

# Arkansas Department of Community Correction

Drug Court Graduate Recidivism  
FY 2006 Graduates

August 2010



# Study Groups and Recidivism Definition

## Study Group

This report studies individual offenders that were admitted to Drug Court and whose records indicate a “graduation” from that drug court program during the period of July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (Fiscal Year 2006).

## Recidivism

The Department of Community Correction (DCC) has been measuring incarceration or re-incarceration of offenders in a correctional facility (either DCC or the Arkansas Department of Correction) for several years as a performance measurement of the programs operating under its authority. This study is to determine if individuals who graduated from a drug court re-offend after release or program completion.

Recidivism is defined as an offender who is returned to incarceration in an ADC prison or a DCC community correctional facility other than a DCC technical violator program.

Offender records are reviewed for a three year period from the time of graduation through the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the graduation from the Court. If the offender has been re-admitted to ADC or DCC during that time, the offender is considered a recidivist.

## Graduates

For most courts, graduation means the drug court client has completed all phases of treatment and had been dismissed from the program. Sometimes, a period of supervision known as aftercare follows graduation. For the purpose of this study, graduation is as defined by the individual court. FY 06 graduates were identified by program referral entries made in e-OMIS by drug court personnel. For courts that did not record graduation this way, graduates were identified directly by the court.

# Comparison with the 2005 Report

In July, 2007, with limited information available, the Department of Community Correction (DCC) conducted a study, Arkansas Drug Courts - Recidivism Rates for Program Graduates through Fiscal Year 2005 as the first attempt to report on the recidivism among the offenders identified in Drug Court. Since then, research limiting the data to a single, more recent fiscal year allowed for review and confirmation with courts regarding individuals graduated. Therefore the current FY data has undergone a degree of cleanup not available in the earlier report.

The earlier report identified program completions as graduates of the drug court program. However, courts now have different policies surrounding “graduation” and “program completion.” For example, for some courts a period of supervision known as aftercare follows graduation. The “completion” of the program as recorded in the system may mean graduation or graduation and completion of the aftercare component. For the purpose of this study, the individual court’s definition of graduation is used. FY 06 graduates were identified by program referral entries made in e-OMIS by drug court personnel. For courts that did not record graduation this way, graduates were identified directly by the court.

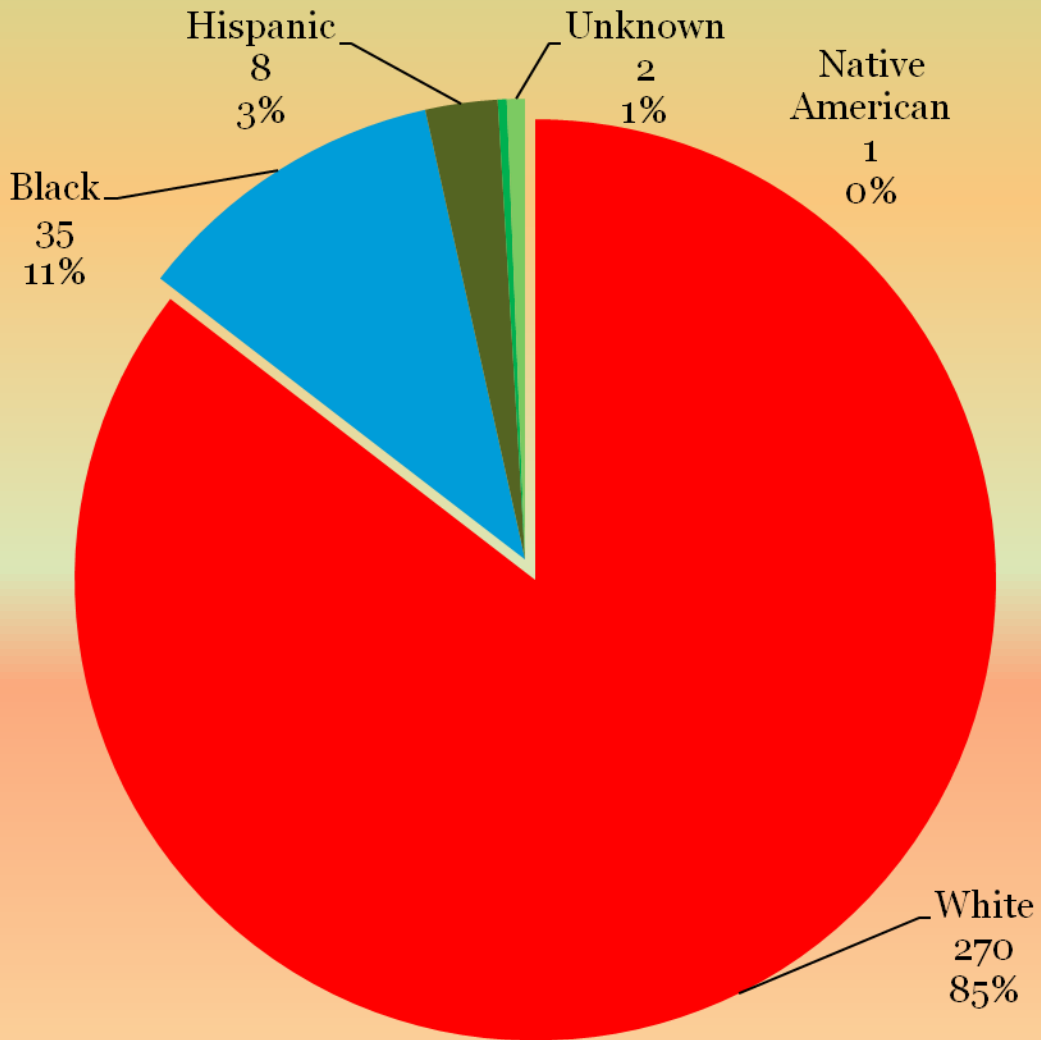
# Table 1

## Drug Court Graduates By Gender

<b>Race</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Total</b>	203 (63.2%)	118 (36.8%)	321 (100%)

# Chart 1

## Drug Court Graduates According to Race



**Table 2  
Drug Court Graduates  
By Month**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>July 2005</b>	24	7.5%
<b>August 2005</b>	17	5.3%
<b>September 2005</b>	27	8.4%
<b>October 2005</b>	27	8.4%
<b>November 2005</b>	25	7.8%
<b>December 2005</b>	20	6.2%
<b>January 2006</b>	34	10.6%
<b>February 2006</b>	35	10.9%
<b>March 2006</b>	31	9.7%
<b>April 2006</b>	23	7.2%
<b>May 2006</b>	32	10.0%
<b>June 2006</b>	26	8.1%
<b>Total</b>	321	100.0%

## Table 3 Drug Court Graduate Recidivism by Race

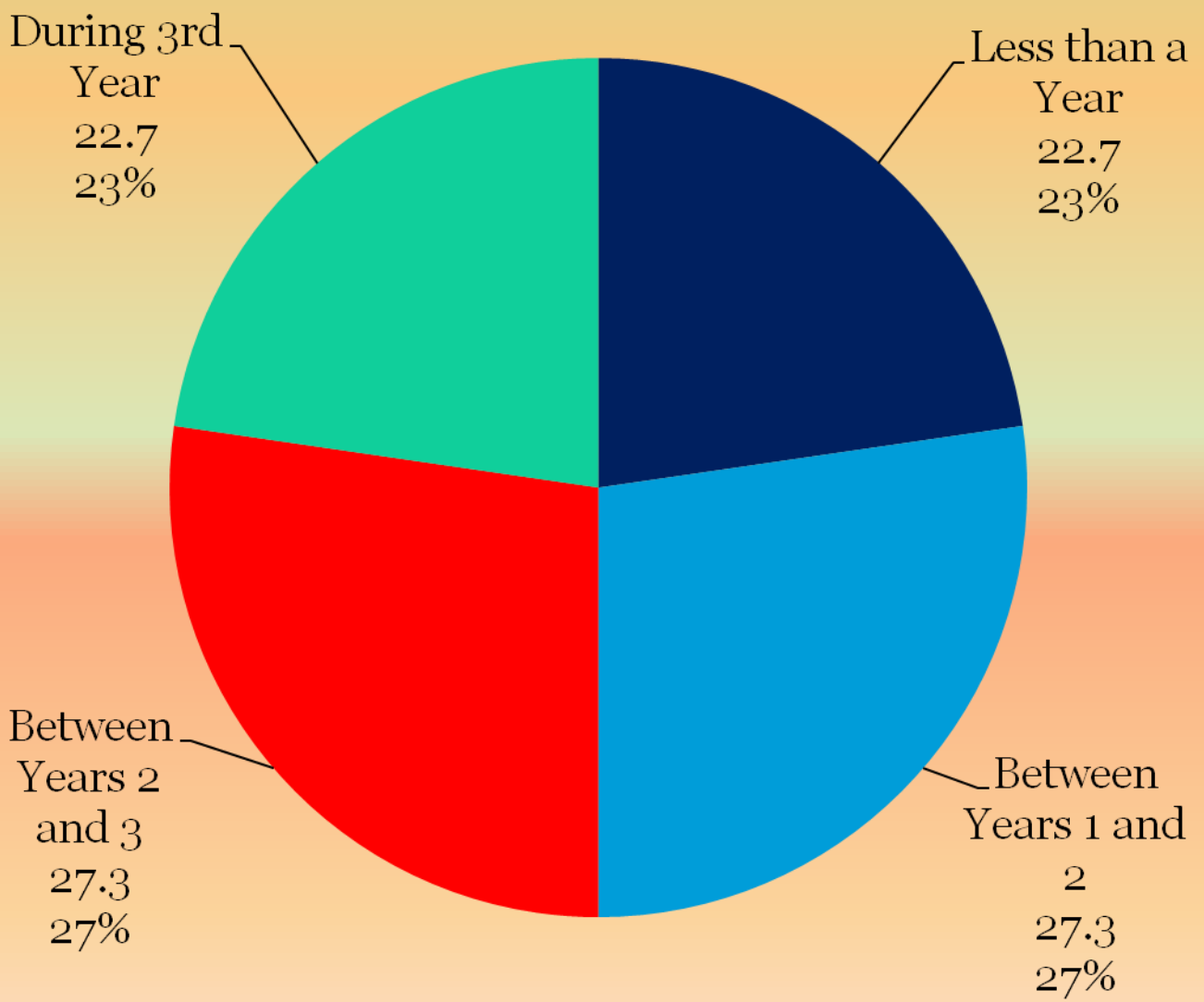
<b>Race</b>	<b>Non-recidivist</b>	<b>Recidivist</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Recidivism Rate</b>
<b>Black</b>	32	5	37	13.5%
<b>White</b>	258	15	273	5.5%
<b>Hispanic</b>	7	1	8	12.5%
<b>Native American</b>	0	1	1	100%
<b>Unknown</b>	2	0	2	0%
<b>Total</b>	299	22	321	6.9%

## Table 4 Drug Court Graduate Recidivism By Years After Graduation

<b>Amount of Time Between Graduation and Recidivism Event</b>	<b>Number of Recidivists</b>	<b>Percent of Total Recidivists</b>
<b>Less than a Year</b>	5	22.7%
<b>Between Years 1 and 2</b>	6	27.3%
<b>Between Years 2 and 3</b>	6	27.3%
<b>During 3<sup>rd</sup> Year</b>	5	22.7%
<b>Total</b>	22	100%



## Chart 2 Drug Court Graduate Recidivism By Years After Graduation



## Table 5 Drug Court Graduate Recidivists by Incarceration Location

Total Recidivists Returned to ADC	Total Recidivists Returned to DCC	Total Recidivists
15 68.2%	7 31.8%	22 100%

**Table 6**  
**Drug Court Graduates**  
**Average Length of Time Spent in Program for**  
**Recidivists and Non-recidivists**

	<b>Mean Number of Months in Program</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Months in Program</b>	<b>Maximum Number of Months in Program</b>
<b>Recidivists</b>	14.8 months	2 months	37 months
<b>Non-Recidivists</b>	20.9 months	9 months	68 months