completed all requirements (Figure 6).² On average, 45 parents and guardians have exited the court successfully each reporting cycle since the initial January–June 2012 reporting period.

Figure 6. Number of Enrolled Parents/Guardians Exiting the Court per Reporting Period: January 2012–December 2015



² Each grantee defines the requirements needed for the participants to complete each program. “Successfully exited” program participants successfully fulfilled all program obligations and requirements. Participants who fail to follow through with the program (such as through expulsion or voluntarily departure) are considered to be those who “unsuccessfully exited.”

Data are collected to determine the number of parents or guardians who demonstrate a positive change for a targeted behavior in each reporting period. Table 4 lists short-term percentages for the specified target behavior during July–December 2015. Sixty seven percent of parents or guardians served by the program exhibited a desired short-term change in those target behaviors. All of the parents or guardians in the targeted behavior for social competence skills displayed an increase in that area. Of the parents/guardians in the family relationships group, 78 percent reached the targeted behavior. Other groups that reached their target include employment status, including obtaining or retaining a job (75 percent); and a decrease in substance use (63 percent).

Table 4. Short-Term Performance Data on Target Behaviors of Parents/Guardians: July–December 2015

| Target Behavior | Parents/Guardians Receiving Services for Target Behavior | Parents/Guardians with Noted Behavioral Change | Percentage of Parents/Guardians with Noted Behavioral Change (%) |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Substance Use | 342 | 216 | 63 |
| Social Competence | 12 | 12 | 100 |
| Employment Status | 28 | 21 | 75 |
| Family Relationships | 77 | 60 | 78 |
| Total | 459 | 309 | 67 |

The Family Drug Court Program serves not only parents and family members but also the children of the families involved in the court system. Table 5 presents performance data for children served by the Family Drug Court Program during the reporting period; 412 children were placed in out-of-home care, and 180 secured permanent placement. On average, children remained in out-of-home care for 138 days. A total of 99 children were reunited with their families after being removed from the home and given temporary placement, and parental rights were terminated for 4 parents or guardians.

Table 5. Children’s Condition While Parents/Guardians Are in Family Drug Court Programs: July–December 2015

| Performance Measure | Number | Percentage |
|---|----------|------------|
| Children placed in out-of-home care | 412 | 61 |
| Average length of stay for children in out-of-home care | 138 days | N/A |
| Children reunited after being removed from the home and placed in temporary placement | 99 | 45 |
| Parents or guardians whose parental rights were terminated | 4 | 1 |
| Children in permanent placement | 180 | 41 |

During the reporting period, 315 parents or guardians received substance use counseling or related services, 194 received mental health services, 43 found housing, and 232 enrolled in other services such as parenting skills and educational and vocational training. These services are aimed at helping parents reunite with their children removed from their care due to unsafe or dangerous living environments caused by drug use.

Table 6 shows data that indicate the number of parents participating in the Family Drug Court Program assessed as needing the specified services and those who actually enrolled in the services provided. The number of assessments conducted compared with the actual enrollment in the provided services could differ within the reporting cycle. People may have been assessed in a prior reporting period, and actual enrollment could be delayed into a future reporting period. In addition, family drug court programs accept referrals for participants who have been assessed by another agency. These two factors contribute to the variation in the number of participants assessed as needing various services compared with the number enrolled.

Table 6. Services Provided to Participating Parents/Guardians: July–December 2015

| Services Provided | Number |
|--|--------|
| Parents or guardians <i>assessed</i> as needing substance use counseling/services | 316 |
| Parents or guardians <i>enrolled</i> in substance use counseling/services | 315 |
| Parents or guardians <i>assessed</i> as needing mental health services | 197 |
| Parents or guardians <i>enrolled</i> in mental health services | 194 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| Parents or guardians assessed as needing housing services | 117 |
| Parents or guardians who successfully found housing | 43 |
| Parents or guardians assessed as needing other services | 252 |
| Parents or guardians <i>enrolled</i> in other services | 232 |

Additional family members served by the Family Drug Court Program received substance use counseling/services, mental health services, housing services, and other types of services. The largest number of additional family members were enrolled in other types of services ($n = 169$), followed by mental health services ($n = 94$).

Table 7 presents data that indicate the number of additional family members assessed as needing the specified services and those who actually enrolled in the services provided.

Table 7. Services Provided to Additional Family Members: July–December 2015

| Services Provided | Number |
|--|--------|
| Additional family members assessed as needing substance use counseling/services | 23 |
| Additional family members <i>enrolled</i> in substance use counseling/services | 15 |
| Additional family members assessed as needing mental health services | 105 |
| Additional family members <i>enrolled</i> in mental health services | 94 |
| Additional family members assessed as needing housing services | 10 |
| Additional family members who successfully found housing | 8 |
| Additional family members assessed as needing other services | 163 |
| Additional family members <i>enrolled</i> in other services | 169 |

Technical violation data were tracked and reported for parents or guardians enrolled in the program. As shown in Table 8, 264 parents or guardians were tracked for technical violations. Of those, 110 had a technical violation, and 22 out of 264 parents or guardians were arrested for a new technical violation.

Table 8. Technical Violation Measures: July–December 2015

| Performance Measure | Number |
|--|--------|
| Enrolled parents or guardians arrested for a new technical violation | 22 |
| Enrolled parents or guardians with a technical violation | 110 |
| Enrolled parents or guardians tracked for technical violations | 264 |
| Percentage of arrests for technical violations | 8% |
| Percentage of technical violations | 42% |

Drug offenses were tracked over the short term³ and long term,⁴ and data were reported for those parents or guardians enrolled in the program who had drug offenses. Three hundred twenty-five enrolled parents or guardians were tracked for drug offenses (Table 9). Of those, only three were arrested for a new drug offense.

Table 9. Short-Term Performance Data on Drug Offenses: July–December 2015

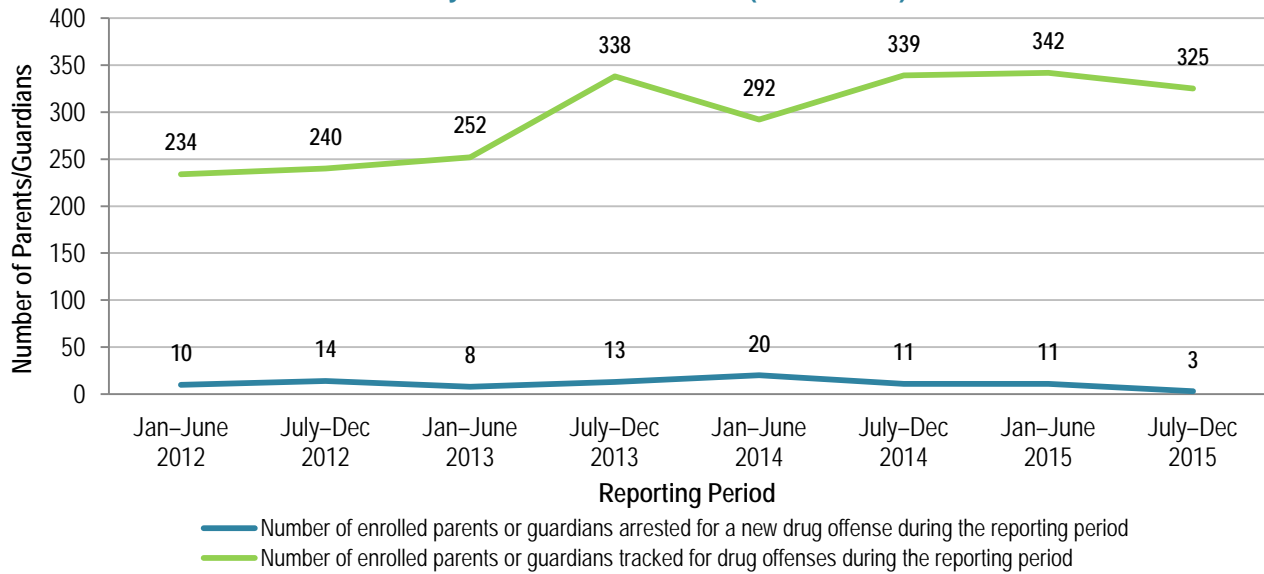
| Performance Measure | Number |
|---|--------|
| Enrolled parents or guardians arrested for a new drug offense | 3 |
| Enrolled parents or guardians tracked for drug offenses | 325 |
| Percentage of parents or guardians arrested for new drug offenses | <1% |

³ Number of parents/guardians tracked during the reporting period.

⁴ Number of parents/guardians tracked 6–12 months after exiting the program.

Figure 7 provides a breakdown of the number of parents or guardians who were arrested for a new drug offense since January 2012. A review of the data demonstrates that the number of arrests remained low throughout the reporting periods.

Figure 7. Enrolled Parent/Guardian Arrests for New Drug Offenses by Reporting Period: January 2012–December 2015 (Short Term)



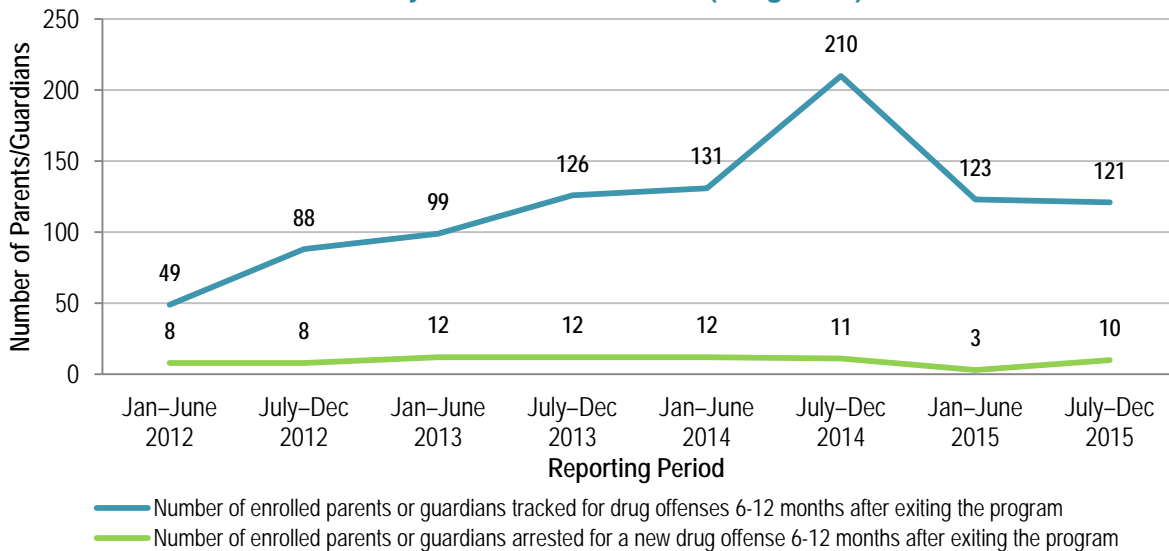
Among parents or guardians tracked for drug offenses over the long term, 10 were arrested for a new drug offense (Table 10).

Table 10. Long-Term Performance Data on Drug Offenses: July–December 2015

| Performance Measure | Number |
|---|--------|
| Enrolled parents or guardians arrested for a new drug offense | 10 |
| Enrolled parents or guardians tracked for drug offenses | 121 |
| Percentage of parents or guardians arrested for new drug offenses | 8% |

Comparing between reporting periods since January–June 2012, arrests for new drug offenses for long-term participants also remained low (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Enrolled Parent/Guardian Arrests for New Drug Offenses by Reporting Period: January 2012–December 2015 (Long Term)



A large number ($N = 24,494$) of drug and alcohol tests were performed on enrolled parents or guardians during the reporting period. Only around 3 percent of the parents or guardians tested positive for drugs and alcohol, as displayed in Table 11.

Table 11. Drug and Alcohol Tests Conducted: July–December 2015

| Performance Measure | Number |
|---|--------|
| Number of drug and alcohol tests performed on enrolled parents or guardians | 24,494 |
| The number of positive tests recorded | 689 |
| Percentage of positive tests recorded on enrolled parents or guardians | 3% |

Summary

During the July–December 2015 reporting period, Family Drug Court Program grantees had a 94 percent reporting compliance rate. Sixteen were operational, and grantees served 726 program participants total.⁵ Approximately 153 participants exited the court; of those, 34 participants completed all program requirements and were considered to have successfully exited the court. Since reporting started in 2012, the rates of arrests for new drug offenses have remained low for both short-term and long-term participants.

⁵ Number includes parents/guardians and additional family members served.