

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 3rd 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.

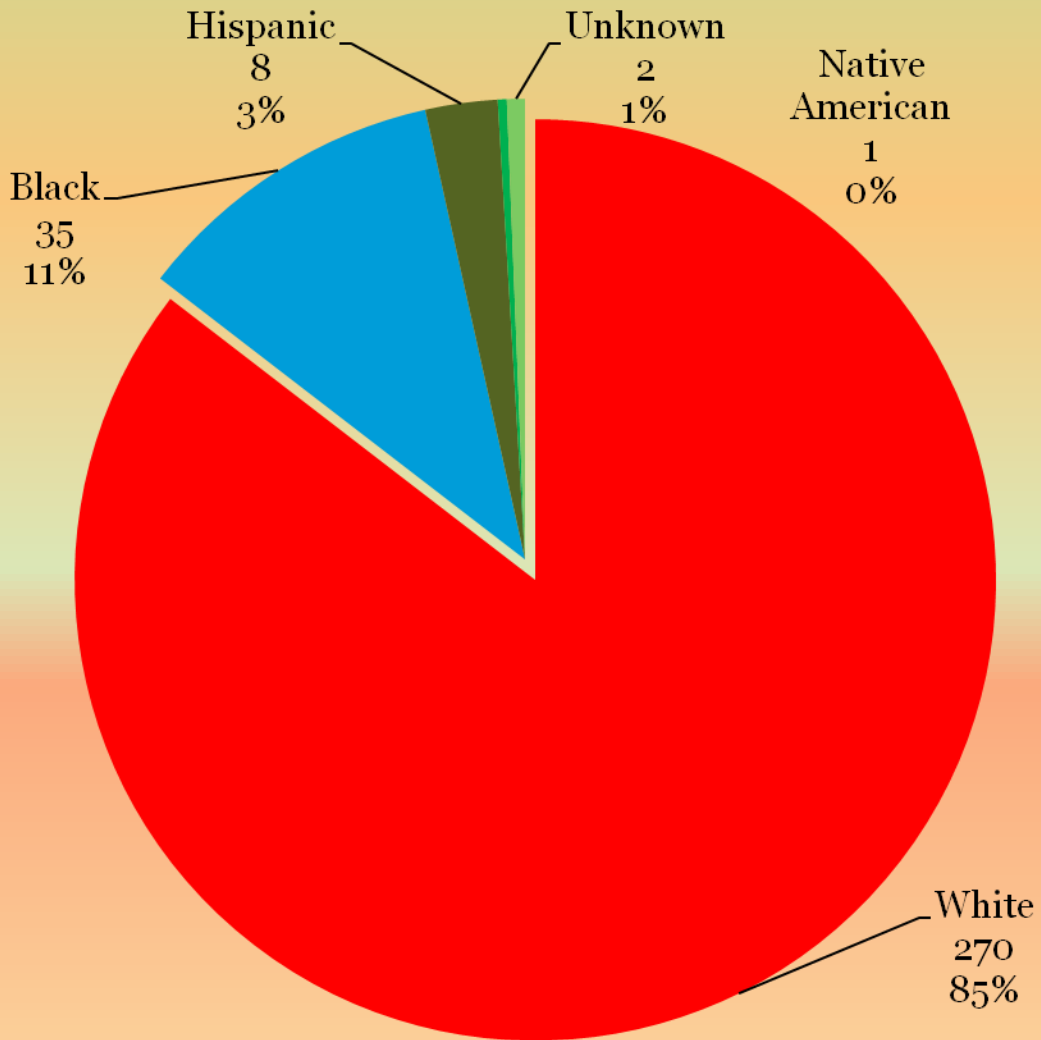
Table 1

Drug Court Graduates By Gender

Race	Male	Female	Total
Total	203 (63.2%)	118 (36.8%)	321 (100%)

Chart 1

Drug Court Graduates According to Race



**Table 2
Drug Court Graduates
By Month**

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

Table 3 Drug Court Graduate Recidivism by Race

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

Table 4 Drug Court Graduate Recidivism By Years After Graduation

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

Chart 2

Drug Court Graduate Recidivism By Years After Graduation

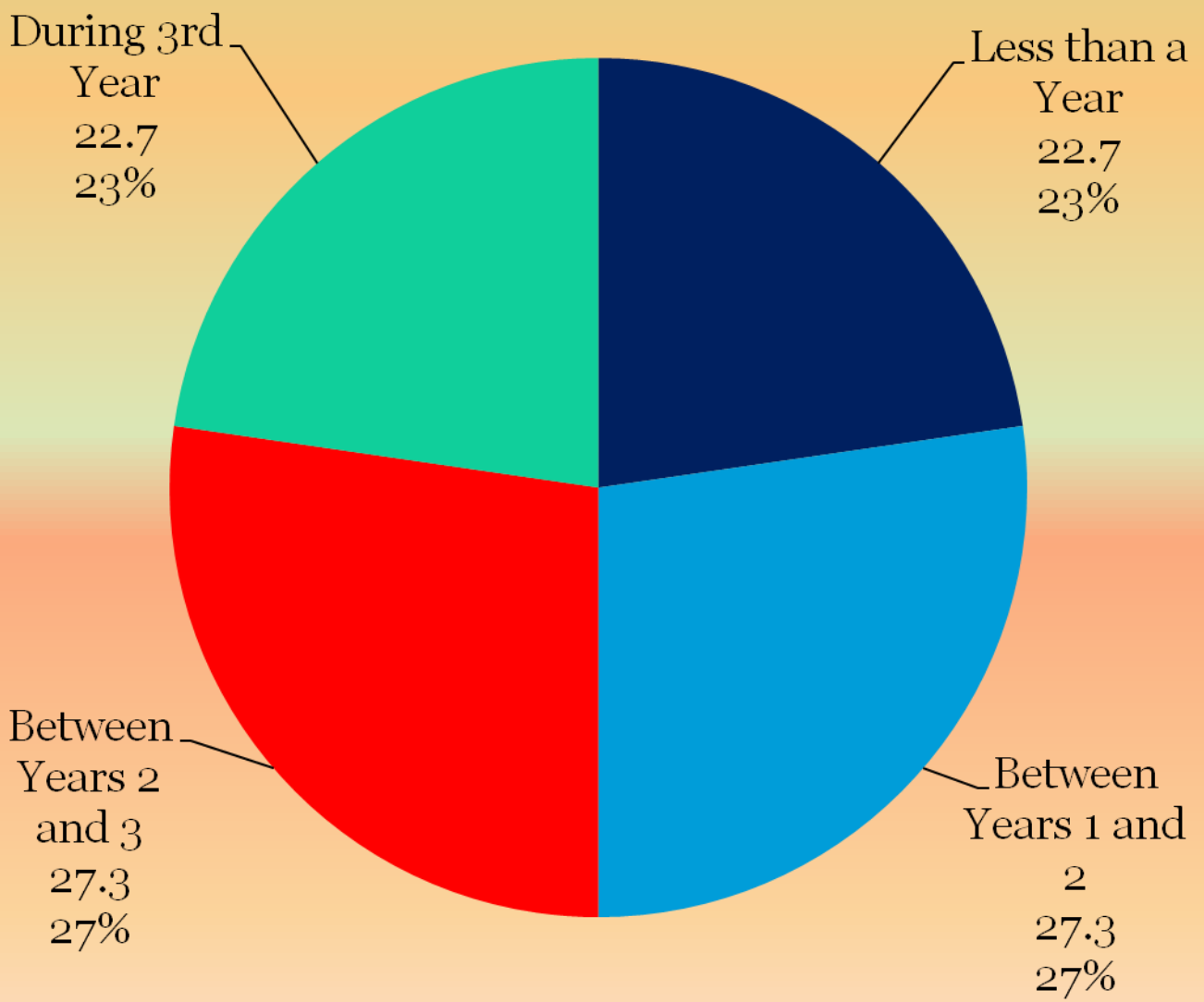


Table 5 Drug Court Graduate Recidivists by Incarceration Location

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

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