

Overview of the DCTAT Data for Juvenile Drug Court Program Grantees: January–June 2015

The Juvenile Drug Court Program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), offers an alternative to incarceration for qualifying populations, typically nonviolent drug offenders. The program helps state courts, local courts, units of local government, and tribal governments develop and establish juvenile drug courts adopting the Reclaiming Futures model for juvenile offenders who are using substances. The Reclaiming Futures model embodies three essential elements: designing a system of care that coordinates services, involving the community in creating new opportunities, and improving substance use treatment services. The integration of the juvenile drug court and Reclaiming Futures models should enable communities to identify substance-using youth, match them with appropriate treatment options, and deliver services through a coalition of providers working under the guidance of a local court.

Report Highlights

This performance report is an overview of the Data Collection and Technical Assistance Tool (DCTAT) data for Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees as reported through June 30, 2015. The report is divided into two sections. Section 1 introduces program information for Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees, and Section 2 gives an analysis of core Juvenile Drug Court Program measures.

The highlights below all refer to the January–June 2015 reporting period.

- There were 13 active Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees, with a 100 percent compliance rate.
- Units of local government and juvenile justice organizations run the majority of the juvenile drug court programs, encompassing 77 percent overall.
- In the short term, youth showed a 97 percent positive change in school attendance; 75 percent showed a decrease in substance use; and 71 percent of youth demonstrated a positive change in social competence.
- Seventy four of 133 (56 percent) youth successfully exited juvenile drug court programs.
- Two hundred and twenty-five youth were enrolled in substance use services, 97 were enrolled in mental health services, and 82 were enrolled in other types of services.
- Thirteen active grantees implemented 53 programs, and 83 percent of those programs were evidence based.
- In the short term, out of 215 program youth, 3 percent were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a new adjudication.
- According to long-term recidivism data, 113 youth had exited the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications. Of those, only 1 (<1 percent) was recommitted to a juvenile residential facility.

1. Examination of Program Information

Across all reporting periods, grantees have input 71 sets of program data, for a reporting compliance rate of 99 percent. During the January–June 2015 reporting period, 13 grants were active. Data were completed for all active grants (Table 1).

Table 1. Status of Federal Awards Reporting by Period: January 2012–June 2015

Data Reporting Period	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
January–June 2012	0	0	6	6
July–December 2012	0	0	9	9
January–June 2013	0	0	9	9
July–December 2013	0	0	9	9
January–June 2014	0	0	9	9
July–December 2014	1	0	16	17
January–June 2015	0	0	13	13
Total	1	0	71	72

Table 2 presents aggregate demographic data for January 2014–June 2015. The number represents the population that grantees are expected to serve per federal grant.¹ Targeted services include any services or approaches specifically designed to meet the needs of the population (e.g., gender-specific, culturally based, developmentally appropriate services).

The target population information is only required to be reported once in the DCTAT. However, grantees may update their target population to best fit their program during the life of the award. Because of the nature of the reporting requirement, the target population number is steady throughout each reporting period. The slight variation in numbers between each reporting period is caused by the number of active or inactive federal awards during the reporting period or additional services that grantees may have added to their programs.

Table 2. Target Population Served: January 2014–June 2015

Population	Number of Grantees Serving Group During Reporting Period		
	January–June 2014	July–December 2014	January–June 2015
Race/Ethnicity			
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	5	2
Asian	1	3	2
Black/African American	8	14	12
Caucasian/Non-Latino	6	8	6
Hispanic or Latino (of Any Race)	7	10	10
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	1	2	1
Other Race	4	6	5
White/Caucasian	7	11	10
Youth Population Not Served Directly	0	0	0
Justice System Status			
At-Risk Population (No Prior Offense)	5	7	6
First-Time Offenders	9	13	11
Repeat Offenders	9	14	11
Sex Offenders	0	1	1
Status Offenders	3	4	4
Violent Offenders	0	1	2
Youth Population Not Served Directly	0	0	0
Gender			
Male	9	15	13
Female	9	14	13
Youth Population Not Served Directly	0	0	0

¹ Grantees, or the recipient organizations, can have multiple federal awards, and each award is required to report on the expected demographic served.

Age			
0–10	0	1	1
11–18	9	15	13
Over 18	1	2	2
Youth Population Not Served Directly	0	0	0
Geographic Area			
Rural	4	7	6
Suburban	5	10	9
Tribal	5	2	1
Urban	4	8	8
Youth Population Not Served Directly	0	0	0
Other			
Mental Health	6	11	12
Substance Use	9	15	13
Truant/Dropout	2	4	4

1.1 Evidence-Based Programming and Funding Information

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices in their drug treatment programs. 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. To understand how Juvenile Drug Court grantees are prioritizing evidence-based programs, grantees are asked to report whether or not their programs are evidence based. Overall, the majority of Juvenile Drug Court grantees reported using federal funds to implement an evidence-based program or practice (Table 3).²

Table 3. Grantees Implementing Evidence-Based Programs and/or Practices³

Reporting Period	N	Funding Amount ⁴	Federal Award Used to Implement an Evidence-Based Program or Practice?
January–June 2012	6	\$ 2,548,796	Yes
July–December 2012	9	\$ 6,425,900	Yes
January–June 2013	9	\$ 6,425,900	Yes
July–December 2013	9	\$ 6,425,900	Yes
January–June 2014	9	\$ 6,425,900	Yes
July–December 2014	17	\$10,040,695	15 Yes; 2 No
January–June 2015	13	\$ 8,067,696	12 Yes; 1 No

Table 4 further examines the number of programs or initiatives employing evidence-based practices by all active Juvenile Drug Court grantees during each reporting period. During the January–June 2015 reporting period, there were 13 active grantees implementing 53 programs, and 83 percent of the programs used some form of evidence-based program or practice.

² Grantees are asked, “Is the federal award used to implement an evidence-based program or practice?” This question is only reported once in the DCTAT, and it is reflective of the grant program for the life of the award.

³ The data represent all awards, whether they were operational or not during the reporting period.

Table 4. Percentage of Evidence-Based Programs or Practices: January 2012–June 2015

Reporting Period	Total Number of Programs or Initiatives	Number of Program/Initiatives Employing Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	Percent Employing Evidence-Based Programs
January–June 2012	21	20	95
July–December 2012	34	33	97
January–June 2013	26	26	100
July–December 2013	22	22	100
January–June 2014	22	22	100
July–December 2014	64	62	97
January–June 2015	53	44	83

An examination of grant amounts by state based on current and active Juvenile Drug Court Program grants shows that Ohio received the most funds, followed by Florida and North Carolina. Table 5 displays a comprehensive comparison of state award amounts. The amount in the table represents the total funding the state received from OJJDP for the life of the award(s).

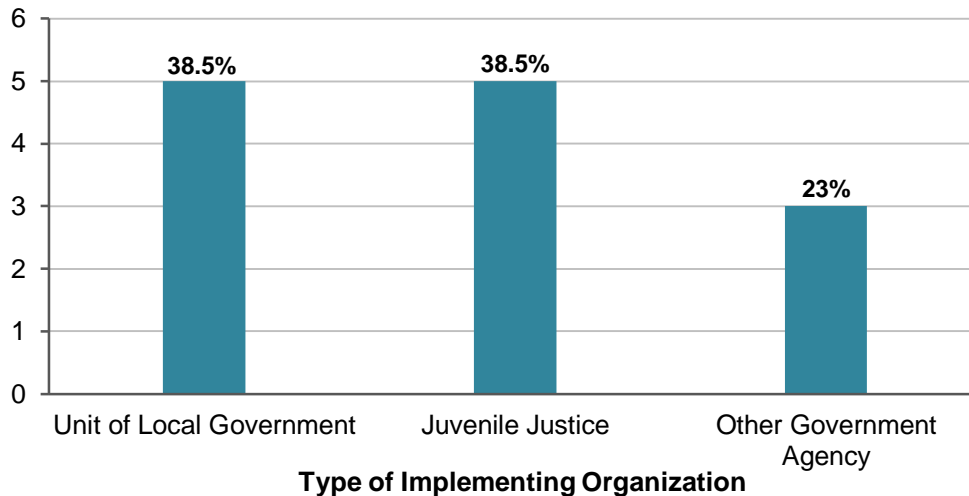
Table 5. Total Grant Amount by State (Dollars): January–June 2015

Grantee State	N	Grant Amount (Dollars)
CO	1	524,569
FL	1	1,324,098
LA	1	249,182
MD	1	517,310
MI	1	526,443
NC	1	1,228,006
OH	3	2,251,443
OR	1	522,365
TX	2	647,019
WA	1	526,443

1.2 Implementing Organization Type

Analysis of implementing agencies for this reporting period revealed that units of local government and juvenile justice organizations ran the majority of juvenile drug courts (38.5 percent each) and other government agencies accounted for 23 percent of awards (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Implementing Agencies: January–June 2015



2. Analysis of Core Measures

During the January–June 2015 reporting period, Juvenile Drug Court Program grantees served 369 youth participants; 219 (68 percent) were new admissions (Table 6). Please note that sometimes a program cannot be completed in the 6 months represented by the reporting period. Therefore, youth are carried over to the next reporting period.

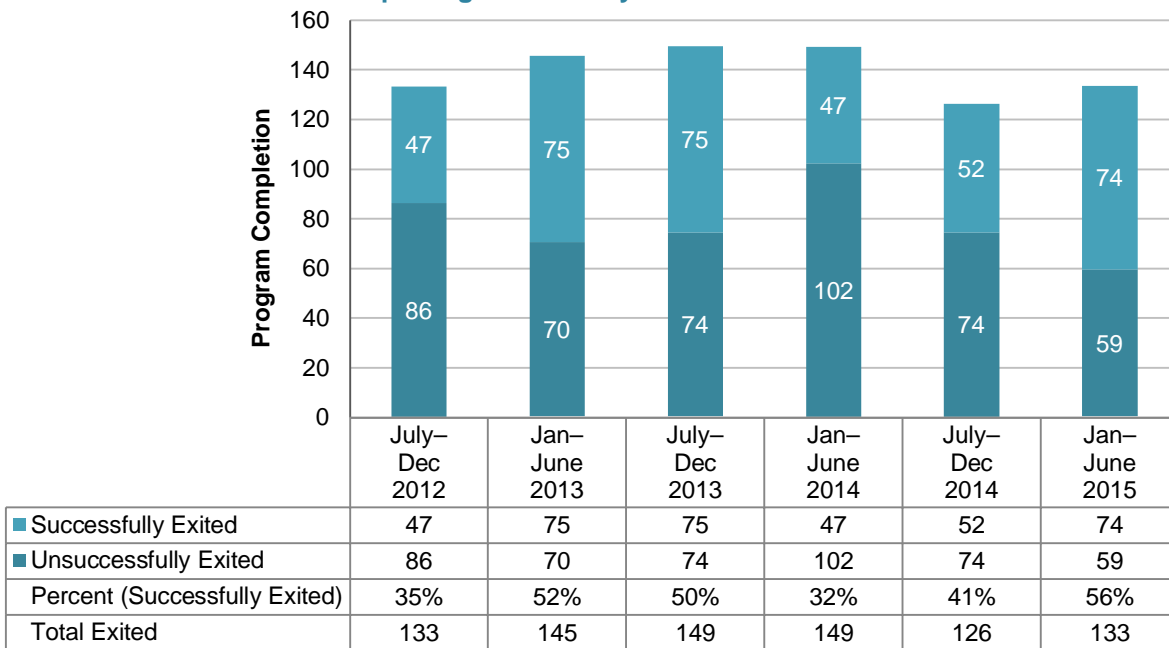
Table 6. Number of Program Youth Served During the Reporting Period: January 2012–June 2015

Reporting Period	Number of Program Youth Carried Over from the Previous Reporting Period	New Admissions during the Reporting Period	Total
Jan–June 2012	182	131	313
July–Dec 2012	229	104	333
Jan–June 2013	266	181	447
July–Dec 2013	271	122	393
Jan–June 2014	154	99	253
July–Dec 2014	296	138	434
Jan–June 2015	150	219	369

In addition, 133 youth exited the program (Figure 2). Of those enrolled youth who exited the program, 74 (56 percent) successfully exited the court having completed all requirements. Each grantee defines the requirements needed for a youth to complete its program. “Successfully exited” youth are considered to be those who have successfully fulfilled all program obligations and requirements. Youth who fail to follow through with the program (are expelled or voluntarily depart) are considered to have “unsuccessfully exited” the program.

Overall program completion rates for youth have remained relatively stable since July–December 2012, with January–June 2013 and January–June 2015 having the highest successfully exited rates of 52 and 56 percent, respectively.

Figure 2. Number of Program Youth Who Exited the Program During the Reporting Period: July 2012–June 2015



Data were also collected on the number of youth who demonstrated a positive change in a targeted behavior during the reporting period. Tables 7 and 8 show a list of measures for which grantees were required to evaluate program

youth performance and track data for certain target behaviors. The tables present both short-term (Table 7) and long-term (Table 8) percentages for the specified target behaviors.

As shown in Table 7, 72 percent of program youth demonstrated an intended change in behavior, with school attendance having the highest positive change at 97 percent improvement, followed by substance use, with 75 percent of program youth showing a decrease in drug use.

Table 7. Target Behaviors (Short-Term Data): January–June 2015

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percent of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Social Competence	55	39	71
School Attendance	35	34	97
High School Completion	6	4	67
Family Relationships	81	48	59
Antisocial Behavior	48	24	50
Substance Use	367	276	75
Total	592	425	72

Table 8 presents data on long-term target behaviors. Long-term outcomes are measured 6 to 12 months after a youth leaves or completes a program. Overall, 80 percent of program youth exhibited an intended behavior change 6 to 12 months after program completion.

Table 8. Target Behaviors (Long-Term Data): January–June 2015

Target Behavior	Youth Served	Youth with Intended Behavior Change	Percent of Youth with Intended Behavior Change
Social Competence	9	5	55
School Attendance	9	7	78
High School Completion	2	1	50
Family Relationships	33	21	64
Antisocial Behavior	17	8	47
Substance Use	155	141	91
Total	225	181	80

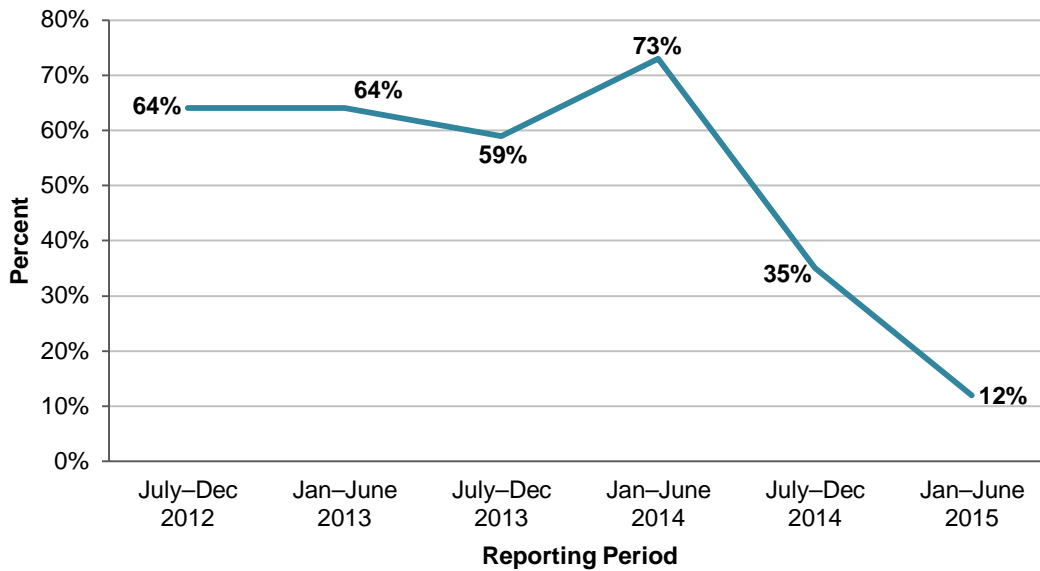
Technical violations and actual new adjudications are measured separately to allow for a better understanding of the population served by the grant. Short-term technical violations are expected to be significant in drug court programs, because participants are treated for addictions. As shown in the top part of Table 9, 215 youth were tracked for technical violations in the short term. Of those, 7 were committed to a juvenile residential facility, and 19 received some other sentence. The bottom part of Table 9 shows long-term measurement of technical violations for 93 youth who exited the program 6 to 12 months ago. Of those, only two had a technical violation (2 percent).

Table 9. Technical Violation Measures: January–June 2015

Performance Measure	Youth	Percent
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility	7	3
Youth sentenced to adult prison	0	N/A
Youth who received some other sentence	19	9
Youth tracked for technical violations (short-term outcome)	215	
Total	26/215	12
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility	0	N/A
Youth sentenced to adult prison	0	N/A
Youth received some other sentence	2	2
Youth tracked for technical violations (long-term outcome)	93	
Total	2/93	2

Figure 3⁵ represents the short-term percentage of program youth who have committed a technical violation and received some form of punishment during the reporting period. The January–June 2015 reporting period has the lowest technical violations rate, and the January–June 2014 reporting period has the highest.

Figure 3. Technical Violations (Short-Term): July 2012–June 2015



As shown in the top part of Table 10, of the 318 program youth who were tracked for adjudications in the short term, 3 were committed to a juvenile residential facility as a result of a new adjudication. In addition, 38 were given some other sentence. The bottom part of Table 10 shows long-term recidivism data; 113 youth had exited the program 6 to 12 months ago and were tracked for new adjudications. Of those, only one (<1 percent) was recommitted to a juvenile residential facility, and five (4 percent) were given some other sentence.

⁵ From July 2012–July 2014, two grantees reported the highest number of youth who had a technical violation during the reporting period. Their grants closed in September of 2014, which reduced the percentage of youth who had a technical violation overall for the program.

Table 10. Recidivism Measures for Program Youth Tracked: January–June 2015

Performance Measure	Youth	Percent
Youth committed to a juvenile residential facility	3	1
Youth sentenced to adult prison	0	N/A
Youth given some other sentence	38	12
Youth tracked for adjudications (short-term outcome)	318	
Total	41/318	13
Youth recommitted to a juvenile residential facility	1	<1
Youth sentenced to adult prison	0	N/A
Youth given some other sentence	5	4
Youth tracked for new adjudications (long-term outcome)	113	
Total	6/113	5

Figure 4 represents the short- and long-term recidivism rates among program youth by reporting period. Overall, the recidivism rate remained low, with a slight peak in the long-term percentage during the January–June 2013 reporting period (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Recidivism Measures (Percent): July 2012–June 2015

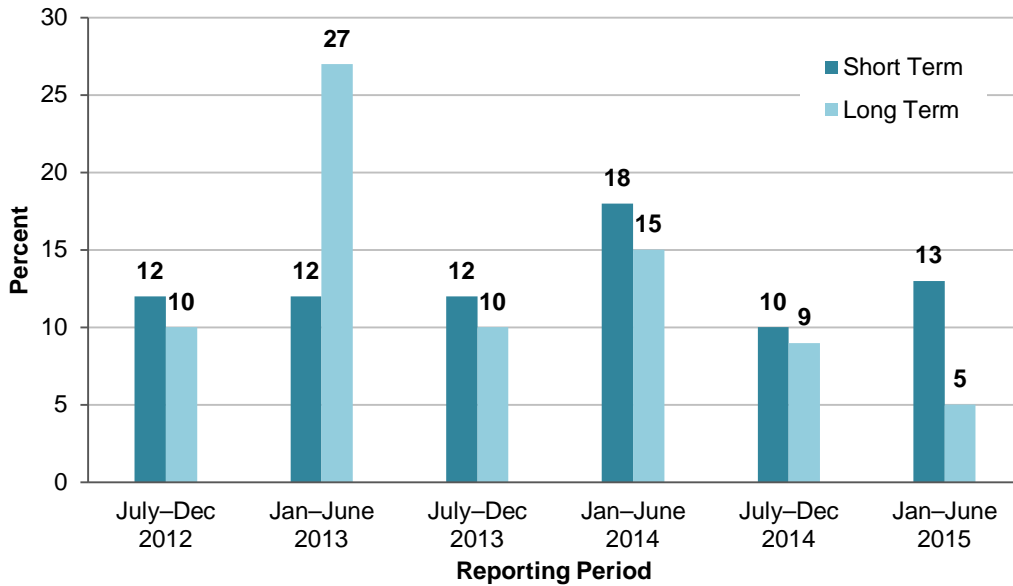


Table 11 compares the number of youth assessed as needing these and other services with the number enrolled in or obtaining such services. Substance-use services take the lead with 225 enrollments, followed by mental-health services with 97 enrollments. Because the Juvenile Drug Court Program requires youth to be younger than age 18 to obtain the services, housing services received the least number of referrals, as most youth live at home with their parents/guardians.

Table 11. Types of Services Provided to Participants: January–June 2015

Performance Measure	Youth
Youth <i>assessed</i> as needing substance use counseling/services	199
Youth <i>enrolled</i> in substance-use counseling/services	225
Youth <i>assessed</i> as needing mental health services	108
Youth <i>enrolled</i> in mental health services	97
Youth <i>assessed</i> as needing housing services	14
Youth who <i>successfully</i> found housing	9
Youth <i>assessed</i> as needing other services	99
Youth <i>enrolled</i> in other services	82

3. Summary

Juvenile Drug courts serve as a judicially supervised court system intended to strike a balance between protecting community safety and improving public health and well-being. During the January–June 2015 reporting period, 369 youth were served by 13 OJJDP-funded Juvenile Drug Court programs. In addition, 225 youth received substance-use services, 97 youth received mental-health services, and 82 youth received some other form of services. One hundred thirty-three youth exited the drug court program. Of those, 74 (56 percent) successfully exited by completing all program requirements. Ninety-two percent of the Juvenile Drug Court grantees that report data in the DCTAT use their funds toward some form of evidence-based practices in their program.